Local & Munl (1896) Department.

ORDINARY.

G.O. No. 526 A M

DATED 24-3-1896

[Despatch Abstract.]

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

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

INDEXED.

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~~Miscellaneous.~~

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26

9-2-28 BM

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DEPT.

G.O., DATED 24-3-96

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[Despatch Abstract.]

Mappila burial grounds.

Passing orders [illegible]garding the ——— in the [illegible]alicut Municipality making grant of Rs 7,500 from Provincial funds towards the [illegible]l of the same.

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BACK PAPER, No.

FURTHER PAPER, No. OF 189

READ AGAIN ORDER OF GOVERNMENT, DATED 29th July 1895, No. 1214 M., MISCELLANEOUS. — A

with the exception of enclosures marked B.

ENCLOSURES.

CURRENT No. 3731 M/95 — A (Excepting B)

643 M/96 — A

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

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

N.B.—

A = Copy in full.
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No. 526-A M., 24TH MARCH 1896.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—again the following paper:—

G.O., No. 1214 M., dated 29th July 1895.

Read—the following papers:—

From H. MOBERLY, Esq., Acting Collector of Malabar, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Calicut, 13th March 1895, Ref. on Cur. No. 364 of 1894.

I have the honour to forward letter, No. 1393, dated 13th October 1894, from the Chairman of the Calicut Municipal Council, regarding Mappila burial-grounds. The letter was received by me on 22nd December, but as the Deputy Collector in charge of Calicut division objected to the council's proposal to open a burial-ground outside municipal limits and suggested that the ground referred to in paragraph 7 of the Chairman's letter should be utilized, I held the letter back pending receipt of a report on the proposed conference with the Mappila community.

2. I enclose copy of the Deputy Collector's report, dated 8th instant. I agree with the Deputy Collector in thinking that the ground outside the municipal limits on the Beypore road which the council has selected is too distant from the Mappila quarters of the town. I have inspected the land referred to in paragraph 7 of the Chairman's letter. It is separated from the sea-shore by the beach road, which runs due south from the old Sea Customs office and is, in my opinion, well adapted for a burial-ground. I would suggest that on the eastern and southern sides a ditch ten to twelve feet deep be dug and that from the junction of these ditches a drain leading south to the Kallai river be made. This would be cheaper than acquiring a strip of land 100 yards wide all round the proposed burial-ground, and as the drainage is not towards the sea, but eastwards and towards the Kallai river, ditches leading to the river would meet all sanitary requirements. The burial-ground known as Kannanparamba will suffice for the wants of the Mappilas of the C, D and E divisions.

3. For the Mappilas in the northern part of the town a piece of ground near the old elephant lines may be granted as proposed in paragraph 37 of the Chairman's letter.

4. I have personally consulted the District Medical and Sanitary Officer as to the suitability of Kannanparamba for a burial-ground and he told me that, in his opinion, the site was a suitable one.

ENCLOSURES.

From T. VARADA RAO, Esq., S.C.S., Chairman, Municipal Council, Calicut, to the Chief Secretary to Government (through the Revenue Divisional officer), dated Calicut, 13th October 1894, No. 1393.

With reference to G.O., No. 513 M., dated 23rd April 1894, clause (5), directing me to expedite the submission of proposals regarding the matter of Mappila burial-grounds, I have the honour to state that, agreeably to Resolution, No. 16, dated 9th August 1894, I place before Government a summary of the measures taken up to date to improve their condition. The final proposals of the council appear in the concluding portion of this report and the orders of Government are solicited thereon.

2. *I. 1858 to 1862.*—In January 1858, Mr. W. R. Robinson, Officiating Magistrate of Malabar, reported to Government as follows on the occurrence of cholera in the district:—

"In the Mappila town the epidemic has been most virulent and most fatal. I attribute it in a great measure to filth and closeness of the huts, but chiefly to the abominable practice of burying the dead in shallow graves around the mosques in the midst of the towns. An Act prohibiting sepulture within towns and populous villages and to enable public officers to take up land at the expense of the parties requiring it under the provisions of Act No. 20 of 1852 is the first step towards ameliorating the condition of the poor in this respect."

Government resolved, in G.O., No. 407, Public, dated 9th April 1858, that the Acting Magistrate be called upon to give the question of the propriety of interdicting intramural interments in Malabar further consideration, keeping in view the extent to which the prejudices of the population concerned are likely to exhibit themselves against any such interdiction.

3. The reply to this reference was disposed of by Government thus :—

"The Acting Magistrate thinks that an enactment prohibiting sepulture in towns or villages would, at first, be objected to by the Mappilas, but he does not doubt that if eligible land were first provided and other facilities given for erecting local sanctuaries, &c., and were small advances granted to admit of the closed burial-grounds being respectably walled-in and kept undesecrated, such an enactment might be gradually carried out by tact and judgment in the district.

"His Excellency the Governor in Council is not at present prepared to apply to the Legislative Council for an Act to the effect contemplated, but he thinks that, even without an enactment, something might be done towards checking the practice in question. Attempt might be made to persuade the people voluntarily to cease burying in some few graveyards situated in the most objectionable localities. To this end before the graveyard is enclosed a fresh piece of land in a convenient situation outside the town or village should be given in lieu of it. The grounds might be purchased by the magistrate or taken, if not otherwise obtainable, under Act VI of 1857, and the entire cost of procuring it and adapting it to its new use should be borne by Government, who would also bear the charge of walling-in the old burial-ground to preserve it from desecration. The parties, if any, in possession of, or having an interest in, the old graveyards should be allowed the like rights in the new one. By this means and by the exhibition of tact and discretion some few of the worse graveyards might perhaps be closed and an example set, at any rate, which might be gradually followed."

4. In a further order Government remarked (*vide* G.O., No. 781, P.D., dated 25th June 1858) :—

"It seems doubtful from what is said by Mr. Robinson in paragraph 2 of his present letter whether the existing burial-grounds within the town can be absolutely closed against all interment, but the magistrate should exert his influence to circumscribe their use as much as possible."

5. The matter was ultimately referred to the Secretary of State for India, who issued the following instructions (*vide* despatch, dated 12th January 1859, No. 3) :—

"It is satisfactory that the feeling of the population should not be opposed to extramural burial-grounds; the state of the graveyards to which the correspondence you have transmitted refers having been very objectionable. It is not to be wondered at that some of the influential families should still wish to retain access to their ancient burial places, but if some few of them can be induced to make use of those without the town which have been appropriated for the purpose, the objections of the lower classes would doubtless soon be overcome and in due time the practice become general throughout the large towns and populous villages of your Presidency. If this can be brought about with the free will of the natives, it will be preferable to a Legislative Act on the subject. The proposed arrangements for the allotment of ground and other measures connected with the subject are approved."

6. The above instructions were communicated to the Collector and Magistrate of Malabar with the following order (circular of the Board of Revenue, Madras, No. 1046, dated 25th March 1859) of the Madras Government :—

"The measures here remarked upon relate to the extramural interments of the Muhammadans in Malabar, not to the Hindu community generally, of whom comparatively a very small portion bury their dead. In furnishing, therefore, a copy of this paragraph to the Board of Revenue, the Government will request them to call upon the Magistrates of Malabar, and of any other station at which Muhammadans abound, to use their exertions when necessary in inducing the more influential and respectable members of that body to bury their dead without the town, for which purpose suitable sites can be provided."

7. On the 16th July 1859, Government sanctioned the acquisition at its own cost of two pieces of land designated as per margin covering an area of more than 5⅔ acres for the formation of a Mappila burial-ground in Calicut town. The lands were taken possession of and the fact reported to Government by the Collector (*vide* his letter, recorded in G.O., No. 113, Public, dated 27th January 1862).

Koyathodi *alias* Thekkumthala garden.
Markankadam garden.

8. The Collector remarked in his letter that it would be necessary to build on the ground acquired for the purpose of a cemetery a small mosque or place of prayer to which, he believed, all bodies must be brought before they are conveyed to the graves; that he had reason to believe that if the ground be handed over to the Mappilas they would erect a mosque and build a wall round the ground in view to its preservation from defilement or any other chance that might in any way tend to hurt their feelings; that if Government agreed, he would hand over the ground to a committee composed of the Kazi and the most respectable Mappilas in the town; that the committee in the first instance be chosen by Government and subsequent vacancies in it be filled by the other members, their choice being confirmed by Government; and that the only restriction which should be made in handing over the ground to the committee is that it shall be strictly applied to the purposes for which it is granted, viz., the burial of the dead.

9. Government, in its order of January 1862 quoted above, approved of the suggestions made by the Collector and he was further authorized to appoint the first committee. No reliable information regarding the *personnel* of this committee, or of subsequent additions thereto, is available. I have, however, been able to ascertain from T. Koyotti Haji, until recently a member of the municipal council and son of Thoppilakath Manu Koya Hajee, a member of the committee appointed by the Collector, that until a short time before his death his father was managing the affairs of the trust; that then it was handed to the Kadi or Kazi of the place. Subsequently the Kadi gave the land on pattom to one Patanna Parambil Salmi. On the Kadi's death the control of the trust appears to have drifted into the hands of this Salmi who until his death in August last maintained a mulla and a mosque on the site. Salmi being dead, his son has stepped into the management by way of inheritance.

10. The cemetery, it may be remarked, is scarcely used by the Mappilas at Calicut, although it was acquired and maintained at what cost by Government it does not appear. The dead bodies buried therein are those of vagrants dying on the roadside and of those sent into the mortuary from the Calicut civil dispensary, the leper asylum, the small-pox hospital, the lunatic asylum and the sub-jail. The committee appointed by the Collector so well managed the trust that what would seem to be a very substantial wall built of laterite stone in chunam has all but disappeared. The foundation is the only trace of it that is left. The mulla in charge candidly admitted that the stones were used in building the sides of the graves and some were acknowledged to have been taken away by the people in the neighbourhood. I inspected the site and find that burials are confined to two bits of ground each about 50 feet square; the rest is a sandy waste having on it over 100 cocoanut trees. I am certain that the representative of Salmi derives a respectable income from the ground and is perhaps the only person at present benefited by the generous intentions of Government.

11. *II* 1884 *to* 1889.—In G.O., No. 1478, dated 3rd July 1884, the question was again taken up when Mr. Legatt, the Vice-President, replying to the aforesaid Government Order, said :—

"I regret to state that the Mappila community is averse to the separation of the cemeteries from their mosques or even to the construction of new mosques and burial-ground attached to them at less objectionable sites, even though the municipality offered to help the scheme to the best of their power. Action in this direction having failed, the Commissioners have, agreeably to a proposal of mine, resolved to extend the present graveyards by taking up the adjoining land and adding the area to them, the Mappila community being called upon to contribute towards the expenses. This resolution has been communicated to the Kadis, and the District Sanitary Officer has been requested to select such of the cemeteries as require immediate attention owing to their crowded state. I do not, however, anticipate that the Commissioners will be able to carry out even this measure."

He promised to report the result of these attempts in due course.

12. Mr. Legatt wrote again (*vide* letter, dated 18th September 1884, to the President) :—

"In the matter of closing the Mappila burial-grounds, I beg to state that the Commissioners are fully aware of the powers conferred on them by section 134 of the Act, but they think in a very delicate matter of this nature affecting the religious belief of the Mappilas, who form a very large proportion of the municipal population, extreme caution is necessary. I am sorry to state that no progress has been made in the matter. The resolution of the Commissioners proposing the extension of the present graveyards was communicated to the Kazis, who have not yet submitted their views. I have again addressed them on the subject."

No reply having been received from the Kazis up to 3rd October 1884, although letters and reminders were sent to them on the subject, the Collector and President, Mr. Galton, desired the Vice-President to arrange a meeting of the leading members of the Mappila community to discuss the question with them personally. A meeting was accordingly convened on the 20th October 1884 and proved abortive, only three Mappilas being present. The Vice-President prevailed upon two respectable Mappila gentlemen who held seats on the municipal council to use their influence and a second meeting consisting of eleven representative men was held. It was therein unanimously resolved that the overcrowded cemeteries be extended by taking up adjoining land and that the

extent of such addition be settled and demarcated by the Vice-President with four other gentlemen, the latter being Mappilas. This communication was forwarded to Government by the President, who however pointed out that it would entail an immense expenditure of money if all the overcrowded Mappila burial-grounds were to be extended in a similar manner. On 15th December 1884 the Vice-President submitted plans showing the sites required for the extension of the cemeteries, and on the 18th May 1885 statements in connection with the acquisition of lands were submitted. The statements give the names of five pieces of land covering an area of seventeen acres and odd. The understanding upon which the acquisition was to be made was that half the expense required should be contributed by the Mappila community and the remaining half should be borne by the municipality. In order, however, to avoid difficulty in applying Act X of 1870, the whole charges were to be paid by the municipality, the contribution to be levied from the Mappilas being credited to municipal funds.

13. A draft notification was submitted to Government for approval and was published in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, page 452, dated 7th July 1885. No document of the nature of an award or other paper is on record, but from the above and also from the fact the municipal cash book exhibits entries of the payments of Rs. 840–4–3 and Rs. 51–4–6 by cheques to the Assistant Collector on 31st March 1886 and 5th March 1887 in respect of one of the items, No. 3, Palayakhadiyaraom paramba adjoining the Jamathpalli appears to have been acquired.

14. On the 2nd April 1887, the municipal council resolved that the responsible authorities in charge of the present burial-ground to which extension is to be given should apply for such possession. The responsible authorities not having applied for the ground up to 10th September 1887, the municipal council applied to the Collector for instructions. No instructions were apparently issued, although two reminders, dated 17th December 1887 and 19th April 1888, were addressed to the Collector.

15. On the 30th March 1889, Mr. V. Chappan Menon, a member of the municipal council, proposed to the municipal council that Messrs. Koyotti Hajee, Koyassan Koya Hajee, Avulla Koya Hajee and Ahmed Koya Hajee be appointed to superintend and regulate burials without distinction of factions in the Palayakhadiyarakom paramba purchased by the municipality for extending the cemetery attached to the Jamoth Mosque. This was approved and the resolution was duly communicated to them on the 24th April 1889.

16 All these four gentlemen are alive and until recently two were on the municipal council. Three of them were good enough to see me at the municipal office and afford information as to how they carried on the trust delegated to them. Mr. Koyotti Hajee tells me that no burials have taken place within the last four or five years in this ground and that perhaps ten interments were actually made in the ground altogether. The owner of an adjoining house represented to the Collector, Mr. Galton, that his drinking-water well was within a few yards of the cemetery. The objection was felt to be so strong and reasonable that the divisional officer and the Chairman, Mr. Kunhikannan, on inspection of the spot suggested the stoppage of any further interments. The site is, however, still in the possession of the sub-committee, two of whom ceased to be members of the council years ago. Mr. Koyotti Hajee is unable to explain why the site, having been condemned, was not handed back to the municipality, nor does it appear that the municipal executive was so alive to the necessity for safe-guarding its interests in the property purchased as to demand the restoration of the site from the members of the committee when it was no longer used for the extension of the burial-ground. In fact, it appears from an examination of the register of immoveable property belonging to the municipality that the Palayakhadiyarakom paramba is not one of the items entered therein. Advantage was taken of our gross neglect by the public and I am now replying to the Collector on a petition presented to him by a Mappila living in the neighbourhood for the grant of the very same site to him on lease. The Collector having referred the petition to me for report, in the ordinary course of things, I should have allowed it to pass on, but fortunately the arrangement in the municipal office of the records from 1865 brought to light papers which prove the purchase of the property by the municipality in 1887. An inspection of the site brings again into prominence the fact that, like the Collector's committee of 1862, the municipal committee of 1887 failed to discharge its duties properly. The ground is an abandoned house site and the dilapidated stone walls still stand on it. A portion of the timber material of the house has disappeared and the one or two fruit trees which are known to have existed thereon were sold by the committee. The place is now overgrown with shrubs and plants and is in a highly insanitary condition and is at present of no use to anybody.

17. *III.* 1890 *to* 1891.—Cholera broke out in the municipality in June 1890 and caused 1,239 deaths within the space of three to four months. The mortality in June and July 1890 is given in the table below:—

Month.	Eurasians.	Hindus.	Mappilas.	Others.	Total.
June	11	26	482	15	534
July	11	108	379	38	536

(*vide* page 107, Minutes of Proceedings of the Sanitary Commissioner, Madras, for third and fourth quarter 1890). Special efforts were made to arrest the spread of the disease, but the causes were too deep seated for any temporary measures to be of avail. The Acting Collector Mr. W. Dumergue quickly recognised the true cause of this fearful mortality. To get the graveyards removed to a safe distance was considered a matter of paramount sanitary importance. The Acting Collector accordingly convened a meeting of the leading men of the Mappila community to consider what measures could be devised to minimise the chance of the recurrence of a cholera outbreak. A meeting was held on the 5th July 1890 and attended by sixteen representative men among the Mappilas including a number of Tongals and Kazis of the several mosques in the town. The following resolutions were passed at the meeting:—

(1) That burials within the precincts of the various mosques in the town be discontinued and the corpses be buried in future at a distance from the town in suitable grounds.

(2) That burials be strictly prohibited except in places selected by the municipal council with the sanction of the Collector.

(3) That the Chairman of the Municipal Council and the Collector be requested to take steps to carry out the foregoing resolutions.

The proceedings of this meeting were published in the *Malabar District Gazette*. They were also communicated to the municipal council by the Collector in his letter, No. 2432—P-90, dated 7th July 1890, and placed before a meeting of the council on 12th July 1890. A sub-committee, including Dr. Beech, the District Medical and Sanitary officer, Dr. Leibendoerfor, and two Mappila gentlemen, was formed to select suitable sites for the selection of new burial-grounds.

18. On 15th November 1890 Surgeon-Major L. Beech, the District Medical and Sanitary officer, Malabar, drew attention to the condition of the Mappila burial-grounds within the municipality. The following reasons were adduced for their removal to some spot outside municipal limits:—

(1) The burial-grounds were greatly overcrowded. Bodies were often buried three feet deep, the uppermost body being barely two feet from the surface. About 900 bodies of persons dying from cholera were buried in a limited area within municipal limits within the space of three and-a-half months.

(2) They are surrounded by dwelling houses in the compound of which and quite close to the graveyards are wells from which drinking-water is obtained. Percolation and surface washings frequently pass into the wells as also into tanks which are usually situated in the middle of the graveyards.

(3) They give rise to noxious vapours.

19. The two sites * proposed to be acquired by the municipality for the location of the burial-grounds were condemned as being situated within the densely populated area known as the Mappila quarters. Any addition to the already existing 26 burial-grounds within the municipal limits was open to objection on sanitary grounds. It was pointed out that sanitary authorities in England are doing their utmost to close burial-grounds within towns and provide cemeteries in the country. Cremation was also strongly recommended. On financial grounds the proposal to acquire the sites selected by the municipality was inadmissible, as nearly a sum of Rs. 20,000 will be required. Dr. Beech suggested that one or more sites should be selected about one mile from the toll-gate on the Beypore road, when an unlimited extent of waste ground could be had for a nominal sum. To avoid any trouble on the score of distance, he suggested the employment of Mappila bearers by the municipality to convey the dead of those unable to pay.

* Palliparamba.
Midaparamba.

20. The Sanitary Commissioner in his letter, No. 5375-S., dated 19th November 1890, requested the council to inform him what action the council proposed to take on Dr. Beech's suggestions. Mr. W. Dumergue, the Acting Collector, also informed the council that he saw the site selected by Dr. Beech and preferred it to the others and wish to be favoured with the views of the council. The sub-committee of the municipal council, to whom the selection of suitable burial-grounds had been referred, was of opinion that the closing of all burial-grounds within the municipal limits and the acquisition of new sites outside them was very desirable in the interests of sanitation, but that it anticipated strong opposition on the part of the Mappila population. The committee, therefore, suggested that the Acting Collector should convene another meeting of the leading Mappilas in the town before taking further action. This was on the 13th December 1890.

21. The municipal council at a meeting held on 7th January 1891 on consideration of Dr. Beech's proposals and the committee's recommendations came to the conclusion that Dr. Beech's suggestions were impracticable. It was pointed out that the acquisition of the sites within the municipal limits was not in addition to the existing burial grounds, but to replace them. The council resolved to submit the plans and estimates to Government through the Collector with a request that the proposed new sites may be purchased at Government expense.

22. On 10th January 1891, Mr. Dumergue, replying to the sub-committee's request to hold another meeting of Mappilas (which was forwarded to him), considered it unnecessary. He was of opinion that the site selected by Dr. Beech was unobjectionable from a sanitary point of view

and would have been selected if no objection was taken to it. The distance was undoubtedly so great and the attendant inconveniences such that he did not feel justified in advocating the removal of the burial-ground to it. He also noted the fact that the proposed sites within municipal limits are to be used instead of and not in addition to existing graveyards. Finally, he requested the council to send up information for their acquisition of the sites proposed by the council. The council's resolution of the 7th January 1891 was communicated to Dr. Beech, who again took objection to the sites selected by the council in his letter dated 12th January 1891. He reiterated that he expected nothing but opposition on the part of the Mappilas when he suggested the removal of their burial-grounds outside the toll-gate. A recent inspection of the Mappila quarters disclosed the dangerous condition of the main and smaller drains which contained a quantity of greenish reeking filthy and stinking fluid. Cholera being always more or less prevalent in the district, there was every likelihood of an outbreak which would totally eclipse any that had occurred before.

23. The stipendiary Chairman Mr. Rozario, however, forwarded to the Collector of Malabar, through the Divisional officer, a copy of the resolution passed on the 7th January 1891 by the council, together with the plans of the sites selected and the estimates of value, and requested the Collector to be good enough to take the necessary steps to give effect to the resolution of the council. In the administration report of the municipality for 1890–91 reviewed in G.O., No. 1527 M., dated 19th September 1891, paragraph 62 refers to the way in which this vexed question was disposed of so far as the council was concerned. In his endorsement on the report the Revenue Divisional officer having obviously received the statements remarked that the valuation statements prepared for the acquisition of lands required for the Mappila burial-grounds were under revision and would be submitted shortly. The amounts, it was noted, were large and exhibited considerable differences between the figures furnished by the council and the Tahsildar of Calicut, which were noted in the report. Government remarked that the compensation proposed to be given for the lands appeared to be most exhorbitant, but presumed that suitable localities could not be obtained for less amounts and noted that the matter was one which urgently called for attention.

24. *IV. 1893–94.*—Nothing more was heard of the subject until the Revenue Divisional officer Mr. V. Chappan Menon requested the Chairman to get the matter of the location of the burial-grounds dispose l of in the budget meeting. It is not clear whether the former papers were referred to on this occasion, but there was no sufficient notice to the Chairman, for Mr. Chappan Menon says in his letter: "I request a decision may be passed, if possible, at the budget meeting to be held this day." At the budget meeting held the following elaborate resolution was passed which is quoted in full:—

"With regard to the Mappila burial-ground, the council finds itself in a difficult position to decide as to the site to be selected. On the one hand it is desirable that it should be outside the town as suggested by Dr. Laing; while on the other, the council has to consider the objection (unreasonable though it may appear to be) of the large section of the Mappila community to close their existing burial-grounds. It was with considerable difficulty that the late Collector Mr. Dumergue and the Deputy Collector M.R.Ry. V. Chappan Menon Avargal succeeded in persuading the Mappilas to consent to a closure of their existing burial-grounds and to have them replaced by others selected by them within the municipality. The removal of the Mappila burial-ground to a place remote from the town is indeed a measure which commends itself to the council, but in enforcing it it anticipates difficulties.

"It is to obviate this difficulty that the council, after mature consideration, has decided to locate a burial-ground (for Mappilas residing in C, D, E, F, G and H divisions) within the town.

"The extent of ground proposed to be taken up is about 4½ acres and the estimated cost of acquiring the same is Rs. 9,054–10–8. This sum includes compensation for buildings and trees, the removal of the former being necessary to render the ground isolated and distant from dwelling houses as suggested by Dr. Laing in paragraph 7 of his last inspection notes.

"To the Mappilas living in the northern portion of the town (A and B divisions), it would be a source of great hardship if their burial-grounds in those divisions are closed and they are compelled to take their dead to the cemetery intended to be provided for the residents in the southern portion of the town, a distance of five or six miles, especially during prevalence of cholera or small-pox. To meet the convenience of these men another eligible site is available, viz., the ground near the old gallows formerly used by the military authorities as elephant shed. This ground is in the possession of Government and the council trusts that Government will make a free grant of the same to the municipality. The present financial straits of the municipality are such that it finds itself unable to provide the necessary funds for acquiring the ground on the southern portion of the town, and it has, therefore, resolved to request Government to make a grant of the required amount from Provincial funds."

25. The resolution, after reviewing the reasons urged in favour of the sequestration of the grounds and against it, requested Government to make a grant of Rs. 9,054–10–3 to acquire Marakkankadavuparamba to serve as a burial-ground for Mappilas residing in the C, D, E, F, G and H divisions and also to make a free grant of a portion of the abandoned elephant sheds in the A division, which is Government property, to be used as a graveyard for the A and B divisions.

26. The Chairman Mr. Rozario again addressed Government in his letter, No. 154, dated 28th January 1893, in terms of the above resolution. This letter was forwarded through the Revenue Divisional officer and it was accompanied by a statement showing the extent and value of the land proposed to be taken up for the Mappila burial-ground for the C, D, E, F, G and H divisions

27. On 7th February 1893 the Revenue Divisional officer required some further information regarding the Mappila population of the town, the number of deaths among them in the past five years, the space required for each grave, &c. The chairman furnished these particulars the same day. So far as the records in the municipal office show there appears to have followed a further interval of rest until the question was mooted again by the Sanitary Commissioner in October 1893. His observations are to be found in page 11 of G.O., No. 513 M., dated 23rd April 1894. In forwarding the Sanitary Commissioner's inspection report, the council resolved that a ground should be selected, at a very early date, outside the municipal limits of suitable dimensions for a Mappila burial-ground.

28. It will be observed that the municipal council changed its views in regard to the location of the burial-grounds. The objections on the score of cost of acquisition of suitable sites within municipal limits and also those arising from a sanitary point of view were found to be so strong as to override the anticipated opposition of the Mappila community.

29. Before proceeding to state what action has been taken by me in persuance of the above resolution, I must mention that the site, the valuation statement which was submitted with the council's resolution, dated 28th January 1893, is different from those mentioned by Dr. Beech and for which valuation statements were submitted on 1st January 1891.

30. Of the latter, Palliparamba was condemned by Dr. Beech on the ground that it is immediately to the south of and in close proximity to the railway station, in the compound of which a larger number of the railway employés live and Midaparamba for reasons already mentioned in paragraph 18.

31. Marakkankadavaparamba, the site finally selected by the council and forwarded for approval to Government, adjoins the Midaparamba, and the land purchased by Government in 1862 and as the enclosed rough plan shows is liable to the same objections that were urged against Palliparamba and the Midaparamba.

32. The elephant lines which were selected for the use of the Mappilas living in the two northern divisions A and B have not been condemned at any time.

33. As I was directed to select a site outside municipal limits, I proceeded to do so without loss of time. In endeavouring to get some of the Mappila councillors to visit the spot with me some considerable time was lost, and in July last I submitted to the council the spot which I selected. Two members of the municipal council, one of whom is the Assistant Surgeon, were asked by the council to inspect the site and their report forms and enclosure to this letter. The special attention of Government is invited to the fact noted by these councillors that no suitable sites are available nearer than the one selected. If it is decided that the Mappila burial-ground for the southern portion of the town is to be located outside municipal limits, the site now selected is the most suitable, being only three furlongs from the toll-gate. It is not likely to cost more than Rs. 1,000.

34. A rough sketch (will follow) of the site is submitted for the information of Government.

35 The last resolution of the council on the subject is that I should place before Government a brief history of the Mappila burial-ground question with a request for a special grant.

36. A special grant will only be necessary if Government is pleased to decide in favour of the site within the municipal limits in the southern portion of the town. If the site outside municipal limits is approved, Government need not make any grant as the money can be provided for in the revised estimate.

37. There appears to be no objection either sanitarily or on the score of distance in regard to the burial-ground propose l near the old elephant lines. It is a large tract of ground belonging to Government, and, if a portion of it is granted to the municipality, it can be at once registered as a burial-ground and opened for use in the A and B divisions, the municipality strictly enforcing section 234 of Act No. IV of 1884 in regard to the existing burial-grounds in those divisions.

38. Opposition, real and strong, may be expected from the Mullas of the existing mosques (about 26 in number) who derive fees ranging from As. 4 to Rs. 2 per interment in the graveyards. The fees form the only source of their livelihood and with the closure of the burial-grounds this means of sustenance will disappear. This was brought out strongly in the discussion at the meeting convened by Mr. Dumergue in 1890. Even the Tangals, the acknowledged leaders of the Mappilas, exposed the hollowness of the excuses set forth by the Mullas to continue to use the overcrowded graveyards. The Tangals may be relied upon to help in securing the success of this scheme. They now recognize the importance to themselves of avoiding conflict with the public authority.

39. The removal of the Mappila burial-grounds outside town limits does not completely dispose of the subject of defective graveyards in Calicut. Government has directed the acquisition of a site near the Lunatic Asylum for the disposal of the dead belonging to the Roman Catholic

community and provision is made in the budget for 1894–95 to meet the cost of acquisition. Thus the highly objectionable cemetery near the Captain's tank will be closed immediately; the new site is handed to the municipality. The Basel Mission burial-ground and the English churchyard in the B division are also within town limits and adjacent to drinking-water wells, but they are so little used as to be comparatively harmless.

40. A danger not less imminent, but perhaps not so well known and recognized, exists in the almost general practice of the Nayars and Thiyyans, although Hindus by nationality of disposing of their dead by burial in their own compounds. Exceptions do exist as in the case of the better educated and more opulent sections who burn their dead. It is a well-known fact that amongst these classes the dead bodies of persons dying of cholera or small-pox are almost always buried very near their own habitations, as it is alleged that it is difficult to procure the services of bearers to convey the dead. In some cases burial is preferred to cremation solely by considerations of expense. It is, therefore, highly desirable to provide crematoriums or burning-grounds in at least two or three divisions of the municipality for the cremation of Hindus, high or low. The bodies of children of less than one year, which are usually buried, should be carried outside municipal limits. A spot will be selected for this purpose.

Submitted to the Collector with the Chairman's letter of the 13th instant in reply to my reference to him enquiring whether the Mappila community was consulted in the matter of the new sites selected.

2. From a sanitary point of view, the ground selected by the council outside the municipality on the Beypore road is the best for the Mappilas of the southern division, but the distance which is about $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles from the centre of the Mappila quarters is so great that I fear there will be much opposition to it.

3. Since the receipt of the Chairman's letter I sounded the views of some of the leading Mappilas. They admit the necessity of closing the existing burial-grounds, but naturally object to the ground selected on the score of distance.

4. The objections are mainly that the poorer classes cannot afford to carry the dead bodies so far. The municipality, no doubt, proposes to employ Mappila bearers but this help, I have ascertained, will be declined by the poorer classes who object to the indignity of subjecting their dead to be carried by coolies employed by others. The opulent classes consider that one of the marks of respect shown to the dead is a large following to the cemetery on foot and that this cannot be done if it is $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles off.

5. These objections may not seem to be reasonable, but, being natural to human nature, I beg to submit that they will form obstacles to the removal of the burial-ground outside the town.

6. The sanitary importance of focussing the scattered grave-yards in one central place—which, so far as other circumstances will admit, must be large, free from habitation and wells in the vicinity and otherwise suitable—is felt by every one acquainted with the town. The drastic measures recommended by the municipality being premature, I think we may fall back upon the ground referred to in paragraph 7 of the Chairman's letter. It is about $5\frac{2}{3}$ acres in extent and was purchased at the cost of Government. The Chairman, myself and Mr. Keyotti Haji and a few Mappilas inspected the place this week. We consider that it will answer the purpose if the sanitary authorities will have no objection to it. Mr. Keyotti Haji assured us that the Mappila community would co-operate. The ground may be partitioned into two plots by a wall for the burial separately of the rich and the poor classes. Segregations may be secured by acquiring a belt of ground around which may be planted with trees. Mr. Keyotti Haji agreed to our suggestion that it was very desirable to convene a meeting of the leading Mappilas in the Anjuman to ascertain their views regarding this plot of land. The Chairman and myself shall also attend the meeting. We have, however, deferred taking any further steps in this matter till we know from the District Medical and Sanitary Officer whether he approves of the ground. I shall consult him, and if he approves of it, I shall submit detailed proposals for fitting the land as a cemetery, for clearing the adjoining ground and for taking on kanam, where necessary, the adjoining parambas so that no tenants may construct buildings in them. There are not fortunately many well-built masonry dwelling houses around, and th cost of clearing may not be prohibitive.

(Signed) P. SWAMINATHA IYER,
Deputy Collector.

21*st December* 1894.

From T. VARADA RAO, Esq., Chairman, Municipal Council, Calicut, to the Deputy Collector, Calicut Division, dated 13th December 1894.

In reply to your letter, dated 7th December 1894, Reference on 26-*nil*, inquiring whether the Mappila community was consulted in the selection of the sites for the burial-grounds, I have the honour to refer you to my letter, No. 1393, dated 13th October 1894, paragraph 17.

In the meeting held by Mr. Dumergue, the then Collector of Malabar, on the 5th July 1890, one of the resolutions passed at the meeting was

(2) burials be strictly prohibited except in places selected by the municipal council with the sanction of the Collector.

Thus the Mappila community agree to burying their dead in some place selected by the municipality and approved of by the Collector. The municipality has selected one site outside the municipal limits at Meenchanda and the other near the old elephant sheds.

It now remains for the Collector to approve or disapprove the selections made by the municipality.

The meeting was held four years ago, and I think it would be well now to ascertain if any change has come over the views held by the Mappila community expressed in July 1890.

I would suggest that an informal meeting of the leading men be called and their views ascertained.

From M.R.Ry. S. SWAMINATHA IYER Avargal, Deputy Collector and Magistrate, Calicut Division, to the Acting Collector of Malabar, dated Talipparamba, 8th March 1895.

In continuation of my endorsement on letter from the Chairman, Municipal Council, Calicut, regarding the closing of the existing Mappila burial-grounds in the town of Calicut and locating them in sites selected by the municipal council near Minchanda and the elephant lines (Vellayil), I have the honour to state that I intimated to the Secretary of the Himayath Islam Sabha, Calicut, that I would be very glad to meet the representation of the Mappila public in regard to the selection of suitable burial-grounds. He convened a meeting of the Mappilas at the Sabha's premises.

2. The meeting was held at 3 P.M. on Sunday the 17th February 1895. There was a large gathering of Mappilas consisting of many of the leading gentlemen of that community, including the Cheria Kazhi. The Chairman, Municipal Council, and myself attended the meeting and a copy of the proceedings is herewith submitted.

3. The Mappilas as a body will, I feel sure, raise no objections to the proposal that burials within the compounds of the several mosques in the town be discontinued. They are decidedly averse to take the corpses to the Minchanda, the site now proposed by the municipal council.

4. After considerable discussion, it was eventually agreed that the ground known as Kannanparamba (E division), which is now used for the burial of paupers dying on the road side and in the hospital, be utilised as the place of sepulchre of the Mappilas of C, D and E divisions, *i.e.*, those to the south of the Big Bazaar street which constitutes the main portion of the Mappila population of the town. The Mappilas request that before closing the existing burial-grounds, the Kannanparamba should be walled in all round, that a wall should be erected right across the middle of it from east to west, to divide the site into two portions, one for the use of the opulent and the respectable Mappilas and the other for the poor classes, that a small mosque or place of pr[illegible]er to which all dead bodies must be brought before interment be erected, and also a small t[illegible]nk be constructed and that the entire cost of adapting the ground to its new use be borne by the Government or by the municipal council.

5. The Mappilas have no objection to the site in the elephant lines selected by the municipality for the use of the community living on the northern side of the town.

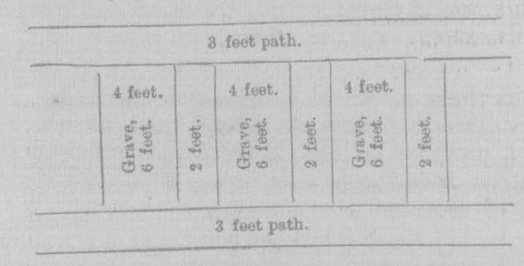
6. It was urged that Kannanparamba would be too far away for the Mappilas living on the [illegible]tern portion of the town, *i.e.*, near Puthiarakka. At present Mappila corpses from Puthi[illegible]akkal are conveyed to the grave-yards in the Mappila quarters to the south of the Big Bazaar street. If the latter are closed, they will have to be taken to Kannanparamba. The distance being about two miles, the Mappilas living in Puthiarakkal consider it a hardship. I cannot now think of a site at or near Puthiarakkal suitable for a small burial-ground. Two of the Mappila gentlemen, present, however, promised to show me some unobjectionable sites within a week. T[illegible] did not do so and as I had to leave for Cannanore for the jamabandi settlement of the [illegible]rakkal taluk, I am unable to say whether the proposal is feasible or not. The Mappila popula[illegible]n living in Puthiarakkal is not very large and on my return to Calicut I shall try if possible to

meet their wishes. The Kannanparamba is only about half a mile from the spot where the existing burial-grounds are clustered and the closure of the latter in favour of the Kannanparamba will involve the journey of an additional half a mile to the Puthiarakkal Mappilas which may not be considered a very serious hardship. In the settlement of a difficult question like this it would be unreasonable to expect to secure the maximum of convenience for every body all round.

7. It was further pointed out that the site in the elephant lines (Vellayil) selected for the Mappilas living on the northern side of the bazaar street was too distant for the Mappilas of Nadakavu which is on the Wynaad road. I saw the cemetery at Nadakavu and I am of opinion that the necessity to close this ground has not as yet arisen. It is not a thickly-populated locality and there do not appear to be many houses close to it. I beg therefore to suggest that it may be left alone.

8. As already stated many of the objectionable shallow grave-yards are on the southern side of the bazaar street and if they are closed absolutely and the Kannanparamba is selected as a burial-ground, the danger to the health and safety of the town may be considered to have been greatly minimized. The sanitary authorities may not approve of the Kannanparamba, being within the town. I have been all over the town with the Chairman and cannot find a more suitable site, taking all things into consideration. As you are aware, the Kannanparamba is situated on the south-western corner of the town of Calicut, bounded on the west by the sea, on the north by a coir factory, on the east and south by parambas. There are some houses in these parambas, but they are mostly small thatched buildings. Most of the inhabitants occupying these buildings are poor Mappilas and Tiyars. The objections of the sanitary authorities can be met by securing a clear belt of not less than 100 yards width all round free from habitations or wells. Fortunately there are no houses on the western and on a great part of the northern side. Mr. Koyatti Haji told me that he would permit the Mappilas who might have to vacate their present houses to establish themselves in some of his parambas in the town and I think Mr. Peru Moopan, an influential Tiya janmi, who is also a municipal councillor, will be willing to permit the Tiyars to build houses on some of his parambas. They may be given compensation for removing their present buildings to the new sites. The clearing of a belt of this width all round will involve the ejectment of a number of petty squatters, but it can be rendered as least inconvenient to them as possible by the help of the aforesaid two janmis.

9. The extent of Kannanparamba is 5 acres and 28 cents according to survey measurement on leaving 28 cents or a little over 5 per cent. for the construction of the mosque tank, wells, &c., five acres are available for burial purposes. Information is not available in the Municipal office, Calicut, as to the actual number of Mappila deaths within the last three years in the C, D and E Divisions, the portion to the south of the main bazaar street. The Chairman has, however, furnished statistics showing the total number of Mappilas who died in 1893–94, a normal year, and in 1890–91, a cholera year. According to this statement, the total number of Mappilas who died in 1893–94 is 932 and it may fairly be assumed that two-thirds of this number, or 620 persons may have died in C, D and E Divisions for whom the Kannanparamba is intended. Assuming that each grave may occupy 54 square feet as shown in the margin, 6′ × 4′ with a pathway not less than 3 feet wide at either end and a space of 2 feet between each layer, the ground will accommodate 4,035 graves and will last for nearly seven years. I believe, after seven years, the old graves may give way to new ones. If later on further ground be wanted. Extension may be made on the eastern and southern sides.



10. I have not calculated what the actual cost of adapting the ground into a sepulchre and of compensation payable to the owners of the adjoining houses will be. On a rough calculation, I find that a sum of Rs. 3,500 will be required for erecting the walls and Rs. 1,500 for a shall construction of a mosque and a tank. As already stated the amount of compensation payable may not be large, as most of the houses are not substantial buildings. The adjoining parambas the holders may claim compensation for loss of rent and, if necessary, karaima may be given to them by the municipal council. An order may be issued on the magisterial side prohibiting people from taking water from the wells within a radius of 120 yards from the Kannanparamba. These are, however, matters of detail which may be settled if you approve of the main scheme. I have not been able to consult the District Surgeon about the advisability of utilising Kannanparamba, as the sepulchre of the Mappilas living in C, D and E divisions.

No. 503.

Referred to the Sanitary Commissioner for remarks.

(By Order.)

(Signed) W. FRANCIS,
Acting Assistant Secretary.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
2nd April 1895.

To the Sanitary Commissioner.

From Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel W. G. KING, M.B. C.M., D.PH., Sanitary Commissioner for Madras, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Fort St. George, 8th June 1895, No. 1037-S.

With reference to your endorsement, No. 503 of 3rd April 1895,* I have the honour to state that, accompanied by the Collector of Malabar, I inspected the Kananparamba mentioned in paragraph 7 of the Chairman's letter. Taking into consideration the peculiarities of the site of Calicut and the requirements as to distance from the Mappila quarters, I am of opinion that the selection of the paramba is judicious.

* Herewith returned with connected papers.

2. Scattered houses and wells are to be found on three sides. To meet conditions for their safety, it would be essential to remove entirely the huts between the site and the sea—that is, those to the west. As regards the protection of dwellings to the south, the Collector in his letter No. 364, dated 13th March 1895, forwarding the correspondence to Government, proposes to employ a trench as a subsoil drain. This would go greatly towards securing the desired result; but in consideration of the rapid rise of subsoil water at this site during the monsoon, it is unlikely that the single line of trenches proposed would secure the desired object. The draining would have to be effected by subsoil drain pipes at close intervals *throughout the site*. Difficulties as to securing a constant outlet at a depth sufficient to be operative below the bottom of the graves—having regard to the small elevation of the locality above the sea and the action of the tide—would also have to be taken into account. Whilst, therefore, I am not prepared to say, in default of a correct knowledge of the levels, that a scheme for underdraining would not be feasible, in any case, to be of utility it would require to be complete.

3. Even were this effected, I consider that no hut should exist within 100 yards and no well within 300 yards of the nearest grave as a minimum, and by no means completely satisfactory requirement. This would therefore involve the securing by lease or otherwise of adjoining land to this extent, and the offering of compensation for houses.

4. On consulting with the Collector on these points, he suggested as an alternative that a strip of land in the same locality nearer the shore should be acquired. This would make an unobjectionable grave-yard, provided the land were taken within high tide mark. Were this acquired, I understood from the Collector that if the municipality continued the existing cultivation of coccanut trees in suitable portions, the investment would not be unprofitable.

5. I also inspected the site suggested near the elephant lines. This I regard as unobjectionable, provided no wells be allowed to exist within 300 yards of it. So far as could be ascertained, none are there at the present time, except one within the area. This would probably be required for ablutions at the proposed musjid before prayers by the Mappilas, and, however, undesirable sanitarily, it is presumed its retention would be requisite. Graves should be made at as great a distance from it as feasible. It would be essential that a strongly made bridge be erected, to enable burial parties to pass a nullah, which, during the monsoon, becomes swollen.

6. The lucid letter of the Chairman explaining the history of the various actions, taken up to date, shows that this question has been pending for many years past. I would respectfully suggest that, in issuing orders, Government should require that the necessary details in the matter be definitely settled at an early date.

Order—Mis. No. 1214 M., dated 29th July 1895.

The papers on this question having passed through the hands of several different officers, the suggestions made to meet the difficulty under discussion have become somewhat complicated and indefinite.

2. The municipal council originally proposed to provide two burial-grounds for the whole of the Mappila community in Calicut—one at Minchanda, just outside municipal limits for the southern and eastern parts of the town, and the other at Vellayil, near the old elephant lines for the northern part.

3. Of these two grounds the latter appears from the letter of the Sanitary Commissioner read above to be unobjectionable from a sanitary point of view, and the correspondence shows that the Collector and the Mappila community are satisfied with it. The Chairman of the municipal council will be requested to forward to Government, through the Collector, a plan of the whole of the site showing accurately the portion which would be required for use as a burial-ground, upon receipt of which the question of handing this portion over to the council will be considered in the Revenue Department. Pending final orders on this point, the council should prepare and forward to Government estimates for fencing this burial-ground for laying out paths and building a musjid in it, and for constructing the bridge over the nullah referred to in paragraph 5 of the Sanitary Commissioner's letter.

4. The burial-ground will suffice for the northern part of the town with the exception of Nadakavu which appears to be too far from it. The Deputy Collector of Calicut considers that the closure of the existing Nadakavu cemetery is not at present called for, and the Collector and the Sanitary Commissioner, by their silence on the point, apparently agree with him. It may therefore continue to be used for the present.

5. The southern and eastern parts of the town remain to be dealt with.

6. The municipal council, as already stated, propose to acquire land for a burial-ground for these two portions at Minchanda, outside municipal limits. The Collector and the Calicut Deputy Collector, however, consider (and apparently the Mappila community are of the same opinion) that this site is too far from the dwellings of the people for whose use it is intended. The latter suggests that a piece of land called Kannanparamba, which is within municipal limits, should be used instead. (This is apparently the land referred to in paragraph 7 of the Chairman's first letter, but the Chairman should report definitely to Government upon this point). The Deputy Collector considers that this will not be too far from the eastern portion of the town near Puthiarakkal.

7. The Sanitary Commissioner, however, considers that it will not be safe to use this land as a burial-ground unless all huts within 100 yards and all wells within 300 yards of it were removed and closed. It appears that there are a number of habitations near the land, and to acquire this margin round it would probably be an expensive proceeding. The Collector and the Sanitary Commissioner accordingly suggest the acquisition of a strip of land nearer the sea, but in the same locality.

8. It is not altogether clear whether this land is proposed to be acquired instead of the Kannanparamba, or in addition to it, and the Collector will be requested to report upon this point. Apparently the former is intended, and if this be so, the Chairman should report whether the Mappila community are satisfied with it, and submit to Government estimates for fencing it, and providing it with paths, a small tank or well for ceremonial ablutions and a musjid. If, however, it is intended to acquire the Kannanparamba in any case, similar estimates should be submitted for this plot, and for acquiring round it the margin prescribed by the Sanitary Commissioner and information should also be furnished as to the right in it which the son of the Salmi referred to in paragraph 9 of the Chairman's first letter possesses.

9. The Chairman will also be requested to report the action which the council [illegible] with respect to the Palayakhadiyarakom paramba referred to in paragraph 15, *et seq.*, of his letter.

10. The Chairman and the Deputy Collector of the Calicut division appear to have dealt with tact with this difficult matter.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. F. PRICE,
Chief Secretary.

To the Sanitary Commissioner.
" Chairman, Municipal Council, Calicut.
" Collector of Malabar.

READ—also the following papers:—

From T. VARADA RAO, Esq., S.C.S., Chairman, Municipal Council, Calicut, to the Chief Secretary to Government (through the Revenue Divisional Officer), dated 29th November 1895, No. 1111.

Adverting to G.O., No. 1214 M., Mis., dated 29th July 1895, I have the honour to submit the estimates and plans called for therein.

2. (*Paragraph* 3).—A plan of the whole of the site known as the Elephant lines, showing accurately the portion required for use as a burial ground, is submitted with the estimates required by Government.

I give below the details of the estimates—

		RS.	A.	P.
(1)	Compound wall	2,884	8	4
(2)	Laying out footpaths and improving the road connecting the site with the Cannanore Coast road	661	0	8
		1,213	4	7
(3)	Mosque			
(4)	Converting a large well now existing into a tank for ablutions	203	1	4
(5)	Bridge	900	0	0
	Sundries	138	1	1
	Total ..	6,000	0	0

3. (*Paragraph* 6).—Kannamparamba, mentioned by Government in this paragraph, is the land referred to in paragraph 7 of my letter No. 1393, dated 13th October 1894, as having been purchased by the State in 1862. It was then called Koyathodi *alias* Thekumthala garden and Marakkam Kadavu garden, but is now known as Kannamparamba.

4. (*Paragraph* 8).—The strip of land near the sea, referred to by the Sanitary Commissioner and the Collector, was proposed to be acquired instead of, not in addition to, the Kannamparamba, if the acquisition of a belt of land round the latter measuring 100 yards was found to be very expensive.

5. The estimates now submitted will show that it is the acquisition of the land involved in the alternative proposal which is more expensive by about Rs. 10,000. I have not therefore taken the opinion of the Mappila community as a whole regarding the use of this strip of land as a burial-ground. One or two of the prominent members thereof did not seem to view it with favour.

6. The plan submitted shows the sites of the Kannamparamba and Nainamvalappuparamba, which is the name of the strip of land nearer the shore, and also the land within the 100 yards safety belt all round the two parambas, except in the west where the belt varies from 165 feet to 125 feet, as the remainder is the foreshore of the Arabian Sea and is denuded of trees and huts. The use of the wells within a further radius of 200 yards may be prohibited by an order under the C. P. C.

7. Nainamvalappu paramba is only 5·64 acres in extent, while the Kannamparamba is 5·73 acres. The latter belongs to Government, while the former will have to be purchased. In other words, if it is decided that the Kannamparamba is to be

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The papers on this question having passed through the hands of several different officers, the suggestions made to meet the difficulty under discussion have become somewhat complicated and indefinite.

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	Sundries	138	1	1
	Total ..	6,000	0	0

3. (*Paragraph* 6).—Kannamparamba, mentioned by Government in this paragraph, is the land referred to in paragraph 7 of my letter No. 1393, dated 13th October 1894, as having been purchased by the State in 1862. It was then called Koyathodi *alias* Thekumthala garden and Marakkam Kadavu garden, but is now known as Kannamparamba.

4. (*Paragraph* 8).—The strip of land near the sea, referred to by the Sanitary Commissioner and the Collector, was proposed to be acquired instead of, not in addition to, the Kannamparamba, [illegible] acquisition of a belt of land round the latter measuring 100 yards was found to be very [illegible]

5. The estimates now submitted will su[illegible] involved in the alternative proposal which is more [illegible] it is the acquisition of the land have not therefore taken the opinion of the Mappila community by about Rs. 10,000. I the use of this strip of land as a burial-ground. One or two of [illegible] as a whole regarding thereof did not seem to view it with favour. [illegible] minent members

6. The plan submitted shows the sites of the Kannamparamba a[illegible] valappuparamba, which is the name of the strip of land nearer the shore, and also the land within the 100 yards safety belt all round the two parambas, except in the west where the belt varies from 165 feet to 125 feet, as the remainder is the foreshore of the Arabian Sea and is denuded of trees and huts. The use of the wells within a further radius of 200 yards may be prohibited by an order under the C. P. C.

7. Nainamvalappu paramba is only 5·64 acres in extent, while the Kannamparamba is 5·73 acres. The latter belongs to Government, while the former will have to be purchased. In other words, if it is decided that the Kannamparamba is to be

used, only the land within the safety belt of 100 yards all a round need be acquired, while if the Nainamvalappu paramba is chosen, the paramba itself will have to be purchased in addition to the marginal belt.

8. I give here the cost of acquiring the Nainamvalappu paramba and surrounding land—

	ACS.	SQ. YDS.
Area of the paramba	5	3,033
Area of surrounding land within the belt of 100 yards.	16	235
Total ..	21	3,268 — 21·69 acres.

	RS.	A.	P.
This consists of 8 acres of land valued at Rs. 1,815 per acre, of 8 acres of land valued at Rs. 1,210 per acre, and of 5·69 acres of ordinary land at Rs. 907½ per acre, the total coming up to	29,363	10	10
To this add value of buildings, &c.—			
15 houses built of laterite in chunam	4,100	0	0
15 houses built of mud walls	780	0	0
83 huts with cadjan and bamboo matting	984	0	0
10 walls built of laterite in chunam	495	0	0
5 shops do. do.	650	0	0
2 cattle pounds	11	0	0
	6,930	0	0

Total cost being Rs. 29,363–10–10 + 6,930, or Rs. 36,293–10–10.

9. To the above will have to be added Rs. 6,300, the amount of the undermentioned works for the conversion of the site into a cemetery :—

	RS.	A.	P.
(1) Mosque	1,213	4	7
(2) New well or tank	440	4	4
(3) Compound wall	3,226	12	0
(4) Pathways	1,202	10	8
Sundries	217	0	5
Total ..	6,300	0	0

The total cost of acquiring the Nainamvalappu paramba and a belt of 100 yards all round and to convert it into a cemetery as the Government directs will amount to Rs. 42,593–10–10.

10. As regards the Kannamparamba, the area of the comprised within a margin of 100 yards round the Kannamparamba is 17·54 acres. This consists of 8 acres of land for which compensation will have to be paid at the rate of Rs. 1,210 per acre and of 9·54 acres of land for which Rs. 907½ per acre only need be paid, the total cost coming up to Rs. 18,337–8–10.

To this add the value of buildings, &c.—

	RS.
18 [illegible]	5,830
10 houses built of laterite in chunam	385
11 houses built with mud walls	985
89 huts with cadjan and bamboo mat	268
6 wells of laterite in chunam	635
6 shops of laterite in chunam	11
2 cattle pounds	172
Value of trees standing on Government land	8,286

Total cost being Rs. 18,337–8–10 + 8,286, or Rs. 26,623–8–10.

11. As in the other case, this amount will have to be increased by Rs. 5,500 for converting the paramba into a cemetery.

	RS.	A.	P.
(1) Mosque (repairing the existing structure)	425	7	11
(2) Compound wall	3,773	8	1[illegible]
(3) Pathways	1,171	14	4
Sundries	129	0	11
Total ..	5,500	0	0

Thus the total cost of acquiring a marginal zone of 100 yards all round the Kannamparamba, of repairing the mosque in it and building a compound wall and also laying out paths, &c., amounts to Rs. 32,123–8–10.

The difference in cost amounts to more than Rs. 10,000 as pointed out by Government in paragraph 7 of the Government Order under reply ; the alternative proposal was suggested for adoption only if the acquisition of the marginal zone round Kannamparamba was found to be an expensive proceeding.

12. On economical grounds the original proposal deserves the support of Government. It also opens for use a plot of ground larger in extent than the alternative proposal. It has received the assent of the Mappila community. They now believe that this difficult question of burial-grounds after having run the gauntlet of the Municipal, District and Sanitary authorities has at length been settled in a manner eminently satisfactory to all the parties concerned, and that such settlement has received the approval and sanction of Government. I respectfully venture to submit that it is undesirable to disturb the stage of finality which the matter has at last attained. No new proposals or schemes should be allowed to interfere with or delay the accomplishment of the generous intentions of Government in providing this keenly-felt want of the Mappilas in this town.

13. Salmi's son enjoys the produce of the trees in the Kannamparamba and he looks after the two bits of ground used as graveyards therein and maintains a mulla at the mosque which is in a very dilapidated condition. His rights are covered by an oral lease, the terms of which have been obtained from the man himself—

"I am prepared to deliver over, whenever required by the municipality, the plot of ground called Marakkan Kadavu garden *alias* Kannamparamba, which is the jenm property of Government. My late father held it on verumpattam lease from Mr. Thoppilageth Koyotti Hajee for Rs. 60 per annum. I am now in possession of it. The rent is made use for the annual repairs of the mosque, to meet the pay of the mulla at the mosque and expenses incidental to the burial of pauper patients dying at the municipal hospital, jail and lunatic asylum."

There will be no difficulty in making him give up possession of the land when required.

14. (*Paragraph* 9).—The Palaya Kadiaragom paramba is in the midst of the Mappila quarters and is a valuable building site. The council will have no objection to sell it with the permission of Government and contribute the proceeds towards the expenses of carrying out the proposals regarding the sequestration of Mappila burial-grounds.

15. The Revenue Department has rendered me considerable assistance in the disposal of this reference by deputing Revenue Inspector C. Kanaran to help me in estimating the lands and buildings. His work has been thoroughly good and satisfactory. It will furnish all the particulars necessary when the acquisition is sanctioned.

No. 26 M.

Submitted.

2. I adhere to my former opinion that Kannamparamba is the best piece of land that will serve for the Mappila burial-ground.

3. The strip of land referred to in paragraph 4 of the Chairman's letter has been seen by the Collector. I consulted a few of the leading Mappilas about acquiring this land for a burial-ground in lieu of Kannamparamba. They are not in favour of it, as they state that during the monsoon water comes very near the beach road.

4. With much difficulty the Mappilas were persuaded to accept Kannamparamba as the future burial-ground of the Mappilas living to the south of the bazaar street, and in my opinion it will be a great pity if that arrangement is disturbed. The alternative ground is smaller in extent than the Kannamparamba.

CALICUT, *5th November* 1895. (Signed) S. SWAMINATHA AIYAR, *Deputy Collector.*

Endorsement on C. No. 424 M.

Forwarded.

2. I have seen the Kannamparamba and the other land near the sea. Kannamparamba is certainly preferable; the other land is said to be submerged in the monsoon, and probably is so. Moreover the Mappilas have agreed to use Kannamparamba and object to the other site.

CALICUT, *5th December* 1895. (Signed) J. HEWETSON, *Ag. Collector.*

No. 43.

The Chairman is requested to report what amount is expected to be realized by the sale of the Palaya Kadiaragomparamba.

18th January 1896. (Signed) J. F. PRICE, *Chief Secretary.*

To the Chairman, Municipal Council, Calicut.

From T. VARADA RAO, Esq., S.C.S., Chairman, Municipal Council, Calicut, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated 15th February 1896, No. 156.

With reference to your memorandum dated 18th ultimo, No. 43, I have the honour to inform you that Rs. 400 may be expected to be realized by the sale of the Palaya Kadiaragom paramba.

2. The ground was purchased for Rs. 840-4-3 and there was a house on the site which is now pulled down.

ORDER—No. 526A M., dated 24th March 1896.

In the Government Order read above the site known as the "Elephant lines" was approved as a burial-ground for the Mappilas living in the northern part of Calicut, but no definite decision was arrived at with regard to a burial-ground for the southern portion of the town. A site called Kannamparamba was proposed and was accepted by the Mappila community, but the Sanitary Commissioner was of opinion that it would be necessary on sanitary grounds to acquire a belt of land 100 yards wide all round the site. In case, however, the cost of this might be deemed to be excessive, an alternative site in the same locality, but nearer to the sea, was proposed by him and the Collector. The Chairman now reports that not only is this alternative site not acceptable to the Mappila community, but also that the cost of its acquisition is high, while the Kannamparamba itself, exclusive of the circumscribing belt which it is proposed to acquire, is already Government land, having been bought in 1862 for use as a cemetery. Its retention for that purpose appears to be desirable, and will now therefore be approved. The necessary action will be taken in the Revenue Department for transferring both this site and the "Elephant lines" site to the municipality.

2. According to the estimates submitted by the Chairman, the cost of preparing these sites for the intended use will be Rs. 11,500, being Rs. 6,000 for the "Elephant lines" site and Rs. 5,500 for the Kannamparamba. The cost of the acquisition of the actual sites will be *nil*, since the land, as explained above, belongs to Government, and the occupant, who is meantime enjoying the produce of the Kannamparamba, is prepared to give up the land when required. The cost of acquiring the belt of land, 100 yards wide, round the Kannamparamba, as recommended by the Sanitary Commissioner, is estimated at Rs. 26,623-8-10. However desirable it might be to take up all this land, if the municipal finances were in a flourishing condition, the Government, in view of the heavy cost involved, does not consider it absolutely necessary to do so. It will be sufficient if, for the present, the strip lying between the site and the foreshore is secured, and this the council should accordingly take steps to carry out.

3. From paragraph 13 of his first letter the Chairman appears to be under the impression that Government intends to pay for the new burial-grounds, but the supposition is unwarranted. The liability is purely municipal, and could not in fairness be wholly transferred to the general taxpayer. However, as the Calicut municipality is not rich, and the cost of these burial-grounds is considerable, a grant of Rs. 7,500 will be made from Provincial funds as a special case, but the balance must be provided by the municipal council. This balance will be Rs. 4,000 in addition to the cost of acquiring the strip of land referred to above. If Municipal funds are inadequate to meet the charge, His Excellency the Governor in Council will be willing to consider an application from the municipality for a provincial loan.

4. As the grant of Rs. 7,500 should be drawn before the 31st March 1896, the following telegram will be sent to the Collector of Malabar:—

"Pay immediately Rs. 7,500 grant from Provincial to Calicut municipality towards cost of Mappila burial-grounds. Order follows."

(True Extract.)

for *Chief Secretary.*

To the Collector of Malabar.
" Chairman, Municipal Council, Calicut,
with plan and estimates (4 enclosures) returned.
" Sanitary Commissioner.
" Financial Department.
" Revenue Department.
" Accountant-General.

Exd. J. Henricus.

Govt. of {1896} Madras.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL.

A.S.

Proof for approval.

11/24/4

Issued

Recd. Encl.

G.O., No. 526A M., 24th
March 1896.

Press

Please strike off
MARCH.

S.A.
27/4/96

Mappila burial-grounds.

Passing orders regarding the — in the Calicut municipality and making a grant of Rs. 7,500 from Provincial funds towards the cost of the same.

Read - again the following paper
G.O. No. 1214 M. of 29 Malabar Collector's office
from Co. 364/mul of 94 Calicut 13th march 1895.

Local & Municipal Dept.
CURRENT 1.c. 952 M

G.O. 526 A M. of 24/3/96

From,

H. Moberly Esq
Acting Collector of
Malabar

To,

The Hon'ble Mr. J. J. Price
Chief Secretary to Government
Local & Municipal Dept.
Madras.

Sir,

I have the honor to forward letter no. 1293 dated ~~21st November~~ 13th October 1894 from the Chairman of the Calicut municipal Council regarding Moplah burial ground. The letter was received by me on 22nd December, but as the Deputy Collector in Charge of Calicut Dn. objected to the Council's proposal to open a burial ground outside municipal limits and suggested the ground, referred to in para 7 of the Chairman's letter, should be utilized, I held the letter back pending receipt of a report on the proposed Confere-

(cont)

the Moplah Community.

I enclose Copy of the Deputy Collector's report dated 8th instant. I agree with the Deputy Collector in thinking that the ground outside the municipal limits on the Beypore road which the Council has selected, is too distant from the Moplah Quarters of the Town. I have inspected the land referred to in para 7 of the Chairman's letter - It is separated from the Sea-shore by the Beach road which runs due South from the old Sea Guard Office and is in my opinion well adapted for a burial ground. I would suggest that on the Eastern and Southern sides a ditch 10 to 12 feet deep be dug and that from the junction of these ditches a drain leading South to the Kallai river be made. This would be cheaper than acquiring a strip of land 100 yards wide all round the proposed burial ground and as the drainage is, not towards the Sea, but eastwards and towards the Kallai river, ditches

leading to the river would meet all Sanitary requirements. The burial ground known as Kannaparamba will suffice for the wants of the Moplahs of the C, D and E Divisions.

3. For the Moplahs in the northern part of the Town a piece of ground near the old Elephant lines may be granted as proposed in para 37 of the Chairman's letter.

4. I have personally consulted the District medical and Sanitary officer as to the suitability of Kannaparamba for a burial ground and he told me that in his opinion the site was a suitable one.

I have the honor to be
Sir,
Your most obdt Servant

R Winchester
for Collector

Local & Municipal Dept.
CURRENT No. 952 [illegible]

1201 M 4.9.94
849 M Mis 4.7.94.
829 M Mis 29.6.94
682 M Mis 31-5.94
513 M 23—11—94
370 M 21—3—94
217 M 18.2.93
1527 M 19—9—91
1478 M 3.7—84

2649 Rd 17.11.84
1929 Rd 20.8.84
113 P.D 27.1—62
658 P.D 2.2-58.
78 P.D 20.6.58.
407 P.D 9.4.58.
(Bod's Proceedings march (1859))

From

The Coll^r of Malabar

To

The Chief Secretary to Govt
L & Mul Dept
Madras

Dated 13.3.95.
Despd
Recd

CHIEF SECRETARY
16 MAR. 1895
GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

A

No.

Enclo 1 & 2 plans

Subject

Moplah burial grounds in the Calicut municipality — forwarding for orders of Govt letter No. 1393 d/ 21-11-95 from the Calicut Municipal Chairman regarding — and stating that the burial ground known as [illegible] may be selected [illegible] the purpose.

1 with Encl

No. 503 d/ 3-4-95

704(a).s

Referred to the Sanitary Commissioner for remarks.

By order

W Francis

Ag Assistant Secretary

Fort St George
2nd April 1895

To,

The Sanitary Commissioner

Arg/3.

Cuo.

Municipal Office,
Calicut, 13th October [illegible]
Despd: 21st November 1894

No. 1393

From,

T. Varada Rao Esquire S. C. S.
Chairman, Municipal Council,
Calicut.

To,

The Honorable J. F. Price C. S. I.
Chief Secretary to Government,
Local and Municipal Department,
Madras.
(Thro' the Revenue Divisional Officer)

Sir,

With reference to G. O. dated 23rd April 1894, No. 513 M, para 5, directing me to expedite the submission of proposals regarding the matter of Mopla burial grounds I have the honor to state that agreeably to the Resolation No. 16, dated 9th August 1894 I [illegible] place before Government a summary of the measures taken up to date to improve their condition. The final proposals [illegible] the Council appear in the concluding portion of this report and the orders of Government are solicited thereon.

I. 2. 1858 to 1862. In January 1858 [illegible]

Robinson officiating magistrate of
Malabar reported to Government as follows
the occurrence of Cholera in the District

"In the mopla town the epidemic has
been most virulent and most fatal. I attribute
it in a great measure to filth and closeness
of the huts, but chiefly to the abominable
practice of burying the dead in shallow
graves around the mosques in the midst
of the towns. An act prohibiting sepulture
within towns and populous villages and to
enable public officers to take up land at the
expense of the parties requiring it under the
provisions of Act No. 20 of 1852. is the first
step towards ameliorating the condition of the
poor in this respect."

Government resolved in G. O.
dated 9th April 1858, No. 407 P. D. that the
Acting Magistrate be called upon to give
the question of the propriety of interdicting
intramural interments in Malabar further
consideration, keeping in view the extent to
which the prejudices of the populations
concerned are likely to exhibit themselves
against any such interdiction.

3. The reply to this reference was
as regards of by Government thus:—

The Acting Magistrate thinks that
an enactment prohibiting sepulture in towns
or villages would at first be objected to by
the Moplahs, but he does not doubt that
if eligible land were first provided and
other facilities given for erecting local
sanctuaries &c and were small advances
granted to admit of the closed burial grounds
being respectably walled in and kept un-
desecrated such an enactment might be
gradually carried out by tact and judgment
in the District.

"The Right Honorable the
Governor in Council is not at present
prepared to advise to the Legislature
Council for an act to the effect contem-
plated, but he thinks that even without
an enactment something might be done
towards checking the practice in question.
Attempt might be made to persuade the
people voluntarily to cease burying in
some few grave yards situated in the
most objectionable localities. To this end
before the grave yard is enclosed a fresh
piece of land in a convenient situation
outside the town or village should be
given in lieu of it. The grounds might
be purchased by the Magistrate or taken
if not otherwise obtainable, under Act VI
of

1857 and the entire cost of procuring it and
fitting it to its new use, should be
borne by Government who would also bear
the charge of walling in the old burial
ground to preserve it from desecration.
The parties if any, in possession of, or
having an interest in the old grave yards
should be allowed the like rights in the
new one. By this means and by the
exhibition of tact and discretion some
few of the worse grave yards might perhaps
be closed and an example set at any rate
which might be gradually followed."

4. In a further order Government remarked (Vide G.O. dated 25th June 1858 No. 781 P.D.) "It seems by Mr. Robinson in para 2 of his present letter whether the existing burial grounds within the town can be absolutely closed against all interments but the Magistrate should exert his influence to circumscribe their use as much as possible."

5. The matter was ultimately referred to the Secretary of state for India who issued the following instructions:- Proceedings 9th Oct. 1859.

3 (Vide Dispatch dated 12th January 1859 No. 31)

"It is satisfactory that the feeling of the population should not be opposed to extra mural burial grounds; the state of the graveyards to which the correspondence you have transmitted refers having been very objectionable. It is not to be wondered at that some of the influential families should still wish to retain access to their ancient burial places, but if some few of them can be induced to make use of those without the town which have been appropriated for the purpose, the objections of the lower classes would doubtless soon be overcome and in due time the practice become general throughout the large towns and populous villages of your Presidency. If this can be brought about with the free will of the natives, it will be preferable to a Legislative Act on the subject. The proposed arrangements for the allotment of ground and other measures connected with the subject are approved."

6. The above instructions were communicated to the Collector and Magistrate of Malabar with the following order (Circular of the Board of Revenue, Madras, No. 1046, dated 25th March 1859) of the Madras Government.

"The measures here remarked upon relate

-late to the exclusive interments of the Mohamodans in Malabar not to the Hindu community generally, of whom comparatively a very small portion bury their dead. In furnishing therefore a copy of this para to the Board of Revenue, the Government will request them to call upon the Magistrates of Malabar and of any other station at which Mahomadans abound, to use their exertions when necessary in inducing the more influential and respectable members of that body to bury their dead without the towns, for which purpose suitable sites can be provided."

7. On the 16th July 1859 Government sanctioned the acquisition at its own cost of two pieces of land designated as per margin* containing an area of more than 5 2/3 acres for the formation of a Mopla burial ground in Calicut Town. The lands were taken possession of and the fact reported to Government by the Collector (Vide his letter recorded in G.O. No. 113 dated 27th January 1862 Public Department.)

8. The Collector remarked in his letter that it would be necessary to build on the ground acquired for the purpose of a cemetary, a small mosque or place of prayer to which he believed, all bodies must be brought before they are conveyed to the graves, that he had reason to believe that if the ground be handed over to the Moplas they would erect a mosque and build a wall, round the ground in view to its preservation from defilement or any other chance that might in any way tend to hurt their feelings; that if Government agreed he would hand over the ground to a Committee composed of the Kazi and the most respectable moplahs in the town, that the Committee in the first instance be chosen by Government and subsequent vacancies in it be filled by the other members; their choice being confirmed by Government and that the only restriction which should be made in handing over the ground to the Committee is that it shall be strictly applied to the purposes for which it is granted; viz. the burial of the dead.

9. Government in its order of January 1862 quoted above approved of the suggestions made by the Collector and he was further authorized to appoint the

* Kayathodi alias Thekkumthala Garden.
Markankadam Garden.

No reliable information regarding the personel of this committee
of first Committee or of subsequent additions
thereto is available. I have however been able
to ascertain from T. Koyotti Haji, until
recently a member of the Municipal Council,
and son of Thoppilakath Manu Koya Haji
a member of the Committee appointed by
the Collector, that until a short time before
his death his father was managing the
affairs of the trust; that then it was
handed to the Kadi or Kazi of the place.
Subsequently the Kadi gave the land on
pattom to one Patanna parambil Salmi.
On the Kadi's death the control of the
trust appears to have drifted into the
hands of this Salmi who until his death,
in August last, maintained a mulla and
a mosque on the site - Salmi being dead,
his son has stepped into the management
by way of inheritance.

10. The cemetary, it may be remarked, is scarcely used by the Moplas at Calicut, although it was acquired and maintained at what cost by Government it does not appear. The dead bodies buried therein are those of vagrants dying on the roadside and of those sent into the mortuary from the Calicut Civil Dispensary, the Leper asylum, the Small-pox Hospital, the Lunatic asylum and the Sub-Jail. The Committe appointed by the Collector so well managed the trust that what would seem to be a very substantial wall build of laterite stone in chunnam has all but disappeared. The foundation is the only trace of it that is left. The mulla in charge candidly admitted that the stones were used in building the sides of the graves and some were acknowledged to have been taken away by the people in the neighbourhood. I inspected the site and find that burials are confined to two bits of ground each about 50 feet square, the rest is a sandy waste, having on it over 400 cocoanut trees. I am certain that the representative of Salmi derives a respectable income from the ground and is perhaps the only person at present benefitted by the generous intentions of Government.

11. 1884-1889. In G.O. No. 1478, dated 3rd July 1884 the question was again taken up when Mr. Legatt, the Vice President replying to the aforesaid G.O. said "I regret to state that the Mopla community is as to the separation of the cemetaries from their mosques

mosques or even to the construction of new mosques and burial ground attached to them at less objectionable sites, even though the Municipality offered to help the scheme to the best of their power. Action in this direction having failed, the Commissioners have agreeably to a proposal of mine resolved to extend the present grave yards by taking up the adjoining land and adding the area to them, the Mopla community being called upon to contribute towards the expenses. This resolution has been communicated to the Kadis and the District Sanitary Officer has been requested to select such of the cemetaries as require immediate attention owing to their crowded state. I do not however anticipate that the Commissioners will be able to carry out even this measure" He promised to report the result of these attempts in due course.

12. Mr. Legatt wrote again (Vide letter dated 18th September 1884 to the President) "In the matter of closing the Mopla burial grounds, I beg to state that the Commissioners are fully aware of the powers conferred on them by Section 134 of the Act, but they think in a very delicate matter of this nature affecting the religious belief of the Moplahs, who form a very large proportion of the municipal population [illegible] is necessary. I am sorry to state that no progress has been made in the matter. The resolution of the Commissioners proposing the extension of the present graveyards was communicated to the Kazis who have not yet submitted their views. I have again addressed them on the subject." No reply having been received from the Kazis up to 3rd October 1884, although letters and reminders were sent to them on the subject, the Collector and President Mr. Galton desired the Vice President to arrange a meeting of the leading members of the Mopla community to discuss the question with them personally. A meeting was accordingly convened on the 20th October 1884 and proved abortive only 3 Moplas being present. The Vice President prevailed upon two respectable Mopla gentlemen who held seats on the Municipal Council to use their influence and a second meeting consisting of 11 representative men was held. It was therein unanimously resolved that the overcrowded cemetaries be extended by taking up adjoining land and that the extent of such addition be settled and demarcated

marcated by the Vice President with 4 other
gentlemen, the latter being Moplas. This
communication was forwarded to Government
by the President who however pointed out that
it would entail an immense expenditure of
money if all the overcrowded Mopla burial
grounds were to be extended in a similar
manner. On 15th December 1884 the Vice
President submitted plans shewing the
sites required for the extension of the ceme-
-tries and on the 18th May 1885 statements
in connection with the acquisition of lands
were submitted. The statements give the
names of 5 pieces of land covering an
area of 17 acres and odd. The understanding
upon which the acquisition was to be made
was that half the expense required should
be contributed by the Mopla community
and the remaining half should be borne
by the Municipality. In order however to
avoid difficulty in applying Act X of 1870, the
whole charges were to be paid by the
Municipality, the contribution to be levied
from the Moplas being credited to Muni-
-cipal Funds.

13. A draft notification was submitted
to Government for approval and was published
in the Fort Saint George Gazette, page 452
dated

Moplahs

H.C.
any paper
in our office
about this
14/11

dated 7th July 1885. No document of the
nature of an award or other paper is on
record but from the above and also from
the fact the Municipal cash book exhibits
entries of the payments of Rs 840-4-3 and
Rs 51-4-6 by cheques to the Assistant
Collector on 31st March 1886 and 5th March
1887 in respect of one of the items, No 3
Palayatkhadayaragom paramba adjoining
the Jamath palli appears to have been
acquired.

14. On the 2nd April 1887 the Municipal
Council resolved that the responsible authori-
-ties in charge of the present burial ground
to which extension is to be given should
apply for such possession. The responsible
authorities not having applied for the ground
up to 10th September 1887 the Municipal
Council applied to the Collector for
instructions. No instructions were apparently
issued although reminders dated 17th December
1887 and 19th April 1888 were addressed to
the Collector.

15. On the 30th March 1889 Mr V.
Chappan Menon, a member of the Municipal
Council proposed to the Municipal Council
that Messrs Koyotti Haji, Koyassan Koya
Haji, Avulla Koya Haji and Ahmed Koya
Haji

Kerr Hajie be appointed to superintend and regulate
immovables without distinction of factions in the
Palayakkadiyarakom paramba purchased
by the Municipality for extending the
cemetary attached to the Jamoth mosque.
This was approved and the resolution was
duly communicated to them on the 24th
April 1889.

16. All these four gentlemen are
alive and until recently two were on the
Municipal Council. Three of them were good
enough to see me at the Municipal Office
and afford information as to how they carried
on the trust delegated to them. Mr Koyotti
Hajie tells me that no burials have taken
place within the last 4 or 5 years in this
ground and that perhaps 10 interments were
actually made in the ground altogether. The
owner of an adjoining house represented to
the Collector Mr Galton that his drinking
water well was within a few yards of the
cemetary. The objection was felt to be so
strong and reasonable that the Divisional
Officer and the Chairman Mr Kunchikannan
on inspection of the spot suggested the stop-
page of any further interments. The site is
however still in the possession of the Sub
Committee two of whom ceased to be members

of

of the Council years ago. Mr Koyotti Hajie
is unable to explain why the site having
been condemned was not handed back to the
Municipality nor does it appear that the
Municipal executive was so alive to the
necessity for safe guarding its interests in
the property purchased as to demand the
restoration of the site from the members of the
Committee when it was no longer used for
the extension of the burial grounds. In
fact it appears from an examination of
the register of immovable property belong-
-ing to the Municipality that the
Palayakkadiyarakom paramba is not one
of the items entered therein. Advantage
was taken of our gross neglect by the public
and I am now replying to the Collector on
a petition presented to him by a Mopla
living in the neighbourhood for the grant
of the very same site to him on lease. The
Collector having referred the petition to me
for report, in the ordinary course of things
I should have allowed it to pass on but
fortunately the arrangement in the Municipal
Office of the records from 1865 brought to
light papers which prove the purchase
of the property by the Municipality in
1887. An inspection of the site brings again

into

to prominence the fact that like the Collectors Committee of 1862, the Municipal Committee of 1887 failed to discharge its duties properly. The ground is an abandoned house site and the dilapidated stone walls still stand on it. A portion of the timber material of the house has disappeared and the one or two fruit trees which are known to have existed thereon were sold by the Committee. The place is now overgrown with shrubs and plants and is in a highly insanitary condition and is at present of no use to any body.

III. 17. 1890 to 1891. Cholera broke out in the Municipality in June 1890 and caused 1239 deaths within the space of 3 to 4 months. The mortality in June and July 1890 is given in the table below :—

Month	Eurasians	Hindus	Moplahs	Others	Total.
June	11	26.	482	15	534
July	11	108	379	38	536.

(Vide page 107 minutes of Proceedings of the Sanitary Commissioner Madras for 3rd and 4th quarter 1890). Special efforts were made to arrest the spread of the disease but the causes were too deep seated for any temporary measures to be of avail. The Acting Collector Mr. W. Dumergue quickly recognised the true cause of this mortality. To get the grave yards removed a safe distance was considered a matter of paramount sanitary importance. The Acting Collector accordingly convened a meeting of the leading men of the Moplas community to consider what measures could be devised to minimise the chance of the recurrence of a Cholera outbreak. A meeting was held on the 5th July 1890 and attended by 16 representative men among the Moplas including a number of Tangals and Kazis of the several mosques in the Town. The following resolutions were passed at the meeting.

(1) That burials within the precincts of the various mosques in the town be discontinued and the corpses be buried in future at a distance from the Town in suitable grounds.

(2) That burials be strictly prohibited except in places selected by the Municipal Council with the sanction of the Collector.

(3) That the Chairman of the Municipal Council and the Collector be requested to take steps to carry out the foregoing resolutions.

The Proceedings of this meeting were published in the Malabar District Gazette. They were also communicated to the Municipal

Council

il by the Collector in his letter No. 2433/P90 ed. 7th July 1890 and placed before a meeting the Council on 12th July 1890. A Sub committee including Dr. Buch, the District Medical and Sanitary Officer, Dr. Leibendorfer, the and two Mopla gentlemen was formed to select suitable sites for the selection of new burial grounds.

18. On 15th November 1890 Surgeon Major L. Buch, the District Medical and Sanitary Officer, Malabar, drew attention to the condition of the Mopla burial grounds within the Municipality. The following reasons were adduced for their removal to some spot outside municipal limits.

(1) The burial grounds were greatly over-crowded. Bodies were often buried 3 ft deep, the uppermost body being barely 2 ft from the surface. about 900 bodies of persons dying from Cholera were buried in a limited area within municipal limits within the space of 3½ months.

(2) They are surrounded by dwelling houses in the compound of which and quite close to the grave yards are wells from which drinking water is obtained. Percolation and surface washings frequently ~~[illegible]~~ pass into the wells as also into tanks which are usually situated in the middle of the grave yards.

(3) They give rise to noxious vapours.

*Pallipparamba
Medapparamba

19. The two sites proposed to be acquired by the Municipality for the location of the burial grounds, were condemned as being situated within the densely populated area known as the Mopla quarters. Any addition to the already existing 26 burial grounds within the Municipal limits was open to objection on sanitary grounds. It was pointed out that sanitary authorities in England are doing their utmost to close burial grounds within towns and provide cemetries in the country. Cremation was also strongly recommended. On financial grounds the proposal to acquire the sites selected by the Municipality was inadmissible as nearly a sum of Rs 20,000 will be required. Dr. Buch suggested that one or more sites should be selected about one mile from the toll gate on the Beypore road, where an unlimited extent of waste ground could be had for a nominal sum. To avoid any trouble on the score of distance he suggested the employment of Mopla bearers by the Municipality to convey the dead of those unable to pay.

20. The Sanitary Commissioner in

his letter No. 5375/5, dated 19th November 1890 requested the Council to inform him what action the Council proposed to take on Dr. Beeches suggestions. Mr. H. Dumergue, the Acting Collector, also informed the Council that he saw the site selected by Dr. Beech and preferred it to the others and wish to be favoured with the views of the Council. The Sub Committee of the Municipal Council to whom the selection of suitable Burial grounds had been referred, was of opinion that the closing of all burial grounds within the municipal limits and the acquisition of new sites outside them was very desirable in the interests of sanitation but that it anticipated strong opposition on the part of the Mopla population. The Committee therefore suggested that the Acting Collector should convene another meeting of the leading moplahs in the Town before taking further action. This was on the 13th December 1890.

21. The Municipal Council at a Meeting held on 7th January 1891 on consideration of Dr. Beech's proposals and the Committee's recommendations came to the conclusion that Dr. Beeches suggestions were impracticable. It was pointed out that the acquisition of the sites within the Municipal limits was not in addition to the existing burial grounds but to replace them. The Council resolved to submit the plans and estimates to Government through the Collector with a request that the proposed new sites may be purchased at Government expense.

22. On 10th January 1891, Mr. Dumergue replying to the Sub Committee's request to hold another meeting of moplahs (which was forwarded to him) considered it unnecessary. He was of opinion that the site selected by Dr. Beech was unobjectionable from a sanitary point of view and would have been selected if no objection was taken to it. The distance was undoubtedly so great and the attendant inconveniences such that he did not feel justified in advocating the removal of the burial ground to it. He also noted the fact that the proposed sites within municipal limits are to be used instead of and not in addition to existing grave yards. Finally he requested the Council to send up information for their acquisition of the sites proposed by the Council. The Council's resolution of the 7th January 1891 was communicated to Dr. Beech who again took objections to the

the one sites selected by the Council in his letter dated 12th January 1891. He reiterated that he expected nothing but opposition on the part of the Moplahs when he suggested the removal of their burial grounds outside the toll gate. A recent inspection of the Mopla quarters disclosed the dangerous condition of the main and smaller drains which contained a quantity of greenish reeking filthy and stinking fluid. Cholera being always more or less prwalent in the District there was every likelihood of an outbreak which would totally eclipse any that had occurred before.

23. The Stipendiary Chairman Mr. Rozario however forwarded to the Collector of Malabar thro' the Divisional Officer a copy of the resolution passed on the 7th January 1891 by the Council together with the plans of the sites selected and the estimates of value and requested the Collector, to be good enough to take the necessary steps to give effect to the resolution of the Council. In the administration report of the Municipality for 1890-91 received in G.O. dated 19th September 1891 No 1527 M. Local and Municipal Para. 62 refers to the way in which this vexed question was disposed of so far as the Council was concerned. In his endorsement on the report the Revenue Divisional Officer having obviously perused the statements remarked that the valuation statements prepared for the acquisition of lands required for the Mopla burial grounds were under revision and would be submitted shortly. The amounts it was noted were large and exhibited considerable differences between the figures furnished by the Council and the Tahsildar of Calicut which were noted in the reported. Government remarked that the compensation proposed to be given for the lands appeared to be most exhorbitant but presumed that suitable localities could not be obtained for less amounts and noted that the matter was one which urgently called for attention.

IV. 24. 1893-94. Nothing more was heard of the subject until the Revenue Divisional Officer Mr. C. Chappan Menon requested the Chairman to get the matter of the location of the Burial Grounds disposed of in the Budget Meting. It is not clear whether the former papers were referred to on this occasion but there was no sufficient notice to the Chairman for Mr. Chappan Menon says in his letter "request a decision may be passed if possible at the budget meeting to be held this day." At the budget meting held the

the following elaborate resolution was passed which is quoted in full.-

"With regard to the Mopla burial ground, the Council finds itself in a difficult position to decide as to the site to be selected. On the one hand it is desirable that it should be outside the Town as suggested by Dr. Laing; while on the other, the Council has to consider the objection (unreasonable though it may appear to be) of the large section of the Mopla community to close their existing burial grounds. It was with considerable difficulty that the late Collector Mr. Dumergue and the Deputy Collector, M.R. Ry. V. Chappan Menon Avargal succeeded in persuading the Moplas to consent to a closure of their existing burial grounds and to have them replaced by others selected by them within the Municipality. The removal of the Mopla burial ground to a place remote from the Town is indeed a measure which commends itself to the Council, but in enforcing it it anticipates difficulties.

"It is to obviate this difficulty that the Council after mature consideration has decided to locate a burial ground (for Moplas residing in B, D, E, F, G, & H. Divisions) within the town.

"The extent of ground proposed to be taken up is about 4½ acres and the estimated cost of acquiring the same is Rs. 90 54- 10- This sum includes compensation for buildings and trees, the removal of the former being necessary to render the ground isolated and distant from dwelling houses as suggested by Dr. Laing in para. 7 of his last Inspection Notes.

"To the Moplas living in the Northern portion of the town (A & B. Divisions) it would be a source of great hardship if the burial grounds in those divisions are closed and they are compelled to take their dead to the cemetary intended to be provided for the residents in the Southern portion of the town, a distance of 5 or 6 miles, especially during prevalence of Cholera or Small pox. To meet the convenience of these men another eligible site is available viz; the ground near the old gallows formerly used by the military authorities as Elephant shed. This ground is in the possession of Government and the Council trusts that Government will make a free grant of the same to the Municipality. The present financial straits of the Municipality are such that it

ema

en th

ghe finds itself unable to provide the necessary
datemonds for acquiring the ground on the
expe southern portion of the Town and it has
the therefore resolved to request Government to
of make a grant of the required amount from
a rece provincial funds."

the 25 The resolution after reviewing the
reasons urged in favor of the
segregation of the grounds and against it,
requested Government to make a grant of
Rs 9054-10-3 to acquire marakkankadavu
in Paramba to serve as a burial ground for
the Moplas residing in the C, D, E. F, G and
H. divisions and also to make a free
2 grant of a portion of the abandoned elephant
sheds in the A division which is Government
property to be used as a graveyard for the
A and B. divisions-

26. The Chairman Mr. Rozario again
addressed Government in his letter No. 154,
dated 28th January 1893 in terms of the
above resolution. This letter was forwarded
thro' the Revenue Divisional Officer and it
was accompanied by a statement showing
the extent and value of the land proposed
to be taken up for the Moplah burial
ground for the C, D, E, F. G and H.
divisions-

27. On 7th February 1893 the Revenue

Divisional

Divisional Officer required some further information
regarding the Moplah population of the town
the number of deaths among them in the
past 5 years the space required for each
grave &c The Chairman furnished these
particulars the same day - So far as the records
in the Municipal Office shew there appears to
have followed a further interval of rest until
the question was mooted again by the
Sanitary Commissioner in October 1893 - His
observations are to be found in page 11 of
G.O. dated 25th April 1894 No. 593 M. in
forwarding the Sanitary Commissioners'
Inspection Report the Council resolved that
a ground should be selected at a very early
date outside the municipal limits of
suitable dimensions for a mopla burial
ground -

28. It will be observed that the
Municipal Council changed its views in
regard to the location of the burial ground
The objections on the score of cost of
acquisition of suitable sites within munici-
-pal limits and also those arising from a
sanitary point of view were found to be
so strong as to override the anticipated
opposition of the Mopla community.

29. Before proceeding to state what

action

action has been taken by me in persuance of the above resolution, I must mention that the site, the valuation statement ~~for~~ which was submitted with the Council's resolution dated 28th January, 1893 is different from those mentioned by Dr Buech and for which valuation statements were submitted on 1st January 1894

30. Of the latter Palliparamba was condemned by Dr Buch on the ground that it is immediately to the South of and in close proximity to the Railway Station, in the compound of which a larger number of the Railway employés live and Midaparamba for reasons already mentioned in para 18.

31. Marakkankadava paramba the site finally selected by the Council and forwarded for approval to Government adjoins the Midaparamba and the land purchased by Government in 1862 and as the enclosed rough plan shews is liable to the same objections that were urged against Palliparamba and the Midaparamba.

32. The Elephant lines which were selected for the use of the Moplahs living in the two northern divisions A and B have not been condemned at any time

33. As I was directed to select a site outside municipal limits, I proceeded to do so without loss of time - In endeavouring to get some of the mopla Councillors to visit the spot with me, some considerable time was lost and in July last I submitted to the Council the spot which I selected. Two members of the municipal Council one of whom is the Assistant Surgeon were asked by the Council to inspect the site and their report forms an enclosure to this letter. The special attention of Government is invited to the fact noted by these Councillors that no suitable sites are available nearer than the one selected. If it is decided that the Mopla burial ground for the Southern portion of the town is to be located outside municipal limits, the site now selected is the most suitable being only 3 furlongs from the tollgate - It is not likely to cost more than Rs 1000 - - -

* will follow.

34. A rough sketch of the site is submitted for the information of Governme*

35. The last resolution of the Council on the subject is that I should place before Government a brief history of the Mopla burial ground question with a request for a special grant.

36 A special grant will only be necessary

action

necessary if Government is pleased to decide
in favor of the site within the Municipal
limits in the southern portion of the town.
If the site outside municipal limits is
approved, Government need not make any
grant as the money can be provided for in
the Revised Estimate.

37. There appears to be no objection either
sanitarily or on the score of distance in
regard to the burial ground proposed near
the old Elephant lines. It is a ~~very~~ large
tract of ground belonging to Government
and if a portion of it is granted to the
Municipality it can be at once registered
as a burial ground and opened for use in
the A and B divisions, the Municipality
strictly enforcing Section 234 of Act No IV
of 1884 in regard to the existing burial
grounds in those divisions.

38. Opposition real and strong may
be expected from the mullahs of the existing
mosques (about 26 in number) who derive
fees ranging from 4 annas to 2 Rs per
interment in the grave yards. The fees form
the only source of their livelihood and
with the closure of the burial grounds this
means of sustenance will disappear. This
was brought out strongly in the discussion

at the meeting convened by Mr Donnegan in
1890. Even the Jangals, the acknowledged
leaders of the Moplas, exposed the hollowness
of the excuses set forth by the Mullas to
continue to use the overcrowded grave-yards.
The Jangals may be relied upon to help in
securing the success of this scheme. They now
recognize the importance to themselves of
avoiding conflict with the public authority.

39. The removal of the Mopla burial
grounds outside town limits does not com-
-pletely dispose of the subject of defective
grave yards in Calicut. Government has
directed the acquisition of a site near the
Lunatic Asylum for the disposal of the
dead belonging to the Roman Catholic
community and provision is made in the
budget for 1894-95 to meet the cost of
acquisition. Thus the highly objectionable
cemetary near the Captain's tank will be
closed immediately the new site is handed
to the Municipality. The Basel Mission
Burial Ground and the English Church
yard in the B Division are also within
town limits and adjacent to drinking water
wells but they are so little used as to be
comparatively harmless.

40. A danger not less imminent but

perhaps

perhaps not so well known and recognized exists in the almost general practice of the Nairs and Thiyyans although Hindus by nationality of disposing of their dead by burial in their own compounds. Exceptions do exist as in the case of the better educated and more opulent sections who burn their dead. It is a well known fact that amongst these classes the dead bodies of persons dying of Cholera or Small pox are almost always buried very near their own habitations, as it is alleged that it is difficult to procure the services of bearers to convey the dead. In some cases burial is practised to cremation solely by considerations of expense. It is therefore highly desirable to provide crematoriums or burning grounds in at least 2 or 3 divisions of the Municipality for the cremation of Hindus high or low. The bodies of children of less than one year which are usually buried, should be carried outside municipal limits. A spot will be selected for this purpose.

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

T. Narada Rao
Chairman.

No 1393

From,

The Chairman
municipal Council
Calicut

To,

The Chief Secretary
to Government
Local and municipal Dept.
Madras

Thro' The Revenue Board Officer

Dated 13th ~~September~~ October 1894
Recd 21st November 1894
Read

(A) Encl 2

Subject

Submitting report
regarding the mopla
burial grounds in
Calicut Town.

municipal Office,
Calicut 13th December 1894

From,

I Varada Rao Esqre

Chairman, Municipal Council
Calicut

To

The Deputy Collector,
Calicut Division
Calicut.

Sir,

In reply to your letter dated 7th December 1894 Reference on 26/mil enquiring whether the mappilla community was consulted in the selection of the sites for the burial grounds, I have the honor to refer you to my letter No 1393 dated 13th October 1894 para (17).

In the meeting held by Mr Bourne the then Collector of Malabar on the 5th July 1890 one of the resolutions passed at the meeting was

(2) burials be strictly prohibited except in places selected by the Municipal Council with the sanction of the Collector.

Hence the mappilla community

From

The Chairman

Municipal Council

Calicut

To the Dy Collector

Calicut Dn

Dated 13.12.94
Despd
Recd.

(A)

No.

Subject.

Suggesting that an informal meeting of the leading Moplas be held to ascertain whether the views expressed by the Mappilla Community in regard to the selection of their burial ground at the meeting held in 1890, have now been changed.

9.12 Mch 95

Office of the Deputy Collector
Calicut Division
Camp Taliparamba 8th March 1895.

20 8

From

M.R.Ry.

S. Swaminatha Iyer Avl.
Deputy Collector and Magistrate
Calicut Dn.

To,

H. Moberly Esq
Acting Collector of Malabar
Calicut.

Sir,

In continuation of my endorsement on letter from the Chairman Municipal Council Calicut, regarding the closing of the existing Moplah burial grounds in the Town of Calicut and locating them in sites selected by the Municipal Council near Minchanda and the Elephant lines (Vellayil) I have the honor to state that I intimated to the Secretary of the Himayath Islam Sabha Calicut that I would be very glad to meet the representation of the Moplah public in regard to the selection of suitable burial grounds. He convened a meeting of the Moplahs at the Sabha's premises

2. The meeting was held at 3 P. M on Sunday the 17th February 1895. There was a large gathering of moplahs consisting of many of the leading gentlemen of that community including the Kheria Kazhi. The Chairman municipal Council and myself attended the meeting and a Coby of the Proceedings is herewith submitted.

3 The moplahs as a body will, I feel sure, raise no objections to the proposal that burials within the Compounds of the several mosques in the Town be discontinued. They are decidedly averse to take the corpses to the mela chanda, the site now proposed by the municipal Council.

4. After considerable discussion, it was eventually agreed that the ground known as Kannanparamba (E. Division) which is now used for the burial of paupers dying on the road side and in the hospital be utilised as the place of sepulchre of the Moplahs of the C, D and E. Divisions i.e those to the South of the Beg Bazaar Street which constitutes the main portion of the moplah population of the Town. The moplahs request that before closing the existing burial grounds, the Kannanparamba should be walled in all round, that a wall should be erected right across the middle of it from East to west, to divide the site into two portions, one for the use of the opulent and respectable moplahs and the other for the poor classes, that a small mosque or place of prayer to which all dead bodies must be brought before interment be erected, and also a small tank be constructed and that the entire cost of adapting the ground to its new use be borne by the Government or by the municipal Council.

5. The moplahs have no objection to the site in the Elephant lines selected by the municipality for the use of the Community living on the northern side of the Town.

6. It was urged that Kannanparamba would be too far away for the moplahs living

on the Eastern portion of the Town- i.e.
2 near Puthiarakkal. At present Moplah
Corpses from Puthiarakkal are Conveyed
to the grave yards in the Moplah quarters
to the South of the Big Bazaar street - If
the Latter are closed they will have to be
taken to Kannanparamba - The distance
being about 2 miles, the Moplahs living
in Puthiarakkal Consider it a hardship-
I cannot now think of a site at or near
Puthiarakkal Suitable for a small burial
ground. Two of the Moplah gentlemen
present however promised to show me
some unobjectionable sites within a week.
They did not do so and as I had to
leave for Cannanore for the Jamabandy
Settlement of the Chirakal Taluk I am
unable to say whether the proposal
is feasible or not. The Moplah population
living in Puthiarakkal is not very large
and on my return to Calicut, I shall
try if possible to meet their wishes.
The Kannanparamba is only about half
a mile from the spot where the existing
burial

burial grounds are Clustered and the
Closure of the Latter in favor of the
Kannanparamba will involve the journey
of an additional half a mile to the
Pudiarakkal Moplahs which may not be
Considered a very serious hardship. In the
Settlement of a difficult question like this
it would be unreasonable to expect to
secure the Maximum of Convenience for
every body all round.

7. It was further pointed out that the
site in the Elephant lines (Vellayil) selected
for the Moplahs living on the Northern
Side of the Bazaar street was too distant
for the Moplahs of Nadakavu which is on
the Wynad road. I saw the Cemetery at
Nadakavu and I am of opinion that the
necessity to close this ground has not as
yet arisen. It is not a thickly populated
locality and there do not appear to be
many houses close to it. I beg therefore
to suggest that it may be left alone.

8. As already stated many of the
objectionable Shallow graveyards are on
the

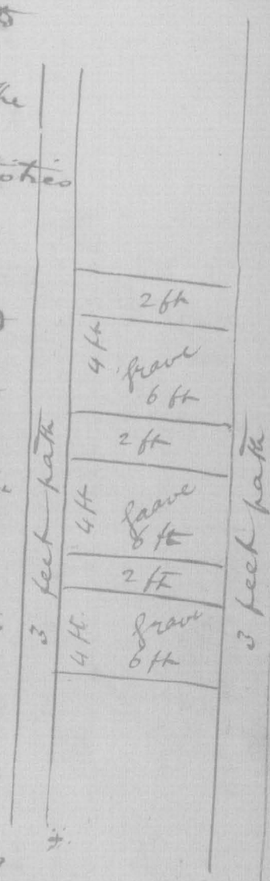
on the southern side of the bazaar street
and if they are closed absolutely and
the Kannanparamba is selected as a burial
ground the danger to the health and
safety of the town may be considered
to have been greatly minimized. The
Sanitary authorities may not approve of
the Kannanparamba being within the
Town. I have been all over the Town with
the Chairman and cannot find a more
suitable site taking all things into con-
-sideration. As you are aware, the Kan-
-nanparamba is situated on the south
western corner of the Town of Calicut
bounded on the west by the sea, on
the north by a coir factory, on the east
and west south by parambas. There
are some houses in these parambas but
they are mostly small thatched buildings.
Most of the inhabitants occupying these
buildings are poor moplahs and
Tiyars. The objections of the Sanitary
authorities can be met by securing
a clear belt of not less than 100 yards
width

width all round free from habitations
or wells. Fortunately there are few houses
on the western and on a great part of
the northern side. Alli Koyotti Haji told me
that he would permit the moplahs who
might have to vacate their present houses
to establish themselves in some of his
parambas in the Town and I think Mr.
Pera Moopan an influential Tiya Jannie
who is also a municipal Councillor will
be willing to permit the Tiyars to build
houses on some of his parambas. They
may be given compensation for removing
their present buildings to the new sites.
The clearing of a belt of the width all
round will involve the ejectment of a
number of petty squatters but it can be
rendered as least inconvenient to them pos-
-sible by the help of the aforesaid
two jannies.

Q. The extent of Kannanparamba is 5
acres and 28 ~~Cents~~ Cents according to
Survey measurements leaving 28 Cents or
a little over 5 per cent for the construction of

the

the mosque tank, wells etc, 5 acres are available for burial purposes - Information is not available in the municipal office Calicut as to the actual number of Moplah deaths within the last 3 years in the C - D and E Divisions, the portion to the South of the main bazaar street - The Chairman has however furnished statistics showing the total number of Moplahs who died in 1893 - 94 a normal year and in '90 - '91 a cholera year - According to the statement the total number of Moplahs who died in '93 - '94 is 932 and it may fairly be assumed that 2/3 of this number or 620 persons may have died in C, D, and E Divisions for whom the Kannanparamba is intended - Assuming that each grave may occupy 54 square feet, as shown in the margin 6'x4' with a path way not less than 3 ft wide at either end and a space of 2 ft between each layer the ground will accommodate 4035 graves and will last for nearly seven years. I believe after seven years the old graves may give way to new ones. If later on further ground be wanted



Extention

Extention may be made on the Eastern and Southern side.

10. I have not calculated what the actual cost of adapting the ground into a sepulchre and of Compensation payable to the owners of the adjoining houses will be. On a rough calculation I find that a sum of Rs 3500 will be required for erecting the walls and Rs 1500 for the construction of a mosque and a tank. As already stated the amount of Compensation payable may no

be large as most of the houses are not substantial buildings. The adjoining paramba holders may claim Compensation for loss of rent and if necessary Kannam may be given to them by the municipal Council. An order may be issued on the magisterial side prohibiting people from taking water from the wells within a radius of 120 yards from the Kannanparamba. These are however matters of detail which may

be

40

be settled if you approve of the main scheme. I have not been able to consult the District Surgeon about the advisability of utilising Kannanparamba as the sepulchre of the Moplahs living in C, D and E Divisions.

I have etc.

Sd/. S. Swaminatha Iyer

Dy Collector & Magistrate

True copy

Received 14-3-95

R. Rankin

For Collector

H.Ro

C.O.

(A)

H. MOBERLY.
22 DEC 91

Per 26th

Submitted to the Collector with the Chairman's letter of the 13th instant in reply to my reference to him enquiring whether the Mopla Community was consulted in the matter of the new sites selected.

2. From a sanitary point of view the ground selected by the Council outside the municipality on the Beypore road, is the best for the mopla chas of the Southern Division, but the distance which is about 3½ miles from the Centre of the mopla quarters, is so great that I fear there will be much opposition to it.

3. Since the receipt of the Chairman's letter I sounded the views of some of the leading moplahs. They admit the necessity of closing the existing burial grounds, but naturally object to the ground selected on

for

on the score of distance

4. The objections are mainly that the poorer classes cannot afford to carry the dead bodies so far. the municipality, no doubt, proposes to employ mopla bearers but this help, I have ascertained, will be declined by the poorer classes who object to the indignity of subjecting their dead to be carried by Coolies employed by others. the opulent classes consider that one of the marks of respect shown to the dead is a large following to the Cemetery on foot and that this cannot be done if it is 3½ miles off.

5 These objections may not seem to be reasonable, but being natural to human nature, I beg to submit that they will form obstacles to the removal of the burial ground outside the town.

6. The sanitary importance of focussing the scattered grave yards in one central place - so far as other circumstances will admit, must be large - is felt by every one acquainted with the town. The drastic measure recommended by the municipality being premature, I think we may fall back upon the ground referred to in para 7 of the Chairman's letter. It is about 52½ acres in extent and was purchased at the Cost of Rs. The Chairman, myself, the Mr. Rajotti Raja and a few mapillas inspected the place this morning. We consider that it will answer the purpose, if the Sanitary authorities will have no objection to it. Mr Rajotti Raja assured us that the mopla Community would Co-operate. The ground may be partitioned into two plots by a wall for

for the burial separately of the rich and the poor classes. Segregations may be secured by acquiring a belt of ground around which may be planted with trees. Mr Kapoor Naik agreed to our suggestion that it was very desirable to Convene a meeting of the leading notables in the Agraman to ascertain their views regarding this plot of land. The Chairman and myself shall also attend the meeting. We have however deferred taking any further steps in this matter till we know from the District medical & Sanitary officer whether he approves of the ground. I shall Consult him, and if he approves of it, I shall submit detailed proposals for fitting the land as a Cemetery, for clearing the adjoining ground and for taking on Kanom, where necessary, the adjoining

adjoining parambas so that no tenants may Construct buildings in them. There are not fortunately many well built masonry and dwelling houses around, and the Cost of clearing may not be prohibitive.

Executive Officer

21-12-26

(A)

Extt of D4/6 Col.
Enclosure.

taken
steps to
Fund Boards, Cuddapah
dated 29th April

No. 1037/S.

Office of Sanitary Commissioner,
Fort Saint George 8th June 1895.

Local & Municipal
CURRENT No.

From

Surgeon Lieut. Col. W. G. King M.B. C.M. D.P.H.
Sanitary Commissioner for Madras.

To,

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

Sir,

With reference to your endorsement No. 503 of 2nd April 1895*, I have the honor to state that, accompanied by the Collector of Malabar, I inspected the Kavanparamba mentioned in para 7 of the Chairman's letter. Taking into consideration the peculiarities of the site of Calicut and the requirements as to distance from the Moplah quarters, I am of opinion that the selection of the paramba is judicious.

*herewith returned with connected papers.

2. Scattered houses and wells are to be found on three sides. To meet conditions for their safety, it would be essential to remove entirely the huts between the site and the sea – that is, those to the West

As

As regards the protection of dwellings to the South, the Collector in his letter No. 364 dated 13th March 1895 forwarding the correspondence to Government proposes to employ a trench as a subsoil drain. This would go greatly towards securing the desired result; but in consideration of the rapid rise of subsoil water at this site during the monsoon, it is unlikely that the single line of trenches proposed would secure the desired object. The draining would have to be effected by subsoil drain pipes at close intervals throughout the site. Difficulties as to securing a constant outlet at a depth sufficient to be operative below the bottom of the graves - having regard to the small elevation of the locality above the sea, and the action of the tide - would also have to be taken into account. Whilst therefore I am not prepared to say, in default of a correct knowledge of the levels, that a scheme for underdraining would not be feasible, in any case to be of utility it would require to be complete.

3 Even were this effected, I consider that no hut should exist within 100 yards of the nearest grave and 300 yards of the nearest well, as a minimum, and by no means completely satisfactory, requirment.

This would therefore involve the securing by lease or otherwise of adjoining land to this extent and the offering of compensation for houses.

4. On consulting with the Collector on these points, he suggested as an alternative that a strip of land in the same locality nearer the shore should be acquired. This would make an unobjectionable graveyard, provided the land were taken within high tide mark. Were this acquired, I understood from the Collector that if the Municipality continued the existing cultivation of Cocoanut trees in suitable portions the investment would not be unprofitable.

5. I also inspected the site suggested near the Elephant lines. This I regard as unobjectionable, provided no wells be allowed to exist within 300 yards of it. So far as could be ascertained none are there at the present time, except one within the area. This would probably be required for ablutions at the proposed Musjid before prayers by the Moplahs, and, however undesirable sanitarily, it is presumed its retention would be requisite. Graves should be made as great a distance from it as feasible. It would be essential that a strongly made bridge be erected to enable burial parties to pass a nullah which during the monsoon becomes

Taken to steps to be taken by Local Fund Boards, Cuddapah dated 29th April

becomes swollen.

6. The lucid letter of the Chairman explaining the history of the various actions taken up to date, shows that this question has been pending for many years past. I would respectfully suggest that in issuing orders, Government should require that the necessary details in the matter be definitely settled at an early date.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most Obedient Servant,

W. G. King

Surgeon Lieut Col

Ag. Sanitary Commr for Madras

taken ... steps to ... Fund Boards, Cuddapah dated 29th April

Local & Municipal Dept.
CURRENT No. 1851/M

Local & Municipal DEPARTMENT.

From

SURGEON LIEUT.-COL. ~~J. A. LAING~~, *W. G. King M.B. C.I.E. ...*

SANITARY COMMISSIONER FOR MADRAS,

To

THE *Chief Secretary to Govt.*
Local & Municipal Dept.
Fort Saint George

No. *1037/S*

Dated	*9th*	
Despatched	*11th*	*June* 189*5.*
Received	11 JUN. 96	

(A)

ENCLOSURES *Seven*

Subject.

Submits remarks on papers referred to him re Moplah burial grounds in Calicut Municipality.

[960—8-12-92.]

19/6 Ar/96.

No. 1111/1895

Read also the file

... steps to ... Fund Boards, Cuddapah dated 29th April

Municipal office
Calicut 29. November 1895

Local & Municipal Dept.
CURRENT No. 3781/M

From,
T. Varada Rao Esquire S. C. S.
Chairman Municipal Council
Calicut.

To,
The Honorable J. F. Price C. S. I., I. C. S.
Chief Secretary to Government
Local and Municipal Department
Madras

Thro: The Revenue Divisional officer –

Sir,

Adverting to G. O. dated 29th July 1895 No. 1214 M. mis, I have the honor to submit the estimates and plans called for therein.

2. (Para. 3). A plan of the whole of the site known as the elephant lines, showing accurately the portion required for use as a burial ground is submitted with the estimates required by Government.

I give below the details of the estimates

	Rs.	as.	P
1. Compound wall	*2884*	*8*	*4*
2. Laying out footpaths and improving the road connecting the site with the Cannanore Coast road	*661*	*"*	*8*
3. Mosque	*1213*	*4*	*7*
4. Converting a large well now existing into a tank for ablutions	*203*	*1*	*4*
5. Bridge	*900*	*"*	*"*
Sundries	*138*	*1*	*1*
Total Rs	*6000*	*"*	*"*

3. (Para. 6). Kannamparamba mentioned

by Government in this paragraph is the land referred to in para 7 of my letter No. 1393. dated 13th October 1894 as having been purchased by the State in 1862. It was then called Koyathodi alias Thekkumthala garden and Marakkam Kadavu garden but is now known as Kammanparamba.

4. (Para 8.) The strip of land near the sea referred to by the Sanitary Commissioner and the Collector was proposed to be acquired instead of - not in addition to the - Kammanparamba. if the acquisition of a belt of land round the latter measuring 100 yards was found to be very expensive.

5. The estimates now submitted will show that it is the acquisition of the land involved in the alternative proposal which is more expensive by about Rs 10,000. I have not therefore taken the opinion of the ellipla community as a whole regarding the use of this strip of land as a burial ground. One or two of the prominent members thereof did not seem to view it with favour.

6. The plan submitted shows the sites of the Kammanamparamba and Chinnamvalappu Paramba which is the name of the strip of land nearer the shore and also the land within the 100 yards safety belt all round the two parambas - except in the west where the belt varies from 165 ft to 125 ft as the remainder is the foreshore of the Arabian Sea and is denuded of trees and huts. The use of the wells within a further radius of 200 yards may be prohibited by an order under the etc.

7. Chinnamvalappu Paramba is only 5.64 acres in extent while the Kammanparamba is 5.73 acres. The latter belongs to Government while the former will have to be purchased. In other words if it is decided that the Kammanparamba is to be used only the - land within the safety belt of 100 yards all round need be acquired while if the Chinnamvalappu Paramba is chosen the paramba itself will have to be purchased in addition to the marginal belt.

8. I give here the cost of acquiring the Nainamvalappu Paramba and surrounding land.

	acres		
Area of the Paramba	5	-	3033
Area of surrounding land within the belt of 100 yards	16	-	235
	21	-	3268
	= 21.69 acres.		

This consists of 8 acres of land valued at Rs 1815 per acre, of 8 acres of land valued at Rs 1210 per acre and of 5.69 acres of ordinary land at 907½ Rs per acre.

	Rs	as.	p.
coming up to	29363	- 10	- 10
To this add value of buildings &c			
15 houses built of laterite in Chunam	4100	-	-
15 " " mud walls	780	-	-
83 huts with cadjan and bamboo matting	984	-	-
10. Walls built of laterite in Chunam	405	-	-
5. Shops built - do	650	-	-
2. Cattle pounds	11	-	-
	6930	-	-

Total cost being Rs 29263-10-10 + 6930 = Rs 36293-10-10

9. To the above will have to be added Rs 6300 the amount of the undermentioned works for the conversion of the site into a cemetry-

1. Mosque	Rs 1213-4-7
2. New well or tank	440-4-4
3. Compound wall	3226-12-"
4. Pathways	1202-10-8.
Sundries	217-"-5
Total	6300-"-"

The total cost of acquiring the Kaimanvalappu-Paramba and a belt of 100 yards all round and to convert it into a cemetry as the Government directs will amount to Rs 42593-10-10.

10. As regards the Kaimanparamba the area of the land comprised within a margin of 100 yards round the Kaimanparamba is 17.54 acres. This consists of 8 acres of land for which compensation will have to be paid at the rate of Rs 1210 per acre & of 9.54 acres of land for which 907½ Rs per acre only need be paid — the total cost coming up to Rs 18337-8-10.

To this add the value of buildings etc.

16 houses built of laterite in chunam	Rs 5830.
11 do with mud walls	385
89 huts with cadjan and bamboo mat	985
6 wells of laterite in chunam	268
6 Shops of laterite in chunam	635
2 Cattle pounds	11
Value of trees standing on Govt land	172
	8286

Total cost being Rs 18337-8-10 + 8286 or 26623.8.10

11. As in the other case this amount will have to be increased by Rs 5500 for converting the paramba into a cemetry- 368

1 mosque (repairing the existing structure)	425-7-11
2. Compound wall	3773-8-10
3. Pathways	1171-14-4
Sundries	129-"-11
Total	5500-"-"

Thus the total cost of acquiring a marginal zone of 100 yards all round the Kaimanparamba of repairing the mosque in it and building a compound wall and also laying out pathways amounts to Rs 32123-8-10.

The difference in cost amounts to more than Rs 10,000- as pointed out by Government in para 7 of the G.O under reply. the alternative proposal was suggested for adoption only if the acquisition of the marginal zone round Kaimanparamba was found to be an expensive proceeding.

12. On economical grounds the original proposal deserves the support of Government. It also opens for use a plot of ground larger in extent than the alternative proposal. It has received the assent of the mopla community. They now believe that this difficult question of burial grounds after having run the gauntlet of the Municipal District and Sanitary authorities, has at length been settled in a manner eminently satisfactory

to all the parties concerned and that

9. Such settlement has received the approval and sanction of Government. I respectfully venture to submit that it is undesirable to disturb the stage of finality which the matter has at last attained. No new proposals or schemes should be allowed to interfere with or delay the accomplishment of the generous intentions of Government in providing this keenly felt want of the Moplahs in this town.

13. Salmi's son enjoys the produce of the trees in the Kannamparamba and he looks after the two bits of ground used as grave yards therein and maintains a Mulla at the Mosque which is in a very dilapidated condition. His rights are covered by an oral lease the terms of which have been obtained from the man himself.

" I am prepared to deliver over whenever required by the Municipality the plot of ground called Marakkan Kadam garden alias Kannamparamba which is the jenm property of Government. My late father held it on verumpattam lease from Mr Thoppilagath Koyotti Hajee for Rs 60 per annum. I am now in possession of it. The rent is made use for the annual repairs of the mosque to meet the pay of the Mulla at the Mosque and expenses incidental to the burial of pauper patients dying at the Municipal hospital, jail and Lunatic asylum."

13. There will be no difficulty in making him give up possession of the land when required.

14. Para 9. The Palayakadiaragomparamba is in the midst of the Mopla quarters and is a valuable building site. The Council will have no objection to sell it with the permission of Government and contribute the proceeds towards the expenses of carrying out the proposals regarding the sequestration of Mopla burial grounds.

15. The Revenue Department has rendered me considerable assistance in the disposal of this reference by deputing Revenue Inspector C. Kanaran to help me in estimating the lands and buildings. His work has been thoroughly good and satisfactory. He will furnish all the particulars necessary when the acquisition is sanctioned.

I have the honor to be
Sir,
your most obedient servant

Chairman

Sef/12

388

From.

The Chairman
Municipal Council
Calicut.

To.

The Chief Secretary
to Government
Local & Municipal Depts
Madras

Thro' The Revenue Dt. Officer

Dated 29. 11. 95.
Despd. 29. 11. 95.
Recd.

En 4

Subject

Mopla burial grounds

Submitting the estimates and plans called for in G.O. dated 29th July 1895 No 1216 M. M.

No. 26/Gen

C.N. 424/95

Submitted

2. I adhere to my former opinion that Kannamparamba is the best piece of land that will come for the moplah burial ground

3. The strip of land referred to in para 4 of the Chairman's letter has been seen by the Collector. I consulted a few of the leading moplahs about acquiring this land for a burial ground in lieu of Kannamparamba. They are not in favour of it, as they state that during the monsoon water comes very near the road ^beach

4. With much difficulty the moplahs were persuaded to accept

398

Kannamparamba as the future burial ground of the moplahs living to the south of the Bazaar street and in my opinion it will be a great pity if that arrangement is disturbed. The alternative ground is smaller in extent than the Kannamparamba

Lakshminathaiyar

Dy Colr

5-11-95 }
Calicut }

Enc. on C.N. 424/95

Forwarded -

I have seen the Kannamparamba & the other land near the sea - Kannamparamba is certainly preferable: the other land is said to be submerged in the monsoon, & probably is so. Moreover the Moplahs have agreed to use Kannamparamba & object to the other site

Calicut }
5-11-95 }

J Hewetson
Ag. Colr.

34 to 39
N

-8 DEC 1895
SECRETARY'S DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

93

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT

Local & Municipal Dept.
CURRENT No. 3731 M

From

The Chairman, M. C., Calicut.

No. 1111.

Dated 29" November 1895.

Received 9" December ..

Enclosures 4. (one plan)

SUBJECT.

Submitting plans and estimates call-
d for in G.O.No.1214 M.Mis.dated 29"
uly 1895, regarding Mappila burial grounds

Municipal Office
Calicut 15th February 1896

40

...ada Rao Esquire. S.C.S
Chairman, Municipal Council
Calicut

...onorable Mr. J. F. Price. C.S.I. C.S.
...hief Secretary to Government
...l and Municipal Department
Madras

...reference to your memorandum
...ultimo No. 43, I have the
...form you that Rs 400/ may
...ted to be realized by the
...lay a Kadiaral on paramba-
...round was purchased
...4-3 and there was a
...site which is now pulled down.

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

[illegible]

Chairman.

[illegible]

DEPARTMENT

Local & Municipal Dept.

CURRENT No. 643 M

Ref 43/96 &c

1214 M 29-7-95 &c

From

The Chairman

Municipal Council

Calicut

To

The Chief Secretary

to Government

Local & Municipal Dept.

Madras

Dated 15th February 1896

Recd 17th

CHIEF SECRETARY 20 FEB 1896 GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Enc. Nil

Subject

Reporting that Rs 400/ may be realized by the sale of the Palayam Kandiamparambu.

Again G.O., ~~dated~~ No. 1214. M. dated ~~189 , No.~~ 29th July 1895.

Current No. 3731 M. of 1895, dated 29th November 95 from the Chairman, M.C. Calicut.

Current No. 643 M. of 1896, dated 15th February 96 from the ~~the~~ do

FOR ORDERS.

Please see the notes and orders in the Government Order read above.

2. The Chairman now submits a plan of the site known as "the elephant lines" and of the portion of it which is required for use as a burial ground for the northern part of the town. As this land belongs to Government, the question of its transfer has to be considered in the Revenue Department. The cost of building a compound wall around the ground, a mosque and well in it and a bridge across the intervening nullah and of laying out paths &c in it is estimated at Rs 6000. The piece of land known as the "Kannanparambu", which is recommended as a good site for the southern and eastern parts also belongs to Government, and the Chairman says

says that the Son of the Saluvi who enjoys the produce of the trees on it is willing to hand over the land to the Council whenever required and that there will be no difficulty in this matter, but the cost of acquiring the belt of 100 yards around this land which is required by the Sanitary Commissioner to be reserved is estimated at Rs 26.623-8-10 and that of building a compound wall and repairing the existing mosque in it at Rs 5.500, making a total of Rs 32.123-8-10. The cost of acquiring the lake near the shore known as the "Kaimanvalappuparamba" is estimated at Rs 36.293-10-10 and that of building a compound wall, mosque and well and laying out paths &c at Rs 6.300, the total being Rs 42.593-10-10, But the last site was proposed only in lieu of the second, if the cost of acquisition of land &c in the latter case was found to be more expensive than in the former.

The second site (Kaimanparamba) is strongly recommended by the Chairman, the Deputy Collector and the Collector, as it is larger in extent than the third and is much less expensive and has been accepted by the Mappilas, who object to the third site on the ground that it is liable to be submerged in the monsoon. The two sites recommended viz, the elephant lines and Kaimanparamba are undoubtedly the best available, but the cost of acquiring the latter and of building compound walls, mosques &c in both is estimated at Rs 38.123-8-10 and the question for consideration is how this large sum is to be met. It can be reduced by Rs 26.623-8-10, if the belt of 100 yards required to be reserved round the Kaimanparamba is dispensed with; but the Sanitary Commissioner considers this necessary. The financial condition of the municipality is not prosperous and apparently the Council expects the Government to make a grant of the amount from Provincial funds.

	Rs. as. ps.
Building compound walls, mosque &c in the Elephant lines	6.000--
Acquiring the land round the Kaimanparamba	26.623-8-10
Building mosque &c. &c.	5.500--
Total.	38.123-8-10

3. As regards the Palayakandaragan paramba, referred to in para. 9 of the Government order under reply, the Chairman states that the Council is unwilling to sell the land which is a valuable dwelling site and

Contents-

contribute the proceeds towards the cost of providing the new burial grounds. He does not state what the amount he expects to realize by the sale. He might be asked to report, so that it can be seen how much money will have to be provided, for the estimates cannot be sanctioned until it is known from what source the funds are to come.

V.R. 20/12/95

W.W.D.
23-xii-95

In the second current read above the chairman says that Rs 400 may be realized by the sale of the Palaya-kadiaragom paramba. This sum will not go far towards the Rs 32,000 odd required for the acquisition of the burial ground. The municipality is not well off & cannot afford the expenditure, but apparently the Chairman is fully under the impression that Govt. is going to pay the amount (vide para. 12 of the 1st current) for which there is no warrant. The proposal to form the burial ground without the 100 yds. zone is contrary to the S.C.'s suggestions, which he says constitute the minimum of preventive measures that should be undertaken. It is now therefore a question whether the amount can be met from Provincial.

V.R. 11/3/96

W.W.D.
12-3-96

H.M.

Govt. will doubtless accept without hesitation as the Mappila burial

Mappila Burial grounds in the Calicut municipality.

FOR ORDERS.

3731 M.

H.M.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT.

Again G.O., dated 189 , No.

Current No. of 189 , dated from the

Current No. of 189 , dated from the

FOR ORDERS.

ground) (a) the Elephant line site & (b) the Kannamparamba.

As to meeting the cost the following courses are open —

(1) that the Govt. should meet the whole cost Rs 38,123 (less Rs 400 realized by the sale of the Palayakadi-aragom-paramba) by a grant from Provincial revenues:

(2) that the Mty. shd. meet the whole cost — Govt. enabling them to do so by giving them a loan of the amount (R 37,750 say) at 4%:

(3) that Govt. shd. meet the cost of the acquisition of the land Rs 26,625, leaving the Mty. to defray the expense of the walls mosques & wells &c (R 11,500), & allowing them to invite subscriptions from the Mappila community in aid: but Govt. will have to

We may take it, I suppose, that the R.D. will grant the 'Elephant Lines' site. The Kannamparamba site was bought years ago for use as a cemetery & may be retained for that purpose. The two sites are :. provided.

The cost of putting them in order for use is estimated at

	Rs A P
Elephant Lines' site —	6000. 0. 0
Kannam Paramba site —	5500. 0. 0
	11500-0-0

To this, Rs 26623 odd must be added if a clear space of 100 yds wide is to be taken up all round the latter site — But this seems to me to be quite a counsel of perfection. Calicut is not the only place that will need to spend money for the formation of new burial grounds; and to spend money for this purpose [illegible], everywhere is out of [illegible] most that [illegible] seems to me [illegible] to take up the strip between the [illegible] the sea. I would admit this, but no more.

The Chairman seems to think that Govt. is going to pay for these new burial grounds. I don't see why, nor can I consent to meet this purely municipal liability, the whole of which the Mty. Cl. should provide for. Still, as the place is not rich, I don't object to aid — a grant of Rs 7500 may therefore be made — I understand this sum is still available from the lump grant of 1.25 to L. & M. in the current year's budget. To prevent this lapsing, care must be taken that payment is made before the 31st inst. The Mty. Cl. must find the rest — alone

assist with a loan

There are ~~the~~ considerations in favor of each of these courses: they are manifest & need not be particularized.

With regard to the state of the municipal finances the budget ests. for 96797 are placed in the file, as received from the Chairman, but as ~~[illegible]~~ altered & proposed to be sanctioned (file in circulation) the year closes with a balance of R 3910 or 5·7% of the estimated receipts. If the house & land taxes are honestly revised (& it is proposed to ~~[illegible]~~ require this to be done within 4 mos.) the revenues shd be considerably enhanced

S.V.B. 20.9.6

it will be safest to order the Colls. bywise to pay over the Rs 7500 to the Mul. Cl. at once — in ~~advance~~ of the issue of this order in the ordinary course

M
23/3/9[illegible]

FOR ORDERS.

that not only is this alternative site not acceptable to the Moplah community, but ~~also~~ that the cost of its acquisition is ~~greater than that~~ high while ~~of~~ the Kannamparamba ~~which~~ itself is already Govt. land, having been ~~was~~ bought ~~by Govt~~ in 1862 for use as a cemetery. ~~..........~~ Its retention for that purpose appears to be desirable, & will now therefore be approved. The necessary action will be taken in the Rev. Dept. for transferring both this site & the "Elephant Lines" site to the Municipality.

2. According to the estimates ~~now~~ submitted by the chairman the cost of preparing these sites for the intended purpose ~~as Mohammedan burial grounds~~ will be Rs 11,500, being Rs 6000 for the "Elephant Lines" site & Rs 5500 for the Kannamparamba. The cost of the acquisition of the ~~land~~ actual sites will be nil, ~~since~~ the land, as explained above, belongs to Govt., & ~~[illegible]~~ the occupant, who is meantime enjoying the produce of the Kannamparamba, is ~~reported to be willing~~ prepared to give up ~~his~~ the land when required. The cost of acquiring the belt of land, 100 yds. wide, round the Kannamparamba, as recommended by the San. Commr., is estimated at Rs 26,623 - 8 - 10.

2(c)(?)

, exclusive of the circumscribing belt which it is proposed to acquire,

FROM ORDERS.

~~, leaving however the proposed circumambient belt to be acquired.~~

C. S.

[G. / 24.]

200—5-10-95.

DEPARTMENT.

Papers to be read in proceedings :—

Again G.O , dated 18

Again G.O., dated 1

Current No. of 189 , dated

" " , 189 , "

" " , 189 , "

ORDERS

428

However desirable it might be to take up all this land, if the municipal finances were in a flourishing condition, the Govt. in view of the heavy cost involved, does not consider it absolutely necessary to do so. It will be sufficient if for the present ~~[illegible]~~ the strip lying between the site & the foreshore is secured and this ~~which~~ the Council should accordingly take steps to carry out ~~do~~.

3. ~~With regard to meeting the cost of~~ From para 13 of his first letter the Chairman appears to be under the impression that Govt. [illegible] pay for the new buri[al grounds] [illegible] this supposition is ~~[illegible]~~ unwarranted. The liability is purely municipal, and cannot ~~as the Govt. considers that the municipality~~ not ~~be fairly~~ in fairness be wholly transferred to the general taxpayer. ~~ought to bear [illegible] the whole cost of a work like this, as it is a purely municipal liability~~. However, as the Calicut municipality is not rich, ~~a grant~~ & the cost of these burial grounds considerable, a grant of Rs. 750[0] be made from Provincial Fun[ds]

special case, but the balance must be provided by the Muni. Council. This balance will be Rs 4000 in addition to the cost of acquiring the strip of land above referred to. If municipal funds are inadequate to meet the charge, H. E. the Govt. will be willing to consider an application from the Muty. for a provincial loan.

4. As the grant of Rs 7.500 should be drawn before the 31st March '96, the following telegram* will be sent to the Collector of Malabar.

"Pay immediately Rs. 7500 grant from Provincial to Calicut Municipality towards cost of Mapilla burial grounds. Order follows."

(from orders)

Wired 25.3.96.

* despatched on 24.3.96. for C. S.

To Rev. Dept. for favour of counter initials with reference to the end of para. 2.

Mapilla Burial grounds, Calicut

FROM ORDERS.

C. S.

To Rev. Dept for favor of counterinitials with reference to para. 2 of Draft

25/3/96

Issue at once with

To The Coll. of Malabar
the Chairman M.C. Calicut (4 encl) with plan & estimates, ref.
The Sanitary Commissioner
Financial Deptt
Revenue Deptt
Accountant General
Desp. 27/3/96

No. 526-a M., 24th March 1896.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT.

Read—again the following paper :—

G.O., No. 1214 M., dated 29th July 1895.

Read—the following papers :—

From H. MOBERLY, Esq., Acting Collector of Malabar, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Calicut, 13th March 1895, Ref. on Cur. No. 364 of 1894.

I have the honour to forward letter, No. 1393, dated 13th October 1894, from the Chairman of the Calicut Municipal Council, regarding Mappila burial-grounds. The letter was received by me on 22nd December, but as the Deputy Collector in charge of Calicut division objected to the council's proposal to open a burial-ground outside municipal limits and suggested that the ground referred to in paragraph 7 of the Chairman's letter should be utilized, I held the letter back pending receipt of a report on the proposed conference with the Mappila community.

2. I enclose copy of the Deputy Collector's report, dated 8th instant. I agree with the Deputy Collector in thinking that the ground outside the municipal limits on the Beypore road which the council has selected is too distant from the Mappila quarters of the town. I have inspected the land referred to in paragraph 7 of the Chairman's letter. It is separated from the sea-shore by the beach road, which runs due south from the old Sea Customs office and is, in my opinion, well adapted for a burial-ground. I would suggest that on the eastern and southern sides a ditch ten to twelve feet deep be dug and that from the junction of these ditches a drain leading south to the Kallai river be made. This would be cheaper than acquiring a strip of land 100 yards wide all round the proposed burial-ground, and as the drainage is not towards the sea, but eastwards and towards the Kallai river, ditches leading to the river would meet all sanitary requirements. The burial-ground known as Kannanparamba will suffice for the wants of the Mappilas of the C, D and E divisions.

3. For the Mappilas in the northern part of the town a piece of ground near the old elephant lines may be granted as proposed in paragraph 37 of the Chairman's letter.

4. I have personally consulted the District Medical and Sanitary Officer as to the suitability of Kannanparamba for a burial-ground and he told me that, in his opinion, the site was a suitable one.

ENCLOSURES.

From T. VARADA RAO, Esq., S.C.S., Chairman, Municipal Council, Calicut, to the Chief Secretary to Government (through the Revenue Divisional officer), dated Calicut, 13th October 1894, No. 1393.

With reference to G.O., No. 513 M., dated 23rd April 1894, clause (5), directing me to expedite the submission of proposals regarding the matter of Mappila burial-grounds, I have the honour to state that, agreeably to Resolution, No. 16, dated 9th August 1894, I place before Government a summary of the measures taken up to date to improve their condition. The final proposals of the council appear in the concluding portion of this report and the orders of Government are solicited thereon.

2. *I. 1858 to 1862.*—In January 1858, Mr. W. R. Robinson, Officiating Magistrate of Malabar, reported to Government as follows on the occurrence of cholera in the district :—

"In the Mappila town the epidemic has been most virulent and most fatal. I attribute it in a great measure to filth and closeness of the huts, but chiefly to the abominable practice of burying the dead in shallow graves around the mosques in the midst of the towns. An Act prohibiting sepulture within towns and populous villages and to enable public officers to take up land at the expense of the parties requiring it under the provisions of Act No. 20 of 1852 is the first step towards ameliorating the condition of the poor in this respect."

Government resolved, in G.O., No. 407, Public, dated 9th April 1858, that the Acting Magistrate be called upon to give the question of the propriety of interdicting intramural interments in Malabar further consideration, keeping in view the extent to which the prejudices of the population concerned are likely to exhibit themselves against any such interdiction.

3. The reply to this reference was disposed of by Government thus :—

"The Acting Magistrate thinks that an enactment prohibiting sepulture in towns or villages would, at first, be objected to by the Mappilas, but he does not doubt that if eligible land were first provided and other facilities given for erecting local sanctuaries, &c., and were small advances granted to admit of the closed burial-grounds being respectably walled-in and kept undesecrated, such an enactment might be gradually carried out by tact and judgment in the district.

"His Excellency the Governor in Council is not at present prepared to apply to the Legislative Council for an Act to the effect contemplated, but he thinks that, even without an enactment, something might be done towards checking the practice in question. Attempt might be made to persuade the people voluntarily to cease burying in some few graveyards situated in the most objectionable localities. To this end before the graveyard is enclosed a fresh piece of land in a convenient situation outside the town or village should be given in lieu of it. The grounds might be purchased by the magistrate or taken, if not otherwise obtainable, under Act VI of 1857, and the entire cost of procuring it and adapting it to its new use should be borne by Government, who would also bear the charge of walling-in the old burial-ground to preserve it from desecration. The parties, if any, in possession of, or having an interest in, the old graveyards should be allowed the like rights in the new one. By this means and by the exhibition of tact and discretion some few of the worse graveyards might perhaps be closed and an example set, at any rate, which might be gradually followed."

4. In a further order Government remarked (*vide* G.O., No. 781, P.D., dated 25th June 1858) :—

"It seems doubtful from what is said by Mr. Robinson in paragraph 2 of his present letter whether the existing burial-grounds within the town can be absolutely closed against all interment, but the magistrate should exert his influence to circumscribe their use as much as possible."

5. The matter was ultimately referred to the Secretary of State for India, who issued the following instructions (*vide* despatch, dated 12th January 1859, No. 3) :—

"It is satisfactory that the feeling of the population should not be opposed to extramural burial-grounds; the state of the graveyards to which the correspondence you have transmitted refers having been very objectionable. It is not to be wondered at that some of the influential families should still wish to retain access to their ancient burial places, but if some few of them can be induced to make use of those without the town which have been appropriated for the purpose, the objections of the lower classes would doubtless soon be overcome and in due time the practice become general throughout the large towns and populous villages of your Presidency. If this can be brought about with the free will of the natives, it will be preferable to a Legislative Act on the subject. The proposed arrangements for the allotment of ground and other measures connected with the subject are approved."

6. The above instructions were communicated to the Collector and Magistrate of Malabar with the following order (circular of the Board of Revenue, Madras, No. 1046, dated 25th March 1859) of the Madras Government :—

"The measures here remarked upon relate to the extramural interments of the Muhammadans in Malabar, not to the Hindu community generally, of whom comparatively a very small portion bury their dead. In furnishing, therefore, a copy of this paragraph to the Board of Revenue, the Government will request them to call upon the Magistrates of Malabar, and of any other station at which Muhammadans abound, to use their exertions when necessary in inducing the more influential and respectable members of that body to bury their dead without the town, for which purpose suitable sites can be provided."

7. On the 16th July 1859, Government sanctioned the acquisition at its own cost of two pieces of land designated as per margin covering an area of more than 5⅔ acres for the formation of a Mappila burial-ground in Calicut town. The lands were taken possession of and the fact reported to Government by the Collector (*vide* his letter, recorded in G.O., No. 113, Public, dated 27th January 1862).

Koyathodi *alias* Thekkumthala garden.
Markankadam garden.

8. The Collector remarked in his letter that it would be necessary to build on the ground acquired for the purpose of a cemetery a small mosque or place of prayer to which, he believed, all bodies must be brought before they are conveyed to the graves; that he had reason to believe that if the ground be handed over to the Mappilas they would erect a mosque and build a wall round the ground in view to its preservation from defilement or any other chance that might in any way tend to hurt their feelings; that if Government agreed, he would hand over the ground to a committee composed of the Kazi and the most respectable Mappilas in the town; that the committee in the first instance be chosen by Government and subsequent vacancies in it be filled by the other members, their choice being confirmed by Government; and that the only restriction which should be made in handing over the ground to the committee is that it shall be strictly applied to the purposes for which it is granted, viz., the burial of the dead.

9. Government, in its order of January 1862 quoted above, approved of the suggestions made by the Collector and he was further authorized to appoint the first committee. No reliable information regarding the *personnel* of this committee, or of subsequent additions thereto, is available. I have, however, been able to ascertain from T. Koyotti Haji, until recently a member of the municipal council and son of Thoppilakath Manu Koya Hajee, a member of the committee appointed by the Collector, that until a short time before his death his father was managing the affairs of the trust; that then it was handed to the Kadi or Kazi of the place. Subsequently the Kadi gave the land on pattom to one Patanna Parambil Salmi. On the Kadi's death the control of the trust appears to have drifted into the hands of this Salmi who until his death in August last maintained a mulla and a mosque on the site. Salmi being dead, his son has stepped into the management by way of inheritance.

10. The cemetery, it may be remarked, is scarcely used by the Mappilas at Calicut, although it was acquired and maintained at what cost by Government it does not appear. The dead bodies buried therein are those of vagrants dying on the roadside and of those sent into the mortuary from the Calicut civil dispensary, the leper asylum, the small-pox hospital, the lunatic asylum and the sub-jail. The committee appointed by the Collector so well managed the trust that what would seem to be a very substantial wall built of laterite stone in chunam has all but disappeared. The foundation is the only trace of it that is left. The mulla in charge candidly admitted that the stones were used in building the sides of the graves and some were acknowledged to have been taken away by the people in the neighbourhood. I inspected the site and find that burials are confined to two bits of ground each about 50 feet square; the rest is a sandy waste having on it over 400 cocoanut trees. I am certain that the representative of Salmi derives a respectable income from the ground and is perhaps the only person at present benefited by the generous intentions of Government.

11. *II* 1884 *to* 1889.—In G.O, No. 1478, dated 3rd July 1884, the question was again taken up when Mr. Legatt, the Vice-President, replying to the aforesaid Government Order, said :—

"I regret to state that the Mappila community is averse to the separation of the cemeteries from their mosques or even to the construction of new mosques and burial-ground attached to them at less objectionable sites, even though the municipality offered to help the scheme to the best of their power Action in this direction having failed, the Commissioners have, agreeably to a proposal of mine, resolved to extend the present graveyards by taking up the adjoining land and adding the area to them, the Mappila community being called upon to contribute towards the expenses. This resolution has been communicated to the Kadis, and the District Sanitary Officer has been requested to select such of the cemeteries as require immediate attention owing to their crowded state. I do not, however, anticipate that the Commissioners will be able to carry out even this measure."

He promised to report the result of these attempts in due course.

12. Mr. Legatt wrote again (*vide* letter, dated 18th September 1884, to the President) :—

"In the matter of closing the Mappila burial-grounds, I beg to state that the Commissioners are fully aware of the powers conferred on them by section 134 of the Act, but they think in a very delicate matter of this nature affecting the religious belief of the Mappilas, who form a very large proportion of the municipal population, extreme caution is necessary. I am sorry to state that no progress has been made in the matter. The resolution of the Commissioners proposing the extension of the present graveyards was communicated to the Kazis, who have not yet submitted their views. I have again addressed them on the subject."

No reply having been received from the Kazis up to 3rd October 1884, although letters and reminders were sent to them on the subject, the Collector and President, Mr. Galton, desired the Vice-President to arrange a meeting of the leading members of the Mappila community to discuss the question with them personally. A meeting was accordingly convened on the 20th October 1884 and proved abortive, only three Mappilas being present. The Vice-President prevailed upon two respectable Mappila gentlemen who held seats on the municipal council to use their influence and a second meeting consisting of eleven representative men was held. It was therein unanimously resolved that the overcrowded cemeteries be extended by taking up adjoining land and that the

extent of such addition be settled and demarcated by the Vice-President with four other gentlemen, the latter being Mappilas. This communication was forwarded to Government by the President, who however pointed out that it would entail an immense expenditure of money if all the overcrowded Mappila burial-grounds were to be extended in a similar manner. On 15th December 1884 the Vice-President submitted plans showing the sites required for the extension of the cemeteries, and on the 18th May 1885 statements in connection with the acquisition of lands were submitted. The statements give the names of five pieces of land covering an area of seventeen acres and odd. The understanding upon which the acquisition was to be made was that half the expense required should be contributed by the Mappila community and the remaining half should be borne by the municipality. In order, however, to avoid difficulty in applying Act X of 1870, the whole charges were to be paid by the municipality, the contribution to be levied from the Mappilas being credited to municipal funds.

13. A draft notification was submitted to Government for approval and was published in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, page 452, dated 7th July 1885. No document of the nature of an award or other paper is on record, but from the above and also from the fact the municipal cash book exhibits entries of the payments of Rs. 840–4–3 and Rs. 51–4–6 by cheques to the Assistant Collector on 31st March 1886 and 5th March 1887 in respect of one of the items, No. 3, Palayakhadiyaraom paramba adjoining the Jamathpalli appears to have been acquired.

14. On the 2nd April 1887, the municipal council resolved that the responsible authorities in charge of the present burial-ground to which extension is to be given should apply for such possession. The responsible authorities not having applied for the ground up to 10th September 1887, the municipal council applied to the Collector for instructions. No instructions were apparently issued, although two reminders, dated 17th December 1887 and 19th April 1888, were addressed to the Collector.

15. On the 30th March 1889, Mr. V. Chappan Menon, a member of the municipal council, proposed to the municipal council that Messrs. Koyotti Hajee, Koyassan Koya Hajee, Avulla Koya Hajee and Ahmed Koya Hajee be appointed to superintend and regulate burials without distinction of factions in the Palayakhadiyarakom paramba purchased by the municipality for extending the cemetery attached to the Jamoth Mosque. This was approved and the resolution was duly communicated to them on the 24th April 1889.

16 All these four gentlemen are alive and until recently two were on the municipal council. Three of them were good enough to see me at the municipal office and afford information as to how they carried on the trust delegated to them. Mr. Koyotti Hajee tells me that no burials have taken place within the last four or five years in this ground and that perhaps ten interments were actually made in the ground altogether. The owner of an adjoining house represented to the Collector, Mr. Galton, that his drinking-water well was within a few yards of the cemetery. The objection was felt to be so strong and reasonable that the divisional officer and the Chairman, Mr. Kunhikannan, on inspection of the spot suggested the stoppage of any further interments. The site is, however, still in the possession of the sub-committee, two of whom ceased to be members of the council years ago. Mr. Koyotti Hajee is unable to explain why the site, having been condemned, was not handed back to the municipality, nor does it appear that the municipal executive was so alive to the necessity for safe-guarding its interests in the property purchased as to demand the restoration of the site from the members of the committee when it was no longer used for the extension of the burial-ground. In fact, it appears from an examination of the register of immoveable property belonging to the municipality that the Palayakhadiyarakom paramba is not one of the items entered therein. Advantage was taken of our gross neglect by the public and I am now replying to the Collector on a petition presented to him by a Mappila living in the neighbourhood for the grant of the very same site to him on lease. The Collector having referred the petition to me for report, in the ordinary course of things, I should have allowed it to pass on, but fortunately the arrangement in the municipal office of the records from 1865 brought to light papers which prove the purchase of the property by the municipality in 1887. An inspection of the site brings again into prominence the fact that, like the Collector's committee of 1862, the municipal committee of 1887 failed to discharge its duties properly. The ground is an abandoned house site and the dilapidated stone walls still stand on it. A portion of the timber material of the house has disappeared and the one or two fruit trees which are known to have existed thereon were sold by the committee. The place is now overgrown with shrubs and plants and is in a highly insanitary condition and is at present of no use to anybody.

17. *III.* 1890 *to* 1891.—Cholera broke out in the municipality in June 1890 and caused 1,239 deaths within the space of three to four months. The mortality in June and July 1890 is given in the table below :—

Month.	Eurasians.	Hindus.	Mappilas.	Others.	Total.
June	11	26	482	15	534
July	11	108	379	38	536

(*vide* page 107, Minutes of Proceedings of the Sanitary Commissioner, Madras, for third and fourth quarter 1890). Special efforts were made to arrest the spread of the disease, but the causes were too deep seated for any temporary measures to be of avail. The Acting Collector Mr. W. Dumergue quickly recognised the true cause of this fearful mortality. To get the graveyards removed to a safe distance was considered a matter of paramount sanitary importance. The Acting Collector accordingly convened a meeting of the leading men of the Mappila community to consider what measures could be devised to minimise the chance of the recurrence of a cholera outbreak. A meeting was held on the 5th July 1890 and attended by sixteen representative men among the Mappilas including a number of Tongals and Kazis of the several mosques in the town. The following resolutions were passed at the meeting :—

(1) That burials within the precincts of the various mosques in the town be discontinued and the corpses be buried in future at a distance from the town in suitable grounds.

(2) That burials be strictly prohibited except in places selected by the municipal council with the sanction of the Collector.

(3) That the Chairman of the Municipal Council and the Collector be requested to take steps to carry out the foregoing resolutions.

The proceedings of this meeting were published in the *Malabar District Gazette*. They were also communicated to the municipal council by the Collector in his letter, No. 2432—P-90, dated 7th July 1890, and placed before a meeting of the council on 12th July 1890. A sub-committee, including Dr. Beech, the District Medical and Sanitary officer, Dr. Leibendoerfor, and two Mappila gentlemen, was formed to select suitable sites for the selection of new burial-grounds.

18. On 15th November 1890 Surgeon-Major L. Beech, the District Medical and Sanitary officer, Malabar, drew attention to the condition of the Mappila burial-grounds within the municipality. The following reasons were adduced for their removal to some spot outside municipal limits :—

(1) The burial-grounds were greatly overcrowded. Bodies were often buried three feet deep, the uppermost body being barely two feet from the surface. About 900 bodies of persons dying from cholera were buried in a limited area within municipal limits within the space of three and-a-half months.

(2) They are surrounded by dwelling houses in the compound of which and quite close to the graveyards are wells from which drinking-water is obtained. Percolation and surface washings frequently pass into the wells as also into tanks which are usually situated in the middle of the graveyards.

(3) They give rise to noxious vapours.

19. The two sites * proposed to be acquired by the municipality for the location of the burial-grounds were condemned as being situated within the densely populated area known as the Mappila quarters. Any addition to the already existing 26 burial-grounds within the municipal limits was open to objection on sanitary grounds. It was pointed out that sanitary authorities in England are doing their utmost to close burial-grounds within towns and provide cemeteries in the country. Cremation was also strongly recommended. On financial grounds the proposal to acquire the sites selected by the municipality was inadmissible, as nearly a sum of Rs. 20,000 will be required. Dr. Beech suggested that one or more sites should be selected about one mile from the toll-gate on the Beypore road, when an unlimited extent of waste ground could be had for a nominal sum. To avoid any trouble on the score of distance, he suggested the employment of Mappila bearers by the municipality to convey the dead of those unable to pay.

* Palliparamba.
Midaparamba.

20. The Sanitary Commissioner in his letter, No. 5375-S., dated 19th November 1890, requested the council to inform him what action the council proposed to take on Dr. Beech's suggestions. Mr. W. Dumergue, the Acting Collector, also informed the council that he saw the site selected by Dr. Beech and preferred it to the others and wish to be favoured with the views of the council. The sub-committee of the municipal council, to whom the selection of suitable burial-grounds had been referred, was of opinion that the closing of all burial-grounds within the municipal limits and the acquisition of new sites outside them was very desirable in the interests of sanitation, but that it anticipated strong opposition on the part of the Mappila population. The committee, therefore, suggested that the Acting Collector should convene another meeting of the leading Mappilas in the town before taking further action. This was on the 13th [illegible]mber 1890.

21. The municipal council at a meeting held on 7th January 1891 on consideration of Dr. Beech's proposals and the committee's recommendations came to the conclusion that Dr. Beech's suggestions were impracticable. It was pointed out that the acquisition of the sites within the municipal limits was not in addition to the existing burial-grounds, but to replace them. The council resolved to submit the plans and estimates to Government through the Collector with a request that the proposed new sites may be purchased at Government expense.

22. On 10th January 1891, Mr. Dumergue, replying to the sub-committee's request to hold another meeting of Mappilas (which was forwarded to him), considered it unnecessary. He was of opinion that the site selected by Dr. Beech was unobjectionable from a sanitary point of view

and would have been selected if no objection was taken to it. The distance was undoubtedly so great and the attendant inconveniences such that he did not feel justified in advocating the removal of the burial-ground to it. He also noted the fact that the proposed sites within municipal limits are to be used instead of and not in addition to existing graveyards. Finally, he requested the council to send up information for their acquisition of the sites proposed by the council. The council's resolution of the 7th January 1891 was communicated to Dr. Beech, who again took objection to the sites selected by the council in his letter dated 12th January 1891. He reiterated that he expected nothing but opposition on the part of the Mappilas when he suggested the removal of their burial-grounds outside the toll-gate. A recent inspection of the Mappila quarters disclosed the dangerous condition of the main and smaller drains which contained a quantity of greenish reeking filthy and stinking fluid. Cholera being always more or less prevalent in the district, there was every likelihood of an outbreak which would totally eclipse any that had occurred before.

23. The stipendiary Chairman Mr. Rozario, however, forwarded to the Collector of Malabar, through the Divisional officer, a copy of the resolution passed on the 7th January 1891 by the council, together with the plans of the sites selected and the estimates of value, and requested the Collector to be good enough to take the necessary steps to give effect to the resolution of the council. In the administration report of the municipality for 1890–91 reviewed in G.O., No. 1527 M., dated 19th September 1891, paragraph 62 refers to the way in which this vexed question was disposed of so far as the council was concerned. In his endorsement on the report the Revenue Divisional officer having obviously received the statements remarked that the valuation statements prepared for the acquisition of lands required for the Mappila burial-grounds were under revision and would be submitted shortly. The amounts, it was noted, were large and exhibited considerable differences between the figures furnished by the council and the Tahsildar of Calicut, which were noted in the report. Government remarked that the compensation proposed to be given for the lands appeared to be most exhorbitant, but presumed that suitable localities could not be obtained for less amounts and noted that the matter was one which urgently called for attention.

24. *IV. 1893–94.*—Nothing more was heard of the subject until the Revenue Divisional officer Mr. V. Chappan Menon requested the Chairman to get the matter of the location of the burial-grounds disposed of in the budget meeting. It is not clear whether the former papers were referred to on this occasion, but there was no sufficient notice to the Chairman, for Mr. Chappan Menon says in his letter: "I request a decision may be passed, if possible, at the budget meeting to be held this day." At the budget meeting held the following elaborate resolution was passed which is quoted in full:—

"With regard to the Mappila burial-ground, the council finds itself in a difficult position to decide as to the site to be selected. On the one hand it is desirable that it should be outside the town as suggested by Dr. Laing; while on the other, the council has to consider the objection (unreasonable though it may appear to be) of the large section of the Mappila community to close their existing burial-grounds. It was with considerable difficulty that the late Collector Mr. Dumergue succeeded in persuading the Mappilas to consent to a closure of their existing burial-grounds and to have them replaced by others selected by them within the municipality. The removal of the Mappila burial-ground to a place remote from the town is indeed a measure which commends itself to the council, but in enforcing it it anticipates difficulties.

"It is to obviate this difficulty that the council, after mature consideration, has decided to locate a burial-ground (for Mappilas residing in C, D, E, F, G and H divisions) within the town. The extent of ground proposed to be taken up is about 4½ acres and the estimated cost of acquiring the same is Rs. 9,054–10–8. This sum includes compensation for buildings and trees, the removal of the former being necessary to render the ground isolated and distant from dwelling houses as suggested by Dr. Laing in paragraph 7 of his last inspection notes.

"To the Mappilas living in the northern portion of the town (A and B divisions), it would be a source of great hardship if their burial-grounds in those divisions are closed and they are compelled to take their dead to the cemetery intended to be provided for the residents in the southern portion of the town, a distance of five or six miles, especially during prevalence of cholera or small-pox. To meet the convenience of these men another eligible site is available, viz., the ground near the old gallows formerly used by the military authorities as elephant shed. This ground is in the possession of Government and the council trusts that Government will make a free grant of the same to the municipality. The present financial straits of the municipality are so such that it finds itself unable to provide the necessary funds for acquiring the ground on the southern portion of the town, and it has, therefore, resolved to request Government to make a grant of the required amount from Provincial funds."

25. The resolution, after reviewing the reasons urged in favour of the sequestration of the grounds and against it, requested Government to make a grant of Rs. 9,054–10–3 to acquire Marakkankadavuparamba to serve as a burial-ground for Mappilas residing in the C, D, E, F, G and H divisions and also to make a free grant of a portion of the abandoned elephant sheds in the A division, which is Government property, to be used as a graveyard for the A and B divisions.

26. The Chairman Mr. Rozario again addressed Government in his letter, No. 154, dated 28th January 1893, in terms of the above resolution. This letter was forwarded through the Revenue Divisional officer and it was accompanied by a statement showing the extent and value of the land proposed to be taken up for the Mappila burial-ground for the C, D, E, F, G and H divisions

27. On 7th February 1893 the Revenue Divisional officer required some further information regarding the Mappila population of the town, the number of deaths among them in the past five years, the space required for each grave, &c. The chairman furnished these particulars the same day. So far as the records in the municipal office show there appears to have followed a further interval of rest until the question was mooted again by the Sanitary Commissioner in October 1893. His observations are to be found in page 11 of G.O., No. 513 M., dated 23rd April 1894. In forwarding the Sanitary Commissioner's inspection report, the council resolved that a ground should be selected, at a very early date, outside the municipal limits of suitable dimensions for a Mappila burial-ground.

28. It will be observed that the municipal council changed its views in regard to the location of the burial-grounds. The objections on the score of cost of acquisition of suitable sites within municipal limits and also those arising from a sanitary point of view were found to be so strong as to override the anticipated opposition of the Mappila community.

29. Before proceeding to state what action has been taken by me in persuance of the above resolution, I must mention that the site, the valuation statement which was submitted with the council's resolution, dated 28th January 1893, is different from those meationed by Dr. Beech and for which valuation statements were submitted on 1st January 1891.

30. Of the latter, Palliparamba was condemned by Dr Beech on the ground that it is immediately to the south of and in close proximity to the railway station, in the compound of which a larger number of the railway employés live and Midaparamba for reasons already mentioned in paragraph 18.

31. Marakkankadavaparamba, the site finally selected by the council and forwarded for approval to Government, adjoins the Midaparamba, and the land purchased by Government in 1862 and as the enclosed rough plan shows is liable to the same objections that were urged against Palliparamba and the Midaparamba.

32. The elephant lines which were selected for the use of the Mappilas living in the two northern divisions A and B have not been condemned at any time.

33. As I was directed to select a site outside municipal limits, I proceeded to do so without loss of time. In endeavouring to get some of the Mappila councillors to visit the spot with me some considerable time was lost, and in July last I submitted to the council the spot which I selected. Two members of the municipal council, one of whom is the Assistant Surgeon, were asked by the council to inspect the site and their report forms and enclosure to this letter. The special attention of Government is invited to the fact noted by these councillors that no suitable sites are available nearer than the one selected. If it is decided that the Mappila burial-ground for the southern portion of the town is to be located outside municipal limits, the site now selected is the most suitable, being only three furlongs from the toll-gate. It is not likely to cost more than Rs. 1,000.

34. A rough sketch (will follow) of the site is submitted for the information of Government.

35. The last resolution of the council on the subject is that I should place before Government a brief history of the Mappila burial-ground question with a request for a special grant.

36. A special grant will only be necessary if Government is pleased to decide in favour of the site within the municipal limits in the southern portion of the town. If the site outside municipal limits is approved, Government need not make any grant as the money can be provided for in the revised estimate.

37. There appears to be no objection either sanitarily or on the score of distance in regard to the burial-ground proposed near the old elephant lines. It is a large tract of ground belonging to Government, and, if a portion of it is granted to the municipality, it can be at once registered as a burial-ground and opened for use in the A and B divisions, the municipality strictly enforcing section 234 of Act No. IV of 1884 in regard to the existing burial-grounds in those divisions.

38. Opposition, real and strong, may be expected from the Mullas of the existing mosques (about 26 in number) who derive fees ranging from As. 4 to Rs. 2 per interment in the graveyards. The fees form the only source of their livelihood and with the closure of the burial-grounds this means of sustenance will disappear. This was brought out strongly in the discussion at the meeting convened by Mr. Dumergue in 1890. Even the Tangals, the acknowledged leaders of the Mappilas, exposed the hollowness of the excuses set forth by the Mullas to continue to use the overcrowded graveyards. The Tangals may be relied upon to help in securing the success of this scheme. They now recognize the importance to themselves of avoiding conflict with the public authority.

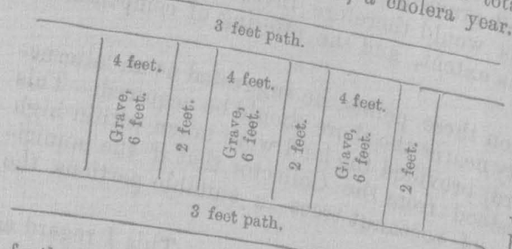
39. The removal of the Mappila burial-grounds outside town limits does not completely dispose of the subject of defective graveyards in Calicut. Government has directed the acquisition of a site near the Lunatic Asylum for the disposal of the dead belonging to the Roman Catholic

meet their wishes. The Kannanparamba is only about half a mile from the spot where the existing burial-grounds are clustered and the closure of the latter in favour of the Kannanparamba will involve the journey of an additional half a mile to the Puthiarakkal Mappilas which may not be considered a very serious hardship. In the settlement of a difficult question like this it would be unreasonable to expect to secure the maximum of convenience for every body all round.

7. It was further pointed out that the site in the elephant lines (Vellayil) selected for the Mappilas living on the northern side of the bazaar street was too distant for the Mappilas of Nadakavu which is on the Wynaad road. I saw the cemetery at Nadakavu and I am of opinion that the necessity to close this ground has not as yet arisen. It is not a thickly-populated locality and there do not appear to be many houses close to it. I beg therefore to suggest that it may be left alone.

8. As already stated many of the objectionable shallow grave-yards are on the southern side of the bazaar street and if they are closed absolutely and the Kannanparamba is selected as a burial-ground, the danger to the health and safety of the town may be considered to have been greatly minimized. The sanitary authorities may not approve of the Kannanparamba, being within the town. I have been all over the town with the Chairman and cannot find a more suitable site, taking all things into consideration. As you are aware, the Kannanparamba is situated on the south-western corner of the town of Calicut, bounded on the west by the sea, on the north by a coir factory, on the east and south by parambas. There are some houses in these parambas, but they are mostly small thatched buildings. Most of the objections of the sanitary authorities can be met by securing a clear belt of not less than 100 yards width all round free from habitations or these buildings are poor Mappilas and Tiyars. The objections of the inhabitants occupying wells. Fortunately there are no houses on the western and on a great part of the northern side. Mr. Koyatti Haji told me that he would permit the Mappilas who might have to vacate their present houses to establish themselves in some of his parambas in the town and I think Mr. Pern Moopan, an influential Tiya janmi, who is also a municipal councillor, will be willing to permit the Tiyars to build houses on some of his parambas. They may be given compensation for removing their present buildings to the new sites. The clearing of a belt of this width all round will involve the ejectment of a number of petty squatters, but it can be rendered as least inconvenient to them as possible by the help of the aforesaid two janmis.

9. The extent of Kannanparamba is 5 acres and 28 cents according to survey measurement on leaving 28 cents or a little over 5 per cent. for the construction of the mosque tank, wells, &c., five acres are available for burial purposes. Information is not available in the Municipal office, Calicut, as to the actual number of Mappila deaths within the last three years in the C, D and E Divisions, the portion to the south of the main bazaar street. The Chairman has, however, furnished statistics showing the total number of Mappilas who died in 1893–94, a normal year, and in 1890–91, a cholera year. According to this statement, the total number of Mappilas who died in 1893–94 is 932 and it may fairly be assumed that two-thirds of this number, or 620 persons may have died in C, D and E Divisions for whom the Kannanparamba is intended. Assuming that each grave may occupy 54 square feet as shown in the margin, 6′ × 4′ with a pathway not less than 3 feet wide at either end and a space of 2 feet between each layer, the ground will accommodate 4,035 graves and will last for nearly seven years. I believe, after seven years, the old graves may give way to new ones. If later on further ground be wanted. Extension may be made on the eastern and southern sides.



10. I have not calculated what the actual cost of adapting the ground into a sepulchre and of compensation payable to the owners of the adjoining houses will be. On a rough calculation I find that a sum of Rs. 3,500 will be required for erecting the walls and Rs. 1,500 for the construction of a mosque and a tank. As already stated the amount of compensation payable may not be large, as most of the houses are not substantial buildings. The adjoining paramba-holders may claim compensation for loss of rent and, if necessary, karaima may be given to them by the municipal council. An order may be issued on the magisterial side prohibiting people from taking water from the wells within a radius of 120 yards from the Kannanparamba. These are, however, matters of detail which may be settled if you approve of the main scheme. I have not been able to consult the District Surgeon about the advisability of utilising Kannanparamba, as the sepulchre of the Mappilas living in C, D and E divisions.

No. 503.

Referred to the Sanitary Commissioner for remarks.

(By Order.)

(Signed) W. FRANCIS,
Acting Assistant Secretary.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
2nd April 1895.

To the Sanitary Commissioner.

From Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel W. G. KING, M.B. C.M., D.PH., Sanitary Commissioner for Madras, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Fort St. George, 8th June 1895, No. 1037-S.

With reference to your endorsement, No. 503 of 3rd April 1895,* I have the honour to state that, accompanied by the Collector of Malabar, I inspected the Kannanparamba mentioned in paragraph 7 of the Chairman's letter. Taking into consideration the peculiarities of the site of Calicut and the requirements as to distance from the Mappila quarters, I am of opinion that the selection of the paramba is judicious.

* Herewith returned with connected papers.

2. Scattered houses and wells are to be found on three sides. To meet conditions for their safety, it would be essential to remove entirely the huts between the site and the sea—that is, those to the west. As regards the protection of dwellings to the south, the Collector in his letter No. 364, dated 13th March 1895, forwarding the correspondence to Government, proposes to employ a trench as a subsoil drain. This would go greatly towards securing the desired result; but in consideration of the rapid rise of subsoil water at this site during the monsoon, it is unlikely that the single line of trenches proposed would secure the desired object. The draining would have to be effected by subsoil drain pipes at close intervals *throughout the site*. Difficulties as to securing a constant outlet at a depth sufficient to be operative below the bottom of the graves—having regard to the small elevation of the locality above the sea and the action of the tide—would also have to be taken into account. Whilst, therefore, I am not prepared to say, in default of a correct knowledge of the levels, that a scheme for underdraining would not be feasible, in any case, to be of utility it would require to be complete.

3. Even were this effected, I consider that no hut should exist within 100 yards and no well within 300 yards of the nearest grave as a minimum, and by no means completely satisfactory requirement. This would therefore involve the securing by lease or otherwise of adjoining land to this extent, and the offering of compensation for houses.

4. On consulting with the Collector on these points, he suggested as an alternative that a strip of land in the same locality nearer the shore should be acquired. This would make an unobjectionable grave-yard, provided the land were taken within high tide mark. Were this acquired, I understood from the Collector that if the municipality continued the existing cultivation of cocoanut trees in suitable portions, the investment would not be unprofitable.

5. I also inspected the site suggested near the elephant lines. This I regard as unobjectionable, provided no wells be allowed to exist within 300 yards of it. So far as could be ascertained, none are there at the present time, except one within the area. This would probably be required for ablutions at the proposed musjid before prayers by the Mappilas, and, however, undesirable sanitarily, it is presumed its retention would be requisite. Graves should be made at as great a distance from it as feasible. It would be essential that a strongly made bridge be erected, to enable burial parties to pass a nullah, which, during the monsoon, becomes swollen.

6. The lucid letter of the Chairman explaining the history of the various actions, taken up to date, shows that this question has been pending for many years past. I would respectfully suggest that, in issuing orders, Government should require that the necessary details in the matter be definitely settled at an early date.

Order—Mis. No. 1214 M., dated 29th July 1895.

The papers on this question having passed through the hands of several different officers, the suggestions made to meet the difficulty under discussion have become somewhat complicated and indefinite.

2. The municipal council originally proposed to provide two burial-grounds for the whole of the Mappila community in Calicut—one at Minchanda, just outside municipal limits for the southern and eastern parts of the town, and the other at Vellayil, near the old Elephant Lines for the northern part.

3. Of these two grounds the latter appears from the letter of the Sanitary Commissioner read above to be unobjectionable from a sanitary point of view, and the correspondence shows that the Collector and the Mappila community are satisfied with it. The Chairman of the municipal council will be requested to forward to Government, through the Collector, a plan of the whole of the site showing accurately the portion which would be required for use as a burial-ground, upon receipt of which the question of handing this portion over to the council will be considered in the Revenue Department. Pending final orders on this point, the council should prepare and forward to Government estimates for fencing this burial-ground for laying out paths and building a musjid in it, and for constructing the bridge over the Kullah referred to in paragraph 5 of the Sanitary Commissioner's letter.

4. The burial-ground will suffice for the northern part of the town with the exception of Nadakavu which appears to be too far from it. The Deputy Collector of Calicut considers that the closure of the existing Nadakavu cemetery is not at present called for, and the Collector and the Sanitary Commissioner, by their silence on the point, apparently agree with him. It may therefore continue to be used for the present.

5. The southern and eastern parts of the town remain to be dealt with.

6. The municipal council, as already stated, propose to acquire land for a burial-ground for these two portions at Minchanda, outside municipal limits. The Collector and the Calicut Deputy Collector, however, consider (and apparently the Mappila community are of the same opinion) that this site is too far from the dwellings of the people for whose use it is intended. The latter suggests that a piece of land called Kannanparamba, which is within municipal limits, should be used instead. (This is apparently the land referred to in paragraph 7 of the Chairman's first letter, but the Chairman should report definitely to Government upon this point). The Deputy Collector considers that this will not be too far from the eastern portion of the town near Puthiarakkal.

7. The Sanitary Commissioner, however, considers that it will not be safe to use this land as a burial-ground unless all huts within 100 yards and all wells within 300 yards of it were removed and closed. It appears that there are a number of habitations near the land, and to acquire this margin round it would probably be an expensive proceeding. The Collector and the Sanitary Commissioner accordingly suggest the acquisition of a strip of land nearer the sea, but in the same locality.

8. It is not altogether clear whether this land is proposed to be acquired instead of the Kannanparamba, or in addition to it, and the Collector will be requested to report upon this point. Apparently the former is intended, and if this be so, the Chairman should report whether the Mappila community are satisfied with it, and submit to Government estimates for fencing it, and providing it with paths, a small tank or well for ceremonial ablutions and a musjid. If, however, it is intended to acquire the Kannanparamba in any case, similar estimates should be submitted for this plot, and for acquiring round it the margin prescribed by the Sanitary Commissioner and information should also be furnished as to the right in it which the son of the Salmi referred to in paragraph 9 of the Chairman's first letter possesses.

9. The Chairman will also be requested to report the action which the council propose to take with respect to the Palayakhadiyarakom paramba referred to in paragraph 13, *et seq.*, of his letter.

10. The Chairman and the Deputy Collector of the Calicut division appear to have dealt with tact with this difficult matter.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. F. PRICE,
Chief Secretary.

To the Sanitary Commissioner.
" Chairman, Municipal Council, Calicut.
" Collector of Malabar.

READ—also the following papers:—

From T. VARADA RAO, Esq., S.C.S., Chairman, Municipal Council, Calicut, to the Chief Secretary to Government (through the Revenue Divisional Officer), dated 29th November 1895, No. 1111.

Adverting to G.O., No. 1214 M., Mis., dated 29th July 1895, I have the honour to submit the estimates and plans called for therein.

2. (*Paragraph* 3).—A plan of the whole of the site known as the Elephant lines, showing accurately the portion required for use as a burial ground, is submitted with the estimates required by Government.

I give below the details of the estimates—

	Rs.	A.	P.
(1) Compound wall	2,884	8	4
(2) Laying out footpaths and improving the road connecting the site with the Cannanore Coast road	661	0	8
(3) Mosque	1,213	4	7
(4) Converting a large well now existing into a tank for ablutions	203	1	4
(5) Bridge	900	0	0
Sundries	138	1	1
Total ..	6,000	0	0

3. (*Paragraph* 6).—Kannanparamba, mentioned by Government in this paragraph, is the land referred to in paragraph 7 of my letter No. 1393, dated 13th October 1894, as having been purchased by the State in 1862. It was then called Koyathodi *alias* Thekumthala garden and Marakkam Kadavu garden, but is now known as Kannanparamba.

4. (*Paragraph* 8).—The strip of land near the sea, referred to by the Sanitary Commissioner and the Collector, was proposed to be acquired instead of, not in addition to, the Kannanparamba, if the acquisition of a belt of land round the latter measuring 100 yards was found to be very expensive.

5. The estimates now submitted will show that it is the acquisition of the land involved in the alternative proposal which is more expensive by about Rs. 10,000. I have not therefore taken the opinion of the Mappila community as a whole regarding the use of this strip of land as a burial-ground. One or two of the prominent members thereof did not seem to view it with favour.

6. The plan submitted shows the sites of the Kannanparamba and Nainamvalappuparamba, which is the name of the strip of land nearer the shore, and also the land within the 100 yards safety belt all round the two parambas, except in the west where the belt varies from 165 feet to 125 feet, as the remainder is the foreshore of the Arabian Sea and is denuded of trees and huts. The use of the wells within a further radius of 200 yards may be prohibited by an order under the C. P. C.

7. Nainamvalappu paramba is only 5·64 acres in extent, while the Kannanparamba is 5·73 acres. The latter belongs to Government, while the former will have to be purchased. In other words, if it is decided that the Kannanparamba is to be

3. The strip of land referred to in paragraph 4 of the Chairman's letter has been seen by the Collector. I consulted a few of the leading Mappilas about acquiring this land for a burial-ground in lieu of Kannanparamba. They are not in favour of it, as they state that during the monsoon water comes very near the beach road.

4. With much difficulty the Mappilas were persuaded to accept Kannanparamba as the future burial-ground of the Mappilas living to the south of the bazaar street, and in my opinion it will be a great pity if that arrangement is disturbed. The alternative ground is smaller in extent than the Kannanparamba.

CALICUT,
5th November 1895.

(Signed) S. SWAMINATHA AIYAR,
Deputy Collector.

Endorsement on C. No. 424 M.

Forwarded.

2. I have seen the Kannanparamba and the other land near the sea. Kannanparamba is certainly preferable; the other land is said to be submerged in the monsoon, and probably is so. Moreover the Mappilas have agreed to use Kannanparamba and object to the other site.

CALICUT,
5th December 1895.

(Signed) J. HEWETSON,
Ag. Collector.

No. 43.

The Chairman is requested to report what amount is expected to be realized by the sale of the Palayakhadiyarakom paramba.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
18th January 1896.

(By Order.)

(Signed) W. W. PHILLIPS,
Acting Assistant Secretary.

To the Chairman, Municipal Council, Calicut.

From T. VARADA RAO, Esq., S.C.S., Chairman, Municipal Council, Calicut, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated 15th February 1896, No. 156.

With reference to your memorandum dated 18th ultimo, No. 43, I have the honour to inform you that Rs. 400 may be expected to be realized by the sale of the Palaya Kadiaragom paramba.

2. The ground was purchased for Rs. 840-4-3 and there was a house on the site which is now pulled down.

ORDER—No. 526A M., dated 24th March 1896.

In the Government Order read above the site known as the "Elephant Lines" was approved as a burial-ground for the Mappilas living in the northern part of Calicut, but no definite decision was arrived at with regard to a burial-ground for the southern portion of the town. A site called Kannanparamba was proposed and was accepted by the Mappila community, but the Sanitary Commissioner was of opinion that it would be necessary on sanitary grounds to acquire a belt of land 100 yards wide all round the site. In case, however, the cost of this might be deemed to be excessive, an alternative site in the same locality, but nearer to the sea, was proposed by him and the Collector. The Chairman now reports that not only is this alternative site not acceptable to the Mappila community, but also that the cost of its acquisition is high, while the Kannanparamba itself, exclusive of the circumscribing belt which it is proposed to acquire, is already Government land, having been bought in 1862 for use as a cemetery. Its retention for that purpose appears to be desirable, and will now therefore be approved. The necessary action will be taken in the Revenue Department for transferring both this site and the "Elephant Lines" site to the municipality.

2. According to the estimates submitted by the Chairman, the cost of preparing these sites for the intended use will be Rs. 11,500, being Rs. 6,000 for the "Elephant Lines" site and Rs. 5,500 for the Kannanparamba. The cost of the acquisition of the actual sites will be *nil*, since the land, as explained above, belongs to Government, and the occupant, who is meantime enjoying the produce of the Kannanparamba, is prepared to give up the land when required. The cost of acquiring the belt of land, 100 yards wide, round the Kannanparamba, as recommended by the Sanitary Commissioner, is estimated at Rs. 26,623-8-10. However desirable it might be to take up all this land, if the municipal finances were in a flourishing condition, the Government, in view of the heavy cost involved, does not consider it absolutely necessary to do so. It will be sufficient if, for the present, the strip lying between the site and the foreshore is secured, and this the council should accordingly take steps to carry out.

3. From paragraph 13 of his first letter the Chairman appears to be under the impression that Government intends to pay for the new burial-grounds, but the supposition is unwarranted. The liability is purely municipal, and could not in fairness be wholly transferred to the general taxpayer. However, as the Calicut municipality is not rich, and the cost of these burial-grounds is considerable, a grant of Rs. 7,500 will be made from Provincial funds as a special case, but the balance must be provided by the municipal council. This balance will be Rs. 4,000 in addition to the cost of acquiring the strip of land referred to above. If municipal funds are inadequate to meet the charge, His Excellency the Governor in Council will be willing to consider an application from the municipality for a provincial loan.

4. As the grant of Rs. 7,500 should be drawn before the 31st March 1896, the following telegram will be sent to the Collector of Malabar:—

"Pay immediately Rs. 7,500 grant from Provincial to Calicut municipality towards cost of Mappila burial-grounds. Order follows."

(True Extract.)

G. S. FORBES,
for *Chief Secretary.*

To the Collector of Malabar.
" Chairman, Municipal Council, Calicut, with plan and estimates (4 enclosures) returned.
" Sanitary Commissioner.
" Financial Department.
" Revenue Department.
" Accountant-General.

Exd. J. Henricus.

Govt. of {1896} Madras.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL.

Issued

Recd. *Encl.*

G.O., No. 526A M., 24th March 1896.

MARCH.

Mappila ...rial-grounds.

Passing orders regar...ng the — in the Calicut ...unicipality and mak... a grant of Rs. 7,500 ...rom Provincial funds ...wards the cost of the ...me.

*When given for copying*_____
*When copied*_____
*When examined*_____ } 191
*When signed*_____

READ again G.O., No. 191 , DATED

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURES TO G. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT.	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.							
STATEMENT WITH DATE.							
PAPERS NOT FILED BY, BEING MEANT FOR DESPATCH IN ORIGINAL							

T.S.—
A = Copy in full.
B = Not to be copied.
P = Copy Abstract only.
Q = Copy Heading only