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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 409	Press Mis.
223-24	
Dated 9-2-1869	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
9th February 1869.*

No. 223. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the
Public Department:—

Passing orders on the Sanitary Commissioner's } (Here enter 25th January 1869, No. 103.)
Report upon the Lying-in-Hospital at Madras. }

No. 224. ORDER THEREON, 9th February 1869, No. 409.

CIVIL WORKS, No. 29.

Communicated to the Superintending Engineer of the 4th Division, who will submit the requisite plans and estimates for the proposed enlargements, and arrange for the early execution of the repairs and improvements referred to in paragraph 4.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R. E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the Superintending Engineer, 4th Division, with Report.
" Controller of Public Works Accounts.
" Military Department.

Erd. G. A. Turton.

On 14th 1869

PUBLIC WORKS.

To

THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER,

His Division.

&c, &c, &c.

Dated February, 9th.

Recd.

In l.

G. O., 9th February 1869, No. 409.

FEBRUARY.

Nos. 223-224

Lying-in-Hospital at Madras.—Proceedings Public Department, passing orders on the Sanitary Commissioner's Report upon the Lying-in-Hospital at Madras, communicated to the Officer concerned with instructions.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,
25th January 1869.

Read the following papers:—

No. 130. From the Sanitary Commissioner for Madras, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Madras, 23rd September 1868, No. 986.

I have the honor to forward, for submission to Government, a report upon the Lying-in Hospital at Madras, and trust that the suggested extension of the accommodation of the institution and further development of its usefulness may meet with approval.

Five copies of Report, dated 1st August 1868.

Referred to the Inspector General, Indian Medical Department, for such remarks as he may wish to offer, both as to the improvement of the existing Lying-in Hospital, and the necessity of providing additional accommodation.
(Signed) C. G. WALKER,
Under Secy. to Govt.

No. 131. From the Inspector General, Indian Medical Department, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Fort Saint George, 21st December 1868, No. 402.

In returning the enclosed letter from the Sanitary Commissioner, referred to me with your Under Secretary's docket of 28th October 1868, I have the honor

No 986 of 23rd September 1868.

to state that, having visited and carefully inspected the Lying-in Hospital, in company with the Deputy Inspector General of Hospitals, Presidency Division, I fully concur with Dr. Ranking as to the necessity both for improvement in the existing building, and for the providing of additional accommodation.

2. The need of increased accommodation is sufficiently indicated by the fact that the Medical Officer has, as he informed me, repeatedly been unable to receive women applying for admission to the Hospital; and occasionally to discharge Dispensary patients prematurely, in order to make way for parturient women.

3. Of the three plans submitted for this purpose by the Sanitary Commissioner, I greatly prefer the first; viz., the erection of an upper story on the wings of the present building; supplemented by two detached wards for contagious diseases, and by a shed for women awaiting their confinement.

4. This shed, which might, as proposed, be on the plan of those at the Emigration Dépôt, should be erected on the ground to the right of the Hospital; and I would suggest that one-half of the tank, which occupies the north-west corner of the compound, should be filled up; the other half (that furthest from the Hospital) being deepened proportionately. This tank is entirely dependent on the rainfall; and the reduction of the surface of evaporation would tend to husband the supply of water, as well as to diminish the dampness of the site.

5. The improvements in the existing Hospital and the alterations and additions to the out-houses, recommended by the Sanitary Commissioner, have my entire approval. I should mention, however, with regard to the plan proposed at page 19 of the "Report," for enlarging some of the out-houses, that I was informed at my visit that the walls will not bear the additional weight which would thus be put upon them; and it would be desirable to refer this point to the Executive Engineer.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department.
25th January 1869.

No. 132.

ORDER THEREON, 25th January 1869, No. 103.

His Excellency the Governor in Council has perused with much interest Dr. Ranking's report upon the Lying-in Hospital. He fully coincides with the Sanitary Commissioner and the Inspector General of the Indian Medical Department in the opinion they have expressed regarding the necessity for effecting improvements in the existing building, and providing additional accommodation.

2. It appears that, allowing 120 and 90 superficial feet for Europeans and Natives respectively, which is the standard recommended for such an Institution as a Lying-in Hospital, both by the Inspector General, and the Sanitary Commissioner, there is accommodation for 47; whilst at the time Dr. Ranking inspected the Institution, "they had 74; and the usual number is stated at 87." It further appears that the ventilation of the wards requires improvement. The out-houses of the Institution are described as small and inconvenient, and an old coach-house affords the only place in which a *post-mortem* examination can be made by the Surgeon. The European latrines and the Native privies, both which are conserved entirely on the wet system, are described as being in an unsatisfactory state; and there are no night closets in any of the wards. The ablution and bath-room accommodation, which is entirely outside the building, is shown to be exceedingly defective. Not a single basin or towel, Dr. Ranking observes, is provided even for the European women.

3. Dr. Ranking submits three plans for extending the accommodation of the Hospital: the first of which the Inspector General strongly approves. It consists in the erection of an upper story over the wings of the present building. Accommodation for twenty-two Europeans and twenty-seven Native women would thus be gained, at the rates of 120 and 90 superficial feet, respectively, which, His Excellency in Council agrees with the Sanitary Commissioner, are the minimum that should be allowed. This arrangement, as Dr. Ranking points out, would admit of the whole of the western wing being given up to "women waiting for their confinements, who now have no sufficient accommodation, and are obliged to lie in the veranda;" and the body of the building might be devoted to administrative offices, a waiting room, and a dormitory and day room for the pupils. But even this increased accommodation will require to be supplemented, as Dr. Ranking shows, by two detached wards for contagious diseases peculiar to this class of patients, or for segregation of women suffering from puerperal fever, an addition, as to the necessity for which, the Government concur. The ventilation will probably be best improved by air shafts. To the out-houses Dr. Ranking would add a foul linen godown, and disinfecting room, a dead-house, and small privy for males, according to a plan submitted at page 19 of his Report, of which the Government approve. The Native kitchen, described by the Commissioner, would also be a desirable addition, which, as well as the bath-rooms within the Hospital described at page 20 of the Report, His Excellency in Council will be prepared to sanction. The other extensions of existing accommodation enumerated at page 21 are also approved, if the present walls will bear the additional weight which would be thrown upon them: a point, regarding which, the Inspector General, in paragraph 5 of his letter, expresses some doubt.

4. As no provision has been made in next year's budget for the enlargements above enumerated, all that can be done at present will be to prepare plans and esti-

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,
25th January 1869.

mates. An order on this subject will be passed in the Public Works Department. The "annual repairs and white-washing," the want of which, Dr. Ranking notices, as well as the improvement of the lighting of the examination room, of the bathing accommodation, and of the kitchen, and the construction of the night closets mentioned in page 8, may, however, be at once undertaken. The Inspector General of the Indian Medical Department will cause indents to be prepared, forthwith, for the supply of basins and towels for ablution, and of crockery, knives and forks, for the European and East Indian patients. The dry-earth system of conservancy should be introduced without delay. (True Extract).

B. G. M.
Chief Secretary.

To the Sanitary Commissioner.
" Inspector General, Indian Medical Department, } with the Report.
" Public Works Department, }
" Accountant General.
" Examiner of Claims.

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Raising orders on the Sanitary Commission
Report upon the Lying-in Hospital at Madras

No 109-9-78/1899

JANUARY.
Nos. 130-132.

Dated January, 25th.
Printed by the
G.O. 25th January 1899, No. 103.

THE SANITARY COMMISSIONER,
&c. &c.

To
PUBLIC.
Printed by the
G.O. 25th January 1899, No. 103.

Public Works Department

No 409

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Under date the 9 Feb/99.
Read the following

Pro: of the Madras Govt.
Public Dept.

(Here enter No. 103 dated 25 Jan/99)

Communicated
to the Superintending Engineer of the 4th Division, who will submit the requisite plans and estimates for the proposed enlargements, and arrange for the early execution of the repairs and improvements referred to in para 4.

To Superintending Engineer with report.
To Controller.
To Military Dept.

Recd 11/2/99

W.B.

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Cort. of 1869 Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To The Superintending Engr.
4th Division

Dated

Recd.

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G. O. 7967 1869 No. 109

Nos. 223-224

Lying-in Hospital at Madras
Per Order of the Secy to Govt. in
re the Sanitary Commission
report upon the Lying-in
Hospital at Madras. And
the Secy. concerned with
instructions -