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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Financial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 899. Press / Mis.

65-67

Dated 18-7- 1872.

65-67 13/14

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department,
18th July 1872.

Read the following papers:—

No. 65. From the Deputy Inspector-General of Ordnance and Magazines in charge of the Ordnance Office, to the Secretary to Government, Military Department, Fort St. George, dated Fort St. George, 24th June 1872, No. 90-G.

Ordnance Department.

I have the honour to bring to notice that the Superintendent, Gun Powder Manufactory, has reported that the Municipal authorities have again commenced, what he describes, in reference to Proceedings of Government,* as "another monster nuisance," in close vicinity of the Factory; and that this has been done without any reference whatever to the Superintendent, in contravention of the principle laid down by Government in their Order.†

* No. 883, dated 18th July 1870.

† Paragraph 3 of Proceedings of Government, No. 766, dated 2nd July 1867.

2. The matter was represented by the Superintendent to the President of the Municipal Commission, who informed the Superintendent that "such action as is necessary" would be taken. This communication was dated 13th June 1872. What occurred subsequently is detailed in the following extracts from the Superintendent's report:—

"As no carts brought ordure and filth to the spot on 14th, and as the tops and even the sides of the masses were carefully, for the first time, covered with sand, I hoped that the collection was stopped; but I found, on visiting the spot at half-past 4 P.M. on that day, that the Governor's train from the new station was expected to pass at 5 P.M., and that the work was merely suspended for the day. Since then the accumulations of filth have again commenced." * * *.

"A fermenting mass of decomposing filth intended to cover acres of ground in our close vicinity is both disgusting and dangerous, and will continue certainly to be so for years. I have already informed you of the monster nuisance already existing in the misnamed "Sewage Farm"—a great portion of this is a mere mass of rotting filth on which not even weeds will grow, except for a short time after rain; and more ordure and sewage is daily put into the soil, which is so hot already as to kill all vegetation."

3. "I beg to add that, having occasion frequently to pass along the road at the side of which the sweepings and ordure carts are now emptied, I observed the beginning of the nuisance before my subordinates; but I did not say a word to any one about it till they came before me and earnestly complained."

4. Under these circumstances, I earnestly request, in the interests of this most important State Factory, where large numbers of workmen and employés of all classes are daily congregated together, that orders may be given for the nuisance complained of to be discontinued forthwith; and that the Municipal authorities may be required to dispose of the sweepings and night-soil in some other way. Arrangements could doubtless be made for their conveyance to a locality where they would be valued and where they would realize a good price; and I am given to understand that the Agent and Manager of the Madras Railway Company is willing to co-operate in this matter.

Referred to the Financial Department for early consideration.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
25*th June* 1872.

(Signed) C. A. GALTON,
Acting Under Secy. to Govt.

Referred to the President of the Municipal Commission, Madras, for immediate report.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
25*th June* 1872.

(Signed) C. A. GALTON,
Acting Under Secy. to Govt.

No. 66. From the Officiating President of the Municipal Commission, to the Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated Madras, 27th June 1872, No. 977-S.

In obedience to your docket, dated 25th instant, calling for immediate report on letter from the Deputy Inspector-General of Ordnance and Magazines in charge of Ordnance Office, I have the honour to state that, in consequence of the Rubbish Depôt, which has been in operation for a very long period, both by the side of the roadway in the *Yerkuncherry* Road and latterly on the Basin Road, being complete, whereby a large area of ground was reclaimed, it was necessary to choose another site, and the Sanitary Inspector, Mr. Gover, selected the spot—the subject of the present reference—yet only distant from the old Depôt by little more than the width of the Railway, but in sight of the Powder Mills, ensuring at the same time the same amount of care and good conservancy as had been adopted on the old site, regarding which, however, complaint had never been made.

2. Dr. Cornish, the Sanitary Commissioner, both my Sanitary Inspectors frequently, and myself on two or three occasions visited the locality without giving previous notice, and have admitted at the time of such visits that the rubbish was efficiently covered; at the same time I confess that, during the process of delivering and being immediately covered up, the smell is offensive to persons in the immediate vicinity, and may probably, as Colonel Cadell states, have been wafted across the Factory, and he doubtless had good reason to complain.

3. To account now for the seeming delay which occurred in taking action on Colonel Cadell's letter to me, I have to state that it reached me on the 12th June, and was at once placed in the hands of Mr. Gover, who was instructed to consult with Dr. Cornish, the Sanitary Commissioner, on the matter. This proceeding was unfortunately delayed consequent on Mr. Gover's absence from office for four or five days; but, being myself anxious that no further delay should occur, and pending communication with Dr. Cornish, I ordered the Depôt to be closed on the 20th June. It will be observed that Colonel Stewart's letter, calling for the immediate interposition of Government, is dated the 24th June, after the Depôt had already been ordered to be closed four days.

4. It is to be regretted that, before this Depôt was opened, the Superintendent of the Gun Powder Factory was not consulted as directed in G. O. of 2nd July 1867, No. 966. As, however, the old Depôt was not complained against, the

Department concerned did not anticipate any complaint against the new one, and proceeded with their work without any consultation with the Superintendent in doing which they erred, and I, for my part, was quite ignorant of the Order.

5. I regret that (by implication) Colonel Cadell has ventured to assert that the reason there was no deposit on the 12th, not 14th instant, was because His Excellency the Governor was expected to pass the spot at 5 P.M.; no men were at work that afternoon as they were being paid. This, with the general tone of Colonel Cadell's letters,* is, I respectfully submit, not in accordance with official courtesy. Complaints against nuisances meet with prompt attention, in support of which assertion I would instance the fact that Colonel Cadell's complaint against depositing rubbish in the Sewage Farm was met by immediate attention, and there seems to be no reason whatever for his assuming an angry tone in official correspondence.

* Copy of the one to me is enclosed.

6. In conclusion, I beg to observe that much as I regret that Colonel Cadell should have felt it necessary to prefer this complaint to Government, I must do my Sanitary Inspectors the justice to say that every precaution possible on their part was adopted to prevent giving offence to any person, and I beg to assure Government that my earnest endeavours will be given to grapple with one of the oldest and most difficult subjects the Municipality has had to deal with and remedy, viz., the disposal of street rubbish and sweepings, and which attempt has for years, notwithstanding the efforts of the Commissioners past and present, met with apparently very small results.

From Colonel R. CADELL, R. A., Acting Superintendent, Gun Powder Factory, to the President of the Municipal Commission, Madras, dated Madras, 12th June 1872, No. 328-S.

I have the honour to state that in Proceedings of Madras Government, No. 766, dated 2nd July 1867, paragraph 3, Government observe that "the Commissioners ought certainly to have consulted with Colonel Rowlandson" (then Superintendent of the Factory now under my charge) "before using a spot, close to a large and important Government Factory, for purposes which cannot but affect the comfort and health of all engaged in the buildings," and to this paragraph your attention was specially called by Government so recently as 18th July 1870 in its Proceedings, No. 883.

2. Notwithstanding these injunctions, you have again commenced what must be another monster nuisance in the close vicinity of this Factory without any of that consultation with one which Government has repeatedly ordered. Your carts in large numbers are depositing daily on the western esplanade, which is the property of Government,* large quantities of street sweepings which are mixed with night-soil and sewage and other filth of sorts. The place of deposit is the direct line of the present sea breezes which carry a portion of the stink to the Factory.

* *Vide* Procs., Madras Govt., No. 766, of 2nd July 1867.

3. After the receipt of this protest from me, should you not deem fit to order your carts to go elsewhere and to cause to be covered in a manner in accordance with ordinary sanitary rules the heaps which have already been placed in this locality, "I have," using the words of my predecessor on a similar occasion, "most respectfully to request that, pending the decision of Government on the matter, you will be good enough to suspend the continued destruction of the salubrity of the neighbourhood of the Factory."

4. I request that an exception may be made with regard to this present letter, and that its receipt by you may be acknowledged.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department,

18th July 1872.

No. 67. ORDER THEREON, 18th July 1872, No. 899.

As it appears that the Depôt in question was ordered to be closed on 20th June, the Government do not deem it necessary to pass any further orders.

2. The delay in attending to Colonel Cadell's application afforded ground for complaint when the character of the nuisance is considered, but Colonel Cadell's original application might have been couched in less peremptory terms.

(True Extract.)

Acting Under Secy. to Govt.

To the President of the Municipal Commission, Madras.
To Colonel R. Cadell, Officiating Superintendent, Gun Powder Factory.

Exd. J. Wright.

Ordnance Department

ORDNANCE OFFICE,
Fort Saint George
24th June 1872

No. 490.

From,

Colonel A. Stewart R.A.
Dy Inspector General of Ordnance and Magazines,
In charge of the Ordnance Office.

To

The Secretary to Government,
Military Department.

Sir,

I have the honor to bring to notice that the Superintendent Gun Powder Manufactory has reported that the Municipal Authorities have again commenced what he describes, in reference to Proceedings of Government, (a) as "another nuisance," in close vicinity of the Factory; and that this has been done without any reference whatever to the Superintendent, in contravention of the principle laid down by Government in their Order (b)

(a) Pro. 883 dated 18 July 1870.

(b) Paras 3 of Pros of Govt 4766 dated 2 July 1867.

2.— The matter was represented by the Superintendent to the President of the Municipal Commission, who informed the Superintendent that "such action as is necessary" would be taken. This communication was dated 13th June 1872. What occurred subsequently, is detailed in the following

Extracts.

Govt. of 1872 Madras

FINANCIAL.

To

THE PRESIDENT OF THE
MUNICIPAL COMMISSION,
Madras,
&c., &c.

Dated July, 18th.

Read.

G. O., 18th July 1872, No. 899.

JULY.
Nos. 65—67.

Considering orders on the representation made by Colonel Cadell, the Superintendent of the Gun Powder Manufactory, regarding the deposit of rubbish in the vicinity of the Manufactory, unnecessary, the Depôt having been closed.

Extracts from the Superintendents report.

"As no carts brought ordure and
"filth to the spot on 11th and as the tops and even
"the sides of the masses were carefully for the first
"time, covered with sand, I hoped that the collection
"was stopped; but I found on visiting the spot at
"half past 4 P.M. on that day, that the Governor's
"Train from the new Station was expected to pass
"at 5 P.M, and that the work was merely sus-
"pended for the day. Since then the accumulations
"of filth have again commenced." x x x x x x x x
x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x
x x x x x x "a fermenting mass of decomposing
"filth intended to cover acres of ground in our
"close vicinity is both disgusting and dangerous,
"and will continue certainly to be so for years. I
"have already informed you of the monster nui-
"sance already existing in the misnamed
"Sewage Farm:- a great portion of this is a mere
"mass of rotting filth on which not even weeds
"will grow, except for a short time after rain;-
"and more ordure and sewage is daily put into
"the soil, which is so hot already as to kill all
"vegetation."

3.— "I beg to add that having occasion
"frequently to pass along the road at the side

"of which the sweepings and ordure carts are now
"emptied, I observed the beginning of the nuisance
"before my subordinates: but I did not say a
"word to any one about it, till they came before
"me and earnestly complained."

4:— Under these circumstances, I earnestly request, in the interests of this most important State Factory, where large numbers of workmen and employés of all classes are daily congregated together, that orders may be given for the nuisance complained of to be discontinued forthwith; and that the Municipal Authorities may be required to dispose of the sweepings and night soil in some other way. Arrangements could doubtless be made for their conveyance to a locality where they would be valued and where they would realize a good price; and I am given to understand that the Agent and Manager of the Madras Railway Company is willing to co-operate in this matter.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most Obedient Servant
A Stewart Coll RA.
Dy Inspr Genl of Ordnce & Mags
In charge of the Ordnce Office

Ex Wm

S. No 1010

Madras Municipality. 11

SANITARY DEPARTMENT.

Madras, 5th July 1872

To

The A.d Under Secretary
to Government, Public
Department, Fort St. George.

Sir

In Compliance with your
Memo, Financial Department No 190
of the 3rd Instant, I have the honor to
return the letter from the Dy Insp.r
General of Ordnance & Magazines
No 90 dated 24th Ultimo referred to me
for report.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most Obed.t Serv.t

Alex. Rutherford
Officiating President
M. M. C.

Ordered (1872) Hospital
No 3141

From
The Dy Insp.r Gen.l of Ord.ce Hosps
& Medical Stores

To
The Secretary to Government
Military Department

Sir

Referred to the Municipal Commissioner, Madras,
for immediate report.

Financial Dept.
25th June 1872.

25. 6. 72

Returned to the Presidency Surgeon
Municipal Commissioner, Madras,
for immediate report.

Dy Insp.r Gen.l of Ord.ce Hosps
& Medical Stores

Referred to the Municipal Commissioner, Madras,
for immediate report.

Financial Dept.
25th June 1872.

Returned 28
Received 25th June 1872.
Forwarded 25th June 1872

No. 977 Municipal Commrs Office
Madras 27th June 1872.

From
Lt. A. Richardson
Offg President Municpl Commrs
Madras

To
The Secretary to Government
Financial Depart.
Madras.

Sir,

In obedience to your docket dated 25th instant, call-
ing for immediate report on
letter from the Deputy Inspector
General of Ordnance & Magazines
in charge of Ordnance Office, I
have the honor to state that on
consequence of the Rubbish Depôt,
which has been in operation for
a very long period, both by the
side of the roadway in the Perkaum
Cherry road and latterly on the
Arcot road being completed, where-
by a large area of ground was
reclaimed, it was necessary to
choose

(P.T.O.)

Copy forwarded to
The Offg Secretary
Mil. Dept.
The Under Secretary
to Government
Financial Department
Fort St. George

No. 899 dated 1st July 72

Copy forwarded to
The Commr. of Police
The Inspr. of Hospitals
The Dy. Inspr. General
of Ordnance & Magazines
for information.

By Order,
Asst Secy

chose another site, and the Sanitary Inspectors never selected the spot - the subject of the present reference - yet only distant from the old Depot by little more than the width of the Railway, but in sight of the Powder Mills: ensuring at the same time the same amount of care and good conservancy as had been adopted on the old site, regarding which, however, complaints had never been made.

2. Doctor Grimsh, the Sanitary Commissioner, both my Sanitary Inspectors frequently, and myself on two or three occasions visited the locality without giving previous notice, and have admitted at the time of such visits, that the rubbish was efficiently covered, at the same time I enquired during the process of delivering and being immediately covered up, the Shells & offensive Matters on the immediate vicinity, and

may

may probably, as Col. Ordell states, have been wafted across the Factory, and he doubtless had good reason to complain.

3 To account now for the seeming delay which occurred in taking action on Col. Ordells letter to me, I have to state that it reached me on the 12th June, & was at once placed in the hands of Mr. Gover, who was instructed to consult with Doctor Grimsh, the Sanitary Commissioner, on the matter. This proceeding was unfortunately delayed consequent on Mr. Gover's absence from Office for 4 or 5 days, but being myself anxious that no further delay should occur, and pending communication with Dr. Grimsh I directed the Depot to be closed on the 20th June. It will be observed that Col. Stewart's letter, calling for the immediate interposition of Government, is dated the 24th June, after the Depot had already been closed 4 days.

J.

It is to be regretted that before the Depot was opened the Superintendent of the Gun Powder Factory was not consulted as directed in G.O. of 2nd July 1867 No 966. As however the old Depot was not complained against, the Department concerned did not anticipate any complaint against the new one, and proceeded with their work without any consultation with the Supdt, in doing which they erred, and I for my part was quite ignorant of the Order

5. It is not clear why application Col. Cadell has ventured to assert that the reason there was no deposit on the 12th was that the gunboats was because His Excellency the Governor was expected to visit the Spot at 3 p.m., no men were at work that afternoon as they were being paid. This with the general tone of Col. Cadell's letter is, I respectfully submit, not in accordance with official courtesy. Complaints against nuisances

a copy of the one to me is enclosed

17

must meet with prompt attention on support of which a portion, I would instance the fact that Lt. Cadell's complaint against depositing rubbish in the Sewage farm was met by immediate attention, and there seems to be no reason whatever for his appearing an angry tone in official correspondence.

In conclusion, I beg to observe that as much as I regret that Lt. Cadell should have felt it necessary to prefer this complaint to Government, I must do my Sanitary Inspectors the justice to say that every precaution possible on their part was adopted to prevent giving offence to any person, and I beg to assure Govt that my earnest endeavours will be given to grapple with one of the oldest and most difficult subjects the Municipality has had to deal with viz the disposal of Street rubbish

and Sweepings, and to which attempt has for years notwithstanding the efforts of the Commissioners past and present, met with apparently very small results.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most Obed[t] Serv[t]

Alex[r] Rutherford
Off[g] President Municp[l] Comm[rs]

No. 32 [illegible]

Gun Powder Factory
Madras 12th Jany 70

To

The President
of the Municipal Comm[rs]
Madras

Sir

I have the honor to State that in Proceedings of Madras Government No 766 dated 2nd July 1867, para 3, Government observed that "the Commissioners ought to be certain to have Consulted with Mr Rowlandson" (then Superintendent of the Factory now under my Charge) "before laying a Sewer to a large and important Government Factory for purposes, which cannot but affect the Comfort and health of all employed in the Buildings"; and to this para your attention was Specially called by Government so recently as 7th July 1869 vide Proceedings No 883.

2- Notwithstanding these injunctions you have again Commenced what must be another monster nuisance in the close vicinity of this Factory without any of that Consultation with some one which Government has repeatedly ordered. Your Carts in large numbers are depositing daily on the western esplanade which is the property of Government (a) large quantities of Street Sweepings which are mixed with

(a)
Vide P.M.G.
No 766 of 2nd July 67

with regard to Soil and Sewage and other filth of Lords. The place of deposit is the Street line of the present Sea Wagger which Carry a portion of the Filth to the Factory.

3- After the receipt of this protest from me I should you not deem fit to order your Carts to go elsewhere and not to Cause to be Covered in a manner in accordance with ordinary Sanitary rules the heaps which have already been placed in this locality, "I have" using the words of my predecessor on a similar occasion must respectfully to request that pending the decision of Government on the matter, you will be good enough to suspend the Continued Destruction of the Salubrity of the neighbourhood of the Factory.

4- I request that an exception may be made with regard to this present letter and that its receipt by you may be acknowledged.

I have the Honor to be
Sir
Your Obedient Servant
(Signed) R. Cadell. Colonel R.E.
A.I. Superintendent G.P. Factory

(True Copy)
H. Bayly's.
General Manager

First No. Deposits.

1872.

From
The President
Municpl Commrs
Madras

To
The Secretary to Govt
Financial Deptt

Dated 27th June 72
Rcd. 5th July 1872
Answd.

1 Encls

Re 1269

Regarding the
deposit of Rubbish
near the powder
Mills.

With an Order

Re 7-1268/72

4 to 18th July 72 Encls

c 15-7
2187

Read Nos 977 – 1269

Cave

Retd 18th July 1872 No. 899.

A/A

As it appears that the Depôt in question was ordered to be closed on 20th June, the Government do not deem it necessary to pass any further orders.

2. The delay in attending to Colonel Cadell's application afforded ground for complaint when the character of the nuisance is considered, but Colonel Cadell's original application might have been couched in ~~stronger~~ more peremptory terms

To
The Board of the Mund Comrs
Madras.
Colonel R. Cadell, Offg. Supt.
Gun Powder Factory.

dated 24/7

25.7.1872

Govt. M[illegible] 1872 Madras.

Journal

To

The Secy to Govt. Ordnance Commee
Madras

Sir

Dated

Read

and

July, 1872, No. 899.

No. 65. 67.

[illegible] two orders on the repre-
[illegible] made by the Col. Cadell
[illegible] the Gun Powder
[illegible] ory regarding the de-
[illegible] Rubbish in the vicinity
[illegible] manufactory unnecessary,
[illegible] the same not having been closed.