

(1) Number of pages _____

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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	873	Press Mis.
Dated	30-3-1861.	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
30th March 1864.*

No. 536. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Military
Department:—

Directing that a Sanitary Commission, composed of the within- } (Here enter 17th March 1864, No. 929.)
mentioned Officers, be formed in the Madras Presidency.

No. 537. ORDER THEREON, 30th March 1864, No. 873.

Communicated to Major Shaw Stewart.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) CHARLES, A. ORR, Colonel, R. E.,
Secretary to Government.

To Major J. H. M. Shaw Stewart, R. E.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

MILITARY DEPARTMENT.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following papers :—

From the Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department, Fort William, 28th January 1864, No. 806; to the Secretary to Government, Military Department, Fort Saint George.

With reference to letter No. 297, dated 15th August 1863, from the Right Honorable the Secretary of State for India, to the Government of India, a copy of which was forwarded direct for the information of the Government of Fort Saint George, I am directed to transmit, for the information of His Excellency the Governor in Council, two copies of the report of the Royal Commission on the Sanitary state of the Army in India, with precis of evidence attached, and also a copy of my letter, No. 801 of this date, to the Quarter Master General, communicating generally to His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief in India, the measures which the Right Honorable the Governor General in Council proposes to adopt in furtherance of the objects recommended in that despatch.

2. A further communication will be made to you as soon as the instructions for the guidance of the Commissions are drawn up; but, in the meantime, I am to request that His Excellency in Council, may be moved to cause a Sanitary Commission for the Madras Presidency, to be formed without delay in accordance with the principle on which the Bengal Commission is composed of Civil, Military, Medical and Engineer Officers combined.

3. The Governor General in Council desires to leave the formation of the Commission to the Government of Fort Saint George; but His Excellency in Council considers that, as a rule, it is desirable that the President should be

President—Rupees 3,000 a month, consolidated.

Secretary, „ 500 in addition to pay, &c., of rank.

Other Members each 300.

a selected Officer of the Civil Service, and the Secretary a Medical Officer, both able to give their whole attention to the work; and that they and the other Members should receive the salaries marginally noted.

4. I am further to invite the early opinion of the Governor in Council as to the expediency of any change in the permanent distribution of the Troops in the Madras Presidency, with reference to the remarks in paragraphs 9 to 19 of the despatch; and to request that instructions may be issued to ensure the complete uniformity of the system of Army Medical Statistics in India, with that at present in use at Home Stations.

5. The subject of a systematic registration of the deaths throughout India has been referred for the consideration of the Home Department of this Government.

6. The Secretary of State will be requested by the outgoing Mail to cause 12 copies of the complete report, which has not, it will be seen, been yet received here, to be forwarded to the Madras Government by the Overland route with as little delay as possible.

From the Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department, Fort William, 28th January 1864, No. 801; to the Quarter Master General.

I am directed to transmit copy of a Despatch, No. 297, dated 15th August 1863, from the Right Honorable the Secretary of State, communicating the views of Her Majesty's Government, on the recommendations of the Royal Commission on the Sanitary state of the Army in India, and a copy of the smaller edition of the Report with precis of evidence, and to acquaint you, for the information of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, that, owing apparently to some mistake, no copies of the Report were received until the 12th instant, and that no copies of the complete Report (in two volumes) have yet come to hand. On their arrival, one or more copies will be furnished for His Excellency's information.

2. My telegram of the 25th instant to the Adjutant General, will have already informed Sir H. Rose, that a Sanitary Commission for Bengal, is about to be formed in Calcutta. The Right Honorable the Governor General in Council has decided that it shall be composed of a Civil Officer as President, two Medical Officers, one of whom will be the Secretary, and two

Military Officers (one an Engineer Officer) as Members. The President and Secretary will devote their whole time to the duties of the Commission, and will receive, the former a consolidated salary of Rupees (3,500) three thousand and five hundred a month, and the latter a Staff salary of Rupees (600) six hundred a month in addition to the pay and allowances of his rank. The other Members, who will be selected from, amongst Officers serving at the Presidency, will serve on the Commission in addition to their other duties, receiving as a remuneration Rupees (300) three hundred each per mensem.

3. The Governments of Fort Saint George and Bombay, will be requested to cause similar Sanitary Commissions to be formed in those Presidencies, to consider, in communication with the Departments concerned, how the objects desired by Her Majesty's Government can best be carried out, and to superintend the working of the Sanitary system which may be adopted.

4. His Excellency will, doubtless, observe that the Royal Commission are under erroneous impressions with respect to the actual Sanitary condition, and the amount of sickness and mortality of British Troops in India, as well as with respect to the endeavours successfully made of late years to improve their condition in every way, and the still greater improvements which have been for some time in contemplation. He is aware that, as intimated by Sir C. Wood, several of the questions touched upon by the Commission, have been for some time past under the consideration of the Government of India; although the determination of the best measures to be taken has unfortunately been delayed owing to circumstances which could not have been foreseen, and that the Sanitary condition of the Army generally has engaged its anxious attention in connection with the Report of the Cholera Commission.

5. Thus the subject of rations and dieting of the Troops will be dealt with in connection with the Report of the Commissariat Commission; the best modes of checking Venereal disease, respecting which, His Excellency has repeatedly addressed the Government, has recently formed the subject of a reference to the Home Department, in order that it may be determined how far the repressive measures which have been proposed, can be supported and rendered effectual by legislative action; and the question of the provision of means of instruction and recreation to the British Soldier has also engaged attention, and will soon, it may be hoped, be decided.

6. The recommendation of the Royal Commission, that no spirits be issued to Troops on Boardship except at the recommendation of the Medical Officer, appears, moreover, to be identical with the existing practice; the shipment on Vessels taking Troops to England by the Cape

* Government letter to Deputy Quarter Master General, No. 961, dated 26th November 1859.

route of about a month's supply of Rum, to be issued at the discretion of the Medical Officer, having been sanctioned in 1859,* on the special recommendation of the Heads of the Medical Departments of both the British and Indian Services. But I am to solicit the early opinion of the Commander-in-Chief on the expediency of discontinuing the sale of ardent spirits in Canteens, and prohibiting by legal enactment their sale in Military Bazaars, as suggested in paragraph 22 of Sir C. Wood's Despatch.

7. With reference also to paragraphs 9 to 19 of the Despatch, I am to request that His Excellency's opinion as to the expediency of any further change in the distribution of the Army in this Presidency, as proposed in 1862-63, on which orders were about to be issued when the Despatch was received, and the grounds on which he would recommend any change, may be submitted for the consideration of Government.

8. The construction of Barracks on approved principles, referred to in paragraph 20 of the Despatch, had been already taken up by the Public Works Department, and it will naturally come under the consideration of the Sanitary Commission; whilst the selection of new sites for Barracks must of course await the final decision as to the distribution of the Army.

ORDER, No. 929, 17th March 1864.

In accordance with the instructions of the Government of India, the Governor in Council directs that a Sanitary Commission, composed of the undermentioned Officers, be formed in this

From Secretary of State for India, to Government of India, 15th August 1863, No. 115.

Presidency, to consider, in communication with the Departments concerned, how the objects desired by Her Majesty's Government, as ex-

pressed in the Despatch noted in the margin, containing their views on the recommendation of the Royal Commission on the Sanitary state of the Army in India, can best be carried out, and to superintend the working of the Sanitary system which may be adopted.

PRESIDENT.

The Honorable R. S. ELLIS, C. B.

MEMBERS.

Surgeon Major D. MACFARLANE, M. D.

Major J. H. M. S. STEWART, Royal Engineers.

Captain A. F. PLACE, 34th Lt. Infy., whilst doing duty with the 2nd Regt. N. I.

Assistant Surgeon H. B. MONTGOMERY, M. D.

SECRETARY.

Dr. H. B. MONTGOMERY.

2. The President and Secretary will devote their whole time to the duties of the Commission, and will receive, the former a consolidated salary of Rupees 3,000 a month, and the latter a Staff salary of Rupees 500 a month, in addition to the pay and allowances of his rank. The other Members will serve on the Commission, in addition to their other duties, receiving as a remuneration Rupees, 300 each per mensem.

3. The foregoing papers will be communicated to the Commander-in-Chief, with reference to Proceedings 1st October 1863, No. 3152, and His Excellency's opinion requested as to the expediency of any change in the permanent distribution of the Troops in this Presidency.

4. The Principal Inspector General Medical Department will suggest such measures as are necessary for ensuring the complete uniformity of the system of Army Medical Statistics in India with that at present in use at Home Stations. Meanwhile, the instructions of the Right Honorable the Secretary of State for the Medical Returns of the Troops in India, being prepared in the forms prescribed for the British Army, will be strictly observed.

Para. 39 of recommendations of Commissioners appointed to inquire into the Sanitary state of the Army of India, page 171 of Report.

Paragraph 26 of Despatch from Secretary of State to Government of India, 15th August 1863, No. 297.

Pro. of Govt., No. 1997, 11th June 1861, and No. 3312, 16th October 1863.

To the Secy. to the Govt. of India, Mily. Dept. | Here enter 17th March 1864, No. 930.

(True Extract.)

Secretary to Government.

To the Adjutant General.

- „ Quarter Master General.
- „ Prinl. Insp. Genl. Medl. Dept.
- „ Public Works Department.
- „ Barrack Master.
- „ Brigade Major, Fort Saint George.
- „ Commissary General.
- „ Master Attendant, for Supt. of Marine.
- „ Inspector General of Ordnance.
- „ Controller of Military Finance.
- „ Examiner Pay Department.
- „ Military Accountant.
- „ Examiner of Medical Accounts.

Exd. W. Regel.

5/3

NO 843

Committed to Anger
Shew Stewart

Wilhelm }
30th March 1861

Major A.H.M. Shew Stewart
R.E.
NO 843 31 March

1864 Dept
of State for War
No 1281

No of Govt in the
Army. Dept
No 14 March
Received 22

No 29

Directing that a
sanitary board, consisting of
the medical personnel of the
forces in the various Regts.

No 336. 537

NO 843-30th March 1861.

William B. S. S.