

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1274	Press Mis.
71-72. Dated 8.9.1865	19

4/5

Not to be folded or roughly handled*6.9.20*

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department

8th September 1865.

No. 71. Read the following Proceedings of Government in the Military Department, dated 28th August 1865, No. 3186.

Approving of the experimental adoption
for one of the Native Infantry Regi- (Vide Proceedings, Military Department,
ments in Madras, of the revised plan { dated 28th August 1865, Nos. 707—709.
of a latrine, on the dry earth system.

No. 72. ORDER THEREON, 8th September 1865, No. 1274.

Copies furnished to the Inspector General of Jails and Commissioner of Police
for information.

(Signed) A. J. ARBUTHNOT,
Chief Secretary.

To the Inspector General of Jails.
" Commissioner of Police.

Ed. J. Tulloch.

MILITARY DEPARTMENT.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following papers:—

From the Quarter Master General, Head Quarters, Ootacamund, 2nd August 1865, No. ²⁹⁰/₇₈₃₉; to the Secretary to Government, Military Department, Fort Saint George.

Government is aware that for some time past, measures have been taken, in communication with the Public Works Department and the Sanitary Commission, for establishing a standard plan for a Native Latrine on the dry earth system, and at length it is believed that that object has been attained.

2. The plan herewith forwarded is a modification of a plan sent from Cuttack for a Regiment of 800 men. Considerable trouble has been taken in devising the details of this building, the cost of which is stated to be 1,723 Rupees at Presidency rates.

3. The Commander-in-Chief recommends that the plan be adopted as an experiment at Madras for one Regiment.

4. The Sanitary Commission have also suggested means, whereby the existing open Latrines at Madras may be converted into closed buildings on the new system, at a cost of about 3,500 Rupees each.

5. It does not appear, however, clear why the charge should be so great for alterations, if a new building sufficient for the use of 800 men only costs half that amount. The Commander-in-Chief would not recommend that any thing should be done to the existing buildings, until the experiment has proved a success in the new building.

6. Correspondence connected with this subject is forwarded for the information of Government.

7. The cost of the Establishment needed for this Latrine, with other details, will be communicated to Government shortly. The Sanitary Commission were asked to give them some time ago, but it has not been yet done.

From the Officiating President Sanitary Commission, Madras, 26th July 1865, No. 290; to the Quarter Master General.

With reference to the plan received with your Memorandum, No. 5653, dated 23rd May 1865, and the remarks contained in paragraphs 11 to 13 (inclusive) of my letter, No. 144 dated 17th June 1865, to your address, I have now the honor to submit the observations of this Commission upon the plan in question, which, with the specification* and other accompaniments, I return herewith.

2. On the arrival of Mr. Chisholm at Madras, that gentleman was requested to join this Commission and to explain his plan in detail.

3. It was our unanimous opinion that while this plan possessed great merit in the cheapness of its construction and the central position of the earth-shed, it was not sufficiently secured against undue exposure of the persons using it, and further, it, appeared to this Commission that the proposed separation of the solid and fluid excreta was not only unnecessary, but was also liable to give rise to nuisance, while the removal of 24 urinal boxes would probably be attended with some difficulty and would necessitate a large amount of manual labour.

4. As Mr. Chisholm concurred in these views, he was solicited to prepare for us a Plan* for a Latrine constructed on the plan of one now existing in the Jail at Bangalore, and which has been found to answer very well indeed.

Appendix A.

5. The principles of its construction are as follows:—on a platform sufficiently raised an earth trough is erected at each side, of which a channel faced with granite, or asphalt, is sunk: into this channel the excreta are passed, the persons using the Latrine standing or squatting on the foot-way on each side.

6. Earth is added by the Sweeper from time to time, and morning and evening the two channels are cleaned out by the Attendants who sweep the Poudrette to a common platform, at the ends of the Privies, from which it is shovelled into carts, under shelter, in each end of the building.

7. A capacious earth store is provided in the centre of two adjacent Latrines, and these may be used for males and females respectively, or for different wings, or sections, of Regiments, as may be desired.

8. Perfect privacy is secured to the persons using the Latrine. Perflation is ensured by ample ventilation louvred openings in the walls, and by the ridge opening, and the whole building is not only slightly in appearance, but moderate in cost.

9. For ordinary Regimental use this Latrine is strongly approved by this Commission. It is cheap, easily worked, and so simple in details that probably a few days' experience would make Sepoys use it freely.

10. Although less elaborate than the plan proposed by this Commission, yet it will probably fulfil the intended object equally well, and being constructed of materials every where available, the immediate erection of trial Latrines on this model might be at once commenced.

11. As in many Cantonments, and in Madras itself open Latrines are now in existence, Mr. Chisholm kindly designed for this Commission a plan* of utilizing the existing boundary walls of these enclosures so as to convert them into

* *Appendix B.*

Latrines constructed on the principle explained in paragraphs 5 to 8 of this letter.

12. I desire to express regret that this subject should not have been reported upon earlier, but I was unwilling that any definite plan should be submitted by this Commission until they had acquired the fullest information on it. It is also satisfactory that we should now be able, by Mr. Chisholm's kindness, to submit to you a plan, combining, to apparently the greatest possible extent, cheapness of construction, facility of supervision, thorough cleanliness and complete privacy.

APPENDIX B.

Existing Latrines.

The existing Latrines in Madras may be utilized in the following way. One measures 60 × 60 and the other 60' × 50' with a cross wall, plan No. 2, on the opposite page is a plan of the former. The black lines show the existing walls, and the red the necessary additions. The coping of the existing walls would have to be removed and the wall raised in open brick-work 3 feet or 8 feet over the ground level. An inspection of the Plan will render the other alterations and additions apparent. The cost of such alterations would be about 3,500 Rupees. The cost of building a new Latrine affording equal accommodation about 4,100 Rupees.

In the smaller Latrine (half of which is devoted to the use of women) it would be advisable to remove the central wall altogether, which would leave the plan of the existing walls as at W, W, W, W.

The central compartment might be devoted to women and rendered private by raising the thin wall L A A, say 6 feet high. The size of the earth stores would be of course reduced. The probable cost of altering this Latrine would be Rupees 2,900, the cost of erecting a new Latrine affording equal accommodation, 3,400 Rupees.

MADRAS,
21st July 1865.

(Signed) R. CHISHOLM,
Civil Engineer.

From the Officiating President Sanitary Commission, Madras, 5th August 1865,
No. 311; to the Secretary to Government, Military Department, Fort St. George.

I have this day received from the Quarter Master General a copy of his letter to you, dated 2nd August, No. 290, having reference to a standard form of Latrine

on the dry earth principle, which this Commission recommends should be erected for the use of Native Troops and Followers throughout the country.

2. Prior to the receipt of this letter, I had forwarded to him a communication, copy of which is enclosed, having reference to this Latrine, and carrying, as far as present data will permit us, the views of this Commission regarding the Establishment required for each building, a subject referred to in the 7th paragraph of Lieutenant Colonel Scott's letter to you.

3. The difference of cost between the structures noted in the 1st and 2nd paragraphs and in the 4th and 5th paragraphs of his letter to you will be sufficiently apparent by an inspection of the plan—you will observe that the accommodation proposed in that adverted to in the two latter paragraphs, is three times in excess of that referred to in the two former.

4. The conversion of present structures referred to in my letter to the Quarter Master General into the established new model, had reference only to the utilization of the open walls surrounding the square Latrines in the town of Madras and not to those at present attached to Native Corps.

From the Officiating President Sanitary Commission, Madras, 4th August 1865, No. 308; to the Quarter Master General.

With reference to the enclosed communication* regarding the future fixed Establishment for Latrines on the dry earth principle for Native Regiments throughout this Presidency, we will observe that it is not possible for this Commission to furnish the Acting Controller of Military Accounts with the information he desires, except

* *From the Acting Controller of Military Accounts No. 372, dated 28th July 1865, with 7 enclosures.*
(To be returned.)

in consultation with you; I therefore request early information from you on the following heads:—

1st. Which form of Latrine now before you does His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief desire to accept as that best calculated for Native Soldiers and their families? The opinion of this Commission is that that last submitted is the most suitable.

2nd. Is it His Excellency's opinion that these should be placed to the right and left of each set of Regimental Lines, so far as their several positions of these admit of this arrangement?

3rd. What is the average number of both sexes who will require to resort to these Privies and what in His Excellency's opinion should be the maximum number allowed to visit each Latrine? This Commission are of opinion that 600 should be the maximum number.

4th. This Commission consider that for Privies constructed on the principles forwarded to you on 26th ultimo, not less than one Totyman for each hundred of strength should be allotted. If His Excellency concurs in this they recommend that, as an experimental measure, this be ordered. The system to be carefully watched and reported upon by each Regimental Authority every month for six months, after which it will be again re-considered.

5th. As regards the carts to be allowed (in the event of no private parties coming forward with dry earth in return for the "Poudrette") supposing that each person of both sexes, young and old, require on an average 3lbs. of earth for each discharge, one cart-load of five cwt. should bring sufficient for 200, the number which we recommend to be allotted to one Privy.

6th. Civil and Military Authorities should encourage Native agriculturists around their respective stations to use the Poudrette as manure. But perhaps in the first instance it would be better for Government during the above experimental working of the system, at once to assume that the Poudrette is too valuable to be offered thus gratuitously, and that the better plan would be to store it in the excavations made to procure the earth in well formed heaps at a distance to leeward of Cantonment, and at a fixed date, after due intimation has been given, sell it by auction.

7th. I will thank you to bring this subject to the early notice of His Excellency, and to forward his views with those of this Commission for the decision of Government.

ORDER, No. 3186, 28th August 1865.

The Governor in Council approves of the plan submitted for a Latrine for Natives, and sanctions the experiment, recommended in the foregoing letter from the Quarter Master General, being adopted in one of the Native Regiments stationed at Madras.

3. The details for Establishment advertised to in the letter from the Sanitary Commission to the Quarter Master General, will be arranged departmentally, the probable extra cost being reported to Government through the Controller of Military Accounts, who will at the same time inform Government in what manner the charge can be met—it will also be necessary to report how it is proposed to dispose of the "*Poudrette*" from the Latrine in question.

Amurillo 500
Deputy Secretary to Government.

„ President Sanitary Commission.
 „ Public Works Department, with 2 Plans & two Enclosures
 „ Controller of Military Accounts.
 „ Principal Inspector General, Medical Department.
 „ Adjutant General.
 „ Barrack Master Presidency.
 „ Military Accountant.
 „ Examiner Pay Department.
 „ Commissary General.
 „ Judicial Department, for information. With 2 plans & 2 copies

At 12/4-3, 19th Dec. 1891-
Copies furnished to the Inspectors
General of Tails and Commissioner,
Police for information.

To the Inspector General of Police,
"Commissioner of Police,"

July 1, 1908 } Clergyman / 05
Mar 25 / 06 }

Proceedings of the
Military Department
Nov 3/85

201849

Of the coming of the Spirit
 sanctified and the presence
 of the Father and Son by the
 promise and blessing of
 the promised Father of
 nations, with the day of
 15

Exd T. Stables.

W. J. Baker