

From

THE CONSULTING ARCHITECT
TO THE GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS,

To

THE Chief Engineer
P. W. D.

No. 1950

Dated

13th

Despatched

Received

July 1896.

No. of ENCLOSURES.

Subject.

Submitting reasons for
having overlooked the orders
of Government in submitting
the detailed estimates for
providing the City Court with
glass doors.

No. 27674 dt 9-7-96
- 944 W. dt 16-3-96

Recd: 14-7-96

Recd Cms 5884

Pro. Memo dt 27-6-96

Cms 6332

No. 2174 W. dated 28 July 1896.

Ps
Int

Communicated
to the Judicial Dept.
with reference to No
478 Judl. dated 7th
March 1896.

16/7/96

TK
B

DESPATCHED
29 JUL. 96

judl. dept.
S. 255 11/87

No. 1950

Office of the Consulting Architect to Govt.,
 Chepauk, Madras.
 13th July 1896.

From

A. bel. b. b. Rawson Pl.

Ag. Consulting Architect

to the Government of Madras,

To

The Chief Engineer.

Public Works Department.

In,

Enclosures.

With reference to your Memorandum
 No. 2767 dated 9th Instant I have the honour
 to state that on receipt of G.O. No. 178 Judicial
 Department dated 9th March 1896, the Estimate
 for the work was revised by the substitution
 of ordinary window glass in lieu of $\frac{1}{4}$ " thick
 plate glass as originally provided and
 reduced for Rs 2000 to Rs 1023.

2 As the necessity for the work was
 approved by Government and the amount
 was within the powers of Consulting ar-
 chitect to sanction, the revised Estimate
 was submitted to the Honorable the Judges
 for approval and on receipt of the same,
 the work was ordered to be carried out.
 This was done to admit of the work being
 completed

completed before the Court reopened
after the vacation and in doing this, I
regret that the orders of government
requiring the detailed Estimates to be
submitted to them were overlooked.

I have the honour to be
Sir

Your most Obedt Servant

William Lloyd
14/7/96

Sq Consulting architect to Govt.

Recd: 14.7.96

From

THE CONSULTING ARCHITECT

TO THE GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS,

To

THE Chief Engineer
P. W. D.

Recd Cms 5884

P.O. memo. No 2767C

Cms 6332

No. 1950

Dated

13th

Despatched

Received

July 1896.

No: 2174 W. dated 28 July 1896.

Communicated
to the Judicial Dept.
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Submitting reasons for
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providing the City Court with
glass doors.

No. 2767C dt 9-7-96
- 944 W. dt 16-3-96

16/7/96

Tk
B

DESPATCHED
29 JUL. 93

judl. sept.
D.S. 255 11/8/97

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—again the following paper :—

G.O., Mis. No. 87, Judicial, dated 15th January 1896.

Read—the following extract from the Proceedings of the Government of India, in the Home Department (Jails)—under dated Calcutta, the 5th December 1895, No. 10-Jails—534-544 :—

Read—

Despatch from the Secretary of State, No. 50 (Judicial), dated the 7th Dec. 1893.

Home Department Circular, No. 3-Jails—103-112, dated the 16th Feb. 1894.

Despatch from the Secretary of State, No. 10 (Judicial), dated the 15th Feb. 1894.

Home Department Circular, No. 4-Jails—213-227, dated the 24th April 1894.

Replies from certain Local Governments to the Circulars of 16th February and 24th April 1894.

Resolution—

In Home Department Circular, No. 3-Jails—103-112, dated 16th February 1894, Local Governments and Administrations were informed that the principle that prisoners should be separately confined by night entirely approved itself to the Government of India and were asked to keep this principle in view when building new jails and gradually, as funds might permit, in the alteration of existing jails. In the subsequent Circular, No. 4-Jails—213-227, dated 24th April 1894, it was stated that both the Secretary of State and the Government of India attach the greatest importance to the speedy provision of cubicles, and Local Governments and Administrations were desired to prepare a scheme for supplying cubicles in the sleeping wards, and to carry it into effect with energy as funds allow. It was requested that the progress made in providing cubicles might be noticed in the annual jail reports beginning with those for 1894.

2. The following information on the subject is contained in the jail reports for the year 1894. In the Madras Presidency a scheme for providing wire-netting cubicles in the association wards of the Trichinopoly Central Jail has been approved and the necessary plans and estimates were, when the report was written, under preparation in the Public Works Department. The provision of cubicles in existing association wards is said to be a difficult matter, and one to be undertaken cautiously lest the health of the inmates should suffer. About $12\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of the jail accommodation in Madras is stated to be cellular. A scheme has been sanctioned for converting three blocks at the Coimbatore Central Jail into cells, and the new district jail about to be built at Cuddalore will be on the cellular system. The question of arranging for the separate confinement of prisoners by night is not noticed in the Bombay Jail Report. In Bengal, sleeping wards fitted with cubicles have already been provided in sufficient quantities to admit of the segregation of the worst habitual offenders in a number of jails, and standard plans, specifications and estimates for four different kinds of cubicles have recently been prepared by the Public Works Department. Two of these have been selected and estimates have been submitted for the provision of cubicles in one of the wards under construction at Bhagalpur. A sum has been allotted for expenditure during the present year for cubicles in the new wards to be made at the Hazaribagh Central Jail. In the North-Western Provinces and Judh the scheme for the provision of separate sleeping accommodation, stated to have been framed upon the most economical basis, was found to involve an outlay, in

the case of the Bareilly Central Jail, of Rs. 4,81,570, and, in the case of Bareilly District Jail, of Rs. 2,50,222. It has, in consequence, been indefinitely postponed by the Local Government. The solitary cell accommodation is, however, being gradually extended as funds permit. The number of such cells in the United Provinces increased from 3,475 in 1893 to 3,539 in 1894. In the Panjab, with the exception of the juvenile ward attached to the Lahore Central Jail, none of the accommodation in the sleeping barracks in the jails is arranged on the cubicle system, and it is stated that there is no prospect of funds being available for many years for providing cubicles. In the Central Provinces, the straitened condition of the finances makes much progress in this matter an impossibility, but it is stated that the Inspector-General will be able to find funds for the provision of more cubicles on the wire-netting system already adopted in some of the barracks of the Jubbulpore Central Jail. In Burma, the cubicular sub-division of dormitories for convicts is under consideration; but in that Province the question is complicated by the fact that the existing accommodation for prisoners in association is expected to require extension before long. In Assam, the matter was under consideration during the year, but the head of the Jail Department was, when the report was prepared, awaiting the receipt of plans of wire-netting compartments from the Government of India for guidance before initiating any further steps in the matter. In the Hyderabad Assigned Districts, cubicles have been provided for sixty-four prisoners in the Amraoti and sixteen in the Akola Jail. The Chief Commissioner of Coorg is considering the question of supplying cubicles in the Mercara Jail.

3. From the above summary it appears that Local Governments and Administrations have not, in all instances, exactly comprehended the intentions of the Government of India, and this impression is confirmed by the tenor of the separate replies received from some Local Governments in answer to the circulars of 16th February and 24th April 1894. It is only necessary here to refer to a recent communication from the Madras Government on the subject. That Government have reported to the Government of India that the accommodation in the central and district jails of the Presidency is sufficient for 10,002 convicts, 1,388 of whom are already housed in separate sleeping cells. The scheme for the conversion into cubicles of three ward blocks in the Coimbatore Central Jail is estimated to cost Rs. 9,300 and when it is completed there will be accommodation for 192 instead of 288 convicts. On the hypothesis that schemes relating to other jails will involve expenditure and loss of accommodation upon the same scale, the Madras Government anticipate that the cost of converting existing buildings into cubicles will amount to Rs. 2,71,638 and that there will be a total loss of accommodation for 2,804 prisoners. The cost of supplying cellular accommodation for 2,804 prisoners would, at this rate, amount to Rs. 10,48,696, and by adding to this the cost of converting existing buildings and of a new cellular jail at Cuddalore, the total expenditure comes to over 15 lakhs. The Madras Government, moreover, think that, owing to the certain requirement of fresh ground and fresh outer walls, and the probability that, as all jails may not be capable of enlargement, new jails may also be required, it is by no means improbable that the total cost would reach 30 lakhs.

4. The intentions of the Government of India were not, it is necessary to explain, that cellular accommodation should at once be substituted for the accommodation in association hitherto supplied. The Governor-General in Council is indeed of opinion that the introduction of the cellular system of separate confinement, under which a portion of a convict's sentence is passed in isolation, would afford the only complete remedy for certain defects in the administration of Indian jails, while it would make imprisonment more generally deterrent than it is at present, and, in the opinion of His Excellency in Council, result in time in a large diminution of the jail population. But it is hardly necessary for the Government of India to remark that the introduction of a system of separate cellular confinement is beset with difficulties which render its general adoption in the early future quite impossible. Such a measure would involve not only a very large expenditure on jail buildings, which, in the present state of the finances, it would be quite out of the question for the Government of India to contemplate, but would also call for the general revision of penalties

embodied in the Penal Code, which are based on the supposition that imprisonment will generally be passed in association. It would not, in the opinion of the Government of India, be possible, as has been suggested by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of the Panjab, to leave judicial officers to pass sentences as at present and to provide by legislation that, save in certain classes of cases that would have to be excepted, and, subject to rules to be made by the Governor-General in Council, it should be open to the executive authorities to arrange that, for any portion of the term for which a prisoner might be sentenced to imprisonment, one-half that portion to be passed in solitary confinement should be substituted. It has not infrequently been asserted that the Indian prisoner is more affected, both physically and mentally, by solitary confinement than the European, and, before confinement in cells could be made the rule instead of the exception, the Government of India would have to consider this aspect of the case very carefully. Moreover, the general substitution of confinement in cells for confinement in association would effect a revolution in existing jail industries, the result of which would be to add materially to the expenditure involved in adding to and altering jail buildings in order to make them suitable for a system of separate confinement.

5. While, however, the introduction of a system of separate confinement in cells cannot be generally adopted, at all events for a considerable number of years, there is nothing in the law to prevent confinement in cells, where the necessary accommodation exists. In the Andamans a cellular jail is under construction in which it is intended that all convicts shall pass the first six months of their sentences of transportation, and, as has already been stated, there is in the Madras Presidency a certain amount of cellular accommodation. The Governor-General in Council is of opinion that, as funds become available, jails should be built on the cellular principle, and that cells should be provided in existing jails in which certain classes of prisoners should be confined for a part or the whole of their terms. But it appears to His Excellency in Council desirable that where such a system is introduced it should apply to prisoners under short as well as long sentences, and that it is a defect (which ought to be removed) in the system in force in the Madras Presidency that it does not extend to a convict under a sentence of not more than two years' imprisonment if he does not happen to be an habitual. In view of the severity and deterrent character of imprisonment in isolation and to avoid inequality in punishment, it is, in the opinion of the Governor-General in Council, desirable that a special system of marks should be devised for convicts serving the whole or a portion of their sentences in isolation which would have the effect of enabling them, provided that their conduct was good, to secure release from jail earlier than they would if the whole of their term of imprisonment were passed in association. The Governor-General in Council will be glad to receive from Local Governments and Administrations suggestions as to the best means of devising such a system of marks.

6. The provision of cubicles with a view to separating prisoners by night, in the manner contemplated in the Home Department circulars of 16th February and 24th April 1894, need not be such an expensive matter as has been assumed by some Local Governments and Administrations. In several central jails in Bengal and at the Jubbulpore Central Jail in the Central Provinces the sleeping barracks are designed with the object of being divided into cubicles with a central passage down the middle of the ward. The Government of India are aware that in some of the older plans of jail barracks, which provide for three or four rows of sleeping berths, it will be impossible to arrange for two rows of cubicles without considerable loss of accommodation. But there are probably not a few jails of this design the prison population of which has been so reduced as to make this loss of accommodation a matter of no consequence. The reduction in the number of prisoners in these old sleeping wards would undoubtedly prove of great benefit from a sanitary point of view.

The essential features of the arrangement adopted in Bengal and the Central Provinces are that the doors of the cubicles open into the centre of the ward, in which, if necessary, the night watchmen can patrol. Each cubicle receives the ventilation of half a full-sized door or window, and it is desirable that the partitions between adjoining cubicles should be of solid corrugated iron in order to prevent the prisoners

from talking by night—a practice which favours the corruption by the worst criminals of those who are not so depraved. All the rest of the cubicle, including the entrance door, may be composed of wire netting fixed to angle-iron supports. This permits complete perflation of air between the windows and doors across the ward, and also complete upward ventilation. The sleeping berth is placed under the shelter of the wall to protect the prisoner from draughts. In order to secure that the prisoners shall have ready means of escape in case of fire, there should be an arrangement under which the warder on duty can open all the cubicles on one side of the ward simultaneously.

7. The best plan for constructing cubicles which has come before the Government of India so far is that which is being adopted in Bengal in respect of the Bhagalpur Jail. The plan and specification are attached to this Resolution, and they seem to the Government of India, subject to the modification that a solid galvanized iron partition should, for the reason given in paragraph 6 above, be substituted for the wire-netting partition, very well adapted to the purpose which the Governor-General in Council has in view. The cost of providing such a cubicle at Bhagalpur with an iron netting partition is estimated at Rs. 92, and it should be very little more if corrugated iron is substituted for the wire-netting partition. The Government of India have no doubt that many jails in the different Provinces will lend themselves to the provision of cubicles in this manner. It will, of course, not be possible for Local Governments and Administrations to alter all jails simultaneously with this object, but the Governor-General in Council attaches great importance to this reform being carried out, and the expense involved in it is not, in his opinion, sufficient to prevent it from being gradually effected. His Excellency in Council therefore trusts that Local Governments will now do all in their power to carry out the wishes of the Government of India and the Secretary of State, as stated in the circular of 16th April 1894, for the early preparation of a scheme for supplying cubicles generally in the sleeping wards in jails, and for carrying it into effect with such energy as the state of the finances under their control will permit.

Order.—Ordered that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to all Local Governments and Administrations for information and guidance.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. P. HEWETT,
Offg. Secy. to the Govt. of India.

To the Government of Madras.

Order—Mis. No. 87, Judicial, dated 15th January 1896.

Communicated to the Inspector-General of Prisons, with the request that he will report on the suggestions contained in paragraphs 5 to 7 of the foregoing Resolution.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. F. PRICE,
Chief Secretary.

To the Inspector-General of Prisons.

READ—also the following papers :—

From A. G. CARDEW, Esq., M.A., Inspector-General of Prisons, Madras, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Trichinopoly, 7th March 1896, No. C-448.

In paragraph 2 of my letter, No. C-1333, dated 21st October 1895, I proposed, in order to give effect to the desire of Government, that persons convicted for the first time should undergo some period of their sentence in cells, to carry out increases in cellular accommodation as far as circumstances admit, and meantime to postpone any

alteration in the rules until more cellular accommodation was provided. If this proposal was approved, I undertook to submit recommendations for increasing the cellular accommodation in central jails, and in G.O., No. 2311, Judicial, dated 13th November 1895, approval of these proposals was expressed.

2. I have accordingly now the honour to submit a plan of the Central Jail, Vellore, and to recommend that an addition be made to the close prison or cellular enclosure attached to that jail. Although the total accommodation of the Vellore Central Jail is for 1,194 prisoners, and although the daily average population for some years past has been over 1,000, the total number of cells of all kinds is only 109, and the close prison or cellular enclosure contains only seventy-eight. This number is inadequate even for the number of habitual prisoners passing through the jail, and is still more inadequate to accommodate, during a part of their sentences, offenders convicted for the first time of offences against property. An extension of the close prison is therefore very necessary, and fortunately there is plenty of space available on which additional cells can be placed. I have marked on the plan the site which has been chosen for the purpose. It will not interfere with the symmetry of the jail, and its enclosure will have the advantage of bringing the well inside the jail walls and thus of rendering it possible to dispense with the sentry who has at present to be posted over the convicts working the well. There is ample space in the area to be enclosed for 100 additional cells, which will be arranged as three sides of an oblong, the radiating arrangement being found uneconomical of space.

3. As this plan will, it is thought, considerably advance the object which the Government has in view, it is submitted for favourable consideration.

From A. G. CARDEW, Esq., M.A., Inspector-General of Prisons, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Ootacamund, 31st March 1896, No. 1775.

I have the honour to submit the following reply to G.O., No. 87, Judicial, dated 15th January 1896.

2. Separation by night is the greatest need of the Prison department in this Presidency and in India. Whether the object in view is to prevent the contamination of the less depraved convict or to render imprisonment more distasteful and deterrent, nothing can be so important as the separation of prisoners at night.

3. But, however strongly this view may be held, it is evident that, except by such heroic measures of expenditure as are out of the question, separation cannot be provided in existing jails all at once. The total accommodation for adult male convicts (Annual Statement A, column 16) in the jails of this Presidency in 1895 was sufficient for 9,390 prisoners (as noted below), and of this total the total cellular accommodation is for 1,354 only, which will be raised to about 1,650 when the Cuddalore District Jail is complete. As the Government appears to have pointed out to the Government of India, cellular accommodation for the rest of the jail-population cannot be provided all at once.

	Male Convicts.			
	Cells.	Wards with separation.	Wards without separation.	Total.
Central jails	709	..	5,834	6,543
District jails	645	..	2,180	2,825
Criminal Leper ward	..	..	22	22
Total	1,354	..	8,036	9,390

4. There is no reason, however, why some instalment in this direction should not be undertaken each year. During the past ten years a considerable number of district jails has been closed, thereby saving a large sum in establishment, and the concentration of prisoners in large jails has rendered it more desirable even than before that

the cellular accommodation in these jails shall be added to. In some cases, as at the Penitentiary, Madras, this is impossible because there is no room for fresh cellular buildings. At other central jails there is, however, ample space, and proposals for thus adding to the cellular accommodation at the Vellore Central Jail were submitted in my letter, No. C-448, dated 7th March 1896.

5. In addition to the gradual provision of additional cells, there is also the possibility of separating convicts, even in existing buildings, by the construction of cubicles. Such separation, though less effective than isolation in cells, would undoubtedly make convict life more deterrent and would prevent some of the worst forms of corruption. When I visited the Vellore Central Jail this month, three Burman convicts were under treatment in hospital for diseases which left no reasonable doubt of the men having been given to unnatural practices.

6. In G.O., No. 124, Judicial, dated 19th January 1895, the Government sanctioned the preparation of plans and estimates for providing cubicles in the association wards of the Trichinopoly Central Jail. It was thought best to take up a single ward first in order to see how the style of cubicle adopted worked, and in October last a plan and estimate for providing twenty-two cubicles in one ward of this jail at a cost of Rs. 1,080 was approved. Owing to delay in the Public Works Department, which is said to be due to difficulties in obtaining the sections of iron provided in the plan, the work has not yet been commenced. A copy of the plans and estimates has been obtained from the Superintending Engineer and is herewith submitted. No reduction on previous accommodation is caused by this scheme.

7. It will be seen that the cost of these cubicles is far less than that of the Bengal pattern which is circulated by the Government of India, being a little over Rs. 49 per cubicle as against Rs. 92 in the Bhagalpur estimate. The Government of India considers that the partitions should be of corrugated iron, but before this view is generally adopted practical experience of the effects which such cubicles will have on the health of the prisoners who sleep in them is absolutely necessary. There is no doubt that corrugated-iron partitions will supply a much more efficient means of separation, but they would certainly produce far more complete stagnation of air than wire-netting partitions. A ward with twenty men in it does not smell very sweet as it is after it has been locked up a few hours. If it were divided into cubicles separated by corrugated iron, the perfusion of air would be less and the accumulation of foul air greater. It is imperatively necessary that full experience should be obtained before any style of cubicle is fixed on for general adoption, and I would propose to fit up one block at the Trichinopoly Central Jail with cubicles made with corrugated-iron partitions and another with cubicles made with wire-netting partitions. It will be seen that it is proposed to have the division walls of wire of finer mesh than the rest of the cubicle is made of. The cubicles will be arranged down each side of the ward, as in the Bhagalpur plan, with a gangway 3' 11" wide in the centre. It is, however, not practicable to give each cubicle the ventilation of half a full-sized door or window, as the Government of India proposes, though this can be done for a considerable number of the cubicles.

8. In paragraph 5 of the Home Department Resolution under reply, it is suggested that the omission to enforce any period of cellular confinement in the case of non-habitual prisoners sentenced to periods of less than two years is a defect in the Madras "Close Prison" rules (Chapter XVIII of the Jail Code). The same question attracted the attention of Government (*vide* G.O., No. 1988, Judicial, dated 24th September 1895, sub-rule 306) and the defect is not denied. The only answer to it is that until cellular accommodation is increased, there is no room for the confinement of all classes of prisoners in cells during a part of their sentences. This was pointed out in paragraph 2 of my letter, No. C-1333, dated 21st October 1895, and the proposal to postpone any change in the rules until the cellular accommodation is increased was approved in G.O., No. 2311, Judicial, dated 13th November 1895. It was with this object in view that the proposals contained in my letter, No. C-448, dated 7th March 1896, were submitted as is therein stated. No change in the rules is therefore desirable at present.

9. In the same paragraph the Government of India proposes that a special system of marks should be devised for convicts serving a whole or a portion of their sentences, in separate confinement. It appears to me that in this proposal the true object of the mark system has been lost sight of. The object of the mark system is, not to shorten sentences, but to hold out to convicts an incentive to hard work and good conduct. Of course, the mark system does effect a reduction in sentence, but it only does so because that is held to be the most hopeful way of encouraging good behaviour and leading convicts to habits of industry. But the proposal now made is to offer convicts a reduction of sentence, not as a reward for good conduct, but as a compensation for the infliction of cellular confinement. If this principle were admitted, convicts employed on specially-severe forms of labour would have an equally good claim to special marks. Again, it is proposed on the one hand to spend large sums of money in order gradually to provide cellular confinement on the ground mainly of its deterrent effects, and on the other hand it is suggested that the deterrent effects thus arrived at shall be mitigated and reduced by a grant of a special system of marks. It appears to me that the proposal is thus inconsistent with the chief object of cellular system and with the principles on which the mark system is founded. If, however, it is to be carried out, the best way would be to grant a lump sum of special marks—say, thirty, or at a rate of one per diem—for each month spent in the close prison contingent on the usual daily marks (two per diem) being regularly earned. This special grant of marks should not apply to cellular jails, where all convicts are kept in cells, but only to those jails to which certain number of cells has been added as an annexure.

10. To sum up the foregoing letter, the proposals I submit are—

- (1) to allot a certain sum annually for the gradual increase of cellular accommodation in central jails;
 - (2) to construct gradually cubicles in existing association wards;
- N.B.*—The expenditure on these two objects might be limited to a fixed sum—say, Rs. 50,000 a year.
- (3) to ascertain by actual trial and observation whether corrugated iron can safely be used for the dividing walls of these cubicles;
 - (4) not to make any change in the close prison rules as yet or until cellular accommodation is increased;
 - (5) not to give any special marks to convicts confined in cells, or, if such marks must be given, to allow a lump sum of thirty marks per mensem, contingent on the usual daily marks being regularly earned, and not admissible in jails which are wholly cellular.

11. One of the three copies of the Bhagalpur pattern of cubicle is returned herewith.

From A. G. CARDEW, Esq., M.A., Inspector-General of Prisons, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated 24th April 1896, No. 2449.

With reference to paragraph 6 of my letter, No. 1775, dated 31st March 1896, I have the honour to enclose copy of a letter, No. 568-T.C., dated 15th April 1896, from the Superintending Engineer, VI Circle, from which it will be observed that a revised estimate for providing twenty-two cubicles in the Trichinopoly Central Jail has been prepared, raising the cost from Rs. 49 per cubicle to Rs. 59 per cubicle. The excess is entirely due to a revision of the rate for wrought-iron work, which has been raised from Rs. 9-12-0 to Rs. 13-15-0 per cwt. "as per Massey & Co.'s tender."

ENCLOSURE.

From W. HUGHES, Esq., Superintending Engineer, VI Circle, to the Inspector-General of Prisons, dated Trichinopoly, 15th April 1896, No. 568-T.C.

In forwarding herewith a revised estimate amounting to Rs. 1,300 for providing cubicles in association ward No. 5 in the Central Jail at Trichinopoly, I have the honour to inform you that the Executive Engineer has revised the estimate of Rs. 1,080 returned approved with your

No. C-1401, dated 31st October 1895, and sanctioned by me in Register No. 25 of 1895-96, by increasing the rate for wrought-iron works to Rs. 13-15-0, the original rate, Rs. 9-12-0, being found insufficient to meet the extra cost according to Messrs. Massey & Co.'s tenders. The excess caused by the revision of the estimate amounts to Rs. 220. I request the estimate may be returned with your countersignature, and when received it will be sanctioned by me.

2. The Executive Engineer reports that Messrs. Massey & Co. hope to complete the work within three months.

ORDER—No. 1043, Judicial, dated 20th June 1896.

The Public Works Department will be requested to prepare and forward to Government plans and estimates for the addition to the close prison in the Vellore Central Jail proposed in the first of the letters from the Inspector-General of Prisons read above. The Government considers that the work should be carried out departmentally.

2. The future financial position is not sufficiently assured to render it possible for the Government to engage to comply with the Inspector-General's request in paragraph 10 of his second letter, that a sum not exceeding half a lakh of rupees should annually be expended upon increasing the cellular accommodation of, and constructing cubicles in, central jails, but he will be permitted to annually submit estimates for these purposes aggregating that amount, and endeavours will be made to grant allotments to carry them out.

3. The proposal in paragraph 7 of the same letter to ascertain the relative effects upon the health of the convicts who sleep in them of cubicles constructed with corrugated iron and those made of wire netting by fitting up one block under each system in the Trichinopoly Central Jail is sanctioned. The locking arrangements in the plans of the cubicles furnished by the Public Works Department are not clear, and those adopted at Bhagalpur would appear to be preferable.

4. The Government has already decided to postpone any change in the existing close prison rules until the proportion of cellular accommodation has been increased.

5. The Government of India will be addressed on the subject of the system of special marks for convicts in close prisons proposed by it. It may, however, be observed that the adoption of the Inspector-General's suggestion that the grant of such marks should not be made in jails which are entirely cellular would, in the opinion of Government, be inequitable, as it would lead to the severity of a convict's sentence being determined by the accident of the jail in which he was confined.

[Here enter No. 1044, dated 20th June 1896.]

(True Extract.)

J. F. PRICE,
Chief Secretary.

To the Inspector-General of Prisons.
" Public Works Department.
" Financial Department.

Gobt. of {1896} Madras.
JUDICIAL.

Issued.

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., No. 1043, 20th June 1896.

JUNE.

Jails.

Requesting the Public Works Department to prepare and forward to Government plans and estimates for an addition to the close prison in the Vellore Central Jail; sanctioning the proposal of the Inspector-General of Prisons to fit up one block at the Trichinopoly Central Jail with cubicles made with corrugated-iron partitions and another with cubicles made of wire netting; and stating that the Government of India will be addressed on the subject of the system of special marks for convicts in close prisons proposed by it.

With order

No 2175 W. dated 28 July 1896

Communicated to
Suptg. Engineers
for information

2. The Suptg. Engineers
VI Circle will submit
the plans and estimates
called for in para 1
of the G.O., and the
attention of the Suptg.
Engineers VI Circle
is drawn to para
3 -

/s/ D. M. C.
W

Suptg Engineers

(Plan to S. G. VI Circle)