M.R. G. 1—32,000—16-10-29.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1712 Press Mis.

366-367

Dated 16th June ~~19~~ 1869

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
16th June 1869.

No. 366. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 22nd May 1869, No. 3,610.

Read the following letters :—

From the Acting Superintending Engineer, 4th Division, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Madras, 3rd March 1869, No. 5,796.

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge Board's Proceedings, No. 1,151, dated 20th February 1869, asking my opinion on the proposals made by the Committee convened to report on the demolition of the Chingleput Fort.

2. I concur in the views on this subject held by the Committee, and the demolition, if carried out in the way proposed, cannot fail to be advantageous in a sanitary point of view, whilst it affords useful material for public works.

3. It appears to me that the tank which bounds the eastern side of the fort assists in keeping up the supply of water within the enclosure, and there is no occasion to be apprehensive of a failure by the closing of the fort outer ditch. The Executive Engineer, also, who is a Member of this Committee, is competent to give a sound opinion on this matter, and to devise a means of providing for the exit of flood-water, if he has not already done so.

4. I concur with the Board in thinking that the road into the fort might with advantage be made more to the south.

From the Inspector-General of Jails, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Madras, 17th March 1869, No. 2,419.

I HAVE the honor to return the Map received with the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, No. 1,151, dated 20th ultimo, and to submit my opinion regarding the proposed scheme for demolishing the Fort at Chingleput, so far as the same will affect the interests of the Jail.

2. I agree that a wall should be built at the spot marked green on the plan, but it ought to be fitted with a gate, otherwise persons bringing supplies, or having any business at the Jail, will have to make a considerable detour.

3. To open an entrance at A. will, I think, be as bad as to retain the present entrance, unless it is proposed to carry the road along the side of the trench which would be objectionable on account of the contiguity of the hay-fields in which the prisoners work. Moreover, this plan involves the removal of the general latrine, and there is very little choice of ground for that purpose.

4. At present the hay-fields afford a good and profitable manner of employing a certain number of prisoners, and the labor thereon may be said to be intramural, inasmuch as it is within the fort, and the convicts cannot see what passes on the high road which skirts the moat; but if the whole rampart from B. to C. is removed as well as the stone-facing thereof, and the reclaimed ground is brought up to join that belonging to the Jail, the security and seclusion which now attend labor in the hay-fields will be destroyed. I do not object to the entrance to the court-house being made as proposed by the Committee; but I consider that the removal of the whole rampart will be inexpedient. To build a wall to form the Jail boundary in lieu of the rampart, as suggested by the Sub-Collector, would, in my opinion, be an unnecessary expense.

5. I enclose a letter from the Superintendent of the Jail, forwarding certain remarks of the Committee in reply to a reference made by me regarding some of the points above adverted to.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From the Superintendent of the Jail at Chingleput, to the Inspector-General of Jails, Madras, dated Chingleput, 16th March 1869, No. 427.

I HAVE the honor, herewith, to forward the recorded opinions of the Members of the Committee appointed by Government to determine upon the demolition of the fort wall of Chingleput, as requested in your letter, No. 2,330, dated 8th instant, and to return the plan which accompanied it.

2. I am disposed myself fully to concur in your expressed opinion; but as Mr. Foord, the Judge, remarks, "the Committee were required to draw up a scheme for demolition of the fort, etc, etc," it appears a matter worthy of re-consideration whether the entire demolition of the fort is desirable.

3. No better site could, in my opinion, be found for the general latrine, a matter of great importance with reference to the Jail. I would, therefore, deprecate the making of any road which would necessitate its removal.

ENCLOSURES Nos. 2 to 4.—Opinions of Members of Committee.

ENCLOSURE No. 5.—Plan.

In their report the majority of the Committee for devising a scheme for the demolition of the Chingleput Fort recommended—

1st.—That the outer and inner walls and bastions on the east side of the fort should be demolished.

2nd.—That both moats on the same side should be filled up.

3rd.—That the present entrance should be closed by a wall.

4th.—That a new approach should be made to the court-houses beyond the Jail precincts.

2. The Medical Officer deprecated that part of the second proposal which contemplated filling up the outer moat.

3. The Board pointed out that it was desirable to have the means of entering the Jail-yard at a point near the present entrance, and referred the matter to the Inspector-General of Jails and the Superintending Engineer.

Proceedings of Board, dated 20th February 1869, No. 1,151.

4. The Inspector-General of Jails remarks, with reference to the third proposal, that a gate should be fitted into the wall which is to close the present entrance. And he deprecates the removal of the outer wall as calculated to destroy the security and seclusion of the Jail; while the construction of an outer Jail wall to take its place, would cause unnecessary expense.

5. Colonel Bean would carry out the recommendations of the Committee in their entirety.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
16th June 1869.

6. The Board resolve to recommend Government to sanction the removal of the inner wall, the filling up of the inner moat, and the construction of the wall closing the present entrance, with the modification proposed by Colonel Wilson, and to leave the demolition of the outer wall and the filling up the outer moat for future consideration, if it turns out that more material be urgently required by the Department Public Works.

No. 367. ORDER THEREON, 16th June 1869, No. 1,712.

Miscellaneous.

REFERRED to the Judicial Department for disposal, as the Board's recommendations appear to involve alterations in the Chingleput Fort which affect the security of the Jail buildings.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) R. A. DALYELL,

Acting Secretary to Government.

To the Judicial Department.
„ the Board of Revenue.

Exd. E. C. Shumber.

Revenue Department.

G:1712.

Proceedings of the Madras Government.
Under date the 16th June/69.

Read the following
Pro: of the Board of Revenue

Recommending to sanction removal of inner wall of Chingleput Fort, filling up of inner moat and construction of wall closing present entrance with modification proposed by Inspector General of Jails.—

(R. & A. 22nd May 1869 No: 3610.)

Referred to Judicial Department for disposal as the Board's recommendation involves alterations in the Chingleput Fort which affect the security of the Jail buildings.—

5 To the Sec: to Govt: Jud: Dept: 17th Dec: 69.
14 Rs: off Govt: C.

Exd: C.B.