M.R.O. 1—77,006—8-6-31.

(1). Number of pages 3

(2) Date of repair 22-11-39

(3) Initials of the Referencer

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Financial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 195 Press / Mis.

104-105

Dated 28-2- 1892.

5/6

164-105

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 104. Read the following letter from the Commissioner of the Neilgherry Hills, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated Ootacamund, 17th February 1872, No. 10:—

The sluice at the end of the Ootacamund Lake was finished towards the end of last year, but the Engineer did not consider it safe to open it until the end of last month.

2. By way of giving it a trial, and to observe whether any unpleasant smell arose from lowering the lake, I opened the sluice on the 29th ultimo, and let off the water to a depth of three feet.

3. On Sunday last I closed the sluice, and, drawing the attention of the medical officers of the station to the fact that April and May were the least healthy months here, I requested their opinion as to the advisability of proceeding with the work now or waiting till autumn, the time originally fixed* by the Sanitary Commissioner as the safest on sanitary grounds.

* See G. O., No. 879, dated 19th June 1871.

2. I forward Dr. Pearl's reply, from which it will be seen that he and Dr. Ross anticipate no serious consequences from emptying the lake slowly during March and April, provided that the deposit exposed is not disturbed in any way, but on the whole they think it safer to defer the emptying till autumn.

Under these circumstances, and, considering that the prosperity of Ootacamund depends in great measure upon its sanitary reputation during the summer months, I propose deferring the emptying of the lake till autumn.

3. In the meantime there is plenty of work for the convicts in filling in and reclaiming the upper part of the swamp which forms the head of the lake.

From Surgeon W. PEARL, Medical Officer, North District, Neilgherry Hills, to the Commissioner of the Neilgherry Hills, dated Ootacamund, 14th February 1872, No. 2.

In reply to your letter of the 10th instant, I have the honour to state that I have conferred with Dr. Ross on the subject of emptying the lake.

2. With regard to the first query submitted to us, we do not anticipate any serious consequences from emptying the lake *slowly* during the months of March and April, provided that the deposit, &c., exposed is not disturbed in any way.

3. As to the second question, we think that the lake might be allowed to remain in its present state, and any filling in that may be required be safely done.

4. But on the whole, considering the late period at which the work has been commenced, we think it would be a more prudent and safe course to defer the emptying until autumn.

No. 105. ORDER THEREON, 28th February 1872, No. 195.

The Commissioner's decision is approved.

(True Extract.)

Officiating Chief Secretary.

To the Commissioner of the Neilgherry Hills.
" Sanitary Commissioner.
" Public Works Department.
" Inspector-General, Indian Medical Department.

Exd. J. Wright.

Copy of [1872] Minute.

FINANCIAL.

To

THE COMMISSIONER OF THE NEIGHERRY HILLS, &c.
&c., &c., &c.,

Dated February, 26th.

Recd.

G. O., 28th February 1872, *No.* 196.

FEBRUARY.
Nos. 104-105.

Approving of the Commissioner's decision to defer applying the Ootacamund Lake till autumn.

Ootacamund
15.2.72 26th February 1872

No 2

From

Surgeon W. Beard V
Chief Officer North District
Nilgherries

To

Lt. Col. Brooke Engr. Commissioner
Nilgherries

Sir

In reply to your letter of the 10th instant, I have the honor to state that I have conferred with Mr. Ross on the subject of emptying the Lake

1 With regard to the first query submitted to us, we do not anticipate any serious consequences from emptying the Lake Ootacamund during the months of March & April provided that the Sluice of the overflow is not disturbed in any way.

2 As to the second question, we think the Lake might be allowed to remain in its present state and any filling in that may be required be safely done.

3 But on the whole, considering the Lake period at which the work must be commenced we think it would be well prudent & safe to defer the emptying until December.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedient Servant
Wm Beard Surgeon

Chief Officer North District

Commissioner's Office
Cotacamund.
17th February 1872

No 10

From.

J. W. Breeks Esquire
Commissioner
Nilgherries.

To

The Chief Secretary
to Government.
Fort St George.

Sir.

The Sluice at the end of the Cotacamund Lake was finished towards the end of last year but the Engineer did not consider it safe to open it until the end of last month.

By way of giving it a trial and to ascertain whether any unpleasant smell arose from lowering the lake I opened the Sluice on the 29th ultimo and let off the water to a depth of three feet. On Sunday last I closed the Sluice and drawing the attention of the Medical Officers of the Station to the fact that April and May were the least healthy months here I requested their opinion as to the advisability of proceeding with the work now or waiting till Autumn. the time originally fixed× by the Sanitary Commissioner as the safest

× See G. O No 879 dated 19th June/71

Revenue Department
Engineering Branch
Public Works Department
Fort St George
Read
Recorded
Ordered
Ordered that the Engineer be authorized to carry out the proposal contained in the above letter
Ordered that a copy of the above letter be forwarded to the Engineer for information
Ordered that a copy of the above letter be forwarded to the Sanitary Commissioner for information
Ordered that a copy of the above letter be forwarded to the Collector of the Nilgiris for information
Ordered that a copy of the above letter be forwarded to the Medical Officers of the Station for information
Ordered that a copy of the above letter be forwarded to the Public Works Department for information

safest on Sanitary grounds.

2. I forward Dr Pearl's reply from which it will be seen that he and Dr Ross anticipate no serious consequences from Emptying the Lake slowly during March & April provided that the deposit exposed is not disturbed in any way but on the whole they think it safer to defer the Emptying till Autumn

Under these circumstances and considering that the prosperity of Potacamund depends in great measure upon its Sanitary reputation during the Summer months I propose deferring the Emptying of the Lake till Autumn

3. In the mean time there is plenty of work for the Convicts in filling in & reclaiming the upper part of the Swamp which forms the head of the Lake.

I have the honor &c
Sir
Your Most obedt Servt
Commissioner.

T. G. D

Rest: 19th Jany/71 Pp 162-164

Public 1872. Department

No. 10

Date— 17th February 1872

Rec'd 20

Commissioner's Office,
Ootacamund.

To N° 333

The Chief Secretary
to Government
Fort St George

Enclosures.
Reclamation

SUBJECT.
Lake at Cotacamund

Stating that the Commr proposes deferring emptying of the Ootacamund Lake till autumn & submitting D Reid's Letter on the subject

Commr of the Nilgiris Hills
Secretary Commissioner
Public Dept
Pro: Sec: to Govt

28th Feby 1872 Rec'd 1872
Financial Dept
Mr Reid's decision is referred

C 73/2/72
R 26

Govt. of {1872} Madras.

Financial

The Commr of the Nilgiris Hills.

Dated 28 Feby
Read

G.O. 28 Feby 1872 No. 195

Nos. 104. 105.

Approving of the Commrs decision to defer emptying the Ootacamund Lake till autumn.