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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

public works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. <i>1484</i>	Press Mis.
<i>216-217</i>	
Dated <i>10-6-</i>	<i>1863.</i>

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government Public Works Department,
10th June 1863.*

No. 216. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Ecclesiastical Department, dated 28th May 1863, No. 124 :—

Sanctioning an outlay of Rupees 115 for certain repairs to
Burial grounds in South Arcot, and requesting that Super-
intending Engineers be instructed to forward their annual
reports on the state of the Cemeteries in their Divisions } (Vide Ecclesiastical Proceedings, 28th May
direct to the Chief Secretary. } 1863, Nos. 25-26.)

No. 217. ORDER THEREON, 10th June 1863, No. 1,484.

1. Communicated to the Superintending Engineer 5th Division for information and guidance.
2. The source from which the cost of the repairs is to be met should be reported for the information of Government. The work may, in the meantime, be proceeded with.
3. The particular attention of the Superintending Engineers of Divisions is requested to paragraph 2 of the foregoing Orders.

(Signed) W. I. BIRDWOOD, Colonel, R. E.,
Secretary to Government.

ECCLESIASTICAL DEPARTMENT.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following letter from CHARLES W. READE, Esq., Collector of South Arcot; to Colonel W. I. BIRDWOOD, Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, Fort Saint George, dated Cuddalore, 2nd May 1863, No. 21.

In submitting my report on the Burial Grounds of this District for the year 1862, I have the honor to state that I called upon the Engineer in the course of his touring to inspect these Cemeteries, and to suggest such repairs as might be urgently called for; and that Officer writes as follows:—

2. "The Burial Grounds at old Town, Cuddalore, have all good compound walls. Some of the old tombs are in a dilapidated state. To fill up the gaps in the brick work would cost about 200 Rupees."

3. "The tunnel at the entrance gate of the Catholic Cemetery is broken down and should be rebuilt, and that is all that seems to be required."

4. Captain Foord observes that the hedge sanctioned by Government in their Proceedings of the 24th June last, and which now encloses the Burial Ground at Fort Saint David, has not sufficiently grown to be of any great protection, and he states that he found it in a dirty state.

5. The Burial Ground at Porto Novo, round which the East India Iron Company erected a wall, is reported by Captain Foord "to require only a little whitewashing at a cost of about 10 Rupees."

6. "At Tindevanum there are two tombs over the remains of Europeans, but there are several other graves close by," but enclosed by no wall or fence, "an estimate for 50 Rupees has been made for a wall, but a hedge would answer all the purpose and could be planted for a much smaller sum."

7. In conclusion I would express my opinion that it is very unnecessary to perpetuate a lot of old uninteresting tomb stones in the Cuddalore Church yard. Their decay has been solely the work of time, and I am not aware that any consideration suggests their being kept up at the cost of the State. There is a wall to protect them from desecration by the hand of man or by animals, and the only injury they can suffer is the natural result of climate and time.

8. I think the entrance tunnel of the Catholic Burial Ground should be repaired, and the gateway itself widened. Captain Foord does not allude to this latter; but I have myself witnessed the very great inconvenience of the present entrance from its extreme narrowness. I would recommend that sanction be given for Rupees 85 for this work, and I would solicit that 30 Rupees more be allowed for doing what is needed for the protection of the tombs at Tindevanum, and for putting in cleanly order the Burial Ground at Porto Novo. Thus Rupees 115 is the total amount I beg to recommend for expenditure on the Christian places of sepulture in this District during the present official year.

Transferred to the Ecclesiastical Department.

(Signed) W. I. BIRDWOOD, Colonel, R., E.,
Secretary to Government, P. W. D.

9th May 1863.

ORDER THEREON, 28th May 1863, No. 124.

The Governor in Council agrees with the Collector that no expense need be incurred in restoring the dilapidated Tomb stones in the Church yard at Cuddalore. He, however, sanctions an outlay of Rupees 115, as recommended, for the works proposed in the last paragraph of this letter.

2. In their orders noted in the margin, the Government directed that, in lieu of these detached reports, one general report on Burial Grounds should be submitted yearly by the Chief Engineer, through the Department Public Works. As the office of

Dated 2nd November 1860, No. 310.
" 17th March 1862, No. 79.

Chief Engineer now no longer exists, the Superintending Engineers will be instructed to forward Annual Reports on the state of the Cemeteries within their respective Divisions, direct to the Chief Secretary.

(True Extract.)

H. J. Cunningham
Chief Secretary.

To the College of South Ainst.
Department Public Works.

Ed. T. McMeety.

Chapman R }
10th June/63 }

Doct. 11th June.

Georg Mehnert, und im Ver-
trage als Sachverständiger

John G. Anthony
Deed of June 2
1863

No 124

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