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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

Cons 10.5.59

G.O. No.

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1859.

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
from 4th to 10th May 1859.*

No. 7. Read the following Extract from the Minutes of Consultation in the Military Department, dated 21st April 1859, No. 1510.

Requesting [that immediate orders be issued through D. P. W., for carrying out the suggestions of Superintending Surgeon Kellie, for the sanitary improvement of Saint Thomas' Mount and also that Plans and Estimate for Public Privies be called for.] (Vide Military Consultation 29th April 1859, No. 28-29.)

No. 8. ORDER THEREON, 4th May 1859, No. 1052.

Communicated to the Chief Engineer for early attention.

(Signed) W. C. SIM,
Ag. Dy. Secretary to Government.

No. 1510.

*Extract from the Minutes of Consultation, 21st April 1859.**Read letter from the Quarter Master General of the Army, Fort Saint George, 11th April 1859, No. 171; to the Secretary to Government, Military Department.*

I have the honor by order, to annex the suggestions of Acting Superintending Surgeon Kellie, Centre Division, for the sanitary improvement of Saint Thomas' Mount—they have been drawn up in communication with Doctors Dassanville and Rogers, and His Excellency would recommend these being immediately carried out.

From the Acting Superintending Surgeon Centre Division, Saint Thomas' Mount, 1st April 1859, No. 92; to the Deputy Assistant Quarter Master General, Centre Division.

Agreeably to the instructions contained in your letter No. 188 dated the 15th ultimo, and the orders of Government conveyed in Minutes* of Consultation of the 7th March 1859, I have the honor to submit for transmission to His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, the following suggestions for the sanitary improvement of Saint Thomas' Mount. They have been drawn up in communication with Doctors Dassanville and Rogers.

I beg to recommend.

1st. That close fitting covers should be used for the openings into the Drains in the Barrack square, instead of the Gratings now in use. A most offensive effluvia at present escapes from these openings.

2nd. That the open Drain which runs in front of the Barrack and Church, should be covered over, and in that state, carried along the Hospital compound wall, so as to join the Hospital Drain.

3rd. That the Drain immediately behind the Hospital, and regarding which there has already been some correspondence, should be carried across the main road through the opposite compound and beyond the Golundauze Lines, so as to convey the offensive sewerage to a distance from the Cantonment.

4th. These Drains should be thoroughly flushed once a day, from water stored up for that purpose; the present mode of using only the water from the bath rooms is quite ineffective.

5th. The Native Quarter adjoining the Regimental Bazar, and lying at the foot of the Hill, is much too crowded with inhabitants, and the smell at times from this spot, is often most offensive. From its vicinity to the Barracks, and Parcherries, it would be very advisable to remove a portion of the Native inhabitants from this locality, and to erect Privies for the use of those who remain.

6th. On the eastern and southern side of the Cantonment, in the vicinity of the Native lines, where the Bazars are, and the majority of the Native inhabitants reside, many salutary changes might be made. At present, the Native houses come in many places close up to the Officers' compounds.

I should recommend, that a clear broad space be formed between these compounds and the Native town, and that all superfluous vegetation should be removed. This is the more necessary, as the Native town lies between the Cantonment and the sea, and obstructs or taints the sea breeze.

Public Necessaries should be here erected—at present every unoccupied spot, lane, or corner is made available for that purpose, and the smell is often most offensive.

As it would be quite impossible to carry out effectually any sanitary measures, without additional aid and direct European supervision, I beg to suggest, that a Serjeant having under him Native Assistants &c., should be appointed to watch over the cleanliness of the Cantonment and to carry out the orders of the sanitary Officer.

Communicated to the Department Public Works, with a view to immediate orders being issued to carry out the propositions in paras. 1 2 and 3 of the letter from Superintending Surgeon Kellie at the Mount.

2. Plan and Estimates for Public Privies will be called for by the above Department, the sites being selected in communication with the Military authorities.

3. The state of the Bazars and encroachments of Native houses must be remedied as opportunities offer, and no additions to the already over-crowded Native town permitted—these arrangements rest with the Brigadier Commanding the station.*

* *Clause XXXV, Regulation VII 1832.*
Mins. of Cons. No. 397, 10th February 1859. 4. It is observed, that sanction has already been given for the removal of all superfluous vegetation, the cost being adjusted by Contingent bill.

5. The subject of superintendence recommended in the last para. of the Superintending Surgeon's letter, will be considered on the completion of the proposed works, and the entertainment of the required Establishment for the Public Privies.

.(True Extract and Copies.)

A Hamilton
Ag. Dy. Secretary to Government.

To the Quarter Master General.

„ Department Public Works. *With 20 spare Copies*
„ Adjutant General.
„ Director General, Medical Department } for information.

Bound: 15th March 1830/19

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