

Number of Pages 230
Date of Receipt 25-7-19
Name of Officer
M.P.O. 1-39/000-16-10-89

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	<i>1262</i>	Press
		<i>Mis.</i>
Dated	<i>8-1-19</i>	<i>19/869</i>

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,
8th September 1869.*

Read the following papers :—

No. 52. From G. A. BALLARD, Esq., Magistrate of Malabar, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Calicut, 25th March 1869.

I have the honour to state that, in accordance with G. O., dated 25th February 1869, No. 253, I requested Dr. Arnold Smith to accompany me, and we visited Ponani the beginning of last week.

2. It is clear that the number of Moplah burial grounds, scattered about indiscriminately in the very midst of the dwellings and bazaars, is the worst feature of the place. The graves are close-crowded together in loose sandy soil with water at no great depth; the grounds are unenclosed, no boundary wall or even mark between them and the streets running past or across them existing; and cattle bones, rubbish, and filth accumulate amongst the grave-stones.

3. I look, therefore, upon proper arrangement with respect to burying as the most important point towards improving the sanitary state of the town. I discussed the subject with several of the most influential Moplah Tangals and residents (who, at my request, called upon me) and with the Deputy Magistrate and Sub-Magistrate.

The Moplahs are very averse to change the system; but, I think, there will not be real difficulty in bringing them round to what I propose, which is, that suitable sites should be fixed out of the town and enclosed for general burials. It may be desirable still to allow burials of a few of the principal Tangals, &c., in and about the mosques; but this can be strictly limited to a few families and office-bearers, and with the proviso that whereon *any* burial is allowed the burial ground shall be walled round: the concession may be allowed without objection.

4. But general intramural burying must be peremptorily interdicted. I visited a suitable site for two burial enclosures about a mile from the town. Another site was pointed out some way farther off. I have ordered the Deputy Magistrate to visit the places with some of the principal men, and report soon and exactly what arrangements will be best, with estimate, for enclosing the sites selected with a stone wall five feet high. I would suggest that Government bear any expense connected with the occupation and enclosure of the land, and that the burial places be then made over to the Maghdum or principal religious authority for management.

5. The sites will be on, or close by, the line of high road, but this is heavy sand. I would suggest that the road be properly metalled as far as the sites selected, *i. e.*, probably for a distance of some two miles from the town. This done, there would be no real hardship in insisting on burials being, with a few specified exceptions only, made at these new cemeteries.

6. I have called for a list of the tanks showing which are private property, and which, whether public or private, are worth preserving. I would propose that estimates be called for cleaning all; that some assistance be given (say half the estimated expenditure) towards cleaning out the private tanks, the owners being thenceforth bound to keep them in order or be liable to be prosecuted under Section 290 of the Indian Penal Code; that the public tanks be put in order by Government, and such as are not considered worth maintaining be filled up.

7. I was inclined to propose that four good public wells should be constructed in approved situations well away from grave-grounds or other sources of contamination; but the people did not seem to think that these would be of much use,

as their women, who are the chief water-drawers, do not care to appear in public, and most of the dwellings have their private wells. The Deputy Magistrate, however, will report soon on this matter.

8. There are a number of dilapidated houses and also a number of huts erected by mere squatters occupying considerable spaces in the town. I have ordered the Deputy Magistrate to take steps to have the dilapidated houses repaired or the debris removed, and the squatters, as far as possible, cleared out. There is very suitable Government ground for buildings south of the town near the high road, and I propose that lots be given to those desirous of settling. Some consideration must be given to squatters who have acquired a prescriptive occupancy, and a statement of this is being prepared.

9. The formation of a roadway along the canal banks was suggested, and is recommended by Dr. Smith. I believe this would be expensive, and am not sure that it is necessary. But further information will be submitted.

10. I do not advocate the erection of public latrines at present. Unless they are really well superintended they are worse than useless, and I do not see how provision can be made for their proper superintendence.

11. I would, however, make a beginning of general conservancy by entertaining a small establishment* and placing them under a committee of Management, which may be composed as noted†. The establishment must be paid by Government.

* Say—	Per mensem. Rs.
One Conservancy Inspector.....	20
Twelve sweepers.....	43
Two carts hire.....	30
Total...	93

† Deputy Magistrate.
Taluq Sub-Magistrate.
Inspector of Police,
Dresser, and three influential residents.

I would appoint the Committee with the view of enlisting some general interest, and making the action of the Deputy Magistrate as it were less direct. But

he should be given to understand that he is the person primarily responsible, and that the Government look to him to see that the necessary reforms are carried out and better sanitation preserved in future.

12. I beg to submit Dr. Smith's letter to me, and copy of a letter from me to the Deputy Magistrate, on the subject.

From Dr. W. A. SMITH, Acting Civil Surgeon of Malabar, to G. A. BALLARD, Esq., Collector of Malabar; dated Calicut, 19th March 1869, No. 41.

With reference to Proceedings of Government, No. 253, dated 25th February 1869, regarding the sanitary condition of Ponani, I beg to offer for your consideration the following remarks, the result of our joint visit to the above place on the 16th instant.

2. The sanitary state of the town of Ponani is undoubtedly extremely bad, and its actual condition is sufficiently described by the Deputy Inspector General of the Indian Medical Department, Southern Division, in his Inspection Report, dated December last.

3. To the nuisances, however, enumerated in the above report, may be added the existence of a very large number of overcrowded Mahomedan grave-yards, which occupy an extended area at every turn and corner of the town. The graves are intermingled with the houses in the most indiscriminate manner, and are often in close proximity to tanks and wells.

4. These grave-yards are very dirty, and are generally covered with the bones of slaughtered cattle. It is no exaggeration to say that the atmosphere of Ponani is everywhere tainted with the stench of decaying animal matter.

5. The impressions derived from an inspection of the inhabitants, bazaars, and houses of Ponani, are those which would be conveyed to the mind on passing through an old city in a state of decay. The majority of the people are poverty-stricken, and those in better circumstances are ignorant, bigoted, and opposed to any of those measures which, amongst more civilized communities, are now reckoned as essentials to existence.

6. Proposals for remedying the evils which have been pointed out are considerably hampered by the above condition of the people. I would, however, beg to make the following suggestions for improving, in some measure, the sanitary condition of the place:—

1st.—That intramural burials should be discouraged, and, if possible, put a stop to, and that a site for a new burial ground be taken up outside the town.

2nd.—That a place for the slaughter of cattle be selected outside the town, and the bones of the animals be buried instead of being allowed to be scattered all over the place.

3rd.—That a sufficient number of carts and coolies be entertained for clearing away the rubbish that lies scattered about the streets, and this should be burnt and buried outside the town.

4th.—That the entrances of those houses which now stand empty be effectually closed in order to prevent their being converted into latrines, and those which are dilapidated beyond repair be levelled with the ground.

5th.—That the tanks which are now filled with green impure water be emptied and dug out.

6th.—That some new public wells should be sunk for the use of the inhabitants in places where the water would not be contaminated by the proximity of grave-yards.

7th.—That public latrines be erected in convenient spots, provided proper conservancy establishments can be maintained. Without this no improvement on the cesspit system could be expected.

N. B.—As the greater proportion of the population are Mahomedans, the women would not use a public latrine; the cesspit system now in vogue would, therefore, it is to be feared, still be continued.

8th.—That a road may be constructed along each bank of the canal which runs through the town, and the banks be properly sloped and smoothed to the water's edge so as to prevent the perpetration of nuisances.

9th.—The latrine at the hospital, remarked upon by the Deputy Inspector General, is still conducted upon the cesspool system. It should at once be closed, and a toty supplied to the hospital. The Dresser complained that the funds of the institution did not permit of the entertainment of a servant of this description.

From G. A. BALLARD, Esq., Magistrate of Malabar, to the Deputy Magistrate, Ponani; dated Calicut, 25th March 1869, No. 712.

Adverting to G. O., dated 25th February 1869, and my personal communications when visiting Ponani on the 16th and 17th instant, I consider that the most important step towards improving the sanitation of the town is to make proper arrangements with regard to burials.

2. I request, therefore, you will, in communication with the Maghdum and some of the most influential Moplabs of the place, select several suitable sites for burying grounds.

Two sites, one of four and another of two acres, (or, as may be necessary,) might be selected near the ground I visited on the morning of the 17th instant, and two other sites, of such size as may be considered necessary, farther south, if desired by the people. I request you will send plans of the sites selected, with estimates of the cost of enclosing them with a five-foot laterite in chunam wall, with proper entrance gates, &c. The sites should be on as high ground as possible, and as near the high road south as may be. The distance from the town and situation as regards roads, &c., should be entered on the plans.

3. I propose that the high road south past these sites should be metalled and an avenue planted, and that the burial grounds should be enclosed at the Government expense and made over to the management of the Maghdum and principal Moplach residents. This being done, I think the

people will see that there is no hardship in interdicting general and indiscriminate burial about the mosques, &c., in the town in future.

This general interdiction is absolutely necessary for the health of the place, and must be carried out when the new arrangements are made. You will be good enough to communicate this as determined upon, but in the least obnoxious manner possible.

4. But if a particular point is made of it, I do not think there would be any objection to allowing burials at particular mosques in the case of some of the principal religious office-holders or families connected with the mosque, provided those interested are prepared to erect an enclosing wall round the burial ground proposed to be so occasionally used in future. Such exceptions must be, however, very limited.

5. It is not proposed to interfere with the existing burial grounds further than to interdict future indiscriminate burial; but every effort should be made to induce the people to enclose the existing burial grounds, and it must be distinctly understood that, when new cemeteries are provided, as proposed in paragraphs 2 and 3 of this letter, even exceptional burials of the sort contemplated in paragraph 4 of this letter will not be permitted in the town unless the grounds are enclosed.

6. I request you will send a list of the tanks in the town proper, showing which are public and which private; showing also which of either class are offensively foul; whether the owners are prepared to cleanse them; and whether it seems desirable to fill up any.

If the people desire three or four public wells, I am prepared to recommend that they be provided at the Government expense; but, from what I learnt, am not sure they would be appreciated. I request you will report on this, and, if the wells are recommended, indicate where you would propose their construction. The sites should be carefully selected so as to be free from contamination from neighbouring burying grounds or other sources of impurity.

7. There are a number of dilapidated houses about the town, also a number of huts of a very mean description, erected and occupied apparently by mere squatters.

The owners should be called on to repair the worst houses or to remove the ruins; to block up the entrances to those that, though not in a dangerous state of decay, may be uninhabited, so that they may not be entered and used as latrines and receptacles for rubbish indiscriminately, and objectionable squatters should be required to quit.

There is some Government ground to the south of the bungalow and along the high road. I propose that the high road should be metalled for a mile or two south. I propose that lots should be marked out and sites given to persons ejected from the heart of the town who may be desirous of settling in the new locality. Small compensations may be necessary in a number of cases.

I request you will carefully prepare an approximate estimate, and submit plan and propositions in detail for carrying out the scheme indicated.

8. The practice of slaughtering cattle indiscriminately seems, from the number of bones scattered about in all parts of the town, to prevail extensively. I request you will select two or four places that you would propose as slaughtering places.

9. The pathway along the canal should be widened to twelve or fourteen feet on the east side, and either closed altogether or opened to a defined pathway on the western side, south from the high road, till the next important road across the canal is met. I request an estimate for this.

10. I am proposing the immediate entertainment, at Government expense, of a small conservancy establishment for the present, and I request that you will give your careful personal attention to its working, endeavouring to enlist the aid of the people and conciliating them as far as possible, but also exercising the powers vested in you as Magistrate with vigour where it may be necessary to do so. Section 48 of the Police Act, Sections 277 to 290 of the Indian Penal Code, and Section 62 of the Criminal Procedure Code, should be worked with discretion, but with vigilance and firmness.

I beg the estimates, &c., now called for, may be submitted with the least possible delay for transmission to Government.

No. 53. From the Magistrate of Malabar, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Palghat, 19th August 1869, No. 82.

I have the honour herewith to forward certain detailed estimates in connexion with improved sanitary arrangements in the town of Ponani.

Mr. Ballard, in his letter of 25th March 1869, proposed—

- 1st.—The enclosure of the mosques with burial grounds in the town.
- 2nd.—The preparation and enclosure of two new burial grounds outside the town.
- 3rd.—The metalling of the road leading to them for a distance of two miles.
- 4th.—Filling up some, and cleaning out all other tanks in the town.
- 5th.—Repairing dilapidated houses or removing the debris.
- 6th.—A conservancy establishment at a cost of 98 Rupees a month.
- 7th.—The appointment of certain slaughter-houses.

If all these measures are to be carried out, a large sum will be required.

2. It will be observed that in the estimates herewith forwarded provision is only made for—

	RS.	A.	P.
Enclosing the mosque and burial ground selected by Mr. Ballard at a cost of.....	4,449	1	8
Do. for the site preferred by the Moplahs....	4,438	0	0
Metalling the road from the burial grounds to a distance of two-and-three-quarter miles, six feet wide.....	5,454	0	0
Improving a smaller portion of road as recommended by Mr. Ballard.....	220	0	0
Repairing two-and-three-quarter miles of road from Ponani.....	5,037	0	0
Metalling and otherwise improving a path by the canal.....	4,717	0	0

Total excluding the burial ground selected by Mr. Ballard..... 19,866 0 0

3. The estimates have been sent up after such extreme delay that I do not like to detain this letter by sending them back for the supply of omissions.

I think it better to take the definite orders of Government and then to call for the estimates for those particular works from the Department Public Works if necessary. I did not think right to do so in the present instance because I was unwilling to occupy the time of the offices of the Department Public Works on works that might not be approved, and the taluq offices are generally able to turn out estimates with quite sufficient accuracy to allow of a close approximation of the cost of the whole being indicated.

4. It will be seen from the enclosed estimates that the cost of road-making in and near Ponani is great because the metalling has to be conveyed some miles. A road of six feet in width cannot be constructed for much less than 2000 Rupees a mile.

5. In the Deputy Collector's letter enclosed it will be observed that he deprecates the necessity for some of the proposed changes. While, of course, per-

fectly ready to carry out any orders of Government for improving and beautifying what is at present an ordinary filthy Moplah coast town, (there are several other such in the district,) and very glad to see the improvement of a portion of the district by the expenditure of Imperial funds, I feel bound to say that I agree to a certain extent with the Deputy Collector in doubting the absolute necessity for this expenditure.

6. If the Government think proper to order the metalling of some miles of road over the sands in the neighbourhood of the town of Ponani, this will, of course, be a benefit to the neighbourhood. But, looking at it from a more general point of view as Collector of the district, I venture to think that ten times the sum required here is far more urgently wanted, and would be more appreciated in other parts.

Why Rupees 20,000 should be spent on Ponani, while Calicut, Tellicherry, Palghat, and Cannanore have to raise their own funds, will be a question naturally put by these Municipalities and not easily answered.

7. The changes proposed are so unwelcome, and will, if thrust on them, be so thanklessly received by the people of Ponani, that I do not think the Government are called upon to do more than provide for the safety from disease of the towns. people and those to whom contagion would take it. This, I believe, may be done at a comparatively small cost.

8. Ponani is no unhealthy swamp; it stands on the sandy beach at the mouth of a large river-soil: sufficient (though slight) elevation and sea-breeze naturally conduce to make it essentially healthy. All we really need to guard against are the acts of the people. The activity of the Police and the Magistracy can do more than any expenditure.

9. All, therefore, that I think is really necessary for the sanitation of the place, is to humour the Moplahs by accepting their selection of the site for the new burial ground and wall it in; to assist private persons in filling up and levelling unused tanks; prohibit intramural interment except in the few exceptional cases referred to by Mr. Ballard; wall in the old grave-yards; and compel all persons to keep their own premises free from nuisance. As Moplahs always carry their dead to burial on the shoulders of men, and as a metalled road is not to their bare feet so pleasant a path as sand, the metalling of roads is wholly uncalled for in connexion with this subject.

10. Until such time, therefore, as the metalling of the roads around Ponani is taken up on different grounds, and until, by the application of the Municipal Act, funds are raised in the neighbourhood for its own comfort and adornment, I do not feel justified in asking sanction for a greater expenditure than the undermentioned:—

Levelling and otherwise preparing the new burial ground and walling it in.....	RS. 4,438
Filling in tanks.....	100
A Norton's tube well, (already applied for through the Revenue Board).....	100
Gift of 2000 Rupees } for walling in old grave-yards.....	6,000
and loan of 4000 }	
Total...	10,638

11. Metalling the main street of the town up to the Salt Gollah will more properly form part of an estimate for a new Imperial salt road from Pattamby now in contemplation, and, as this would run through the whole length of the centre of the town, it prevents the necessity for asking for any such sanction now.

12. As both the Sub-Magistrate and Deputy Magistrate have their offices in Ponani, considerable numbers of Police must necessarily frequent the town; and I shall ask the Assistant Superintendent to direct them, when there, to see to the prevention of nuisance.

From the Deputy Magistrate, Southern Division, to the Magistrate of Malabar; dated Ponani, 26th July 1869, No. 71.

I have the honour to make the following report in reference to your predecessor, Mr. Ballard's letter of the 25th March last, No. 712, regarding the arrangements for the sanitation of the Ponani town.

2. I have in the first place to express the joyous circumstance that the Maghdum, (the Mahomedan metropolitan,) the Town Cazi, and Waliya Jarathinkel Saidahmed, with the other principal Moplahs of the Ponani town, have by writing agreed to the proposal of making a separate burial ground in the town. It should be observed that this was effected with a great deal of difficulty. Mr. Ballard had conversed with these chiefs on the subject, but they did not seem disposed to favour his views. It is, as you are aware, almost impossible to persuade the Moplahs to substitute a new procedure in supersession to a long-wonted custom savouring of religious rites.

The said chiefs have for several reasons requested that the new cemetery be fixed in a locality of their choice. The principal reason adduced is the great inconvenience and difficulty, particularly to the poor families with which the town abounds, in finding men to carry the corpses so far, especially in times of outbreaks of epidemics. The site pointed out by them is nearly one-third

* District Road No. 68.

of a mile north of that marked out by Mr. Ballard, and seven yards east of the high road* which passes by the front of the Travellers' Bungalow.

On the verge of this ground is a mosque which fronts a cross-road leading southward from the heart of the town to Velienkod. The length of this tract is 170½ yards, and breadth 160 yards. The cost of enclosing it with stone walls with gates, &c., is estimated at about 4500 Rupees.†

† Vide the Tahsildar's estimate accompanying. It is 520 yards off the town proper, (the residence of the Moplah community,) and 224 yards south-east of the Travellers' Bungalow. This ground is higher than that of Mr. Ballard's choice, described in the following paragraph. Within the limits of this ground are seven houses and huts which ought to be removed, for which a compensation of some 250 Rupees will be necessary.

3. The objections which the said chiefs take to making a cemetery on the site appointed by Mr. Ballard and yourself are chiefly two—first, that it is three-quarters of a mile afar from the heart of the town; and secondly, that it is a low ground with no facility of drainage, water remaining stagnant one step below the surface even some months after the close of the monsoon. As, however, Mr. Ballard has desired in his letter that a cemetery should be made there, I have fixed the site. It is 374 yards long and 74 broad.

Vide the Tahsildar's estimate accompanying. The cost of enclosing it by a wall of laterite stones is roughly estimated at Rupees 1500.

4. There are twenty-six burial grounds of old standing in the town proper which are intermingled with the houses and are without enclosures. Until these are stone-walled the town would not likely be freed of its nasty aspect. The expenditure of enclosing all these with stone walls is estimated at 6 or 7000 Rupees. The Moplah chiefs have offered to construct the enclosures within a few years by subscriptions, provided the Government would contribute one-third of the cost. The reason of their soliciting this aid of Government is that the trade in

Ponani town has much declined. Ponani, it is true, was formerly a distinguished town in the Malabar district on account of its extensive trade. Grains and other articles from different quarters used to be stored up here, whence the different parts of the country received their supplies; but, ever since the opening of the railway, the trade has considerably fallen with the wealth of the town. It is, therefore, urged, and with reason, that it is impossible to fill up the whole of the amount by subscriptions from the towns-people. I would request you will kindly submit their prayer for the kind and favourable consideration of Government, supported by your recommendation.

Number of tanks			
Attached to mosques.	Public.	Private.	Total.
6	4	38	48

There are in it 408 wells, which are all private with few exceptions; and it does not appear advisable to construct more at the Government expense, nor do the people desire them.

6. I would act as suggested by Mr. Ballard in paragraph 7 regarding the dilapidated houses; but I beg permission to state that it was, in my humble opinion, not a matter which called for remarks, as such buildings are very few. And, in a place of the Moplah community's residence like Ponani, it is almost always observable.

7. I am sorry at Mr. Ballard's remarks in paragraph 8 of his letter touching the slaughtering of cattle. He was, I presume, prompted to make the remarks from the appearance on our way during his late visit here of few old bones of animals lying by a burying ground, which had been probably conveyed thither by some dogs or jackals. Mr. Ballard would have a place selected for slaughtering. A meeting was assembled and the subject fully discussed, wherein it is found to be of no utility to fit a separate site for that purpose, as there is no slaughtering daily or weekly, nay, sometimes even once in a month. It takes place occasionally on the events of any feasting of the principal men, and during the Moplah feasting festivals. And then the slaughtering is generally done within the compounds of the respective parties, and the refuses are buried at the spots. When the burial grounds are enclosed the appearance of bones will altogether cease.

8. Mr. Ballard has in paragraph 9 proposed that the pathway along the eastern bank of the canal should be widened. I would deprecate the adoption of the scheme. To widen it as proposed, a sum of 4 or 5000 Rupees would be incurred, as many very fruitful cocoanut trees have to be cut, and cultivable lands taken up. And yet the path would be used only by a very few people living at the sides of the canal. I would, however, suggest that, before coming to a determination, the matter be referred to the opinion of the Executive Engineer.

9. The metalling of the high road, alluded to in clause 4, paragraph 7 of Mr. Ballard's letter, and of the cross-road referred to in clause 2, paragraph 2 of his letter as far as Velienkod Ferry, a distance of two-and-three quarter miles, is estimated by the Tahsildar at Rupees 10,400.

Vide the Tahsildar's estimate accompanying.

10. I would ask permission to state another point. The Government I beg will please not consider that I was indifferent in the sanitation of the Ponani town; but the view of the Superintendent of Police was that Ponani town is not to be considered "a town" within the meaning of the Police Act. No constable is ordered to employ even an hour at least in a day to move about the town for the purpose of preventing nuisance, and Mr. Ballard would, in the latter part of paragraph 10 of his letter, instruct me to work the provisions of the Police Act. How is it possible for me to do so, I am at a loss to see.

Vide my letter to Mr. Ballard, dated 25th January 1866, No. 3.

I had four years ago requested the adoption of measures for improving the condition of the Ponani town.

Mr. Ballard and yourself are, I suppose, aware that it is no easy matter to impress a good purpose upon the Moplahs of South Malabar, and that the habit of keeping their houses, yards, or compounds clean, is quite a strange thing with them. Our attempt, therefore, to interfere with their such habits, should be under some authority or other.

11. Referring to paragraph 10 of Mr. Ballard's letter, I do not desire the entertainment of a conservancy establishment on Government expense in Ponani alone. I do not deem it necessary because there are several other residences of Moplah communities in Malabar equally foul as Ponani.

12. I beg to add here a few remarks in illustration of the extent of the overcrowding in the town.

The town proper, or the residence of the Moplah community, is enclosed in these limits, viz., on the north, the Ponani river; east, the canal; south, the public bungalow; and west, the high road.* In length it is 1280 yards, and in breadth

* District Road No. 68.

500. It contains 22 bankshawls, 231 peedikas or shops, and 720 houses, of which 62 are cadjan-walled huts. It also contains 26 mosques, 21 cemeteries, 48 tanks, and 408 wells.

The removal of the said 62 huts (to be re-settled in the plain) is greatly conducive to the sanitation of the town, its ventilation being thereby, in a great degree, left uninterrupted, and the infection, by contact of epidemics during their outbreaks, being considerably avoided. It cannot, however, be affirmed that the occupants of all the huts would amicably leave their present abodes, to which they have become much attached by long occupation.

Kuttai, Pasoni, and Tanur.

13. In conclusion, I would observe that there are yet three other Moplah towns* in the Ponani taluq of equally foul aspect.

No. 54. ORDER THEREON, 8th September 1869, No. 1262.

The Government regret that, in the present financial position of the State, it is quite out of the question to sanction the expenditure of so large an amount as that required to carry out in the town of Ponani even the modified improvements proposed by Mr. Thomas.

2. These improvements of the town at the cost of the State must be deferred; but the attention of the local Magistrates and of the Police should be carefully directed to the prevention of the nuisances which have been brought to notice by the Civil Surgeon. The Deputy Magistrate should also endeavour to induce the people to enclose the old burial grounds, (the necessity of which appears from his letter to be recognized by them,) and to improve, as far as possible, the sanitary condition of the place.

(True Extract).

Chief Secretary.

To the Magistrate of Malabar.

Inspector General of Police.

do. of the Indian Medical Department.

Exd. J. Wright.

No. 82

Malabar Magistrate's Court
on Circuit
Palghat 19th August 1869
resp d. 25th " 11/0

From
E. C. G. Thomas Esqre
Magistrate of Malabar

To
The Honble R. S. Ellis C. B.
Chief Secretary to Government
Madras.

Sir,

I have the honor herewith to
forward certain detailed estimates in
connection with improved sanitary ar-
rangements in the town of Ponany.

Mr Ballard in his letter of 25th
March 1869 proposed.

1. The enclosure of the Mosques with
burial grounds in the Town.
2. The preparation & enclosure of two
new burial grounds outside the town.
3. The metalling of the road leading
to them for a distance of two miles.
4. Filling up some and cleaning out
all other tanks in the Town.
5. Repairing dilapidated houses
or removing the debris.
6. A conservancy establishment
at

Dist. of 1869

PUBLIC.

THE MAGISTRATE OF MALABAR.

Secy, Secy, Secy.

Dated September, 8th.

ccd.

Enc.

G. O., 8th September 1869, No. 1963.

RECEIVED
NOV 25-69

Placing order in regard to the sanitation
of town of Ponany, in the district of Malabar.

15
the proposed changes. While, of course,
perfectly ready to carry out any orders
of Government for improving & beautifying
what is at present an ordinary filthy
Moplah Coast Town (there are several
other such in the District) and very
glad to see the improvement of a portion
of the district by the expenditure of
imperial funds, I feel bound to say
that I agree to a certain extent with
the Deputy Collector in doubting the
absolute necessity for this expenditure.

6. If the Government think proper
to order the metalling of some miles of
road over the sands in the neighbour-
hood of the Town of Ponany this
will of course be a benefit to the
neighbourhood. But looking at it
from a more general point of view, as
Collector of the District, I venture to
think that ten times the sum required
here is far more urgently wanted
and would be more appreciated
in other parts.

Why

Why Rs 20,000 should be spent on Ponany
while Calicut, Tellicherry, Palghat &
Kannamore have to raise their own
funds will be a question naturally
put by these Municipalities and not
easily answered.

7. The changes proposed are so
unwelcome and will, if thrust on them,
be so thanklessly received by the people
of Ponany that I do not think the
Government are called upon to do more
than provide for the safety from disease
of the towns-people & those to whom
contagion would take it.

This I believe may be done at
comparatively small cost.

8. Ponany is no unhealthy swamp.
it stands on the sandy beach at
the mouth of a large river. ~~naturally~~
soil, sufficient (though slight) elevation
and sea breeze, ^{naturally} conduce to make it
essentially healthy - all we really
need to guard against are the acts
of the people. The activity of the Police
and the Magistracy can do more
than any expenditure -

all

9. All therefore that I think is really necessary for the sanitation of the place is to humour the Moplahs by accepting their selection of the site for the new burial ground & wall it in to assist private persons in filling up & levelling unused Tanks, prohibit intra-mural interment except in the few exceptional cases referred to by Mr. Ballard, wall in the old grave yards, and compel all persons to keep their own premises free from nuisance. As Moplahs always carry their dead to burial on the shoulders of men and as a metalled road is not to their bare feet so pleasant a path as sand, the metalling of roads is wholly uncalled for in connection with this subject.

10. Until such time therefore as the metalling of the roads around Ponany is taken up on different grounds and until by the application of the Municipal Act, funds are raised in

170 14/1
in the neighbourhood for its own comfort and adornment, I do not feel justified in asking sanction for a greater expenditure than the undermentioned.

Leveling & otherwise preparing the new burial ground & walling it in	Rs 14,138
Filling in Tanks	100
A Norton's tube Well (already applied for thro' the Revenue Board)	100
Gift of 2000 Rs } For walling in old grave yards	6,000
Loan of 4,000, }	<u>10,638</u>

11. Metalling the main street of the town up to the Salt Gallah will more properly form part of an estimate for a new Imperial Salt road from Pattanby now in contemplation and as this would run through the whole length of the centre of the Town it prevents the necessity for asking for any such sanction now.

12. As both the Sub Magistrate and Deputy Magistrate have their offices in Ponany, considerable numbers of Police must necessarily frequent the Town and I shall ask the Assistant Superintendent to

direct them, when there, to see to the
prevention of nuisance.

I have the honor to be,
Sir
Your most Obedt Servant

E. S. Adams
Magistrate.

53

Pr. Ric 1869 Sept

To the Chief Secretary to Govt

Dated 19th August 1865
 Dec^r 24th ————— } 1865
 Dec 30th ————— }
 N.O. 1266
 No 82

h. 82

Secdo: 1.

Dr. 1994

Submits an Estimate in
connection with improved
sanitary arrangements
in the town of Ponany -

Estimate of the probable cost of emptying the places where the refuse is deposited and reside in the Ponani town.

Work	Measurement				Description of work	Rate	Per Value	Total	Remarks
	Length feet	Breadth feet	Height feet	Cubic feet					
Building a wall around the Mosque	1122	2	1 1/2	2	6732	Foundation of the longitudinal walls of the burial ground.			This burial ground is 1235 yards south of the centre of the town. It is a low ground. It appears that in some places water generally stands in rainy seasons. The measurement of the spot is as follows. East to West (holes) 37. North to South 102/ 187. Perkoms. 6919. Acres 5. 11-8.
Known as "Said"	222	2	1 1/2	2	1332	Orths of Cross Orths.			
"Ab-nis Pally"	5	1 1/2	1 1/2	150	1086 1/2	Intermediate pillars for the cross walls.			
	704 1/2	1	5	2	7045	Walls between the above pillars.			
	5	1 1/2	1 1/2	86	96 1/2	Intermediate pillars for longitudinal. = wall walls.			
	107 1/2	1	5	2	1075	Wall between the above pillars.			
					2350 1/2	Total cubic feet	16	100 3762 3 10	
				4		gates on four sides with walls & roof.	25	1 100	
						6000 cubic yards earth work.			
						Filling up into & levelling the ground within the walls	1	375	
						Pay of masons & other sundry charges at 5 per cent.		21. 13 10	4,449 18

7 Nov 570

This spot is situated 55 yards north of the northern limit of the burial ground No. 1. The distance from the centre of the Bazar southwards is 520 yards. The measurement of the spot is as follows.
East to West (Holes) 85 1/4
North to South 180 1/2 80.
Perkins 6860
Acres 5-10-3
The distance from the burial ground to the Ponani Public Bungalow, situated on the western side of the burial ground is 224 yards.

As gravel is to be brought from the places adjoining Edgah amshom, a distance of about 8 miles, it appears that the rates shown here cannot be reduced.

From half way on this road, the road No. 3 situated on the Southern side runs parallel - The distance between the two lines (from half way) being 30 yards on

The eastern bank of the canal is narrow & uneven in some places. It is not straight & therefore it is necessary to straighten, level & metal it as far as possible. Earth required for repair is to be taken from the fields on the eastern side & from the canal on the western side, & no more soil are available for such purposes. As this road has heavy fields on one side & canal on the other, & as the earth is also sandy, it is necessary that the road should be sloped & turfed. The lands to be taken from the eastern side are fertile. Their produce is valuable. Adequate compensation for the lands is therefore allowed. As the gravel is to be conveyed from a distance of about 8 miles, the rates of hire for conveying it are necessarily high - 4 drops over the Canal is added. Water stands 4 or 5 feet in depth in rainy seasons, are found to be necessary. Unless a portion of the warehouse situated on the Southern side of Appli is removed, the place from which the compensation required to be paid for the portion of the warehouse is included in the amount provided for improvements.

(Sey Translation)
S. J. Adams
Magistrate
Signed/ Ramana Kuni
Tahildar

23544	Masonry work for building wall as shown above	10	3762	210
4	Gates as ditto	25	1	100
	200 cubic yards earth work	1	125	
	Pay of masons & other sundry charges at 5 per cent		200	122
	Amount of compensation to be paid for removing seven huts situated on the burial ground.		100	
	Value of trees on site to be paid to owners thereof		100	
			100	4438
150	Earth work for levelling the road (measuring 2 3/4 miles in length and 6 feet in breadth) and making side drains	1	4125	
2	Metalling the road	1	4909	
	Pay of Mairistries and other sundry charges at 2 1/2 per cent		133	
			5554	8
1	Filling in ruts and metal - being in places, the road 2 3/4 miles	1	220	

195	Metalling	1	4909	
	Pay of mairistries & sundry charges at 2 1/2 %		128	4
			5557	4
	Value of land with improvements thereon, proposed to be taken up for widening the bank of the Canal (now) feet 7 to 23 feet		1708	73
	Cubic feet raising road	2	1	660
	Square yards turving	4	1	110
2	Cubic yards metalling roads	1	1174	
	Shutters at 5 per cent		103	126
	Wooden bridge over a Canal 30 feet in breadth & 4 feet in depth including masonry work		336	10
	Bridges as above over 3 Canals of 15 feet in breadth	195	585	
			4717	139
			24316	115

The road starts is removed, the compensation required to be paid for the portion of the warehouse is included in the amount provided for improvements.

1	Building a wall around the Mosque situated on the northern side of the above mosque.	400	170	1/2	4909	6	1/2	2054
3	Metalling road leading from Edgah amshom to Road No. 14, via Southern street	400	170	1/2	4909	6	1/2	2054
6	The 2 burial grounds shown above & then to Velengode & southwards.	400	170	1/2	4909	6	1/2	2054
1	Improving the road west ditto as far as	400	170	1/2	4909	6	1/2	2054
1	Metalling to a width of 4 feet, one mile of road on the Eastern bank of Appli, Com.	400	170	1/2	4909	6	1/2	2054
2	Metalling from Appli to the end of the bridge.	400	170	1/2	4909	6	1/2	2054

Malabar Magistrate's Court
on 19th August 1889
Sd/- S. J. Adams
Magistrate

22 97
Public Department.

Memorandum of the Probable
Cost of Improving the Access
to the Bismarck River
in the Town of Pinaruy -
dated 19th August 1894 H. 189

For 1904/1905
No. 8-2425/189 & 1895

by Mr. Thomas.

2. These improve-
ments of the town at
the cost of the State
must

Public Department.

OFFICIAL MEMORANDUM.

No. 25/6 MADRAS

Dated 15/8/69

Received } 186

The Under Secretary to
Government, Public, &c. Departments
is directed to acknowledge

the receipt of Mr. Ballard's letter to the Chief
Secy No. 570 dated 25th March 1869, with its enclosure
& to state, that the Government ^{generally} approve
of the measures recommended ~~and~~ by
Mr. Ballard for improving the sanitary
condition of the town of Pondicherry, deferring
orders ~~on the subject~~ till the detailed
estimates exhibiting the expenditure involved
shall be ^{before him} submitted. The As. Magr. of Malabar
is requested to submit ^{such} estimates at an early
date

W. M.

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following letter from the

Magistrate of Malabar.
(Here enters 25th March 69)
19th Aug. 1869

Order thereon 8th September 1869 No. 1262.

The Government
regret that in the present
financial position of
the State, it is quite
out of the question to
sanction the expenditure
of so large an amount
as that required to carry
out, in the town of Pondicherry,
even the modified
improvements proposed
by Mr. Thomas.

2. These improve-
ments of the town at
the cost of the State
must

N.
W. M.
A. A.

must be deferred;
but the attention of the
local Magistrates and
of the Police should be
carefully directed to
the prevention of nuisances which have been brought to
notice by Mr. Carl Surpren.

The Deputy Magistrate
should also endeavour
to induce the people
to enclose the old
burial grounds (the
necessity of which it
appears from his letter
to be recognized by
them,) and to improve,
as far as possible,
the sanitary condition
of the place.

Depy Mag

34 21 1870

To The Magistrate of
Calcutta
Insp Genl of Police
Insp Genl Andran Med Dept

Cont. of 186 } **Endure.**

Little

To
The Bridge of Brilaban
See

Dated *Sept 8.* } 1869, No.
Recd. *1282*

Nos. 52. 54.

*Passing system in books
to the station of the down
of train in the District
of Brilaban*