

(1) Number of pages 2

(2) Date of repair 10-1-1964

(3) Initials of the Referencer

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 2748	Press
467-468	Mis.
Dated 21-9	1864.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

[Handwritten signature]

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
21st September 1864.*

No. 467. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Public
Department:—

Passing orders on the papers regarding the distribution of the
accommodation in the General Hospital, and the arrange-
ments suggested by the Principal Inspector General Medical
Department, for rendering the Hospital accommodation at
the Presidency as efficient as possible, including the provi-
sion of separate accommodation for the native sick who are
now located in the temporary Civil Hospital, to the west of
the General Hospital, Presidency District.

(Here enter 12th September 1864, No. 1,048.)

No. 468. ORDER THEREON, 21st September 1864, No. 2,748.

No. 2,049, dated 16th July 1864.
No. 2,473, dated 26th August 1864.

1. Communicated to the Superintending
Engineer, 4th Division, in continuation of the
Orders noted in the margin.

2. Colonel Boileau will be requested to arrange for the plans and estimates referred to in
paragraph 4 being prepared, in communication with the Sanitary Commission, and the Principal
Inspector General Medical Department.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. H. M. SHAW STEWART, Major, R. E.,
Deputy Secretary to Government.

To the Superintending Engineer, 4th Division.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

3

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,
12th September 1864.

Read Proceedings of Government in the Public Department, dated 1st July 1864, No. 748.

Read again Proceedings of Government in the Public Works Department, dated 16th July 1864, No. 2049.

Read also the following papers:—

No. 60. Proceedings of Government in the Military Department.

Communicating the observations of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief respecting the allotment and Sub-divisions of the General Hospital at Madras. (Dated 18th August 1864, No. 2858.)

No. 61. From J. SHAW, Esq., Officiating Principal Inspector General, Medical Department, Fort Saint George; to the Honorable A. J. ARBUTHNOT, Chief Secretary to Government, Public Department, Fort Saint George, dated 24th June 1864, No. 195.

I have the honor to bring to the notice of His Excellency the Governor in Council that when the eastern block of the General Hospital is completed the latrines will be within a few yards of Mr. Blacklock's quarters.

2. I presume it is intended ultimately to remove the building now used as quarters by the Medical Officers of the General Hospital; but as a considerable time must elapse ere the new quarters for these officers can be built, and as one Medical Officer must always be resident at the General Hospital, I would suggest that the quarter now occupied by Surgeon Major Blacklock, the one nearest the Hospital, be vacated, and that Messrs. Blacklock and Paul be permitted to make their own arrangements as to who is to reside in the hospital.

3. The quarter occupied by Dr. Paul is sufficiently distant from the hospital not to be affected by the vicinity of the latrines, and could be occupied by one of the Medical Officers as a temporary arrangement.

4. I cannot recollect whether the question of quarters for the officers of the General Hospital is embraced in the report upon the General Hospital by the Sanitary Commission, but it is one which ought no longer to be delayed. The report was read to me, but I have not been favored with a copy, although G. O. G., No. 1025, 23rd March 1864, orders it to be made in communication with the Principal Inspector General, Medical Department.

5. I consider that one *resident* Medical Officer is sufficient for the wants of the General Hospital, but that when an increase takes place in the numbers of the Commissioned Medical grades, it would be well to appoint one or two junior officers to reside and be in a position similar to that the House Surgeon holds in the London Hospitals. Their appointment might be for 6 or 12 months as may be determined; and thus young officers, before being thrown entirely upon their own responsibility on their first arrival in India, will have the benefit of being trained under men experienced in the diseases of the country.

6. Another and an important subject, I take the liberty of bringing before Government, is that of accommodation for sick officers.

7. When I was first attached to the General Hospital, now 23 years ago, it was no uncommon occurrence for officers, suffering under ordinary illness, seeking

for accommodation in the sick officers' quarters, bad as they were, but now scarcely any other cases than those arising from intemperance are admitted into the General Hospital; consequently officers of character, however sick, will not go there. I have known many officers in indifferent circumstances, who would have been only too glad to have had sick quarters to go to. With much deference I must submit that to place gentlemen in an hospital, overlooked as they must be by soldiers, perhaps men of their own Regiment, is objectionable.

8. I would respectfully suggest to Government that there be a building erected specially for sick officers: it must be recollected that these gentlemen are under stoppages whilst in sick quarters; at present the sum is very small, but if comfortable quarters were available it would not be too much to stop the sick officers' house-rent, and the Government would not be great pecuniary losers.

9. The necessity for accommodation for sick officers is becoming more pressing from the changes which have occurred in the Army; many young officers now arrive in this country without knowing any one beyond the members of their own corps; and when they are sent to Madras for change, or to wait for an opportunity to get Home, they are obliged either to go to one of the Hotels, the expenses of which, putting aside the discomfort, seriously trenches upon their limited means, or to the Club; but I understand that very few of the officers coming out now are members of the latter institution; but neither of these are proper places for sick people.

10. There is a difficulty as to a site for the Medical Officers' quarters, and also those for the sick officers.

11. After much consideration I think that the ground used as the Body Guard Riding schools, on the opposite side of the Coom from the General Hospital, would answer well for both the sick quarters, and the Medical Officers might be in one block but separated. I would suggest that there should be accommodation for eight sick officers. It would be necessary to throw a small wooden bridge over the Coom to enable the Medical Officer to pass over to the hospital.

Referred to the Sanitary Commission for their remarks, which should be submitted as soon as possible.

FORT SAINT GEORGE,
27th June 1864.

(Signed) A. J. ARBUTHNOT,
Chief Secretary.

No. 62. From the Honorable R. S. ELLIS, C. B., President, Sanitary Commission, Madras; to the Honorable A. J. ARBUTHNOT, Chief Secretary to Government, Public Department, Fort Saint George, dated Madras, 1st July 1864, No. 171.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of letter, No. 195, of the Officiating* Principal Inspector General, Medical Department, to your address, and the Order thereon, dated 27th June 1864.

* Returned.

2. Dr. Shaw's letter refers to three subjects:

1st.—The entire removal of the building now occupied by the Medical Officers of the General Hospital.

2nd.—The temporary arrangements to be made until this building is removed, and a house built to accommodate the Medical Officers attached to the General Hospital.

3rd.—The necessity of providing accommodation for sick officers distinct from the rooms allotted to them in the General Hospital.

3. As regards the first of these subjects, there is no doubt that the removal of the building in question would improve the appearance of the General Hospital, and enable the out-buildings of the hospital to be better distributed than is possible while these buildings are retained; but this removal would necessitate a large outlay in building new quarters for the resident Medical Officers attached to the hospital; and I am not aware if the Government is prepared at present to sanction this outlay. Supposing the building at present existing to be retained, this Commission does not consider that latrines constructed, as recommended in my Report, Appendix, paragraph 6, plan C, D, dated 13th current, and on the dry-earth-system, would prove any serious annoyance to the Medical Officers in their present quarters.

4. The actual distance from the front line of the eastern block to the detached bath-room belonging to Surgeon Major Blacklock's part of the house, occupied by that officer and Dr. Paul, is 45 feet, and to the house itself 83 feet.

5. It would be desirable, however, to remove this bath-room altogether and to construct another bath-room in a direction removed from the hospital latrines.

6. This arrangement would also improve the ventilation of the lower wards of the hospital when the N. E. wind prevails. The bath-room, of which I recommend the removal, was erected by a former Surgeon of the hospital at his own expense and attracted the notice and disapproval of the late Court of Directors of the Honorable East India Company.

7. The building alluded to in Dr. Shaw's letter is sufficient for two Medical Officers. Hitherto there has been a third Medical Officer resident in the hospital premises, namely, the Surgeon or Assistant Surgeon of Her Majesty's Regiment stationed at the Fort, now Dr. Mostyn. Dr. Mostyn's quarters are in a small separate house which has been condemned and is about to be pulled down. In future it may be convenient to assign the house now occupied by the Physician and Surgeon of the General Hospital, Messrs. Blacklock and Paul, to two Staff Medical Officers who would perform the duties of House Surgeons, one in charge of the Military and one in charge of the Civil patients of the hospital, and to allow Drs. Blacklock and Paul, the Physician and Surgeon of the Civil Hospitals, to reside in private houses at a convenient distance from the General Hospital.

8. In paragraphs 67 to 70 of my Report on the General Hospital, dated 13th current, I had the honor to suggest the advantage of providing quarters for sick officers distinct from the rooms allotted for such officers in the General Hospital.

9. The members of this Commission differ as to the extent to which such a provision is necessary, and think that it would be better that an experiment should be made by hiring a house, to be arranged as quarters for sick officers for a year, previous to recommending the erection of a building, such as that contemplated by Dr. Shaw in paragraph 8 of his letter.

10. If it should be decided to discontinue the present Eye Infirmary, as suggested in paragraph 19 and following paragraphs of my letter, No. 133, dated 13th current, that building, which is well suited for the purpose, might be rented temporarily until the Government are in a position to decide as to the number of sick officers for whom provision is necessary.

11. This Commission cannot concur with Dr. Shaw as to the eligibility of the site he proposes for a building to be devoted both to sick officers and to the Medical Officers attached to the General Hospital, namely, the Body Guard Riding school on the side of the Cooum river opposite to the General Hospital.

12. The site itself is very limited. It is close to five burial grounds, and is also close to the Cooum river, which has been the great objection to the site of the General Hospital, and will be equally an objection to the site of the proposed sick officers' quarters.

13. There may also be Military objections to the erection of a building in such close proximity to the Wallajah gate.

14. The erection of a bridge connecting the General Hospital and the officers' quarters will also greatly add to the expense involved in Dr. Shaw's proposal.

15. With reference to paragraph 4 of Dr. Shaw's letter, I did not consider that until the Report on the General Hospital had received the orders of Government it was proper to circulate any copies of it. Dr. Shaw had read and signed a rough draft of the Report in token of his approval, and he was so good as to meet the Sanitary Commissioners at their office and discussed at length the several questions raised in the Report, making suggestions which were adopted. I was therefore not aware that he wished for further information, or I should have gladly afforded it.

No. 63. ORDER THEREON, 12th September 1864, No. 1048.

The Governor in Council proceeds to pass further orders on the papers recorded in the Proceedings of Government, under date the 1st July last, regarding the distribution of the accommodation in the General Hospital and the arrangements suggested by the Officiating Principal Inspector General of the Medical Department for rendering the hospital accommodation at the Presidency as efficient as possible, including the provision of separate accommodation for the Native sick who are now located in the temporary Civil Hospital to the west of the General Hospital.

2. In regard to the first point, the Government have expressed their general concurrence in the objections urged by His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief in the Quarter Master General's letter of the 1st ultimo, against the proposal that women belonging to the European Regiment in Fort Saint George should be located in the Lying-in-Hospital, the necessary addition being made to that building. It will therefore be necessary that the allotment proposed in the 40th and following paragraphs of Mr. Ellis' letter, above referred to, should be revised in order that accommodation may be allotted for the women belonging to the European Regiment and Battery of Artillery in the Fort, and also for European women of any Civil classes. Mr. Ellis will submit a revised allotment as soon as he has completed his present tour.

3. The Governor in Council approves and sanctions the adoption of the recommendation made by Mr. Shaw, and concurred in by the Sanitary Commission, and also by His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, that the new General Hospital should be confined to European patients, and that a separate Native Hospital should be built in a central situation, the present Vaccine Depot and the Chintadrepetta Dispensary being abolished. Orders have been already issued in the Public Works Department for the preparation of a plan and estimate of a building suitable for this purpose.

4. The Governor in Council thinks it very desirable that the building now occupied by the Physician and Surgeon of the General Hospital should be removed. It is inconveniently close to the hospital, impedes ventilation, and seriously detracts from the architectural appearance of that building. Quarters for two resident Medical Officers should be built on some other more suitable site in the immediate vicinity of the hospital. The site of the sheds which form the present Native Civil Hospital will probably be found well adapted for the purpose. The President of the Sanitary Commission will report on this point in communication with the Principal Inspector General of the Medical Department, and orders will be issued in the Department of Public Works for the preparation of the requisite plan and estimate.

5. The Governor in Council cannot sanction the erection of separate quarters for sick officers, but he will be prepared to consider any proposal which the President of the Sanitary Commission and Principal Inspector General of the Medical Department may be able to suggest for renting a house for the purpose, as has been done at Calcutta, provided it can be shown that the arrangement will not entail any but a very trifling expense on the State.

6. The proposal to enclose the present road-way of Hospital Street in the hospital compound, and to run the road through the line of houses now fronting the street, involving as it does an estimated outlay of Rupees 36,000, must lie over for the present.

(True Extract.)

Secretary to Government.

To the President of the Sanitary Commission.
" Principal Inspector General, Medical Department.
" Military Department.
" Public Works Department.

Exd. J. Tulloch.

7377 1864 2 Defenses
of Fort Sumter
No. 4096.

No. of Quarters in the
Public Discharge

Dist 12 2 Defenses
Received 193

No. 1148
No. 27418-2148 Sept 16/64.

Copy sent to the

papers regarding the distribution
of the communication in the
District and the arrangements
suggested by the District Judge
for sending the Hospital and
its staff to the District Hospital
including the provisions for the
communication for the District
who are now located in the
very and Hospital and its
the District Hospital, District
with an order.

No. 27418.

1 Communicated to the
Sunderland Engineer & Co.,
in continuation of the notes
16: 27418-2148 Sept 16/64.

No. 27418-2148
Sept 16/64.

2 Colored Orleans with

be requested to arrange for
the plans & estimates to be
to in 1864. Being prepared
in connection with the
story Commission, the
District General Judicial

Elephant 27418-2148
Sept 16/64. District
No. 27418-2148 Sept 16/64.

No. 27418-2148 Sept 16/64.