

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	1105	Press
		~~Mis.~~
Dated	11. 7. 1867	19

Not to be folded or roughly handled

4/5

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,
11th July 1867.*

No. 130. Read the following Proceedings of Government in the Public Works Department, dated 3rd July 1867, No. 1978.

Communicating papers from Government of India regarding the dry earth system of conservancy in Jails. } (Vide Proceedings, Public Works Department, dated 3rd July 1867, Nos. 84 & 85).

No. 131. ORDER THEREON, 11th July 1867, No. 1105.

Communicated to the Inspector General of Jails, Municipal Commissioners, Madras, and the Sanitary Commissioner, in reference to G. O. dated the 21st May last, No. 827.

(Signed) R. S. ELLIS,
Acting Chief Secretary.

To the Inspector General of Jails.

„ Municipal Commissioners, Madras.
„ Sanitary Commissioner.
„ Military Department.

Exd. J. Tulloch.

2

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department.
3rd July 1867.

No. 84. Read the following Circular from the Government of India, Public Works Department, (Military Works), dated Simla, the 10th June 1867, No. 50 :—

Governments, Madras, Bombay, Bengal, North-Western Provinces, and Punjab.
Chief Commissioners, Oudh, Central Provinces, and British Burmah.
Commissioner of Mysore.
Resident at Hyderabad.
Agents, Governor General, Central India, and Rajpootana.
Military Department.
Adjutant General.
Quarter Master General.
Sanitary Commissioner for Bengal.

Copy of the following letter from the Sanitary Commissioner for Bengal, forwarded to the Local Governments and Administrations, and to the Public Officers and Departments noted on the margin, for information and guidance, with special reference to the question of dry earth conservancy treated of in the papers which accompanied Public Works Department Circular No. 28, dated 16th March 1867.

By Order, &c.,

(Signed) C. H. DICKENS, Colonel, R. A.,
Secretary to the Government of India.

From the Sanitary Commissioner for Bengal, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Public Works Department, dated Simla, 30th April 1867, No. 238.

1. With reference to your Circular No. 28, dated the 16th March, copy of which was lately received for information, I have the honour to observe that, while fully agreeing with Dr. Mouat as regards the great value of the dry earth system of conservancy especially in jails, the plan of latrine recommended for adoption is by no means well adapted for the purpose. It is much more elaborate than desirable. During my recent tour I have had an opportunity of inspecting the latrines used in many jails, and have found that a simple shed provided with earthen-ware pans forms an admirable priy for prisoners. All such contrivances, as "scuttles for earth," "urinal boxes on wheels," and "holes for shooting the earth," are not only unnecessary, but must interfere with that extreme cleanliness which attends the greatest simplicity of structure. Were such latrines as given in the plan generally introduced into jails, the expense would be very great, while the money that would thus be diverted might be expended with very much greater advantage on other jail works of much more pressing necessity. Moreover, it is very undesirable, both as regards discipline and sanitary considerations, that one latrine should be frequented by 500 prisoners as proposed.

2. There is another important question alluded to in the extract from Dr. Mouat's report which accompanies the Circular under reference. He there expresses his opinion that the "burying of sewage in jail gardens is a dangerous proceeding," and "one extremely liable to be injurious to health;" and, moreover, entertains little doubt "that the burying of large quantities of dried ordure mixed with sand in the garden of the Central Jail at Lahore, has been the chief causa of the great sickness that prevailed there." Dr. Mouat's remarks were made nearly two years ago. Since that time many important facts have come to light with reference to the special form of sickness which caused so great mortality in the Lahore and other Jails, and the evidence appears to me to prove in the most conclusive manner that there are no grounds for believing that the sickness was due, in any way, to the burying of sewage in the jail gardens. Sewage is now buried in, I may say, all the jail gardens of the North-Western Provinces and Punjab; and so long as it is buried in such a way as to act as manure, I believe it could not be disposed of in a better or safer manner. In last Annual Sanitary Report* I drew attention to Dr. Mouat's opinion on the origin of the jail fever, with a view of showing that it rested on an insufficient basis, and I am anxious that the circulation of his

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department.
3rd July 1867.

opinion by the Government of India should not interfere with the excellent conservancy arrangements that are now generally carried out in the jails of Upper India.

No. 85.

ORDER THEREON, 3rd July 1867, No. 1,978.

CIVIL WORKS, No. 9.

Communicated to the Judicial Department and to the Superintending Engineers in continuation of G. O. of the 14th May 1867, No. 1,454.

(True Extract.)



Colonel, R. E.,

Secretary to Government.

To the Judicial Department. ✓
.. Superintending Engineers.
To Captain Kennedy.

Erd. S. T. Augustia.

no: 27th May 1867 at 10 1/2 1/2
no: 3rd June 1867 at 10 1/2 1/2

but of 16 July

no: 11 July
no: 11 July

no: 11 July
no: 11 July

no: 11 July
no: 11 July

no: 11 July
no: 11 July

130.131.

130.131.

11 July 1867 17:1105

Communicate to the
Journal of facts, summary
Communications, and
to Sunday Communications
in reference to G. S. L.
the 21st May cont. 1867

1105

no: 11 July 1867 17:1105
no: 11 July 1867 17:1105
no: 11 July 1867 17:1105
no: 11 July 1867 17:1105