

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	1064	Press
		~~Mis.~~
14-15		
Dated	7-8-	1915

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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Fort St. George, Judicial Consultation, 10th August 1858.

No. 14. Read the following letter from W. KNOX, Esq., Collector of Masulipatam; to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated 15th July 1858, No. 25.

SIR,

E. M. Consultation 7th January 1858, No. 28.

* Dated 16th June 1858.

Para. 1. With reference to the orders of Government, on the formation of a Sibbundy Corps for this District, having its Head Quarters at Juggiahpettah, I deem it my duty to forward copy of a letter* from Dr. Nash in which he gives it as his opinion that Juggiahpettah is too unhealthy to be selected as such, and proposes his own station Bezoarah.

2. Since that was written, I have made every enquiry I could, to satisfy myself on this important point, for though there can be no doubt that Juggiahpettah ought to be the Head Quarter Station from its position, and liability to be attacked, the health of the men and Officers of the Masulipatam Sibbundy Corps deserve every consideration. I applied to Dr. Johnston the Medical Officer in charge of this Station, and of the Regiment, but he could not give a decided opinion; he did not consider Lieutenant Hurst's case a conclusive one as that Officer was a valetudinarian, but he says "if the soil is abundantly ferruginous, Dr. Nash's opinion is certainly supported by observation, and science. I may add that the men of Lieutenant Hurst's Detachment had all lately returned from Rangoon, and were therefore more liable to attacks of fever than they otherwise would have been; they were, I am given to understand, under canvas while at Juggiahpettah, and Mr. M. C. Chase, the Sub-Collector attributes the sickness to bad water procured from a small nullah. Mr. Chase has been encamped at Juggiahpettah at different seasons of the year. In November and December his people suffered from fever, in February and March, they were free from sickness. I add the three last paras. of his letter.

"Para. 2. I think the prevalence of fever during the cold months of the year and scarcity of good drinking water in the hot months render Juggiahpettah undesirable as a station for Troops."

"3. I would observe however that fever prevails more or less in most of the villages of the Sub-Collectorate during the cold months, and that strangers are the principal sufferers from it, also that this last season was a peculiarly dry one, and that the supply of water in the River and Tank does not usually fail at so early a part of the year as the month of March."

"4. The Town of Juggiahpettah is large and well built with wide streets, and is rarely visited by epidemics."

3. I would particularly beg attention to Mr. Chase's remark about strangers being more subject to fever than those who are acclimated, the men of the Sibbundies are, with very few exceptions, men from the neighbouring Talooks, they will be comfortably hutted and settled, and I have requested the District Engineer to estimate for the construction of a good well in the lines which shall be submitted to Government for sanction along with the estimate for Military buildings, and I cannot but hope that the lines will then be as healthy as Mr. Chase reports the town now to be, and though at Captain Ansley's request I forward Dr. Nash's letter, I do not consider he has made out a sufficiently strong case to warrant the giving up of Juggiahpettah. Should Government however agree with Dr. Nash, and it is given up, as there must be a Detachment at Ellore, and this is not required at Bezoarah, I think Ellore should be selected for the Head Quarter Station, but on this point, I beg the orders of Government.

From J. P. NASH, M. D., Assistant Surgeon in Medical charge, District Engineer's Department, Kistna Division; to the Officer Commanding Sibbundy Corps, Masulipatam, dated Bezoarah, 16th June 1858, No. 30.

SIR,

I have the honor to solicit the favor of your informing me whether it is the intention of Government to station the Sibbundy Corps under your Command at the unhealthy village of Juggiahpettah.

I also consider it my duty to bring to your notice the fact that the inhabitants of the above village are entirely dependent upon two or three Wells and a small Tank for their drinking water, and which is rendered very scarce during certain months of the year, the soil is ferruginous, and like that of Condapully, an adjacent village, and from which the guard of Sepoys was removed last year solely on account of the malignant type of fever generally prevailing in that portion of the Masulipatam District.

Fort St. George, Judicial Consultation, 10th August 1858.

The Sub-Collector of Masulipatam (who resides at this Station) informs me that he has "strongly recommended Bezoarah as the fittest Station for the Head Quarters of your Corps, and from which guards might be furnished periodically to Juggiahpettah, and Ragapore," by this arrangement, I think I may safely assert a great prevention to sickness, and a greater efficiency of the Corps would be secured, as Bezoarah enjoys an excellent climate, has a plentiful supply of water, an Hospital to which the sick might resort for treatment, and where you would also discover the lines, barracks, &c., lately occupied by the F. Company of Sappers and Miners, and which might be put into thorough repair for a much less sum than what would be required for building new ones at Juggiahpettah.

Conceiving that the sanitary condition of Cantonments should be held in nearly as much consideration as their Military fitness, I trust you will do me the honor of submitting a copy of this communication to the Collector of Masulipatam, and whose conclusions on the subject I shall be happy to receive at your earliest convenience.

I may also take the opportunity of mentioning that Lieutenant W. P. Hurst late in command of the Detachment of 7th Regiment N. I., now at Juggiahpettah was invalided a few weeks ago on account of the injuries which his health sustained during his residence at the above unhealthy village.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) F. C. ANSLEY, Captain,
Commanding Sibbundj Corps.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) R. J. MELVILLE,
Assistant Collector.

No. 15.

ORDER THEREON, No. 1064; dated 7th August 1858.

Before passing orders on the foregoing communication, the Government direct that the Superintending Surgeon, Northern Division, be called upon, through the Director General, Medical Department, for Returns of the state of health of the Detachments that have been located at Juggiahpettah for some years past.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

Exd. F. Cartledge:

hullah. Mr. Chau has been encamped at Juggiahpettah at different seasons of the year. In November, and December his people suffered from fever. In February, and March they were free from sickness. I add the three last paras of his letter.

"Para 2 I think the prevalence of fever during the cold months of the year, and scarcity of good drinking water in the hot months render Juggiahpettah undesirable as a station for Troops."

"3 I would observe however that fever prevails more or less in most of the Villages of the Sub Collectorate during the cold months, and that Strangers are the principal sufferers from it. also that this last season was peculiarly dry one, and that the supply of water in the River & Tank does not usually fail at so early a part of the year as the month of March."

"4 The Town of Juggiahpettah is large

Let them sink wells

"and well built with wide streets, and
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the District Engineer to estimate for
the construction of a good well in
the lines which shall be submitted
to Government for sanction along with
the Estimate for military buildings, &
I cannot but hope that the lines I
will then be as healthy as Mr. Chase
reports the town now to be, and tho'
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strong case to warrant the giving
up

No 30

To The Officer Commanding
Sebundy Corps
Masulipatam
Sir,

I have the honor to solicit the
favor of your informing me whether it
is the intention of Government to station
the Sebundy Corps under your command
at the unhealthy village of Juggiahpetta.

I also consider it my duty to bring
to your notice the fact that the inhabitants
of the above village are entirely dependent
upon two or three wells and a small
tank for their drinking water, and which
is rendered very scarce during certain
months of the year, the soil is ferruginous,
and like that of Condapully, an adjacent
village, and from which the guard of Sepoys
was removed last year solely on account
of the malignant type of fever generally
prevailing in that portion of the Masu-
lipatam District.

The Sub Collector of Masulipatam
who

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village, but the
water is so
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that it is
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drinking
I thought
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the fact of
some of the
wells being
contaminated
by the
garbage of
the village
I have
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Sepoys
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year

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Concerning that the sanitary condition of cantonments should be held in nearly as much consideration as their military fitness, I trust you will do me the honor of submitting a copy of this communication to the

Mirza Department

No 1288

From the Collector of Mussulpatam
Dated 15th July 1858.

For orders

I never heard such nonsense.
Juggiahpettah is the finest situation in the Malak District, & as healthy as any part of the Malak District - large mercantile population - from all parts of all countries, Malabar, Madras, Bombay, Gujarat & no one ever heard of its being unhealthy now. The fact I repeat is that it is an out of the way place & more interesting to visit. Well, to get to a

Juggiahpettah for years is the

I got to a more accessible
locality - I was so camped there
for two months in the cold
weather & more was in a better
place - There are plenty of
wells of excellent water &
the soil is barren & very high
dry - The best plan will be
to call on the Capt. Surgeon
N. D. Kirk the Dr. sent for during
the detachments who have been
located there for years
or then a regular plan will be
made off.

Judicial Department

1010614

Extract from the Minutes of Council
dated 7 August 1858 -

Read the following letter
from the Collector of Masulipatam
(He enters 15th July 1858 No 25.)

W

W M

State of health of the

Before passing orders on
the foregoing communication
the Govt. directed that the Super-
intending Surgeon, Northern Divi-
sion, be called upon, thro' the
Director General, Medical Dept.
+
for returns of the detachments
that have been located at Sag-
some part
-gialpettah for years without
any complaint ever being made
regarding its unhealthiness.

JP

Copy to Director Genl. M. Dept. Dispt. 10th

14915

Feb 1622.

27th August 1858.

Exhorted Morris of London

27th 1854

Re. 2nd 10. 1858
Official 1858. 1858.