M.R.O. 1—10,006—28-2-50

(1) Number of pages _____

(2) Date of repair _____

(3) Initials of the Referencer _____

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

Government of Madras

Public Works DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. / B.P. No.	1199	Press / —Mis.—
Dated	30-4-	C875 / —195—

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 711. Read the following letter from Lieutenant-Colonel J. GODDARD, R.E., District Engineer, Presidency, to Colonel G. W. WALKER, R.E., Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Fort St. George, 5th April 1875, No. 103:—

UPON ordering my Supervisor Mr. Milne to proceed with repairs to the General Hospital lately sanctioned, he was ordered by the Senior Medical Officer to desist from cleansing the walls (which are plastered with polished chunam) with soap and water and a cumbly as provided for in estimate.

One copy of letter to Surgeon-General.

2. Some time ago this officer, without any reference to this office, set about white and color washing the whole of the polished chunam walls of the civil portion of the General Hospital. It was brought to my notice, and I addressed the Surgeon-General, Indian Medical Department, in a letter marginally indicated, copy enclosed.

No. 6,409, dated 26th February 1875.

3. My appeal seems to have been to no purpose, as I find almost the whole place has been treated as above reported.

4. I can testify from ten years' experience that the practice now deprecated by me is ruinous to the plaster (which is a most expensive article), and will be in a few years a source of the most unmitigated discomfort to the patients and officials of the Institution.

5. The wash will not long adhere to the plaster, but flakes off and causes constant annoyance as I know. I have constant complaints from all the offices in the Fort where such practice has in years past and before my advent been observed, and beg to refer you for an opinion on this subject to the oldest occupant of the Fort, *viz.*, the Staff Officer and Superintendent of Details.

6. None of our polished chunam church walls are treated with wash. The polished surface lasts for years, and is capable of the most thorough cleansing with soap and water.

7. The wash soon not only flakes off but corrodes the fine polished surface of the original material, and the walls become a standing nuisance and source of dissatisfaction to all concerned, and demand a half yearly whitewashing, which is always a source of complaint.

8. Under the above circumstances, I beg the Government will order that I be permitted to wash with soap and water and cumbly the walls of the civil portion of the General Hospital as I do those of every other public building in Madras. Meanwhile the repairs are suspended.

No. 712. ORDER THEREON, 30th April 1875, No. 1,199.

CIVIL WORKS, No. 45.

THE Presidency District Engineer has greatly exaggerated the action taken by the Senior Medical Officer of the General Hospital as to whitewashing the wards of that building, except in one ward which was experimentally treated. The decorations of that ward may be removed at

a later date, when it requires cleaning again; but the manner in which the rest of the building has been treated is unobjectionable, and the action taken by Lieutenant-Colonel Goddard in the matter was unreasonable.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

No. 6409. 26 Feby. 1875.

To,

The Surgeon General
I.M.D.

Sir,

Under the provisions of letter marginally indicated* I have the honor to request you will obligingly desist from applying white wash to the polished chunam walls of the General Hospital, as it is even more un-sanitary than the practice adverted to by the Sanitary Commissioner, and in addition ruins the plaster, thereby necessitating in a very few years the total removal of the old plaster and the application of new at a very great cost.

Encl. 1

* No. 3 Dy. 19 Apl. 74. (copy enclosed)

2. White wash applied to polished chunam never adheres for any length of time. It soon flakes off and becomes an unmitigated and incurable nuisance.

3. This work has been undertaken ~~without~~ without any reference whatever to this office.

4. I shall have to remove the whole of the whitewash at some cost the first time I repair the building.

I have &c.
(Signed) J. Goddard R.E.
Distt. Engr. Presy.

(True copy)
J. Goddard Lt. Col. R.E.
Distt. Engr. Presy.

A.F. 2219/2/45

19 April 1875.

No. 3.

30/1.

The Inspecting Engineer
for Buildings.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter No. 596 of 15 instant.

As regards the first question referred for my opinion, I think that it would be a mistake to attempt cleaning ~~the~~ polished chunam surfaces by other means than soap and water. If lime juice and cuttle fish are used, the enameled surface must to some extent be destroyed, and the deeper layers of chunam become porous and capable of absorbing animal or other matters present in the atmosphere.

I have &c.
(Signed) H. R. Cornish R.E.C.S.
Sanitary Commissioner

(True copy)

Jno. Gordon Lieut R.E.
Distt Engr. Keey.

No 103.

From,

The District Engineer

Presidency

To,

The Chief Engineer, and ex
Secretary to Government

W.P.

Sir,

Upon ordering my Supervisor Mr. Milne to proceed with repairs to the General Hospital lately sanctioned he was ordered by the Senior Medical Officer to desist from cleaning the walls (which are plastered with polished chunam) with soap and water and a cumbly - as provided for in estimate.

2. Some time ago this officer without any reference to this office set about white and colour washing the whole of the polished chunam walls of the Civil portion of the General Hospital. It was brought to my notice, and I addressed the Surgeon General I.M.D. in a letter marginally indicated[x], copy enclosed.

3. My appeal seems to have been to no purpose - as I find, almost the whole

Encls:
1. Copy of letter to Surgn General

No. 6409 of
26 Feby. 1875.

P.P. 2219/55

96 30 April 75
Misp 711

whole place has been treated as above reported.

4. I can testify from ten years' experience that the practice now deprecated by me is ruinous to the plaster (which is a most expensive article) and will be in a few years, a source of the most unmitigated discomfort to the patients and officials of the Institution.

5. The wash will not long adhere to the plaster, but flakes off and causes constant annoyance as I know. I have constant complaints from all the Officers in the Fort where such practice has in years past and before my advent been observed, and beg to refer you for an opinion on this subject to the oldest occupant of the Fort viz; the Staff Officer and Superintendent of Details.

6. None of our polished chunam church-walls are treated with wash. The polished surface lasts for years, and is capable of the most thorough cleansing with soap and water.

7. The wash soon not only flakes off but corrodes the fine polished surface of the original material, and the walls become a standing nuisance and source of dissatisfaction to all concerned; and demand a half yearly whitewashing which is always a source of complaint.

8. Under the above circumstances I beg the Government will order that I be permitted to wash with soap and water and quickly the walls of the Civil portion of the General Hospital as I do those of every other public building in Madras. Meanwhile the repairs are suspended.

I have the honor to be
Sir,
Your most obedient servant

Jno. Goddard Lt. R.E.

Fort St. George
5th April 1865.

District Engineer
Presidency

Geo. G.
Y.

Public Works Department

Letter from the Director General
Residency No. 103, dated Madras 1st April 1875

Received 5th April 1875

Forwarded for information
Chief Engineer

I think we must look
the question of the Civil
Engineer and the Sanitary
Commissioner at the Ad-
-ministrative Head
-quarters of the
Presidency, the Chairman
of Corporation being
Surgeon of the Central
Jail, and the Sanitary
Engineer the Executive
Officer.

Commissioner

Mis No 183 of 26 Jany 1875

Ex. Dr. 1875 Dept.
From. No. 2219.
The Distt. Engineer
Residency.

To The Chief Engineer
Madras.

Dated 5th April 1875
Recd 7th April 1875

Encl. No. 103.

Requests permission
to work the walls of the
Penl. Hospital (Civil)
with water and
cumbly for reasons
stated therein &c.

No. 711

No. 1155. 30-4-75

No 21-4-75
No 4-5-75

many places is stuck
to walls, ceiling &c.
very inconvenient
unsightly condition,
& disfigured & unhealthy
to cure the evil. The
writer says that if
it be decided
only after consultation
official formalities
it would be put in hand
immediately. He assures
us that done it can
be very very
little expense, only
some days' time,
& possibly that the

small sum for
outlay necessary
would all be
at the Head of
the Hospital

[illegible]

R.C.-24-4-75

S.H.D.

Proceedings of the Madras Govt.

Read the following:-

Ch. Engineer Presy: (H. E. Dis. 103 of 5th April 1875)

G.O. no: 1199 of 30th April 1875

writer is framed after
visit by myself and
Walker to the General
Hospital. We were both quite
convinced that Dr. Farnell
had partly imposed
the appearance of dirt
walls without any injury
the linen. The colouring
does not reach above the head
the bedstead.

Yrs

The Presidency Dis-
trict Engineer has greatly
exaggerated the action
taken by the Senior
Medical Officer of the
General Hospital as to
Whitewashing the wards
of that Building; ex-
cept in one ward
which was experimentally
treated. The decorations
of that Ward may be
removed at a later date,
when it requires cleaning
again; but the manner

in

in which the rest of the building has been treated is unobjectionable, and the action taken by Lieut. Col. Goddard in the matter was unreasonable.

Copy.

2219 V

Govt. of [1875] Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To

The Sr. Surgn.
Presidency

Dated

Recd. Encl.

a. 31 Aug. No. 1159

Nos. 711-712

The white-washing of the wards of the General Hospital. The action taken by Lieut: Col: Goddard in the matter of ——— by order of the Senior Medical Officer, is considered unreasonable.

No. 711-712.

To Dept. Surgn. Presidency
" Public Dept.
Desp. 8-5-75.

26-21-4-75