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 (2) Date of repair 11-11-86
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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

P.W DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	1402 W	Press.
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	17-5-1879	197

A.K.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

17th May 1879, No. 1,402 W.

Buildings and Roads.

Civil Works.

Read the following paper:—

No. 127. From Major L. CONWAY-GORDON, R.E., Examiner of Public Works Accounts, to the Joint Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, Buildings and Roads Branch, dated Chepauk, 25th April 1879, No. 10 B.

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the orders of Government, Nos. 592 W. and 983 W., dated respectively the 25th February and the 1st April 1879, sanctioning certain repairs to be carried out on St. Patrick's Church, Bangalore.

2. With reference to this sanction, I have the honor again respectfully to call attention to my letter, No. 405 W., dated 16th December 1878, and to point out the desirability of at once fixing definitely the existing relations between Government and the various churches throughout the country.

3. In my letter, No. 3 B., dated 16th April 1879, I ventured to point out to Government an instance in which it appeared to me that a grant had been made to a church coming under Class II in excess of that allowed by the Public Works orders on the subject. This appears to me another case of a similar description.

4. From the papers there is no doubt (excluding the value of gratuitous labor) that Government contributed one-half of the original cost of St. Patrick's Church at Bangalore. Under the rules, therefore, the church is the property of Government, and Government have the undoubted right to one-half the accommodation or to 350 sittings free of cost. Taking the maximum number of men to be provided for at Bangalore as 600, to afford accommodation for one-half attending service at one time would require 300 sittings, or 50 sittings less than Government has already free. There does not seem therefore any necessity under the rules for providing further church accommodation.

5. Government in any case would be liable for compensation only for such a number of sittings taken up by the Military as exceeded 350. From the papers there is not the slightest evidence that the average number of Military men who attended this particular church ever exceeded 350. The Chaplain expresses his belief that on an average 600 could be claimed for; the rules however require that the number claimed for be supported by a certificate by the Officer Commanding the station, which does not appear to have been furnished for any one year.

6. And further it must not be forgotten that while the maximum number of sittings are claimed for St. Patrick's Church by the Executive Engineer, Bangalore Division, in his letter, No. 256, dated 5th February 1879, bills have lately been submitted by the same Executive Engineer to Government for compensation for sittings in excess of this maximum at St. Mary's and St. Joseph's, other Roman Catholic Chapels at Bangalore. One claim or the other must evidently be in excess of the prescribed limits. I mention all these facts merely to show that for this claim for compensation for sittings taken up by the Military, on which so much stress is laid

by the Roman Catholic Ecclesiastical authorities, not a tittle of evidence is yet before Government to show that the claim has the slightest basis of fact. The claim may be a perfectly valid one, but at present there is no evidence to show that it is so, while the presumption is entirely the other way.

7. Until the claim is substantiated, the whole case may properly be regarded from the stand-point that no such claim is due; and in this case, as in the case I brought before Government in my letter, No. 3 B., it does not seem to me that Government is liable for more than one-half the value of the repairs, or Rs. 3,880. The remaining half appears at present unauthorized, and I would consequently suggest that the sanction of the Government of India be applied for. If viewed as a reconstruction, the amount of the grant would depend on the number of Military men who were required to attend the church at one time, and on this point the papers give no information whatever.

8. I would further suggest the desirability of having these Ecclesiastical demands for compensation properly scrutinized before being presented to Government.

No. 128. ORDER THEREON, 17th May 1879, No. 1,402 W.

THE Government observe that the Examiner's letter, No. 405 W., dated 16th December 1878, has been referred to the Ecclesiastical Department for the purpose of obtaining the necessary information for fixing definitely the existing relations between the State and the various churches throughout the country. The receipt of this information must be awaited.

2. Before taking into consideration the necessity for applying for the sanction of the Government of India as suggested in paragraph 7 of the Examiner's letter, the papers will be referred to the Superintending Engineer, Third Circle, who will, in communication with the Military authorities, report on the points noticed in paragraphs 5, 6, and 7 of the Examiner's letter.

3. The Examiner's letter, No. 3 B., dated 16th April 1879, has been disposed of in separate Proceedings.

(True Extract.)

Major, R.E.,
Ag. Under Secy. to Govt., P.W.D.

To the Superintending Engineer, Third Circle
" Examiner of Public Works Accounts.
" Military Department.
" Ecclesiastical Department, with copy of Note by the Hon. Mr. Hudleston.

Esq. G. Freeman
Spars Copies

1402
2

BUILDINGS AND ROADS.
CIVIL WORKS.

Goh. of (1879) Madras.
PUBLIC WORKS.

To

THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER,
THIRD CIRCLE,
CC. &c. &c.

Dated May 179.

From

Head.

Encl.

G. O. No. 1145 May 179, No. 1402 W.

MAY.

No. 117-121.

G. O. No. 1145 May 179, No. 1402 W.
From the Engineer-in-Charge of the
works for report to the
Superintending Engineer, for report on
certain points.

1402/3

Henry Carter

90.2.1720.19-11-14
 92.2.25-2-14
 90.2.25-2-14
 92.2.1-1-14
 Claps of 13998/12/25/14

Dec 9/17-5-79 No 1402 H

127

Cpr 12.5.79. Rtd. 15.5.79.
 To City 7-5-

139 H
C. Work

No 1402 H

Public Works Department.

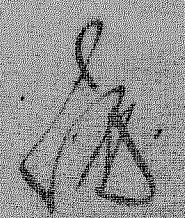
PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Under date the 17th May/79

Read the following:—

From
The Examiner, P. W. Accts. (No. 10.5 of 25th April 1879)

The Gt. observe
 that the Examiner's letter
 No 10.5 W dtd 16th Dec
 1878, has been referred to
 the Ecclesiastical Dept.
 for the purpose of obtain-
 ing the necessary inform-
 ation for ascertaining
 definitely the existing re-
 lations between the State
 and the various Churches
 throughout the country.
 The receipt of this information
 must be awaited.



The Examr. says & understands
 he understands the Church is the
 property of Govt.

If so, how can
 there be any questions
 of Govt. liability for
 repairs? & Govt. responsibility

determine Ecclesiastical
 claims for such
 repairs

2. Before bringing into
 consideration the necessity

Cross

Publ. of the
PUBLIC WORKS.

Dated

Received

By

G.O. 7 May 1879, No. 1124

Nos. 117-128

St Patrick's Church,
Bangalore Letter from
the Rev. re-marking on the
front made for repairs
to —, referred to the
for report on certain points