

(1) Number of pages 12

(2) Date of repair 22-1-7

(3) Initials of the Referencer _____

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 2182	Press Mis. -
136-07	
Dated 5 7	1869.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 106. Read the following letter from the Acting Superintending Engineer, 4th Division, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Madras, 8th June 1869, No 1,331 —

I HAVE the honour to reply to G. O , No 713, dated 3rd March 1868, calling for a report on the working of Mr. Gover's self-acting earth-closet as soon as arrangements had been made to introduce one into some of the existing latrines in Fort Saint George.

2. Captain Goddard, R F , the Executive Engineer, on Colonel Boileau's order, having erected one of these closets in the latrine in use by the men of Her Majesty's 45th Regiment at the Saint George's Gate, I visited it at the end of February last, by appointment, in company with the Sanitary Commissioner and Mr. Gover. Though the apparatus had been put up, as the Executive Engineer informed me, by one of Mr. Gover's carpenters, this gentleman was not perfectly satisfied with it; and we adjourned our meeting until such time as Mr Gover could erect another under his own superintendence

3. In the month of April, Mr Gover having reported that the self-acting closet was erected and met with his approval, I inspected it in company with Dr. Ranking, and from the trial we were able to make of its working during the few minutes we remained at the spot, we were generally satisfied with the machine and the apparent easiness of its action, though one great defect appeared in the leakage of dry-earth, which took place between the sides of the receiver and charger.

4. This trial not being conclusive, I directed Captain Goddard to register the results of its working, and to report his conclusions. His report, dated 2nd instant, after a fortnight's use of the self-acting closet by the men, under the supervision of the Quartermaster Serjeant of the Regiment, has not been satisfactory. The machinery got out of order in a week, and the charger sometimes discharged the whole contents of the receiver into the pans. Having occasion to visit the Fort on duty with Dr Ranking on the 11th instant, we took the opportunity to see the apparatus for the third time, and it was then out of order. The Quartermaster Serjeant was present, and said the men objected to use the seat

5. It is possible that Mr. Gover might be able to arrange the component parts of the machine, so as to act smoothly and well, and his experience of the self-acting closet at the Male Asylum, erected by himself, bears out his assurance of its simplicity, and easy, as well as constant self-action. I am inclined, however, to think that the escape of dust, or even powder which takes place from the sides of the charger on each action of the lever, must in time injure the apparatus, or clog the axles, and I would recommend, in preference, with the full concurrence of the Sanitary Commissioner, the self-acting seat which I believe to be simpler in its working than Mr Gover's, in use at the Mount, drawing of which I enclose, and which has been lately improved by the addition of a counterpoise weight

6. The principle is the same which regulates the discharge from the common shot flask, the valves acting in the same way in shutting off and releasing the charge from the spout, and being opened and shut by means of a lever attached to the movable seat of the closet. By another arrangement for the suspension of

the weight whereby the removal of the pan could be effected without coming in contact with it, Dr. Ranking believes that this self-acting seat could be made the most efficient of any of the machines that have yet been invented, and from what I have seen of its working at Saint Thomas' Mount, and been led to believe from the reports of the Executive Engineer, I conclude it will answer well with fair treatment

7. One point regarding the precautions to be taken in charging Mr. Gover's machine must be noticed from the conflicting results arrived at. Captain Goddard states that it was only when the earth had been carefully sifted and dried in the sun, the machine could be got to work properly, whilst Mr. Gover states that the soil used does not require to be dried

No. 107

ORDER THEREON, 6th July 1869, No. 2,182.

MILITARY WORKS, No. 11

ORDERED to be recorded.

(True Extract)

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

Ed F R. Bantleman.

Superintending Engineer's Office,
4th Division Madras
8th June 1869.

N^o 1331

From
Lieutenant Colonel J. Dean R. E.
Acting Superintending Engineer
4th Division

To
Colonel C. A. Orr R. E.
Secretary to Government P.W.D.

Sir,

Enclosure 1
1 Plan

I have the honor to reply to
G. O. N^o 713 dated 3rd March 1868,
calling for a report on the working of
Mr. Gover's self acting earth closet, as
soon as arrangements had been made
to introduce one into some of the existing
latrines in Fort St. George.

2. Captain Goddard R. E. the
Executive Engineer, on Colonel
Boileau's order, having erected one of
these closets in the Latrine in use
by the men of A. M. 45th Regiment
at

at the St. George's Gate, I visited it
at the end of February last, by appointment,
in company with the Sanitary
Commissioner and Mr. Gower.

Though the apparatus had been put
up, as the Executive Engineer informed
me, by one of Mr. Gower's Carpenters,
this gentleman was not perfectly
satisfied with it, and we adjourned
our meeting until such time as Mr.
Gower could erect another under his
own superintendence.

3. In the month of April
Mr. Gower having reported that the
self acting closet was erected and met
with his approval, I inspected it in
company with Dr. Ranking, and from
the trial we were able to make of its
working during the few minutes we
remained at the spot, we were generally
satisfied with the machine, and the
apparent easiness of its action, though
one

5A
one great defect appeared in the leakage
of dry earth which took place between
the sides of the receiver and charger.

4. This trial not being conclusive,
I directed Captain Goddard to regulate
the results of its working, and to report
his conclusions. His report dated 2^d
instant, after a fortnight's use of the
self acting closet by the men, under
the supervision of the Quarter Master
Sergeant of the Regiment, has not been
satisfactory. The machinery got out
of order in a week, and the charger
sometimes discharged the whole contents
of the receiver into the pans. Having
occasion to visit the Fort on duty with
Dr. Ranking on the 4th instant, we
took the opportunity to see the apparatus
for the third time, and it was then out of
order. The Quarter Master Sergeant was
present, and the men objected to see
the seat.

5. It is possible that Mr. Gower
might

at the St. George's Gate, I visited it
at the end of February last, by appointment,
in company with the Sanitary
Commissioner and Mr. Gower.

Though the apparatus had been put
up, as the Executive Engineer informed
me, by one of Mr. Gower's Carpenters,
this gentleman was not perfectly
satisfied with it, and we adjourned
our meeting until such time as Mr.
Gower could erect another under his
own superintendence.

3. In the month of April
Mr. Gower having reported that the
self acting closet was erected and met
with his approval, I inspected it in
company with Dr. Ranking, and from
the trial we were able to make of its
working during the few minutes we
remained at the spot, we were generally
satisfied with the machine, and the
apparent easiness of its action, though
one

5A
one great defect appeared in the leakage
of dry earth which took place between
the sides of the receiver and charger.

4. This trial not being conclusive,
I directed Captain Goddard to regulate
the results of its working, and to report
his conclusions. His report dated 2^d
instant, after a fortnight's use of the
self acting closet by the men, under
the supervision of the Quarter Master
Sergeant of the Regiment, has not been
satisfactory. The machinery got out
of order in a week, and the charger
sometimes discharged the whole contents
of the receiver into the pans. Having
occasion to visit the Fort on duty with
Dr. Ranking on the 4th instant, we
took the opportunity to see the apparatus
for the third time, and it was then out of
order. The Quarter Master Sergeant was
present, and the men objected to see
the seat.

5. It is possible that Mr. Gower
might

might be able to arrange the component parts of the machine so as to act smoothly and well, and his experience of the self-acting closet at the Male Asylum erected by himself bears out his assurance of its simplicity, and easy as well as constant self-action. I am inclined however to think that the escape of dust or even powder which takes place from the sides of the charger on each action of the lever, must in time injure the apparatus or clog the axles, and I would recommend, in preference, with the full concurrence of the Sanitary Commission, the self-acting seat, which I believe to be simpler in its working than Mr. Gowers, in use at the Mount, drawing of which I enclose, and which has been lately improved by the addition of a counterpoise weight.

6. The principle is the same which regulates the discharge from the

78
the common shot flask, the valves acting in the same way in shutting off and releasing the charges from the spout, and being opened and shut by means of a lever attached to the moveable seat of the closet. By another arrangement for the suspension of the weight whereby the removal of the pan could be effected without coming in contact with it, Dr. Rankin believes that this self-acting seat could be made the most efficient of any of the machines that have yet been invented, and from what I have seen of its working at Saint Thomas Mount, and been led to believe from the reports of the Executive Engineer, I conclude it will answer well with fair treatment.

7. One point regarding the precautions to be taken in charging Mr. Gowers' machine must be noticed, from the conflicting results arrived at. Captain Goddard states that it

it was only when the earth had
been carefully sifted and dried in
the sun, the machine could be got
to work properly, whilst Mr. Gover
states that the soil used, does not
require to be dried.

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your Most Obedient Servant

Wm. L. G. P. &

Acting Engineer &c

Received
of the
Government
of India
for the
purpose of
the
Public
Works
Department
No. 1000
of 1875

Received
of the
Government
of India
for the
purpose of
the
Public
Works
Department
No. 1000
of 1875

July 1869 29th
from Mr. A. H. M.
The Acting Comptroller
of the Dominion

To Secretary
to Government Mr. A. H. M.

dated 8th June 1869

No. 1331

Dear Sir

Referring to the
working of the
self acting earth
shaker.

Enclosed

No. 21631

Recorded

From Mr. H. M.
6th July 1869

No. 2182-6 6th July 1869

Cue 2400

Court of 1869 Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To

Ac, Ac, Ac.

Dated

Recd

Enc' /

G. O 65 June 1869, No 2182

Nos. 106-107

Mr. Gorman's self-acting water
Close. Letter from the Subj
Copy of the 4th Dec reporting
on the working of Mr. Gorman's
self-acting water Close. u.
Coded.

No 2182-65 July 1869

From Mr. Gorman
65 July 1869