

BACK PAPERS.

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C.O. 3207/98 (S.S.) = 40 $\frac{1340}{2870}$ 98

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as according to a rough calculation it was estimated to cost the very large sum of Rs. 85,000 (vide para 1 of G.O. No. 264 dated 20th February 1896 and para 3 of G.O. No. 1340 dated 10th December 1896.)

4. It now transpires however, that the high figure, which was the main if not the sole cause of preventing Government from according its sanction to the proposal, was considerably overestimated owing apparently to a misapprehension on the part of the then Consulting Architect that the extension was intended to cover the whole available space on the roof of the Station Hospital building. For the purpose however of a partial extension sufficient to provide the necessary accommodation for the Nurses an expenditure of from Rs. 25,000 to Rs. 30,000 is considered sufficient.

5. The Senior Medical Officer in protesting against the contemplated division of the Hobart, Anyle and Dufferin wards into cubicles, states that he has more than once pointed out to Sir Henry Bliss when visiting the Hospital that the separation into a Male and Female Hospital by means of the central administrative block is essential and he ventures to think that Sir Henry Bliss "will not now insist on the wards being cut up if the provision of cubicles (or rooms) on the roof of the Hospital will not necessitate a greater expenditure than Rs. 25,000 to 30,000". The Senior Medical Officer also reports that when the matter was explained by him to Sir Henry Bliss on the occasion of his last visit to the Hospital (with Sir J. Westland) he remarked that the smaller sum mentioned above (viz Rs. 25,000 to 30,000) 'might be found'.

6. I fully concur with the Senior Medical Officer in regard to the necessity (1) of the proposed extension of the 3rd storey so as to provide 4 large blocks or 30 to 24 rooms (or cubicles) for the accommodation of the Nurses and (2) of ^{the} alteration required to render the Hospital building suitable for the accommodation of the Nurses and children.

7. I trust that when the Government is explained, the Government will be pleased to sanction the expenditure, by the Consulting Architect after consultation with

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H.M. in the notes at , written after personal inspection, said that if the new building were sanctioned, it would be simplest to locate the nurses in it. The new building not having been sanctioned it was necessary to approve of the alternative proposal to alter certain wards on the third storey into cubicles for nurses. This proposal was therefore sanctioned in para. 2 of G.O. 264, dated 20th Feb. 1896(), the cost of these alterations being estimated at Rs.3,137.

The next discussion on the subject will be found in H.E. the Governor's note at in G.O. No.1340, Public, dated 19th Decr. 1896. His Excellency, after writing after an inspection of the hospital, noted that Dr. Browne pressed for the provision of nurses quarters on the roof of the station hospital, as the conversion of the Argyle and Dufferin wards would make it impossible to separate male from female patients. H.M. in his note at in G.O.No.292, dated 18th March 1897 combated Dr. Browne's assertion, pointing out that as soon as the Station Hospital is handed over complete separation of males and females will be possible. H.M. further referred to the fact that the proposal was originally made not with reference to the provision of quarters for nurses, but in order that it might be possible to empty nursing blocks for cleaning

purposes.

Orders are requested whether, under the circumstances, the plans and estimates may be prepared. If it is considered that the Surgeon-General's proposals are not sufficiently clear to justify the preparation of plans, he may be perhaps be asked to submit a sketch showing exactly what is proposed, together with a rough estimate of the cost, which he should obtain from the Consulting Architect.

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28/7/25

It will be seen from the H.M.'s note at that the S.G.'s proposal ^{is not} to add to the hospital anything that is necessary but to add to it ^{so} that it may be possible to vacate a whole nursing block at a time for cleaning purposes with the result of rendering the chance of septicemia infinitely less. H.M. has pointed out however that there is only ^{one} or perhaps two other hospitals in the world where such luxury as this is ^{now} ~~enjoyed~~ and it was not on account of the expense that the proposal was negatived by all members of Govt. before, but on the ground that Rs. 85,000 could not be devoted to luxury while there were many things to be done. If it is still wanted in 1900 it is still wanted. The S.G.

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C. S.