

Local & Munl. (1895) Department.

MISCELLANEOUS.

G.O., No. *1108/m*

DATED *13th July 1895.*

[Despatch Abstract.]

Burial-ground.

Communicating, with remarks, to the Municipal Council, Salem,
letter from the Sanitary Commissioner regarding the site
selected for a ----- for reconsideration and report.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
cu	3524	2nd/95					

N^o 1056
5

Office of Sanitary Comm:
Fort Saint George 17th June 1895

From,

Surg^t Lieut Col. W. G. King M.C., D.P.H.
Ag. Sanitary Commissioner for Madras

To,

Chief Secretary to Government,
Local & Municipal Department,
Fort Saint George.

Sir,

With reference to G.O. dated 19th
January 1895 N^o 80 in Mis, I have the honor
to state that on the 3rd instant I inspected the
(Salem burial ground) site therein mentioned. As the Councillors
have consented to closing this place as a
burial ground, I need not discuss the
question in this connection.

2. The danger of cremation of
corpses cannot well be considered only in
relation to the actual disposal of the body
by this method. I know of no experiments
to prove this fact having been as yet
carried out, but it is possible that in con-
sideration of there being no method of
effectually dealing with escaping gases, in-
- perfectly

imperfectly consumed solid particles of the body containing disease germs may be wafted by the wind to the neighbouring water. Again, imperfectly cremated portions may be thrown into the river as a part of the ceremony. Whilst the chances here involved may be few and far between, there are other circumstances connected with disposal by cremation that cannot be ignored. The body and bier are laid on the ground; the materials of the latter are frequently scattered on the site and, as found by me in this case, pieces of old cloth are apt to be thrown hither and thither; lastly, persons accompanying the corpse necessarily bathe in the water. It is obvious that in these matters there is much room for contamination of the river water, which, unfortunately, up to date, furnishes an important part of the total supply procurable in this town.

3. Under these circumstances, I would advise that cremation on this spot be forbidden, and that if the river bank must be utilized it be so at a point beyond the town down the stream, or — and this course seems to me preferable — a site beyond the limits of the town be obtained at a distance from the river. — Here a covered well should be made, and the water

water should be raised by a pump into a cistern. Under either arrangement when selecting a site, the Municipality should see that it is correctly levelled and made neat, and be provided with a permanent platform and a corrugated iron shed to be employed during rain-fall. The present place is a badly kept piece of jungle.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most Obedient Servant,
W. King.

Ag. Sanitary Committee ^{Surgeon-Lieut Col.} ^{for the town}

Local & Municipal Dept.
1945 M.

Sanitary DEPARTMENT.

From W. G. King M.B.Ch.
SURGEON LIEUT.-COL. J. A. LAING, D.P.H.
Sanitary Commissioner for Madras,

To THE Chief Secretary to Govt.
Local & Municipal Dept.
Fort St. George

No. 1056
S

Dated 17th June 1895.
Despatched " "
Received 18 JUN. 95

ENCLOSURES.

Subject.

Reporting with ref to G.O.
dated 19th Jan'y 95 N. 80 L. 113
on the site selected for a
burial ground.

To,
The Chairman, M.C. Salem
through the Collector
Sanitary Commissioner.

19/7/95

40344-11-3-95
80 L. 19-1-95 re

N.S.
C.S.
misc.

Order 13-7-95 N^o 1108

Communicated to the municipal Council, Salem, with the request that the question of closing the ground referred to as a burning also ground may be reconsidered in the light of the remarks contained in paragraph 2 of the Sanitary Commissioner's letter, and the result reported to Government.

N.S.
4/7/95
S.M.

18
11/7/95

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189

READ AGAIN G.O., No.
189

DATED

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURES TO G. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT

A A A A A A A

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

PAPERS NOT FILED UP, BEING MEANT FOR DESPATCH
IN ORIGINAL.

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