

Local & Munl. (1895) Department.

MISCELLANEOUS.

G.O., No. 1690 M

DATED 21st October 1895

[Despatch Abstract.]

Cemetery for Native Christians at Ellore.

Communicating to the Municipal Council, Ellore, with remarks, G.O., Ecclesiastical Department, agreeing with the Venerable the Archdeacon that there is no necessity for a fixed rule that Europeans and Eurasians only should be interred in Government cemeteries, and requesting the Local and Municipal Department to take the necessary steps in view to the Ellore Municipality providing a new----at an early date.

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

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9.0	27	Encl. 30.11.05					

16TH SEPTEMBER 1895, No 65, ECCLESIASTICAL.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

ECCLESIASTICAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following papers :—

From W. J. H. LE FANU, Esq., Collector of the Gódvári District, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Cocanada, 20th March 1895, Ref. No. 1314-Eng.

I have the honour to report that I find to be a common practice to inter Native Christians in European cemeteries. It was the intention of Government to keep up these cemeteries for Native Christians, who are at hand to look after their own people. It is only in the case of Europeans who have no relations to look after their graves that Government go to the expense of walling and maintaining cemeteries. I request therefore that you will be good as to obtain an order from the Government to the effect that Native Christians should get separate cemeteries for themselves, and that Europeans and Eurasians only should be interred in cemeteries maintained by Government. As an instance point I may state that the European cemetery at Ellore is now very full, and that this result is due to the interring therein of Native Christians. The cemeteries at Rahmundry and Cocanada show that the same practice prevails there also.

From the Venerable W. WESTON ELVES, M.A., Archdeacon of Madras, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Madras, 25th May 1895, No. 2131.

With reference to Current No. 78, Ecclesiastical, forwarded with your memorandum No. 767, dated 5th April 1895, I have the honour to state that I do not think Government can accede to the request of the Collector of the Gódvári that a definite order should be issued that "Europeans and Eurasians only should be interred in cemeteries maintained by Government."

2. The rule laid down by the Government of India, Home Department, No. 6, 370—382 (Ecclesiastical), dated Simla, 9th November 1876, is clear, viz :—

"(5) It should be understood that Government cannot provide cemeteries at the public expense for Native Christian communities," but it is modified by the following note : "Where their number is small the question is of little importance and is best arranged by mutual concessions or special provisions made locally by the parties immediately concerned." This note is quite workable and is worked by officers in charge of cemeteries.

3. With reference to the Ellore cemetery, I have seen the Rev. F. N. Alexander, C.M.S., who is good enough to take the English services at Ellore and who is in charge of the cemetery. He tells me that there are very few burials of Europeans and Eurasians in the cemetery and that he thinks if burials of natives are continued as now the cemetery will be full in about eight years. It seems clear therefore that

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steps should be taken to secure a new cemetery for Native Christians and to reserve the present Government cemetery for Europeans and Eurasians. I understand that a site has been offered by the municipality, but that it is objected to by the missionaries as being in the middle of the town.

4. Rev. Alexander has, however, promised that in the next ten days he will give me exact information as to—

- (1) Average number of burials of Europeans and Eurasians during the last five years.
- (2) Average number of burials of natives during the last five years.
- (3) The space remaining for burials.

I will then address Government further on the subject.

From W. J. H. LE FANU, Esq., Collector of the Gódvári District, to the Chief Secretary to Government (through the Venerable the Archdeacon of Madras), dated 6th December 1894, H. No. 1314-Eng.

I have the honour to state that the Protestant cemetery at Ellore, which is now being used by Native Christians as well as Europeans of that town, is nearly full. I request that you will be good enough to obtain the orders of Government to close it against the burial of Native Christians, so that the remaining space in it may be reserved for European Christians.

2. The Native Christians should get a cemetery for themselves. The Head Assistant Collector has been requested to select a suitable locality for this purpose, and it will be reported to you in due course.

3. I have spoken to Mr. Brown the Headmaster of the C.M.S. High School about this, and he agrees with me.

From the Venerable W. WESTO ELWES, M.A., Archdeacon of Madras, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Madras, 30th August 1895, No. 2253.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your memorandum, Ecclesiastical Department, No. 1992, dated 17th August 1895, and to state that the Rev. F. N. Alexander, C.M.S., in charge of the English services at Ellore, informs me that the following are the average numbers of burials per year for the last five years in the cemetery at Ellore:—

Europeans and Eurasians	2½ per annum.
Native Christians	8½ "

2. Rev. Alexander also informs me that there is still room for 100 graves.

3. At the present rate therefore the cemetery will be full in about nine years. If the burials of Native Christians are now stopped, the cemetery will not be full for about 42 years.

4. Under the above circumstances, the number of burials of Native Christians being comparatively small and fall in therefore under revised rules for cemeteries "Government of India Home Department Notification, Ecclesiastical, dated 20th June 1885, No. 103, Appendix A 5 and 1te," there does not seem to be any severe pressure for the immediate provision of a cemetery for Native Christians, but I would suggest, for the consideration of Government, that the Ellore Municipality be called upon to provide a cemetery for Native Christians within the next two or three years.

ORDER—dated 16th September 1895, No. 65, Ecclesiastical.

The Government agrees with the Venerable the Archdeacon that there is no necessity for a fixed rule that Europeans and Eurasians only should be interred in cemeteries maintained by Government.

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2. The circumstances connected with the Government cemetery at Ellore, however, render it advisable that a new cemetery, to be confined to Native Christians, should be provided as soon as possible, and the present one reserved for Europeans and Eurasians.

3. The Local and Municipal Department will be requested to take the necessary steps in view to the Ellore Municipality providing a suitable cemetery for Native Christians at an early date.

(True Extract.)

W. J. H. Le Fanu
Chief Secretary.

To the Local and Municipal Department.
" Venerable the Archdeacon.
" Collector of Gódvári.

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G.O., 16th September 1895, No. 65.

SEPTEMBER.

Cemetery for Native Christians at
Ellore.

Agreeing with the Venerable the Archdeacon that there is no necessity for a fixed rule that Europeans and Eurasians only should be interred in Government cemeteries; and requesting the Local and Municipal Department to take the necessary steps in view to the Ellore Municipality providing a new — at an early date.

in order No. 1690 mms. 21-10-95
Communicated to the
municipal council, Ellore
with the request that the
action which it proposes
to take on para 3 of the
order read above may be
repeated.

W. H. Hogg
W. H. Hogg

I the chairman, mms. Council, Ellore

(with an order)

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189 ,

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