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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 2244	Press
124-125	Mis.
Dated 4 - 8 -	1865.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
4th August 1865.*

No. 124. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the
Public Department :—

Calling for a plan and estimate for the }
construction of a Lazaretto on Candle } (Here enter 26th July 1865, No. 794.)
Island.

No. 125. ORDER THEREON, 4th August 1865, No. 2,244.

CIVIL WORKS, No. 15.

Communicated to the Superintending
Engineer of the 7th Division, who will be
requested, in communication with the Collector
of Malabar and the Civil Surgeon of Cochin, to prepare and submit a plan and
estimate for a new Lazaretto to be built on Candle Island.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Superintending Engineer of the 7th Division.

Public Works

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,
26th July 1865.

Read the following papers :—

No. 108. From J. A. REYNOLDS, Esq., Deputy Inspector General of Hospitals, Southern Division, to R. W. CORNISH, Esq., Secretary to the Principal Inspector General, Medical Department, Fort Saint George; dated Trichinopoly, 27th May 1865, No. 765.

I have the honor to report, for the information of the Principal Inspector General, that, in accordance with orders conveyed in Memorandum, No. 1686, dated 8th instant, on Proceedings of Government in the Public Department, of the 22nd April 1865, I visited the Pallipott Lazaretto on the 20th instant, and, with reference to the latter portion of paragraph 3 of the Order of Government, No. 409, of 22nd April 1865, to state that I found the building—a very old one, built in 1732,—in a very dirty state; the roof leaky, and timber rotting; walls cracked in two or three places, by trees growing through them. The place is too confined within lofty walls, and is ill constructed for ventilation. There are two small courts, having a row of cells on two sides. In that for females, there are 16 cells about 16 × 12 feet, to each a plank door and window; on the male side there are 14 cells. In each yard there is a well of clear water, and at a short distance a privy—a deep pit covered with boards; this has not been emptied for years, nor does it appear that the building has been whitewashed or cleaned in any way during the same period. Some of the doors, windows, &c. have disappeared, and others are much dilapidated. There are now in the female cells 19 patients, including three children—one a little boy, who, though not diseased, was admitted with his mother. There are 14 males. All are diseased with the above exception, and one old woman, mother of a diseased girl, whose case appears doubtful, and all are most pitiable objects.

2. I was unable to discover in what way the privileges of the Institution had been abused, as there was no copy of Dr. Day's letter, or the Proceedings of Government on record. At present, there does not appear to be any abuse of privilege. The Dresser receives a monthly allowance, generally about 75 Rupees, from the Tahsildar, for the supply of diet, 1½ Anna to each daily; this is not considered sufficient. Diet consists of a little rice, dry fish, curry stuff and oil—and firewood also given—cooked in the cells. A cumbly and a piece of cloth, about two yards in length, are supplied to each, yearly; the former, a very coarse article, they cannot use—it sticks to the sores; and the latter is a very scanty allowance.

3. The gate is open two hours morning and evening, and there is no hindrance of intercourse with the village during those hours. All patients are sent by the Magistrate to the Civil Surgeon for inspection, without whose certificate none are admitted.

4. The objectionable state of the building, &c. has been frequently brought to notice by the Medical Officer in charge, who seems most anxious to make the Lazaretto as useful as possible. I consider that a new building, on a larger scale and improved plan, is required. The inhabitable portion of the present building is fully occupied, and there are a great number of lepers to be seen, at large, in and about Cochin.

5. The Islands alluded to were pointed out to me; one, Hangman's, is submerged during the south-west monsoon.

6. The Dresser attached to the Lazaretto is a very stupid man. Dr. Furnell recommends that he be sent to a Regiment or station to learn his duty, and be re-placed by an intelligent subordinate, better suited to an independent charge, and

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one who could make himself useful to the people of the District. In this I fully concur.

No. 176.

MEMORANDUM.

Forwarded to the Chief Secretary, in reference to the Proceedings of Government, Public Department, No. 409, of 22nd April last, paragraph 3.

FORT SAINT GEORGE,
2nd June 1865.

(Signed) R. COLE,
Princl. Insp. Genl., Medl. Dept.

No. 109. From G. A. BALLARD, Esq., Collector of Malabar, to the Honorable A. J. ARBUTHNOT, Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Calicut, 8th July 1865, No. 87.

G. O., 11th March 1863, No. 270, paragraph 8.
" 12th June " " 658.
Collector to Government, 24th February 1865, No. 28.
G. O. 22nd April 1865, No. 409.
Official Memorandum from Government, 14th June 1865, No. 253.

Adverting to the correspondence noted on the subject of the Palliport Lazaretto, I have the honor to submit a rough sketch showing the position of (1) Hangman's Island and (2) Candle Island.

Mr. Day made a mistake in applying the names to one and the same spot.

2. Mr. Day recommended that the Lazaretto should be moved from Palliport to Hangman's Island, but he must have done so under a very mistaken idea of the capacities of the latter place. It is a mere shoal of sand, barely above high water mark, and totally unfit for a building.

3. Candle Island is considerably more extensive. Its area is estimated at about 50 acres, and part of this is quite sufficiently raised to admit of being built on. The Island is leased to the Cochin Circar for seven years, from February 1860, at Rupees 431 per annum.

If Government determine on moving the Lazaretto to this site, I do not suppose the Circar would raise any objection, the rental for the portion of land so taken up being rateably reduced.

4. The Lazaretto could be certainly far more efficiently supervised at Candle Island than at Palliport.

It would be more in the way, and more supervision would be required to prevent the lepers coming too much into contact with the people; but on the whole I think the change in itself would decidedly be a beneficial one.

5. As regards expense, the Range Officer reported that efficient repair of the old Lazaretto would be almost as expensive as a new building.

He submitted a plan and estimate amounting to Rupees 3030. The plan was not approved by Dr. Furnell or by me; but I believe a suitable building might be erected, with the necessary out houses, &c., for from Rupees 3500 to Rupees 4000.

6. I have not an idea what the whole property at Palliport, if put in the market, would fetch.

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At the usual revenue valuation, the ground planted with trees might be calculated as worth about Rupees 475, but certainly much more than this would be obtained at a sale.

7. I have not heard from the Department Public Works what the precise cost of repairing the present building would be.

But supposing a new building determined on, the simple cost of securing the new site would probably be compensated by the sale of the old one, and the new building would cost much the same at either place.

8. On the whole, as above intimated, I advocate a new building on Candle Island.

I beg to enclose a letter from Dr. Furnell on the subject, and to express my regret that, under the misapprehension that I had reported that Hangman's Island was unfit before, this Report has not been submitted.

Dated 29th ultimo, No. 46.

From M. C. FURNELL, Esq., Civil Surgeon, Cochin, to G. A. BALLARD, Esq., Collector of Malabar, Calicut; dated Cochin, 29th June 1865, No. 46.

I have the honor to inform you that I have this day examined, as requested by you, Hangman's and Candle Islands.

2. Hangman's Island, or Cheria Raman Thoorty, is a totally unfit place for any building, a mere shoal of sand, barely above high water-mark, and of no width.

3. Candle Island, or Saint Domingo Raman Thoorty, is a much larger Island, estimated to contain 52 acres of land; the greater portion of this is paddy land at present flooded. On the east, however, is a cocoanut plantation, extending nearly the whole length of the eastern aspect of the Island from north to south. This plantation is divided into two portions, by an intervening paddy field; of these two portions the southernmost is the largest and measures in

	Feet.
Width, from east to west	294
Length, from north to south	823
The northern portion is smaller, and measures	139
Width, from east to west...	296
Length, from north to south...	

thus the largest portion would have an area of 241,962 feet, and the smaller 41,144 feet.

4. The soil is sandy and densely planted with cocoanut trees, which are of many years growth, in full bearing—I should say a very valuable plantation. There are six houses inhabited by Christian laborers, toddy drawers; no wells, but two or three small open tanks. I have marked out the plans approximately with red ink on the map you sent me.

5. As to whether, in the event of the Lazaretto being built on this Island, there would be more intercourse between the Lepers and the surrounding population, than at present with the Lazaretto at Palliport, is a question I think of Police. Given sufficient guardians, and it would be easy enough to prevent the Lepers leaving Candle island; whilst unquestionably they would be much more under the immediate superintendence of the Civil Surgeon, for treatment and care, at the Island, than in their present place. I fancy the question would be more one of expense as to the resumption, and partial destruction of a valuable cocoanut plantation.

(True Copy). (Signed) G. A. BALLARD,
Collector.

No. 110. ORDER THEREON, 26th July 1865, No. 794.
When passing orders on the Report on Civil Dispensaries for 1861, the Government called upon the Collector of Malabar for his opinion as to the proposal

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26th July 1865.*

made in the Report for removing the Lazaretto from Palliport to the immediate neighbourhood of Cochin, and this call was repeated in June 1863, on the receipt of a Report from the Inspector General of Hospitals, embodying notes by the Civil Surgeon on the same subject.

2. Mr. Day, the Civil Surgeon, proposed, and in his proposal Dr. Shaw concurred, to abandon the Lazaretto at Palliport, and remove the lepers to Candle or Hangman's Island in the harbour of Cochin, the old Lazaretto being so dilapidated as to render its repair not less expensive than the erection of a new building.

3. Upon a recent reference on the subject of the establishment for the Lazaretto, Mr. Ballard's attention was drawn to the previous calls for his opinion; the Deputy Inspector General of Hospitals being also called upon to report on the state of the Lazaretto.

4. Mr. Ballard has now submitted his Report, and the Deputy Inspector General of Hospitals has also replied to the order of Government.

5. From these reports, it appears that Candle Island and Hangman's Island are not the same, and that the latter is a mere sand bank, little above high water level, but that the former is not unsuitable as a locality for a Leper Hospital; while it seems clear that the attempt to repair the present Lazaretto would entail an expenditure fully equal to the cost of a new building on Candle Island. On other grounds the removal of the lepers appears desirable, and the Governor in Council accordingly directs the Collector of Malabar to take immediate steps for obtaining from the Cochin Circar, to whom Candle Island is leased, a revocation of the lease of such portion as may appear necessary for the proposed buildings.

6. Orders will be issued in the Department Public Works for the preparation by the Range Officer, after communication with the Collector and Civil Surgeon, of a plan and estimate for a new Lazaretto.

7. The Government are glad to find that the abuses of the privileges of the Lazaretto alluded to by Mr. Day do not now exist.

8. The Principal Inspector General, Medical Department, will arrange for the removal of the present Dresser, who is reported to be unfit for the charge of the Lazaretto, and for the appointment of a qualified Medical Subordinate.

9. The allowances proposed by Mr. Ballard, in his letter of the 24th February, of Rupees 5 per mensem for a door-keeper, and Rupees 5 for a sweeper, are sanctioned, and also the allowance of 2 Annas each, per diem, to one male and one female patient, on the conditions prescribed in the 3rd paragraph of Mr. Ballard's letter.

(True Extract).

To the Collector of Malabar.

„ Principal Inspector General, Medical Department.

„ Public Works Department.

„ Accountant General.

Exd. J. H. Burns.

G. J. Cunningham
Chief Secretary.

15 June 1865

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927 1865, Septa
 Pro: of Govt for August
 No. 2862
 No. of Govt.
 Public Depart
 Of 26 July/65
 Recd. Washington
 No 794
 calling for a
 plan and estimate
 for the construction
 of a Casarotto in
 Cavalle Island.
 2214-4 August/65
 With answer

2214
Communicated to the Superintending Engineer
of the 7th Division who will be requested to commu-
nication with the Collector of Malabar and the Civil
Surgeon of Cochin to prepare & submit a plan & estimate
for a new Lazzaretto to be built on Canalic
Island Fort St George August 1855

To the Collector of Malabar.

Principal Inspector General, Medical Department.

„ Public Works Department. ✓

„ Accountant General.

Exd. J. H. Burns.

Chief Secretary.

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