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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

[illegible] DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. [illegible] Press —Mis.—

450-37

Dated [illegible] 19[illegible].

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
15th September 1866.

No. 420. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Public Department:—

Sanctioning the construction of a new shed on the site of the present one for the treatment of contagious diseases at the General Hospital, Presidency. } (Here enter 8th September 1866, No. 914.)

No. 421. ORDER THEREON, 15th September 1866, No. 2,970.

CIVIL WORKS, No. 78.

Communicated to the Superintending Engineer of the 4th Division, who will issue orders for the immediate execution of the work.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Superintending Engineer, 4th Division.
" Controller of Public Works Accounts.
" Accountant General.
" Public Department.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

No. 56. Read the following letter from the Principal Inspector General, Medical Department, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Fort Saint George, 30th August 1866, No. 323.

I have the honor to forward letters from the Surgeon* of the General Hospital, and the Executive Engineer† Presidency.

* No. 386, 27th August 1866.
† No. 276, 24th August 1866.

2. These letters point out the necessity that exists for the restoration of a portion of the Chupper Hospital. I am not sure that there is any necessity for troubling Government with these letters, as the Order, No. 849, of the 24th instant, gives sanction to its being repaired.

From the Surgeon, General Hospital, to the Deputy Inspector General of Hospitals, Presidency; dated Madras, 27th August 1866, No. 386.

I have the honor to acknowledge your Memorandum, No. 2995, enclosing a letter, No. 276 (herewith returned), dated 24th August 1866, from the Executive Engineer, Southern Range, intimating that the remains of the sheds of the General Hospital cannot be repaired so as to be weather-proof, and suggesting a new building, if separate accommodation is required for contagious diseases.

2. I beg to refer to my letters, Nos. 365 and 375, of the 15th and 22nd instant, for instructions on this matter, viz., whether Cholera and other infectious diseases are to be treated in the body of the General Hospital or in a separated building, to which as yet I have not received definite replies.

3. The Engineer's Department has undertaken to complete the Hospital by the 15th proximo, so that there is every prospect of the temporary allotment of the General Hospital sanctioned by the Right Honorable the Governor in Council, in Proceedings of Government 15th August 1866, being carried out during the month of September. In this allotment there is accommodation provided for 92 European (apart from Ophthalmic patients) and 82 Native male patients.

4. On certain days of the last and current months there were accommodated on the Civil side of the General Hospital 95 European males, and 79 Native males.

5. The conclusion seems, therefore, inevitable that a separate building will be required for contagious diseases, till the Military sick of the Garrison of Fort Saint George are accommodated in a separate Hospital of their own, on the score of space alone, and apart from all hygienic considerations, which are, however, sufficiently weighty in themselves to make a separate building desirable.

6. The Engineer, in his letter, raises the question whether the separate building should be temporary or permanent. In the abstract, it must be conceded that contagious diseases would be better treated in a separate building than in the body of a Hospital; but when the new Military Hospital is built, and the whole of the present building given over as a Civil Hospital, there will be no difficulty in assigning Wards for contagious diseases, and so isolating them that no danger can accrue, from their treatment therein, to the rest of the inmates of the Hospital.

7. I am therefore of opinion, if the present shed cannot be repaired, that a small temporary Hospital should be built on the site of the present shed, with three rooms of about 20 feet by 20 feet each, calculated to last not more than two years from the present time.

From the Executive Engineer, Presidency, Southern Range, to the Deputy Inspector General of Hospitals; dated Madras, 24th August 1866, No. 276.

The state of the thatched shed in the General Hospital compound having been for many months a source of complaint from the Medical authorities, and of trouble and discredit to the Department Public Works, I have the honor to address you, in the hopes that an evil that has been suffered to exist too long may be speedily remedied.

2. A long line of these sheds were erected in the year 1859 to be used as a temporary Hospital, but, as is generally the case with Government buildings styled temporary, their use has not been dispensed with until they will no longer hold together.

3. About two-thirds of these sheds were taken down or fell down, and the materials of which they were constructed cleared away some few months ago; but about a third part was suffered to remain, for occasional use as a Native Hospital.

4. Lately, I have received complaints that Cholera patients in this shed have suffered from rain penetrating through the roof, and immediate repair is urged. I believe that when the shed was allowed to stand, it was perfectly understood that it was not considered weather-proof. To prevent any misunderstanding on the subject for the future, I beg to report now that no mere repair will render the roof water-tight, or even secure it from being blown off, or falling in, to the hurt of the patients below.

5. It is not for me to decide whether any detached Hospital is required; but, if so, a new one should be constructed with as little delay as possible. It might be permanent and tiled, or a temporary thatched shed. The latter would last several years, and not cost much, as the uprights of the old shed could be made use of again.

No. 57. ORDER THEREON, 8th September 1866, No. 914.

It appears from the letter from the Executive Engineer, of the 21th ultimo, that the present state of the thatched shed in the compound of the General Hospital is such as to preclude the possibility of its being thoroughly repaired. Under these circumstances, the Governor in Council sanctions the construction of a new shed on the site of the present one, for the treatment of contagious diseases. A temporary thatched shed is all that is necessary.

(True Extract).

Secretary to Government.

To the Principal Inspector General, Medical Department,
" Public Works Department. with two enclosures, returned.

Exd. J. H. Burns.

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2nd 1866 Despatch
Pro: of Govt for September
No 3809.
Pro of the Madras Govt
in the Public Dept

29 8
Recd 11 } Septr 1866

No 914.

Sanctioning the
construction of a new shed
on the site of the present
one for the treatment of
contagious diseases at
the General Hospital,
Presidency.
ex. 2970-15th Septr 1866.

Mutt Order

Nos 420-421.

Lieut
Manuscript

2
ex. 2970

Comm'd to the Sup'g
Engr of the 1st Div, (who
will issue orders for the
immediate execution of
the work.)

To S. E. 1st Div
" Controller
" Acct Genl
" Public Dept

Fort St George
15th Septr 1866

Manuscript dispd 15 Septr
Spare Copies dispd 19 do