

1898
Local & Munl. (190) Department.

Plague.

MISCELLANEOUS.

G.O., No. 924 P.

DATED

26-8-1898

[Despatch Abstract.]

Plague hospital.

Declining with remarks
to approve the proposal of the collector
of the Nilgiris to locate the
for Catacum on the Jail Hill.

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

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

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT.

[L. & M.]
500-10-3-93.

Papers to be read in Proceedings:—

Again G.O., No. dated 189 ,
Again G.O., No. dated 189 ,
Current No. 1343P of 1898, dated 19-8-98, from Colls. of Nilgiris
" " " 189 " "
" " " 189 " "

ORDER.

No 924P. M. d/26-8-1898

The Government does not consider it advisable that the plague hospital should be located on such a central place on Jail Hill in the midst of inhabited houses. The jail and the building attached to it are now occupied, and it would be difficult to vacate them and find other accommodation for the inmates. For these reasons, the application of the Ootacamund Municipal Council cannot be sanctioned.

2. The old hill house below the Lake ^{apparently} ready for occupation and a site has been selected on the neighbouring hill for the purpose. For Europeans and the best class of natives, the Colls. might provide

(Funders)

To The Colls of the Milgrais P^{ro}.

25/8/88

228888

utilize his powers under
the Regⁿ for the temporary
occupation of an ~~unfitting~~
adjacent house.

HT
26 P 88

J. M.

Submitted that the
proposal to utilize
the Old European jail
in contact for a Maine
Hospital may be refuted
for the reasons given in
the P. O. note.

The old mill House below
the Lake is ready for six
patients - a site has been
selected on the neighbouring
hill for Sarsaparilla - & for
Europeans & the best class of
natives the Col. might
provide of Superior accommodation
in tents, or regulation Lodging.

11-1-

25-8 28

Yes - Certainly.

Ad

26/8798

Cho. 13.43 P.

To Pro D for favour
of remarks u.c. on the
Collector's proposal
regarding the jail buildings
H. I.

There appear to be ²³ ⁸⁹⁸ several Medians
in the way of this proposal

(11) the European Jail & detached
cottages are now, I understand,
occupied by the following

(a) Secretariat Clerks

(6) = 4 compañías y 5 buques

(c) Dept. of Volunteers

(d) Ammonium NH_4^+ do

(9) Free q adj $\frac{1}{2}$ N. V R

(f) Renatun Room do

(g) Army do

If, ^{as} I suppose, the building is
wasted at once, how is it
horrible to know all the above
people not, and where are they to.

(2) The sanitation of Jail Hill is, I am told, at present most defective. It seems very dangerous to the station in

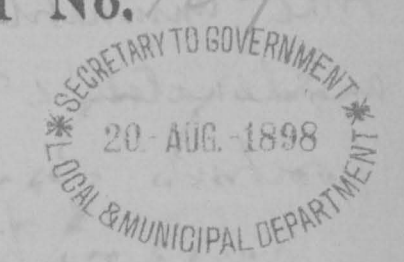
hand notes.

General to plan a plague
Hospital in such a place
I would suggest the renting of
some uninhabited houses, in
an elevated & less central
positions

likely
M. S. S.

Local & Munl. (1898) Department.

CURRENT No. 1343 P



To O.W. Dept for form of

From The collector
Melgiri

Order

The Expenditure referred to
in para 10 of the Collis letter is
Sanctioned.

2. The application of the
Chairman Melgiri for
permission to use the European Jail
and the buildings connected with it
as a plague hospital will be
disposed of in the O.W. Dept

Ref. Cur No. 653 of 1898

Dated 19
Received 20th
Registered 20th } Aug 28
Enclosures 3
Spare copies

SUBJECT.

Plague Hospital at Melgiri

Requesting that the Govt may
be pleased to make use of the
Jail buildings to the Govt
Municipal Council for a
rent- temporarily after they
are vacated by the prisoners
for the purposes of a plague
Hospital & forwarding letter
from Chairman once ap-
-proving for the sanctioning of the
expenditure for plague
hospital.

To the Collector Melgiri
" O.W. Dept (with papers in
original)

23/8/98

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Extract from the Proceedings of a Special Meeting of the Nakkamund Municipal Council held on Monday the 15th August 1898.

Present-

A. Butterworth Esq. Collector

The Chairman
Col. H. H. Stevenson

Rev. C. B. B. B.

Col. J. Garwood R.E.

J. Brown Esq.

A. C. Maji Fakir Mohamed
Sait Sahib.

Subject No. 2.

Read the Estimates of an revised as required by the Municipal Council in its resolution of the 6th August 1898 for buildings proposed to be erected at the Mill house near Lock End in connection with the Plague Hospital and the Segregation Camp, amounting to Rs 1768 & Rs 3204 respectively.

Read also letter from Surgeon Major C. M. Thomson Civil Surgeon to the Collector No 410 of the 13th August 1898 suggesting that when the present Jail buildings are vacated by the Pioneers they should be

Resolution

The Council sanction the immediate erection at the Mill house of a cool house for patients Rs 162 Latrine - " 16

Site of Segregation Camp and blocks of houses for families of patients Rs 30 Latrine for do. - 13

The Council will address Government to obtain free of rent the European Jail for use as a plague hospital and is prepared to sanction & provide funds for such alterations as the Civil Surgeon

taken up
as a Plague Hospital.

may be considered necessary
for the purpose of improving
the ventilation of the
Cells.

(Signed) E. Hannett
Chairman

Municipal Office
Oct 15th August 1898

(See Extract)

Albion Works,
Acting Collector

C. L.
13/10/98

N. 2245.

Obotacamund Office
15th August 1898.

From J. Charnian
Municipal Council
Obotacamund

Enclosure } to A. Butterworth Esq
one } of collector of the Helgiris
Obotacamund

Sir
I have the honor to enclose an
extract from the proceedings of the
Obotacamund Municipal Council
held this day, with the Council's
resolution sanctioning the immediate
erection at the mill house and the
site of the proposed segregation
camp certain buildings required
in connection with the preparation
made to combat plague; and
requesting to obtain from the
Government free of rent the
European Jail for use as a plague
hospital, and expressing willingness
to provide funds for such alterations
as the civil surgeon may consider

Ca
le

necessary for improving the
ventilation of the cells.

2. The Municipal Council up to date
sanctioned the following expenditures viz.

Fitting up the hall house for a hospital £ 252.

Furniture for — £ 284.

Medicine purchased for — £ 150

Druggists bills — £ 125

Carried over £ 811

To be erected immediately
at the mill house —

booth house for patients — £ 162

Lamp for — £ 161.

At site of Segregation Camp.

Five blocks of houses for families
of patients — £ 3042

Lamp for — £ 132

£ 3527

For Sanitary Inspector and Clerk
referred to in my letter No. 2190

of 5 August 1898 — £ 677.

Total £ 5015

3. To meet the expenditure and to provide
for such improvements as may be
needed at the European Jail, the Council
has a provision of £1000 in the current
Budget Estimate. It has also an excess
closing balance of £4886, and an
excess revenue from market rents

£ 3042 - making in all £ 8928 for
1898-99

I am desirous to request that the
sanction of the Government
may be obtained for the expenditure
sanctioned by the Council.

Yours etc

(Ed) G. Hammett
Chairman

(True Copy)

Attest

for collection

Cd L
Camp is

Plague

No 410.

Chief Surgeon's office
Colacacund 13 May 98

From Surgeon Major G. M. Thompson to
Chief Surgeon

To,
The Collector
of the Nilgiris

Sir With reference to my
letter No. 215 of 7 May 1898, I have
the honour to suggest that when
the present Jail building
now occupied by the 4th Pioneers
are vacated next month, the
building should be taken up
as a plague hospital. The
building is not in my opinion
suitable, as regards its form of
construction, for a plague hospital
and it must be clearly under-
stood that I make the proposal
to utilize it for this purpose,
because I know of no other
more suitable building which
is at present or is likely to
become available.

2. The building at Lock Road
might

might be utilized as quarters for the Hospital Assistant who will have to be in charge of the Segregation Camp; but until the jail is vacated, this building should be held in readiness for any case of plague which may occur; the Hospital Assistant being provided with accommodation in one of the Segregation huts, all of which are not likely to be occupied for some time after the first case of plague occurs. As a case of plague may occur here at any time, I think the alterations to this house, by the erection of latrines should be taken in hand without delay.

3. Objection may be raised against the jail building being used as a plague hospital, on the ground of its central situation, in close proximity

to houses occupied by Europeans, and undoubtedly it would be more desirable to have a more completely isolated building as a hospital, but as far as I can ascertain no such building is available. If taken up for this purpose it will be necessary to have a fencing put all round the hospital buildings sufficiently high and strong to prevent plague patients from getting out or unauthorized persons from entering the building; if a fence be erected and a sufficient hospital medical staff appointed to secure the premises and surroundings being kept in a thoroughly sanitary condition, I do not consider there would be any risk of the hospital acting as a focus of infection to the general population.

4. A more weighty objection against the building as a plague hospital is its form of construction; the only available accommodation for the patients are the upper and lower cells leading off the Central passage. These cells are in my opinion too small for the accommodation of a plague patient; the following are the dimensions of the cells.

Upper cells: Superficial area 97 Sq. ft.

Cubic space 867 C. ft.

Lower cells: Superficial area 95 Sq. ft.

Cubic Space 827 C. ft.

In my opinion, each plague patient should have at least 1500 C. ft. and 144 Sq. ft. Superficial area.

5. The ventilation of the cells is very defective and to remedy this defect, I would

propose

that the windows in the lower cells be enlarged so as to make them equal in size to the windows in the upper cells and that in the upper and lower cells two openings be made in the wall below the windows and in a level with the floor 18 inches long and 4 inches wide. These openings will act as ventilators and also allow of the escape of antiseptic lotion used for washing out the cell after a patient has occupied it. All the glass window frames should be removed from the central passage windows, and if feasible, the door at the further end of the Corridor should be enlarged; the large window on the upper storey facing the door of entrance should be removed altogether.

The cells, Corridor, office rooms,
and the 4 isolated blocks of
quarters should be thoroughly
cleaned and white washed.

Reserve no 36 cells,
if plague breaks out, the
accommodation will be insuffi-
cient. My proposal is that
the jail building be got ready
in case plague breaks out, and
that on the first case occurring
a suitable large hospital
be erected without delay.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most Obedt Servt
(SD) C. W. Thompson M.B.
Surgeon Major
Civil Surgeon.

N. Ret on Current N° 653 of 1898.

Forwarded to the Chairman
Municipal Council for favour
of remarks.

(Signed) A Butterworth
14. 8. 1898. of Collector

N° 2307

17. 8. 1898

I agree with Dr Thompson
in the suggestions he has made
in this letter to utilize the
European jail buildings as a
Plague Hospital. The buildings
are in a central position, and
the Civil Surgeon and his staff
could attend to patients far
more conveniently than they
could at Lock End.

(Signed) Geo. Hammett
Chairman.
Oct-17-98.

(True Copy)

Albutterworth

Captured

of collector

Plague
No. Ref on Ar $\frac{153}{98}$

Nilgiri COLLECTOR'S OFFICE,
Dated, 19 August 1898.

FROM

Alan Butterworth Esq. I.C.S.

Acting COLLECTOR OF

the Nilgiris,

TO

THE SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,

Local Municipal DEPARTMENT.

Madr. Stouhonschill

Sir,

I have the honor to forward for
the consideration of Government

(a) a copy of a letter dated the 13th instant
from surgeon major Thompson bearing an
endorsement by the chairman of the
ootacamund Municipal Council;

(b) a copy of a letter dated 15th instant
from the chairman, ootacamund Muni-
cipal Council and,

(c) a copy of a Resolution of the ootaca-
mund Municipal Council passed at a
meeting held on the 15th instant.

2. At present there is practically
no hospital accommodations available at
ootacamund to meet the contingency
of an outbreak of plague. There is indeed
a little building at the end of the lake
which

which has been recently set in order by the municipality, but it is quite unsuited for the purpose of a plague hospital, in the first place because of its distance from the town and, secondly, because of the insufficiency of the ^{accommodation} ~~acomodation~~ which it affords. Half a dozen beds is probably the limit of the accommodation and the building is quite unfit for use by Europeans of the well-to-do class.

3. In view of this first fact, the Civil Surgeon, the Chairman and I recently inspected the buildings on Jail Hill and we came unanimously to the conclusion that the best place available for a Plague Hospital is the Old European jail. This opinion has now been endorsed by the Municipal Council.

4. Doctor Thompson has indeed pointed out that the European jail will not form an ideal hospital, ^{not suitable} ~~are his words~~ the principal defect being in the important matter of ventilation. The Municipal Council is, however, prepared to make such improvements as the Civil Surgeon considers necessary and, even if the building is not perfect from a

Medical

Medical point of view, it is certainly by far the best which could be got.

5. Leaving out of consideration the long and broad corridors running the length of the building up stairs and down stairs, there is accommodation available for 36 beds and, if the adjacent buildings are added, this figure would be raised to at least 44. With a hospital of this size, Botocaim would, I think, be well equipped against an outbreak of the Plague.

6. The principal adjacent buildings are six sets of quarters once used by the jail staff and now, I believe, by some of the clerks of the Government Secretariat. These quarters would afford good accommodation for any Europeans of the better class who might chance to be attacked.

7. Another strong point in favour of the jail as the future Plague hospital is its proximity to St. Bartholomew's Hospital. Of course there is the objection that other buildings, too, are unpleasantly near but it is the opinion of the Civil Surgeon that, with

With proper precautions, there will be no risk of danger to those living in the vicinity.

8 It is understood that the European Jail will be vacated by the Pioneers in a month or so and the quarters referred to above will be available early in October. In the meantime we must trust that no case of Plague will occur but, if one or two sporadic cases do occur, they could be accommodated in the building at the end of the Lake.

9 It will be seen that the Council asks the Government to make over the European Jail and the immediately adjacent and connected buildings free of rent and I earnestly hope that Government will see its way in doing so. The occupation of the buildings by the Municipality will be only temporary and the Council is not in a position to afford to pay rent for the buildings.

10 In para 4 of the Chairman's letter of the 15th instant, he asks that the sanction of Government may be obtained for the expenditure

expenditure for plague purposes sanctioned by the Council, with reference, I understand, to para 2 of G.O. dated 22nd June 1888 No 691 M. Local & Municipal Department. I request that the necessary sanction may be accorded.

I have the honour to be

Sir,

Your most obedient servant

W. Butterworth.

Acting Collector

to
Capt.