M.R.O. 1—77,006—8-8-37.

(1) Number of pages 5

(2) Date of repair 22. 2. 60.

(3) Initials of the Referencer

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Financial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1633 Press
64-65. Mis.

Dated 7—12— 1872.

64-65 6/7

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 64. Read the following letter from E. G. BALFOUR, Esq., Inspector-General of Hospitals, Indian Medical Department, to the Chief Secretaryto Government, Fort St. George, dated Fort St. George, 29th November 1872, No. 378.

I have the honour to submit to His Excellency the Governor in Council that from the prolonged heavy rains of the 23rd and 24th instant, and from the Cooum river rising above its usual height and overflowing its banks, 1041 houses are reported by the Commissioner of Police to have fallen and 5205 people become houseless. The parts along the banks of the Cooum that suffered from the inundation were houses and huts in Mackay's Garden, Narsingapooram, and Poodoopettah, all of them low sites, quite unsuitable for habitation, and on which dwellings ought never to have been erected. In this view, on the 25th instant, I addressed the President of the Municipal Commission, and recommended him to prohibit the re-erection of huts in the low-lying localities, and in his reply to me the President mentions that the 153rd Section of the Municipal Act permits him to insist on the floor of all the huts being at a level two feet above the recent floods, and that he will order, but he says he has no authority to prevent the building of houses in any particular locality.

2. I have the honour to report that, under the order in G. O., No. 1474, dated 28th October 1872, I have, along with the President of the Municipal Commission, its Engineer, and its Sanitary Officer, examined all this city, and there was apparent to me an obvious necessity for power to prohibit unhealthy sites being occupied by dwelling houses; and, as the President of the Municipal Commission now mentions that the Commissioners have no authority to prevent the occupation of any particular locality, His Excellency the Governor in Council may perhaps deem it desirable to obtain an amendment of the existing Act. Besides reasons relating to the health of the inhabitants, there may be other grounds on which it would be objectionable to permit the erection of huts or houses in particular localities, and the Municipality may, in my opinion, have the power to prohibit such buildings.

No. 65. ORDER THEREON, 7th December 1872, No. 1633.

It appears to the Governor in Council that the powers conferred on the President of the Madras Municipality by Sections 119 to 169, Act IX of 1867, for regulating the construction of "any house, hut, shed, or roofed enclosure," whether on private building sites or otherwise, and especially by Section 153, in regard to the level at which the foundation and lowest floor shall be laid, are ample for the attainment of the objects in view, if properly enforced.

2. Dr. Balfour's letter will be communicated to the President of the Madras Municipality, with the request that he will report what steps he is taking to prevent the reconstruction of the ruined huts, &c., below flood-level, and generally to improve the flooded parts of the town.

(True Extract.)

W. HUDLESTON,
Chief Secretary.

To the Inspector-General, Indian Medical Department.
,, President of the Municipal Commission, Madras.
,, Sanitary Commissioner.

Exd. J. H. Burns.

Govt. of [illegible] 1872

FINANCIAL.

To

THE INSPECTOR-GENERAL,
INDIAN MEDICAL DEPARTMENT,
&c., &c., &c.

Dated December, 7th.

Read.

Read.

G. O., 7th December 1872, No. 1633.

DECEMBER.
Nos. 64-65.

Pointing out, with reference to the letter from the Inspector-General, Indian Medical Department, suggesting the prohibition of the re-erection of huts in the low-lying localities of the Presidency Town recently flooded, the powers possessed by the Madras Municipality in that behalf and communicating Dr. Balfour's letter to the President, for report as to what steps he is taking to prevent the reconstruction of the ruined huts, &c., below flood-level.

No 378

Office of Inspector General Ind. Med.
Fort Saint George 29th November 1872

From

The Inspector General of Hospitals,
Indian Medical Department,
Fort Saint George.

To

The Chief Secretary to Government,
Public Department.

Sir,

I have the honour to Submit to His Excellency the Governor in Council that from the prolonged heavy rains of the 23rd and 24th instant, and from the Coovum river rising above its usual height and overflowing its banks, 1041 houses are reported by the Commissioner of Police to have fallen and 5205 people become houseless. The parts along the banks of the Coovum that suffered from the inundation were houses and huts in Mackay's Garden, Narsingapooram and Poodoopettah, all of them low sites, quite unsuitable for habitation and on which dwellings ought never to have been erected. In this view on the 25th instant I addressed the President of the Municipal Commission and recommended him to prohibit the

re-erection of huts in the low lying localities; and in his reply to me the President mentions that the 153rd Section of the Municipal Act permits him to insist on the floor of all the huts being at a level two feet above the recent floods, and that he will order, but he says he has no authority to prevent the building of houses in any particular locality.

2. I have the honour to report that under the order in G.O. No 1474 dated 28th October 1872: I have, along with the President of the Municipal Commission, its Engineer and its Sanitary Officer, examined all this city, and there was apparent to me an obvious necessity for power to prohibit unhealthy sites being occupied by dwelling houses, and as the President of the Municipal Commission now mentions that the Commissioners have no authority to prevent the occupation of any particular locality, His Excellency the Governor

in Council may perhaps deem it desirable to obtain an amendment of the existing Act. Besides reasons relating to the health of the inhabitants, there may be other grounds on which it would be objectionable to permit the erection of huts or houses in particular localities, and the Municipality may, in my opinion, have the power to prohibit such buildings.

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your most Obedient Servant

Edwd Sylvan Insp: General

Insp: Genl of Hospls Ind: Med: Deptt.

R 3/12

Financial Department.

AD

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following letter from the Dep^t^ Genl. Sec^y^ to Govt. Pub. Wks. Dept^t^. dated 29 Nov^r^ 1872 No 378.

Order thereon 7th Dec^r^ 1872. No 1633.

It appears to the Governor in Council that the powers conferred on the President of the Madras Municipality by Sections 119 to 167, Act IX of 1871 for regulating the construction of "any house, hut, shed, or roofed enclosure" whether on private building sites or otherwise, and especially by Section 153 in regard to the level at which the foundation and lowest floor shall be laid, are ample for the attainment of the objects in view, if properly enforced.

J. F.

Ord

Copy of Govt. Order dated 7th Dec^r^ 1872 No 1633 to the Secretary to Government Public Department.

Transmitted for information.

Sd/- [illegible]

for Secretary to Government

To

The Secretary to Government Public Department.

Dated 29th November 1872. No 378 — a —

S. O. No 112 378.

Subject. Nil.

Suggests the prohibition of the re-erection of huts in the low lying localities of the town Presidency recently flooded.

2. Dr. Balfour's letter will be communicated to the President of the Madras Municipality with the request that he will report what steps he is taking to prevent the reconstruction of the ruined huts &c. below flood level. and generally to

L. B.

to improve the flooded

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To.
The Inspr. Genl. Sub. Dist. Dept.
" Pres.t of the Madras Municipal
" Sanitary Commissioner.

Dispd 9/12

Govt. of {187 } Madras.

Financial

To

The Insp.r Gen.l Ind.a Mech.l Dept.

Dated Dec.r 7. }
Recd. } 1872, No. 1033.

Nos. 64. 65.

Pointing out with ref.ce to the letter from the I. G. I. Med. Dept. suggesting the prohibition of the re-erection of huts in the low lying localities of the Presy. town recently flooded the powers possessed by the Madras Municipality in that behalf and Comm.r Dr. Balfour's letter to the Press.r for report as to what steps he is taking to—

prevent the reconstruction of the ruined huts &c. below flood level.