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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	832	Press Mis.
Dated	17-6-	191869

Not to be folded or roughly handled

6-1-37

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,
17th June 1869.

No. 113. Read the following letter from the President of the Ootacamund Municipal Commission, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Ootacamund, 5th June 1869, No. 4.

I have the honour to forward herewith, for submission to Government, true

From Surgeon Major James Donaldson, M.D., Senior Medical Officer, Nellore, to the Honorary Secretary of the Ootacamund Municipal Commission, dated 27th May 1869.

Demi-official.

From Dr. Pearl to Dr. Donaldson, dated 31st May 1869.

copies of the papers noted in the margin, embodying the opinion of the medical officers of this station upon the state of the public health of Ootacamund, and the

effect generally of the conservancy arrangements adopted by the local Municipal Commissioners during the past twelve months.

2. The Government will observe that, upon these two points, the opinions of both Dr. Donaldson and Dr. Pearl are most favourable and satisfactory.

3. The papers enclosed should have been despatched with the Annual Report of the Proceedings of the Ootacamund Municipal Commission during the year ending 30th April 1869. This report is not yet complete though in course of preparation, and the enclosures have been forwarded at once for the perusal of the Government in connexion with my letter, No. 2, dated 28th May 1869.

From Surgeon Major J. DONALDSON, M.D., to the Honorary Secretary of the Municipal Commission; dated Ooty, 27th May 1869.

In reply to your letter, No. 1, of date 26th instant, received this day, I have the honour to state—*1st*, that there is very manifest improvement in the sanitary condition of the station since last year. Since date of my report, sent in end of January 1868, nuisances of various kinds have been removed; undergrowth, which was the covert for all manner of filth, has been almost everywhere cleared away to the very great purification of the air, and, in many places, of the water, (the only important exception of this being the growth on the "Jail Hill," often being alluded to, which is in much the same condition as formerly, and is still used as formerly by passers by); swamps have in many places been cleared and drained; public latrines have been erected in convenient situations; roads formerly almost impassable in wet weather have been "metalled" and are now in good condition, thereby enabling visitors to ride or drive in any weather; and many other improvements have been made, which no doubt have been duly made known by the Commissioners to Government.

2nd.—The public health has without doubt improved in a corresponding degree, and there is a most marked difference this year in the type and strength of disease as compared to past years, or even the warm dry weather of last year, when the benefit from the sanitary measures then being carried out had not begun to be felt. There has been no epidemic disease of any kind in Ooty since June last except "measles" which broke out in October, (having been imported from the low country,) and disappeared in January. The measles spread very generally over the station, as it is wont to do in a place where it has not appeared for some years; but there was nothing malignant or indicative of local unhealthiness about its progress. On the contrary, the disease was in most cases mild and the death-rate was unusually low, reaching in my practice only about one per cent. There has been *no case* of "typhoid" fever in Ooty this season: the few cases which I have had have all been brought from the low country, and have all done well. There have been some cases of "diarrhoea" and "dysentery," as is to be expected in the warm dry season when so many debilitated persons come up from the low country; but in none that I have had to do with has there been any cause of alarm, and all have done well. Just now I have scarcely a case of illness that gives me any uneasiness, and Ootacamund is as healthy and free of sickness as any sanitarium or watering place at home or abroad could be. That I might have my colleague's unbiassed opinion as to the state of public health, I addressed to him a few questions bearing on the chief points adverted to above, and, as the simplest way of giving the conclusions he has arrived at, I append his reply to this letter.

The

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,
17th June 1869.*

From Dr. W. PEARL, to Surgeon Major J. DONALDSON, M.D. ; dated Ooty, 31st May 1869.

Excuse my not answering your note before, I was from home when it arrived. In answer to your questions, I can only say—

1. I have not seen any epidemic since my arrival save measles.
2. I have not had any bad cases *originating in Ooty* amongst private patients save that of ———, which I consider to have had its origin in Coonoor.

I, of course, exclude hospital patients, among whom there have been several deaths from pneumonia, &c.

3. I have seen no cases of serious fever here among Europeans. Several cases have occurred in people who have been sent here subject to the disease, such as ———, ———, ———, ———; but they all had it in the low country.

4. No cases of typhoid.

5. My opinion as to the present state of the health of Ooty is that it is good. A fortnight ago I had many cases of diarrhoea and dysentery, but these appear to be passing away.

No. 114. ORDER THEREON, 17th June 1869, No. 832.

His Excellency the Governor in Council has received with much pleasure the reports contained in the letter above recorded of the satisfactory sanitary condition of Ootacamund, and desires to express to the President and the Municipal Commissioners his cordial appreciation of the successful efforts that have been made during the past year in the improvement of the conservancy and roads of the station.

(True Extract).

Actg. Secy. to Govt.

To the President of the Ootacamund Municipal Commission.

Public Department.

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following letter

from the
President of the Botacammund Municipal Com.

Here enter 5 June 1889 No. 4.

Order thereon 17 June 1889 No 832

W. H. M.

His Excellency the
Governor in Council has
received with much pleasure
the reports contained in
the letter above recorded
of the satisfactory sanitary
condition of Botacammund,
and desires to express to
the President and the Muni-
cipal Commissioners his
cordial appreciation of
the

Gort. of 1869 Madras.

PUBLIC.

To

**THE PRESIDENT OF THE OOTACAMUND
MUNICIPAL COMMISSION.**

Dated June, 17th.

Recd.

Encl.

G. O., 17th June 1869, No. 832.

**JUNE.
Nos. 113-114.**

Considering the steps taken during the past twelve months for improving the sanitary condition of the Ootacamund Municipality as satisfactory, and recognizing the efforts of the Commissioners towards that purpose.

the successful efforts that
have been made during
the past year in the im-

provement of the Conducing
Roads of the Station.

21 240

To the Board of the Potomac and
Annapolis Roads. August 1844

Orig. Lr. to Eng^d 9th Feb
1869 No. 31
Answered in Laintary
Dec^r 6. 9th Dec^r under No. 113

Cort. of 186 } Madras.

To
The Secy^r of the Colacum d
Fund. Comm^y

Dated 1st June 1869 } No. 832
Recd

Nos. 113. 114

Considering ~~satisfactory~~
the steps taken during
the past 12 months for
improving the sanitary
condition of the Colaca.
municipality ^{as a temporary} &
recognizing the efforts
of the Comm^y towards
that purpose.

2 H. 113