

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Police - **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. *1252*

Press
~~Mis.~~

Dated *26 - 9 - 1870.*

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,
26th September 1870.*

Read the following papers :—

No. 125. From the President of the Municipal Commission, Madras, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated Madras, 2nd August 1870, No. 441.

I have been informed that the Officer Commanding the Perambore Regiment intends addressing Government about certain works which the Municipality intend carrying out in that locality. With the view of keeping the Government fully informed of what is proposed to be done, I beg to forward a copy of my reply to the objections raised by the residents of Perambore against the proposed works.

No. 126. From the Officiating President of the Municipal Commission, Madras, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated Madras, 8th September 1870, No. 510.

With reference to the Order of Government, No. 941, dated 29th July 1870, sanctioning an outlay of 440 Rupees for clearing the ground situate near the Otary Nullah in Perambore, and for carrying the sewage of the Left-Wing lines to it

One petition from the inhabitants of Perambore, — July 1870.
One reply to do., 20th July 1870.
One petition from do., 12th Aug. „
One reply to do., 19th Aug. „

for utilization, I have the honour to submit, for orders, the petitions marginally noted from the residents of the neighbourhood, and the replies thereto. It will be observed from the latter that, while the Municipality intend carrying out the improvement of the cart-stands, they are prepared to give up the establishment of the sewage farm, should the Government approve of the arrangement.

2. In carrying out the experiment of the sewage farms, this is undoubtedly a great loss to us, as a large portion of the land at the present farm in DeMellow's road is rubbish to a depth of from seven to fourteen feet, and it will be some time before decomposition has proceeded sufficiently far to allow it to be brought under cultivation. In many places nothing whatever will grow at present, in consequence of the heat from the rubbish below and the stiff clayey soil on top.

3. The proposed site on the west of Perambore is free from these objections. It can be at once put under grass, and the sewage turned to good account, instead of breeding pestilence in the Otary ditch.

4. At the same time, if Government think it advisable to wait, we can limit our operations, for the present, to the farms at DeMellow's road and Kistnampett.

No. 127. ORDER THEREON, 26th September 1870, No. 1222.

The Government will not object to the postponement of the establishment of the Perambore sewage farm, to which so strong an objection has been raised by the householders of the neighbourhood. A further experience of the existing sewage farms will, it may be hoped, eventually remove the prejudice against this method of profitably utilizing town sewage.

(True Extract.)

R. S. ELLIS,
Chief Secretary.

To the President of the Municipal Commission, Madras.
„ Public Works Department.
Exd. J. H. Burns.

MUNICIPAL COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE,

Madras, 20th July 1870.

GENTLEMEN,

1. I am in receipt of your letter not dated, but which reached me on the 7th instant, in which you protest against the establishment of a Municipal Cart-Stand and Sewage Farm in Perambore.

2. It is to be regretted that before writing in such strong terms you have not taken steps to make yourselves better acquainted with the facts of the case, and as it has always been my earnest desire that Municipal matters should be open and above board, I am induced though at some length to give such an explanation as will I hope tend to cause your acquiescence in the measures we propose taking, but should you still be of opinion that it would be detrimental to your health and interests to have a sewage farm at the spot named, I am prepared out of deference to your wishes to abandon the idea, but I cannot consent to stop operations as far as the cart-stand is concerned.

3. Immediately on the receipt of your letter I directed the Executive Engineer to arrange in communication with the Commissioners of the 4th Division for a meeting on the proposed site of the sewage farm. Messrs. Gantz and Lister of the Commission kindly attended, and Mr. Cardozo was the only one present of the eighteen who signed the letter. The latter gentleman I understood to be entirely satisfied, that so far as he was concerned, the proposed works were very desirable and beneficial.

4. I shall now notice your letter seriatim.

Para I. 5. You bring to notice "circumstances gravely affecting the sanitary condition of the locality in which we reside." It so happens that what you call "circumstances" were especially undertaken after considerable thought and discussion and reference to medical authorities for improving the sanitary condition of an unhealthy suburb as I shall show.

Para II. 6. You allude to the sewage farm and proposed cart-stand. In both cases you would certainly have some grounds for remonstrance if the sewage and carts were brought into Perambore from other localities, but it is not so; the sewage is there and now pools and stagnates in the Otairy nullah when it runs dry. It is to

Oct. of 1870 Madras.

PUBLIC.

To
THE PRESIDENT OF THE
MUNICIPAL COMMISSION,
Ac., Ac., &c.,
Madras.

Dated September, 26th.
Recd.

Encl.

G. O., 26th September 1870, No. 1222.

RECEIVED
Nos. 125-127.

Directing that the establishment of a sewage farm at Perambore be postponed for the present.

remove the nuisance caused by this and the miasma from the adjoining prickly pear jungle that the utilization of the sewage there was proposed. The opinion expressed by you against sewage irrigation is opposed to that of the Royal Rivers Pollution Commissioners who have just concluded their labors after three years' practical enquiry.

7. The new cart-stand in Perambore is for accommodating the bandies that now draw up opposite the house occupied by the late Colonel Ansley, the sheep mart held at the entrance to Eddystone Lodge, and the cart-stand and cattle market located in Strahan's road. The other bandy stand being opened near the Railway Goods Station is in lieu of that extensive and filthy bandy stand about 200 feet to the north of Mr. Grant's house and "Summer Cottage."

Para III. 8. You state that "Perambore hitherto enjoyed an immunity from cholera and epidemic diseases." The following statistics of death will show how far from being correct this statement is :—

Years.	Cholera.	Fever.	Diarrhoea.	Dysentery.	REMARKS.
1860	15	12	1	8	
1861	17	11	1	15	
1862	48	10	2	13	
1863	15	17	5	13	
1864	4	12	3	12	
1865	32	35	3	14	
1866	66	15	3	14	
1867	10	20	2	15	
1868	10	28	18	17	
1869	6	25	14	32	
1870	32	23	8	13 upto 30th June.	The worst year since 1866, but cholera rapidly on the decline though the Sewage Farm operations are still being carried on.

9. Further on you allude to no less than 24 nuisances by which you are surrounded, these are of long standing but ought to be put down, and you will be glad to learn that the Improvement Committee of the Municipality have very carefully considered the subject of the burning and burial grounds alluded to by you and it is hoped that great changes will take place before the end of the year. With reference to the others the remedy is in your own hands—Chapter 14 of the Penal Code and Section 308 of the Code of Criminal Procedure authorize any Magistrate on a representation from the neighbours to stop them forthwith, as was done the other day in the case of two most offensive Tanneries in Royapooram.

Para IV. 10. I entirely agree with the enunciation contained in this para of the evils arising from cart-stands being uncontrolled, and they must be so, as long as they are private property. It is solely with the view of preventing the introduction of disease that Municipal cart-stands are being opened out all over Madras. These

will be enclosed, metalled, properly drained, and placed under the supervision of a European, resident on the ground, whose duty it will be to keep the premises constantly clean and see that all infected parties coming into Municipal limits are sent into Hospital.

Para V. 11. There were only 3 deaths from cholera in the villages which surround the sewage farm, and this compared with the 30 deaths during the same period in Perambore from cholera, clearly shews that the presence of the epidemic in localities half a mile to the west cannot be reasonably attributed to it.

Para VI. 12. You state that property in the neighbourhood will depreciate : you cannot now, I think, be of the same opinion, for I have clearly shewn that what were supposed to be "nuisances" are calculated to improve the locality. With reference to the special instance quoted, which I believe applies to "Summer Cottage" I can scarcely think the owner is in earnest. I shall relate the facts and leave you to judge.

13. All the sewage from the village to the west of this house used to flow for years under its southern boundary wall, and there being no drain soaked into the ground and contaminated the atmosphere. This state of things was considered objectionable and it was decided to remove it, but the immediate neighbourhood being water-logged it was impossible to drain it by gravitation, a cistern was therefore constructed at some distance from the house and the sewage lifted 3 times a day and taken into the farm. Mr. Stephenson must know that these facts are correctly stated, and I cannot understand how he can advance that the removal of sewage that used to stagnate under his walls, has tended to reduce the value of his property.

Para VII. 14. Calls for no special remarks, as the farm in question was established after careful consultation with Medical authorities, and sanctioned by Government and I am most certainly not going except on far stronger grounds than are put before me in your letter to put a stop to operations at the present sewage farm, though as said before out of deference to your wishes I do not propose to open out another sewage farm to the west of Perambore, should you after reading this explanation still hold to the opinion expressed in your letter. Had it not however been for the heavy rain last month you would probably have agreed with me that pools of liquid filth seething and putrifying in the Otairy nullah, close to the road, would be more objectionable than the sewage brought under scientific treatment, and used in the cultivation of grasses.

I am,
Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,
CHARLES DENISON,
President Municipal Commission.

To
Messrs. F. Church, Marshall, Cardozo, &c., &c., &c.,

N. 570

Municipal Commissioners' Office,

Madras, 8th Sept 1890

From Major G. B. Bowen
Off^r President Municipal Commⁿ
Madras
To The Hon^{ble} R. S. Ellis Esq.
Chief Secretary to Government
Chittagong

Sir,
1. With reference to the Order of Government N^o 941 dated 29th July 1890 sanctioning an outlay of Rs 4000 for clearing the ground situate near the Otari Mullah in Perambore, and for carrying the sewage of the Left Wing Lines to it for utilization, I have the honor to submit for orders, the petitions marginally noted from the residents of the neighbourhood and the replies thereto. It will be observed from the latter that while the Municipality intend carrying out the improvement of the L^{and} S^{ide} Hands, they are prepared to give up the establishment of the sewage farm should the Government approve of the arrangement.

2. In carrying out the experiment of the sewage farms, this is undoubtedly a great loss to us as a large

1 Petition from the residents of Perambore July 1890
1 Reply to Do do do
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4 to be returned

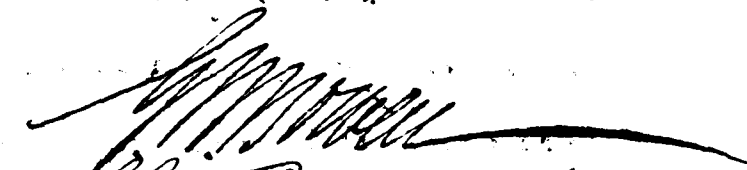
large portion of the land at the
present farm in Deethollows road
is rubbish to a depth of from 7 to 14
feet, and it will be some time before
decomposition has proceeded suf-
ficiently far to allow it to be brought
under cultivation. In many places
nothing whatever will grow at pre-
sent in consequence of the heat
from the rubbish below and the
stiff clayey soil on top.

The proposed site on the
west of Perambore is free from
these objections. It can be at once
put under grass and the sewage
turned to good account instead
of breeding pestilence in the Otago
ditch.

At the same time if Govern-
ment think it advisable to wait, we can
limit our operations for the present
to the farms at Deethollows road and
Perampett.

I have the honor to be

Sir,
Your most obed^t servant


off^r President
Municipal Commⁿ

Compt^r M^r

Govt. of 1870 Madras.

Public

To
The Pres. Council. Secy. in
Madras.
Secy

Dated Sep. 26.

Recd.

Encl.

G. O. 53 Sep. 1870, No. 122

7/12/1870

Nos. 125. 127.

Directing that the Establish-
ment of a Sewage farm at
Channarayana be postponed
for the present.