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 (2) புதுக்கித் திருப்பிய நாள் 10.9.80
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தமிழ்நாடு அரசு

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மடிக்கவோ கண்டபடி கையாளவோ கூடாது

3 sheets

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

MILITARY DEPARTMENT.

Cantonments—Lands.

Read the following papers :—

No. 58. *From the Rev. T. H. WHITAMORE, Wesleyan Chaplain, to Brigdr.-Genl. A. KENNEY-HERBERT, Secretary to Government, Military Department; dated Madras, 24th February 1891.*

With reference to the G.O., dated 5th July 1890, No. 4377 (*Cantonments—Lands*), I have the honour to draw your attention to what is an inconsistency, and which creates a difficulty, viz., that though it is conceded that one room in the proposed Soldiers' Home should be set apart for purposes of prayer and meditation by an earlier Government order, it is set out in your letter, No. 29, dated 13th March 1890, that prayer meetings and other religious exercises should be strictly interdicted. We take it that formal organized services of any kind are here meant, and readily acquiesce, as these would greatly interfere with the free and general purposes of the home, as well as to some extent probably with its unsectarian character.

2. I beg, therefore, that the matter may be made clear in the preparation of the indenture conveying the land to us, and I would venture to suggest that, in clause 5 of the draft deed drawn up by Mr. Barclay last year, the words "prayer meetings" should be struck out and your own words substituted as they occur on page 3, para. 3, line 3, for "meditation and prayer."

3. It might further meet the wishes of Government if an additional clause were inserted to this effect, viz., "religious services should be strictly interdicted"—a sentence which we could entirely endorse, and, to make the matter of the unsectarian character of the home perfectly clear, the clause in the model deed quoted by Mr. Allen on page 6 of the document quoted above, viz., G.O., 5th July 1890, might be inserted.

4. The only thing that concerns us in this letter is to make the provisions of the indenture of conveyance square with the Government order granting us the privilege of a room in the home for purposes of meditation and prayer.

No. 59.

No. 1497.

Forwarded to the Government Solicitor with the request that he will, in communication with the Rev. Mr. Whitmore, be good enough to draw up and submit, for the approval of Government, a revised draft deed on the lines now assented to by Mr. Whitmore.

2. The deed should also embody a proviso to the effect that the room to be set apart for prayer is not to be the *main* room of the building, and that it is to be used by the soldiers frequenting the building, and not by the Wesleyan Ministers, for meditation.

(By Order.)

FORT ST. GEORGE,
11th March 1891.

(Signed)

A. KENNEY-HERBERT, Brigdr.-Genl.,
Secretary to Government.

To the Government Solicitor.

No. 60. *From the Secretary, Wesleyan Army and Navy Committee, to the Right Honorable the Governor of Madras; dated Wesleyan Centenary Hall, Bishopsgate Street Within, E.C., 20th March 1891.*

I am instructed by the Army and Navy Committee of the Wesleyan Methodist Conference to ask your Lordship to be good enough to transmit the accompanying letter for the consideration of the Right Honorable the Secretary of State for India in Council.

2. Your Lordship will observe that the letter relates to the question of the grant of a site to the Rev. J. Cooling, General Superintendent of Wesleyan Missions in Madras, and others, for the purpose of a Soldiers' and Sailors' Home, and more especially to the order which interdicts prayer meetings and other religious exercises from being held in the proposed home.

3. The Committee regrets that the Right Honorable the Governor in Council was unable, in response to my previous letter, to modify this condition, and feels that the subject is of such importance as to make it necessary to bring it to the notice of the Home Government.

4. I am directed further to ask that your Lordship will be pleased to order an extension of the time in which the proposed home may be completed, in view of the delay which has necessarily resulted from the progress of the present negotiations.

From the Secretary, Wesleyan Army and Navy Committee, to the Right Honorable the Secretary of State for India; dated Wesleyan Centenary Hall, Bishopsgate Street Within, E.C., 20th March 1891.

I am directed by the Army and Navy Committee of the Wesleyan Methodist Conference to approach your Lordship in Council, through the Right Honorable the Governor of the Madras Presidency, on a subject which the Committee considers of great importance, and for which it is confident it can claim your Lordship's favorable consideration.

2. Your Lordship will doubtless be aware that, as the result of the Royal Naval and Military Bazaar held in 1888, of which Her Majesty the Queen was Patron, and to which also your Lordship extended your patronage, the Wesleyan Army and Navy Committee has been enabled to assist in the establishment of Soldiers' and Sailors' Homes in various parts of the Empire including India, and that the homes thus established are free to all soldiers and sailors of Her Majesty's Forces without distinction of sect or religion.

3. The Wesleyan Ministers resident in Madras, acting in concert with the Army and Navy Committee, applied to the Right Honorable the Governor in Council for the grant of a site on which to erect a Soldiers' and Sailors' Home in that station.

4. His Lordship was pleased to direct that a site every way suitable for the purpose should be granted.

5. At the same time, however, it was ordered that all religious exercises should be excluded from the proposed home.

6. The Rev. Mr. Whitmore, the Wesleyan Minister, officiating for the troops in Madras, rightly feeling that such an interdict would deprive the home of one of its most important uses, and reduce it to the level of a simple temperance restaurant, brought the matter to the notice of His Excellency the Governor-General in Council, who left the decision to the Government of Madras.

7. The Government of Madras adopted the following order:—"The Right Honorable the Governor in Council having given the matter due consideration, sees no objection to a small apartment in home being devoted for use as a prayer room, provided no services are held therein, and that it is not used for proselytising purposes." (No. 115, Order 8th November 1889, No. 7733.)

8. Subsequently, this order was made more stringent by instructions contained in a letter from the Secretary to the Madras Government to the Government Solicitor, dated March 13th, 1890, and by which "prayer meetings and all other religious exercises were strictly interdicted."

9. I was directed by the Army and Navy Committee to communicate with the Right Honorable the Governor of Madras on the subject, and to seek for such a modification of the order in question as, whilst allowing of prayer meetings and other religious exercises, would at the same time secure that total absence of proselytising, and that free and unrestricted use of the home by soldiers and sailors of all denominations which are on all hands desired.

10. His Lordship in Council was, however, unable to modify the order.

11. The Army and Navy Committee has, therefore, directed me to seek the reference of the whole question for the consideration of your Lordship in Council in the confident hope that the knowledge your Lordship possesses of the spirit and methods of the work of the Wesleyan Church in the Army and Royal Navy will enable your Lordship in Council to instruct the Government of Madras to accede to the request which the Committee has preferred.

No. 61. *From the Rev. T. H. WHITMORE, Wesleyan Chaplain, to Brigdr.-Genl. A. KENNEY-HERBERT, Secretary to Government, Military Department; dated Madras, 21st April 1891.*

I have the honour to inform you that, with reference to the letter addressed to the Secretary of State for India through the Madras Government, by the mail before last, on the question of permitting prayers to be said in the proposed Soldiers' Home for Madras, I am requested by the Secretary of the Wesleyan Army and Navy Committee to ask you to postpone sending it until the Government Solicitor shall have submitted his new draft deed according to Government instructions.

2. I may say that the Committee's letter was despatched before the Secretary knew that the Government had issued instructions for an amended draft deed to be drawn up.

No. 62. *From ERNEST BARCLAY, Esq., Government Solicitor, to Brigdr.-Genl. A. KENNEY-HERBERT, Secretary to Government, Military Department; dated Madras, 12th May 1891, No. 206.*

With reference to the Proceedings of Government, dated 11th instant, No. 1497, I forward herewith, for approval, fair draft of agreement between Government and the Rev. James Cooling for the erection of a Soldiers' and Sailors' Home on the Monument Esplanade, Madras.

2. I duly received your telegram of 6th instant, No. 2581, but, before obtaining the Rev. Mr. Whitmore's approval of the enclosed draft agreement, I have thought it better to ascertain whether it meets the wishes of Government.

3. I return Mr. Whitmore's letter.

No. 63. *Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Educational Department; dated 23rd May 1891, No. 392.*

Read the following papers:—

From the Director of Public Instruction, Madras, dated 17th and 25th April 1891, Nos. 4274 and 4611, respectively.

No. 392 (Educational).

The Government is of opinion that it will be advisable to construct an entirely new building for the Law College and for this purpose the most suitable site appears to be the corner site west of the new High Court stables, on which a police station now stands. The construction of the building in this place will render necessary the erection of the proposed home for soldiers and sailors further to the south than was originally contemplated, and the Consulting Architect will therefore be furnished in the Military Department with a plan showing the site at present proposed for the home and will be directed to report the space required for the

construction of the new College; upon receipt of this information the Wesleyan Mission will be communicated with.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) O. V. BODDY, Major, R.E.,
Under-Secretary, P.W.D.,
for Chief Secretary.

To the Military Department; Public Works Department; Director of Public Instruction.

No. 64.

No. 3817.

Forwarded to His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief in view to this Department being furnished, at an early date, with an exact plan of the site at present proposed for the erection of the Rev. Mr. Whitmore's Sailors' and Soldiers' Home.

2. From the papers now before Government and in the absence of the original plans, it is not understood how the site originally chosen has been changed. It is requested that this fact may be ascertained, if necessary in communication with Mr. Whitmore, to whom it should be explained that the contemplated erection of the proposed Law College on the Monument Esplanade would render necessary the erection of the home on the site originally proposed, viz., that near the Seven Wells' fountain.

(By Order.)

Ootacamund, (Signed) A. KENNEY-HERBERT, Brigdr.-Genl.,
9th July 1891. Secretary to Government.

To the Quarter Master General.

No. 65. From Brigadier-General E. H. EYRE, Quarter Master General, Madras Army, to Brigadier-General A. KENNEY-HERBERT, Secretary to Government, Military Department; dated Ootacamund, 26th October 1891, No. 2366-MW (Sites).

In compliance with the orders of Government recorded in Proceedings of Government, No. 3817, dated 9th July 1891, I am desired to forward the accompanying plans showing the site at present proposed for the erection of the Rev. T. H. Whitmore's Soldiers' and Sailors' Home on the Monument Esplanade at Madras, together with copy of a letter, dated 14th instant, from that gentleman, in explanation of the alteration of the original site.

2. I am also to state that it has been explained to Mr. Whitmore that, in the event of the Law College being sited where the police station now stands, the home he proposes to erect must be built farther south, and on the site first chosen near the Seven Wells' fountain; but I am to suggest that orders may be issued to

hold in abeyance the construction of this home pending receipt of the orders of the Government of India on the general question of the erection of buildings in the vicinity of the *enciente* of Fort Saint George.

From the Rev. T. H. WHITMORE, Wesleyan Chaplain, to the Assistant Adjutant-General, Madras Army; dated Madras, 14th October 1891.

I have the honour, in reply to your No. 3410, dated 8th October, to reply that I have gone over my papers again with care and feel sure that the paper called for by His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief is not here.

2. I have written to London to inquire for it, as I remember sending certain documents to the Mission house with the decision of Government on the matter; and urging them, if they have it, to return it at once.

3. Meanwhile, in the hope of assisting Government as far as possible, I venture to enclose a plan on which I have marked what I believe to have been our original notion of the site we should require for the building we propose to erect and also the site as it was granted to us by Government.

4. The dimensions of the first site were, I believe, 75 x 50 yards, though I am not quite sure. But we found that the site selected was just in the very lowest part of the maidan, and that during the monsoon it was almost entirely under water.

5. We asked, therefore, that the demarcation might be carried 25 yards farther from the road towards the higher ground nearer the monument and also 25 yards farther in the direction of the police station at the corner as indicated by the lines marked in red ink.

6. I rather suspect that, when the demarcation was made, we may have drifted a little rather in a northerly than in a southerly direction. I do not remember that at the time we had anything to guide us exactly and we took the southern boundary at a guess.

7. I have therefore marked two lines to the southern extremity of the plot, but in my belief the one slightly more to the north is the more correct according to our own original idea.

8. I extremely regret not being able to furnish His Excellency and the Quarter Master General with the plan required; but if it should be found that I have sent it home by any mistake and is returned to me, I will forward it without delay.

No. 66.

ORDER THEREON, 3rd December 1891, No. 6871.

The Rev. Mr. Whitmore will be informed that the Right Honorable the Governor in Council much regrets that, owing to public exigencies, the whole of the negotiations concerning the plot of ground on the Monument Esplanade intended to be allotted for the erection of a "Soldiers' and Sailors' Home" must be considered to be at an end, until it has been settled how much of the land is available, after the site for the new Law College has been chosen, and what open space is to be left round the Fort.

(True Extract.)

Brigdr.-Genl.,
Secretary to Government.

To the Rev. Mr. Whitmore.
" Secretary, Wesleyan Army and Navy Committee.
" Quarter Master General.
" Government Solicitor.
" Educational Department.
" Revenue Department.
" Public Works Department. *Smith 50/2*
" Local and Municipal Department.

Exd. P. L. Pereira.

~~CONCERNS BOTH BRITISH INDIA~~
~~AND INDIAN STATES.~~

Govt. of {1891} Madras
MILITARY.

To
THE REV. MR. WHITAMORE,
 &c., &c., &c.

Dated December, 3rd.

Issued

Recd. 8-12-91 Encl.

G.O., 3rd December 1891, No. 6871.

DECEMBER.
Nos. 58—66.

Cantonments—Lands.

Soldiers' and Sailors' Home.—Rev. Mr. Whitmore informed that the negotiations concerning the plot of ground on the Monument esplanade intended to be allotted for the erection of a — must be considered at an end, owing to public exigencies.

Communicated
Communicated
to the Consulting Architects
to the Consulting Architects
in continuation of G.C.
in continuation of G.C.
1497 W d/ 1st June 1891
1497 W d/ 1st June 1891

OVB
 9.12.91

C. A. to Govt. ✓ 11/12/91

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