1. Number of pages: 3
2. Date of receipt: 19-5-57
3. Initials of Reference:

M.R.O. 1—82,400—28-11-50

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

Cons - 19-6-57

G.O. No.	923	Press Mis.
Loc - 61 Dated	19-4-	1857

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Fort Saint George, Public Works Consultation of 19th April 1859.

No. 100. Read the following Extract from the Minutes of Consultation in the Military Department, dated 4th April 1859, No. 1266.

Communicating to the P. W. D. correspondence regarding the Sewage of the Cantonment of Jackatalla in view to ascertain from that Department what orders subsequent to those specified, have been issued by the Chief Engineer on the subject and how soon the works will be put in progress; directing the Executive Engineer on the spot to adopt temporary expedients for ensuring the requisite Sewage to keep the station healthy and clean until the sanctioned work is completed and observing that the removal of the Brick field immediately below the Barracks will be arranged in communication with the Engineer after the erection of the temporary Privies.

(Vide Military Consultation, 5th April 1859, Nos. 11-12)

No. 101. ORDER THEREON, No. 923; dated 19th April 1859.

Ordered that a copy of the Chief Engineer's letter* of the 30th Ultimo No. 9124 and of its enclosure be communicated to the Military Department with reference to paras. 3 and 4.

2. Ordered also to be communicated to the Chief Engineer with reference to the orders noted in the margin. Lieutenant-Colonel Bell's attention is called to the requisition made in Extract Minutes Consultation dated 9th Instant No. 836; and he will issue the necessary orders on the points referred to in paras. 5 and 7 of the present Military Extract.

* Recorded in E. M. C. 15th April 1859, No. 893 P. W. D.

14th Sept. 1858, No. 1889 P. W. D.
17th Do. do. 1920 do.
5th March 1859, 502 do.
9th April do. 836 do.
15th Do. do. 893 do.

(Signed) J. D. BOURDILLON,
Secretary to Government.

Fort Saint George, Public Works Consultation of 19th April 1859.

No. 100. Read the following Extract from the Minutes of Consultation in the Military Department, dated 4th April 1859, No. 1266.

Communicating to the P. W. D. correspondence regarding the Sewage of the Cantonment of Jackatalla in view to ascertain from that Department what orders subsequent to those specified, have been issued by the Chief Engineer on the subject and how soon the works will be put in progress; directing the Executive Engineer on the spot to adopt temporary expedients for ensuring the requisite Sewage to keep the station healthy and clean until the sanctioned work is completed and observing that the removal of the Brick field immediately below the Barracks will be arranged in communication with the Engineer after the erection of the temporary Privies.

(Vide Military Consultation, 5th April 1859, Nos. 11-12)

No. 101. ORDER THEREON, No. 923; dated 19th April 1859.

Ordered that a copy of the Chief Engineer's letter* of the 30th Ultimo No. 9124 and of its enclosure be communicated to the Military Department with reference to paras. 3 and 4.

2. Ordered also to be communicated to the Chief Engineer with reference to the orders noted in the margin. Lieutenant-Colonel Bell's attention is called to the requisition made in Extract Minutes Consultation dated 9th Instant No. 836; and he will issue the necessary orders on the points referred to in paras. 5 and 7 of the present Military Extract.

* Recorded in E. M. C. 15th April 1859, No. 893 P. W. D.

14th Sept. 1858, No. 1889 P. W. D.
17th Do. do. 1920 do.
5th March 1859, 502 do.
9th April do. 836 do.
15th Do. do. 893 do.

(Signed) J. D. BOURDILLON,
Secretary to Government.

No. 1266.

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation, 4th April 1859.

From the Commissary General 8th March 1859, *No.* 44. } *Recorded in Minutes of Consultation 21st March* 1859, *No.* 1099. } Read again the paper noted in the margin.

Read letter from the Quarter Master General of the Army, Fort Saint George, 16th March 1859, *No.* 123; *to the Acting Secretary to Government, Military Department.*

I have the honor by order, to forward copy of a letter received from Colonel Bedford, Commanding 3rd Battalion 60th Rifles at Jackatalla, the question of efficient sewage, His Excellency observes, is one of paramount importance to the health of the large body of British Soldiers now at Jackatalla, and he earnestly begs it may be taken up at once, and immediate effect given to whatever measures may be decided upon as the best suited to obtain the object in view.

From the Officer Commanding Jackatalla, 10th March 1859, *No.* 155; *to the Quarter Master General of the Army, Fort Saint George.*

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 3rd instant No. 543, giving cover to Extract Minutes of Consultation No. 786 of the 25th ultimo.

In Captain Brydon's letter I observe, that he speaks of funds at the disposal of the Commanding Officer; and it may be well here to remark, that no funds are in my possession, neither can I discover any source from which such funds if required, would be forthcoming.

I have made every endeavour without success, to obtain coolies to clear away the brushwood from the Barrack Hill.

This being a case of emergency, I have requested the special Executive Engineer to employ a sufficient number of his coolies in executing this work, and I have told him, that on his presenting me with a contingent bill for the cost, I will sign it under the authority quoted above.

I have also requested this Officer, at once to erect temporary privies for the Natives, and as far from the Barracks as possible, under the circumstances.

A still more effectual method of preserving the vicinity of the Barracks from the serious nuisance from which it is now desired to obviate, would be the removal from its present position, immediately below the Barracks, of the brick field, which alone obliges the Natives to resort to this locality, very little if any inconvenience could thereby result.

This important subject of sewage, upon which you desire me to report for the consideration of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, is one of so much difficulty, that I cannot with any degree of confidence enter upon it.

I was quartered during 1855-56, at the Hutment of the Carrah of Kildare.

The range of huts was built along the ridge of a hill, having a rapid fall immediately in front and in rear of the Camp—Nature seemed to have provided for the easy drainage of that Camp—Nevertheless, from various causes, the effectual drainage of that Camp was still a difficulty when I left Ireland 2 years after the first occupation of the Camp.

Two modes of drainage suggest themselves to me for this station.

1st. That of well constructed covered drains, which might be cleared daily by a rush of water, of which there appears to be no lack.

2ndly. The removal of the soil by small Carts of sheet iron, upon very small wheels of cast iron, running upon train roads under the seats of the privies.

The first method would require that the covered drains should be carried down to the river as the only channel, by which the soil could be conveyed sufficiently far from the Barracks.

An objection possibly might be raised by some of the inhabitants of the banks of the river, but as the river water need not be used for drinking, the objection might be overruled.

The second method suggested, would necessitate the carrying the train road to a safe distance from the Barracks, where two reservoirs should be formed.

A quantity of peat Charcoal with a proportion of lime, should then be thrown over the day's deposit of soil, and by using the two reservoirs alternately, month or week about, a valuable manure would thus be formed.

If there be as I imagine, any enterprising amongst the extensive Coffee planters in this neighbourhood, all expense to Government might be expected to cease when the soil was deposited in the reservoirs.

The provision of peat charcoal, lime and the carting away of the manure from the reservoirs, should be done at the cost of the contractor in payment for the manure.

Should no enterprising planter be willing to undertake this, it might be worth the consideration of Government whether, I might not establish an extensive farm in this neighbourhood upon which to grow almost every thing that would be required for consumption by the troops.

That an efficient system of sewage is immediately necessary to the health of the troops there can be no doubt.

That the cost will be very considerable at the first outlay, is evident and unavoidable, but I cannot help thinking, that by some well considered plan, the removal of such a vast mass of manure should be made in time to pay for itself.

In conclusion, I would very respectfully suggest, that the Officer believed to be *the most* competent to come to a satisfactory conclusion on this important subject, should forthwith be sent here, and that on his report being received, the Government should be earnestly moved to provide the necessary funds for carrying it out without one hour's loss of time.

The Governor in Council observes, that Government passed orders as indicated in the margin, on the subject now submitted in the letter from the Quarter Master General of the Army, regarding the sewage of the Cantonment of Jackatalla.

Public Works Dept. Mins. Cons. No. 1889, *14th Septr.* 1858.
Military Dept. „ „ „ 3900, *29th Octr.* 1858.

2. Of four plans submitted, the fourth was pronounced "by far the best, as being the only complete plan, though undoubtedly the most expensive."—Orders having been already passed to carry out that scheme, and the material ordered from Home for the purpose, nothing futher is needed.

3. It will however be ascertained from the Department Public Works, what subsequent orders have been issued by the Chief Engineer in connection with this subject, and how soon it may be expected the works will be put in progress.

4. Meanwhile, the Executive Engineer on the spot, will be directed to adopt such temporary expedients for ensuring as far as practicable, the requisite sewerage to keep the station healthy and clean, until the sanctioned work is completed.

5. The removal of the Brick field alluded to in Colonel Bedford's letter, will be arranged in communication with the Engineer, should it still be found necessary, after the erection of the temporary privies.

1*st.* *Regarding appointment of Resident Engineer as Cantonment Officer.*
2*nd.* *Ravine to be enclosed for Soldiers' Garden.*
3*rd.* *The Bazar to be built in regular order on some fixed Plan.*

6. Of the three other suggestions by the Inspector General of Hospitals, two have already been disposed of by Government.

7. On the third, it appears from the report of the Commissary General, to be inexpedient now, to re-construct the bazar already built—but the Governor in Council observes, that such irregularity of building ought at the first to have been checked. It will now be the duty of the Engineer Officer on the spot, to remedy as opportunities offer, the existing defects, and any further buildings authorised, must be built on a fixed plan, and in regular order.

(True Extract and Copies.)

Acting Dy. Secretary to Government.

To the Quarter Master General.
„ Department Public Works. With 20 spare Copies
„ Commissary General.

Exd. J. Davis.

Pd Comr 8th March 59 £1535
" " 11th April 58 — 12-12-
Milty Comr 29 Ct — — 254-22

From the Chief Engr 3/16
Army 59 Ct 1236
Comr 21 May 1236

From Do 19th Novr 59
Cpy 2003 inC

Public Works in Ireland
Comr for Fortifs
No 900.

Extract Minute of Comrs
in the Military Department

Read 12th } 1st April 59
No 923. 12th April 1859 No 1446

Ordered that a Copy of the Chief Engineer's Letter of the 30th Ultimo No 912 and of its enclosure be communicated to the Military Department with reference to Paras 3 and 4

Order Dated to be communicated to the Chief Engineer with reference to the orders noted in the margin. Lt Col Bellairs attention is called to the requisition made in Estt 6 dated 9th Instant for 1836; and he will issue the necessary orders on the points referred to in Paras 3 and 4 of the present letter

Read in Ch Co 15th April 59 No 893 Pd D

4th Septr 1858 No 1839 £113
17th Do — 1920 —
5th March 59 — 302 —
9th April — — 836 —
15th Do — — 893 —

Ordered that a Copy of the Chief Engineer's Letter of the 30th Ultimo No 912 and of its enclosure be communicated to the Military Department with reference to Paras 3 and 4

Order Dated to be communicated to the Chief Engineer with reference to the orders noted in the margin. Lt Col Bellairs attention is called to the requisition made in Estt 6 dated 9th Instant for 1836; and he will issue the necessary orders on the points referred to in Paras 3 and 4 of the present letter

ex Board

Fort St George
19th April 59

Approved. Letter — £126 —
To — Chief Engr — Disb 220 —

No 923.