

(1) Number of pages _____

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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 489	(W)	Press Mis.
Dated 13-2-		1877.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

18

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
13th February 1877. No. 489.*

Read the following papers:—

No. 334. Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Military Department, dated 5th May 1876, No. 2,276. *copy 166*

ABSTRACT.—Passing orders on the subject of the provision of a separate infectious disease ward for the European Hospital at Trichinopoly.

No. 334-A. From Major J. VERTUE, R.E., District Engineer, Trichinopoly, to Lieut.-Colonel J. MULLINS, R.E., Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, dated Camp, Kamarsavelly, 4th February 1877, No. 886.

WITH reference to your No. 680 I, of 2nd August 1876, I have the honor to submit for the sanction of Government revised plan and estimate, Rupees 5,460, for constructing a contagious disease ward for the European Detail Hospital at Trichinopoly.

2. The estimate and plan have received the approval of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief.

No. 335. ORDER THEREON, 13th February 1877, No. 489.

MILITARY WORKS, No. 6.

(a) *Heads of Service.*—Imperial.
Fund.—Ordinary.
Class.—Original Works.
Main-head.—Military.
Sub-head.—Military Buildings.
Section.—Accommodation for general purposes.
Name of Work.—Constructing a contagious disease ward for the European Detail Hospital at Trichinopoly.
Amount.—Rupees 5,460.
To be carried out by the Public Works Department.

THE plan and estimate, amounting to Rupees 5,460, for constructing a contagious disease ward for the European Detail Hospital at Trichinopoly are sanctioned.

2. No funds are at present available. The District Engineer will however submit an application for funds in April next.

3. This sanction is registered as Imperial No. 131—W. of 1876-77.

(True Extract.)

Colonel,
Acting Joint Secretary to Government.

To the District Engineer, Trichinopoly.
" Examiner of Public Works Accounts.
" Military Department.

Erd. S. T. Austin.
Spare Copies

23A
Memorandum to $\frac{J}{680}$

C.No 3697.

Provision of a separate infectious disease ward
for the European Hospital at Trichinopoly.

The plan submitted is not ap-
proved of by the Chief Engineer who directs the
District Engineer with as early as practicable,
submit a plan and estimate for the buildings
in accordance with that now supplied him in
pencil

(By order)

W. F.

Fort St. George
2nd Aug: 1876

To

The District Engineer

Trichinopoly

With 5 enclos: copy of M.L. f. O. No 2276 dated
5th May 1876 (to be returned).

(a) Heads of Service—

Fund.

Class.

Main-head.

Sub-head.

Section.

Name of Work.

Amount.

To be carried out by the

Department.

Print in the margin of G. O. No 489 of 13/2/77—

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Military Department,
5th May 1876.*

Barracks and Buildings—Hospitals.

Read the following papers :—

No. 150. From H. SEWELL, Esq., President of the Municipal Commission, Trichinopoly, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George; dated Trichinopoly, 9th September 1875, No. 133.

I have the honor, by request of the Municipal Commissioners, to lay before Government correspondence which has passed between the Municipal Commissioners and the Military authorities of this station with regard to the absence of a separate contagious diseases ward in the European Detail Hospital, and the consequent removal of a European soldier suffering from cholera to the Garrison Hospital, which is situated in the centre of the cantonment.

2. My letter to the Deputy Surgeon-General will give the facts of the case that occurred. I have fallen into a mistake there in speaking as if there were two hospitals—one for the British Infantry and another for the Artillery. I learn now that there is only one hospital for both branches of the service. The Commissioners are of opinion that separate accommodation ought to be provided for British soldiers, and I trust that His Excellency the Governor in Council may be able to sanction some arrangement of this kind.

From H. SEWELL, Esq., Acting Collector of Trichinopoly, to the Deputy Surgeon-General, Trichinopoly; dated Trichinopoly, 20th July 1875, No. 121.

I have the honor to bring to your notice officially a matter which we have already discussed privately, and request that you will be so good as to forward it on to the proper quarter. On Friday afternoon last, one of the Artillerymen stationed here was attacked with cholera. As I understand, there is no isolated ward in the Artillery Hospital. It was of course of vital importance to remove the patient from the vicinity of the other men. He was therefore brought down in a dhooly to the Garrison Hospital and placed in an isolated ward, where he died the same evening. He was then brought down through the part of the cantonment principally inhabited by European residents, civil as well as military, to a hospital which is surrounded by the District and Cantonment Magistrate's Court, the Band-stand and the Peoples' Park, the Commissariat Camel Lines, the Club, the Cantonment Police Station and a few European bungalows. As I understand, there was really no alternative in the case, and I have not the slightest wish to impute any blame to the medical officer under whose authority it was done; but at the same time I wish to urge in the strongest manner on behalf of the residents, European and others, in this locality, that Government ought to provide the Artillery Hospital with proper accommodation for such cases, so that they may not be sent for isolation into the very centre of the cantonment. There have of course been cases of cholera in this locality, but at the time when the Artilleryman was brought down, the epidemic had, if I am not mistaken, almost entirely disappeared hence. There were also previously cases of cholera treated in this very ward, patients who were in the Garrison Hospital. The locality is, I should say, in any case a bad one for an isolated contagious diseases ward, and I would suggest that it should be removed if possible. But in any case it seems to me that the Artillery, who have a separate hospital for themselves, ought to be provided with proper accommodation for isolating cases, and ought not to be obliged to isolate them in the centre of the cantonment. I am not aware what is the hospital accommodation for the European Infantry stationed here, but if they have no isolated ward, my remarks would apply to them as well as to the Artillery.

From H. YOUNG, Esq., Deputy Surgeon-General, Indian Medical Department, Southern District, to the Collector of Trichinopoly; dated Trichinopoly, 27th July 1875, No. 2871.

Copy of my letter to the Brigadier-General Commanding Southern District, No. 2793, of 21st instant.
Copy of letter, No. 136, of 24th instant, from the Medical Officer, British Troops, to the Brigade-Major.
Letter, No. 1342, of this date, from the Brigadier-General Commanding Southern District, to my address.—To be returned.

In reply to your letter, No. 121, of the 20th instant, I have the honor to forward correspondence as per margin, for your information and disposal.

From H. YOUNG, Esq., Deputy Surgeon-General, Indian Medical Department, Southern District, to the Brigadier-General Commanding Southern District; dated Trichinopoly, 21st July 1875, No. 2793.

I have the honor to forward the accompanying letter* to my address from the Collector of Trichinopoly, received this day, and beg to state that, in the case under reference, I am of opinion no other measures could have been adopted. As therein stated, the Battery Hospital has no isolated ward thereto attached. I quite concur with Mr. Sewell that a building for this purpose in connection with the European Hospital should at once be provided.

* No. 121, of 20th instant, to be obligingly returned.

From Surgeon-Major J. MACKENZIE, M.D., British Medical Service, Senior Officer, British Troops, to the Brigade-Major, Southern District; dated Trichinopoly, 24th July 1875, No. 136.

In reply to your memorandum, No. 1313, dated the 22nd instant, I have the honor to state that, as there was no building in connection with the European Detail Hospital or Barracks in which to treat cholera patients, and as it was considered inadmissible, on the outbreak of cholera in this district, to treat under canvas any casual cases of cholera that might occur among the European troops at this station, if it could be possibly avoided, on account of the extreme heat of the weather, the only course that could be pursued with reference to the Artilleryman mentioned by Mr. Sewell was to send him to the contagious ward of the Garrison Hospital—an isolated building situated in an infected district, and in which four cholera patients had already been treated.

2. In conveying the man there, it was necessary to do so through a certain portion of the cantonment; but I cannot see that such a result is to be avoided under any circumstances, for, should a cholera hospital be erected outside the cantonment, and cases of cholera occur within the cantonment, they will have, of course, to pass through a greater or less portion of the latter, as the case may be, to reach hospital.

3. In the event of its being considered advisable to erect a building outside the cantonment for the reception of any casual cases of cholera that may arise among the European troops, on the same principle, I think, it will be well to erect a similar building for the use of the garrison details and Native police, who are very much more numerous than the European details and are scattered all over the cantonment and town of Trichinopoly, and who are now treated at the Garrison Hospital when necessary.

4. The building in question attached to the Garrison Hospital was selected for the purpose to which it was applied on Friday last, the 16th instant, by me as Senior Medical Officer, British troops, and the Brigade-Major, Southern District, and with the approval of the Deputy Surgeon-General, British Medical Service, Presidency Circle.

5. It is situated to leeward of every house occupied by Europeans, and not far from the Camel Lines where the first reported cases of cholera occurred, and has been used for years as a contagious ward in which many cases of small pox and other contagious diseases have been treated without any known bad effects to the inhabitants of the neighbourhood.

6. The intention was to use it for the first cases of cholera; as the rule is, when three cases of that disease occur within a short space of time, to move the infected body of men to cholera camp.

7. I may add that, although it might be well to provide a building for casual cases of cholera among the European troops, outside the limits of the cantonment, yet I am unable to see that thereby any very great immunity from the disease can be ensured to the inhabitants, unless a similar course is pursued in regard to the Native corps and garrison details. The latter consist of Europeans and Natives.

From Brigadier-General W. P. WILLIAMS, Commanding Southern District, to the Deputy Surgeon-General, Indian Medical Department, Southern District; dated Head-quarters, Trichinopoly, 27th July 1875, No. 1342.

In reply to your letter of the 21st July 1875, number and subject as per margin, I have the

No. 2793—An infectious hospital.

honor to forward copy of a letter, received from the Senior Medical Officer, British Troops. I

concur in his remarks. The building objected to by the Acting Collector was selected for a temporary cholera ward, as being the only isolated building available, and was only to be used in case of necessity (which unfortunately happened) until tents outside cantonment could be prepared. However desirable it may be to have an infectious ward away from the cantonment, still the cases of infectious diseases are so few that I do not consider Government should be put to the expense of keeping up a separate establishment.

2. Letter, No. 121, dated 20th July 1875, from the Acting Collector to your address, is herewith returned as requested.

Communicated to the President of the Trichinopoly Municipality.

TRICHINOPOLY,
30th July 1875.

(Signed) H. SEWELL,
Acting Collector.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Municipal Commissioners for the Town of Trichinopoly, at a Meeting held on the 17th August 1875.

Para. 7. Read letter from the Deputy Surgeon-General, Indian Medical Department, to the Collector of Trichinopoly, enclosing correspondence relating to the necessity for a separate ward in the European Hospital at this station for cholera patients.

Resolved that the correspondence be submitted to Government with the opinion of the Commissioners that a separate accommodation ought to be provided for European soldiers attacked with contagious diseases.

25th August 1875.

(Signed) H. SEWELL,
President.

No. 456.

Transferred to the Military Department, for consideration and disposal, with the remark that it appears desirable there should be a separate ward attached to the hospital for the European Infantry and Artillery stationed at Trichinopoly, for the treatment of contagious diseases.

OOTACAMUND,
13th September 1875.

(Signed) D. F. CARMICHAEL,
Offg. Chief Secretary.

No. 4474.

Referred to the Surgeon-General, British Medical Service, for report through His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief (Quartermaster-General's Department.)

OOTACAMUND,
14th September 1875.

(Signed) A. C. SILVER, Colonel,
Secretary to Government.

No. 151. From Brigadier-General A. HOWLETT, c.b., Quartermaster-General, to Colonel J. MICHAEL, Secretary to Government, Military Department; dated Fort St. George, 13th April 1876, No. 2751.

I have the honor, by order, to report that your docket, No. 4474, of the 14th September last, with enclosures, having been received from the Surgeon-General, British Medical Service, together with his report representing that a hospital for the infectious diseases occurring among the British soldiers and their families at Trichinopoly is emergently required, a reference was made to the Officer Commanding Southern District for a report as to the most suitable way of providing the required accommodation and the proposed site for the new building.

2. A plan and estimate, amounting to Rupees 4,200, accompanied by a sketch shewing the site, have now been received and submitted to Dr. Gordon, who expresses his approval, generally, of the position and plan for the proposed infectious disease hospital. I am, therefore, desired to submit the same for the consideration and orders of Government.

3. Your docket, with enclosures, are returned, accompanied by two reports from the Surgeon-General, British Medical Service. In the last paragraph of his letter, Dr. Gordon suggests a few minor alterations which he considers would be improvements.

4. If the plan and estimate be approved, it is requested they may be transferred to the Public Works Department.

From Surgeon-General C. A. GORDON, c.b., m.d., Surgeon-General, British Medical Service, to Brigadier-General A. HOWLETT, c.b., Quartermaster-General; dated Head Quarters, Ootacamund, 7th October 1875, No. O-71.

With reference to the accompanying correspondence, and to the memorandum thereon by the Secretary to Government in the Military Department, No. 4474, dated 14th September 1875, I have the honor to observe, for information of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, that according to my view a hospital at Trichinopoly for the reception of cases of infectious diseases, among British soldiers or their families at that station, is urgently required.

2. I conceive that such a building ought, if possible, to be at a distance of, at least, a hundred and fifty yards from any occupied building, and to consist of two small wards, each capable of accommodating two patients.

From Surgeon-General C. A. GORDON, c.b., m.d., Surgeon-General, British Medical Service, to Brigadier-General A. HOWLETT, c.b., Quartermaster-General; dated Fort St. George, 10th April 1876, No. 108.

In returning your memorandum, No. 2619, dated 8th April 1876, and the documents attached thereto, I have the honor to express my general approval of the position and plan of the proposed hospital for infectious diseases at Trichinopoly.

2. There are a few details which appear to me capable of improvement in the plan; thus the protecting screen of the ridge ventilators appears so short on either side as to admit of the ready entrance of rain. The size of the pipes for roof-water appears needlessly large. The pans in the latrines should fit closely under the seat, and be of the pattern introduced lately at Bangalore.

No. 152. ORDER THEREON, 5th May 1876, No. 2276.

His Grace the Governor in Council concurs in the opinion expressed in the foregoing papers as to the necessity for a separate infectious disease ward being provided for the European Hospital at Trichinopoly, and directs that the proposed plan and estimate be transferred to the Public Works Department for the necessary orders.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. MICHAEL, Colonel,
Secretary to Government.

To the Quartermaster-General, with plan of site.

„ Financial Department.

„ Public Works Department, with plan and estimate.

Exd. A. Raitt

C. No. 3197

Original lost
Spec. Copy checked

Passing orders on the subject of the provision of a separate infectious disease ward for the European Hospital at Trichinopoly.

MAY.
Nos. 150-152.

S.

G.O., 5th May 1876, No. 2276.

Recd.

Dated May, 5th.

Encl.

THE QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL.
&c., &c., &c.

To

Govt. of 1876
MILITARY.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

UNDER date the 13 Feb 77

Read the following:—

Pro: Military Department - (H.E. No: 2276 of 5th May 1876.)

From

The District Engineer

Trichinopoly

[" " 886 " 4th February 1876)

The plan and Estimate amounting to Rs. 5460 for constructing a Contagious or Disease ward for the European Detail Hospital at Trichinopoly are sanctioned.

No funds are at present available. The District Engineer will however submit an application for funds in April next.

This sanction is Registered as Imperial No. 131 W. of 1876-77-

W.H.
12.2.77.

D. E. Trichinopoly.

By: P. W. A.

Military Dept.

26.2.77

N. 331-

No 3697/176

Order of 1877 Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To *the B. & L. Lichinopoly*

Dated

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G. O., 18th Feb 1877, No. 487

Nos. 334-5

Cont. no 176

*European Retail Hospital
Lichinopoly. The plan
estimate amounting to
5,500 for constructing a
luzious disease ward
the —, sanctioned;
funds not provided*