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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Financial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 146 Press Mis.

219-220.

Dated 24-1- 1876.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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Municipal—Sanitary.

No. 219. Read the following letter from Surgeon-General E. G. BALFOUR, Surgeon-General, Indian Medical Department, to the Honorable W. HUDLESTON, Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated Fort St. George, 19th January 1876, No. 23 :—

On the 23rd December 1875 the Deputy Surgeon-General of the Southern Districts inspected the town of Madura, and I beg to subjoin extracts from his report on it. I would add that during the year 1875 the returned deaths from cholera in Madura District were 6,860.

EXTRACTS.

PARAGRAPH 8.—*Conservancy of the Neighborhood, &c.*—"The conservancy of the town as far as regards the drainage is very defective. Occasionally the scavengers clear out the drains, but leave the abominable black filth on the outside of the drains, which must necessarily increase the foulness of the air. There are no latrines, and the consequences are most sickening. In every available spot where there is any cover the natives ease themselves, and in topes or on the banks of the rivers the native is seen early in the morning in these situations for purposes of nature : suggestions will be made for improvement. Scavengers and carts pass through the streets twice daily and remove the surface rubbish."

PARAGRAPH 16.—*Principal Diseases, &c.*—"The chief diseases have been fevers, affections of stomach and bowels, ophthalmia, skin diseases, venereal, and cholera.

"The mortality has been amongst those suffering from dysentery, diarrhœa, and cholera and in old and debilitated persons. High temperature followed by rain appears to have been influential in causing malaria conjointly with noxious effluvia arising from stagnant and most deleterious sewage in all the drains of the town. From nearly every house liquid filth and often liquid fæces are allowed to issue and flow into the drains, which latter are seldom cleared out. On a future occasion I propose reporting more fully on the state of the town."

PARAGRAPH 19.— *Note generally what recommendations have been made to Local Authorities regarding Barracks, &c.*—"I have already verbally represented the state of the town drains to the President and Vice-President of the Municipality, and hope that measures will be taken to remedy the evil. There are difficulties very apparent to contend with, such as the natural configuration of the ground."

PARAGRAPH 20.—*Burial of the Dead, &c.*—"The arrangements for the burial of the natives (Mahomedan) are not satisfactory. Two or three are in the midst of dwelling houses, and I am told that the corpses are not more than three feet below the surface."

(True Extracts.)

(Signed) E. G. BALFOUR,
Surgn.-Genl., In. Medl. Dept.

No. 220. ORDER THEREON, 24th January 1876, No. 146.

The Government desire to learn from the President of the Madura Municipality what steps he is taking to remedy the evils pointed out.

(True Extract.)

Chief Secretary.

To the Surgeon-General, Indian Medical Department.
,, President of the Municipal Commission, Madura.
,, Sanitary Commissioner.

Exd. J. W. Fischer.

Govt. of {1876} Madras

FINANCIAL.

To

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

Dated January. 24th.

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 24th January 1876, No. 146.

JANUARY.
Nos. 219-220.

Municipal—Sanitary.—Report on the sanitary condition of Madura forwarded to the President for report on the measures to be adopted to remedy the evils pointed out.

No. 23

OFFICE OF SURGEON-GENERAL, I. M. D.,
Fort Saint George, 19 January 1876.

From

SURGEON-GENERAL EDWARD BALFOUR,
Surgeon-General,
Indian Medical Department,
Fort Saint George,

To

The Chief Secretary to Government
Financial Department

SIR,

On the 23d December 1875, the Deputy Surgeon General of the Southern Districts inspected the town of Madura, and I beg to subjoin extracts from his Report on it. I would add that during the year 1875 the returned deaths from Cholera in Madura District were 6860.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient Servant
Edward Balfour Surgeon General,
Surgeon General I. M. D.

Extracts.

Para 8— Conservancy of the neighbourhood &c— "The conservancy of the Town, as far as regards the drainage is very defective. Occasionally the Scavengers clear out the drains, but leave the abominable

black

black filth on the outside of the drains, which must necessarily increase the foulness of the air. There are no latrines, and the consequences are most sickening - In every available spot where there is any cover, the Natives ease themselves, and in topes or on the banks of the rivers the native is seen early in the morning in these situations for purposes of nature - Suggestions will be made for improvement. Scavengers and Carts pass through the Streets twice daily and remove the surface rubbish."

Para 16 - Principal diseases &c - "The chief diseases have been fevers, affections of Stomach and bowels, Opthalmia, Skin diseases, Venereal and cholera.

"The mortality has been amongst those suffering from Dysentery, Diarrhœa and cholera, and in old and debilitated persons - High temperature followed by rain appears to have been influential in causing malaria, conjointly with noxious effluvia arising from stagnant and most deleterious sewage in all the drains of the Town. From nearly every house liquid filth and often liquid faces are allowed to issue

and

and flow into the drains which latter are seldom cleaned out - In a future occasion I propose reporting more fully on the state of the Town."

Para 19 - Note generally what recommendations have been made to Local Authorities regarding Barracks &c -

"I have already verbally represented the state of the town drains to the President and Vice President of the Municipality, and hope that measures will be taken to remedy the evil - There are difficulties very apparent to contend with, such as the natural configuration of the ground."

Para 20 - Burial of the dead &c - "The arrangements for the burial of the Natives (Mahomedan) are not satisfactory - Two or three [illegible] dwelling houses, and I am told that the corpses are not more than three feet below the surface."

(True Extracts)

[illegible]
Surgeon General
Surgeon General I. M. D.

Financial Department
(Municipal - Sanitary)

1876.

From

Surgeon-General E. BALFOUR,
Surgeon-General,
Indian Medical Department,
Fort Saint George,

To

The Chief Secretary to Government
Financial Dept

Dated 19th January

Despatched

Received 20th

No. 23

Subject.

Subjoining extracts from the Inspection Report on Madura by the Deputy Surgeon General, Southern District

With 2 enclosures

2 Surgeon Genl's Letter dated 19th January 1876 with Extracts

Govt. of 1876 Madras.

Financial

F. W.ˢ 305

G.O., 7th January 1876, No. 104

Nos. 219-20

Municipal- Sanitary.

Report on the Sanitary conditions of Madura forwarded to the President for report on the measures to be adopted to remedy the evils pointed out.