

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

10th December 1881, No. 1909.

Read again—

G.O., dated 10th June 1881, No. 904.

Read also the following papers :—

No. 147. From Deputy Surgeon-General M. C. FURNELL, M.D., F.R.C.S., Sanitary Commissioner for Madras, to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, dated Ootacamund, 30th September 1881, No. 2391.

I HAVE the honor to report that, in pursuance of the orders contained in G.O., No. 904, of 10th June 1881, I visited Hosúr and inspected the house occupied by the Sub-Collector.

2. The description in paragraph 2 of Mr. Stokes' letter of 26th May 1881, No. 1305, given in the Proceedings, is a very fair one of the house and its situation, and the change of sentiment about the residence is not difficult to understand when one learns the history of the dwelling and its surroundings.

3. In former times, and when the house was built, the tank in front of it was a fine piece of water, a small lake in fact, and was therefore in no way a source of unhealthiness; of late years two causes have arisen to change this—one, and the chief, is that since the drought of 1876, when the tank dried up, there never has been sufficient rainfall to fill it, and the consequence is it remains more or less a large bog covered with decayed and decaying vegetation; secondly, owing to tanks constructed at the Remount Dépôt, which is three or four miles away, water which found its way by natural drainage into the Hosúr Tank is now lost to it, being retained by the Remount tanks.

4. The consequence is, we have just in front of the Hosúr house all the elements which are popularly believed to cause malaria, moisture, decayed and decaying vegetation exposed to a tropical sun.

5. I find that the present occupant, Mr. LeFanu, although he has, he informs me, no objection to live in the house, is a victim to intermittent fever, that his children suffered from it, and his servants have it periodically.

6. It is a very fine house, and it is a pity some means of filling the tank cannot be devised, but I am decidedly of opinion that, as things now stand, its unhealthiness cannot be doubted.

REFERRED to Colonel Mullins, R.E., for remarks as to the feasibility of restoring the tank.

OOTACAMUND,
18th October 1881.

(Signed) C. G. MASTER,
Secretary to Government.

No. 148. Memorandum from the Chief Engineer for Irrigation, to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, dated 21st October 1881, No. 34-W.

In returning the paper marginally noted, the undersigned has the honor to say that there are no means of improving the water-supply of the Hosúr Tank, which is referred to by the Sanitary Commissioner as having been formerly much better supplied than is now the case. It is the last of a chain of thirteen or fourteen tanks and is, and must always have been, liable to be inadequately supplied except in years of more than ordinarily abundant rainfall.

2. The Remount Dépôt Tank has been improved, and it no doubt holds more water than was the case a few years ago, and to that extent the Hosúr tank suffers, but the Remount tank is really a very small one, and the effect of the improvements on the water-supply to the tanks below cannot, therefore, be very great. With an average rainfall the tanks are too numerous for the area of the catchment basin, and Hosúr Tank being the lowest is the worst supplied.

(Signed) JOHN MULLINS, Colonel, R.E.,
Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

Demi-official from H. S. THOMAS, Esq., C.S., dated 5th December 1881.

No. 149. ORDER THEREON, 10th December 1881, No. 1909.

Miscellaneous.

RECORDED with the remark that, as the present Acting Sub-Collector occupies the house and has no complaint to make as to its insalubrity, no further orders are called for.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) C. G. MASTER,
Secretary to Government.

To the Public Works Department.
„ the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.
„ the Board of Revenue.
„ H. S. Thomas, Esq.
„ the Collector of Salem.
„ the Sanitary Commissioner.

Exd. J. W. Fischer.

80 Copies.

order to be sent 30 Jan'y/82 No 253 W.

Communicated to
the Suply. P. & 4th (vile

(Line Dept. cell)

(2) Pass Thoms for Cont. P. & C.
Ag: under Secy: to Govt. P. & C.

Govt. of (1881) Madras.
REVENUE.

To
THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT,
&c., &c., &c.

Dated December 10th.

Printed 23rd.

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 10th December 1881, No. 1909.

DECEMBER.
Nos. 147—149.

SUBJECT.

House occupied by Sub-Collector at Hosúr,
Salem—Insalubrity of —. Papers regarding —
recorded with remark.

to S. E. 4th (vile

Be No 253 Waf 30th January/82

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Exd. J. W. Fischer.

80 Copies.

200 copies

P. N. C. A: 3-47
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Recd. 27 Jan: 82 Encl.

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Said in Receipt Regr.

With order.

B. N. 253 Wap 30th January/82

Communicated
to the Suptg. Engr.
H. Circle.



27.1.82

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