M.R.O. 14—5,450—22-10-25.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1046 Press Mis.

Dated 4 - 5 - 1866.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 4th May 1866.

No. 92. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 21st April 1866, No. 2,790.

Read the following letter from the Collector of North Arcot, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Alliabad, Polur Talook, 27th March 1866, No. 73:—

1. In Proceedings of the Board, dated 20th February 1866, No. 1,187, I am called upon to make a special report on the buildings in the fort at Arni.

2. I inspected these several times when lately in Arni, and it does not occur to me that I have any thing more to add to the account given of them by Mr. Banbury in his letter of the 11th November 1864, No. 298.

3. The only change which appears to have since taken place is, the final transfer of the whole of the area within the fort (with certain reservation on account of right of way and convenient access to the several blocks of buildings) to Messrs. Parry and Company, on a seven years' lease.

4. The main Barracks estimated in list at Rupees 49,300 are in good preservation, but being in the bomb-proof style of construction, would not sell for much as old material. The wood-work of the verandahs is for the most part sound and good. This block of buildings could not, from its extent and construction, be converted to any possible use, except as a Barrack or Jail. It does not appear to me to be within the remotest contingency that it will ever be required for either such purpose. Messrs Parry & Co. having already an Indigo Establishment near the river, are not likely to require either this, or any of the other vacant buildings scattered about within their lease-hold. Portions of the smaller ranges of buildings are still used for the purpose described in paragraph 5 of Mr. Banbury's letter, and could not be more advantageously employed.

5. The portions so occupied are in very tolerable preservation, but decay and ruin are fast overtaking the smaller detached ranges of buildings. Several of these are in fact already ruinous.

6. The Superintending Engineer knows these buildings well, and might possibly be able to make some suggestion with respect to their disposal. For my own part, I am utterly unable to make any proposition in regard to the great Barrack range, and beyond retaining those buildings or portions of them which are now used as the Range Officer's quarters and Office,* Pension Pay Office,† Government School,‡ Sub-Magistrate's Cutcherry,§ and Post Office,‖ am of opinion that the rest should be disposed of for what they will fetch, which will probably be little or nothing.

		Valuation.
*	Subalterns' quarters	2,600
†	Do. do.	1,300
‡	Captains' do.	6,400
§	Commandant's house	2,230
‖	Hospital	5,400

7. I do not propose appropriating any part of these buildings for Police purposes, as there is already an excellent Station-house in the principal street of the town, with the full complement of lock-ups, besides the Subsidiary Jail wards attached to the Sub-Magistrate's Cutcherry.

8. A further complication has arisen with respect to the disposal of these buildings out of the lease which Messrs. Parry & Co. hold for the land, which leaves the several ranges of buildings with little more ground than what they stand on.

9. I doubt much, whether the contingency of hidden treasure, to which Mr. Banbury alludes, will do much to promote competition were the buildings put up to auction.

10. For Municipal purposes, these buildings are, from their isolated position at a distance from the town, obviously unsuitable.

11. I should mention perhaps that the ramparts of the fort are dismantled and ruinous, and that as a place of defence it is simply worthless.

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1. Submitted to Government, with reference to their Order, dated 12th February 1866, No. 368.

2. Mr. Banbury's letter, to which the Collector refers, is contained in the Proceedings of Government, dated 9th December 1864, No. 2,233, on the application of Messrs. Parry & Co. for the lease of the land within the fort at Arni.

No. 93. ORDER THEREON, 4th May 1866, No. 1,066.

Miscellaneous.

1. The buildings now used as a Sub-Magistrate's Cutcherry, a School, a Travellers' Bungalow, a residence for the Engineer Officer, and a Choultry will be reserved, and if any other building is required or likely to be required for any public purposes, as for instance for a Dispensary or Subsidiary Jail, it will also be reserved.

2. The other buildings, for which Government have no use, and which are doubtless annually deteriorating in value, will be made over to the Municipal Committee, if such a body be constituted within the ensuing year under Act X. of 1865 (Madras), otherwise they will be sold to the best advantage at the end of the year, on freehold tenure, the proceeds being retained for Municipal purposes.

3. The Collector, meanwhile, will ascertain whether Messrs. Parry & Co. will give up such portions of the land rented to them as may be necessary to admit of suitable compounds being attached to any of the buildings requiring them—an equivalent reduction being made in Messrs. Parry's rent.

4. The amount of rent paid by the Engineer Officer for his house will be reported.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. D. SIM,

Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.
,, the Accountant General.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

No. 1066

The buildings now used as a Sub Magistrate Cutcherry — a School — a Travellers Bungalow — a residence for the Engineer Officer and a Choultry will be reserved — and if any other building is required or likely to be required for any public purposes as for instance for a Dispensary or Subsidiary Jail, it will also be reserved.

2 The other buildings — for which Govt have no use and which are doubtless annually deteriorating in value will be made over to the Municipal Committee — if such a body be constituted within the ensuing year under Act X of 1865 (Madras) — otherwise they will be sold to the best advantage at the end of the year on freehold tenure the proceeds being retained for Municipal purposes.

3 The Collector meanwhile will ascertain whether Messrs Parry & Co will give up such portions of the land rented to them as may be necessary to admit of suitable compounds being attached to any of the buildings requiring them — an equivalent reduction being made in Messrs Parry's rent.

4 The amount of rent paid by the Engineer Officer for his house will be reported.

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(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. D. SIM,
Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.
,, the Accountant General.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

Rev. Diosg. Cam. Rep. 64 & 101-16
12 Feby 66 — 201-20
No. 92893
Postage at the
rate of 4/12/15
per head Ten extra
for parcels being Re
turned for Municipal purposes?
The Collr. has enclosed
both a certain Memo
Messrs. Parry & Co with
the usual Returns
of the Land held by
them as may be nec-
essary to admit of
suitable compounds
being attached to
the Civil Engrs. Depmt.
there is also a Letter
Re Extra being made
in Messrs Parry's rent.
The amount of Rent &c.
by the Engr Officer for his
Table to be reported.

1866. Department.

Revenue Diosg. Cam. Rep. for Feby

No. 1219.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

Dated 21st *April* 1866.

Read 25th inst.
Rep. 26th.

Rev. Bd's Proc. 18th April
Encl. 1463
Proceedings of the Board of
No. 2,790. Revenue dated 25th April 1866.

Submitting letter from Collector of North Arcot forwarding special report called for on old buildings in Arni Fort.

N. C. Ja 1866. 1 Beg
Fort Madras