[L. & M. / 9,000-8-8-96.]

Local & Munl. (1895) Department.

MISCELLANEOUS.

G.O., No. 1216 M

DATED 29th July 1895

[Despatch Abstract.]

Water-works.

Referring to the Chief Engineer, for favour of opinion, Sanitary Commissioner's remarks on the Adoni-------.

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

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

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[7]

Miscellaneous.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DEPT.

G.O., DATED 29th July 1895

No. 1216 Mu

When given for copying.

[Despatch Abstract.]

Water-Works

Referring to the Chief Engineer, for favour of opinion Sanitary Commissioner's remarks on the Adoni —

BACK PAPER, NO. OF 189

READ AGAIN ORDER OF GOVERNMENT, DATED 189 , NO. , MISCELLANEOUS.

FURTHER PAPER, NO. OF 189

ENCLOSURES.

CURRENT NO.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

PAPERS NOT FILED UP, BEING MEANT FOR DESPATCH IN ORIGINAL (not paged).

N.B.—
A = Copy in full
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Copied by

Examined by

No. 1/11

OFFICE OF SANITARY COMMISSIONER,
Camp Ootacamund ~~Fort St. George~~, 17th June 1895.

Despd. 21st

L. & M. Dept.
CURRENT No. [illegible]

From

SURGEON LIEUT.-COL. W. G. KING, M.B., C.M., D.P.H.,
Ag. SANITARY COMMISSIONER FOR MADRAS,

To

THE Chief Secretary
to Government
Local & Municipal department

Enclosure.

SIR,

I have the honor to inform you that a copy of the remarks made by the Sanitary Engineer in his letter, No. 1471 dated 21st May 1895 was, on the 14th instant, supplied to me. I respectfully beg permission to request that in justice to this office and myself, the following remarks thereon may be kindly considered by Government before passing orders.

80 995 M. Dm
19.6.95

2. To the best of my information, there is reason to believe that the amount of water that can be gathered by the new works at Adoni must fluctuate seriously from time to time, on account of the variable rainfall to be expected in the area concerned. Acting upon this information, and in consideration of the fact that a limited supply of water for

for a population is a sanitary evil, I suggested in my Inspection Notes that the feasibility should be considered of (1) including the Ramanjeela Tank and the hill forming its catchment area (2)nd that if the old rainfed tanks in the rocks on which the Fort is built were cleaned out *and the catchment area were in future kept thoroughly clean*, the water might be syphoned down into the General reservoir, and that "such a supply would be worth having in emergencies."

3. As to the first suggestion, the Sanitary Engineer shows that the spring had been included; but gives no good reason why the proposal as to the tank and hill should not have been pursued and settled. On the second point, I necessarily accept his opinion as an Engineer that the suggestion is not feasible; although I would point out that beyond the length of pipe said to be required, no data as to amount of water, or size, and cost of pipe are forthcoming.

4. In paragraph 3(1) of my Report,

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I then proceeded to point out that the design of the filtration reservoirs showed that the roofing would permit the entrance of light [and dust]. This the Sanitary Engineer denies:—the correction I gladly accept, but I must state that this was to the best of my belief at the time not exhibited on the plan shown me on the spot, in the presence of the Assistant Sanitary Engineer. The only explanation seems to me to be that this was provided for in the estimate, which I did not see.

5. I further stated that the arrangement did not permit of automatic regulation of the head of filtration, and that, consequently, the purity of the water as affected by filtration would vary. The Sanitary Engineer insists that such arrangements in water-works are of very recent origin. He must doubtless be better informed than myself on such points, but I have to state that the method has been in operation in Berlin for several years, and that its adoption has been insisted upon in the new works at Hamburg and that the new filter-beds at Poona, which

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are of anterior date to those of Admi are so provided. Further, I affirm that without such arrangements for regulating the head of filtration, the efficiency of filtration of water, and therefore its sanitary safety, must vary, and that the Sanitary Engineer's assumption to the opposite is an erroneous sanitary deduction.

6. The Sanitary Engineer openly resents such suggestions and criticisms, and maintains that only "by exercise of forbearance" can such remarks be tolerated. The grounds given for these remarks are of the mixed character that certain of the suggestions have already been considered and that, in any case, such remarks should proceed from a Chief Engineer and not from the Sanitary Commissioner. As regards the first ground, I would respectfully point out to Government that, irrespective of my special function as Sanitary Commissioner having the responsibility of being the adviser on sanitary matters to Government, in common with all public servants, I presume I have the right to make suggestions for the public good to Government in connection

with

× G.O. dated 15th November 1894, No. 2380L

with my own departmental work. Indeed, my right to make such proposals is recognized in para 4 of the Sanitary Board Rules. The mere fact of my recommendations being sent to the Sanitary Engineer by Government, showed that it did not consider that I had exceeded my rightful functions. Had I laid down that the pipe from the hill was to be of such and such a diameter, and that the gradient was to be so and so, I certainly should have been guilty of trenching upon the Engineer's reserve; but, I respectfully maintain that neither in substance nor in language is there anything in the matter placed before Government that might not well have been met by him, without the exercise of the slightest "forbearance", beyond that demanded of him in the exercise of his public duty. That certain of the recommendations had already been considered, and that he had been given the trouble of re-considering or re-stating them is no fault of mine — for up to date of promulgation of the new rules for the Sanitary Board, it was impossible for

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me to gather any information as to works intended to effect sanitary ends. Indeed, had the Sanitary Engineer permitted this office to be aware of the design of his filter beds and their covering before issue of the design, neither criticism nor report would have been necessary on my part, nor would my time have been wasted in making them.

7. The assumption by the Sanitary Engineer, who has not taken the trouble to consult his colleague as to the sanitary bearing of works he evolves, that on going to inspect a town the Sanitary Commissioner shall not give his opinion as to the sanitary results secured, is, I think, absurd, and such opinions demand on my part considerable forbearance. Had I proceeded to say that the joints in the masonry of the reservoir were outrageously large, that hammer-dressed masonry had been placed where chisel-cut should have been supplied, I should have been guilty of all Mr. Jones would suggest; but seeing that I have confined myself strictly to a valuation of the sanitary results for which the works are designed, I

trust

trust Government will ~~do~~ see the justice of supporting the functions of my office. I need hardly add that to the sanitarian and not to the Engineer is science indebted for ascertaining the necessity for regulating the rate of filtration, and of maintaining filtered water in the dark. The sanitarian excogitates requirements, the Engineer executes them; and it is the duty of the former to see that his views have been correctly provided for. So far as my inspection of major sanitary works executed by this young Department in Trichinopoly, Madura, Coonoor, Ootacamund, Cuddapah and Adoni has proceeded there is, in my humble opinion, every reason to believe that my sanitary criticisms were requisite in the public interest. The necessity for my action in this matter has also confirmed in para 8 of the Army Sanitary Commissioners Memorandum[*] on the Madras Sanitary Report for 1891.

8. As to the remainder of Mr. Jones's remarks, I need hardly say that he has accidentally failed to understand

what

[*] G.O. No. 2139 L. L & M dated 27th September 1893.

what seems to me to have been a very simple suggestion put in simple language, and that seeing the matter has come before him since the inauguration of the new Rules governing the Sanitary Board, I think the least that might have been expected of him was that as he expressed doubt as to my intentions, he should have enquired from me what I did wish to be effected, instead of forcing interpretations that have literally no connection with the matter ~~the~~ ~~matter~~ held by me in view. It seems to me almost incredible that Mr. Jones, with my notes before him, should have thought it necessary to assume that I wished to fill a well (already provided with water by Nature) by means of the pipes of the public water-supply, and then go to the expense of lifting it - my object being obviously to save expenditure of that water in view of the limited supply available.

9. Mr. Jones would point this argument by suggesting that were he to interfere with my "medical" [sanitary?] functions, I would not tolerate it.

In

In illustration of the fact that such an interference has occurred, and has been tolerated without one word of remonstrance from this office, I may quote G. O. No. 869 dated 21st September 1891 Revenue which embodied from the pen of Mr. Jones a voluminous report of a strictly sanitary character, and which induced Government to concede a doctrine at absolute variance with world-wide sanitary experience.

12

10. A personal controversy of this nature can, I am aware, not fail to be most distasteful to Government and I make these remarks with the greatest hesitation, but I consider that having been thus openly attacked by Mr. Jones, no choice is left me but to defend myself from the charge of interference he has brought against me. I may add that this attack has come upon me unexpectedly, and is in my opinion founded on no good grounds whatsoever.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obed^t Serv^t
W E King
Surg^n: Lieut Col:
Ag Sanitary Commissioner

995 M 19-6-95
732 M 1-5-95
2380-81 L 16-11-94
2139 L 27-9-93
869 RD 12-7-71

Hon. ruse

order

Recorded with reference to G.O. 19th June 1895, No. 995 M. and with the remark that further correspondence on the subject must cease.

V.R. 6/7/95 CGi 6.VII.

10/7/95

With ref. to paras 6-10 of Dr. K's letter ~~I think we should say that~~ we have already expressed the opinion that the remarks to which Mr. J. took exception were unobjectionable — Dr. K. seems to me to have a good case — As to the filter question, I should like the opinion of the C.E. as to whether the modifications he recommends are advisable & whether they can now be introduced without much expense. This can be got before orders issue.

Note

BS 12/7/95

Dr. King, with some justice on his side apparently, disputes Mr. Jones's conclusion on the technical points raised but there seems to be nothing to be gained by continuing the controversy for Mr. Jones will never accept his contentions.

CGi
6.VII.

These two are a perfect nuisance. They are a pair of official porcupines whom it is difficult to keep in order. One is just as bad as the other.

…itary Commissioner
with copy of G.O. 19th June 95 No. 995 M.
(940)

LOCAL & MUNICIPAL DEPT.
CURRENT No. 1969 M

Local & Municipal DEPARTMENT.

From

W. G. King M.B. Ch. D.P.H.
SURGEON LIEUT.-COL. ~~I. A. LAING~~,
Ag SANITARY COMMISSIONER FOR MADRAS,

To

THE Chief Secretary to Govt.
Local & Municipal dept.

No. I/11

Dated 17th
Despatched 21st
} June 1895.
Received 21 JUN 95

ENCLOSURES.

Subject.

Requesting that before passing orders on the Sanitary Engineer's letter & report on the Adoni water works his remarks thereon now submitted may receive consideration.

[960—8-12-92.]

[G. 24.]
600—8-3-95.

Papers to be read in proceedings:— L and M. DEPARTMENT.

Again G.O., dated 1-5-95 189 , No. 732 M.
Again G.O., dated 19-6-95 189 , No. 995 M
Current No. of 189 , dated from

Current No. 1969 M of 1895, dated 17.6.95 from the Sanitary Commissioner

ORDER. 29-7-95 No. 1216 mis

The papers will be referred to the Chief Engineer for favour of opinion as to whether the modifications in the design of the filtered water reservoir suggested by the Sanitary Commissioner in para 3 (d) of his inspection notes on the town of Adoni, printed in G.O. dated 1st May 1895 No. 732 M are advisable, and whether they could now be introduced without much expense.

(from orders)

CGi
12.VII

22/7/95

24/7/95

To
The Chief Engineer
P. W. D.
with copy of G.O. 732 M / 1-5-95

3/8/95

Note

With reference to S.C.'s remarks in paras 6-10 it is submitted that the order expressing the opinion that Dr King's criticisms were unobjectionable had not issued when this letter was written, and that Dr King's only object in writing it seems to have been to let Government hear both sides of the case before coming to a decision. In these circumstances perhaps it would be as well to record the papers without further remark

Cgt
12-7-95

JD
22/7/95.

I should prefer to make the remark thereon suggested —

W

Controversy between Mr Jones and Dr King concerning the Adoni waterworks.

U.S.

C.S.

12 Mch

(Frame orders)

with note for H. M.

Issue

W 26.7.95

When given for copying
When copied
When examined
When signed
189 .

READ AGAIN G.O., No. DATED 189 ,

CURRENT NO.

ENCLOSURES TO C. NO.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT .. .. .. A A A A A A A

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

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[960—8-12-92.]