M.R.O. 14—5,450—22-10-25.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 3091 Press Mis.

Bis. 16

Dated 14 — 11 — 1866.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

3091

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
14th November 1866.

No. 315. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Judicial Department :—

Passing orders on papers relating to the projected Central Jail at Trichinopoly and the land required for that purpose. } (Here enter 2nd November 1866, No. 1,732.)

No. 316. ORDER THEREON, 14th November 1866, No. 3,091.

Miscellaneous.

Communicated to the Board of Revenue.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue, with Proceedings Judicial Department, No. 1,732.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

Read the following papers:—

No. 15. Proceedings of Government in the Public Works Department.

Issuing certain instructions to the Superintending Engineer, 6th Division, in reference to the orders about to be passed in the Judicial Department, regarding the plan upon which the proposed Central Jail at Trichinopoly is to be constructed. (Dated 10th October 1866, No. 3217.)

No. 16. From Lieutenant Colonel W. J. WILSON, Inspector General of Jails, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Ootacamund, 15th October 1866, No. 84.

I have the honor to forward the Report of the Local Committee upon the site selected for the Central Jail which it is proposed to build at Trichinopoly, together with a plan of the ground, and a copy of the result of the analysis of the drinking water found thereon. Before these papers reached me, I had proceeded to Trichinopoly, in compliance with the Order of Government noted in the margin, directing the assembly of a General Committee at that place, for the purpose of selecting a site. This Committee met on the 26th and 27th ultimo, and determined to recommend the site which had been chosen by the Local Committee. This was done, and the Report being now before Government, I have nothing to add on that head.

Judicial Department, 24th September 1866, No. 1502A.

2. The site having been so far determined upon, it remains to consider the best manner of housing the working party of Convicts, which will, I presume, be employed whenever funds are available. The District Jail is rather too far off to admit of Convicts being marched therefrom, so as to do a fair day's work on the site, and there is not any building within a convenient distance which is available or suitable for the reception of Convicts. The best plan, therefore, seems to be to build sheds for the gang, as has been done at Madura, and as is proposed for Cannanore. Lieutenant Colonel Greenaway, the Executive Engineer, informed me that he could employ about 400 Convicts, and I annex a Memorandum showing the accommodation which would be required. The walls of the sheds should be of mud, and the roofs of palmyra leaves and bamboos, or of any other cheap thatching material which may be readily procured.

3. The position of the huts will, I suppose, be selected by the Engineer so as to interfere as little as possible with the building operations. They might be erected in one of the angles of the square, parallel to, and some 60 or 70 feet distant from, the outer wall. This arrangement would admit of the accommodation being increased if necessary. I enclose a rough sketch showing the plan proposed.

4. Surgeon Major Ranking, who is in Medical charge of the District Jail, informs me that his various duties as Garrison Surgeon will not permit him to visit the gang at the Central Jail oftener than twice or thrice a week, and he suggests that an intelligent and experienced Medical Subordinate, either Apothecary or Dresser, should live on the site, and that Hospital accommodation for about 30 persons should be provided; all cases which Dr. Ranking may consider ought to be removed to the District Jail Hospital to be so removed at his discretion.

5. Major Brown, the Superintendent of the District Jail, being also Cantonment Magistrate, I doubt whether his duties will enable him to visit the gang daily,

but he might do so two or three times a week; and unless Government intend to appoint an Officer as Superintendent, I would recommend that Major Brown be placed in charge with some special emolument. He does not receive any allowance for the superintendence of the District Jail, being Cantonment Magistrate, but the additional charge of some 400 Convicts, at a distance of 2½ miles from the station, gives him a fair claim to some remuneration on that account.

6. It is unlikely that the labor of the Convicts will be profitably directed at first, whatever may be the case afterwards, unless some Officer of the Public Works Department is placed in charge of the works. At Madura, Mr. Colquhoun, the Range Officer, is for the present in such charge, and the good effects of his presence were manifest.

7. I was given to understand that a certain sum is to be expended in the District of Trichinopoly on Public Works, in order to give employment to those in distress, and as the Convicts in the District Jail are engaged, under the orders of Government, in demolishing the Ramparts of the Fort, besides being too distant from the site of the Central [illegible], as stated above, might be given for labor to build [illegible].

J. D., 10th June 1866, No. 836.

[illegible] with approval, I have the honor to request that the necessary orders for carrying it out may be issued in the Department of Public Works, and I shall be prepared to submit a Statement showing the extra Establishment which will be required.

From the Local Committee, Trichinopoly, to the Inspector General of Jails; dated Trichinopoly, 20th September 1866.

Referring to the Order of Government, dated 16th June 1865, No. 877, we have the honor to forward the accompanying plan, and our Report upon the site selected by us for the projected Central Jail at this Station.

Report on the Site proposed for the Central Jail at Trichinopoly.

The Site selected for the Jail is on a large open plain, about 2½ miles South of the Fort, and about the same distance in a South Easterly direction from the centre of the Cantonment, one mile South East of the present Railway Station, and ½ of a mile from the road to Poodoocottah.

2. The ground in the neighbourhood is undulating, and the site is so selected that the ground falls from nearly the centre of the enclosure in every direction but the North East corner, from which there is a fall of 2·88 to the centre. The lowest spot is the South East corner, and regarding it as Zero, the height of the ground is as per margin.* The conformation of surface is, therefore, favorable to natural drainage, but it will be advisable to be on the safe side, and to carry out a system both of sub-soil and surface drainage.

* S. E.		0
N. W.	+	1·2′.
S. W.	+	2·93′.
N. E.	+	8·98′.
Centre of Enclosure.	+	6·1′.

3. The walls of the enclosure will run due North and South, and East and West; and from 500 to 800 yards from each corner, except the North East corner, there is a small tank from which lands are irrigated. The site of the Jail is from 15′ to 20′ above the beds of these tanks and the land under them. These tanks are supplied by local drainage, and contain water for about six months in the year; their beds are free from shrubs or weeds, and their proximity to the Jail is not regarded as objectionable.

4. There is a small village about ½ a mile south of the site of the Jail, and another about 1 mile East of it.

5. The soil consists of a red ferruginous earth mixed with sand, from 6″ to 2′ thick, over a layer of from 4′ to 5′ of gravel mixed with quartz and earth, under which is a stratum of decayed Felspathic granite, from 1 to 2½ in thickness, and below the Felspar hard granite rock is met with. At the North East corner of the enclosure the granite rock is only 1′ below the surface of the ground, being covered with 6″ of decayed Felspathic granite, and 6″ of earth.

6. The prevailing winds are from the North East and South West.

7. Water has been found 24′ from the surface of the ground, and has been pronounced to be wholesome for drinking, *after filtration*. The analysis is enclosed, and closely agrees with that first made by Surgeon Major Ranking; the water is as pure as any which is obtained in Trichinopoly. The Villagers of Cottayputty have made use of the well excavated near the site of the Jail throughout the last hot season, and as the water did not fail while many of the wells in Cantonment failed, it is believed that a permanent water bearing stratum has been pierced, though on a far higher level than that to which the wells in the Cantonment are carried down.

8. The first analysis of the water by the Chemical Examiner was unfavorable, owing, it is believed, to external impurities, and to the fact of the water remaining stagnant, as the well was not used. The favorable analysis has been recently received, and hence the delay in the submission of the Report.

9. Owing to the extent of the ground to be enclosed, the Committee are of opinion that the spot selected is the only eligible site for a Central Jail in the Neighbourhood of Trichinopoly.

(Signed) G. VANSANDAU, Collector.
(,,) J. [illegible], Major,
(,,) R. [illegible], Surgeon.
(,,) R. [illegible], Captain, R. E., Superintending Engineer.

Result of analysis of drinking water received from site of Central Jail, Trichinopoly, Specimen, No. 2.

Sensible properties.		
Appearance		Opaque greenish in hue, not clearing after filtration.
Taste		Soft, somewhat metallic.
Odour		None.
Chemical properties.		
To test paper re-action		Faintly acid.
Solid matter in one Imperial gallon	Organic and other volatile matters	4·3 grains.
	Inorganic salts, &c.	23·5 ,,
	Total	27·8 ,,
Oxydizable matter by Permanganate solution relation of Oxygen to organic matter 1 to 8		1·792 grains.
Hardness to soap test. 1°·727 grs. of Carbonate of Lime and ·989 of Sulphate of Lime	Temporary	2°
	Permanent	2° ·5
	Total	4° ·5
Chlorides determined volumetrically as Chloride of Sodium in one gallon		2·0461
Carbonate of Lime		Very small quantity.
,, of Magnesia		Traces.
,, of Iron		Rather above average do.
In solution after boiling.		
Lime		Small quantity.
Magnesia		Traces only.
Chlorides		Small quantity.
Sulphates		Do.
Nitrates		None.
Ammonia		Do.

MADRAS, 13*th August* 1866.

(Signed) S. J. WYNDOWE, M. D., *Chemical Examiner.*

A good soft water, free from sulphuretted compounds; volatile, organic, and oxydizable matte large; suspended impurities also large. This water would probably be rendered quite wholesom for drinking use, if, by proper arrangements, the subsidence of suspended matters and filtratio upwards through gravel, sand, and charcoal were provided for.

(Signed) S. J. WYNDOWE, M. D.,
Chemical Examiner.

Memorandum of temporary accommodation required for a working party of Convi the site the Central Jail at Trichinopoly.

A shed of the following dimensions, viz., 115 × 16 × 11¾ (height to cross beam 11¾ an to the Ridge pole 15 feet) will hold 50 men, with an allowance of 36 feet of superficial area, an 432 feet of cubical space to each. The sketch shows accommodation for 400 men in one spot, bu if more convenient, two angles may be selected and 200 men hutted in each. The corner chose (with reference to the prevailing winds) for the Hospital ought, of course, to be reserved.

2. A shed for the Police, with a small separate room at one end for the Officer in charge the party. The guard being in the proportion of one Policeman to every seven Convicts, a gang 300 will require a guard of 400, 57 Policemen. The allowance of space should not be less than that given above.

3. Cooking shed.

4. Shed for provisions.

5. Hospital Shed for 30 men, allowing 42 feet of superficial area, and 500 feet of cubic space to each.

6. Hut for Apothecary or Dresser, with small separate room for medicines.

7. Hut for Jailer.

8. Hut for eight Warders.

OOTACAMUND,
15*th October* 1866.

(Signed) W. J. WILSON,
Inspector General of Jails.

No. 17. ORDER THEREON, 2nd November 1866, No. 1732.

The foregoing papers refer to the projected Central Jail at Trichinopoly. I G. O., 17th ultimo, No. 1643, Government have approved of the site selected b the Committee appointed in G. O., 24th September last, No. 1502A, and nav likewise decided that the Central Jail shall be constructed according to the standar radial plan.

2. From paragraph 4 of the letter of the Superintending Engineer, 6th sion, dated 4th September 1866, No. 809, prefixed to these Proceedings, it appe that the site selected has not yet been purchased. The first step to be taken, the fore, is for the Collector to obtain possession of the land in question, or such p tion of it as may not already belong to Government. This the Collector wi proceed to do at once. Whether any of the adjacent land should also be secured, t admit of the neighbourhood of the Jail being kept clear of buildings, cultivation &c., is not stated by the Committee or Colonel Wilson. The Collector will repor on this point. Wherever the parties interested consent, fresh lands, at the dispos of Government, should be given, in exchange for that obtained.

3. The Government approve of Lieutenant Colonel Wilson's proposals fo hutting 400 prisoners on the site of the Jail, and the construction of the propose temporary sheds should be put in han at once, under the orders already issue in the Public Works Department.

Paragraph 7, G. O., 10th October 1866, No. 3217.

4. Temporary hospital accommodation will also be necessary, as proposed by the Inspector General. This will be provided, and the Principal Inspector General, Medical Department, will detail, when required, a duly qualified Medical Subordinate, to have charge of the Hospital.

5. As regards the arrangements to be made for the charge of the Convicts employed on the Jail buildings, the Government consider that the better plan would be to appoint an Officer exclusively for the duty, who should reside on or close to the site, and give his whole time and attention to the superintendence of the Convicts and the work itself. An Officer of the Public Works Department, if available, will accordingly be detailed for the purpose; otherwise, a duly qualified Subordinate will be deputed. The necessary powers for dealing with the Convicts will be conferred hereafter on the individual selected.

6. Lieutenant Colonel Wilson proposes that a part of the funds authorized for expenditure on relief works in the District, in connection with the famine, should be made available towards building the Convicts' huts, the Convicts themselves being now engaged in demolishing the ramparts of the Fort, and being, moreover, too distant from the site of the Central Jail to be usefully employed in building their sheds. The Governor in Council observes that only 1000 Rupees have been drawn by the Collector for the relief of the able-bodied poor of the District. As no portion of this small sum can be diverted in the manner suggested by the Inspector General, and as the Trichinopoly Town Municipality are not yet in a position to pay for the labor of the Convicts employed on the Fort, the required funds must be allotted out of the Public Works Budget.

(True Extract).

Secretary to Government.

To the Public Works Department, with Survey.
" Collector of Trichinopoly, } with Public Works Proceedings, No. 3217.
" Inspector General of Jails, }
" Principal Inspector General, Medical Department.
" Accountant General.
" Inspector General of Police.
" Revenue Department.

Ed. J. H. Burns.

Revenue 1866. Oct^br
Pro: of Gov^t for Nov^r
№ 3956.

Proceedings on the
Ind^l Res^ve.

Noted 2^o. 3 Nov^r 66.
Recvd 6^o. 3 Nov^r 66.

№ 1732.

№ 3091.

Communicated
to the Board of Revenue

14^o Nov^r 66.

Passing orders on
papers relating to the
projected Central Jail
at Trichinopoly and
the land required for
that purpose.—

5 Copies Forw^d to B^d of Rev^e with Pro^g of Govt 1732 Dep^t 14^o

13
9

J. 315 & 316.

e № 3091-14 Nov^r

Withdrawn