L. & M.
1300—10-3-96.

Local & Munl. (1896) Department.

PRINTED.

G.O., No. 1000 M

DATED 15th June 1896

[Despatch Abstract.]

Muhammadan burial grounds.

Authorizing, with remarks, the President Municipal Commission, Madras, to take the necessary action to close the fifteen ------ recommended by the Sanitary Commissioner and requesting him to submit in consultation with the Sanitary Commissioner, a list of such other burial grounds as in their opinion should be closed.

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

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

No. 1000 M., 15TH JUNE 1896.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—again the following papers:—

Misc. G.O., No. 437 M., dated 3rd April 1894.

ABSTRACT.—Stating, with remarks, that the Government is not prepared to sanction the closure of certain Muhammadan burial-grounds in Madras without fuller enquiry into the matter.

Misc. G.O., No. 1229 M., dated 7th September 1894.

ABSTRACT.—Referring to the Sanitary Commissioner the proposal of the President, Municipal Commission, Madras, regarding the closure of certain Muhammadan burial-grounds and requesting him to submit a report on the subject after enquiry.

Misc. G.O., No. 672 M., dated 18th April 1895.

ABSTRACT.—Passing orders on letter from the Sanitary Commissioner in regard to the closure of certain Muhammadan burial-grounds in the Madras Municipality.

Misc. G.O., No. 1510 M., dated 16th September 1895.

ABSTRACT.—Requesting to be furnished, at an early date, with certain information regarding the closure of Muhammadan burial-grounds within the municipal limits of Bombay and Calcutta.

READ—also the following papers:—

From J. DEC. ATKINS, Esq., I.C.S., Secretary to the Government of Bombay, General Department, to the Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras, dated Bombay Castle, 24th October 1895, No. 20-M.

In reply to your letter, Mis. No. 1510 M., dated the 16th ultimo, I am directed to forward, for the information of the Government of Madras, copy of a letter, No. 14697, dated the 15th instant, from the Municipal Commissioner for the City of Bombay, which furnishes the requisite information.

ENCLOSURE.

From P. C. H. SNOW, Esq., I.C.S, Acting Municipal Commissioner for the City of Bombay, to the Secretary to Government, General Department, dated Bombay, 15th October 1895, No. 14697.

With reference to your No. 3982, of the 26th ultimo, I have the honour to state that no Muhammadan burial-ground within the limits of the City of Bombay has been closed, but at certain durgas and mosques burials have been prohibited. With a view to restrict or gradually close the large Muhammadan burial-ground in Grant road which measures 17,831 square yards, the municipality have purchased at very great expense a large area of land from the Port Trustees in order to provide a new burial-ground for Muhammadans. The land, however, has not yet been prepared for a cemetery nor made over for that purpose. The Bombay City Municipal Act makes it obligatory for the Corporation to provide places for the disposal of the dead of all communities when necessity arises.

From H. H. RISLEY, Esq., C.I.E., Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Municipal Department, to the Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras, dated Darjeeling, the 2nd November 1895, No. 852-S.M.

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, Mis. No. 1510 M., dated the 16th September 1895, in which you enquire whether it has been found necessary on sanitary grounds to close any of the Muhammadan burial-grounds within the limits of the Municipality of Calcutta, and request that, if this has been the case, you may be furnished with certain particulars in regard to those grounds.

2. In reply, I am desired to forward, for the information of the Government of Madras, a copy of a report * submitted by the committee appointed by Government in 1887 to consider and report upon the whole subject of Muhammadan interments, and to invite your attention to paragraphs 12, 13 and 18 of the report, which contain particulars in respect of the cemeteries that were closed. I am at the same time to state that no difficulty was felt in enforcing the use of the new cemetery which was provided in lieu of the old cemetery referred to in paragraph 12 of the report.

* Dated 17th December 1888.

ENCLOSURE.

From the Hon'ble Sir HENRY HARRISON, *Kt.*, C.S., President of the Committee appointed to consider and report on the measures to be adopted for providing further space for Muhammadan Interments, to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Municipal Department, dated Calcutta, the 17th December 1888.

* * * * *

II.—SPACE.

12. As regards space, the foregoing account shows that there is undoubted overcrowding in the public cemeteries, especially those at Manicktollah, and that more space is needed; but a careful examination of the statement also shows that this is largely due to the closing of cemeteries previously available to the public. The chief of those which have been closed is the large Kassia Bagan cemetery in Lower Circular road, which was closed by Government in 1857, when the new Kassia Bagan cemetery was opened in place of it. But the old cemetery is 36 to 40 bighas in area, and the new one purchased in place of it, at a cost of Rs. 4,272 paid by the town municipality, was only bighas 13-7 as acquired, though now measured as bighas 14-19 by our surveyor. It is evident that by this arrangement made in 1857, the Muhammadan community has lost 25 bighas more or less of available space, and were those 25 bighas available to the public, it is hardly too much to say that the aggregate area of public cemeteries would be sufficient.

Want of space mainly due to closed cemeteries.

(1) Old Kassia Bagan.

13. Again, by the construction of the new docks, a cemetery has been finally closed at Ekbalpore, which, according to the report of the Muhammadan community, was at one time of great importance. This is the Sonadinghee cemetery. It appears from the list of cemeteries in Appendix A that a new cemetery has been very recently opened in lieu of it at Sonadinghee, 1st Lane, area 4 bighas, which is No. 14 in the list for Ward No. 6. This is stated to be for Hindus only, and evidently proceeds from one of the contending parties for the old Sonadinghee cemetery. The report of our Joint Secretary, Moulvie Zill-ur-Rahim, who made a special enquiry on the spot, states the case from the Muhammadan point of view regarding this burial-ground. We give the report in full.

(2) Sonadinghee.

* * * * *

18. In addition to the loss which the Muhammadan community has experienced in the reduced area of the new Kassia Bagan cemetery and in the closure of the Sonadinghee cemetery, it will be seen that other public cemeteries have also been closed during the last few years. The Gurcha cemetery, No. 3 in the list for Ward No. IV, was closed about twelve years ago, area 1 bigha 10 cottahs, according to the measurement of our surveyor. So also has the Ghoogoodanga cemetery of 8 bighas about the same time. Again, in Ward No. VI the Kabardanga cemetery, area bighas 2-10, has been closed; also the cemetery 25, Mominpore Lane, area 3 bighas, the greater part of which has been sold and cultivated and the residue closed. Finally, the cemetery No. 35, Paharpore road, area bighas 2-2 according to our surveyor, was closed three or four years ago, as also No. 44, Paharpore road, area 16 cottahs, closed ten or twelve years ago.

(3) Gurcha.
(4) Kabardanga.
(5) 25, Mominpore Lane.
(6) 35 and 44, Paharpore Road.

ORDER—No. 1000 M., dated 15th June 1896.

The question of the closure of certain Muhammadan burial-grounds in the City of Madras was, on a communication on the subject from their Health Officer, first brought by the Commissioners before Government in March 1894.

2. Instructions in this matter have been delayed in order that a careful inspection of Muhammadan burial-grounds in Madras might be made by the Sanitary Commissioner, and that information might be obtained as to the action taken in Bombay and Calcutta as regards the closure of Muhammadan cemeteries in those cities.

3. The Government, in the hope that the closure of such burial-grounds as were held by its Sanitary adviser to call for immediate action in this direction might be effected with the acquiescence of those most concerned, has taken measures to consult some of the leading Muhammadan inhabitants and Moolavies of Madras, and has sought to enlist the influence and assistance of the Prince of Arcot in carrying out a measure which is imperatively necessary, not only for the well-being of the Muhammadan community, but also for that of their fellow-citizens of all classes, with regard to whom it may be remarked that the closure of the burial-grounds used by them has already been extensively enforced. His Excellency in Council regrets that the action so taken has been without results other than opposition based solely on grounds which might be advanced with equal justice by any other section of the community in a similar case, and which, if accepted—as they cannot be—would render sanitary reforms, which are absolutely needed for the health and safety of the population of the capital of Southern India, impossible.

4. It has been ascertained that in Bombay steps to close Muhammadan burial-grounds are in progress, and that in Calcutta the burial-grounds of that portion of the community situated within municipal limits have been closed for many years, and that this was done without opposition of any sort.

5. The original proposals of the Municipality were to close Muhammadan burial-grounds to a very large extent. The result of the very careful inspection made by Dr. King has been that for the present he proposes to completely close fifteen places of burial. The grounds upon which his suggestions are based are conclusive, and the law which has already been enforced in the case of other denominations must now at once be applied to the cemeteries referred to.

6. New burial-grounds having already been provided for those who now use the grounds referred to, the President, Municipal Commission, will forthwith be authorized to take the necessary action under section 388 of Act I of 1884, as amended by Act VII of 1884 and Act II of 1892.

7. It must be clearly understood that this order is not to be regarded as a final settlement of the question of the closure of Muhammadan burial-grounds in Madras. The President of the Municipal Commission and the Sanitary Commissioner will, after the closure of the grounds referred to in this order has been duly carried out, hold a personal consultation and submit to Government a list of such others as they would recommend for closure, stating in full in each case the reasons on which their suggestions are based. It is not desired that this work should be carried out all at once: it should be gradual and persistent.

(True Extract.)

Under Secretary, P.W.D.
for *Chief Secretary.*

To the President, Municipal Commission, Madras.
" Sanitary Commissioner.

Exd. A. Raitt.

Govt. of {1896} Madras.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL.

A.S.

For approval.

29/6/96 hmb 30-6

Issued

Recd. *Encl.*

G.O., No. 1000 M., 15th June 1896.

JUNE.

Muhammadan Burial Grounds.

Authorizing, with remarks, the President, Municipal Commission, Madras, to take the necessary action to close the fifteen — recommended by the Sanitary Commissioner, and requesting him to submit, in consultation with the Sanitary Commissioner, a list of such other burial-grounds as in their opinion should be closed.

Chairs also to go

No 20 M of 1895.

CHIEF SECRETARY'S OFFICE
27 OCT. 1895
GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

General Department,

Bombay Castle, 24th October 1895.

CURRENT No. 3262 M

From,

J. De C. Atkins, Esquire, I.C.S.,

Secretary to Government.

To,

The Secretary to the Government of Madras,

Madras.

Sir,

In reply to your letter No 1510 M. Jails, dated the 16th ultimo, I am directed to forward for the information of the Government of Madras copy of a letter No 14694, dated the 15th instant, from the Municipal Commissioner for the City of Bombay, which furnishes the requisite information.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

J De C Atkins

Secretary to Government.

Guelim

No. 14697 of 1895/96

Bombay, 15th October 1895

From

P. C. H. Snow, Esq., I. C. S.,

Ag. Municipal Commissioner

for the City of Bombay,

To

The Secretary to Government,

General Department.

Sir,

With reference to your No. 3982 of the 26th ultimo, I have the honour to state that no Mahomedan Burial Ground within the limits of the City of Bombay has been closed, but at certain Durgas and Mosques burials have been prohibited. With a view to restrict or gradually close the large Mahomedan Burial Ground in Grant Road which measures 17,831 square yards, the

the Municipality have purchased at very great expense a large area of land from the Port Trustees in order to provide a new Burial ground for Mahomedans. The land, however, has not yet been prepared for a cemetery nor made over for that purpose. The Bombay City Municipal Act makes it obligatory for the Corporation to provide places for the disposal of the dead of all communities when necessity arises.

I have the honour to be
Sir
Your Obt Servt
Ag. Municipal Commissioner
for the City of Bombay

True copy:
Moses Aaron
For Superintendent
General Department

1/3262 Nov 95

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT.

Local & Municipal Dept.
PR. CUR 3262 M

From

The Secretary to Govt.
Bombay.

No. 20
M.

Dated 24th October 1895.

Received 28th —do—

Enclosures /

SUBJECT.

Forwarding copy of letter No. 14697 d/ 15th October 1895 from the Muni. Commissioner for the City of Bombay regarding the Muhammadan Burial grounds in Bombay.

To lie over pending receipt of reply from the Government of Bengal

V.N. Read 7/11/95
7/11/95

a.s. XI-95

Municipal DEPARTMENT.

Municipal BRANCH.

Local & Municipal Dept.
UNDER SECRETARY. DO NOT USE FOR PUBLIC REQUISITS.
No. 3496 M.

From

H. H. Risley Esqre. C. I. E.
Secretary to the Government of Bengal,

To

The Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras.

Darjeeling Calcutta, the 2 ~~October~~ November 1895.

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 1510 M Mis. dated the 16th September 1895, in which you enquire whether it has been found necessary on Sanitary grounds to close any of the Muhammadan Burial grounds within the limits of the Municipality of Calcutta and request, that if this has been the case you may be furnished with certain particulars in regard to those grounds.

2. In reply, I am desired to forward for the information of the Government of Madras, a copy of a report submitted by

t. 17-12-95 S.S.

C. A. P.—Reg. No. 1077F—2,000—8.6.93.

by the Committee appointed by Govern-
ment in 1884, to consider and report
upon the whole subject of Muhammadan
interments and to invite your attention
to paras: 12, 13 and 18 of the report,
which contain particulars in respect
of the cemeteries that were closed. I
am at the same time to state that
no difficulty was felt in enforcing the
use of the new cemetery which was provided
in lieu of the old cemetery referred to
in para: 12 of the report.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servt,

H. H. Risley

Secretary to the Govt: of
Bengal.

Dated Calcutta, the 17th December 1888. [FILE M-$\frac{2B}{1}$-1.]

From—The HON'BLE SIR HENRY HARRISON, KT., C.S., President of the Committee appointed to consider and report on the measures to be adopted for providing further space for Mahomedan Interments,

To—The Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Municipal Department.

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith the Report of the Mahomedan Burial-grounds Committee, appointed more than a year ago. The cause of the delay in reporting is explained in the first paragraph.

2. The report has been signed by all the members of the Committee except Dr. Lidderdale, the Sanitary Commissioner, who has left the country, and Hajee Wahed Unah Yunos, who is dead.

3. As President, I would beg to draw attention to two paragraphs only. Paragraph 28 recommends legislation to create a Mahomedan Burial Board. If His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor concurs in this recommendation, early orders might be issued to the Legislative Department to prepare a Bill [presumably on the lines of Act V (B.C.) of 1881), constituting a Mahomedan Burial Board. It would save a year if this Act could be passed during the present legislative season.

4. I would also draw attention to paragraph 26, which sums up somewhat impotently, owing to the inability of the Mahomedan members of the Committee to accept the recommendation to make over the site of the disused cemetery at Kasia Bagan to the new municipality, and to utilize the funds thus obtained for extending the Mahomedan cemeteries.

5. It at one time seemed probable that all the members would agree to it being thus made over for conversion into a garden or path, but eventually some of the stricter members of the Committee ascertained that even this would be contrary to Mahomedan law, and therefore they were obliged to decline.

6. All admitted freely that any use would be better than the foul desecration that now takes place; but their position is this, that the present desecration is beyond their control, the cemetery is virtually *la-woris*. They are quite unwilling to admit any right in the so-called matwali, who lives on a portion of the cemetery; their contention is that the whole Mahomedan community is possessed of the cemetery for the purpose of interment, the matwali being trustee for this limited purpose. With the prohibition of interments his functions as trustee terminate. The Mahomedan community remain seized with the right in the ground, but cannot in any practical manner exercise their rights. Hence no one is responsible for the present abominable defilement of the cemetery; but if they gave their approval to any even far less objectionable use of the cemetery, they would be responsible for it.

7. It virtually, therefore, comes to this, that the Mahomedan community will probably acquiesce in whatever steps Government may take to rescue the cemetery from its present foul condition and put it to some reasonable use consistent with its former use as a cemetery, provided they are not asked formally to consent; and it might be made over to the new Corporation for the purpose of being converted into a public garden without any danger of serious dissatisfaction. The only objection to this is that, for this purpose, it will not be of very great use to the Corporation, as it is not the part of the town in which a public garden is most needed, and therefore the Government will have to fix a comparatively small sum to be paid by the Corporation.

8. My own conviction is that the south portion of the ground, that in which Hindus were interred, might well be converted in a public dhobikhana similar to the one at Bombay; that the five or six acres north of this, in which there are no monumental remains, might be used as the drying ground attached to the dhobikhana: this is the use to which, so far as its character of a public latrine admits of, it is now put to, and the part in which there are monumental remains, *i.e.* the part bordering on Circular Road, might be converted into a public garden. It is very uncertain whether the Commissioners of the new Corporation will agree to the construction of a public dhobikhana: therefore it could not be made over for this restricted purpose at present; but if the Government sees its way to go so far, it might be made over to the new Corporation as a public garden, *or for such other purpose as the Corporation, with the*

Be this as it may, fees are almost always charged for digging the grave, which go to the grave-diggers, who are supposed to look after the cemetery. This is usually their sole remuneration. The fees payable for digging the grave seem to vary from 4 annas to Re. 1. In the case of paupers, the neighbours often subscribe and pay the cost.

II.—Space.

12. As regards space, the foregoing account shows that there is undoubted overcrowding in the public cemeteries, especially those at Manicktollah, and that more space is needed; but a careful examination of the statement also shows that this is largely due to the closing of cemeteries previously available to the public. The chief of those which have been closed is the large Kassia Bagan cemetery in Lower Circular Road, which was closed by Government in 1857, when the new Kassia Bagan cemetery was opened in place of it. But the old cemetery is 36 to 40 bighas in area, and the new one purchased in place of it, at a cost of Rs. 4,272 paid by the Town Municipality, was only bighas 13-7 as acquired, though now measured as bighas 14-19 by our surveyor. It is evident that by this arrangement made in 1857, the Mahomedan community has lost 25 bighas more or less of available space, and were those 25 bighas available to the public, it is hardly too much to say that the aggregate area of public cemeteries would be sufficient.

Want of space mainly due to closed cemeteries.
(1) Old Kassia Bagan.

13. Again, by the construction of the new Docks, a cemetery has been finally closed at Ekbalpore, which, according to the report of the Mahomedan community, was at one time of great importance. This is the Sonadinghee cemetery. It appears from the list of cemeteries in Appendix A that a new cemetery has been very recently opened in lieu of it at Sonadinghee, 1st Lane, area 4 bighas, which is No. 14 in the list for Ward No. 6. This is stated to be for Hindus only, and evidently proceeds from one of the contending parties for the old Sonadinghee cemetery. The report of our Joint-Secretary Moulvie Zill-ur-Rahim, who made a special enquiry on the spot, states the case from the Mahomedan point of view regarding this burial-ground. We give the report in full—

(2) Sonadinghee.

14. "The Sonadinghee burial-ground, a large piece of land, is named Chandpokhar or Chandhair, Chand Mollah being the name of the first proprietor of the land, who lived in the same locality. When he came he found it a forest, which he cleared and settled about 100 years ago. He at that very time gave this piece of land for the public burial-ground. His lineal successors are—

(1) Hobqo Mandal.
(2) Sharabdi Thanadar.
(3) Tar Mahomed Mollah.
(4) Mokim Mollah, who died leaving no successors.

"There always was a motwali attached to the burial-ground, and these motwalis were in a manner the sole owners of the land, because they had the full management in their hands. After the death of Mokim Mollah, the real owner of the land, Meer Nazir Ali, the then motwali, became the real owner of the land, and he held it without any interference as long as he lived. He died about 15 years ago, leaving a son, Meer Baboo, and a daughter, Jogia Hajini. Meer Baboo resides very near the burial-ground. He being a servant in some ship, he is out for a month. His sister, the said Jogia Hajini, lives at Karaya, and no one knows her address. Until the return of Meer Baboo we cannot find out Jogia Hajini.

"The land is about 27 bighas. It is rent-free because no charge was ever made for the land used for graves by the proprietors. No one best acquainted with the late proprietors does remember that he paid any rent for it. It was in use as a public burial-ground from the time of Chand Mollah until stopped by the Port Commissioners about two years ago. The burial-ground contains a Durga, *i.e.* the sacred tomb of some saint, where persons used to come to offer something to invoke his benedictions. These things (mostly eatables) were appropriated by the motwalis. Even now Meer Baboo gets a few pice, &c., now and then. A portion of the burial-ground was reserved for the use of the Hindus and the Presidency Jail.

"The Rajas of Bhookoylas had no connection with the land, and they never interfered until after the death of Mokim Mollah. After his death his son Meer Baboo became very poor, and his sister, the said Jogia Hajini, left the place altogether. Then there was none to look after the land. At that time Pitamber Mitter, a petty revenue collector for the Rajas, laid claims to the land as belonging to the Rajas, and in consequence he had a quarrel with the Mahomedan inhabitants of the place. Being unable to take possession of the land, the said Pitamber Mitter let out a portion of the land to Jogessur Moochi to be used as a *Bhagar*, *i.e.* for throwing the dead bodies of lower animals. The Mahomedans at times drove him out of the land and forced him for the time being to take away the carcasses. But after a long time, being helped by the Rajas, he succeeded to take possession of the land. He then began to extend the boundaries of the piece of land leased out by the said gomasta Pitamber Mitter. Some of the old men of the village Horobas, who seem to be thoroughly acquainted with the history of the land for above 40 years, specially Sheikh Wahid Ali and some others, told me that the Rajas wont be able to show any reliable proof of their legitimate possession. The Rajas would not at all be able, they say, to show any proof about the settlement of the year 1190 Bengali era, alluding, I presume, to the decennial or the permanent settlements. The Rajas could not dispossess Meer Baboo of the house he is living in, though it is a miserable hovel.

"In the recent case pending in the Calcutta High Court for finding out the real proprietor or proprietors of the burial-ground, where the Rajas of Bhookoylas are trying their best to prove their claims, Meer Baboo and Jogia Hajini also laid their own claims. But they being comparatively poor, and in consequence being unable to defray the charges of a High Court case, could not lay their claims with usual stress.

"There are many men still living at the village Horobass, Bhookoylas road, who know all these facts perfectly well, and can bear witness in any place they are required. I have collected these facts from the depositions of about a dozen old and reliable men of the said village. Many other old men who lived in the vicinity of the Chandpokhar burial-ground, and are well acquainted with its history, have been recently forced by the Port Commissioners to leave their houses. They have afterwards taken their abode at the surrounding villages, where they can be easily traced out if required.

"The inhabitants of the village Horobass, Bhookoylas road, some of whom have already deposed to me, are afraid of the Rajas of Bhookoylas, who are their landlords. They are at the same time very anxious for want of the burial-grounds, because the present *Solahana* burial-ground has no sufficient space, and it is already being used up for burial purposes. They are for this reason ready to depose anywhere they are required to do so, provided that they are paid wages for the days they may be required, and small extra fees.

"The following persons of the village Horobas deposed before me:—

"(1) Sheikh Wahid Ali, an old inhabitant of the place, who appeared to be thoroughly acquainted with the proprietors of the land; aged about 65.
"(2) Sheikh Hoboo Ostagar; aged about 64.
"(3) Kamaruddeen, nephew of Mokim Mollah.
"(4) Sheikh Bashiruddeen.
"(5) Choudhry Mullick.
"(6) Sheikh Moulabakhsh."

15. This account, which seems to us from its circumstantiality of detail to bear substantial truth on the face of it, shows that a generation ago the Mahomedans were in possession of a large cemetery in this neighbourhood, of which they had been in great measure deprived by the encroachments of the Bhookoylas zemindars.

16. As this cemetery has been acquired two years ago for the Port Commissioners, it occurred to the Committee that the acquisition money ought to have been assigned for the purpose of another cemetery; they therefore instituted enquiries as to its destination. It appeared that the area of the plot, according to the land acquisition proceedings, was only bighas 12-15-9; it was described as *Bhagar*, evidently referring to the attempt to convert it into a carcase ground, and the compensation fixed for it was only Rs. 5,345-14-7 inclusive of statutory allowance.

This was claimed by—

(1) The executor to the estate of Raja Digumber Mitter.
(2) The High Court Receiver on behalf of the Bhookoylas family (Ghosals).
(3) Jogia Bewah.
(4) Four Domes.
(5) Jogessur Chamar.

Of these, Nos. 2, 4 and 5 are identical in interest, No. 5 being the izardar of No. 2 and No. 4, his sub-tenants; No. 3 is the rightful claimant according to the Mahomedan account as matwali for the Mahomedan community.

The money, we have ascertained, has not yet been allotted owing to delay in proving any title.

17. As there seemed to be time to appear and put in a claim, we communicated demi-officially with the Collector as to the possibility of claiming the money on behalf of the Mahomedan community and devoting it to opening a new cemetery. With this end in view, we forwarded for his perusal the report of our Joint-Secretary. He consulted the Government Pleader, and the conclusion they arrived at was that "we could not proceed with any hope of success on the evidence now in our hands." On that the Joint-Secretary was asked whether he thought any better evidence than the oral evidence of the old residents could be procured, and he thought it could not, and even many of those he named would be very unwilling to give testimony in court owing to fear of offending the Bhookoylas zemindars. We have therefore taken no further steps in the matter, but we earnestly submit that the Government should apply to the Court to postpone any final orders regarding the award till the Burial Board has been constituted, in order that the Board may have time to put in a claim on behalf of the Mahomedan community, which we can hardly doubt is equitably entitled to the compensation, for the purpose of procuring another cemetery.

18. In addition to the loss which the Mahomedan community has experienced in the reduced area of the new Kassia Bagan cemetery and in the closure of the Sonadinghee cemetery, it will be seen that other public cemeteries have also been closed during the last few years. The Gurcha cemetery, No. 3 in the list for Ward No. IV, was closed about 12 years ago, area 1 bigha 10 cottahs according to the measurement of our surveyor. So also has the Ghoogoodanga cemetery of 8 bighas about the same time. Again, in Ward No. VI the Kabardanga cemetery, area bighas 2-10, has been closed; also the cemetery 25, Mominpore Lane, area 3 bighas, the greater part of which has been sold and cultivated, and the residue closed. Finally, the cemetery No. 35,

(3) Gurcha.
(4) Kabardanga.
(5) 25, Mominpore Lane.
(6) 35 and 44, Paharpore Road.

Paharpore Road, area bighas 2-2 according to our surveyor, was closed three or four years ago, as also No. 44, Paharpore Road, area 16 cottahs, closed 10 or 12 years ago.

19. Thus reckoning the Sonadinghee cemetery at 12 bighas, it appears that, in addition to the loss of 25 bighas by the substitution of the new for the old Kassia Bagan cemetery, the space available to the Mahomedan community generally for interments seems to have been decreased by about 30 bighas during the past 12 years. Against this the only set-off seems to be the cemetery opened five or six years ago by Moonshee Kubeeruddin (item No. 4, Ward II), area 7 bighas, which is already almost full.

How much space is requisite.

20. The next question which demands attention is the space which is reasonably required for the interment of Mahomedans in Calcutta and the Suburbs. On this point we annex a brief, though useful, report made by a Committee of the Suburban Commissioners in 1879, Appendix B. It will be seen that that report calculates the number of Mahomedan interments to be provided for as 8,600 annually, and on a very liberal scale recommends the acquisition of an additional 131 bighas of land at an estimated cost of Rs. 1,45,228.

21. This estimate of deaths is based on the year 1877, the most unhealthy year known in Calcutta and the Suburbs within the last 20 years. The recorded mortality of the Mussulman community in 1885, 1886 and 1887 was—

	1885.	1886.	1887.
Town	3,526	3,018	2,815
Suburbs	3,674	3,655	3,913
	7,200	6,673	6,728

It may not be safe to take this as conclusive, as there is reason to fear that about 10 per cent. of the Mahomedan deaths escape registration, owing to being buried in burial-grounds to which no sub-registrar is attached. The Mahomedan population of the Town, Fort, and Port was recorded in the census of 1881 as 124,430, and in the Suburbs as 96,583. Allowing 30 per mille as the mortality in the Town and 42 per mille in the Suburbs, we get 3,702 as the Town mortality and 4,056 as that of the Suburbs—total 7,758,—and it will be seen that the actual number of interments returned from all the chief public cemeteries in 1887 (*vide* paragraph 5 above) was 7,502. Thus all these tests—population, registered deaths, and actual interments in 1881—tend to indicate something less than 8,000 as an outside number of Mahomedans to be provided for annually in *public* cemeteries.

100 interments per bigha annually allowable.

22. The next question is the number of graves that can be provided for in each bigha of ground. The Committee of 1879 calculated that a bigha will provide for 240 interments in the first year, 240 more in the 4th and 120 in the 7th, and they then propose to allow it to be used over again after 11 or 12 years. The arrangement of graves suggested by the Committee seems very good and might well be followed; but it seems quite unnecessary to allow the long period to elapse, of 12 or even 10 years before using the ground a second time. In the Committee convened in Calcutta in 1866 to report on certain matters connected with a new military burial-ground, consisting of Mr. Schalch, Mr. Stuart Hogg, Dr. Payne, Captain Parlby, and Captain S. T. Trevor, it is stated in paragraph 5—"It is the rule in the Lower Circular Road cemetery to dig up kutcha graves after three years, and no remains are said to be found after this interval. There seems no objection to adopting the same course in the old portion of the military burial-ground;" and (see end of paragraph 7) they finally provide for using land twice over in 10 years or once every five years. Remembering that Mahomedans are buried without coffins, we think that a bigha may safely be relied on to receive 100 interments per annum. This gives six years as the average interval between interments, so that it should be easy so to manage that a period of five years is *always* allowed to elapse between interments in the same ground.

Land should be set apart for pucca graves.

23. At this rate 8,000* interments per annum will require 80 bighas of public cemeteries, or allowing for some space being occupied by tanks, paths, and pucca graves, 90 bighas should be regarded as the standard area to be available. At least one bigha in each locality should be reserved for pucca graves for the use of respectable Mahomedans dying in Calcutta who have no private ground of their own. The fee to be charged should be sufficient to cover the purchase of the land occupied. We have already shown that the present area of the 12 cemeteries which are used to the extent of more than 100 interments yearly is bighas 73-13, and though two of these are not registered, there is no reason why they should not be; and the Cossipore cemetery, though it is reported to be limited to the use of the tenants of the members of the Nawab family of Chitpore, and as having only had 70 interments in 1887, is registered and is treated as a regular public cemetery by the Suburban Committee. If this is added, it gives over 80 bighas available besides semi-public cemeteries.

24. On the other hand, we agree with the Suburban Committee that the Manicktollah cemeteries ought to be closed. Not merely are they being used over and over again once every two years, if not less, but they are in the neighbourhood of too dense a population to be permissible on sanitary grounds. The Manicktollah cemeteries which should be closed cover altogether nearly 14 bighas, so that in round figures about 25 to 30 bighas of additional ground ought to be provided to make up the 90 bighas which we regard as the standard that should be maintained.

* It must be remembered that some allowance must be made for low caste Hindoos.

III.—Ways and Means.

A Mahomedan Burial Board recommended.

25. As indicated below, we think that for the better management of the Mahomedan public cemeteries a Mahomedan Burial Board should be formed, and it would be better to consult it as to the precise plots of land which should be acquired, and in general we agree with the Committee which reported in 1879 that the land should be acquired in the neighbourhood of the existing cemeteries at Tiljullah and Ekbalpore, with a new cemetery in lieu of the cemeteries at Manicktollah, which should be closed. This Committee cannot recommend Kancoorgatchee as a suitable site as selected by that Committee. We consider that the new site ought not to be more than half a mile distant from the present Manicktollah cemeteries. The details of this arrangement should be left to the Mahomedan Board in concert with the Government and the Corporation. We do not think it necessary to extend the cemetery at Cossipore, as the number of interments there is not at all in excess of the capacity of the cemetery. Our Chairman proposes that the funds necessary for this purpose should be provided by making over this cemetery to the new Municipality for such a sum as the Government may determine as equitable, and that the money thus obtained should be used for the purchase of additional land elsewhere. It is, however, impossible for the Mahomedan members of the Committee to accept this, as by Mahomedan law a disused cemetery cannot lawfully be used for any other purpose; the only suggestion therefore that we can make as a Committee is that the necessary funds be provided either by Government or by the amalgamated Municipality.

Old Kassia Bagan should be turned into a garden.

Present condition of the old Kassia Bagan cemetery.

26. The matter is one which urgently presses for the intervention of Government or some other competent authority. Since it has been closed, no one exercises any control over it except the person who styles himself motwali and his family; and his interest is of such a shadowy and precarious character as to effectually disqualify him from energetic action.

The donor, Nawab Saadut Ali, Khan Bahadoor, late ruler of Oudh, having created it wakf property, his family have no longer any legal title to control it. Hence, for all practical purposes, it is now under no one's control, and in consequence is in the most deplorable condition—a far worse menace to the health of the neighbourhood than if it were still used as a cemetery.

The southern portion of the cemetery, 20 to 25 bighas in area, which is most remote from Circular Road, is free from all trace of graves. It was at this end that the Hindoos were buried.* Nearly the whole of this part of this portion is a swamp in the rains, but about a third of it is a complete swamp all through the year, in the black slime of which buffaloes wallow, while the higher and drier portions are the common latrine of the neighbourhood. It is impossible to walk across it without the greatest circumspection, and the atmosphere everywhere is pervaded with a strong fœcal odour. Dhobies wash their clothes in the three tanks within the cemetery limits as well as in a large tank on the western boundary, and wherever they can find land free from fresh pollution they spread out the clothes to dry. The self-styled motwali, when remonstrated with on the condition of the cemetery, pleads with justice that he is helpless. The northern portion, nearly half the entire area, is interspread with numerous brick monuments in the last stages of dilapidation. The western portion of this half is tolerably free from encroachment, though in general use as a public latrine; but the eastern portion, amounting to one-sixth or one-seventh of the entire area, has been utilised as a dwelling-house and garden by the same man, and has also been occupied by about a dozen huts whose owners, he assured us, hold adverse possession to himself and pay him nothing. Whether this is correct or not, we are not in a position to say. It would not be possible for him to admit that he had sanctioned the construction of huts on land set apart for the purposes of a cemetery. It is quite evident that some thing should be done to protect this site from encroachment as well as from contamination, and to maintain it in a sanitary condition. This is a matter which should have due attention from the proposed Burial Board.

Government should allow Rs. 2,000 per annum for the expenses of the Board.

Fees for interments to be paid as at present.

27. As the Government has always contributed to the expense of the Christian Burial Board, we think it would not be too much, as the Board would be under its control, to ask it to pay the expenses of the Mahomedan Board. It would want a Secretary-Overseer (a Mahomedan of course) as its executive officer on Rs. 60 to Rs. 100 a month, and perhaps Rs. 20 a month for contingencies; but an annual grant of Rs. 2,000 a year ought to cover all its expenses. The cost of maintaining the cemeteries ought, we think, to be met as at present by the payments for interments. The usual custom seems to be for the grave-diggers to look after the cemeteries and to take as their remuneration the fees for digging the graves. This system should be maintained, except that the Board will have a fixed rate of fees for digging the grave, and with these pay the salaries of the grave-diggers and chowkidars. The receipts for pucca graves, referred to in paragraph 23, should be set aside to purchase fresh areas of land as the portions of the cemeteries set apart for them are filled up.

* But most probably this was due to the connivance or neglect of the man who had set himself up as custodian of the grave yard, as in a Mahomedan wakf burial-ground Hindoos could not be rightfully buried.

Read again G.O's. Nos. 437 M/3-4-94
1239 M/7-9-94, 672M/18-4-95 & 1510M/

IV.—CONTROL.

28. No time should be lost in introducing into the Legislative Council a short Act empowering Government to appoint a Mahomedan Burial Board on a footing somewhat similar to the Christian Burial Board. The Chairman of the Corporation should be *ex-officio* Chairman, and a Medical Officer of Government a member of the Committee, but the rest of the members should be Mahomedan gentlemen nominated by Government. To the control of this Board should be made over all public Mahomedan cemeteries, the list being specified in the Act, while it should have power to receive control of others by agreement with the owners or by purchase. It is probable that several of the cemeteries which are now shewn as public, subject to the condition that interments require the consent of the owner, would for a small consideration be made over to the Board and be made really public; also that some of the cemeteries which have been closed during the last 12 or 15 years by the owners might be purchased for a small sum and also be made available to the public.

Legislation recommended to constitute Board.

29. The public cemeteries should be available to all Mahomedans, Sheahs as well as Sunnis, but the Mahomedan law is altogether opposed to Hindus being buried in any portion of Mahomeden cemeteries. Altogether separate cemeteries should be provided for their interment.

Cemeteries should be reserved for Mahomedans.

30. The Board should be called upon to fix such a scale of fees as would provide for the proper custody and maintenance of the burial-grounds. It would be for it to decide whether it should take any measures to provide a Mollah, or only to dig the grave and leave the parties to make their own arrangements for a Mollah. We see no reason to suppose that higher fees need be required than are at present paid. It should also frame rules for the interment of paupers.

Cemetery to be maintained from fees.

31. In the concluding sentence of paragraph 3 of the Government Resolution, the opinion is expressed that we shall find it desirable to ascertain the intention of the municipalities concerned regarding the provision of additional space. This we have not done, partly because our report has been so much delayed, and it would have taken further time to obtain the opinion of the two Municipalities on our proposals, but still more because our proposal affects the amalgamated Corporation, and could not well be adapted to the existing municipalities.

Reasons for not consulting Municipalities.

32. If therefore the Government approve of our proposals, it will be best first to obtain legal power through the legislature to give effect to them, and then after the amalgamation has been effected to apply to the Corporation to recognise its obligation in this matter.

D.S.M
10.6.96

L+M Dept

Read again G.O's. Nos. 437 M/3-4-94, 1229 M/7-9-94, 672M/18-4-95 & 1510M/16-9-95.

C.Nos. 3262 M 3496 M

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ORDER No 1000-M dt 15-6-96.

The question of the closure of certain Muhammadan burial grounds in the City of Madras was, on a communication on the subject from their Health officer, first brought by the Commissioners before Government in March 1894.

2 Instructions in this matter have been delayed in order that a careful inspection of Muhammadan burial grounds in Madras might be made by the Sanitary Commissioner, and that information might be obtained as to the action taken in Bombay and Calcutta in regard to the closure of Muhammadan cemeteries in those cities.

3 The Government, in the hope that the closure of such burial grounds as were held by its Sanitary adviser to call for immediate action in this direction might be ~~directed~~ effected with the ~~approval~~ acquiescence of those most concerned, has taken ~~nec~~ measures to consult some of the leading Muhammadan inhabitants and Moolavies of Madras, and has sought to enlist the influence and assistance of the Prince of Arcot in carrying out a measure which is imperatively necessary, not only for the well being of the Muhammadan Community, but also for that of their fellow citizens of all classes, with regard to whom it may be remarked that the closure of the burial grounds used by them has already been extensively enforced. His

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8. Mohooboo Haji's family burial-ground.	No. 12, Moochiparah Road.	0·85	Private	No	Yes, for about 50 years.	
9. Meer Sabanally's family burial-ground.	No. 31, Baniapookur Road.	0·05	Ditto	No	Yes, for about 100 years.	
10. Moulvie Mughurally's family burial-ground.	No. 8, Cantopher's Lane.	0·20	Ditto	No	Yes, for about 40 years.	
11. Jaffur Jemadar's family burial-ground.	No. 25, Gorostan Lane.	0·05	Ditto	No	No, for about 20 years.	
12. Cazi Bagh or Syud Tajimul Hosein's family burial-ground.	No. 8, Tiljulla Bucher Khanna Road.	1·00	Ditto	No	Yes, for about 100 years.	
13. Meajan Shaikh's family burial-ground.	No. 23, Kurryah Bazar Road.	0·10	Ditto	No	No, for about 50 years.	
14. Moonshee Hoseinally's family burial-ground.	No. 23, Middle Road.	0·04	Ditto	No	Yes, for about 100 years.	
15. Syud Moulvie Mahomed. Woomeer's and Meer Mehirally's family burial-ground.	No. 15, Meer Mehirally's Lane.	0·10	ditto	Yes	Yes, for about 20 years.	
16. Raj Moonshee's family burial-ground.	No. 5, Bibibagan Lane.	0·10	Ditto	No	No, for about 12 years.	
17. Moonshee Abdool Manna's family burial-ground.	No. 3, Doogdugipara Road.	0·25	Ditto	No	Yes, for about 35 years.	

of Act I of 1884, as amended by Act II

7

14

							There is only one pucca grave occupying 56 s. feet and 25 kutcha graves occupying 750 s. feet. About 16 cottahs of land are yet unoccupied.
							Whole of the area is occupied by kutcha graves. No space is left unoccupied.
					One burial in 1887 ...		There are only 3 pucca graves. The number of kutcha graves could not be ascertained. About one-fourth of the area is yet unoccupied.
							There are about 20 kutcha graves scattered over the ground. No space is unoccupied.
					Two burials in 1887 ...		There are 9 pucca graves occupying 504 s. feet and about 8 kutcha graves occupying 240 s. feet. About 19 cottahs of land are yet unoccupied.
							There is only one pucca grave. The number of kutcha graves could not be ascertained. No space is unoccupied.
					One burial in 1887 ...		There are no kutcha graves. About three-fourths of the area is occupied by pucca graves. About one-fourth of the area is yet unoccupied.
							There are only five kutcha graves occupying an area of 150 s. feet. About 1,650 s. feet of space is yet unoccupied.
							There are only about 10 kutcha graves occupying a space of about 300 s. feet. About 1½ cottah of land is yet unoccupied.
					One burial in 1887 ...		There are only nine kutcha graves occupying an area of 270 s. feet. About 45 cottahs of land are yet unoccupied.

15

29 Islam	No. 11, Tangra	1·60	...	Private	...	No	...	Yes, for about 50 years.	This cem one M whom

Excellency in Council regrets that the action so taken has been with

16. Christian burial-ground.	Upper Circular Road, No. 45.	About 3 bigahs.	Private ...	Not registered	In use about 20 years.	This piece of land was purchased by the Revd. Long for the burial of the Hindu converts; the Revd. Hall is in charge.	Arrangements for burials are ma by the Revd. Hall. He allots t graves, and he is responsible.	No fees levied; cost of constructing grave is paid by the relatives.	Graves are made pucca.	None ... ... Burials, 10.	Only native converts.	Three-fourths of the area is left unoccupied.
17. Mogul burial-ground.	North Sealdah Roadway.	About 3 bigahs.	Private ..	Yes	In use about 4 years after the Kurbullah Gorustan was closed.	This piece of land was purchased by Aja Syud Shaduck for the use of the Moguls; it is a wakf property. Aja Syud Shaduck is appointed as mutwalli by the community; there is paid servant in charge, paid by the community.	The man in charge arranges for t burials. Permission is required each case from the mutwalli; man in charge arranges for gra and is responsible for.	No fees are levied, relatives of the dead pay for digging graves. Paupers and unknown persons are buried without any cost.	Pucca fombs can be made on payment for the land occupied; no rate is fixed.	No register is kept ... Burials, 9.	Only Shiahs are buried here.	About half of the area is unoccupied.
18. Cossai Gorustan.	Do. No. 27...	About 2 bigahs.	Private ...	Yes ...	In use upwards of 20 years.	This plot of land was purchased by father of Sobajan Cossai; it is now in charge of Sobajan Cossai's son, Haj Syud Jan Mahomed; it is made over to Gowshe Mollah, who is paid by the owner; there is a Garkud there.	Permission required to bury d bodies in each case; the relati may burry dead bodies accord to their choice, Mollah in cha allots the graves, 6 feet in de in dry season and 5 feet durb rains. Mollah is responsible; and 4 is the ordinary cost for digg a grave.	No fees levied; the payment of cost for digging graves is paid by the relatives of the dead.	Pucca graves may be made on payment of the land occupied.	No register is kept ... Burials, 15.	Only Cossais are buried here.	One-fourth of the area is unoccupied, and rest is occupied by pucca and kutcha graves.

B. C. GANGULI, *Overseer, Ward No.* 2.

WARD III.

1. Abdool Mujeed's family burial-ground.	No. 16, Chingreehatta Road.	0·50	Private	No	Not in use since the last 15 years.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	There is only one pucca grave occupying 38 s. feet of land and 5 kutcha graves occupying 150 s. feet. About 9 cottahs are still unoccupied.
2. Jonobally Sheikh's family burial-ground.	No. 97, Chingreehatta Road.	0·23	Ditto	No	Yes, for about 30 years.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	There are no pucca graves. Area occupied by kutcha graves is about 3½ cottahs. One cottah (about) of land is still unoccupied.
3. Haji Sarajoodin's family burial-ground.	No. 99, Chingreehatta Road.	0·13	Ditto	No	Yes, for about 20 years.	.....	.....	.....	.....	One burial in 1887 ...	.....	There are 3 only kutcha graves, space unoccupied is 1,280 s. feet.
4. Abashally Khan's family burial-ground.	No. 16, Mochiparrah Road.	0·95	Ditto	No	No, for about 30 years.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	There are only 3 pucca graves; occupying 84 s. feet and 40 kutcha occupying 1,200 s. feet. About 16 cottahs are yet unoccupied.
5. Mahomed Abdool Kohim's family burial-ground.	No. 21, Rubia Gully.	0·10	Ditto	No	Yes, for about 100 years.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	One-half of the area is occupied by pucca graves and one-fourth by kutcha ones. About one-fourth of the area is yet unoccupied.
6. Moonshee Nababjan's family burial-ground.	No. 5, Rubia Gully.	0·05	Ditto	No	No, for about 30 years.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Only 4 pucca graves are scattered about the place, and the rest of the land has been leased out, and built upon with huts.
7. Moulvie Ahmed's family burial-ground.	No. 14, Rubia Gully.	0·05	Ditto	No	Yes, for about 100 years.	.....	.....	.....	.....	One burial in 1887 ...	.....	About three-fourths of the area is occupied by pucca graves and one-fourth by kutcha graves. No space is left unoccupied.

Excellency in Council regrets that the action so taken has been without results other than opposition based sole

18. Moonshee Rusidas Juma's family burial-ground.	No. 5, Tiljulla Road.	0·95	Private ...	No ...	Yes, for about 70 years.	.....	.....	.....	.....	One burial in 1887 ...	.....	There are six pucca graves occupying a space of 1,300 s. feet and about 15 kutcha graves occupying 4,500 s. feet of space. About 10 cottahs of land are yet unoccupied.
19. Chotta Gobra Gorostan.	Nos. 11 and 13, Gobra Gorostan Road.	2·25 Bgs.	Public ...	Yes. ...	Yes, for about 60 years.	This burial-ground was opened by one Shaikh Nucurry, the father of the present owner, Jamoo Bebee. It is not wakf. It is now in charge of its present owner. There is no other establishment excepting a grave-digger, whose fees are detailed in the next column.	No permission is required for each burial. Corpses can be buried anywhere between the hours of sunrise and 9 P. M. Graves are dug 3 to 4 feet deep. No one is responsible for the depth of grave. The cost of digging a grave varies from annas 2-6 to annas 6. The owner of the burial-ground arranges for digging.	The fees for burials are annas 6 to annas 12 for children, and annas 10 to Rs. 1-8 for adults including the cost of digging the graves. The owner gets the fees. In case of paupers or unknown persons, the bearers of the corpse assisted by the grave-diggers did the graves.	No space is reserved for pucca tombs. This cemetery is used by the lowest class of people, who cannot possibly afford to pay for pucca tombs. The owner has no idea of the fees for such tombs.	Yes, a register of burials is kept by Shaikh Abdulla, who is paid Rs. 5 by the Suburban Commissioners and Rs. 7 by the Calcutta Commissioners. The number of burials during the past year were as follows:— January ... 23 February ... 21 March ... 32 April ... 25 May ... 19 June ... 10 July ... 8 August ... 17 September ... 11 October ... 29 November ... 25 December ... 40 2 burials in 1887 ...	Only Hindoos are allowed to be buried here.	There is only one pucca grave in this cemetery occupying an area of 50 s. feet. All the rest of the area is occupied by kutcha graves. No space is left unoccupied, and the old graves are exhumed to make place for new comers.
20. Khoyratty Khan's burial ground.	No. 27, Chingreehatta Road.	1·00.	Private ...	No ...	Yes, for about 50 years.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	There are 13 pucca graves occupying an area of 713 s. feet. The area occupied by kutcha graves and of that yet left unoccupied cannot be ascertained.
21. Meer Asrufally's private family burial-ground.	No. 23, Chingreehatta Road.	0·25	Ditto ...	No ...	No, for 10 years.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	There is only one pucca grave occupying an area of 50 s. feet. The area occupied by kutcha graves and of that yet unoccupied cannot be ascertained. A portion of the ground has been leased out and built upon.
22. Gobra Gorostan.	No. 1, Gobra Gorostan Road.	5·99 Biggahs	Public ...	Yes ...	Yes, for about 100 years.	The present owner, Shaik Hiroo, holds a 55 gram *patta* from Mr. Billon, dated 20th January 1874. He could not say how this land came into the possession of his family, or who opened this cemetery. It is not wakf land. There is no other establishment excepting a grave-digger, whose rates of wages are detailed in the next column.	No permission is required for each burial; bodies can be buried at any place from sunrise to 9 P.M. The graves are dug to a depth of 3½ to 4 feet. No one is responsible for this. The cost of digging a grave is 4 annas only. The owner arranges for digging.	The following is the scale of fees charged for burials:— Children, annas 5 to annas 8. Adults, Re. 1 to Rs. 1-4 The fees go to the owner, who pays the cost of digging the graves out of them. In case of paupers or unknown persons, the cost of digging is paid by subscription, or the work is done gratuitously by the grave-digger.	The owner recollects only one instance when a pucca grave was constructed and a fee of Rs. 7 charged. No space is left for pucca graves exclusively. The owner cannot state definitely what fees will be charged if parties want to build such graves in future.	Yes, a register of burials is kept by one Shaikh Abdulla, who also registers the burials of cemetery No. 19, and who is paid Rs. 5 by the Suburban Commissioners and Rs. 7 by the Calcutta Commissioners. The number of burials from 1st January to 31st December 1887 is as under:— January ... 59 February ... 35 March ... 29 April ... 56 May ... 50 June ... 30 July ... 41 August ... 45 September ... 37 October ... 65 November ... 43 December ... 79	All sects of Mahomedans only are buried here. The corpses of the Campbell Hospital, after undergoing the process of dissection are interred here.	There are 18 pucca graves occupying an area of 1,100 s. feet About a bigah and a half of land is yet unoccupied.

Excellency in Council regrets that the

action so taken has been without results

23. Ajune Khan, Ajim Khan, Ismile Khan, and Isriel Khan's family burial-ground.	No. 12, Police Hospital Road.	1·00 ...	Private ...	No ...	Yes, for about 40 years.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	There are only two pucca graves occupying an area of 100 s. feet. The number of kutcha graves cannot be ascertained. The quantity of unoccupied land is about 10 cottahs.
24. Azim Khan's family burial-ground.	No. 2, Onraits' 1st Lane.	0·15 ...	Ditto ...	No. ...	Yes, for about 60 years.	.....	.....	.....	.....	One burial in 1887 ...	.....	.....	There are only two pucca graves occupying an area of 100 s. feet and three kutcha graves occupying 60 s. feet. About two cottahs are yet unoccupied.
25. Moulvie Ahmed's family burial-ground.	No. 27, Goracband Durga Road.	0·50 ...	Ditto ...	No ...	Yes, for about 50 years.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	There are 12 pucca graves occupying an area of 716 s. feet. The number of kutcha graves and the quantity of unoccupied land could not be ascertained.
26. Talbagan burial-ground.	No. 6, Tiljulla 1st Lane.	8·56 Bgs. ...	Public ...	Yes ...	Yes, for about 100 years.	It is collectorate land, now in possession of Mahorjan Bewah, Ajimun Bewah, and Luthoo Lusker. The parties could not inform me how this land came into the possession of their family or who opened the burial-ground. It is in charge of Moulvie Ismile, who has been appointed by the present owners, and who gets a commission of one anna only per every rupee of collection.	No permission is required for each burial; bodies may be buried anywhere the relatives wish between sunrise and 9 P. M. The graves are dug from 3 to 4 feet in depth. No one is responsible for this. The grave-digger arranges for digging, and gets from the owner one-half of the fees after deducting Moulvie Ismile's commission as detailed in the preceding column.	The following fees are charged for burials:— Adults, Re. 0·4 to 1·8. Children, As. 4 to As. 5. The fees go to the owners after the Moulvie's one anna per rupee and the grave-digger's moiety of the balance are deducted. Paupers and unknown persons are buried free of costs. The work of digging the graves is done gratuitously by the grave-digger in the latter case.	No space is reserved for pucca tombs. The owners charge Rs. 18 for pucca graves.	A register of the burial of the Suburban population is kept by Moulvie Ismile, who is renumerated in the manner detailed in the two previous columns, and of the Town population by Kaji Aftauddin, who is paid Rs. 7 by the Town Commissioners and Rs 5 by the Suburban Commissioners for keeping a similar register at Kasiabagan cemetery in Ward No. 4. The number of burials from the 1st of January to the 31st of December 1887 is shewn below:— January ... 30 February ... 18 March ... 28 April ... 20 May ... 38 June ... 15 July ... 19 August ... 28 September ... 31 October ... 17 November ... 12 December ... 33	All sects of Mahomedans only are allowed to be interred here.	There are 5 pucca graves occupying an area of 250 s. feet. The area occupied by kutcha graves and that of the space unoccupied cannot be ascertained.
27. Moulvie Mahomed Toiub's family burial-ground.	No. 26, Goracband Durga Road.	2·10 ...	Private ...	No ...	Yes, for about 50 years.	It is a wakf land and made such by the present owner. There is no establishment for this burial-ground.	Persons belonging to, or closely connected with, the family of the owner are allowed to perform their burials at this place without any permission and at any time and place. The graves are dug from 4 to 5 feet deep. No one is responsible for the depth of graves. There is no fixed rate for digging the graves, which is arranged by the relatives of the deceased.	No fees are charged for burials.	No space is reserved for pucca tombs.	No regular register of burials is kept. 20 burials in 1887.	Only the relatives of the owner are allowed to perform their burials here.	There are only pucca graves occupying an area of 210 s. feet. The area occupied by kutcha graves and that of the unoccupied land cannot be ascertained.
28. Samsurnessa Begum's family burial-ground.	No. 30, Tangra Road.	6·00 ...	Ditto ...	No ...	Yes, for about 40 years.	About 40 years ago it was purchased by private sale by one Moonshee Aminuddy, who made it a wakf land. It at present belongs to Samsurnessa Begum, and is in charge of Mahomed Isahuk, who is paid Rs. 5 by her.	No permission is required for each burial, as persons only belonging to the family of the owner have access into it. The graves are dug 4 to 5 feet deep. There is no fixed rate for digging graves.	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	Ditto 20 burials in 1887. ...	No outsider has access into this ground.	There are only 14 pucca graves occupying an area of 700 s. feet. About 4¾ bigahs of land are yet unoccupied.

Excellency in Council regrets that the

without results

33. Mirza Mahomedally's family burial-ground.	No. 19, Chingree-hatta Road.	1·00 ...	Private ...	No ...	No, for about 50 years.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
34. Ibrahim Khan's burial-ground.	No. 10, Gobra Road, North.	1·00 ...	Ditto ...	No ...	Yes, for about 25 years.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	There are 8 pucca graves occupying an area of about half a cottah of land. The number of kutcha graves and the area of the unoccupied land cannot be ascertained.
													The number of kutcha graves and the area of unoccupied land cannot be ascertained.

WARD IV.

A. C. MULLICK, *Overseer, Ward No.* 3.

1. Old Ballygunge burial-ground.	Situated on the side of the old Ballygunge Road, premises Nos. 2-1 and 2A.	1 Bigah ...	Private ...	Registered one	Yes, since 90 years.	It is a wakf or gift by the forefather of Moonshi Sonuwoollah, and Mucbul Luskore is the present owner of the place, in which a mosque is situated. There is no establishment for the burials, &c.	Yes, from the persons in charge. There is no fixed hour for interment or fixed place for it.	There are no digging charges and fees for interment in this ground. The relatives of the deceased manage everything for the dead.	Yes, but no fees or purchase-money required in this ground, as it is their own.	There is no one to register, but police report to office.	Mahomedans only	About 2 cottahs and the rest for kutcha graves.
2. Harlpara burial-ground.	Situated on the side of Goriahaut Road, premises No. 38.	1 Bigah and 2 cottahs.	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	Yes, since 45 years.	Its founder and owner was Madhob Chunder Dass, deceased; his widow, Brajosori Dassee, is in possession of the place. There is no establishment or any fixed fee for interment; she charges according to her own option the cost of the burials.	Yes, permission from the relatives of the founder and owner. There is no fixed place or hour for interment.	Ditto ...	Yes, she charges for pucca tombs from Rs. 10 to Rs. 20 in each case.	Ditto ...	For Hindus only...	About 50 s. feet and the rest for kutcha tombs.
3. Gurcha burial-ground.	Situated on the side of Punditia Road.	1¼ Bigahs ...	Public ...	Not ...	Not in use since 12 years.	The founder of this burial-ground was one Sooltan Mistry, deceased; at present the owner of the place in question is one Kolowmudeen Sircar, the brother-in-law of the deceased.	Nothing required now, as the place has been closed.	No permission is necessary, as the place is closed for ever.	Nothing of the kind in this burial-ground as it is closed.	Ditto ...	It was for Mahomedan interments only.	About 1 cottah was for pucca and the rest for kutcha graves.
4. New Kasiabagan burial-ground.	Situated on the side of Tiljulla 1st Lane.	15 Bigahs out of which 4 bigahs for Hindus.	Ditto ...	Yes ...	Yes, in use since 36 years.	It is a gift of Government of Bengal made over to one Kazi Aftaboodeen by the Magistrate of 24-Pergunnahs as a Mutwalli of the place in writing; he has a dome and a bhisty under him, and her performs all the ceremonial duties of the dead body; he has also four grave-diggers, who get annas 3-3 for each grave. The paupers are buried at the expense of Mutwalli.	Yes, permission from the person in charge. There is no fixed place or hour for interment; the site is selected by the relatives, &c., who have to pay to the Mutwalli annas 10 for large graves, and annas 5 for small; out of this fee he pays diggers, bhisty and dome. About annas 6 goes to his pocket. Four feet in depth. Mutwalli is responsible for this.	There are no extra fees besides annas 10 and annas 5 as stated in column 8.	Yes, fee for the pucca grave Rs. 10 to Rs. 20 in each case.	Yes. By Mutwalli, who gets Rs. 7 from Calcutta Municipality and Rs. 3 from Suburban Municipality. The Mollah said about 100 dead bodies are buried in this ground per month.	Sooni and Shiah both, and Hindus buried also in this ground.	About 1 bigah is occupied for pucca graves and the rest for kutcha graves.
5. Kakliah burial-ground.	Situated on the side of busty in Kakliah. There is no number of the premises.	4½ Bigahs ...	Ditto ...	Not ...	Yes, since 80 years.	Its founder was one Jcomun Mistry, deceased: at present it is in charge of his son, Woomer Mistry or Sirkar; there is no Mutwalli or Mollah, it is a public ground, and there are no fixed fees, &c., for interments; the dead bodies are buried according to the option of their relatives and friends, &c.	Yes, permission from the person in charge. There is no fixed place or hour for interment, and there is no fee or cost; the ceremonial duties are performed by the friends of the deceased at their own cost.	There is no fee for digging the graves, &c., in this burial-ground. People who bring the dead body pay the cost, &c.	Yes, but no fee, only permission, is required from the owner.	There is no one to register, but police report to office.	Sooni and Shiah only.	About 27 s. feet is occupied for pucca and the rest for kutcha graves.
6. Kasiabagan burial-ground.	Situated on the side of Tiljulla 1st Lane, premises No. 62-A.	3 Cottahs only	Private ...	Not ...	Since 50 years in use, but casually.	It has been established by one Hazi Soyfoodahamed with a hut and mosque on the land; this place is in his charge; it is his family graveyard only.	Ditto ditto ...	There is no fee for the interment, as strangers are not allowed to be buried.	The whole space is for kutcha and pucca graves as desired.	Ditto ...	Only his family is buried in this ground.	About 80 s. feet is for pucca and the rest for kutcha.
7. Mollahaut burial-round.	Situated on the side of Mollahaut Road, premises No. 21.	4 Bigahs only	Ditto ...	Yes ...	Yes, since 10 years	It has been established by one Rahim Ostagur, the present owner of the place; there is no fee for interment; the relatives or friends, &c., who bring the dead body pay the expenses of all the ceremonial duties of the burials.	Ditto ditto ...	There is no fee for the interment; the cost is paid by the relatives who bring the body for interment.	Yes, about a cottah is reserved for pucca graves and the remainder for kutcha graves.	Ditto ...	Only Sooni Mahomedans.	About 74 s. feet.

Excellency in Council regrets that the action so taken has been without results other than opposition based solely on

29. Islam Shaikh's family burial-ground.	No. 11, Tangra Road.	1·50 ...	Private ...	No ...	Yes, for about 50 years.	This cemetery formerly belonged to one Moonshee Kurumally, from whom it was purchased by one Goushy Ostagur in private sale, from whom it has descended by law of inheritance to the present owner, Islam Shaikh. It was made a wakf land by Goushy Shaikh. There are no mutwallis or moonshees or any other establishment attached to this place.	No permission is required for each burial, which may be performed at any place and at any hour the owner wishes. The owner arranges for digging the graves, which are made 4 to 5 feet deep, and are paid for at no fixed rate by the owner.	No fees are charged for burials. Paupers can be buried free of costs on application to, and with permission of, the owner	No space is reserved for pucca tombs.	No register of burials is kept. Nine burials in 1887.	Only Mahomedans have access into this place.	There are 4 pucca graves occupying an area of 300 s. feet. The number of kutcha graves and the area occupied by them cannot be ascertained. About 1 bigah of land is yet unoccupied.
30. Talbagan Khoyratty Gorostan.	No. 7, Tiljulla 1st Lane.	1·14 Bgs. ...	Public ...	No ...	Yes, for about 100 years.	This piece of land formerly belonged to one Abdul Hadi. No one could state correctly how this came into his possession. After his demise it was purchased by one Jhingun Khan in collectorate sale for arrear of rent, and it at present belongs to him. It is a wakf land and made so by the present owner. It is a free land, left wholly unprotected, affording facilities to all sects of Mahomedans to perform their burials free of costs, and without any restraint whatsoever. There is no establishment attached to it	Burials can be performed by anybody and at all hours of the day and night. There is no regularity as to the depth of graves, and the old ones are now exhumed for making new burials. The bearers of the corpses dig the graves or pay for the work at no fixed rate.	No fees are charged for burials.	No space is reserved for pucca tombs, nor any fee charged for them.	A register of the burials is kept by Kaji Aftauddin, who is paid Rs. 3 by the Suburban Commissioners and Rs. 7 by the Town Commissioners. The number of burials in in this comparatively limited area during the past year is shown below:— January ... 19 February ... 17 March ... 28 April ... 36 May ... 25 June ... 8 July ... 11 August ... 10 September ... 7 October ... 14 November ... 19 December ... 32	Only Mahomedans have access here.	There is only one pucca grave; all the rest of the land is occupied by kutcha graves.
31. Tiljulla Talbagan burial-ground.	No. 6, Tiljulla 1st Lane.	1·99 ...	Ditto ...	Yes ...	Yes, for about 60 years.	This piece of land formerly belonged to one Situl Khan, from whom it was purchased by one Fuqueer-chand Molla, whose wife, Woozirun Bewah, is its present owner. The previous history of this cemetery, like all the rest, is obscure. No information can be obtained as to how Situl Khan came in possession of it or when it was opened. It is now in charge of Moulvie Ismile, who has been appointed by the present owner, and gets a commission of one anna per rupee on the gross collection. There is no other establishment excepting a grave-digger, who gets 50 per cent. of the balance.	Burials can be performed by all sects of Mahomedans only at all hours from 6 A. M. to 9 P. M. and at every place. The graves are dug 3 to 4 feet deep, and the charges for digging are detailed in the previous column.	The following is the scale of fees charged in this cemetery according to the circumstances of the parties:— Adults, Rs. 4·0 to 1·8 Children, „ 1·0 to 0·6 The fees go to the owner after the Moulvie's and the grave-digger's shares are deducted.	No space is reserved for pucca tombs. There is no fixed rate for these tombs. The charges vary from Rs. 20 to Rs. 16 for one tomb occupying an area of (7'·6" ×6')=45 s. feet.	A register of burials, so far as the Suburban population is concerned, is kept by Moulvie Ismile, whose remuneration for this work is detailed in the previous columns The burials of the Town population is registered by Kaji Aftauddin, who is paid Rs. 7 per month by the Town Commissioners and Rs. 3 by the Suburban Comsioners. The number of burials during the past year is shown below:— January ... 28 February ... 21 March ... 39 April ... 48 May ... 46 June ... 23 July ... 21 August ... 17 September ... 18 October ... 18 November ... 30 December ... 49	Only Mahomedans of all classes are allowed to be interred here.	There are only 13 pucca tombs occupying an area of about a cottah; the rest of the are is occupied. There is hardly any space unoccupied.
32. Nazir Doctor's family burial ground.	No. 5, Bekbagan Road.	4·35 ...	Private ...	Yes ...	Yes, for about 50 years.	This ground was purchased by one Beebee Mutty Khanum, who made a free gift of it to one Fuqueer Diamsha, father of the present owner. It is wakf land and made so by the purchaser. There is no establishment for this burial-ground.	No permission is required for ea burial. Only the friends and re tives of the present owner a allowed to perform burials he Graves are generally dug 4 to feet deep. There is no fixed ra for this work. The parties arran for the excavation of the graves.	No fees are charged for burials. Paupers can be buried on application to, and with permission of, the owner.	No space is reserved for pucca tombs, nor any fee charged for the same.	No register of burials is kept.	Only the friends and relatives of the owner are allowed to perform burials here. Hindoos have no access to this place.	There are 19 pucca graves occupying an area of about a cottah of land. The space occupied by kutcha graves and the area of the unoccupied land cannot be ascertained.

Excellency in Council regrets that the action so taken has been without results other than opposition based solely on

8. Ghoogoodangah burial-ground.	Situated in Ghoogoodangah. There is no number of the premises.	8 Bigahs ...	Public ...	Not ...	Yes, was in use since 80 years, but since 12 years it has been stopped.	The founder was one Abdool Aziz and one Jemadar Kharu, deceased; at present Nundo Mistry is in charge of the place; there is no fee for the interment of any dead body; the relatives have to pay the interment expenses from their own pocket.	Yes, permission from the person in charge. There is no fixed place or hour for interment, and there is no fee or cost; the ceremonial duties are performed by the friends of the deceased at their own cost.	There is no fee for the interment; the cost is paid by the relatives who bring the body for interment.	No ...	No, as it has been stopped.	Only Sooni and Shiah Mahomedans are buried.	Almost the whole area is occupied with kutcha graves.
9. Ballygunge burial-ground.	Situated on the side of Ballygunge Circular Road.	11 Cottahs only.	Private ...	Not ...	In use casually since 40 years.	Its founder was one Asruf Mistry, deceased; at present his widow is in charge of the place; there is no scale of charge of any kind of establishment, the place being a private one.	Yes, permission is required from the relatives of the founder; the relatives of the dead brought for interment defray the cost of burial at a fixed rate.	There is no fee for digging the graves; people who bring the dead body pay the cost.	About 2 cottahs are kept for pucca.	No register is kept: police report for the burials.	Only Sooni Mahomedans are buried.	About 2 cottahs.
10. Kasia burial-ground.	Situated on the side of Russa Road, premises No. 133.	24 Bigahs ...	Public ...	Registered No. 272 of 1843.	Yes, in use casually since 100 years.	It has been established by Government of India; at present it is in charge of Prince Rohimwoodin; the cost of burial is defrayed by the heir of the deceased.	Yes, permission is required from the Prince in charge; there is no fixed place or hour for interment.	There is arrangement from Government for digging the grave, &c.	Almost all pucca graves are there.	No register ...	Only Mahomedans	Almost the whole place is occupied by pucca graves.
11. Mootiapara burial-ground.	Situated on the side of Russa Road, premises not numbered.	Area 2 bigahs	Private ...	Ditto ...	Yes, in use since 40 years	Its founder was Prince Satawoodin, deceased; it is now in charge of the said Prince's family; there is no certain fee for interment; people defray the cost of the burials who bring the dead body there for interment.	Yes, permission is required from the relatives of the founder for interment; the cost of the funerals and burials is defrayed by the heir or friends of the deceased.	There is no fee for digging the graves, &c.	There is no pucca graves.	.....	Only Mahomedans are buried in this place.	The space is not occupied by pucca graves.
12. Russa burial-ground.	On the side of Russa Road, premises No. 74.	Area 8 „ ...	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	Yes; it is in use since 50 years casually.	It has been established by Prince Golam Mahomed, deceased; at present his grand-son, Prince Furruck Shah, is in possession of the place. It is his family grave-yard.	Yes, the permission is required from the said Prince for interment, &c.	There is no fee for interment.	There are four pucca graves.	.....	Only for Mahomedans.	About 2 cottahs are occupied by pucca graves.
13. Wooloobaria burial-ground.	In Jamir Mistry's Lane, premises not numbered.	Area 3 „ ...	Public ...	Registered one	Yes; it is in use since 100 years.	The founder was one Asruf Mistry, deceased; it is at present in charge of the neighbours; there is no fee for interment; the cost of this is defrayed by the relatives of the deceased brought for interment.	Yes, permission is required from the heir of the founder for interment, &c.	Ditto ...	There are some old pucca graves existing.	.....	For Mahomedans only.	About 1½ cottahs occupied for pucca graves.

WARD V.

SHAIK SOBIATI, *Overseer, Ward No 4.*

1. Old Kasiabagan burial-ground.	233, Lower Circular Road.	36 ...	Public	No	Not in use 30 years.	Sanad burnt by fire. Wukf, Sahadutalli Khan founder. Fuzle Rohoman present Mutwali; his grantfather, Shaik Kotoobuddin, was appointed Mutwali by the founder. The Mutwalis do not receive any pay, but are remunerated by fees received for the burials; the entire ground is in charge of the Mutwalis, who receive all income derivable from the burial-ground itself, tanks and trees, &c. Under orders of Government, this burial-ground was closed on the 17th July 1858, and a new burial-ground opened at Tiljullah, 1st lane. To prevent injury to existing graves, notice No. 940, dated 2nd August 1858, was served on the Mutwali by the Magistrate of 24-Pergunnahs, and letter No. 1294, dated 6th August 1885, to Abdool Bari and others, was also served, and since that no fresh burials have been made, nor existing graves disturbed.	The burial ground is not in use since 1858.	When this was in use, fees were charged according to the circumstances of the relatives of the dead, paupers being buried without cost.	No space reserved for pucca tombs, nor for graves of any kind.	No burials performed and no register kept.	When in use all sects of Mahomedans were buried indiscriminately all over the place, a portion being set apart for Hindoos only.	¼ pucca and ¾ kutcha graves.

Excellency in Council regrets that the action so taken has been without results

2. Boistobparrah burial-ground.	3, Boistabparah 2nd lane.	12 cottas. By measurement 13 cottas 440 square feet.	Public ...	No ...	Yes, in use for about 70 years.	Not Wukf. The ground was opened for public use by one Sadut Ali Khan, whose heirs sold it to Shaik Ahmedullah, who is the present owner of the ground. The public are allowed to bury their dead under their own supervision, no establishmant of any kind being entertained. The owner receives income from trees and bamboos clumps.	No permission necessary from owner to bury a dead body, which may be interred in any place and at any time at the option of the relatives. The graves are ordinarily 6 feet deep, but this also depends on the option of the relatives, as no one is responsible. The ordinary cost of digging a grave, if properly done, is about 11 annas, but this is arranged for by the relatives of the deceased.	No fee of any kind is charged by the owner. In cases of paupers, the persons bringing them arrange for the digging of graves, &c.	No space reserved for pucca tombs, nor are they allowed.	No register of burials is kept here, the deaths being registered under the law in the police section where the body is brought. 5 burials in 1887.	The ground is allowed for Soonees, who alone are buried here.	Whole are kutcha graves.
3. Doorgapore burial-ground.	50, Tollygunge Circular road.	About 5½ bighas. By measurement 4 bighas 15 cottas.	Ditto ...	No ...	Yes, in use for about 40 years.	Not Wukf. All deeds regarding this filed in the Judge's Court, 24-Pergunnahs. It is founded by Toruf Mistry and Chand Mistry. The land has now been purchased by Erphan Moonshee, Kurfurdessa and Rudurudeen Moonshee. There is no Mollah, nor any other establishment. The land is at present covered with thick jungle; the owners receive the fruits of trees. A portion of it belongs to Moulvi Ahmedulia.	Yes, permission from the owners is necessary. The owners state that they have disallowed any burials being made here, but people stealthily come and bury their dead without their knowledge. Bodies are therefore buried anywhere and at any time, and no one is responsible for any irregularity.	Fees are neither paid nor charged.	No space reserved for pucca tombs.	Ditto ... 4 burials in 1887.	Ditto ditto, but Sheas can also be buried; no Hindoos allowed.	1 pucca grave only and the rest are occupied by kutcha graves.
4. Kamdarbagan burial-ground.	2, Doorgapore lane.	About 1 bigha, 4 cottas 45 square feet.	Ditto ...	No ...	Yes, in use for about 70 years.	Not Wukf. Founded by Kamdar Khan Mohesh Chunder Mitter and Shaik Ahmedullah purchased from the heirs of the founder. The land is at present covered with thick jungle. No establishment of any kind is entertained. The owners receive the fruits of trees.	There is no arrangement for burials, no permission necessary from the owners, the dead bodies being interred at the option of the relatives as to place and time, and there is no regularity observed with regard to depth of graves.	No fee is charged; the relatives dig their own graves.	Ditto ...	Ditto ... 5 burials in 1887.	Ditto ...	2 pucca graves only, and the rest are occupied by kutcha graves.
5. Private burial-ground at Pacoortollah.	44, Chuckerbare road, south.	1 cotta ...	Private ...	No ...	In use for about 100 years.	Azminness Bebee and Mohoboobjan Bebee, daughters of Hyder Shaik, owners.	.....	.....	.....	No burial in 1887.	.....	288 square feet of kutcha graves and 482 square feet still unoccupied.
6. Surfurdeen Mollah and Haniff's burial-ground.	2, Strand road ...	1½ cottas ...	Ditto ...	No ...	In use for 50 years.	.....	.....	.....	.....	No burial in 1887 ...	.....	753 square feet of kutcha graves and 869 square feet still unoccupied.
7 Shaik Hanif's burial-ground.	4, Ditto ...	½ cotta ...	Ditto ...	No ...	Is in use for 54 years.	.....	.....	.....	.....	Ditto ...	.....	60 square yards kutcha graves and 248 square yards still unoccupied.
8. Shaik Ameer Chand's burial-ground.	8, Sankareeparah road.	2 cottas.	Ditto ...	No ...	Is in use for 80 years.	.....	.....	.....	.....	Ditto ...	.....	319 square yards pucca, 726 square yards kutcha graves and 396 square yards still unoccupied.
9. Dr. Bachoo's burial ground.	48, Ditto ...	1½ ditto ...	Ditto ...	No ...	Is in use for about 50 years.	.....	.....	.....	.....	1 burial in 1887 ...	.....	126 square feet pucca, 954 square feet kutcha graves.
10. Ditto ...	8, Bany Madhub Nundon's 2nd lane.	5 ditto ...	Ditto ...	No ...	Closed about 14 years.	.....	.....	.....	.....	No burial in 1887 ...	.....	Whole kutcha graves.
11. Shaik Ahmedullah's burial-ground.	13, Chetla Haut road.	10 ditto ...	Ditto ...	No ...	In use for about 80 years.	.....	.....	.....	.....	2 burials in 1887 ...	.....	About 8 cottahs kutcha graves and about 2 cottahs still unoccupied.
12. Joynudee Mistry's burial-ground.	21, Joynudee Mistry's lane.	About 1 bigha.	Ditto ...	No ...	In use about 50 years.	.....	.....	.....	.....	1 burial in 1887 ...	.....	18 cottahs kutcha graves and 2 cottahs still unoccupied.

B. MOOKERJEE, *Overseer, Ward No.* 5

Excellency in Council regrets that the action so taken has been without results

1. No name.	No. 3, Haroo Ostagur's lane in Sonai.	1 cottah.	Private.	Not registered.	Used at present without the permission of the Municipal Commissioners. In use for about 100 years.	About 100 years ago one Rousun Balbur came to live in the place, and as there was not a good Mahomedan burial-ground there, he allotted a space on the east of his for the burial of his heirs and relatives. Rousun's grand son, Haroo Ostagur, having no son of his own living, while dying bequeathed the house and land to his son's son Mahomed Hossein, and his son-in-law Allabux, who are now the owners and Mutwalis. No paid Mutwalis or Mollahs, no terms, no establishment, no sanad.	No fixed arrangement for burials. Relatives *are buried* at a particular space if wished for by them before death, or else at such graves as are allowed by the surviving kinsmen. The depth of the graves are ordinarily dug three hands. The relatives are responsible for this. No cost of digging a grave is charged here. The relatives arrange for digging.	No fees charged for burials.	No space reserved for pucca tombs, which are none. No fee, rent or price charged.	No register kept; ther no buria 1887.	of burials e had been s during	Soonis are buried. No Hindu.	No pucc grave. Area of a kutcha grave is 6 by 2 feet according to the size of a corpse; it sometimes varies. There seems to be some places still unoccupied by graves.
2. No name.	No. 6, Haroo Ostagur's lane.	2 cottahs.	Private.	Not registered.	Not in use for last 7 or 8 years.	About 60 years ago it was founded by one Bujud Doctor by the side of a musjid erected by him. It has no sanad. On his death it was bequeathed to Meroo Mistry. On the death of Meroo, the burial-ground, together with the musjid, devolved upon Khodabux, Meroo's son, and his son-in-law Rohimbux, who are now the present owners and Mutwals. There is a Mollah named Herasutullah Ahmed who is in charge of the burial-ground and the musjid on the term that he would look after the musjid and burial-ground without any pay.	No fixed arrangement for the burials. No permission required from any person. Relatives are buried at a particular site, if willed by them. The burials are performed at all hours of day. The graves are allotted by the surviving relatives, who dig the grave 5 feet depth and are responsible for the same. No cost of digging. The relatives themselves arrange for the same.	No fees charged for burials.	No space is reserved for pucca tombs, which are none. No fee, rent or price had been ever charged.	No registe kept; the no buri 1887.	of burials re had been als during	Soonis are buried. No Hindu.	No pucca grave. The area of a kutcha grave is ordinarily of 6 by 2 feet, but it varies according to the size of a corpse; I cannot say whether there is still any space unoccupied by a grave.
3. Koburdanga burial ground.	No. 9, Sonai 2nd lane.	2 bighas 10 cottahs.	Public.	Not registered.	Not in use since last 10 years; one man who surreptitiously used the ground without the consent of the owners was prosecuted and convicted during 1887.	One Morian Beebee founded the ground as a burial-place for the Mahomedans in general; no sanad, no wakf. Meer Johuruddee present owner. No mutwali, no Mollah, no person in charge, no establishment.	No burials performed, except one, as mentioned in column 6, during last 10 years.	No fees were charged when used.	No space was reserved for pucca tombs; there are no pucca tombs.	No registe was one 1887.	r kept: there burial in	Soonis and no Hindus.	No trace of cutcha graves; no pucca tomb.
4. Sola-anna Koboristhan.	No. 70, Ekbalpore road.	17 bighas and 18 cottas.	Ditto.	Registered.	In use for last 57 years.	One European woman, who was converted as a Mussulman, purchased the ground. She dug out 2 tanks and burnt 3 brick kilns and made foundations of the musjid, when she died intestate. The property went over to Government. Two Mahomedans of the neighbourhood, named Syud Amanali and Shaik Hyder Buksh, made an application to Government to make over the burial-ground for the use of the Mahomedans. The Government by a deed of grant made over the ground to the said Hyder Buksh and Amanali in 1830, during the administration of Lord Bentinck; date of sanad 30th July 1830. About 10 years ago there was a civil suit in which the Judge of the 24-Pergunnahs appointed Kumuralli and Kurmutalli as Muntazims and Dr. Shumshereali and Md. Haniff as Amins. They are in charge. Mollah Abdul Azeez appointed by the Muntazims, who receives pay Rs. 5 and a share of the profit from the Muntazims.	Arrangement for burials at the rate of 12 annas for adults and 6 annas for children. No permission required for each case. Each body is buried wherever the relatives wish. If they select a site closer to the musjid he has to pay Rs. 2 to Rs. 5. It is said that in some instances Rs. 10 or upwards had been received. If the Mollah is satisfied, he permits to bury corpses beyond proper lines. The Mollah allots the graves; the depths are 3 to 6 feet deep. Mollah responsible for this. The cost for digging for big graves 5 annas, that of small ones 2½ annas. The Mollah arranges for digging.	A fee of annas 7 received for performing burials, besides the cost of digging; an additional one anna is also sometimes received by the Mollah. The fees go to the Muntazims. Paupers only half the cost of digging is charged. No fees for burials.	No space reserved for pucca tombs; about 40 years since there was no pucca tomb erected. A fee of 6 annas to 12 annas is received as rent per annum from the person who encloses the kutcha graves with *garan* or *bamboo* fences.	A register kept; th had app mutali pay of 1 ter the Kuramu of doing work, h the M Azeez. ed him up the gr informat nately r ply with neither gave m mation. able tha man, of public There burials	of burials is Municipality ointed Kura- on a monthly s. 5 to regis burials, but tali, instead himself the s it done by llah, Abdul When I ask- to bring me men who dig ves to get ion, he obsti- fused to com- my request; he himself e any infor- It is desir- the Munici- should have a its own in a pality burial-ground. were 1,039 in 1887.	Soonis. No Hindus.	Area of a cutcha grave is 5 to 7 feet in length, 2 to 5 feet in width; no pucca tombs allowed.

Excellency in Council regrets that the

5. No name.	No. 25, Monimpore lane.	3 Bighas.	Public.	Not registered.	Not in use since 10 years.	Founded by one Joomun Sircar. He erected a musjeed and apportioned the ground for burial purposes of the Mahomedan public. When he died his heirs sold off the land and stopped burials; no sanad, no wakf, no Mollah, none in charge, no establishment.	Not in use for burials.	No fees were received when burials permitted.	.....	No register kept; no burials during 1887.	Sooni.	The property had been divided and sold by parts.
6. Edgah Kobursthan.	No. 12, Sonai 1st lane.	1 Bigha 8 cottahs.	Private, but public are sometimes allowed to bury with special permission.	Not registered.	Yes, in use for about 100 years.	One Kazee Abdur Rozuk founded a musjeed and the land adjoining to it as a place for the burials of his family members. No sanad, Wakf to Syud Nuzurally. Founder Kazee Abdur Rozuk. Present owner Hurmutun Nissa Beebee, who is also mutwali. Golam Rohoman Mollah, who only performs the rites of burials Hurmutun Nissa in charge; no permanent Mollah; no establishment kept whatever. The present owner has received the estate by hereditary right from her father, Syud Nuzurally, to whom the wakf was made by Koolsoonum Nissa Beebee, his mother-in-law, wife of Kazee Abdur Rozuk, to maintain the musjid and the burial-ground from the profits of her estate.	No special arrangement required for the burials. Permission required from Hurmutun Nissa Beebee in each case. Persons are buried wherever the relatives chose; place allotted by Abdul Azeez, the husband of the lady. Depth dug 3 hands. Abdul Azeez is responsible for this. Persons who bring dead bodies arrange for digging either they bring their own men or employ labourers, the cost of which is 6 annas to 8 annas.	No fees levied.	No space is reserved for pucca tombs; no fee, rent or price charged therefor.	No register kept; abont four or five burials performed during 1887.	Sooni only; no Hindus allowed.	There are four pucca graves; the biggest is a bout 8 by 6 feet and the smallest is 5 by 4 feet Kutcha grave's area is 6 by 2 or 3 feet. No space is still unoccupied.
No name.	No. 2, Collaiauddi Ostagur's lane.	3 cottahs.	Private.	Not registered.	Yes, in use for about 60 years.	No sanad. No wakf. Hazee Romjan Mollah, founder. *Mutwallis.*— 1. Hafez Ahmed Ostagur. 2. Solimuddeen ,, 3. Abdul Rohoman ,, 4. Azeem Hossain. Moonshee Mofozuddee acts for Mollah at the time of burials. Receives no pay. The mutwalis are in charge.	No special arrangement for the burials. It is a family burial-ground. No persons other than the relatives are buried, except under special recommendation from one of the owners. Burials are made wherever the relatives wish graves allotted by themselves. The depth is made four hands. Mutwalis are responsible for this. No cost for digging. The relatives arrange for digging.	No fees charged.	No space is reserved for pucca tombs, which are none. No fee, rent, &c., charged.	No register kept; 2 burials made during 1887.	Sooni only.	No pucca graves; kutcha graves occupies 6 by 2 or 3 feet; space still unoccupied where no burials had been performed.
8. No name.	No. 35, Paharpur road.	2 bighas ...	Public ...	Not registered	Closed for 3 or 4 years, but used surreptitiously occasionally, as the present owners do not either live or keep a guard in the place.	The land originally belonged to one Golam Kadur, from whom Zoolfakurdowlla purchased it and founded a burial-ground. The man was in debt, and the ground was sold in execution of a decree against him, when one Mustakhan purchased it, who tried to stop the burials. The ground was again sold in execution of a decree, and one Koonjo Behary Mistry purchased it, who has entirely closed the burials. No sanad, no wakf. Founder Rassaldur Zoolfakardowlla. No matwalis or Mollahs in charge; no terms; no establishment.	Burials now are closed ...	No fees charged when is use.	No space reserved for pucca tombs, no rent or fees charged.	No register kept; there had been two or three clandestine burials during 1887, as appears from personal inspection and inquiry.	Sooni only ...	There are about five pucca graves occupying a space 6 by 2 or 3 feet. Kutcha grave five by two feet. No space seems to be still unoccupied.
9. Zurud Koti.	No. 36, Paharpur road.	2 Cottas ...	Private ...	Ditto ...	Not in use since last 20 years.	One Shumshutudowalla purchased the land about 40 years ago for the purpose of his burial-ground. When he died his brother Ekbaludowlla buried him there, and two other of his relatives were also buried. No sanad, no wakf. Founder Shumshutudowlla; Prince Jehan Kadur Mirza Mutwalli; no Mollah.	Since last 20 years or upwards no burials.	No fees levied ...	All pucca tombs ...	No register. No burials in 1887.	Sheas ...	Space occupied by pucca tombs 8 to 10 feet in length and 6 to 7 feet in width.
10. Mouza Ahmud Beggka Kobursthan.	Habshee Tallow, Ramnuggur lane, after No. 44, Paharpur road in 24-Pergunnahs.	4 Bighas 174×164 ...	Public ...	Ditto ...	In use since last 30 years.	In 1862 Mirza Ahmud Begg had purchased the ground in a sale for execution of decree against Moonshee Subdur. No sanad. no wakf. Founder Moonshee Subdur. Present owners :— Mirza Guzunfur Ahmud, ,, Abbash Ahmud, ,, Hossain Ahmud, Mutwalis. Mollah Agah Md. Alli in charge, appointed by the Mirzahs on a pay of Rs. 6 per month, on a term; he looks after the musjid and the burial-ground	No special arrangement required for the burials, no permission required, corpses buried according to the wishes of the relatives. Mollah allots the graves, which are dug 5 feet deep. He is responsible for this. Cost of digging Re. 1. The Mollah arranges for digging.	No fees imposed. Paupers are buried without any cost of digging.	No space reserved for pucca tombs, no fee, rent or price charged.	No register kept. About 250 burials in 1887.	All sects of Mahomedans, Sooni and Sheas; no Hindus.	Space occupied by a pucca grave is 6 to 10 feet in length and 4 to 7 feet in width. There are about 30 of them. Kutcha grave occupies 6 by 2 or 3 feet. No space still unoccupied.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Name of burial-ground.	Locality, name of street and Municipal No. of premises.	Approximate area in bighas.	Whether public or private.	Whether registered under section 254 of the Municipal Act, or not.	Whether at present in use or not. If not in use, how long has it been out of use? If in use, how many years in use?	General history and other particulars, viz. date and nature of sanad, if any; whether wakf or not; name of founder or present owner; names of Mutwalis or Mollahs or other person or persons in whose charge the burial ground now is, and by whom appointed; and on what terms, if any, the burial-ground has been made over to such persons; what establishment, if any, is employed, and at what rate and by whom paid.	Arrangements under which burials are performed. Is permission required in each case, and if so, from whom? Is each body buried wherever and whenever the relatives wish, or only at fixed hours and in allotted graves? If the latter, who allot the graves? To what depth are the graves ordinarily dug? Who is responsible for this? What is the ordinary cost of digging a grave? Who arranges for digging?	Are any, and if so what, fees levied from persons performing burials besides the actual cost of digging the grave? Give full details of such fees, if any. To whom do such fees go? What is done as regards payment of fees and cost of digging grave in the case of paupers or of unknown persons?	Is any space reserved for pucca tombs? Is any fee, ground rent, or purchase money for the ground occupied required in such cases, and if so at what rates?	Is any register of burials kept? If so by whom, on what salary, and by whom paid? What were the number of burials month by month according to such register from 1st January to 31st December 1887.	What sect of Mahomedans are buried in this ground? Are Hindus also buried? Is a separate space allotted for Hindus or for each sect of Mahomedans.	What area is occupied by (*a*) pucca graves, (*b*) cutcha graves? Is any, and if so what, space still unoccupied by either kind of graves?
11. No name	No. 1, Ramnuggur lane, or No 44, Paharpur road.	2 Bighas ... 2 plots 48×25 92×28	Public ...	Ditto ...	Not in use about 12 years.	Dhunnoo Dhobi, a Mussulman, purchased the land and made it a burial-ground. He allowed burials on receipt of money in shape of the rent of land. He incurred some debt and mortgaged the ground to Baboo Tarinee Churn Paul, who is now the owner; no sanad, not wakf, no mollah in charge, no establishment.	No burials performed since last 12 years.	When in use fees realized as ground rent; only Sheas were buried.	Kutcha tombs not observable. Big pucca tombs some 8 or 10 in number are existing.	No register. No burials in 1887.	Sheas only; cannot say what space is still unoccupied.	There are about 10 pucca tombs; the biggest is 12 feet in length and 7 feet in breadth; the smallest, is 6 feet in length and 4 feet in breadth.
12. Emambarah.	No number, Emambarah, Garden Reach road, Matiabruz, within 24-Pergunnahs.	A bigha and half is the entire area of the holding, but the Emambarah proper measures about 10 cottahs.	Private ...	Ditto ...	Was not in use for about 27 years till the latter end of 1887.	Founded by His Majesty the King of Oudh about 30 years ago.	There were 8 burials including the King's interment. 2 Shahezadahis, 5 Begums and 1 King.	...	All pucca tombs ...	No register kept. No burials in 1887.	Sheas ...	Cannot say area of the tombs.
13. No name...	No. 43-6, Ramnuggur lane.	1 bigha of which 4 cottahs are used for the burials. 80×66.	Public ...	Not registered	In use for last 30 years.	About 30 years ago one Zenut Patani purchased one bigha of land. Those who did not like to take their dead into a public or khyrattee burial-ground used to take their relatives into this land, which the owner, Zenut Patani, lets or allows burials on receipt of a good sum of money according to the circumstances of men and the method of graves or tombs. No sanad, not wakf; founder Zenut Patani; no mutwali; no paid Mollah. Zenut Patani in charge of the ground. No establishment.	Persons bringing their dead have to settle with Zenut Patani what amount of money they have to pay in shape of rent or price of land. Permission required from her. Each body is buried wherever the relatives wish. No one allots graves. Graves are dug at the cost of persons bringing dead, and at their will and responsibility. The old Zenut Patani only takes her money.	Fees vary from 5 to 50 rupees according to the circumstances of the people or according to the method of the graves or tombs. All fees go to the old woman. No paupers are allowed.	No space is reserved for pucca tombs. Fee for a pucca tomb varies according to the quantity of land required from Rs. 5 to Rs. 50.	No register kept. Five or six burials during 1887.	All sects of the Mahomedans; no Hindus.	There are about 10 pucca tombs, area from 6 to 8 feet in length and 3 to 6 feet in width.
14. No name...	Sonadinghee, 1st lane.	4 bighas ...	Public ...	Registered ...	Was in use since November 1887.	Juggesur Mistry opened a Hindu burial ground under the permission of the Municipal Commissioners, dated , in a land leased from the Ghosals of Bhookoylash. He buried three dead bodies. The residents of the locality made strong representations. The burials are now stopped.	Persons who brought the dead selected the sites for burials. The depth dug out 3 to 5 feet deep. They themselves dug out the holes in the present instances.	Fees realized from 6 annas to 12 annas for adults; the fees went to Juggesur, the owner.	No pucca tombs made.	No register; three burials in 1887.	Hindus only ...	Three kutcha graves occupied space about 16 feet in length and 10 feet in breadth.

JOGENDRA DEB, *Overseer, Ward No.* 6.

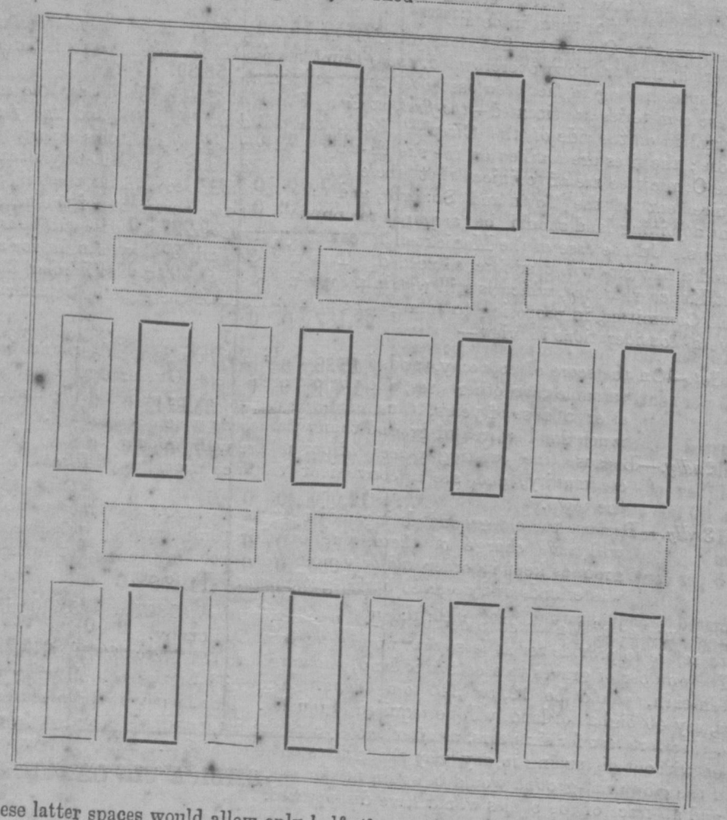
These grounds would last for four or five years, which would give the first year's graves of the new ground about ten years to be untouched, and even then fresh ground would be available by using the cross spaces as shown in the following sketch :—

References.

1st Year's graves, marked _____

4th Year's graves, marked _____

11th Year's graves, marked _____



As these latter spaces would allow only half the number of graves per cottah, they would be exhausted in 18 months, but this would extend the time the old graves would lie fallow, and the ground would be worked over in lines parallel to the eleventh year's graves.

By following out this system these lands could be used for an indefinite time.

The Committee would recommend that separate portions of the cemeteries should be set apart for the burial of *Sunnis* and *Sheahs*, and entirely separate portions allotted for Boistums and low caste Hindus, who are now interred in these grounds, at least in Manicktollah and Tiljullah.

In order to provide for the burial of Hindu infants, the Committee recommend the acquisition of a plot of ground measuring about two bighas immediately adjoining the Kallighat Burning Ghât.

A detailed estimate is attached to this report, showing the area of the lands to be acquired and the probable cost.

The Committee would also recommend that the Mogul community be permitted to provide themselves with a separate place of interment, the number of the community being very limited, and the probable death not exceeding three or four annually; they think that the spot of ground chosen by them in Gurpar and purchased by them for this purpose may be permitted to be so used if surrounded with masonry walls not less than eight feet high.

R. C. STERNDALE, *Vice-Chairman.*

JADUB CHUNDER GHOSE,
J. BLACKBURN,
SYUD AHMUD ALI,
R. C. CHANDRA,
M. D. WAHAJOODDEEN,
} *Members.*

ALIPORE,
The 12*th March* 1879.

Approximate Estimate for acquiring lands for the extension of the Chitpore, Tiljallah and Ekbalpore Mahomedan Burial Grounds, and for opening a new one at Kancoorgatchee.

	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
24 bighas 10 cottahs and 1 chittack of land lying at Chitpore, at Rs. 100 per cottah	49,006 4 0		
Add 15 per cent. for compulsory possession	7,350 15 0		
Add 5 per cent. for contingencies ...	2,450 4 0	58,807 7 0	
30 bighas and 19 cottas of land lying at Kancoorgatchee, at Rs. 35 per cottah	21,665 0 0		
Add 15 per cent. for compulsory possession	3,249 0 0		
Add 5 per cent. for contingencies ...	1,083 0 0	25,997 0 0	
Add cost for removing tiled and gole-pattah sheds standing upon the land ...	.....	200 0 0	
56 bighas and 7½ cottahs of land lying at Tiljullah, at Rs. 25 per cottah ...	28,187 0 0		
Add 15 per cent. for compulsory possession	4,228 0 0		
Add 5 per cent. for contingencies ...	1,409 0 0	33,824 0 0	
Estimated compensation for clearing buildings, houses, &c.	.....	7,000 0 0	
20 bighas of land at Ekbalpore, at Rs. 30 per cottah	12,000 0 0		
Add 15 per cent. for compulsory possession	1,800 0 0		
Add 5 per cent. for contingencies ...	600 0 0	14,400 0 0	
Estimated compensation for clearing buildings, houses, &c.	.....	5,000 0 0	
			1,45,228 7 0
Total ...	.....	.....	1,45,228 7 0

ALIPORE,
The 17*th March* 1879.

UMBICA CH. GANGULI,
Assessor.

H. P. & others—Reg. 1629C—172—14-1-89.

[9]

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT.

Rec 3262 M/95
1510 Ldt 16-9-95
1006 Ldt 24-6-95
672 Ldt 18-4-95
1229 Ldt 7-9-94
437 Ldt 3-4-94

Local ... al Dept.
CURRENT No. 3496M

From

The Secretary to the
Govt. of Bengal.

No. 852 S.M.

Dated 2"Nov. 1895.

Received 11"..

Enclosures /

SUBJECT.

Forwarding for information a copy of a report submitted by the Committee appointed by Govt. in 1887 to consider and report upon the whole subject of Muhammadan interments in Bengal.

Again G.O., dated 16th September 1895, No. 1510 M.

Current No. 3262 M. of 1896, dated 24th October '95 from the Secretary to the Govt of Bombay.

Current No. 3496 M. of 1896, dated 2nd November '95 from the —do— Bengal.

FOR ORDERS.

I think we must now take action under the closing of the burial grounds (15 in number) recommended by the Sanr: Govt:- This will suffice as a beginning. For the future we might call on him & the Pres.t of the Municp.a to report as suggested by the C.S.

There has been an extraordinary delay in submitting these papers, which should have been explained

13/5/96 15/5/96

I concur. Let me see the draft letter before it is issued.

A.S.H 18.5.96

Please see the notes and orders in G.O.'s Nos. 672 M., dated 18th April 1895, & 1510 M., dated 16th September 1895.

2. In the second of the orders the Governments of Bombay and Bengal were requested to furnish information as to whether it has been found necessary on sanitary grounds to close any of the muhammadan burial grounds within the limits of the Bombay and Calcutta municipalities and if any have been closed to give particulars regarding the size of the grounds the dates on which they were closed & the steps taken to provide substitutes for them & also information as to whether any difficulty had been felt in enforcing

Muhammedan
Closing of burial grounds –
Madras Municipality

FOR ORDERS.

3262 & 3496 Rn.

H.M. & Coie

Govt. has begun to deal with all creeds but the Mussalman and there is no valid reason for allowing that adherent of that religious practice which the Govt-Genl's Calcutta to no other section of the community and the allowing of which is contrary to all sanitary principles. Bombay has made a beginning but has not yet reached the stage which exists here: no Calcutta burial grounds have apparently been closed as fast as found necessary without any actual resistance of authority. Perhaps the President & the Sanitary Comrs might meet and after personal consultation draw up a definite programme for the work of gradually closing all the Muhammedan burial grounds which are from the Sanitary point of view objectionable beginning only with those which are the worst. Then might be closed ab one another but taken each year and so on until they are all closed up. The touch of this plan would be that it might lead to the Muhammedans using the grounds which are left open and holding onto grants

[25 A.]
1,000—21-3-96.

DEPARTMENT.

C. No.

FOR ORDERS.

using the new ones at all. The position is a difficult one and it is hard to form any definite opinion as to the wisest way of dealing with it. There will probably much outcry if what the Sanitary Comrs urge be done is done all at once but I doubt so much if there will be ~~much more~~ any thing else. If Govt does not demand outcry and some small attempts perhaps to resist there can be no doubt that Dr Kings views are upon the Sanitary Point of view correct and that a very general closing of Muhammedan cemeteries in Madras is imperatively necessary.

HD
12/5/96.

Closing of Mahomedan Burial Grounds in Madras

FOR ORDERS.

3262 & 3496 M

H. E. THE GOVERNOR. (3)

THE HON'BLE MR. H. W. BLISS, C.I.E. (1)

THE HON'BLE MR. J. GROSE, C.I.E. (2)

C 12/5

Read again

G.O.s nos. 437 M, 3.4.94 ; 1229 M, 7.9.94 ; 672 M, 18.4.95 & 1510 M, 16.9.95

C. nos 3262 M & 3496 M

The question of the closing of certain Muhammadan burial grounds in the City of Madras was first mooted in communication on the subject from the Health Officer put by the Governor before Govt in March 1894.

The original proposal was to close all burial grounds belonging to the different panchayats situated in certain wards of the City of Madras Municipality.

Instructions in this matter have been obtained in order that a careful inspection

Order.

The question of closing certain Muhammadan burial grounds in the town of Madras was first mooted by the Municipal Commissioner in March 1894, on the recommendation of the Health officer. Their original proposal was to close all the burial grounds in certain wards, but the Sanitary Commissioner, after a thorough inspection made under the instructions of Government, reported, in his letter No 265 of 11.2.95, read & embodied in G.O. No 672 M of 18.4.95, that for the present it would only be necessary to close fifteen grounds, specified by him.

2. At the outset opposition was shown to the proposal by the Muhammadan Community, & in view of this the Maulvis & leading Mussulmen of the place were asked.

asked to put forward their argu-
ments against the proposed measure
accordingly does and have
They have, from religious scruples
opposed the closing of any one of
the grounds referred to, paying no
consideration to the sanitary reasons
for which the proposal was made.
H.E. the Governor-in-Council had
hoped that the leading Muhammadan
Gentlemen of Madras would later have
taken the opportunity of reconsidering
their hostile attitude towards
this proposed sanitary measure, -
would have stated their views on
the question of providing fresh
burial grounds in convenient
situations, & of fitting them up in
a manner agreeable to the
Muhammadan community, in
which case every endeavour would
have been made of meeting their
views wishes. The Govt however
regrets to find that this has not
been the case.

3. While regretting the necessity
for the action that must now be
taken, the Govt H.E. the Gov.-C
considers that it is unobjectionable
that the health & safety of the
population of a large city like

of the Muhammadan Law
burial grounds in Madras
be made of the Sanitary
Comm^r, and their information
might be obtained as
to the action taken in
Bombay and Calcutta
The Govt
Has the Govt carried
in the hope that the
Closure of such burial
grounds as were
held
by its Sanitary advisers
to call for immediate
action in this direction
might be effected with
the approval of those
most concerned but has
brought
taken measures to
some of the leading
Muhammadan inhabitants
and Mosques of Madras
and has sought
to obtain the cheerful
assistance of the
Corp^n of Madras in carrying
out a measure which
is imperatively necessary
for the well
being of the Muhammadan
Community but also for
that of those fellow
citizens

of all classes with regard
to whom the closure of
the burial grounds used
might
if there has been enforced.
Enforced. His Ex in
Council regrets that the action
so taken has been without
results and that of
the other than Hindu
based solely on grounds
which might equally
be advanced by any
other section of the
Community in a similar
case and which if
accepted would render
sanitary reforms which
are
regarded for the health and
safety of the
population of the
Capital of Southern
India, impossible.
It has been ascertained
that in Bombay the
Muhammadan
burial grounds are
improperly and
that in Calcutta
the burial ground
of that portion of
the Community situated

Madras should be endangered by
a compliance with the views of
a small portion of the community
founded they are on religious
grounds. In Calcutta it has been
found necessary to carry out the
principle, & all Muhammadan
burial grounds within the city,
which were considered objectionable
from a sanitary point of view, were
closed some years ago, & in this step
the Muhammadans of that place
have, as was only reasonable,
acquiesced. In Bombay also a
similar proposal is about to be
carried out. In these circumstances
the Govt is convinced that such a
course is equally desirable in Madras
& therefore the closure of the fifteen
burial grounds recommended by the
Sanitary Commissioner with be sanctioned
& the President of the Municipal Com-
mission will be authorized under to
take steps under sec. 388 of Act I of 1884
to prohibit their use for burial in
future. New burial ground have
already been provided by the municipality
for the use of those persons, who will
be affected by the above order.

5. As this order can only be regarded as a preliminary settlement of this question, the Pres.ᵈ Muni. Comm.ʳ & the Sanitary Commr. will be requested after to report, after personal consultation, what other burial grounds they would recommend to be closed, stating their reasons in each case, & also in what order these grounds should be dealt with.

(From orders)

WWD
30.5.96

Note.

It is submitted that para 4 may be treated as confidential & communicated to the Pres.ᵈ San. Commr. alone.

Muhammadan Burial Grounds
Madras Muni.

(From orders)

H.E the Governor.

Hitherto Burial Grounds have been closed, however, as and that the exception done without opposition of any sort.

5 The portions of the Immediate approach were to close ~~hereto~~ Muhammadan Burial Grounds & a report Submit. The result of the very careful inspection made by Dr. Kenny has been that, for the present, the following ~~are~~ completely close in place of fifteen proposed ~~to~~

The Grounds upon which his suggestions are based are and the law which has already been enforced in the case of other denominations must now, as far as applied to the criteria referred to, ~~the Burial Board~~ Corpn

~~to the Hon'ble~~

6 New burial grounds having already been provided for those who now use the grounds referred to, the President Muni. Comr. will be authorized to take the necessary action under Section 388 of Act I of 1884 as amended by Act of which deals with closing

7 It must be understood that this order is not to be regarded as a final settlement of the question of the closure of Muhammadan burial grounds in Madras. The President of the Muni. Comr. and the S. C will after the closure of the burial grounds referred to in this order has been duly carried out hold a personal consultation and submit to Govt a list of such others as they would recommend for closure

Letter have a little motion (Hygothis

Typewritten copy is submitted

W.S. 9.6.96 129 9/6/96

1000m
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H.M. 8/6/96

Return in full in each case the reasons on which their suggestions are based. It is not desired that this work should be carried all at once: it should be gradual and persistent.

1378

7 It must be clearly understood that this order is not to be regarded as a final settlement of the question of the closure of Muhammadan burial grounds in Madras. The President of the Municipal Commission and the Sanitary Commissioner will, after the closure of the ~~burial~~ grounds referred to in ~~and~~ this order has been duly carried out, hold a personal consultation and submit to Government a list of such others as they would recommend for closure, stating in full, in each case, the reasons on which their suggestions are based. It is not desired that this work should be carried out all at once: it should be gradual and persistent.

C.S. Ack 20 9/6/96.

To The President, Mun. Com., Madras
& Sanitary Commissioner.

W.S. 13/7/96

Muhammadan Burial Ground.
Madras Municipal...

3262 & 3496 h

(F R O M O R D E R S)

H.E. The Governor.

No. 1000 M., 15TH JUNE 1896.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—again the following papers:—

G.O., Mis. No. 437 M., dated 3rd April 1894.

ABSTRACT.—Stating, with remarks, that the Government is not prepared to sanction the closure of certain Muhammadan burial-grounds in Madras, without fuller enquiry into the matter.

G.O., Mis. No. 1229 M., dated 7th September 1894.

ABSTRACT.—Referring to the Sanitary Commissioner the proposal of the President, Municipal Commission, Madras, regarding the closure of certain Muhammadan burial-grounds and requesting him to submit a report on the subject after enquiry.

G.O., Mis. No. 672 M., dated 18th April 1895.

ABSTRACT.—Passing orders on letter from the Sanitary Commissioner in regard to the closure of certain Muhammadan burial-grounds in the Madras Municipality.

G.O., Mis. No. 1510 M., dated 16th September 1895.

ABSTRACT.—Requesting to be furnished, at an early date, with certain information regarding the closure of Muhammadan burial-grounds within the municipal limits of Bombay and Calcutta.

READ—also the following papers:—

From J. DEC. ATKINS, Esq., I.C.S., Secretary to the Government of Bombay, General Department, to the Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras, dated Bombay Castle, 24th October 1895, No. 20-M.

In reply to your letter, Mis. No. 1510 M., dated the 16th ultimo, I am directed to forward, for the information of the Government of Madras, copy of a letter, No. 14697, dated the 15th instant, from the Municipal Commissioner for the City of Bombay, which furnishes the requisite information.

ENCLOSURE.

From P. C. H. SNOW, Esq., I.C.S, Acting Municipal Commissioner for the City of Bombay, to the Secretary to Government, General Department, dated Bombay, 15th October 1895, No. 14697.

With reference to your No. 3982, of the 26th ultimo, I have the honour to state that no Muhammadan burial-ground within the limits of the City of Bombay has been closed, but at certain durgas and mosques burials have been prohibited. With a view to restrict or gradually close the large Muhammadan burial-ground in Grant road which measures 17,831 square yards, the municipality have purchased at very great expense a large area of land from the Port Trustees in order to provide a new burial-ground for Muhammadans. The land, however, has not yet been prepared for a cemetery nor made over for that purpose. The Bombay City Municipal Act makes it obligatory for the Corporation to provide places for the disposal of the dead of all communities when necessity arises.

No. 1000 M., 15TH JUNE 1896.

From H. H. RISLEY, Esq., C.I.E., Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Municipal Department, to the Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras, dated Darjeeling, the 2nd November 1895, No. 852-S.M.

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, Mis. No. 1510 M., dated the 16th September 1895, in which you enquire whether it has been found necessary on sanitary grounds to close any of the Muhammadan burial-grounds within the limits of the Municipality of Calcutta, and request that, if this has been the case, you may be furnished with certain particulars in regard to those grounds.

2. In reply, I am desired to forward, for the information of the Government of Madras, a copy of a report * submitted by the committee appointed by Government in 1887 to consider and report upon the whole subject of Muhammadan interments, and to invite your attention to paragraphs 12, 13 and 18 of the report, which contain particulars in respect of the cemeteries that were closed. I am at the same time to state that no difficulty was felt in enforcing the use of the new cemetery which was provided in lieu of the old cemetery referred to in paragraph 12 of the report.

* Dated 17th December 1888.

ENCLOSURE.

From the Hon'ble Sir HENRY HARRISON, *Kt.*, C.S., President of the Committee appointed to consider and report on the measures to be adopted for providing further space for Muhammadan Interments, to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Municipal Department, dated Calcutta, the 17th December 1888.

* * * * *

II.—SPACE.

12. As regards space, the foregoing account shows that there is undoubted overcrowding in the public cemeteries, especially those at Manicktollah, and that more space is needed; but a careful examination of the statement also shows that this is largely due to the closing of cemeteries previously available to the public. The chief of those which have been closed is the large Kassia Bagan cemetery in Lower Circular road, which was closed by Government in 1857, when the new Kassia Bagan cemetery was opened in place of it. But the old cemetery is 36 to 40 bighas in area, and the new one purchased in place of it, at a cost of Rs. 4,272 paid by the town municipality, was only bighas 13-7 as acquired, though now measured as bighas 14-19 by our surveyor. It is evident that by this arrangement made in 1857, the Muhammadan community has lost 25 bighas more or less of available space, and were those 25 bighas available to the public, it is hardly too much to say that the aggregate area of public cemeteries would be sufficient.

Want of space mainly due to closed cemeteries.

(1) Old Kassia Bagan.

13. Again, by the construction of the new docks, a cemetery has been finally closed at Ekbalpore, which, according to the report of the Muhammadan community, was at one time of great importance. This is the Sonadinghee cemetery. It appears from the list of cemeteries in Appendix A that a new cemetery has been very recently opened in lieu of it at Sonadinghee, 1st Lane, area 4 bighas, which is No. 14 in the list for Ward No. 6. This is stated to be for Hindus only, and evidently proceeds from one of the contending parties for the old Sonadinghee cemetery. The report of our Joint Secretary, Moulvie Zill-ur-Rahim, who made a special enquiry on the spot, states the case from the Muhammadan point of view regarding this burial-ground. We give the report in full.

(2) Sonadinghee.

* * * * *

18. In addition to the loss which the Muhammadan community has experienced in the reduced area of the new Kassia Bagan cemetery and in the closure of the Sonadinghee cemetery, it will be seen that other public cemeteries have also been closed during the last few years. The Gurcha cemetery, No 3 in the list for Ward No. IV, was closed about twelve years ago, area 1 bigha 10 cottahs, according to the measurement of our surveyor. So also has the Ghoogoodanga cemetery of 8 bighas about the same time. Again, in Ward No. VI the Kabardanga cemetery, area bighas 2-10, has been closed; also the cemetery 25, Mominpore Lane, area 3 bighas. the greater part of which has been sold and cultivated and the residue closed. Finally, the cemetery No. 35, Paharpore road, area bighas 2-2 according to our surveyor, was closed three or four years ago, as also No. 44, Paharpore road, area 16 cottahs, closed ten or twelve years ago.

(3) Gurcha.
(4) Kabardanga.
(5) 25, Mominpore Lane.
(6) 35 and 44, Paharpore Road.

ORDER—No. 1000 M., dated 15th June 1896.

The question of the closure of certain Muhammadan burial-grounds in the City of Madras was, on a communication on the subject from their Health Officer, first brought by the Commissioners before Government in March 1894.

2. Instructions in this matter have been delayed in order that a careful inspection of Muhammadan burial-grounds in Madras might be made by the Sanitary Commissioner, and that information might be obtained as to the action taken in Bombay and Calcutta as regards the closure of Muhammadan cemeteries in those cities.

3. The Government, in the hope that the closure of such burial-grounds as were held by its Sanitary adviser to call for immediate action in this direction might be effected with the acquiescence of those most concerned, has taken measures to consult some of the leading Muhammadan inhabitants and Maulvis of Madras, and has sought to enlist the influence and assistance of the Prince of Arcot in carrying out a measure which is imperatively necessary, not only for the well-being of the Muhammadan community, but also for that of their fellow-citizens of all classes, with regard to whom it may be remarked that the closure of the burial-grounds used by them has already been extensively enforced. His Excellency in Council regrets that the action so taken has been without results other than opposition based solely on grounds which might be advanced with equal justice by any other section of the community in a similar case, and which, if accepted—as they cannot be—would render sanitary reforms, which are absolutely needed for the health and safety of the population of the capital of Southern India, impossible.

4. It has been ascertained that in Bombay steps to close Muhammadan burial-grounds are in progress, and that in Calcutta the burial-grounds of that portion of the community situated within municipal limits have been closed for many years, and that this was done without opposition of any sort.

5. The original proposals of the Municipality were to close Muhammadan burial-grounds to a very large extent. The result of the very careful inspection made by Dr. King has been that for the present he proposes to completely close fifteen places of burial. The grounds upon which his suggestions are based are conclusive, and the law which has already been enforced in the case of other denominations must now at once be applied to the cemeteries referred to.

6. New burial-grounds having already been provided for those who now use the grounds referred to, the President, Municipal Commission, will forthwith be authorized to take the necessary action under section 388 of Act I of 1884, as amended by Act VII of 1884 and Act II of 1892.

7. It must be clearly understood that this order is not to be regarded as a final settlement of the question of the closure of Muhammadan burial-grounds in Madras. The President of the Municipal Commission and the Sanitary Commissioner will, after the closure of the grounds referred to in this order has been duly carried out, hold a personal consultation and submit to Government a list of such others as they would recommend for closure, stating in full in each case the reasons on which their suggestions are based. It is not desired that this work should be carried out all at once: it should be gradual and persistent.

(True Extract.)

J. F. PRICE,
Chief Secretary.

To the President, Municipal Commission, Madras.
" Sanitary Commissioner.

Exd. A. Raitt.