(1) Number of pages

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(3) Initials of the Referencer

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 3908 Press Mis.

522-23

Dated 22-12- 1868.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 22nd December 1868.

No. 522. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Public Department:—

Passing necessary orders with reference to the increased accommodation required for the patients of the Lock Hospital. } (Here enter 9th December 1868, No. 1,512.)

No. 523. ORDER THEREON, 22nd December 1868, No. 3,993.

CIVIL WORKS, No. 61.

1. Communicated to the Superintending Engineer of the 4th Division, who will proceed at once with the execution of the works referred to in paragraph 2, submitting in due course an estimate of their cost.

2. Colonel Bean will also prepare, in communication with the Inspector General, Indian Medical Department, and submit the rough estimate called for in paragraph 4.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R. E.,
Secretary to Government.

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

Exd. G. A. Turton.

No. 61. Read the following letter from W. MACKENZIE, Esq., M. D., Inspector General, Indian Medical Department, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Fort Saint George, 2nd December 1868, No. 381.

I have the honor to bring to the notice of Government, the urgent necessity for additional accommodation being at once provided for Native prostitutes sent to the Lock Hospital, under the provisions of the Contagious Diseases' Act.

2. I have refrained hitherto from troubling Government on this subject, because the opening of the Lock Hospital here was necessarily a tentative measure, and I was under the impression that the unexpectedly large number of admissions might be owing to the immediate pressure occasioned by the operation of the new Act on its first introduction, and that such pressure might prove to be but temporary.

3. I have accordingly, by converting two rooms originally set apart as Surgery and Store-room into additional Wards, and by utilizing to the utmost every available space, arranged hitherto for the reception of all applicants; though this has only been possible at the cost of considerable overcrowding, as will appear from the following details.

4. The Hospital was originally intended to receive 40 Native women; but by the arrangements mentioned above, space has been provided for 60, at the rate of 60 superficial feet to each, which is the minimum safe allotment: even the latter number, however, has already been far exceeded: there were at one time as many as 97 under treatment, and the daily report of the 1st current shows the number "remaining" on that date to be 88.

5. It is evident that such an arrangement can be but temporary, as it would be unjustifiable to subject these women to the risk that would necessarily accrue from such overcrowding, in case any epidemic disease should make its appearance in the town; a contingency for which it is absolutely necessary to make timely provision, now that the unhealthy season is at hand: and as there is no longer any likelihood of the number of admissions diminishing, but, on the contrary, every prospect of its considerably increasing, it is, in my opinion, indispensable to provide additional accommodation without further delay.

6. I beg to indicate the Police Office in Vepery as suitable for this purpose. It is, I understand, a Government building; and having inspected it recently, in company with the Honorable Mr. Ellis, the Sanitary Commissioner, and his Secretary, I have satisfied myself that it might, with some alterations and repairs which would not be of an expensive nature, be converted into an Hospital with room for thirty beds, which would suffice to relieve the *present* overcrowding of the establishment in Popham's Broadway.

7. I am, however, informed officially by the Health Officer that he will eventually need accommodation for a considerably larger number of Native prostitutes than have as yet come under treatment; and to meet such requirements as are likely speedily to arise, it would be necessary to erect shed-wards in the compound of the proposed new Hospital, where there is sufficient space available for that purpose. The existing out-buildings would be sufficient for the accommodation of the Matron and Nurses.

8. There is no reason to anticipate that any further accommodation will be required, for European and East Indian women, than that already provided in the Hospital in Popham's Broadway.

9. As regards the establishment and furnishings of the proposed new Hospital in Vepery, they must necessarily be of the same kind, and on the same scale, as those of the existing Lock Hospital; but, as the combined institutions would form a very large and important Medical charge, I consider it would be desirable to place them under the care of a Commissioned Medical Officer, appointed to that duty alone.

No. 62. ORDER THEREON, 9th December 1868, No. 1512.

As it appears from the letter above recorded, from the Inspector General, Indian Medical Department, that it is emergently necessary to provide increased accommodation for the patients of the Lock Hospital, the Government sanction the appropriation of the premises recently used as a Police Court at Vepery as a temporary Lock Hospital. The Government also approve of the proposal to erect temporary sheds as Hospital Wards in the compounds of both the Lock Hospital in Popham's Broadway, and the Vepery Police Court.

2. As the provision of increased accommodation is urgently required, the necessary orders will be issued, in the Department Public Works, for making the alterations required in the buildings of the Vepery Police Court, and for the construction of the Hospital sheds, the Executive Engineer being directed to place himself in communication with the Inspector General of the Medical Department in respect of the dimensions of these temporary wards.

3. Dr. Mackenzie is requested to submit emergent indents for the Hospital furniture necessary, and to engage the necessary establishment, so that the overcrowding at the Popham's Broadway Lock Hospital may cease with the least practicable delay.

4. With a view to its being hereafter necessary to establish a large Lock Hospital for the use of Native patients, the Governor in Council desires that inquiries be made through the Government Agent, Chepauk, as to the price at which the Mahal built by the late Gholam Moortaza Khan can be purchased, and that a rough estimate be made by the Public Works Department, in communication with the Inspector General, Indian Medical Department, of the alterations and additions required in adapting this building as a Hospital.

(True Extract).

Chief Secretary to Govt.

To the Inspector General, Indian Medical Department.
" Public Works Department.
" Commissioner of Police.
" Barrack Master.
" Accountant General.
" Examiner of Claims.
" Government Agent at Chepauk.

Ed. J. Wright.

Public Works Department

No 3998

Proceedings of the Madras Government

Under date the 22nd Decr 1868

Read the following

Copy of the M. Govt Public Depart/ No 6 No 1512 dated 9th Decr/1868

Communicated to the Supg Engineer of the 4th Division, who will proceed at once with the execution of the works referred to in para 2, submitting in due course an estimate of their cost.

Colonel Beaumont will also prepare, in communication with the Inspector General Indian Medical Dept

an

and submit the rough
estimate called for in
para 4-

Sd/-

9 To the Engineer, 1 "Dup. /
4 " Controller, Pub. Accts. /
3 " Asst. Genl. /
11 " Public Asst. /

Despo 23/12/18

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Govt. of India.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To The Superintending Engr
4th Division

&c., &c., &c.

Dated

Rec'd. Encl.

G. O. 22nd Sept 1868. No. 2808
Nov.

Nos. 522- 523

Lock Hospital Dom. Sub. Regns
Regarding the provision of
increased accommodation
for the patients of the Lock
Hospital at Madras. Comd-
ed to be carried into ex-
ecution instructions.