

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

ACCOUNT.

General.

To

Circular No. I Public Works.

Dated January 29, 1883.

Received

B. No. 436 Wa/9th February/83

Recorded with reference to
G.O. No. 320 Wa/30th January/83

/Smta/ J.P.

B. No. 436 Wa/9th February/83

Revision of Rule II of the rules regarding
the levy and expenditure of fees on masonry
graves and monuments in cemeteries and
churches.

No. 52, P. W. D. Press—29-1-83—730.

With order.

[For Heads of Departments only.]

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.
ACCOUNT.
General.

Fort William, January 29, 1883.

Copy of the following forwarded to the Local Governments, Ad-

The Governments of Madras, Bombay, Bengal, the North Western Provinces and Oudh, and the Punjab, in the Public Works Department.
The Chief Commissioners, Central Provinces, British Burma, Assam and Coorg.
The Resident at Hyderabad.
The Agents to the Governor General for Central India, Rajputana and Biluchistan.
The Superintendent of Port Blair, and Chief Commissioner, Andaman and Nicobar Islands.
The Inspector General of Military Works.
The Accountant General, Public Works Department.

ministrations and Officers noted in the margin, for information and guidance, in continuation of Public Works Department Circulars Nos. 71 of 1878 and 43 of 1879.

A. J. FILGATE, Lieut.-Col., R. E.,

Depy. Secretary to the Govt. of India.

No. ⁴_{248-63 A}, dated 27th December 1882.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Government of India, in the Home Department (Ecclesiastical).

Read again—

Home Department Resolution Nos. 6—370 to 332, dated the 9th November 1876, containing rules relating to churches and cemeteries.

Home Department Notification, dated the 12th December 1877, publishing rules for the care and use of Government cemeteries throughout India except those in the Presidency Town of the Diocese of Calcutta.

Read also the following papers regarding the materials to be used in the erection of tombs :—

From the Government of Madras, No. 2254W, dated 1st September 1882.

To the Venerable the Archdeacon of Calcutta, No. 190, dated 21st September 1882.

From the Venerable the Archdeacon of Calcutta, No. 896, dated 5th October 1882.

RESOLUTION.—In para. 3 of Home Department Resolution, dated the 9th November 1876, cited in the preamble, it is laid down that the dimensions of a monument over a pukka grave must not exceed eight feet by four feet at the base except with the previous sanction of the Local Government concerned, and that a simple cross or head-stone on an adequate masonry foundation, not exceeding three feet by two feet, is the only monument that should be allowed over a kutchra grave. Rule II of the rules regarding the levy and expenditure of fees on masonry graves and monuments in cemeteries and churches throughout India, published under Home Department Notification, dated the 12th December 1877, read above, provides that a fee of one rupee per square foot shall be levied on the erection of a monument in a burial ground, provided, however, that for a simple head-stone or flat slab not more than three feet six inches in height or length and two feet in width, a uniform fee of Rs. 5 only shall be charged.

2. With reference to the rules contained in the Resolution of 9th November 1876, the Government of Madras, in September last, invited the attention of the Government of India to the desirability of laying down some rule in regard to the nature of the materials to be used in the erection of tombs. In view of the great expense entailed in the maintenance of structures formed of brick and chunam, of which the great majority of tombs in the Madras Presidency are built, the Madras Government suggested that above the level of the ground the use of any other material than cut stone should in all cases be prohibited.

3. The Governor General in Council is, however, advised that the adoption of the recommendation made by the Government of Madras might possibly be productive of hardship in view of the fact that in most parts of India cut stone is very expensive, while in some parts it is believed to be practically unattainable except by persons in affluent circumstances. In order to attain the object in view, it has been suggested by the Venerable the Archdeacon of Calcutta that—

- (1) the words "of stone or marble" should be added after the words "a simple head-stone or flat slab" in Rule II contained in Home Department Notification, dated 12th December 1877; and
- (2) that the fee of one rupee per square foot prescribed by that rule for all masonry monuments should be retained, but that the monuments should not exceed an entire height of three feet from the ground, the fee of one rupee being reduced to eight annas in the case of monuments of stone or marble.

4. The suggestions made by the Venerable the Archdeacon of Calcutta commend themselves to the Government of India, and the Governor General in Council accordingly directs that Rule II of the rules contained in Home Department Notification, dated 12th December 1877, be altered in the manner described in the preceding paragraph of this Resolution.

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