

Number 2
1. Date of Report 2/12/37
2. Initials of Referee
M.R.O. 1-55,000-16-10-25

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	1807	Press
		Mis.
Dated	6-12-	10/18/1

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Read the following :—

No. 32. MINUTE by His Excellency the Governor, dated 20th November 1871.

When I was at Trichinopoly my attention was called by the Collector to the miserable condition of the Taluq Cutcherry which is placed at present in an old bomb-proof building used formerly for some military purpose. Mr. Whiteside at the same time brought to my notice a serious want experienced by the Municipality in reference to a market for the sale of cloths, the sales being at present effected in the open air and upon the ground.

2. These representations led me to make a second examination of an immense pile of old half-deserted buildings in the town, generally known as the Nabob's Palace, which were sold by the Carnatic Receiver some years ago for a most insignificant sum of money.

3. These buildings are now in the possession of some Native families of moderate means and are used as habitations, for which they are extremely ill-adapted. They possess, on the other hand, great elements of public utility if they could be recovered by the Government and the Municipality.

4. Partly erected by the old Naick Sovereigns, and partly by the Carnatic family, the palace of Trichinopoly possesses some interest from its antiquity, from the tragical traditions of the Ranee Mungaumal, who reigned and died here in the 18th century, and partly from the character of the buildings which contain a curious circular hall and a small tank of remarkably fine workmanship.

5. It is not, however, from this point of view that I recommend the structure to the attention of Government. In restoring the Madura Palace the Government may be considered to have preserved the best example of the style, and to have done enough for the ancient secular monuments of this part of India. The Trichinopoly Palace can, I think, still be turned to a good purpose. It can be made useful, and if in doing so an historical edifice is saved so much the better. As far as Government is concerned, I do not propose any expenditure on this account.

6. The building roughly described consists of the following parts :—

(1.) A lofty two-storied house in front with a most spacious and convenient courtyard behind. This would, I think, make an excellent Municipal Office with accommodation for carriages and stores, a good staircase being alone required which might be built outside.

(2.) Two small courtyards with cloisters or porticoes which only require to be cleaned and whitewashed to make an excellent cloth bazaar.

(3.) A very spacious airy substantial courtyard of recent date, with a roomy portico; two good closed apartments, and other dependencies better suited for a Taluq Cutcherry than any place I have seen in the country, and which would, at this time, cost to build certainly not less than Rupees 50,000. Behind this is the curious tank mentioned above.

(4.) A circular hall, some two-storied buildings, and a sufficient free space both in the rear and the front.

In these buildings I would propose to place the Municipal Dispensary which is at present in a hired building at an inconvenient distance from the thickly-inhabited parts of the town. Some expenditure would here be requisite for sanitation and adaptation.

7. These remarks are, I am well-aware, prompted by a superficial inspection of the premises and without sufficient discussion with more competent local judges. All I would request Government to do would be this, to refer my Minute to the Acting Collector of Trichinopoly with instructions to the following effect:—

(1.) To report whether building No. 3 is well-adapted for the purpose of a Taluq Cutcherry, and for what price it could be obtained for Government.

(2.) To communicate my views to the Municipality of Trichinopoly in regard to the purposes for which buildings Nos. 1, 2, and 4 could be utilized, and to report to Government whether the Municipal Commissioners are disposed to enter upon the subject and to combine with Government for the recovery of the whole group for our respective wants.

8. I think it right to add that, if the old Trichinopoly Palace is not repurchased and converted to some objects of public usefulness, it seems destined to stand there in a state of increasing deterioration, an eyesore to the community, and a reproach to a town which is so remarkable for its liberal and progressive spirit.

9. Closely connected with the old palace is the chief mosque of Trichinopoly, which has been a handsome structure, and which possesses an opulent endowment. The mosque itself is built from the foundations to the pinnacles, all of fine hewn stone, a very rare feature in the Mussulman buildings of this country; it is raised on a noble platform of the same material still in good repair, and it is surrounded by a range of pillared cloisters, which seem to have been originally destined for the habitation of students or persons connected with the service of the mosque. It is specially to the condition of these cloisters that I would call the attention of Government. Some portions of the edifice are in ruins, others are let out to persons of the meanest condition who live in them in a state of filth difficult to describe. The whole forms a spectacle of neglect and dilapidation little creditable to the Mussulman religion and to the city, the aspect of which is thus disfigured, while its health is endangered. The mosque is one of those foundations which are entrusted to the care of the Prince of Arcot, and I am confident that His Highness, on being informed of the true state of things, would gladly co-operate with Government in correcting evils which are alike repugnant to piety and to family pride. I would suggest that Government should instruct the Chepauk Agent to confer with the Prince of Arcot on this subject, and to move His Highness to appoint a special agent who should, in correspondence with the Acting Collector of Trichinopoly, make inquiries into the condition of the mosque and its endowments, with the view of securing the appropriation of a sufficient proportion of the revenues, if possible, for the repair and maintenance of the building without reducing the establishment and the office-bearers more than is necessary. It appears to me that the cloisters referred to above, being now in a hopeless state of decay, should be removed entirely.

10. A report should also be made, for the information [of the Prince and of Government, showing the value of endowments, the manner in which they are apportioned, and the purposes for which they were originally granted. In this view it would be desirable that the original deeds should be produced. The Government, I may presume, entertain no desire to abridge the power with which the Prince of Arcot is entrusted for the management of establishments closely connected with

the history of his family, but they would, no doubt, consider themselves justified in bringing before His Highness all the information necessary to enable him to exercise efficiently the functions with which he has recently been invested.

(Signed) NAPIER.

No. 33. ORDER THEREON, 6th December 1871, No. 1807.

The Government resolve to communicate the Minute of His Excellency the Governor to the Acting Collector of Trichinopoly and to the Government Agent at Chepauk with the following instructions.

2. Mr. Whiteside will report whether building No. 3 of the Nabob's Palace at Trichinopoly can be adapted for the purpose of a Taluq Cutcherry, and for what price it can be purchased by Government.

3. Mr. Whiteside will also communicate His Excellency the Governor's views to the Municipality of Trichinopoly in regard to the purposes for which the buildings Nos. 1, 2, and 4 could be utilized, and report to Government whether the Municipal Commissioners are disposed to enter upon the subject and to combine with the Government for the recovery of the whole group of buildings for the respective wants of the Government and Municipality.

4. The Government Agent at Chepauk will place himself in communication with His Highness the Prince of Arcot with reference to the existing condition of the mosque at Trichinopoly, as described in His Excellency the Governor's Minute. Colonel Wilson will move His Highness to appoint a special agent who should, in correspondence with the Acting Collector of Trichinopoly, make a full inquiry into the condition of the mosque and its endowments with a view to securing the appropriation of a sufficient proportion of its revenues for the repair and maintenance of the building, without reducing the establishment and the office bearers more than is necessary.

5. It will probably be necessary to remove the cloisters which are now in a state of hopeless decay.

6. His Highness' special agent should be required to prepare for His Highness' information, and for communication to Government, a statement showing the value of the endowments, the manner in which they are apportioned, and the purposes for which they were originally granted, and to establish these facts the original deeds should be produced and examined.

7. Colonel Wilson will clearly explain to His Highness that the Government have no desire to abridge the power with which His Highness is entrusted for the conduct and management of establishments closely connected with the history of his family. Their wish is to bring to His Highness' notice all the information necessary to enable him to exercise efficiently the functions with which he has been recently invested.

(True Extract.)

Chief Secretary.

To the Collector of Trichinopoly.
" Government Agent, Chepauk.
" Revenue Department.
" Political "

Exd. J. Wright.

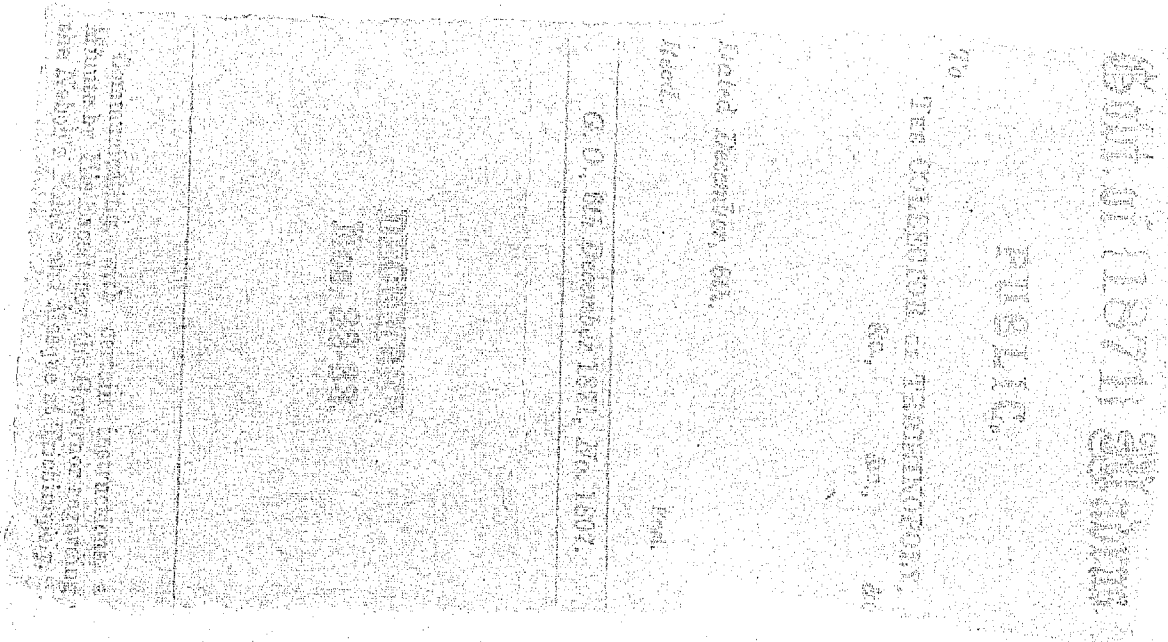
32 Minutes by His Ex: The Governor.

When I was at Tichino.
My attention was
called by the Collector
to the miserable condi-
tion of the Talook Cut-
Chung which is placed,
at present in an old
Bomb-proof building
used formerly for some
military purpose.

Mr. Whiteside at the
same time brought to
my notice a serious
want experienced by
the Municipality in
reference to a market
for the sale of cloths:
the sales being at
present effected in the
open air and upon the
ground.

These representations
led me to make a
second examination

B. V.



Of an immense pile
of old half-deserted
buildings, in the town,
generally known as
the Nabob's Palace,
which were sold by the
Carnatic ~~recesses~~, some
years ago, for a most
insignificant sum
of money.

These buildings are now
in the possession of
some Native families
of moderate means
and are used as
habitations, for which
they are extremely ill
adapted. They possess,
on the other hand, great
elements of public
utility if they could
be recovered by the
Govt. and the Municipi-
ality.

IV. Partly erected by the
old Naick Sovereigns
and partly by the
Carnatic family, the
Palace of Trichinopoly
possesses some interest
from its antiquity,
from the ~~tragic~~ tra-
ditions of the Rane
Munjanmal, who
reigned and died here
in the 18th Century, and
partly from the Cha-
racter of the buildings
which contain a curious
circular Hall and a
small Tank of remarka-
bly fine workmanship.

V. It is not however
from this point of view
that I recommend the
structure to the attention
of Govt. In restoring
~~in restoring~~ the Madras
Palace the Govt. may

be considered to have
preserved the best
example of the style
and to have done
enough for the ancient
Secular Monuments
of this part of India.

The Pichinopoly
Palace can, I think,
still be turned to a
good purpose. It can
be made useful and
if in doing so an
historical edifice is
saved so much the
better. As far as Govt.
is concerned I do not
propose any expenditure
on this account.

VI. The building roughly
described consists of the
following parts

(1.) A lofty two storied
house in front with

a most spacious and
convenient Court-yard
behind. This would, I
think, make an ex-
cellent Municipal Office
with accommodation
for carriages and stores,
a good stair-case being
alone required which
might be built outside.

(2.) Two small Court-
yards with cloisters or
porticoes which only re-
quire to be cleaned and
white-washed to make
an excellent cloth
Bazaar.

(3.) A very spacious and
substantial Court-yard
of recent date, with a
lovely portico, two good
closed apartments
and other dependencies
better suited for a

School Catching the

Any place I have seen
in the Country and
which would, at this
time, cost to build cer-
tainly not less than
Rs: 50,000:- Behind
this is the curious tank
mentioned above.

(4.) A Circular Hall, some
two-storied buildings
and a sufficient free
space both in the rear
and the front.

In these buildings I would
propose to place the
Municipal Dispensary
which is, at present, in
a hired building at an
inconvenient distance
from the thickly inhabited
parts of the town. Some
expenditure would have
be requisite for sanitation
and adaptation.

VII. These remarks are, I am
well aware, prompted
by a superficial inspec-
tion of the premises
and without sufficient
discussion with more
competent local judges.
All I would request
Govt. to do would be
this, to refer my minutes
to the Acting Collector
of Pichinopoly with
instructions to the
following effect:

(1.) To report whether
building No: 3 is well
adapted for the purpose
of a Talook Cutchery
and for what price it
could be obtained for
Government.

(2.) To Communicate my
views to the Municipality
of Pichinopoly in regard
to the purposes for which

Buildings Nos 1, 2 and
4 could be utilized and
to report to Govt. whether
the Municipal Commissioners
are disposed to enter upon
the subject and to Con-
bine with Govt. for the
recovery of the whole
Group for our respective
benefits.

~~VIII~~
I think it right to add
that if the old Richinopoly
Palace is not repurchased
and converted to some
object of public usefulness
it seems destined to
stand there in a state
of increasing deterioration,
an eye sore to the Com-
munity and a reproach
to a Town which is so
remarkable for its
liberal and progressive
spirit.

3.

IX. Closely Connected with
the old Palace is the
Chief Mosque of Trichy-
opoly which has been
a handsome structure
and which possesses an
opulent endowment.
The Mosque itself is
built from the founda-
tions to the pinnacles
all of fine brown stone
a very rare feature in
the Mussulman
buildings of this Country,
it is raised on a noble
platform of the same
material still in good
repair and it is sur-
rounded by a range of
pillared Chosters which
seem to have been
originally destined for
the habitation of Students
or persons connected

with the Service of the
Mosque. —

It is specially to the
Condition of these Cloisters
that I would call the
Attention of Govt.

Some portions of the
Edifice are in Ruins,
Others are let out to
persons of the meanest
Condition who live in
them in a State of
filth difficult to
describe. The whole
forms a Spectacle of
Neglect and Degradation
little creditable to
the Mussulman Religion
and to the City, the
Aspect of which is
thus disfigured while
its health is endangered.

1606
The Mosque is one of
those foundations which
are entrusted to the
Care of the Prince of
Arcot and I am
Confident that His
Highness, on being in-
formed of the true State
of things would gladly
Cooperate with Govt.
in Correcting evils which
are alike repugnant to
piety and to family
pride. —

I would suggest that
Govt. should instruct
the Chapank Agent to
Confer with the Prince
of Arcot on this subject
and to move His High-
ness to appoint a special
Agent who should, in
correspondence with the
Acting Collector of

Madras.

enquiries into the Con-
dition of the Mosque
and its endowments
with the view of securing
the appropriation of a
sufficient proportion
of the Revenues, if possible,
for the repair and
maintenance of the
building without reducing
the Establishment and
the Office. Secrecy more
than is necessary.

It appears to me that
the Charters referred to
above being now in a
hopeless state of decay
should be removed
entirely.

A report should also
be made for the infor-
mation of the Prince

and of Gov^t showing
the value of the endow-
ments, the manner in
which they are appor-
tioned and the purposes
for which they were
originally granted.

In this view it would
be desirable that the
original deeds should
be produced.

The Gov^t, I may presume,
entertain no desire to
abridge the power with
which the Prince of Arcot
is entrusted for the
management of Estab-
lishments closely con-
nected with the history
of his family but they
would, no doubt, con-

sider themselves justi-
fied in bringing before
his Highness

the information necessary
to enable him to exercise efficiently
the functions with
which he has recently
been invested.

Napier

Madras. November 20th

I am sure - but the order
regarding the Mortgage should
be very carefully worded so as not
to lead H. H. to imagine or
hope that State Funds can
be applied to the restoration
of the Mosque. The pt. has now
withdrawn from all connection
with the religious institutions -

I fear we cannot have cottages
in connection with the Disbursing
in this locality - but there is an
avoidable in the hands of a Mr. J. P.

Public Department,

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following letter *Minute*

by His Excellency the President
dated 20th November 1871

6 Dec / 71. 22 1871.

The Government re-
solve to communicate the
Minute of His Excellency
the Governor to the Acting Collector
of Trichinopoly and to the
Government Agent at Chempak
with the following instructions.
1. Mr Whiteside will report
whether building No 3 of the
Nawab's palace at Trichino-
poly can be adapted for the
purpose of a Taluk Catcherry
and for what price it can be
purchased by Government.
2. Mr Whiteside will
also communicate His

Excellency

Public 1871 September
Minute by Mr
The Secretary
20 Dec 71.
Office of Trichinopoly
from place
No 2462.

Excellency the Governor's views
to the Municipality of Trichi-
nopoly in regard to the pur-
poses for which the buildings
Nos 1-2 and 4, could be utili-
zed and report to Government
whether the Municipal Com-
missioners are disposed to
enter upon the subject and to
combine with the Government
for the recovery of the whole
group of buildings for the
respective wants of the
Government and Municipality.

4 The Government
Agent at Chepauk will
place himself in communi-
cation with His Highness
the Prince of Arcot with re-
ference to the existing condition
of the Mosque at Trichinopoly
as described in His Excellency
the Governor's Minute. Col Wilson
will move His Highness
to appoint a special Agent
who should, in correspondence
with

with the Acting Collector of
Trichinopoly, make a full
enquiry into the condition of
the Mosque and its endowments
with a view to securing the ap-
propriation of a sufficient pro-
portion of its revenues for the
repair and maintenance of the
building, without reducing the
Establishment and the office
bearers more than is necessary.

It will probably be
necessary to remove the cloisters
which are now in a state of
hopeless decay.

His Highness' Special
Agent should be required to pre-
pare for His Highness'
information and for communi-
cation to Government, a statement
showing the value of the endow-
ments, the manner in which
they are apportioned and the
purposes for which they were
originally granted, and to esta-
blish these facts the original

dece

deeds should be produced and
examined

Col. Wilson will clearly
explain to His Highness that
the Government have no desire
to abridge the power with which
His Highness is entrusted for
the conduct and management of
establishments closely connected
with the history of his family.
Their wish is to bring to His
Highness notice all the in-
formation necessary to enable
him to exercise efficiently the
functions with which he has
been recently invested.

11/12
12/12

Book of 1873 ~~Minutes~~

6-11-77

25-6-14

1-3-15

27-8-15

Whe

To

Rept of the Comptroller

for

Dated

Recd.

1871, No. 2817

Nos. 32-33.

Concord with certain articles
- from the Rev. Dr. C. C. L.
- concerning the property of the
- Church of Christ & the
- at Washington.

1/2