M.R.O. 14-5,450—22-10-25.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 2698 Press ~~Mis.~~

258-259

Dated 14—11—1867.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
14th November 1867.

No. 258. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Judicial Department :—

Approving of the standard plans of Talook Cutcherries submitted by the Subsidiary Jail Committee, and directing their substitution for the standard designs for these buildings previously sanctioned. } (Here enter 6th November 1867, No. 1,774.)

No. 259. ORDER THEREON, 14th November 1867, No. 2,698.

Miscellaneous. Communicated to the Revenue Board.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) F. H. WILKINSON,
Acting Under Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue, with Proceedings Judicial Department, No. 1,774.

Exd. S. T. Augustin:

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,
6th November 1867.

No. 67. Read the following letter from the Subsidiary Jail Committee, to th Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated 18th Octobe 1867, No. 31.

We have had under careful consideration the standard plan of Taluq Cutcherries.

2. Apart from the objection that the necessary accommodation for prisoner under trial and convicted has been overlooked and insufficiently provided, the ventilation of these buildings is throughout insufficient, and the general arrangement of rooms susceptible of improvement. From the design of these buildings, which are placed round a quadrangle, extension of the original building is not possible, which is a serious objection.

3. Mr. Chisholm, who has been so good as to come to our assistance, has, in consultation with us, prepared two designs, 1st, for a Sub-Magistrate Tahsildar's Cutcherry, with a Subsidiary Jail, Police accommodation, and the requisite subordinate buil lings, such as Hospital shed, latrine, and cook-house; 2nd, for a Sub-Magistrate and Deputy Tahsildar's Cutcherry and Subsidiary Jail, with out-buildings.

4. We are informed that the cost of these buildings will be, for No. I, from 14,000 to 16,000 Rupees; for No. II, Rupees 6000 to 8000.

5. This is in excess of the cost involved in the standard plan at present sanctioned, but it must be remembered that no sufficient Jail accommodation is provided by the standard plan, whereas by Mr. Chisholm's design adequate room is given for the Civil Officers, and Jail accommodation is provided according to ascertained requirements.

6. With reference to the question raised in paragraph 9 of the Government Order, Judicial Department, dated 18th April 1867, No. 613, as to the disadvantage of the Subsidiary Jail being under the same roof as the Tahseel Cutcherry, we beg to point out that, although in the design now submitted, the Jail is attached to the Tahsildar's Office, its position is at one extremity, and is separated by the Treasury from the rest of the main building, and that, while securing economy of construction and of guarding, no evil effect will result from the prisoners' cell being placed in an entirely separate building. It will be observed that, contrary to the hitherto observed custom in constructing prison buildings, we have provided ample space, light, and ventilation, thus rendering the occurrence of epidemic disease less frequent. We have also provided, at a distance from the main building, a Hospital shed into which, prisoners attacked will disease will be promptly removed, and thus, we trust, we have avoided any danger to the Civil Officers from the neighbourhood of the Subsidiary Jail. On the other hand, there is a substantial advantage in the proximity of the Subsidiary Jail to the Tahsildar's office. It will be observed that, under the arrangements we have proposed, the Tahsildar can have easy access to the Jail Wards, and the control which he should exercise over the Jail discipline and management is rendered as little onerous as possible.

7. The important question of the prison space which should be allotted to each prisoner has occupied our best attention, and we have arrived at the conclusion that the minimum standard space for prisoners in Subsidiary Jails should be 40 square feet superficial and 600 cubical feet per prisoner. In determining this question,

this point, of very great importance, must not be overlooked, viz., that these Jails will not be under the charge of responsible and trained Superintendents, who may obviate in some degree the effects of occasional overcrowding by attention to ventilation, cleanliness, &c. They have indeed no special establishment attached to them. We are, therefore, decidedly of opinion that ample space should be allowed for each prisoner, and we have provided also for liberal ventilation. Where wards already exist, we have, of necessity, deviated from this standard, making up for deficiency in some respects by liberality in others.

8. It will be observed that the Treasury is made defensible, which is desirable, and is one of the objects of the present standard plan.

9. The plan sufficiently explains the increased accommodation provided in the Tahsildar's Court and retiring room.

10. We have discussed the plans now submitted with the Board of Revenue, the Inspector General of Mofussil Police, and the Sanitary Commissioner, and these designs have met with their approval.

11. We recommend that, if the Government sanction these standard plans, we may be permitted to have them and the necessary details lithographed for distribution.

12. We beg to record how greatly we have been assisted in this portion of of our work by Mr. Chisholm, who has given to our assistance much of his valuable time and labor.

No. 68. ORDER THEREON, 6th November 1867, No. 1774.

The Governor in Council approves of the standard plans of Taluq Cutcherries prepared by Mr. Chisholm and submitted by the Subsidiary Jail Committee in the letter above recorded, and directs that these plans be substituted for the standard designs for these buildings previously sanctioned.

(True Extract).

Chief Secretary.

To the Subsidiary Jail Committee.
„ Public Works Department, with four plans.
„ Revenue Department.
„ Inspector General of Police.

Exd. J. H. Burns.