

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	261	Press Mis.
Dated	3 - 3 -	29/8/89

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,
3rd March 1869.*

No. 7. Read the following letter from the Collector of Bellary, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George ; dated Bellary, 16th February 1869, No. 11.

I have the honor to enclose, for the information of Government, a report* furnished by my Assistant Mr. Clogstoun, describing the sanitary arrangements carried out at the festival at Mylar, in the

* No. 14, dated 3rd instant.

Huvinhadgully Taluq in this District. The result of the measures taken by Mr. Clogstoun has been eminently satisfactory, and I think he deserves great credit for the judicious manner in which the sanitary rules were enforced under his supervision. The attention of the Superintendent of Police has been called to the inadequacy of the Police Force present on the occasion.

2. A sum of Rupees 300 was sanctioned by Government for sanitary purposes in connexion with this festival in their Proceedings, dated 31st December 1868, No. 1593, of which only Rupees 45-12-4 have been expended.

From H. F. CLOGSTOUN, Esq., Assistant Collector, to the Collector of Bellary ; dated Augoor, 3rd February 1869, No. 14.

I have the honor to forward a report on the sanitary measures adopted, and the expenses incurred during the festival held at Mylar, in this District, on the 28th, 29th, and 30th of last month.

2. For the purpose of making any arrangements that might appear necessary, I went to the village accompanied by the Tahsildar of the Taluq on the 23rd of the month, and the time between that date and the commencement of the feast was spent in laying out the camping ground, clearing away the stubble from the fields, building a latrine and police station, and clearing the usually very dirty village.

3. The ground on which the feast is held is a large open plain, between the river Toongabudra and the village of Mylar, about half a mile off. The camp is formed near the village, and, although many bandies line the road from the river to the village, there is a large open space between the river and the greater part of the camp. It has been usual hitherto for merchants to lay out their goods in the village street ; but those streets are so narrow that I determined, on this occasion, to make all the merchants pitch their tents in the middle of the camp, and I accordingly laid out and reserved several streets for them. The merchants did not appear to object to this, as they all had tents for camping in the open, and it was a matter of great rejoicing to the villagers themselves, who, on previous occasions, had been compelled to keep their children in doors owing to the danger of the crowded streets.

4. The proximity of the camp to the river insures a good supply of water for the cattle and for drinking and bathing purposes : and the stream is at this spot so wide and so rapid that there is no chance of the water getting fouled for any time. There is also a small pond in the centre of the camp near the village, and a guard was set over it to keep off cattle. The water it contained, however, not being as good as the river water, was used only for cooking purposes.

5. One very wide road (30 yards) was made right through the camping ground from the river to the temple, a distance exceeding half a mile ; two other fine roads ran through the camp longitudinally, while at right angles to these were four wide roads cutting the camp through its whole breadth.

6. The money placed at my disposal (Rupees 300) would have enabled me to make as many latrines as I liked ; but the small force of Police at my command would not have enabled me to insist on their use ; I only made one large one. The camp is on open and level ground ; there is no small brushwood ; there are no small hollows in the land, and no narrow walled lanes which hold out opportunities of committing nuisances unobserved, and I, therefore, judged that, while we kept the roads clear, the people would, in their own interest, keep their camps clear, and in this I was

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,
3rd March 1869.*

right, the latrine was not used, but at the same time the people all went to a considerable distance from the camp, and there was nothing offensive in the camp at any time during the festival. Latrines are, of course, absolutely necessary where the feast is held in a town, or where it is held on wooded land and is of any duration; but I think that you will agree with me that where a feast only lasts two to three days, and is held on an open plain, latrines may be dispensed with. The natives, the lower orders at least who were the large majority on the present occasion, have an invincible objection to them, or an objection which is not invincible only when a Policeman is guarding every other spot to which they can possibly go.

7. The people began to arrive on Wednesday night, or rather early on Thursday morning the 28th, and during that day, and the day following, there was an intermittent stream of bandies, animals, and people flowing into the camp, and it will be believed by any person who has ever attended one of the large festivals, that it required the services of every available Peon to drive the bandies into the ground laid out for them, and to keep the streets clear. By Friday evening everybody had arrived, and the next day, Saturday, was the great day of the feast.

8. One Native feast is so like another that it will not, I imagine, be necessary that I should enter into any description of the doings on this occasion. There is, however, one custom which, I believe, is peculiar to this festival. On the great day in the evening when the worship is completed, and the offerings have been made, the deity deigns, in the person of a child, to lift the veil of the future, and, in the presence of the assembled thousands, to utter one sentence prophetic of future events. A little child is held up on the shoulders of the priests, and, closing in his arms the iron bow of the god upheld by the priests, he utters the words put into his mouth by the god.

9. The words uttered on the present occasion were "there are many thunderbolts in the sky," and the words were greeted with a murmur of joy as implying probably a good supply of rain in the coming year. Great faith appears to be placed by the people in these words heard at these times, and as there seems to be the same vagueness about them which characterized the utterances of the Delphic Oracle, it is probable that their faith is never put to any severe test. The sentence uttered the year before the mutiny—"The white-ants are risen against"—is now recalled by many in proof of the foreseeing power of their god.

10. The feast concluded on Saturday evening the 30th, and by midday on Monday there was hardly a bandy on the ground with the exception of a few belonging to the merchants who generally stay in the village until the occurrence, in a few days, of another feast in a neighbouring village.

11. There were present at the festival about 5000 bandies, 23,000 head of cattle, and not fewer than 40,000 people. The bandies and the cattle were counted at the different outlets of the camp on the day of departure. The number of people is only approximately arrived at, by supposing every bandy to represent eight people. This is by no means an arbitrary estimate, nor is it, in my opinion, too high. The bandies coming from the Dharwar side, of which there were 3000, are enormous vehicles drawn by teams of four, six, and, in not a few instances, by teams of eight fine bullocks, and in many of them there were not less than from eight to fifteen people including the drivers. Many people came, moreover, with bullocks for sale, and many on foot, to see the feast. The Tahsildar has estimated the number of people present at 65,000. He also has based his estimate on the number of bandies known to have been present. His estimate is, I think, too high, but in taking 25,000 off it, and setting down the number of people present as 40,000, I am of opinion that I am, if anything, within the minimum.

12. The Police Force present consisted of an Inspector, two Deputy Head Constables, and ten Constables, supplemented by some forty Cattubadies, or village Police. This force should, on future occasions, be slightly increased. The work of keeping the ground clear is one of great necessity and immense difficulty; and on the present occasion had, in a great measure, to be performed by the Revenue Peons belonging to the Tahsildar and to myself, and they were worked very hard indeed. The village Police are not known as such in the crowds, are not respected, and, of course, are of little use. I am glad to say that no crime was reported to have occurred during the festival.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,
3rd March 1869.*

13. An Apothecary* was in attendance at the festival with a large supply of medicines, but I am happy to add that his services were not required, no sickness having occurred.

* Mr. Atkins.

14. That so little expense was incurred is mainly attributable to the efforts of the Tahsildar, and to the great respect in which he is held in his Taluq. The bamboos required for building the Police Station and a Cutcherry were lent by the people of Mylar, and the cleaning of the village and harrowing the ground on which the camp was pitched, which would have cost us a good deal of money, were willingly done by themselves at the request of the Tahsildar. A Statement of the expenses incurred is subjoined.

Statement showing the amount of expenditure in Mylar Feast.

	RS.	A.	P.
1. For Superintendent at the rate of 8 Annas per day, from 23rd January to 31st forenoon.....	8	8	0
8 Wudders to make road, at the rate of 6 Annas per man, per day.....	3	0	0
8 Coolies, at the rate of 2 Annas per man, per day.....	1	0	0
<i>For Latrines.</i>			
4 Bandies of straw to fence, at 2 Rupees per bandy.....	8	0	0
5 Bandies of wood.....	4	0	0
45½ Coolies, at the rate of 2 Annas per day, per man.....	5	11	0
<i>For clearing the village.</i>			
26½ Coolies, at the rate of 2 Annas per man, per day.....	3	5	0
23 Coolies, at the rate of 1 Anna do.....	2	6	4
8 Bandies for sweeping the bazaar, at the rate of 1 Rupee..	8	0	0
6 Water pots.....	1	14	0
Total...	45	12	4

(Signed) H. F. CLOGSTOUN,
Assistant Collector.

(True Copies).

(Signed) H. E. SULLIVAN,
Collector.

No. 8. ORDER THEREON, 3rd March 1869, No. 261.

The Right Honorable the Governor in Council has perused, with much interest, the foregoing report of the sanitary measures adopted by Mr. Clogstoun at the Mylar festival.

2. The discretion and intelligent interest displayed by that Officer are highly approved by Government.

(True Extract.)

Chief Secretary.

To the Collector of Bellary.

„ Inspector General of Police.
„ Inspector General, Indian Medical Department.
„ Sanitary Commissioner.
„ Accountant General.

Ed. J. Wright,

No. 14

Assistant Collector's Office,
Camp, Bellary, 3rd February 1869.

To,
The Collector of Bellary.

Sir,

I have the honor to forward a report on the sanitary measures adopted and the expenses incurred during the festival held at Mylar in this District on the 25, 29 and 30th of last month.

1. For the purpose of making the camping ground appear necessary, I sent to the village accompanied by the Tahsildar of the Taluk on the 25th of the month and the time between that date and the commencement of the feast was spent in laying out the camping ground, clearing away the stubble from the fields, building a latrine, and Police Stations and cleaning the usually very dirty village.

2. The ground on which the feast is held is a large open plain between the river Tungabhadra and the village of Mylar about 1/2 a mile off. The camp is formed near the village and although many bandies time the road from the river to the village there is a large open space between the river and the village.

3. It is usual hitherto for merchants to lay out their goods in the village streets, but those streets are so narrow that I determined on this occasion to make all the merchants pitch their tents in the middle of the camp and I accordingly laid out and reserved several streets for them. The merchants did not appear to object to this as they all had tents for camping in the open and it was a matter of great rejoicing to the villagers themselves who on previous occasions had been compelled to keep their children indoors during the duration of the festival.

4. The proximity of the camp to the river was a good supply of water for the cattle and for drinking & bathing purposes: and the stream is at this spot so wide and so rapid that there is no chance of the water getting fouled for any time. There is also a small pond in the centre of the camp near the village and a guard was set over it to keep off cattle. The water it contained however, not being as good as the river water, was used only for cooking purposes.

5. One very wide road (30 yards) was made right thro' the camp.

Dist. of Bellary, Bellary.

PUBLIC.

To

THE COLLECTOR OF BELLARY.

Do, do, do.

Dated March, 3rd.

Recd.

Encl.

G. O., 3rd March 1869, No. 261.

MARCH

Nos. 7-8.

Approving of the Sanitary measures adopted
at the late Mylar festival in the Bellary District.

the camping ground from the river to the temple distance exceeding half a mile, two other fine roads ran through the camp longitudinally, while at right angles to these were 4 wide roads cutting the camp through its whole breadth.

The money placed at my disposal (Rs. 200) would have enabled me to make as many latrines as I liked but the small force of Police at my command, would not have enabled me to insist on their use. I only made one large one. The camp is on open and level ground, there is no small brushwood, there are no small hollows in the land and no narrow walled lanes which hold out opportunities of committing nuisances unobserved, and I therefore judged that while we kept the roads clear the people would in their own interest, keep their camps clear and in this I was right the latrine was not used, but at the same time the people all went to a considerable distance from the camp and there was nothing offensive in the camp at any time during the Festival. Latrines are of course absolutely necessary where the feast is held in a town or where it is held on wooded land and is of any duration but I think that a feast only lasts two to three days and is held on an open plain, latrines may be dispensed with. The natives the lower orders at least who were the large majority on the present occasion have an invincible objection to them or an objection which is not invincible only when a Police man is guarding every other spot to which they can possibly go.

7 The people began to arrive on Wednesday night or rather early on Thursday morning the 28th and during that day and the day following there was an interminable stream of bandies coming into the camp and it will be believed by any person who has ever attended one of the large festivals that it required the services of every available person to drive the bandies into the ground laid out for them and to keep the streets clear. By Friday evening every body had arrived and the next day Saturday was the great day of the feast.

One native feast is so like another that it will not imagine, be necessary that I should enter into any description.

description of the doings on this occasion. There is however one custom which I believe is peculiar to this festival. On the great day in the evening when the worship is completed and the offerings have been made the deity deigns in the person of a child to lift the veil of the future and in the presence of the assembled thousands to utter one sentence prophetic of future events. A little child is held up on the shoulders of the priests and closing in his arms the iron bow of the God upheld by the priests he utters the words put into his mouth by the priest.

9 The words uttered on the present occasion were "There are many thunderbolts in the sky" and the words were greeted with a ~~immense~~ joy as implying probably a good supply of rain in the coming year. Great faith appears to be placed by the people in these words heard at these times and as there seems to be the same vagueness about them which characterized the utterances of the Delphic oracle it is probable that their faith is never put to any severe test. The sentence uttered the year before was "The wheat and the rice are rising again" is now recalled by many in proof of the foreseeing power of their Gods.

10 The feast concluded on Saturday evening the 30th and by midday on Monday there was hardly a bandy on the ground with the exception of a few belonging to the merchants who generally stay in the village until the occurrence in a few days of another feast in a neighboring village.

11 There were present at the festival about 2000 bandies and not less than 10000 cattle.

the different parts of the camp on the day of departure. The number of people is only approximately arrived at by supposing every bandy to represent 8 people. This is by no means an arbitrary estimate nor is it in my opinion too high. The bandies coming from the Dharwar side of which there were 3000, are enormous vehicles drawn by teams of 4-6 and in not a few instances by teams of 8 ~~fine~~ bullocks and in many of them there were not less than from 8 to 15 people including

including the drivers. Many people came moreover with bullocks for sale and moving on foot to see the feast. The Tahsildar has estimated the number of people present at 65000. He also has based his estimate on the number of bandies known to have been present. His estimate is I think too high but in taking 25000 off it and setting down the number of people present as 40000 I am of opinion that I am if anything within the minimum.

12 The Police force present consisted of an Inspector 2 Deputy Head Constables and 10 Constables supplied by some 40 Pattabadies or village Police. This force should on future occasion be slightly increased. The work of keeping the ground clear is one of great necessity and immense difficulty, and on the present occasion had in a great measure to be performed by the Revenue peons belonging to the Tahsildar and to myself and they were worked very hard indeed. The village Police are not known as such in the crowds, are not respected and of course are of little use. I am glad to say that no crime was reported to have occurred during the festival.

13 An Apothecary was in attendance at the Festival Mr. At with a large supply of medicines but I am happy to add that his services were not required, no sickness having occurred.

14 That so little expense was incurred is mainly attributable to the efforts of the Tahsildar and to the great respect in which he is held in his Talook. The bam-boss required for building the Police Station and a butchery were lent by the people of Mylar and the cleaning of the village and harrowing the ground on which the camp was pitched, which would

done by revenue men and the village police. A statement of the expenses incurred is subjoined.

I have &c.
(Signed) H. F. Blogston
Assistant Collector.

Statement showing the amount of expenditure in Mylar Taluk

	Rs	A	P
1 For Superintendent at the rate of 8 Annas per day from 23 rd January to 31 st forenoon	8	8	
8 Waddies to make road at the rate of 6 Annas per man per day	3		
8 coolies at the rate of 2 Annas per man per day	1		
For Bandies			
4 Bandies of straw to fence at 2 Rs. per bandy	8		
5 Bandies of Wood	4		
4 1/2 coolies at the rate of 2 Annas per day per man	5	11	
For clearing the village			
26 1/2 coolies at the rate of 2 Annas per man per day	3	5	
23 coolies at the rate of 1 Anna	do	2	6
8 Bandies for sweeping the bazaar at the rate of 1 Rupee	8		
6 Water pots	1	14	

(Signed) H. F. Blogston
Assistant Collector

7 True copies,
Collector.

BELLARY COLLECTOR'S OFFICE.

No. //

Date,

Bellary
16 February 1869

From,

H. C. Sullivan Esquire,

COLLECTOR OF
BELLARY.

To,

The Honorable R. S. Ellis Esq.,
Chief Secretary to Government,
Madras

Sir,

I have the honor to enclose for the information of Government a report furnished by my Assistant Mr. Blogston describing the sanitary arrangements carried out at the festival at Mylori in the Hovinbadgully Taluk in this District. The result of the measures taken by Mr. Blogston has been eminently satisfactory and I think he deserves great credit for the judicious manner in which the sanitary rules were enforced under his supervision. The attention of the Superintendent of Police has been called to the inadequacy of the police force present on the occasion.

2 A sum of Rs. 300 was sanctioned by Government for sanitary purposes in connection with this festival in their Proceedings, dated 3rd December 1868, No. 1593 of which only Rs. 45-12-4 have been expended.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,
Your Most Obedient Servant.

H. C. Sullivan
Collector.

No. 4, dated 3rd
Construct.

Enclosed 2

In letter from the
Collector of Bellary
to the Secretary to Govt.
dated 11th February 1869.

11th February 1869.

11th Feb 1869

Sanitary Commission

14

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following letter *from the*
Collector of Bellary.
(Here enters 16th February 1899
16/11)

Order them: 3 bunch / 69 No 261.

The Right Honble the Governor in Council has perused with much interest the foregoing report of the Sanitary measures adopted by his Excellency at the Hyderabad festival.

The discretion and intelligent interest displayed by that Officer are highly approved by Government.

Office of Registry
 Cape of Good Hope
 18th Feb 1882
 1882

Mr. J. B. Smith, Jr.
 Public
 DEPARTMENT.
 COLLECTOR'S OFFICE
 BELLARY.
 Received, 11/11/1919
 Dated, 11/11/1919 No. 11
 To, *Mr. J. B. Smith, Jr.*
 The Chief Secretary to
 Government, Madras.
 Enclosure *two*
 Received, 11/11/1919
 No. 3053
 Minute report on the various
 arrangements made
 out in connection with
 the 10th Festival and the
 the supervision of the 10th
 of the 10th Festival.

recd 16 March.

Govt. of 1869. 200 adms

to the

To the Hon. Secy of the Navy

(recd) 16 March

Dated 3 March 1869 No. 247
Recd.

Nos. 728.

Appropriations of the Navy
for the year 1869
at the late budget
trial in the Navy
District