

No. C W-3654

Govt. of (1883) Madras.

EDUCATIONAL.

N-1329 Wd 8th May 1883

Revised
Recorded

Cy
115

Issued

Recd.

11/5/83

Encl.

G.O., 20th April 1883, No. 230.

APRIL.

1 Copy to Secy 15-5-83

Medical College, Madras.

Communicating to the Director of Public Instruction letter from the Consulting Architect to Government making certain suggestions in regard to the improvements to the Medical College premises.

With order

Secd. to Receipt Rep.

S. E. Fifth Circle

S. S. Fifth Circle

Secy

20th 8/5-83

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following papers :—

From R. F. CHISHOLM, Esq., Consulting Architect to Government, to the Chief Secretary to Government (through the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department), dated Chepauk, 5th April 1883, No. 21.

In accordance with the instructions conveyed in G.O., No. 2, Educational, dated 5th January, I have the honor to state that I carefully inspected the existing buildings which form the Medical College. I subsequently met the Principal and Professors of the College and discussed with them the requirements and capabilities of the building.

2. The dissecting rooms with their surroundings must be built apart from the College and treated on their own merits. I have received all the necessary information on this head from Dr. Sibthorpe. After the dissecting rooms have been disposed of we have to provide, either by re-arrangements or additions, for the following rooms :—

First.—The Hygiene Museum.

Secondly.—The Histological Theatre.

Thirdly.—The Botanical Museum.

3. The existing Museum is a very large and lofty room with numerous doors and windows, and the cases for specimens only occupy blank spaces of walling between the doors to about seven feet high.

4. By arranging the cases end on to the walls and leaving a space of, say, ten feet down the centre of the room, just double the number of cases can be accommodated, and by still further doubling them in height, with an open work gallery, four times the present quantity of exhibits can find space. These expedients, while providing ample room for expansion for many years to come, will also afford accommodation for the Botanical collection.

I am of opinion also that both the Museum of Hygiene and the Histological Theatre can be accommodated in the existing building; but, as questions touching light and ventilation require careful consideration conjointly with these schemes, I am not prepared to say, in the absence of accurate plans and sections of the existing rooms, what may be the best way of giving effect to the Professors' wishes.

I will in the mean time depute Mr. Lewis, my office manager, to make the necessary drawings, and if Government approve, I can, on my return from furlough, draw up a scheme for giving effect to the above conclusions.

From Surgeon-Major J. KEESS, M.D., Acting Principal, Medical College, Madras, to the Consulting Architect to Government, dated Madras, 11th April 1883, No. 20.

I have the honor to state that your letter to the address of the Chief Secretary, No. 21, dated 5th instant, forwarded with your No. 22, has been duly circulated to all the Members of the College Council, and that this body approves of the suggestions made by you in regard to the improvements to the Medical College premises.

1883.

P.W. Department.

Current No. 3126

From

*The Consulting Architect
to Govt.*

No. 21.

Dated 5-4-83.

Received 12-4-83.

Subject.

Letter to the Chief Secretary to Govt. through the Secretary to Govt., P.W. D. re: improvements to the Medical College, Madras.

Disposal.

No. 802C Dated 13th April 83.

Forwarded.

pd. G. Bowen

*Under Secy to Govt.
P.W. Dept.*

To

The Educational Dept.

9016/4 Subd. in Recd. 11/12/84

Govt. of (1883) Madras.

EDUCATIONAL.

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 5th January 1883, No. 2.

JANUARY.

Medical College.

Referring to the Council of the —, for consideration and report, the subject of the improvement of the facilities for instruction in Anatomy, Hygiene, and the other branches of medical study.

No. 246 Wd/20 January 1883

*Comm. to the CA to Govt. & the SE
5th Circle. (S) CCR*

*CA to Govt
SE 5th Circle*

2. The Consulting Architect to Government will be associated with the College Council in their consideration of the matters now referred to them.

(True Extract.)

C. G. MASTER,
Chief Secretary.

To the Director of Public Instruction.

- „ Surgeon-General with the Government of Madras.
- „ Consulting Architect to Government.
- „ Public Works Department.

Exd. J. Wright.

3. In regard to building I should advise caution. It would be easy to rent a place suitable for exhibition of specimens, or to find temporary accommodation, probably in the Madras Central Museum, but it would not be prudent to incur considerable expenditure for special buildings, until some experience had been gained as to the readiness of manufacturers to contribute to a Sanitary Museum. Meanwhile the Government Architect could design and estimate the cost of a suitable building.

4. In regard to the museum accommodation of the Medical College, I may say that while the Materia Medica and the Pathological collections are fairly good, the departments of Human and Comparative Anatomy are inadequately represented, and that the collection needs additions and better arrangement, to serve educational purposes. The whole of the large entrance room of the College would not be too much for the departments of Human and Comparative Anatomy, while the Pathological Museum would be better placed in a separate room. I understand also that the Chemical Examiner to Government needs better accommodation than he is at present provided with in the Medical College, and probably the best arrangement would be for the College Council to consider carefully, what further additions are required to the College buildings, and to submit their proposals, including space for the proposed Museum of Hygiene, to the Government Architect.

From Surgeon-Major J. KEESS, M.D., Acting Principal, Medical College, Madras, to the Director of Public Instruction, dated Madras, 12th July 1882, No. 196.

In returning letter from the Surgeon-General with the Government of Madras to your address, No. 318, dated 5th July 1882, referred to me with your No. 189 of the 6th instant, I have the honor to state that it seems to me essentially necessary that a building should be erected in close proximity to the College. It is intended that the place erected should be used as a lecture-room and a museum as well. Its nearness to the College building would be a convenience to the Professor and particularly to the students of the class of Hygiene (most of whom reside in the neighbourhood) and to other students also of the College who may be anxious to become familiar with the mechanism of the apparatus and appliances exhibited. After the hour of lecture by the Professor of Hygiene, the room being near will be available for the use of any Professor or Assistant in the College to lecture to his class or instruct in any other way, should there be, by any re-arrangement of the time table or modification of the curriculum of study, a necessity for his doing so. Moreover, as the lecture-room would be built in the crowded portion of the city, it would be near at hand to the classes of people who, it is expected, would, by their frequent visits to the place and attendance at the lecture there by the Professor of Hygiene, acquire sound ideas of sanitary science. The Central Museum, where the Surgeon-General suggests that the apparatus might be kept, would doubtless be suitable, if the object be simply to exhibit them to the general public; but it must be borne in mind that they are primarily wanted for class instruction at the Medical College. Apart from the inconvenience to our students on account of distance, it would not be practicable even to assemble a College class in the lecture-room attached to the Central Museum, during nine months in the year, as the students, if they have to attend there, would virtually be absent from the College nearly three hours out of the five now taken up here for the delivery of all lectures the class has to attend. Nor would it be feasible to have apparatus, &c., that may be needed to illustrate lectures, at the College, daily conveyed backwards and forwards from the Central Museum.

2. For the foregoing reasons, I would strongly urge that a suitable building be erected on the College grounds.

3. Surgeon-Major Sibthorpe purposes submitting a requisition for a separate dissecting-room, as the present one, for many reasons, is unsuited. No other addition to the College building, as far as I can judge, is at present contemplated by the College Professors. Any additional room required by the Chemical Examiner is not obtained through the Educational Department.

4. As regards the Surgeon-General's allusions to the collections in the Anatomical Museum (the exact bearing of which on the proposal now before you I do not clearly see), I beg to state that they were, with fresh specimens which I was able to obtain, ample for the purposes of illustration when I lectured on Human and Comparative Anatomy. Additions are being made to the museum, and as soon as more room becomes available for the purpose, there will be a considerable increase to the present collection.

From Surgeon-Major J. KEESS, M.D., Acting Principal, Medical College, Madras, to the Director of Public Instruction, dated Madras, 19th July 1882, No. 215.

I have the honor to submit, for your favorable consideration, proposals embodied in a demi-official letter* addressed to me by Surgeon-Major C. Sibthorpe.

* Extracts from which are appended.

2. As Mr. Sibthorpe, who is Acting Surgeon of the General Hospital instead of Surgeon-Major Cockerill on privilege leave, will, in all probability, fill the chair of Anatomy from the commencement of next Session in October, I suggested his submitting a requisition for what may be required for the department of Anatomy. His proposals are as follow:—

1. To erect a separate dissecting-room with lecture and other rooms attached, instead of the thatched building, now used as a dissecting-room, one compartment of which was put up when I was away on furlough some years ago, and the other, about two years back when the numbers of the classes were considerably increased. Financial considerations, I understand, led to only a temporary shed being erected for a dissecting-room, instead of a permanent one, and I am not sure whether now funds are available for the erection of a substantial masonry room of the kind suggested by Surgeon-Major Sibthorpe; but if the outlay can be incurred, I would beg to recommend that steps be taken to have the required rooms erected as early as practicable. The Surgeon-General is also aware of the unsuitability of the present rooms for our purposes as, at his official visits to the College, I took the opportunity of pointing out their drawbacks to him. If funds are not available for such an undertaking, I would respectfully urge that Government be moved to order that the present place used as a dissecting-room be improved by the substitution of teak instead of the junglewood and bamboos for posts and roofing, that the roof be raised and tiled, and that arrangements be made for the admission of light through the roof as well.

2. To be supplied with three air-tight boxes in which to keep dead subjects surrounded by an atmosphere of alcohol vapour to retard putrefaction, so that, when the body is injected with the usual preservative fluids in the College, there would be some likelihood of its keeping longer and its dissection got through more thoroughly than heretofore. When I was Professor of Anatomy I pointed out the necessity of having air-tight boxes for this purpose, kept for dead subjects, one at the General Hospital and another at the Triplicane Dispensary from which Institutions we obtain our largest supplies of dead subjects, and Dr. King, the then Principal of the College, ordered their construction, and it is likely they will be ready for use during the coming term.

3. To be furnished with glass cases to exhibit mounted specimens of bones, with an arrangement to make these revolve, as well as a stand, and a table on wheels. These can be supplied and the cost defrayed out of funds provided under Furniture in the Budget Estimate of 1882-83. Estimate for a table on wheels, a stand, and glass cases for your sanction will follow.

EXTRACT from a demi-official letter received from Surgeon-Major C. Sibthorpe, dated 12th July 1882.

"2. I think that there can be no question that the present huts erected some time ago as dissecting-rooms are not satisfactory, they are too small, not properly lighted or ventilated, and are a constant source of expense for repairs.

3. I would suggest that you move Government to erect a suitable permanent building, which should contain the following rooms:—

- (a) A dissecting-room for twelve tables, say fifty feet long by twenty-five feet in breadth, which would allow about one hundred and four superficial feet to each table.
- (b) A preparation-room in which the bodies could be made ready for dissection.
- (c) A lavatory and urinal for the students.
- (d) A small room for the Professor and Assistant to the Professor.
- (e) A museum which might be built partially over the preparation-room and partially over the Professor's room with galleries of light iron work round the dissecting-room.
- (f) A lecture theatre for one hundred and thirty students.
- (g) Water should be laid on throughout the building.
- (h) There should be a good verandah around the building.

4. The present anatomical theatre is too far away from the dissecting-rooms, much too small for the class, and badly lit for the purposes of demonstrating dissections. The formation of a museum in the anatomical buildings would be a great advantage, might be done at a slight additional cost, and would give room in the present museum for extension of the already important branches of Materia Medica and Pathology.

5. I think also that sanction should be sought for the purchase of a table on wheels, so that bodies dissected in the outer room could be rolled into the lecture theatre.

6. If Government wishes, I will have much pleasure in putting myself in communication with the Consulting Architect and explaining to him the requirements in order that he may make out plans and estimates.

7. There is, at present, one air-tight metal tank in the College, three more are required—one for the College, one to be sent to the dead-house of the General Hospital, and one to Triplicane Dispensary, so that unclaimed bodies should be placed at once in them after death with some alcohol in order to preserve them better.

8. When attending the meeting of the International Medical Congress last year, I saw in the museum an admirable system of preparing bones for students to study from. They were selected specimens, well marked, and kept in glass cases so arranged that they could be thoroughly examined without being touched. I would suggest that we may be provided with almirahs in which such specimens could be placed in the Anatomical Museum, each specimen to be on a bar and cog wheel, which could be easily made in the Gun Carriage Factory at little cost.

9. A wooden framework for tying the body up when demonstrating the perinæum is also wanted.

10. I may add that these suggestions are founded on what I saw in the new dissecting-rooms of the Medical School of St. Bartholomew's Hospital, Trinity College, in Dublin and other Medical Schools which I visited when on furlough. Your own long connection with the Professorship of Anatomy in our College will enable you at once to judge of their fitness to the wants of the school."

From Surgeon-General W. R. CORNISH, F.R.C.S., C.I.E., Surgeon-General with the Government of Madras, to the Director of Public Instruction, dated Ootacamund, 26th July 1882, No. O-389.

With reference to your letter, No. N-285, of the 22nd instant, I have the honor to state that the inadequacy of the present arrangements for teaching Practical Anatomy in the Medical College is well-known to me. I quite agree with Dr. Sibthorpe that a new dissecting-room filled with all modern appliances is much wanted.

2. But the proposition goes much beyond this and includes a new Museum of Human Anatomy and Anatomical theatre, and if approved of by Government, will cause a large expenditure. Quite recently, you were good enough to submit to me a proposition for building a Museum of Hygiene, and I recommended caution in regard to building expenses.

3. I think the time has come when the accommodation of the Medical College should be reconsidered very carefully in all its departments, and my advice is that the College Council should be instructed to take up the whole question, and to submit a scheme for carrying out the additions and alterations that are essential to the well-being and repute of the College.

4. It might be an instruction to the College Council to limit its requisitions to such additions and improvements as are necessary to efficiency, and to omit anything that may be merely ornamental.

5. It seems to me that if a new Anatomical Department including theatre was decided upon, that the present College buildings might find accommodation for the proposed Museum of Hygiene, and allow of better accommodation for the Materia Medica and Pathological collections. The Professor of Physiology will probably require some place also, where he can demonstrate practically his teaching of Histology.

6. Should Government refer the subject to the College Council, I would suggest that the Government Architect be associated with that body, in considering the accommodation at present afforded by the College buildings, and the necessary extensions.

There are certain considerations to be borne in view in planning a dissecting-room for India, which I will put before the Government Architect, if the building is determined upon.

ORDER—dated 5th January 1883, No. 2, Educational.

As suggested by the Surgeon-General and recommended by the Director of Public Instruction, the subject of the improvement of the facilities for instruction in Anatomy, Hygiene, and the other branches of medical study will be referred to the Council of the Medical College for consideration and report, and for the submission of plans and estimates of the additions to, or alterations in, the College buildings which they deem essential for efficient teaching.

2. The Consulting Architect to Government will be associated with the College Council in their consideration of the matters now referred to them.

(True Extract.)

C. G. MASTER,
Chief Secretary.

To the Director of Public Instruction.

„ Surgeon-General with the Government of Madras.
„ Consulting Architect to Government.
„ Public Works Department.

Exd. J. Wright.

are formed. These are small examples, but are sufficient to convey my meaning. It is evident that much that may be said in lecturing must be simply wasted, when matters with which an audience is not acquainted are alluded to; for it is not possible for the speaker to fathom the depth of ignorance that may exist as to practical points. As well might the Anatomist attempt to teach Anatomy without the aid of demonstrations on the human body, as the Hygienist to treat his without being able to calculate upon preconceived notions, or to exhibit the objects immediately concerned.

2. A valuable way of coping with the difficulty alluded to is the use of diagrams and plans, and you have kindly promised to place at my disposal the College draughtsman for this purpose. But you will, I think, agree with me that, where possible, for teaching the object is more useful than the shadow.

3. To meet the required indications, I have the honor to suggest that Government be moved to sanction the necessary funds for the establishment of a Museum of Hygiene attached to the Medical College.

4. I would not wish to confine the use of such an institution merely to the teaching purposes of the Medical School; its utility would be vastly extended by permitting it to be open to inspection by the public. In this way, if a descriptive catalogue were furnished, or descriptive labels were attached to carefully chosen objects, a rapid advance of sanitary knowledge amongst the general public may be looked for. Such a result has undoubtedly attended similar efforts in London, in the case of the Parkes' Museum of Hygiene. I am convinced that until such opportunities are offered, neither students of the College nor the native public are likely to have any but superficial ideas of sanitation. Under the present system, it is a well-known fact that, even when thoroughly acquainted with theoretical details of Hygiene, "the educated native" rarely puts them into practice. They have been taught the science as a mere vapour of words, expressive of eccentric western notions that should now and then embellish an official report. But, in the presence of practical demonstration, it is calculable that such half-faith would shortly disappear.

5. To convey some idea of the scope and character I would wish to give to the suggested museum, I enclose a synopsis prepared by the Committee of the Parkes' Museum. I do not think a better general plan of operations could be prepared, although doubtless modifications of illustrative subjects would be necessary, in view of the difference of climates and diseases incident to this country.

6. Experience in the Parkes' Museum has shown that manufacturers willingly send specimens for exhibition, as they thereby secure a good advertisement. Publishers also have proved themselves equally generous in contributing to the formation of a library. I believe that if the passage of articles to this country were paid by Government, the Madras Museum of Hygiene would be similarly fortunate. As regards clothing of British and native soldiers, prisoners, of various foods, of hospital equipment, plans of drainage and irrigation works, and matters of an allied nature, Government could readily, without incurring any but nominal expense, contribute.

7. Should the general proposal meet with approval, I should, on your informing me that you would be able to place a room at my disposal at the Medical College, be prepared to submit an estimate of probable expenditure.

From Surgeon W. G. KING, M.B., Acting Professor of Hygiene, to the Acting Principal, Medical College, Madras, dated Madras, 26th June 1882, No. 5.

ABSTRACT.—Forwards lists of objects he considers it desirable to collect to form a Museum of Hygiene, and offers remarks as to the cost.

From Surgeon-General W. R. CORNISH, F.R.C.S., C.I.E., Surgeon-General with the Government of Madras, to the Director of Public Instruction, dated Ootacamund, 5th July 1882, No. O-318.

In returning the papers connected with your letter, No. N-169 of 1st July, I have the honor to state that I cordially approve of the suggestion of Surgeon W. G. King, M.B., to commence the formation of a Museum of Hygienic apparatus and appliances, not only as a means of practically illustrating the lectures of the Professor of Hygiene, but for the benefit of the public at large.

2. If the scheme should find favor with Government, I would suggest that the Right Honorable the Secretary of State might be moved to communicate the general plan of it to the leading manufacturers of sanitary appliances, and to facilitate the receipt and transmission of articles presented to the museum or sent for exhibition. In this way, and in encouraging local contributions, a museum might gradually be formed of great value for educational and other purposes, without any great outlay.

6. In his letter, No. 5 (enclosed), Dr. King estimates the initial outlay independent of accommodation at Rs. 10,000, and the up-keep at Rs. 5,000, which includes an establishment costing Rs. 182. With this letter he also submits a list of such objects as may be required in each section of the museum.

7. Dr. Keess to give effect to these proposals suggests the erection of a suitable building within the College compound, after designs to be prepared by the Government Architect in communication with the Principal, and remarks that the cost of maintenance need not be so large as suggested by Dr. King, as much of the work could be undertaken by the present College establishment.

8. Dr. Cornish cordially approves the suggestion of Dr. King "to commence the formation of a Museum of Hygienic apparatus and appliances, not only as a means of practically illustrating the lectures of the Professor of Hygiene, but for the benefit of the public at large." If the scheme be approved by Government he recommends that the Secretary of State be moved to communicate the general plan of the museum to leading manufacturers of sanitary appliances, and to facilitate the transmission of articles sent for exhibition. In this way and by encouraging local contributions he considers that gradually a valuable museum might be formed without great outlay. As regards buildings he advises caution and suggests the renting of a place or the temporary accommodation of the exhibits and objects in the Central Museum. Meanwhile the Government Architect might design and estimate for a suitable building. In paragraph 4 he points out that the department of Human and Comparative Anatomy needs additional accommodation if a proper museum is to be provided, and also that the Chemical Examiner needs more room, and suggests that the College Council should be required to consider the whole subject.

9. Dr. Keess reports on these suggestions that he considers it, for reasons stated, essential that the museum should be in the neighbourhood of the College, and states that Surgeon Sibthorpe requires only a dissecting-room, whilst any extra accommodation required by the Chemical Examiner should not be provided in this department. He further notes with reference to the Surgeon-General's remarks on the Anatomy teaching, that there will be considerable increase to the present museum of Anatomy so soon as more room becomes available, but does not mention how this is to be effected.

10. In his letter of the 19th July, however, the Acting Principal submits Dr. Sibthorpe's proposals. They are as follows:—

- "(a). A dissecting-room for twelve tables, say fifty feet long by twenty-five feet in breadth, which would allow about one hundred and four superficial feet to each table.
- "(b) A preparation-room in which the bodies could be made ready for dissection.
- "(c) A lavatory and urinal for the students.
- "(d) A small room for the Professor and Assistant to the Professor.
- "(e) A museum which might be built partially over the preparation-room and partially over the Professor's room with galleries of light iron work round the dissecting-room.
- "(f) A lecture theatre for one hundred and thirty students.
- "(g) Water should be laid on throughout the building.
- "(h) There should be a good verandah around the building."

11. The Acting Principal generally supports these recommendations if funds are available, but says, if they are not, that "the present place used as a dissecting-room be improved by the substitution of teak instead of junglewood and bamboos for posts and roofing, that the roof be raised and tiled, and that arrangements be made for the admission of light through the roof as well."

12. The Surgeon-General quite agrees that a dissecting-room, fitted with all modern appliances, is much wanted, but he advises caution in regard to incurring expenditure for a new Museum of Human Anatomy and an Anatomical theatre. He recommends again that the whole question of the College accommodation should be carefully considered by the College Council in view of their submitting a detailed scheme of what they consider necessary, and that the Government Architect should be associated with that body in considering how use may be best made of the present accommodation and what extension is necessary.

13. Since these letters were received the Order of Government, No. 228, dated 23rd August 1882, sanctioning the erection of an operating theatre, has been communicated to me.

14. The scheme of establishing a Museum of Hygiene is, I think, deserving of the favorable consideration of Government, as also Dr. Sibthorpe's proposals to improve the facilities for teaching Anatomy, but these schemes, including other changes which may be necessary in view of the partial reorganization of the teaching sanctioned in the Order of Government above quoted, if carried out in their integrity, will, as pointed out by the Surgeon-General, involve large outlay; and as they have not been dealt with by the Acting Principal as a whole, and as in consequence of the College vacation they could not well be referred by me to the College Council, I beg to recommend the whole subject of the improvement of the facilities for medical instruction in each branch be referred to the College Council for consideration and report, and that when reporting they be required to submit plans and estimates of the additions to and alterations in the College buildings which they deem essential for the efficient teaching of each of the great branches of knowledge included in the College scheme. It may not be necessary that all the works should be carried out at once, but if the scheme were sanctioned as a whole, it could be carried out gradually, as funds become available, according to the comparative necessity of each portion. In the long run this arrangement will probably prove less expensive than if the necessities of each department are provided for piecemeal. Should this proposal be approved, I beg to recommend that the Consulting Architect be directed to aid the Council in the manner suggested by the Surgeon-General.

ENCLOSURES.

From Surgeon-Major J. KEESS, M.D., Acting Principal, Medical College, Madras, to the Director of Public Instruction, dated Madras, 27th June 1882, No. 173.

I have the honor to forward two letters from Surgeon W. G. King, M.B., Acting Professor of Hygiene, on the subject of forming a Museum of Hygiene in connection with the Medical College, and to recommend his proposal for your favorable consideration.

2. Much of the teaching of Hygiene is lost to the students owing to the fact of their not seeing and handling the various objects described in lectures and books; whereas, if they saw, in their daily visits to the College and as illustrations to lectures, the various means by which public health is maintained and promoted, it is highly probable that our students who thus become practically acquainted with the art of Hygiene, will be able to spread more effectually, than heretofore, the many advantages of which they are the fortunate recipients.

3. The practical lessons thus taught will leave a lasting impression on the students' minds, and enable them, in after life, to suggest more effectually measures for correcting the numerous sanitary evils that abound in this country.

4. In order to give effect to Dr. King's proposals, I would suggest the erection of a suitable building within the College compound, after a design to be prepared by the Government Architect, in consultation with the Professor of Hygiene and Principal of the Medical College. The expense for maintenance, indicated in paragraph 3 of Dr. King's letter, need not be so large, as a considerable portion of the work in connection with the museum can be undertaken by the present College Establishment.

5. The Museum of Hygiene will not only be a valuable addition to the Medical College, but, by being thrown open to the general public, it will become an effectual means for the diffusion of practical knowledge on a subject of the deepest interest to the community at large.

From Surgeon W. G. KING, M.B., Acting Professor of Hygiene, to the Acting Principal, Medical College, Madras, dated Madras, — May 1882, No. 1.

I have the honor to point out that in teaching Hygiene in this College, I labor under considerable disadvantage, in that no means are at my disposal to reach the imagination of my pupils either by illustrations or exhibitions of specimens. I find on questioning my class that of thirty-nine two only have ever seen a pump, one ten years ago, when he regarded it with too much awe to approach it; none have ever seen an agricultural tile drain; none have seen vitrified pipes; all have seen iron-water pipes at a distance, but only one has any idea of how the joints

are formed. These are small examples, but are sufficient to convey my meaning. It is evident that much that may be said in lecturing must be simply wasted, when matters with which an audience is not acquainted are alluded to; for it is not possible for the speaker to fathom the depth of ignorance that may exist as to practical points. As well might the Anatomist attempt to teach Anatomy without the aid of demonstrations on the human body, as the Hygienist to treat his without being able to calculate upon preconceived notions, or to exhibit the objects immediately concerned.

2. A valuable way of coping with the difficulty alluded to is the use of diagrams and plans, and you have kindly promised to place at my disposal the College draughtsman for this purpose. But you will, I think, agree with me that, where possible, for teaching the object is more useful than the shadow.

3. To meet the required indications, I have the honor to suggest that Government be moved to sanction the necessary funds for the establishment of a Museum of Hygiene attached to the Medical College.

4. I would not wish to confine the use of such an institution merely to the teaching purposes of the Medical School; its utility would be vastly extended by permitting it to be open to inspection by the public. In this way, if a descriptive catalogue were furnished, or descriptive labels were attached to carefully chosen objects, a rapid advance of sanitary knowledge amongst the general public may be looked for. Such a result has undoubtedly attended similar efforts in London, in the case of the Parkes' Museum of Hygiene. I am convinced that until such opportunities are offered, neither students of the College nor the native public are likely to have any but superficial ideas of sanitation. Under the present system, it is a well-known fact that, even when thoroughly acquainted with theoretical details of Hygiene, "the educated native" rarely puts them into practice. They have been taught the science as a mere vapour of words, expressive of eccentric western notions that should now and then embellish an official report. But, in the presence of practical demonstration, it is calculable that such half-faith would shortly disappear.

5. To convey some idea of the scope and character I would wish to give to the suggested museum, I enclose a synopsis prepared by the Committee of the Parkes' Museum. I do not think a better general plan of operations could be prepared, although doubtless modifications of illustrative subjects would be necessary, in view of the difference of climates and diseases incident to this country.

6. Experience in the Parkes' Museum has shown that manufacturers willingly send specimens for exhibition, as they thereby secure a good advertisement. Publishers also have proved themselves equally generous in contributing to the formation of a library. I believe that if the passage of articles to this country were paid by Government, the Madras Museum of Hygiene would be similarly fortunate. As regards clothing of British and native soldiers, prisoners, of various foods, of hospital equipment, plans of drainage and irrigation works, and matters of an allied nature, Government could readily, without incurring any but nominal expense, contribute.

7. Should the general proposal meet with approval, I should, on your informing me that you would be able to place a room at my disposal at the Medical College, be prepared to submit an estimate of probable expenditure.

From Surgeon W. G. KING, M.B., Acting Professor of Hygiene, to the Acting Principal, Medical College, Madras, dated Madras, 26th June 1882, No. 5.

ABSTRACT.—Forwards lists of objects he considers it desirable to collect to form a Museum of Hygiene, and offers remarks as to the cost.

From Surgeon-General W. R. CORNISH, F.R.C.S., C.I.E., Surgeon-General with the Government of Madras, to the Director of Public Instruction, dated Ootacamund, 5th July 1882, No. O-318.

In returning the papers connected with your letter, No. N-169 of 1st July, I have the honor to state that I cordially approve of the suggestion of Surgeon W. G. King, M.B., to commence the formation of a Museum of Hygienic apparatus and appliances, not only as a means of practically illustrating the lectures of the Professor of Hygiene, but for the benefit of the public at large.

2. If the scheme should find favor with Government, I would suggest that the Right Honorable the Secretary of State might be moved to communicate the general plan of it to the leading manufacturers of sanitary appliances, and to facilitate the receipt and transmission of articles presented to the museum or sent for exhibition. In this way, and in encouraging local contributions, a museum might gradually be formed of great value for educational and other purposes, without any great outlay.

Govt. of (1883) Madras.

EDUCATIONAL.

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 20th April 1883, No. 230.

No. 1329 waf. 8th May/83

APRIL.

Recon de l.
Sof. C.B.

S. E. 5th Circle

Medical College, Madras.

Communicating to the Director of Public Instruction letter from the Consulting Architect to Government making certain suggestions in regard to the improvements to the Medical College premises.

are formed. These are small examples, but are sufficient to convey my meaning. It is evident that much that may be said in lecturing must be simply wasted, when matters with which an audience is not acquainted are alluded to; for it is not possible for the speaker to fathom the depth of ignorance that may exist as to practical points. As well might the Anatomist attempt to teach Anatomy without the aid of demonstrations on the human body, as the Hygienist to treat his without being able to calculate upon preconceived notions, or to exhibit the objects immediately concerned.

2. A valuable way of coping with the difficulty alluded to is the use of diagrams and plans, and you have kindly promised to place at my disposal the College draughtsman for this purpose. But you will, I think, agree with me that, where possible, for teaching the object is more useful than the shadow.

3. To meet the required indications, I have the honor to suggest that Government be moved to sanction the necessary funds for the establishment of a Museum of Hygiene attached to the Medical College.

4. I would not wish to confine the use of such an institution merely to the teaching purposes of the Medical School; its utility would be vastly extended by permitting it to be open to inspection by the public. In this way, if a descriptive catalogue were furnished, or descriptive labels were attached to carefully chosen objects, a rapid advance of sanitary knowledge amongst the general public may be looked for. Such a result has undoubtedly attended similar efforts in London, in the case of the Parkes' Museum of Hygiene. I am convinced that until such opportunities are offered, neither students of the College nor the native public are likely to have any but superficial ideas of sanitation. Under the present system, it is a well-known fact that, even when thoroughly acquainted with theoretical details of Hygiene, "the educated native" rarely puts them into practice. They have been taught the science as a mere vapour of words, expressive of eccentric western notions that should now and then embellish an official report. But, in the presence of practical demonstration, it is calculable that such half-faith would shortly disappear.

5. To convey some idea of the scope and character I would wish to give to the suggested museum, I enclose a synopsis prepared by the Committee of the Parkes' Museum. I do not think a better general plan of operations could be prepared, although doubtless modifications of illustrative subjects would be necessary, in view of the difference of climates and diseases incident to this country.

6. Experience in the Parkes' Museum has shown that manufacturers willingly send specimens for exhibition, as they thereby secure a good advertisement. Publishers also have proved themselves equally generous in contributing to the formation of a library. I believe that if the passage of articles to this country were paid by Government, the Madras Museum of Hygiene would be similarly fortunate. As regards clothing of British and native soldiers, prisoners, of various foods, of hospital equipment, plans of drainage and irrigation works, and matters of an allied nature, Government could readily, without incurring any but nominal expense, contribute.

7. Should the general proposal meet with approval, I should, on your informing me that you would be able to place a room at my disposal at the Medical College, be prepared to submit an estimate of probable expenditure.

From Surgeon W. G. KING, M.B., Acting Professor of Hygiene, to the Acting Principal, Medical College, Madras, dated Madras, 26th June 1882, No. 5.

ABSTRACT.—Forwards lists of objects he considers it desirable to collect to form a Museum of Hygiene, and offers remarks as to the cost.

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GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following papers :—

From R. F. CHISHOLM, Esq., Consulting Architect to Government, to the Chief Secretary to Government (through the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department), dated Chepauk, 5th April 1883, No. 21.

In accordance with the instructions conveyed in G.O., No. 2, Educational, dated 5th January, I have the honor to state that I carefully inspected the existing buildings which form the Medical College. I subsequently met the Principal and Professors of the College and discussed with them the requirements and capabilities of the building.

2. The dissecting rooms with their surroundings must be built apart from the College and treated on their own merits. I have received all the necessary information on this head from Dr. Sibthorpe. After the dissecting rooms have been disposed of we have to provide, either by re-arrangements or additions, for the following rooms :—

First.—The Hygiene Museum.

Secondly.—The Histological Theatre.

Thirdly.—The Botanical Museum.

3. The existing Museum is a very large and lofty room with numerous doors and windows, and the cases for specimens only occupy blank spaces of walling between the doors to about seven feet high.

4. By arranging the cases end on to the walls and leaving a space of, say, ten feet down the centre of the room, just double the number of cases can be accommodated, and by still further doubling them in height, with an open work gallery, four times the present quantity of exhibits can find space. These expedients, while providing ample room for expansion for many years to come, will also afford accommodation for the Botanical collection.

I am of opinion also that both the Museum of Hygiene and the Histological Theatre can be accommodated in the existing building; but, as questions touching light and ventilation require careful consideration conjointly with these schemes, I am not prepared to say, in the absence of accurate plans and sections of the existing rooms, what may be the best way of giving effect to the Professors' wishes.

I will in the mean time depute Mr. Lewis, my office manager, to make the necessary drawings, and if Government approve, I can, on my return from furlough, draw up a scheme for giving effect to the above conclusions.

From Surgeon-Major J. KEESS, M.D., Acting Principal, Medical College, Madras, to the Consulting Architect to Government, dated Madras, 11th April 1883, No. 20.

I have the honor to state that your letter to the address of the Chief Secretary, No. 21, dated 5th instant, forwarded with your No. 22, has been duly circulated to all the Members of the College Council, and that this body approves of the suggestions made by you in regard to the improvements to the Medical College premises.

No. 32.

Endorsement on the above.

Forwarded to the Chief Secretary to Government in continuation of Consulting Architect's letter, No. 21, of the 5th instant.

12th April 1883.

(Signed) R. F. CHISHOLM.

No. 802-C.

Forwarded.

CHEPAUK,
12th April 1883.

(Signed) C. BOWEN, Major, R.E.,
Under Secy. to Govt., P.W.D.

ORDER—dated 20th April 1883, No. 230, Educational.

Communicated to the Director of Public Instruction with reference to his letter, dated 16th September 1882, No. 546-N.

2. The Government approve of the suggestion made by the Consulting Architect in the concluding paragraph of his letter, dated 5th April 1883, No. 21.

(True Extract.)

C. G. MASTER,
Chief Secretary.

To the Director of Public Instruction.

- " Surgeon-General with the Government of Madras.
- " Consulting Architect to Government.
- " Public Works Department.

Exd. J. Wright.

Gobt. of {1883} Madras.

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No. 1329 waf. 8th May/83

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n.s.

S.E. 5th Circle

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No. 1329 ref 8th May/83.

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Sd/- C.B.

28. 5th April.

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