M.R.O. 1—39,000—16-10-29.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1410 Press Mis.

471-472

Dated 25th May 1869

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
20th May 1869.

No. 471. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Judicial Department :—

Accepting the explanation offered by the Superintending Engineer, 4th Division, in regard to certain defects in the out-buildings attached to the Subsidiary Jail at Conjeveram. } (Here enter 4th May 1869, No. 748.)

No. 472. ORDER THEREON, 20th May 1869, No. 1,410.

Miscellaneous. COMMUNICATED to the Revenue Board.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) H. WELLESLEY,
Acting Under-Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue, with Proceedings Judicial Department, No. 748.

Exd. R. C. Shunker.

Govt. of Madras Judicial

REVENUE.

To

THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

Dated May, 20th.

Read

G. O., 20th May 1869, No. 1,413.

MAY.

Nos. 471-472.

Sub-Jail at Conjeveram.—Order accepting the explanation offered by the Superintending Engineer in regard to certain defects in the out-buildings erected to it, communicated to Revenue Board.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department, 4th May 1869.

Read the following papers :—

No. 20. From the Subsidiary Jail Committee, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Madras, 24th March 1869, No. 311.

We have the honour to report that as it had been brought to our notice that our recommendations regarding the out-buildings attached to the Subsidiary Jail at Conjeveram, in the Madras District, sanctioned in G. O., Judicial Department, 20th July 1867, No. 115, had not been carried out, we called upon the Acting Superintending Engineer for two plans, one showing our proposals as originally submitted, and the other exhibiting the works as executed under the supervision of the Public Works Department according to the sanction of Government in their Order, Public Works Department, 4th November 1867, No. 3414.

2. These plans we have the honour to submit, and to point out some serious defects that are visible in the buildings now constructed.

3. In the first place we must remark that the standard plans for subsidiary buildings, sanctioned in G. O., Judicial Department, 6th November 1867, No. 1774, have not been adhered to. It is true that they were not sanctioned until two days after the order above quoted authorized the immediate commencement of the work at Conjeveram, but in that time no work could have been done.

4. It will be observed that the hospital shed, as shown in the standard plans, is of the dimensions given in the margin, and entirely open on one side. In the building as erected, the dimensions are length 12 feet, breadth 8 feet, height of wall 10 feet, closed on all sides with two ventilators in the walls 3 by 2, and a door 5 feet high by 2 wide. It is impossible to enter this without stooping.

Length, 44 feet.
Breadth, 13 feet.
Height of wall, 9 feet.

5. The standard plan of a cooking-shed exhibits a *shed* 16½ feet by 15½ feet, the building at Conjeveram is a house of two rooms each 8 by 8 feet with wooden doors.

6. The standard plan of a jail latrine shows two trenches with an earth alongside each. The plan of the building at Conjeveram is intended, we presume, to be worked by water, as the trench is open to the outside, and there is a lily-shaped spout apparently for flushing.

7. In paragraph 33 of our letter, No. 9, of the 15th July 1867, we stated that the best position of the subsidiary buildings would be the cook-house "at the south east angle of the jail, the privy and hospital shed in the intervening spaces to the south west, and that the compound was very large and that ample room was available."

It will be observed that the cook-house and latrine have both been placed on the south-west of the jail, and only 77 feet from each other, and that the hospital shed lies on the west at only a distance of 37 feet from the jail.

8. The positions of the former buildings are not of so much consequence although they are too near to the jail, but that of the latter is objectionable. It will not be possible to place prisoners afflicted with contagious diseases (for whom the hospital sheds are provided) so close to the jail, nor from the absence of proper

ventilation can the building fail to be hot and stifling. The ridge ventilation, which has been put on to all the subsidiary buildings, is not as efficacious as lateral ventilation would be.

Transferred to the Public Works Department, with a view to an explanation being required from the Officer in charge of the buildings at Conjeveram.

FORT SAINT GEORGE,
30*th March* 1869.

(Signed) R. S. ELLIS,
Chief Secretary.

Referred to the Superintending Engineer of the 4th Division, who will obtain and submit the required explanation.

(Signed) C. A. ORR, Colonel, R. E.,
31*st March* 1869. *Secy. to Govt., P. W. D.*

No. 21. From the Acting Superintending Engineer, 4th Division, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, Fort Saint George; dated Madras, 19th April 1869, No. 431.

One endorsement from Government on letter from the Subsidiary Jail Committee.
Five plans.

With reference to your endorsement, dated 31st March 1869, calling for explanation regarding a letter from the Subsidiary Jail Committee to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated 24th idem, No. 311, wherein they point out that the plans of the out-buildings of the Conjeveram Cutcherry and Jail have not been carried out in accordance with their suggestions and with standard designs, nor these buildings placed in the position pointed out in paragraph 33 of their letter, No. 9, of the 15th July 1867, I have the honour to reply that, as regards the first objection raised, the standard plans were not received in time for them to be acted upon, and with reference to the change of site, Mr. Ottmann, the Range Officer, gives the following reasons for the slight deviations made.

2. I would first observe that in paragraphs 1 and 2 of their letter, the Committee submit to Government the plan showing their proposals, and the plan of the [illegible] as executed by my department, and proceed to point out the serious defects [illegible] are visible in the buildings constructed.

3. From this remark it would be supposed that the Department of Public Works deviated from the plan received from the Committee, but such is not the case. The plan received was the alterations proposed to the Moonsiff's Court to adapt it for a Jail, and this plan has been strictly followed. We received no plan for out-buildings from the Committee, and we accordingly adopted plans of our own which were approved by Government in order of the 4th November 1867, No. 3414.

4. The real objection raised, then, is that we did not follow the standard plans for subsidiary buildings, and the Committee observe that it is true that these plans were not sanctioned until the 6th November, two days after the date of the order above quoted, but in that time no work could have been done. I beg to state that it appears to me that standard plans are not to be used as a guide for buildings sanctioned prior to their date of issue or receipt by this department, and I would remark that other judicial out-buildings have been carried out in Sub-Engineer Ottmann's Range, Madras District, on the original plans sanctioned before the receipt

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,
4th May 1869.

of the standard designs. The facts, however, as to dates are as follow:—The standard plans referred to in G. O. of the 18th November 1867, No. 3552, and the spare copies for distribution to Officers, were not received until the 18th of the following month, when Mr. Ottmann had been in possession of the sanctioned plans six weeks.

5. Colonel Boileau returned from Australia and resumed charge of his office on the 30th of the same month, and it is most probable the matter escaped his notice, though I do not believe he would have been disposed to refer the question of these out-buildings to Government.

6. As regards the changes of site, the Sub-Engineer was not so attentive, perhaps, to the Committee's proposals as he ought to have been, but Mr. Ottmann points out that the latrine was placed at the remote south-west corner, in the position he believes assigned for it by the Committee. The cook-room was not built to the south-east, because the road *CCC* was to be diverted as shown in the enclosed sketch, and the Apothecary's quarters *BB* to be built east of the jail. The hospital was not placed further from the main building because Police huts were to be erected at *AA*, where they had formerly been commenced upon. Owing to the diversion of the road, and the proximity of sites for other proposed buildings, the ground available was more circumscribed, the Sub-Engineer says, than the Committee supposed it to be when their recommendations were made, and I think Mr. Ottmann gives strong reasons for making the deviation.

7. An inspection of the plan of the latrine will show that it is not intended to be worked by water, because the same section of trough is shown as in the standard plan. The trench was continued on through the wall because this arrangement facilitates the conservancy of the latrine by the sweepers, and it has been adopted in some buildings.

Transferred to the Judicial Department, with reference to the endorsement in that Department of the 30th March 1869.

(Signed) C. A. ORR, Colonel, R. E.,
22*nd April* 1869. *Secy. to Govt., P. W. D.*

No. 22. ORDER THEREON, 4th May 1869, No. 748.

The Government accept the explanation offered by the Superintending Engineer, 4th Division.

2. In all cases when it is possible, from the actual work not having been commenced, the standard plans lately circulated should be adopted, although sanction may, as in the case at Conjeveram, have been given to plans prepared before the issue of the standard plans.

(True Extract).

R. S. Ellis
Chief Secretary.

To the Public Works Department, with six enclosures.
,, Magistrate of
,, Revenue Department.
Rad. J. Wright.

W. 1616
Comm.r to the Revenue Board.
20 May 69

Govt. of Madras

JUDICIAL.

To

THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

&c., &c., &c.

Dated May 4th.

Read 13 —.

Rec'd.

G. O., 4th May 1869, No. 718.

MAY.
Nos. 20—22.

Accepting the explanation offered by the Superintending Engineer, 4th Division, in regard to certain defects in the out-buildings attached to the Subsidiary Jail at Conjeveram.