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| 352-353  |       |                 |
| Dated    | 16-11 | 18.66.          |

**Not to be folded or roughly handled***S*

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,  
16th November 1866.*

No. 352. Read the following letter from the Principal Inspector General, Medical Department, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Fort Saint George, 1st November 1866, No. 393 :—

1. I have the honor to submit, herewith, a report by Dr. Porteous on the condition of the coolies, &c., employed at the Red Hill Water Works.  
No. 3,822, dated 25th October 1866.

2. As it seems probable that the present system of employing laborers may be discontinued, Government may perhaps think it unadvisable to sanction any arrangement for affording medical aid; I would remark, however, that if these public works are to be constructed immediately under the superintendence of the department, it will be necessary to construct a temporary Hospital, and to place a Medical subordinate in charge of the health of the working party.

From the Deputy Inspector General of Hospitals, Presidency Division, to the Secretary to the Principal Inspector General, Medical Department, dated 25th October 1866, No. 3,822.

1. With reference to your letter, No.—, I have the honor to report, for the information of the Principal Inspector General, that I visited the “Red Hills” this morning, and in company with Mr. Fraser, the Executive Engineer, inspected the ground in the vicinity of the Water Works, which is in every way well suited for the erection of sheds for the accommodation of coolies employed on the works. The ground is high, open, airy, of very considerable extent, and admits of ready drainage; soil laterite.

2. Should it be decided to establish an Hospital shed, the site I selected with Mr. Fraser, for the purpose, is on the ground, on which a light temporary thatched shed, 100 feet long and 12 broad, has been erected for the coolies now at work.

3. The number of coolies this day was 252 men, 218 women, 71 girls and boys, there had been no case of sickness for six days.

4. The only accommodation at present for the coolies was a Chuttrum, which is a terraced roof-building, with verandah in front carried to the roof, and supported by pillars; there is one room 36 feet long, 18 broad, about 24 feet high, and two small verandah rooms about 12 feet square; the only ventilation is by the doors opening on to the verandah; in these apartments as many of all sexes as can find space to lie at night, do so, the remainder sheltering themselves as they best can under the eaves of huts, or under the portico of an adjacent building. In the course of a day or two one shed will be completed; a second is to be erected as speedily as possible; further additional ones will be built according to circumstances, as it is the present intention of the Engineer to disband all the coolies, and cease working for fifteen days or more during the monsoon, and he hopes that the works when re-commenced will be by contract, when the coolies will hut themselves, or be hutted by the contractors.

5. The coolies are at present employed cutting a channel about three quarter of a mile from the Chuttrum and shed, which work Mr. Fraser stated should not occupy over three months, after which the works will be carried on at a distance of five or six miles beyond the Red Hills.

6. Under these circumstances I propose—

*First.*—If the same class of coolies are to be re-employed after the monsoon, that a competent person be directed to examine, and send out *only* such as are physically fit for the work.

*Second.*—Light temporary sheds to be erected, each to contain sixty coolies, on the ground of the present shed.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,  
16th November 1866.*

*Third.*—An Hospital shed to contain twenty sick, a Medical subordinate to be attached, and the following servants provided: 1 Cook, 1 Ward Cooly, 1 Toty, 20 native cots with a cumby and mat for each.

*Fourth.*—Provision to be made for the maintenance of the sick.

No. 353.

ORDER THEREON, 16th November 1866, No. 3,657.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 34.

Recorded, with reference to G. O. No. 3,530, dated 6th instant, a copy of which will be furnished to the Principal Inspector General of the Medical Department.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Principal Inspector General, Medical Department,  
with G. O. P. W. D., No. 3,530 of 1866, and G. O. R. D.,  
No. 2,953 of 1866.

Rxd. S. T. Augustin.

Office of Deputy Inspector General of Hospitals  
No. 3822 Presidency Division 25<sup>th</sup> October 1866

From

The Deputy Inspector General of Hospitals,  
Presidency Division

To

The Secretary to the Principal Inspector General,  
Medical Department,  
Fort Saint George

Sir

With reference to your letter No. 3822 I have the honor to report for the information of the Principal Inspector General, that I visited the Red Hills this morning, and in company with Mr. Fraser, the Executive Engineer, inspected the ground in the vicinity of the water works, which is in every way well suited for the erection of sheds, for the accommodation of coolies employed on the works. The ground is high, open, airy, of very considerable extent, and admits of ready drainage. Soil laterite.

2. Should it be decided to establish an Hospital Shed, the site selected with Mr. Fraser for the purpose is on the ground on which a light temporary thatched shed 100 feet long and 12 broad has been erected for the coolies now at work.

3. The number of coolies this day was 252 men, 218 women, 71 girls and Boys. There had been no case of sickness for 6 days.

4. The only accommodation at present for the coolies was a Chultrun, which is a terraced roof building with verandah six feet carried to the roof, and supported by pillars; there is one room 36 feet long, 18 broad, about 24 feet high, and 2 small verandah rooms about 12 feet square, the only ventilation

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is by the doors opening on to the verandah in these apartments,  
as many of all sexes as can find space to lie at night, do so,  
the remainder sheltering themselves as they best can under the  
eaves of huts, or under the portico of an adjacent building. In  
the course of a day or two one shed will be completed. A second  
is to be erected as speedily as possible - further additional  
ones will be built according to circumstances. As it is the  
present intention of the Engineers to disband all the Coolies,  
and cease working for 15 days or more during the monsoon,  
and he hopes that the works when recommenced will be by  
Contract, when the Coolies will hurt themselves, or be hurt by  
the Contractors.

5. The Coolies are at present employed cutting a channel  
about  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a mile from the Chattram and the d, which work  
Mr Fraser stated should not occupy over three months, after which,  
the works will be carried on at a distance of 5 or 6 miles beyond  
the Red Hills.

6. Under these circumstances I propose:

1<sup>st</sup> If the same class of Coolies are to be re-employed after the  
monsoon that a competent person be directed to examine,  
and send out only such as are physically fit for the work.

2<sup>d</sup>. Light temporary sheds to be erected, each to contain 60  
Coolies on the ground of the present shed.

3<sup>d</sup> An Hospital shed to contain 20 sick - a medical  
subordinate to be attached, and the following servants  
provided. 1 Cook. 1 Ward Cooly. 1 Joty. 20 Native Cots  
with a Cumbly and mat for each.

4<sup>d</sup>. Provision to be made for the maintenance of the sick.

I have the honor to be,  
Sir,

Your most obed<sup>t</sup> servant,

H. J. P. Jones

D. J. P. Jones of Hospitals

No. 393

OFFICE OF PRINCIPAL INSPECTOR GENERAL, MEDICAL DEPARTMENT,

Fort Saint George, 1<sup>st</sup> November 1866.

From

The Principal Inspector General, Medical Department,  
Fort Saint George.

To

The Secretary to Government, Public Works Dept.,  
Fort Saint George.

SIR,

I have the honor to submit herewith  
No. 393 dated as report by Dr. Porters on the condition of  
25<sup>th</sup> October 1866. the Coolies &c employed at the Red Hill  
waterworks.

As it seems probable that the present  
system of employing laborers may be  
discontinued, Government may perhaps  
think it unadvisable to sanction any  
arrangement for affording medical aid;  
I would remark, however, that if these  
public works are to be constructed im-  
mediately under the superintendence  
of the department, it will be necessary  
to construct a temporary Hospital and to  
place a Medical Subordinate in  
charge of the health of the working  
party.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obed<sup>t</sup> servant,

J. MacKenzie Esq.

Inspector General of Hospitals,

For Principal Insp<sup>t</sup> General,

Medical Department,

By J. J. D. Evans

No. 4192

13  
1866

M

From

The Hon<sup>ble</sup> Inspector General of Hospitals

Residence Division

For the Hon<sup>ble</sup> to forward to the Hon<sup>ble</sup>

Medical Department

Fort St George.

No. 3922.

Dated 25<sup>th</sup> October 1866

Received 26<sup>th</sup> Oct

Subject

Report upon the Coolies &c

the Coolies employed on the Red

Hill waterworks

No. 4462/66

In Reply 1<sup>st</sup> Nov 1866

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Wm. A. Adams

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