

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 77	<u>Press</u> <u>Mis</u>
Dated 15-1-1867	

137-138

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Not to be folded or roughly handled

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,
15th January 1867.*

No. 137. Read the following Proceedings of Government in the Public Works Department, dated 22nd November 1866, No. 3732.

Communicating the standard plan, approved by the Government of India, for Lunatic Asylums in India. } (Vide Proceedings, Public Works Department, dated 22nd November 1866, Nos. 500 & 501.)

No. 138. ORDER THEREON, 15th January 1867, No. 77.
Communicated to the Inspector General of Jails.

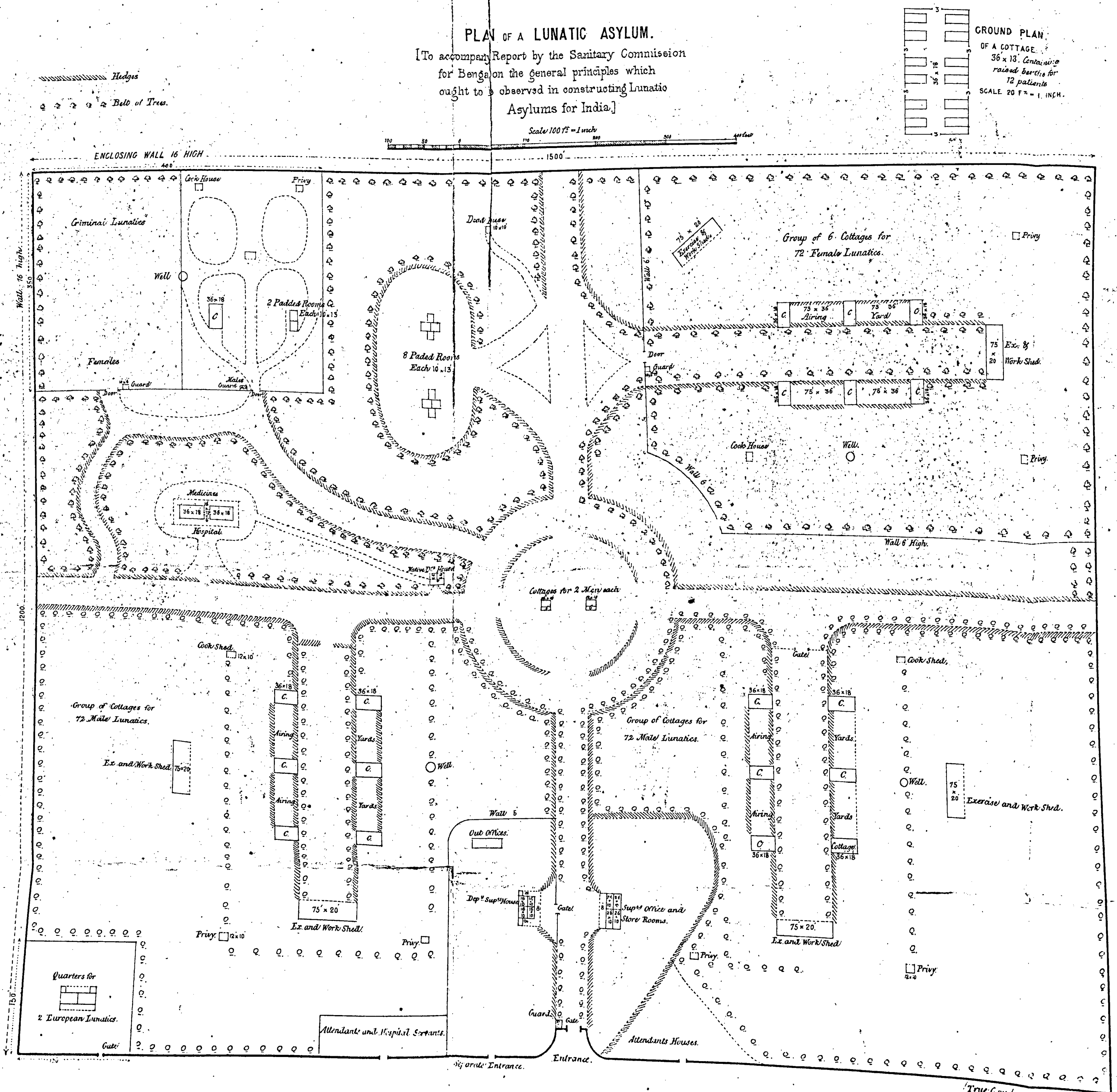
(Signed) A. J. ARBUTHNOT,
Chief Secretary.

To the Inspector General of Jails.

[To accompany Report by the Sanitary Commission
for Bengal on the general principles which
ought to be observed in constructing Lunatic
Asylums for India.]

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for Bengal on the general principles which
ought to be observed in constructing Lunatic
Asylums for India.]

Scale 100 ft = 1 inch



Government Litho Press (Chopank)
Madras December 1866

Approved by V.R. Guleri & T. Senthilraja by J. Narasimhan

True Copy
Charles J. Orr
Colonel P. E.
Secretary to Government P. E.

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Plan referred to in
G.O. No. 3732 date 622?
November 1866

J. P. 15 Jan 1867
Inc 137

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
22nd November 1866.*

No. 500. Read the following Circular from the Government of India, Public Works Department, (Civil Works—Buildings,) dated Simla, 17th October 1866, No. 90:—

Standard Plan for Lunatic Asylums in India.

Read again—

Report by the Sanitary Commission for Bengal, on the general principles to be observed in the construction of Lunatic Asylums in India, with Appendix and Plan.

RESOLUTION.—The Governor General in Council authorizes the adoption of the plan furnished by the Sanitary Commission for Bengal as a standard for Lunatic Asylums in India. The cost, however, should be kept as low as possible, and in this view, the huts or cottages for the lunatics should, where such a mode of construction is practicable, be simple kutcha buildings, in which the use of burnt-bricks and lime should be strictly excluded. Rough timber should also be used generally for the roof framing.

Governments of Madras, Bombay, Bengal,
North-Western Provinces, and Punjab.
Chief Commissioners of Oudh, Central Provin-
ces, and British Burmah.
Commissioners of Mysore and Coorg.
Resident at Hyderabad.
Agents to the Governor General for Rajpootana
and Central India.

ORDER.—Ordered, that copies of the Report by the Sanitary Commission, with enclosures, and of this Resolution, be forwarded to the Governments and Administrations marginally noted, for information and guidance.

(Signed) C. H. DICKENS, Lieut.-Colonel, R. A.,
Secy. to the Govt. of India.

Report by the Sanitary Commission for Bengal, on the general principles to be observed in the construction of Lunatic Asylums in India (with a Plan and Appendix).

On the 14th April 1864, the Government of India, in the Public Works Department, (letter No. C. 1173), forwarded to the Sanitary Commission certain papers concerning the erection of a Lunatic Asylum at Agra, with a plan of the buildings proposed, and called on the Commission for an opinion generally with regard to the project, and specially with reference to three points—

1st.—The style of the buildings which should be adopted.

2nd.—The necessity of double enclosure walls round the dwellings of the violent and criminal lunatics; and

3rd.—The space to be enclosed to accommodate 150 lunatics, which, it was remarked, "seems needlessly large."

On the 17th June 1864 (letter No. 4424, Public Works Department), the Government of India having called for an early expression of the Commission's views on the subject, the President replied that it appeared very desirable to take up the whole question of the construction of Lunatic Asylums generally, and the Commission would, therefore, postpone the submission of the Special Report called for on the Agra plans.

On the 7th September 1864, the Secretary to the Bengal Government, in the Public Works Department, with his letter No. 4,454, forwarded original papers and plans connected with the erection of an Asylum at Berhampoor, and requested that the Lieutenant Governor might be favored with any remarks which the Commission might consider the design of the proposed Asylum to call for.

Having resolved to consider the whole question of the construction of Lunatic Asylums, the Commission, in June 1864, addressed the Governments of Bengal, the North-Western Provinces, and the Punjab, the Chief Commissioners of Oudh, the Central Provinces, and British Burmah, and the Inspector General of the Medical Department, requesting to be furnished with the Reports which had from time to time been made by Officers in charge of existing Asylums, and also with any other papers calculated to supply the desired information. At the same time, several of the Superintendents of such Institutions in this Presidency, and other Officers who had given special attention to the subject of lunacy, were called on for an expression of their views as to the general principles which should be attended to in the construction of Lunatic Asylums in this country, both for Europeans and Natives.

To these Circular letters numerous replies have been received. Dr. Payne, Superintendent of Lunatic Asylums at the Presidency, has favored the Commission with a succinct and valuable statement of the general principles which he believes ought to be held in view, and his experience gives great weight to his opinion. A copy of this letter is appended. Dr. Smith, the Civil Surgeon, Lahore, has expressed his views in a plan which he suggests for adoption; and another plan has been recommended by Dr. W. Walker, late Officiating Inspector General of Prisons, North-Western Provinces. With the exception of these communications, no information or suggestion calculated to give much aid to the Commission on this enquiry has been received, and no more can now be looked for.

The Commission proposed to consider the whole question of the construction of Asylums, both for Europeans and Natives; but the weight of opinion is so decidedly adverse to the retention of any insane European in India, that it would be useless to discuss what buildings would be best suited for the accommodation and treatment of this class in this country.

The first principles of treatment point to removal to a cooler climate and to his own country, as the means of all others most calculated to promote recovery, and which ought to be carried out in every case with as little delay as possible. *Temporary* quarters for insane Europeans are, however, at times urgently required, and every Lunatic Asylum in India ought, therefore, to be provided with some means for their accommodation. The plan is by no means free from objection, but it appears to be the least objectionable that can, under the circumstances, be devised.

The questions for the Commission to consider thus practically resolve themselves into two: *first*, what are the general principles which ought to guide the construction of dwellings for the insane; and *secondly*, how can these principles be best carried out so as to meet the peculiar wants and requirements of the Natives of India?

Of late years great strides have been made in the management of lunatics. These unfortunate beings are no longer regarded merely as objects of danger to the community to be shut up in what was virtually a prison. The great aim in constructing an Asylum should be to make it a place, not only of security, but of *cure*. "The recovery of the curable, the improvement of the incurable, the comfort and happiness of the patients, should be steadily kept in view by the architect. High and gloomy walls, narrow and inaccessible windows must be avoided;" and "the grand object to be kept in view, must be to provide for the insane so as to assimilate their condition, and the circumstances surrounding them, as nearly as possible to those of ordinary life." The less the insanes are dealt with as prisoners, the better; their safe custody must be made to depend on no high walls, but on the attention of kind and vigilant assistants. In constructing any Asylum, the *first* principle then is, that it shall have, as far as possible, none of the appearance or characteristics of a prison. An enclosing wall of some kind would be requisite, but it need be no more than five feet high, and its gaze and impertinent curiosity of visitors, than to protect the inmates from the by trees and shrubs, could have no bad effect.

In the *second* place, there must be a *liberal* allowance of space, both in order to allow of the patients taking free exercise within the grounds, and also of their engaging in farming and gardening operations, which offer such an admirable means of useful occupation to the insane.

Thirdly.—The dwellings must be such as to admit of classification, and at the same time of constant and easy inspection. It is no longer the custom to confine together all who are suffering from the same description of madness, classing together all the monomaniacs, all the epileptics, all the melancholics, &c., &c. But it is very important to separate the violent and the calm, the noisy and the quiet, the neat and the filthy. They should be classed according to habits, employments, and capabilities, so that those may be put together who are least likely to injure, and most likely to benefit each other.

In the *fourth* place, distinct accommodation must be provided for *criminal lunatics*. These men are prisoners; they frequently feign madness, in order to escape more severe punishment; and the portion of the Asylum devoted to their reception must have all the security of an ordinary Jail.

Fifthly.—The women must be kept rigidly separate and distinct from the other inmates.

Sixthly.—The quarters occupied at night ought not to be used during the day. Out-door exercise is of the greatest importance, and this should be secured under the shade of trees; or in wet weather, in galleries or sheds erected for the purpose. The sun's rays should be specially avoided, as highly productive of cerebral excitement.

Seventhly.—But in addition to exercise, means must be provided for giving regular employment to the insane. Than this nothing has a more tranquilizing influence on their minds, and nothing ranks so high as a means of improving their condition and promoting recovery. Workshops must, therefore, be considered as an indispensable portion of any well-constructed Asylum.

Eighthly.—A few padded-rooms are required for the seclusion of the violent; but the use even of this means of restraint is becoming every day of less frequent occurrence under the more enlightened principles by which the treatment of the insane is now regulated. Three per cent. of such rooms will, it is believed, be found ample, and they should be placed as far as possible from the dwellings of the other patients so that they may not be excited or annoyed by the refractory.

The questions of the selection of a site, the supply of water, good drainage and ventilation, do not call for any special remark. These important points would have to be considered in erecting a Lunatic Asylum, exactly as they would in the case of any buildings designed for the reception of a number of human beings.

Ninthly.—In addition to the dwellings for the insane, a separate quarter for the criminals, and another for women, with the sheds for exercise and work, every Lunatic Asylum should have a hospital calculated to contain five per cent. of the population, with quarters for the Resident Medical Attendant, a house for the Deputy Superintendent, an Office and store-rooms for clothing, raw materials and manufactured goods, privies, wells, and cook-rooms.

How many patients ought to be assembled together in one Asylum? This is a question on which some difference of opinion exists, but all are agreed that the number should not exceed 250. Any plan, however, should be so arranged, that it may be capable of extension up to this point.

Having considered thus the general principles which should be followed in the construction of any Asylum, the practical point remains,—how can these principles be best carried out in constructing an Asylum suited for the reception and treatment of insanes among the natives of India?

The annexed plan proposes to meet these requirements; the enclosure being surrounded by a wall only five feet high, and that, as far as possible, masked by trees and shrubs, which also abound in every direction, would have all the appearance of a garden or pleasure ground, and in no respect resemble a prison. The area amounts to about 41 acres, rather less than what is recommended in Europe; but the space would, it is believed, be found ample, considering the more sedentary habits of the natives of India. The dwellings of the insane would consist of detached cottages. Six of these would form a group; two groups to be devoted to the reception of males; and a third group, separated as much as possible from the others and surrounded by a

wall, for females. Each cottage to be 36' x 18', to have six doors and a floor of well-rammed kun-kur, raised one foot above the level of the ground. Each is intended to receive twelve patients who would thus have 54 superficial feet of space per man. The doors of five of the cottages of each group to be of battens, the lower half of each being sparred for ventilation. In the sixth as to render the necessary restraint required for the few in each group, who needed such restraint, as little irksome as possible. Considering the free passage of air allowed by the doors so placed opposite to one another, and also the fact that the insane are peculiarly susceptible to cold, the ventilation in the roof should be completely under command. Fixed beds are particularly recommended for lunatics, and nothing could be devised better adapted to the natives of India than the raised berth of *kutchu* masonry designed by Dr. Stewart Clark, and now being introduced into the Jails of the North-Western Provinces. Each group of cottages is provided with two sheds, in fine weather, the patients may take exercise under the shelter of trees, have been formed by connecting contiguous cottages with green painted palings. A well, a cook-room, and two small privies complete each group, which is enclosed by a thick, well-kept hedge, four feet high. Trees and shrubs and flowers should be planted so as to afford as much shade, and please the eye, as much as possible; and abundance of space remains for farming operations. The privies should be of the very simplest construction; a few earthen pans placed on a layer of dry earth, form the best kind of necessary for natives. A screen wall, three feet high, is required for privacy, and, in order to carry out the "dry sewage" system, which should be scrupulously followed, a roof is necessary to afford protection from the weather. Two privies, each containing ten pans, will be found sufficient for each group of cottages; and to cover them, a small shed is all that is requisite. For night-soil, one or two covered pans, with a supply of dry earth, should be placed in each room. Where the inmates are not locked into the cottages, these arrangements should be placed at some little distance outside. A hospital, capable of containing five per cent. of the strength, has been provided. It consists of two wards placed end to end, each being the size of a cottage; and between them are a small entrance-room and a store-room, 12' x 10' to contain the medicines which ought to be carefully guarded. A verandah for exercise surrounds the whole. The hospital accommodation may appear small; but, in the event of more room being required, one of the cottages would be available, and that might be used for the sick. Eight padded rooms occupy a position as separate as can be. The dwelling-house for the Deputy Superintendent, who should always be an active and intelligent European, has been placed near the entrance; but, in order to afford protection to his family, it is surrounded by a wall, and the compound provided with a distinct entrance. An upper-storey, consisting of one small room, is recommended in order to serve the purpose of a watch tower, so that he can survey the whole Institution at a glance. Opposite the Deputy Superintendent's house is the building containing the Superintendent's Office and three store-rooms. Accommodation has also been designed for two insane Europeans, but their presence in the Asylum should invariably be regarded as a temporary measure. They have been placed as much apart as possible from the rest of the patients whose presence is apt to irritate. This part of the plan, however, need not be carried out, except in such large stations as are frequented by Europeans. In ordinary cases, the rare necessity of providing for a European lunatic for a few days, could be met by giving up the office or some other building. A small guard-shed is required for the same purpose at the women's and criminal lunatics' quarters. The latter have been placed in a distinct corner of the enclosure, surrounded by a 15 feet wall, and would be provided with every appliance calculated to promote recovery compatible with their safe custody. All the wells *chubootras* should be placed at some distance from the wells. The water so used could easily be collected in a circular drain, and carried off to be utilized in the garden. For baths, as a means of treatment, tubs should be provided. The trees should be planted, so that they may not afford means of scaling the wall, nor so as to drop their leaves into the wells. In the centre are one or

5. The institution should be within easy reach of its Superintendent, near a town, but not actually surrounded by buildings; this is for convenience of supplies as much as for the large proportionate number of lunatics which the populations of towns supply.

6. The sanitary considerations to be kept in view in selecting a site for a Lunatic Asylum, differ in no respect from those which would prevail in the case of a jail or any other institution for the confinement of large numbers of persons.

7. The extent of space required must be determined by the numbers of inmates, with due regard to prospective increase and the nature of the industrial occupation to be followed.

A liberally large garden is under all circumstances to be included in the grounds, for the recreation of those inmates who are unable to work, and from the certainty that in every Asylum a sufficient number of agricultural laborers will be found for its cultivation. Should the district in which the institution is to be situated be purely an agricultural one, it will be well to include in the enclosure sufficient space for the cultivation of crops in addition to the garden; but in manufacturing neighbourhoods, this will not be required. It is indispensable that in space, as in every other particular, the arrangement of an Asylum should be made to subserve the prime object of enabling the lunatic to follow, as nearly as possible, the employment of his rational life. This is the employment that he is most ready to adopt in his insanity, and that which affords him the best chance of a remedial result.

8. The enclosure of the Asylum grounds should not be effected with masonry walls—nothing contributes so much to an appearance of cheerless confinement; even if the grounds be extensive, they should still be surrounded only by a low parapet surmounted by palisades or iron railing, unless the limit be so far removed from the centre as to be absolutely out of sight. In some English Asylums a sunken fence is employed.

9. In many points the refined care that is devoted to the avoidance of unpleasant appearances in Europe is, as I shall presently exemplify, altogether inapplicable in India, but in the case of walls it is not so. A Native is as sensitive to the restraint which a wall suggests as an European, for the simple reason that he is equally unused to it in his own home.

10. Moreover, it is not necessary, or even desirable, that the walls of an Asylum should afford perfect security against the escape of a lunatic. It has been observed in England, and I am persuaded that the observation is true in much higher degree in India, that perfect security against escape renders attendants less diligent than they should be in watching and ministering to the patients under their charge. If escape be possible, that attendant is always on the alert, for he knows that escape must be detected by the Overseer immediately, and the consequence of his alertness is, that a much closer supervision is exercised over other details, the neglect of which would not be so easy of detection, nor its exercise easy to enforce. I do not, of course, contend for facility of escape, but mention it in this place to show that no objection can be entertained to preference for a fence over a wall on the ground of insufficient security. In the instance of criminal lunatics special provision is called for, as I shall presently indicate.

11. The general plan of Asylum buildings should be such as to admit of additions and extensions without impairing symmetry of arrangement and facility of inspection. The Overseer's quarters should be so situated that he can command the whole, and, if possible, the work-sheds also.

12. To each block or range of rooms a moderate sized court should be attached, bounded by parapet and rail. Each room to contain from 10 to 15 inmates. Three or four such rooms are sufficient to constitute one block, and each separate enclosure should contain no other rooms but these—no place where servants can idle or separate themselves from their charge while on duty—cells for seclusion, or padded rooms, to be in a remote part of the institution to prevent annoy-

two small cottages where patients of a better class, and whose friends are willing to pay for extra comforts and accommodation, might be placed.

This plan, it is believed, will be found to be a vast improvement on any Asylum yet erected in, or, so far as known, designed for India, and to afford every requisite for the treatment of the insane with that kindness, tact, and sympathy, which are so indispensably requisite.

Judged by the principles which have been laid down, the plans proposed for Agra and Berhampoor must both be unhesitatingly condemned. They have much more in common with a prison, than with place designed for the treatment of the insane. Referring more particularly to the questions with regard to the Agra plan, which have been submitted for the Commission's opinion, the style of the buildings is not such as ought to be adopted, and double enclosure walls round the dwellings of the violent lunatics do not seem to be necessary. Whether a second wall is required to secure the criminals, is hardly a point for the Commission to decide. A single wall is believed to be sufficient, and has, therefore, been entered in the plan. The space allowed in the Agra plan is not excessive, nor, indeed, could less be well assigned for 150 patients.

While considering the questions of Lunatic Asylums, the Commission takes this opportunity of remarking that the system of having a few Asylums scattered at long intervals over the country, efficacious it should be early, and the high rate of mortality now prevailing among these unfortunates may, the Commission believes, be in great measure traceable to the length of time which, under present arrangements, so often elapses before a patient can reach a distant Asylum, and to the hardships and neglect which he is too apt to meet with on the road.

From Dr. A. PAYNE, Superintendent Lunatic Asylums at the Presidency, to the Secretary, Sanitary Commission for Bengal, dated 8th March 1865.

1. On my return from Europe I had the honor of receiving your communication No. 440, dated 17th June 1864, in which you desire me to furnish the Sanitary Commission with a statement of the principles which should, in my opinion, be kept in view in the construction of Lunatic Asylums for Europeans and Natives in India. In reply, I beg to offer the following observations.

2. The detention of insane Europeans in this country is, on many accounts, so very undesirable, that it is not my opinion necessary to take into consideration the construction of Asylums for them. The rare instances in which it is necessary to confine an European in civil life, pending his removal to a Presidency town, are met without difficulty by means at the disposal of District Magistrates, and insane soldiers are very well cared for with their Regiments until the time of their removal arrives. Thus, for a rare and transient exigency, it does not seem necessary to make further provision.

3. In dealing with the principles which should govern the construction of Native Asylum; I propose to arrange the subject under the following heads: 1.—Situation; 2.—Space; 3.—Means of enclosure; 4.—Character and arrangement of building; 5.—Means of ablution.

4. In choosing a situation for an Asylum, or determining the number of Asylums to be built throughout a Province, the first necessity is to avoid distance from the sources whence the inmates will be derived. In situations remote from an Asylum, the removal of a lunatic, however urgently it may be needed by his mental condition, is prevented by slight physical disabilities, and he is of necessity detained in places that may or may not be fit to receive him, or if he is strong and able to undertake a journey, he is too often in the course of it subjected to cruel treatment by his native guard, or allowed access to intoxicating drugs. For these reasons, Asylums should not only be centrally situated in the localities to which they belong, but they should also be as many as possible in number.

ance to others, or the spread among them of excitement, when any individual becomes the subject of it. Very few cells for these purposes are required, if three per cent. reckoned on the inmates be provided, it will suffice. So great is the tranquillizing influence of regular employment on Native lunatics that seclusion is very rarely required. In the Dullunda Asylum, I have, during a period of two years, but once secluded a patient for a quarter of an hour or thereabouts, and this would not have been requisite had it not been impossible, from causes independent of his malady, to give him employment suited to his case.

13. For an entire Asylum to be constructed on the principle of affording a separate cell to each lunatic would, in my opinion, be a very costly mistake. It is purposeless, and the method by which separate confinement is sometimes modified by placing open gratings in the partition walls, is worse than useless—it bars all the pleasure of companionship, while the inconvenience which one may sustain from a loquacious or frolicsome neighbour is in full operation.

14. Broad verandahs are not required if the Institution is adequately provided with work-sheds, to which the patients may betake themselves during the day. A narrow verandah on either side of a building is preferable to a broad one on one side only, and curtains of canvas or gunny may be made to hang from the eaves of these verandahs, to be used when required.

15. In one corner of each room there should be a small closet to serve as a night privy—a masonry seat fitted with a common copper stool pan answers extremely well.

16. A day privy is provided in the corner of each court-yard; and in the Dullunda Asylum it is found convenient to have a privy in the garden near the work-sheds.

17. A block of buildings, such as this that I have briefly sketched, will answer perfectly well for the accommodation of Native patients who are above the rank of paupers and willing to pay for superior comfort.

18. No upper-stories are advisable; a well-raised ground floor for all Asylum buildings is to be preferred.

19. No servants' houses should be suffered to occupy any situation within easy reach of the wards. Indeed, the only offices required to be strictly within the walls of the Institution are the Overseer's quarters, Native Doctor's quarters, a Superintendent's Office, which serves also as a Board-room for official visitors—a Dispensary, Store-rooms for provisions and clothing, and cook-rooms. The Overseer's quarters may very conveniently occupy the upper-storey of a central building, of which the Committee-room and Dispensary are on the ground-floor.

20. On the ventilation of the rooms I will only offer such remarks as the special circumstances of lunatics seem to call for.

21. Doors and windows should be full sized, and as many of the latter as possible. It does not appear to me advisable to have venetian shutters to the windows, nor closed panels with inspection plates to the doors. Whatever may be said against iron-bars for Asylums in Europe, where such things are not seen out of jails, they afford, in my opinion, by far the best means of occupying the pace devoted to doors and windows in India. The Native so frequently employs them in his own home that the sight of them can awaken no unpleasant association—and it may not be generally known that even to an European eye an iron-barred window loses all its gloomy repulsiveness if it be painted green or white instead of black, as it almost invariably is—while the advantages attending the use of iron-bars in India are indisputable.

22. A window space traversed inside, longitudinally, by iron-bars, and a door half-pannelled, half-barred (in all cases opening outwards) afford the readiest access of light and air: for, thus protected, the openings can be made on an ordinary level, and safety, light, air, and a cheerful look-out are at once secured, whereas, if an inappropriate dislike to bars be suffered to prevail, the door is planked up, and the windows being weak and unsafe, are removed to a distance above the ground that makes them as lateral ventilators comparatively useless, and converts what might be a light and cheerful room into a gloomy cell.

23. All barred spaces may be provided with planked shutters outside.

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24. In addition to these means of ventilation, the rooms should be furnished with the usual contrivances in the roof, so that in colder parts of the country, where warming may be necessary, and, indeed, on all occasions when it may be requisite to close the side openings, a free supply of air may be secured.

25. I refrain from entering further into particulars concerning warming, lighting, ventilation, draining, &c., as there is nothing of a special nature which is at the same time of extended application to be said regarding them—as also from recommending any particular form or plan of Asylum building. I have laid down what I conceive to be the principles which should govern the construction of Lunatic Asylums in India. Details of form may, with safety and advantage, be left to the determination of local circumstances or the judgment of local officers. If due regard be had to essential conditions, it matters little whether the building of an Asylum take a circular, rectangular, or any other form.

26. But as much has been, and frequently is, said about the so-called classification of lunatics, it may be as well to remark that the general rules of construction I have proposed make ample provision for all the classification that is needed. It is no longer thought prudent to collect epileptics in one ward, maniacs in another, melancholics in a third, and so on. Such a practice is mischievous in the last degree. The only classification that affords any advantage is the arranging in separate groups of those who have similar employment, capabilities, and habits, and this should be effected by the industrial system of the place, while other means exist of removing all noisy and mischievous individuals beyond the possibility of annoying others, or infecting them with their propensities.

27. Very few remarks are needed on the management of criminal lunatics as distinct from the other inmates of an Asylum.

28. Provision should invariably be made for them even in the smallest Asylum, for a criminal ward in a Lunatic Asylum, is, beyond all comparison, superior to a lunatic-ward in a Jail, and until the necessities of the country call for the construction of State Asylums for the reception of criminal lunatics, such as that now nearly completed on Bagshot Heath, they ought to be accommodated in general Asylums.

29. Those of the class, whose insanity is genuine and persistent, are, of course, fitly treated as other inmates, but among the so-called criminal lunatics, there will generally, if not always, be found a considerable number of persons who are not insane. The native is an adept at feigning in all its branches, and the inducements to feign insanity are often so great as to call all his powers into play; and thus it not unfrequently happens that cases, unreal from the beginning, are found among those committed to an Asylum as prisoners, and the number is considerable of those who, having committed crime in the wilful intoxication of *ganja*, have been proved insane at the time, and have shortly recovered. Such persons, though not punished under the law for the specific offence, cannot be set at liberty, as they are dangerous to society, and no resource remains but to consign them to an Asylum, where they occasionally remain for years.

30. For persons thus situated, closer custody is needed than that provided for lunatics in general, and it is easily furnished by enclosing one of the Asylum wards with solid walls instead of railings. Rooms built and barred as above, are secure enough for this purpose also, so that within the ward it is not necessary to make any special arrangement.

31. Work-sheds call for no specific description in a paper devoted to general principles. Their form, size, number, situation, &c., must be left to the requirements of each locality.

32. A hospital ward may be composed of a block and enclosure of the same size as the other wards. The building to be without regular sub-division of rooms, so as to form one large chamber, with a small separate room at the end, to be fitted and used as a bath-room. Movable baths of zinc or wood I find more convenient than fixed stone or masonry baths. Shower baths and douches are arranged in the bath-room without difficulty.

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33. The female ward may be placed in any convenient locality, rigidly separated from the male wards. It may be in construction similar to the latter, having only separate work-sheds, grounds, and tanks.

Female ward.

34. For bathing, open tanks with shelving sides, answer perfectly well. A full staff of attendants should always be present at the time of bathing. There must necessarily be in an

Water-supply.

Asylum some who cannot use this method, acute cases, epileptics and paralytics, but to the great bulk of inmates it is free from objection. The opinion that it offers a means of suicide to those so inclined is futile. A lunatic suicidally inclined can find under every precaution ample means of accomplishing his purpose if he be allowed an opportunity. A tank affords no additional inducement to him, nor does its absence deter him.

35. A drinking tank should also be dug within the enclosure, and wells properly guarded may be distributed in convenient situations throughout the place.

36. I propose to conclude with a short epitome of the most essential conditions to be borne in mind in the construction of Asylums in India:—

(a).—To provide liberally the means of industrial occupation, including in all instances a large garden.

(b).—To arrange all buildings, so that they may admit of constant and easy inspection.

(c).—To avoid solitary cells as the ordinary accommodation of the place.

(d).—To construct work-sheds separate from the wards, that the mass of inmates may not occupy during the day the rooms in which they sleep at night.

(e).—To remove the accommodation provided for refractory patients, so far that they may not annoy or excite others.

(f).—To depend for security more on the enforced vigilance of attendants than on impassable walls.

(g).—To avoid walls of solid masonry walls throughout the Institution, with the single exception of the prison ward.

No. 501: ORDER THEREON, 22nd November 1866, No. 3,732.

CIVIL WORKS, No. 101.

No. 1,103, 11th April 1866.
„ 3,060, 24th September 1866.

1. Communicated, with enclosures, to the Superintending Engineers for information and guidance.
2. Adverting to the orders noted in the margin, the Superintending Engineer of the 4th Division is requested to place himself in communication with the Sanitary Commissioner and the Principal Inspector General of the Medical Department, and to prepare his plans and estimates for the proposed Lunatic Asylum at Madras with reference to the Standard Plan now furnished to him and to the remarks of the Government of India regarding the description of materials to be used in the construction of such buildings.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) CHARLES A. ORR, Colonel, R. E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the Superintending Engineer, 4th Division, with two Enclosures.
To all other Superintending Engineers, with do.
„ the Public Department, with do.
„ Sanitary Commissioner.
„ Principal Inspector General of the Medical Department.

Ed. S. T. Augustin.

Ne 44. 15 Aug. 1867.

Communicated
to the Inspector General
of the State

[Signature]

So Inspector General of the State

General of the State

5. 4. 1867 / 1867

Under of 1867. 1867

Ne 44

Proceedings of the Commission

Dated 15. 1. 1867