

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	2729	Press ~~Mis.~~
<u>57-58</u>		
Dated	5th October 1869.	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

1729

No. 6,951.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 17th September 1869.

Read the following letter from J. A. C. BOSWELL, Esq., Officiating Collector of the Kistna District, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Masulipatam, 25th August 1869, No. 261:—

WHEN the Cyclone of 1864, visited Masulipatam, one of the buildings which suffered much was the Collector's Cutcherry. It was therefore found necessary to remove the Cutcherry to the old Court House as a temporary measure, and there it has ever since remained, though the building is the most incommodious that I have ever seen appropriated to such a purpose. To begin with, the accommodation is utterly insufficient. The old Court-room itself is filled with Almirahs containing the records of the two amalgamated districts of Masulipatam and Guntur. Scattered among these Almirahs, wherever a few feet of space can be found, sit Clerks and Accountants for whom there is no room in their own department. The Collector and Magistrate has to be content with a small room to the side of this. The room is quite insufficient to hold the number of persons that sometimes attend in one case, and on this account, in a recent trial, I was compelled to adjoin the Court to a large room in my own house. Then there is only one room for an Assistant. If there are two Assistants in the district, they have to come to Cutcherry on alternate days, and if the Sub-Collector or Head Assistant or Deputy Collector come to Head-quarters for a few days, there is no room in the Cutcherry which they can use. The English Correspondence Department, the Vernacular Department, and the English and Vernacular Account Department are all thrust into two rooms. The Clerks and Goomastahs have to sit close to each other and the noise is most distracting. There is not even enough room with the closest packing for all, and they overflow into the passage, the English Record-room, and wherever they can get a few feet of space, the Treasury Deputy Collector and the Sheristadar are each accommodated with a little box cut off the passage.

2. The Treasury is in a separate building, low roofed and damp, and greatly out of repair. There is no accommodation for the Cash-keeper, Shroffs, etc., who are huddled into the very smallest space, in what is called the Cash-keeper's room. In an adjoining godown the stores of the Superintending Engineer to prepare plans and estimates for improvement of the stores of Masulipatam. It is clear from the Collector's description that the accommodation now provided is so inadequate that business must suffer.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

To the Acting Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, with plan.

Copy to the Officiating Collector of the Kistna District.

Ed. G. A. Terton.

Acting Secretary.

Rev. 1869. Disburs.
Board of Revenue,
MADRAS.

No. 3257.

PROCEEDINGS, 17th SEPTEMBER 1869, No. 6,951.

Recd. 23rd Sept 1869
Encl. 1
24th Sept 1869

Safe 29.9.5 Oct 1/69

SEPTEMBER
No. 6,951.

Collector's Cutcherry—at Masulipatam in Kistna District.—Recommendation to Government that Superintending Engineer be authorized to prepare plans and estimates for improvement of.

No. 57. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 17th September 1869, No. 6,951:—

Read the following letter from the Officiating Collector of the Kistna District, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Masulipatam, 25th August 1869, No. 261.

WHEN the Cyclone of 1864 visited Masulipatam, one of the buildings which suffered much, was the Collector's Cutcherry. It was therefore found necessary to remove the Cutcherry to the old Courthouse as a temporary measure, and there it has ever since remained, though the building is the most incommodious that I have ever seen appropriated to such a purpose. To begin with, the accommodation is utterly insufficient. The old Court-room itself is filled with almirahs containing the records of the two amalgamated districts of Masulipatam and Guntur. Scattered among these almirahs, wherever a few feet of space can be found, sit Clerks and Accountants for whom there is no room in their own department. The Collector and Magistrate has to be content with a small room to the side of this. The room is quite insufficient to hold the number of persons that sometimes attend in one case; and on this account in a recent trial I was compelled to adjoin the Court to a large room in my own house. Then there is only one room for an Assistant. If there are two Assistants in the district, they have to come to Cutcherry on alternate days; and if the Sub-Collector or Head-Assistant or Deputy Collector come to head-quarters for a few days, there is no room in the Cutcherry which they can use. The English Correspondence Department, the Vernacular Department, and the English and Vernacular Account Department, are all thrust into two rooms. The Clerks and Gumastahs have to sit close to each other, and the noise is most distracting. There is not even enough room with the closest packing for all, and they overflow into the passage, the English Record-room, and wherever they can get a few feet of space: the Treasury-Deputy-Collector and the Sheristadar are each accommodated with a little box cut off the passage.

2. The treasury is in a separate building, low-roofed and damp, and greatly out of repair. There is no accommodation for the Cash-keeper, Shroffs, etc., who are huddled into the very smallest space in what is called the Cash-keeper's room. In an adjoining godown the stores of stationery are kept, but suffer greatly from whiteants and damp. Above the treasury is a room which is used by the Salt-Deputy-Collector and his department when he visits Masulipatam, and also by the Municipal Department.

3. In the Printing Press-room there is no room to turn, the light is very bad, and for the new Press recently sanctioned we must have an extension. Behind the Press-room is the Vernacular Record-room—a dark place without any conveniences.

4. I beg to forward herewith a plan of the present buildings which will illustrate my remarks.

5. I have consulted the Superintending Engineer who has had the walls examined, and finds them to be strong enough to allow the building to carry a second story. He proposes to provide upstairs a centre room for the Collector, with a room on each side: one for an Assistant, and the other for any Divisional officer when he comes into the station.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
5th October 1869.*

6. Further, the Superintending Engineer has proposed to give the room above the treasury to the Treasury-Deputy-Collector, but I think it is best to leave that for the Salt-Deputy-Collector as at present, and to give the Deputy-Collector the room at present appropriated by the Collector, and to the Sheristadar, the room at present occupied by the Assistant. In the centre large Court-room, I would place the English and Vernacular Account, and Births and Registration Departments. I would leave to the English Correspondence Department the room it shares at present with the Account Department, and leave the Sheristadar's Department in the room where it is now.

7. The Superintending Engineer proposes to add rooms to the front and rear of the treasury building to provide a Cash-room, a Police Guard-room, and rooms for stationery and stamps. The rooms for stamps and stationery should be high and airy, and provided with shelves and racks. The floor should be either paved with stone or asphalt.

8. I would propose to add to the present size of the Press-room by adding to its accommodation the room behind it, now devoted to Vernacular records. These two rooms will require considerable alteration to make them light and airy. Sky-lights should be provided for the convenience of the Compositors. These alterations will necessitate the building also of two entirely new rooms: one for English, and the other for Vernacular records, which I would add on, one to either wing of the main building.

9. When I lately visited the old Arsenal in the fort, I found a number of long wooden ranges formerly used for guns which will answer admirably for shelves for the records, but I am unable to have their height up until there are Record-rooms where they can be placed.

10. The Cutcherry is about two miles from the town, and drinking water is difficult to procure in the vicinity. The Native public servants who often have to come early and stay late, have therefore requested that two small Refreshment-rooms may be erected in the compound: one for Brahmins, and the other for other castes; and also two latrines. I would also suggest that a reservoir for Kistna water should be built in the compound for the convenience of public servants and all others who come to the Cutcherry on business. A conduit can easily be led from the nearest existing reservoir, and will also be useful for the prisoners, as a Sub-Jail is already in course of construction in the compound. The soil is so impregnated with salt, that it is hopeless to attempt sinking a well for drinking water.

11. The compound and roads through it will require to be put into order, and the surrounding hedge made up and the gates painted. Punkahs should be provided, and the whole set of buildings, which look much dilapidated, thoroughly repaired and white-washed.

12. The Superintending Engineer estimates that the probable cost of these alterations and repairs will be about Rupees 20,000. He agrees with me as to the urgency of the work, but has suggested that it will be desirable to obtain the approval of Government before undertaking the preparation of detailed plans and estimates. I have therefore the honour to request that the Board will be so good as to forward my proposals to Government, with a recommendation that the Super-

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
5th October 1869.*

intending Engineer be directed to prepare the plan and estimates at an early date, and that a provision of Rupees 20,000 be made for the work in the Budget for 1870-71, which is now under preparation.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.—Plan.

SUBMITTED for the orders of Government, with the recommendation that they will authorize the Superintending Engineer to prepare plans and estimates for improving the Collector's Cutcherry at Masulipatam. It is clear from the Collector's description that the accommodation now provided is so inadequate that business must suffer.

No. 58. ORDER THEREON, 5th October 1869, No. 2,729.

Miscellaneous.

BEFORE passing orders on the proposed improvements and additions to the Collector's Cutcherry at Masulipatam, the Board's Proceedings above recorded will be referred to the Public Works Department, in order to ascertain whether it will be possible to make the requisite provision in the Budget for 1870-71.

(True Extract.)

(Signed)

R. A. DALYELL,

Acting Secretary to Government.

To the Public Works Department.
.. the Board of Revenue.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

Revenue Department

7-2729
Proceedings of the Madras Government
Under date the 5th September 1869.

Read the following
Proceedings of the Board
of Revenue. -

Recommending that Sup^{ts}
Engineers be authorized to prepare
plans and estimates for improve-
ment of Collector's bungalow at
Masulipatam in Elistur Dist^{ts}.

(R. & 17th Sept^r/69 N^o 6951)

Before passing
definite orders on the
proposed improvements
and additions to the
Collector's bungalow
at Masulipatam, the
Board's Proceedings
above recorded will
be

REVENUE.	
THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.	
For	By
Per Mr. C. S. P. R.	Per
A. C. S. P. R. 100, 10, 2729.	
100, 10, 2729.	
100, 10, 2729.	

Collector's Office of Masulipatam.
Department Public Works to report whether it
will be possible to make provision in the Budget
for 1870-71 for the proposed improvements and
additions to the building.

be referred to the P.W.

Department in order to

ascertain whether it

will be possible to

make the requisite

provision in the Budget

for 1870/71.

[Faint handwritten notes and a large circular stamp]

[Faint handwritten notes]

[Faint handwritten notes]

[Signature]

21 Mr. McNeill with an Envelope
14 - Mr. P. S. S. S.

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10. The Cutcherry is about two miles from the town and drinking water is difficult to procure in the vicinity. The Native public servants who often have to come early and stay late, have therefore requested that two small Refreshment-rooms may be erected in the compound, one for Brahmins, and the other for other castes, and also two latrines. I would also suggest that a reservoir for Kistna water should be built in the compound for the convenience of public servants and all others who come to the Cutcherry on business. A conduit can easily be led from the nearest existing reservoir, and will also be useful for the prisoners, as a Sub-Jail is already in course of construction in the compound. The soil is so impregnated with salt, that it is hopeless to attempt sinking a well for drinking water.

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12. The Superintending Engineer estimates that the probable cost of these alterations and repairs will be about Rupees 20,000. He agrees with me as to the urgency of the work, but has suggested that it will be desirable to obtain the approval of Government before undertaking the preparation of detailed plans and estimates. I have therefore the honor to request that the Board will be so good as to forward my proposals to Government, with a recommendation that the Superintending Engineer be directed to prepare the plan and estimates at an early date, and that a provision of Rupees 20,000 be made for the work in the Budget for 1870-71 which is now under preparation.

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