

Read the following :—

No. 501. . . Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 10th November 1870,
No. 6,592 :—

Read the following letter from Lieutenant-Colonel W. T. F. FAREWELL, S.C.,
Acting Superintending Engineer, 7th Division, to the Secretary to Gov-
ernment, Public Works Department, dated Coimbatore, 13th September
1870, No. 130.

I HAVE the honour, with reference to paragraph 3. of Revenue Government
Order, No. 2,049, of 14th July 1869, communicated with Public Works Govern-
ment Order, No. 2,391, of 22nd idem, ordering an entirely new building to be
constructed for a cutcherry for the Collector of Coimbatore, to enclose a memo-
randum drawn up by the Collector of the superficial area required by him for

such an office, as also a letter* from him
on the subject of the site selected, in

which I heartily concur. The site of the present cutcherry is ill-adapted for the
reception of a building of the class expected for the office of the principal Civil
officer of the district. Its proximity to the proposed railway station is also objec-
tionable, and might lead hereafter to the necessity of its removal, while the Collector
is of opinion that if these premises, with the buildings at present occupying them,
were put up to auction, they would fetch a considerable sum.

2. Lastly, I beg respectfully to suggest that the Government Architect be
called upon to prepare the requisite plan with an estimate of the quantities, the
price of which can be filled in by the Coimbatore Range Officer to whom it should
be made over on completion.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From the Acting Collector of Coimbatore, to the Superintending Engineer, 7th Division, dated
10th September 1870, No. 152.

As requested in your letter, dated 3rd May 1870, No. 19, I have the honour to enclose a
memorandum showing the accommodation which will be required in the new cutcherry to be built
for the Collector at this station. The figures will serve to show about the area required, but I have
no doubt that it will be found necessary to modify them to a certain extent in your office.

2. As the roof of the record-room from its span will, I presume, require to be supported on
pillars, I would suggest that they should be fitted with shelves of perforated cast iron, on which the
records could be stowed, thus utilizing the space which the pillars will occupy.

3. When His Excellency the Governor inspected the building on the occasion of his last visit,
he seemed to think that it might be advisable to construct the new building on the present site, in
view to utilizing the present record-room; but as from its position in close proximity to the proposed
Coimbatore railway station, the site, with the buildings on it, would be certain to realize a large
sum if sold. I am sure I shall have your concurrence in proposing that the new edifice should be
built in a more commanding position. A fine and convenient site is available near the new Church
in the centre of the race-course; but as it is puttah land, a provision of, say, Rs. 1,000 for its pur-
chase should be made in the estimate.

c 25 March 1871
25 March 1871

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
31st March 1871.*

TRANSFERRED to the Revenue Department, with reference to paragraph 3 of Government Order in that department, No. 2,049, dated 14th July 1869.

FORT SAINT GEORGE,
17th September 1870.

(Signed) CHARLES A. ORR, Colonel, R.E.,
Secy. to Govt., P.W.D.

REFERRED to the Board of Revenue for their remarks.

FORT SAINT GEORGE,
26th September 1870.

(Signed) H. E. STOKES,
Under-Secy. to Govt.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.—Memorandum showing the accommodation required.

With this endorsement Government refer, for the remarks of the Board, papers regarding the site of the new Collector's cutcherry which is to be built at Coimbatore, the nature of the building and the extent of accommodation required.

2. As regards the site the Board agree with the Collector and the Superintending Engineer.

3. With regard to the building the majority of the Board think it desirable that it should consist of one storey instead of two. If the Covenanted officers are placed upstairs, they will be too inaccessible, and they will have less influence in keeping the establishment in order, than if they are on the same floor with it. Moreover, a large upper-storey would make the building very expensive.

4. The accommodation proposed seems to be greater than is really required. One public court-room is enough, but the memorandum proposes two, a Collector's Court and a Magistrate's Court. The Collector's private-room might have a dressing-room attached to it, and then it would be used as a Revenue office for ordinary business. Many of the rooms seem to be unnecessarily large, and this is especially the case with the record-rooms; 60' x 30' would probably be enough for each. A room for the Head Compositor in the printing block is not necessary. On the other hand, a lock-up should be attached to the guard-room, and a shed for petitioners, witnesses, etc., should be added to the detached buildings.

5. The Second Member dissents from the views expressed in paragraph 3, and has recorded a Minute on the subject.

No. 502. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 9th February 1871,
No. 624.

Read the following letter from the Acting Collector of Coimbatore, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 24th November 1870, No. 315.

ADVERTING to the Board's Proceedings, dated 10th instant, No. 6,592, on the subject of the proposed new Cutcherry for the Collector at Coimbatore, I respectfully beg to submit the following observations with reference to the Board's remarks which have been forwarded to Government.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
31st March 1871.*

First.—With regard to an upper storey the Board will, I think, upon re-consideration, be hardly prepared to maintain the proposition that a Collector becomes inaccessible to the people, because he transacts business in a cool room upstairs instead of a hot one on the ground floor. The cutcherries at Madura, Trichinopoly, Bellary, and Calicut, are, to my certain knowledge, upstairs-buildings, so are the new public offices at Bangalore; and, I believe, I am correct in supposing that the Members of the Board do not occupy the ground floor of their office at Madras.

Second.—As to the amount of accommodation proposed by me, Coimbatore is the head-quarters of the Head Assistant Collector and Magistrate. One court-room would hardly be sufficient for the District Magistrate, the Head Assistant Magistrate, and Assistant Magistrate. The Board observe that many of the rooms seem to be unnecessarily large, but, with the exception of the record-rooms, they do not specify which they take objection to. The dimensions of the rooms on the upper storey intended for the Collector and his Assistants correspond with those of the bed-rooms in my private house, which are generally considered to be rather cramped. With regard to the record-rooms, I may mention that the dimensions proposed for the Vernacular record-room, namely, 114 feet x 34 feet, are a little under those of the present building used for that purpose. This is the only good room in the present cutcherry. It affords sufficient but not too much space to admit of a methodical arrangement of the Vernacular records. This room and the manner in which the records were arranged therein attracted the attention of His Excellency the Governor when he visited Coimbatore a few months ago. The Vernacular records of this district might be packed away in a room of the dimensions proposed by the Board (60 feet x 30 feet), but I respectfully submit that they could not be arranged as they ought to be. I do not object to the dimensions of the English record-room being curtailed from 100 feet x 30 feet to 60 feet x 30 feet, but it must be remembered that records increase every year. The English records are at present packed away in a dark verandah.

Third.—The Board object to a room being set apart for the Head Compositor, but I think that he can hardly be expected to correct proofs with any degree of accuracy with the noise of three or four presses at work in his ears. If he has no room assigned to him, he will have to carry on this work in the press-room. I have, however, strongly urged the District Press being transferred to the Central Jail as at Bangalore, and if this proposal is acceded to, the printing house block will not, of course, be required.

Fourth.—A lock-up is required. The only guard at the cutcherry is that over the treasury. Prisoners for trial are brought under escort from the Municipal lock-up in the town, and prisoners under short sentence are confined in the Subsidiary Jail. The shed for petitioners and witnesses suggested by the Board is necessary.

P.S.—The Board object to an upper storey as expensive. I think a professional opinion should be taken on this point. Thicker walls are perhaps required, but a great saving is effected in foundations, etc.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
31st March 1871.*

SUBMITTED to Government in continuation of Board's Proceedings, 10th November 1870, No. 6,592.

2. The Board think there is much force in the Collector's arguments, and are disposed to withdraw their opinion that the building should be only one-storeyed.

No. 503.

ORDER THEREON, 31st March 1871, No. 601.

Miscellaneous.

THE G. O. of 14th July 1869 expressly contemplated a possible change of site, and the Government see no objection to the new office having an upper storey, to which, it is observed, the Board's objection has been withdrawn.

2. The so-called "Collector's Court" seems to be simply his public office-room, and, therefore, not superfluous, but his retiring-room is needlessly large, and generally the dimensions of the rooms seem capable of reduction.

3. The Board will place themselves in communication with the Government Architect, in view to obtaining the requisite plan with detailed estimate of quantities, the price of which will be calculated by the Coimbatore Executive Officer as proposed by Colonel Farewell.

4. The utmost economy, consistent with efficiency, must be observed; the grant for Civil buildings being now an absolutely fixed amount in the provision for Provincial Services.

(True Extract.)

(Signed)

W. HUDLESTON,

Secretary to Government.

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

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

Revenue Department.

No. 601-

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Under date the 31st March 1871.

Read the following letter *Proceedings*

of the Board of Revenue

*Subj. Remarks regarding site of
of Collr's Court proposed to be
built at Coimbatore, intimating
that 2^d Member differs from the
new report, has recorded a
separate Minute.*

10 Nov 1870 No 592

*In continuation of the
above, submitting further
letter from Collr of Coimbatore*

9 Feb 1871 No 624

*The G. O. of 14th
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objection*

*JP
J. S.
A/A*

25 March 1871

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14. To Mr. J. P. O'Connell
11. Mr. Deane

11. Mr. Deane

L.B.

850/1503

Y.N.
Collector's
Cherry Petal
at Colchester