M.R.O. 1—77,006—8-6-37.

(1) Number of pages 6

(2) Date of repair 17-3-43

(3) Initials of the Referencer

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 350 Press / Mis.

64-65

Dated 4 2 1867.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 4th February 1867.

No. 64. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Ecclesiastial Department:—

Requesting the issue of orders in the Public Works Department for the work of raising the ground of the Roman Catholic Cemetery at Negapatam (Tanjore District) and enclosing it with a wall, being carried out as soon as funds are available. } (Here enter 28th January 1867, No. 19.)

No. 65. ORDER THEREON, 4th February 1867, No. 350.

CIVIL WORKS, No. 9.

Communicated to the Superintending Engineer of the 6th Division, who will submit an application for funds in 1867-68 to carry out the work which is provided for in the estimate of Rs. 2,250.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R. E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the Superintending Engineer, 6th Division.
" Controller of Public Works Accounts.
" Accountant General.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Ecclesiastical Department, 28th January 1867.

Read again letter from the Superintending Engineer, 6th Division, dated 4th July 1866, No. 382, and recorded in Proceedings of Government, 18th July 1866, No. 150.

No. 27. Read also the following letter from the Officiating Collector of Tanjore, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George ; dated Vallam, 7th July 1866, No. 846.

As requested by Government Proceedings, dated 18th July 1866, No. 150, I have the honor to make the report regarding the Negapatam Burial Ground used by the Roman Catholics. I do not know that I can add much to what has already been laid before Government by Captain Oakes, who has represented the main difficulties, which are the great expense in raising the low ground, and the impracticability of finding another site.

2. During the monsoon, the greater portion of this Cemetery is under water, and except in the very driest seasons, water is reached very close to the surface ; so that, in order in obtain anything like a fair depth, the bodies have to be literally placed in the water which quickly flows into the newly made grave. I remember it was the same with the old Cemetery at Cuddalore during the monsoon ; only here the inconvenience seems to be continuous. Mr. Hutchins informs me that no other site is available ; and we had already considered over the matter before I answered Captain Oakes' requisition.

3. There are two ways of meeting the difficulty ; one by building a wall* round this now low ground, filling it up to a proper level, and thereby permanently raising the surface and affording sufficient depth for a grave in dry earth as proposed by the local Engineer ; and the other by filling in only the centre portion to the required depth, and then sloping off with turf at the sides *a la partière*, making, in fact, something like a salt platform. This would dispense with the wall, and thus decrease the expense, but it would not be a permanent work—the slopes would gutter, and during the monsoon the water would doubtless injure the slopes by undermining them.

* Nine feet high, of which 5½ are taken up for foundation and retaining the new earth ; the other 3½ being enclosing wall.

4. The first project would, according to the estimate submitted by Captain Oakes, cost 2250 Rupees, and the second or less permanent measure would come to about half that sum. The Government will see, from the letter in the Proceedings under reply, that the matter has been frequently discussed, with a view to remedies being effected, but that the same difficulties always present themselves as on the present occasion, viz., impossibility of finding another site, and the large outlay required to make the present spot a suitable burying place. I would beg to advocate that the more permanent and certain project of building the wall, and then filling in, be adopted ; but, in any case, we cannot carry out the work from local funds, and the item must appear in the Imperial Budget.

No. 28. ORDER THEREON, 28th January 1867, No. 19.

Of the two plans proposed in paragraph 3 of the Collector's letter, for improving the Roman Catholic burial ground at Negapatam, the Government prefer the first as the more permanent, viz., that of raising the ground and enclosing it with a wall. Orders will be accordingly issued in the Public Works Department for carrying out the work as soon as funds are available.

(True Extract).

G. J. Cumberlant

Chief Secretary.

To the Public Works Department.
,, Collector of Tanjore.

Exd. J. H. Burns.

Under Secretary

No. 350

Commd to the Secy
Engineer of the 5th Div, who
will submit an application
for funds in 1867/68 to carry
out the work which is pro
=vided for in the Estimate
of Rs 2250

Fort St. George
4th July 1867

2556 Dn
" Contgt Rec'd
" A/81.

Rec'd 5/7/67

No. 64-65

Requesting the
issue of orders in the P.
W. Dept for the work of
raising the ground of the
Roman Catholic Cemetery
at Negapatam (Tanjore Dt)
and enclosing it with
a wall being carried
out as soon as funds
are available.

Written am Order
No. 350 - 4th Feby 1867

Pro: of Govt No 350
Feby 1867 Delhi

Pro: of the Madras Govt
in the Ecclesiastical Dept

Dated 28th January
Recd 1st Feby 1867

No 19.