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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1415	Press Mis.
Dated 2-11-1870	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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1084/37

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,
2nd November 1870.*

Read the following papers:—

No. 12. From Major G. B. BOWEN, Officiating President of the Municipal Commission, Madras, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated Madras, 8th October 1870, No. 553.

With reference to the Order of Government, No. 1208, September 23rd, 1870, I brought to your notice that the military authorities had quite misunderstood the object of the Municipality in establishing a cart-stand at Perambore, and you were good enough to go over the ground with me and see exactly what was intended and judge for yourself whether we were really introducing a nuisance or making a salutary reform.

2. It now remains for me to notice briefly the grounds which have induced me to ask you to refer the matter once more to Government.

3. Colonel Kitson has informed His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief that it is proposed to have a general cart-stand for Madras in close vicinity to the Lines. So far from this being the case, the proposed bandy-stand will afford accommodation for only seventy bandies, and the accommodation will not be for bandies from other parts of Madras, but expressly for those that put up in the heart of Perambore on very filthy ground in Strahan's Road and far closer to the Lines than the ground marked out in Stephenson's Road.

4. Strahan's road, which is the most filthy place in Madras probably, considering the number of respectable houses to be found in it (some of which are, I believe, inhabited by Officers), is from 200 to 300 yards from the Lines. The nearest corner of the proposed bandy-stand is more than a quarter of a mile from the nearest corner of the Lines, and more than double the distance of the depôt of sewage in Otary Nullah of Left Wing Lines.

5. The Medical Officer of the 17th Regiment has evidently a slight idea only of what is meant by a municipal bandy-stand. I have pointed out to you the vast difference between a private cart-stand where the provisions of the Municipal Act have not been enforced and one where they have been partially carried into effect. I regret that we have not established a municipal cart-stand yet with its metalled standing ground, drains, latrines, and European superintendence, to prove how completely the "dust, dirt, and filth" alluded to may be reduced to a minimum. Had the Medical Officer been aware, moreover, that one of the objects of having a European and peon in charge is that a cholera patient may be at once removed to hospital, he would have admitted that the cart-stands in Strahan's Road are more likely to bring disease among the men of the Regiment than the one we propose to establish.

6. With regard to the objections of private individuals, I give the measured distances of the houses of the various petitioners from the proposed site of the bandy-stand, omitting those which are more than 800 feet (some of the houses are a thousand yards off):—

	Feet.
Messrs. E. and B. D'Souza	800 from proposed cart-stand.
Mr. H. E. Gooch	620 do. do.
Mr. S. Stephenson	800 do. do.

7. If we are to make no reform of this kind without bringing an alleged nuisance to these distances from two or three houses, we shall make slow progress

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2nd November 1870.*

in Madras, where valuable property is scattered over an area of twenty-eight square miles and waste land is scarce.

8. The ground we have selected appears, from the reports made to Government, to be an open maidan. It is simply a foul waste, covered with prickly-pear and used as a latrine where it is not too far from the houses of the inhabitants. It was the intention of the Municipality to remove the prickly-pear and put the land under cultivation, reserving only the space marked out for the bandy-stand.

9. I may further observe that, out of the eighteen gentlemen who signed the memorial, one, Mr. Cardozo, agreed that the change was salutary, the remaining seventeen only represent seven houses; and, of these seven again, two are on the other side of Perambore Station.

10. The proposed cart-stand will accommodate about 70 bandies, another cart-stand of larger size will be established near the Salt Cotaar, for the further relief of Perambore and the neighbourhood of the Gun Powder Manufactory.

11. The Municipality would have great difficulty in providing another site on Government land (indeed, I feel certain such cannot be found) and are at present not in a position to pay Rupees 3,000, the value of land, if purchased. If, on military grounds, the change is still considered advisable, I would ask Government to contribute Rupees 2,500 towards the cost, the balance to be paid by the Municipality.

Forwarded to the Sanitary Commissioner for his opinion, which he is requested to submit at an early date.

FORT SAINT GEORGE,
15th October 1870.

(Signed) R. S. ELLIS,
Chief Secretary.

No. 13. From W. R. CORNISH, Esq., F.R.C.S., Sanitary Commissioner for Madras, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated Madras, 20th October 1870, No. 951.

Adverting to your memorandum of the 15th instant, forwarding, for my opinion, a letter from Major Bowen, the President of the Municipal Commission, Madras, I have the honour to report that I have carefully examined the site of the proposed bandy-stand in the Perambore High Road, in reference to the probability of a collection of carts in that locality becoming a nuisance to the European and other residents of Perambore.

2. The ground is now covered with prickly-pear jungle, and is a harbour for filth and vermin. It stands relatively high, and, so far as I can judge, admits of easy and thorough drainage. The soil seems to be an adhesive clay, and will require to be metalled with a layer of gravel or laterite before it can be used as a bandy-stand; but, so far as any sanitary objections to the site go, I can conceive none of the least weight.

The locality is sufficiently removed from any bazaar or inhabited building; the neighbourhood is very sparsely populated; and, of all spots in the neighbourhood, the one selected by Major Bowen seems to possess the fewest objectionable features.

3. I can fully corroborate all that Major Bowen has stated in reference to the existing cart-stand in Strahan's Road. At the time of my visit, the surface was very

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,
2nd November 1870.*

foul, covered with mud and slush to a depth of five or six inches; the neighbourhood bore evidence of use as a latrine; and the ground had no proper convenience for the accommodation of travellers. The smaller cart-stand at the bottom of Stephenson's Road was also dirty, ill-drained, and badly-conserved. These places, in their existing shape, I regard as much more likely *foci* of disease than a well drained, enclosed, and carefully managed cart-stand, such as the Municipal Commissioners propose erecting in the Perambore High Road.

4. The suburban district of Perambore abounds in defects in a sanitary point of view; amongst these, the existing cart-stands and the locality used as a cattle market are not the least. Any change by which travelling carts can be brought under municipal inspection and control is a move in the right direction, and the locality chosen with this view is not, in my opinion, calculated to become a nuisance to the neighbouring proprietors or the general public.

I beg to return Major Bowen's letter and plan of the locality.

No. 14. ORDER THEREON, 2nd November 1870, No. 1415.

The Government observe, from the communication above recorded from Major Bowen, the Acting President of the Municipal Commission, Madras, that the cart-stand proposed to be opened by the Commissioners at Perambore is not, as was supposed, a general cart-stand for the whole of Madras, but one for seventy bandies, expressly designed to meet the requirements of Perambore.

2. The further explanation afforded by the Acting President clearly shows that the new cart-stand will enable the Commissioners to close existing cart-stands much closer to the Regimental Lines, and which are a source of danger to the health of the neighbourhood. The municipal cart-stand will be carefully metalled and drained, and be under immediate European supervision. The question has been referred to the Sanitary Commissioner, who, after personal inspection, strongly advocates the improvement proposed by the Municipal Commissioners.

3. Dr. Cornish states that the site of the proposed cart-stand "is sufficiently removed from any bazaar or inhabited building; the neighbourhood is very sparsely populated; and, of all spots in the neighbourhood, the one selected by Major Bowen seems to possess the fewest objectionable features." Under these circumstances, His Excellency in Council withdraws the objection to the proposal of the Municipal Commissioners, contained in the Order of Government, No. 1208, dated 23rd September last.

(True Extract.)

Chief Secretary.

To the Acting President of the Municipal Commission, Madras, with plan returned.
.. Sanitary Commissioner.
.. Military Department.

Exd. J. H. Burns.

Municipal Commissioners' Office
Madras 8th October 1870.
No. 553.

From,
Major G. B. Bower,
Offg. Presd. Municipal Commission,
Madras
To,
The Honble R. S. Ellis Esq.
Chief Secretary to Government
Fort St. George.

Sir,
With reference to the Order
of Government No. 1208 of 27th Sept. I
brought to your notice that the
Military authorities had quite
misunderstood the object of the
Municipality in establishing
a Cart-stand at Perambore &
you were good enough to go
over the ground with me and
see exactly what was intended
and judge for yourself whether
we were really introducing a
nuisance, or making a
Salutary

Obdt. of 1870 Madras.

PUBLIC.

To

THE ACTING PRESIDENT OF THE
MUNICIPAL COMMISSION.

&c,

&c,

Madras.

Dated November, 2nd.

Recd.

Encl.

G. O., 2nd November 1870, No. 1415.

NOVEMBER.
Nos. 12 14.

Withdrawing the objection of Government to the
establishment by the Madras Municipality of a cart-
stand at Perambore.

Salutary reform.

2. It now remains for me to notice briefly the grounds which have induced me to ask you to refer the matter once more to Government.

3. Colonel Kitson has informed His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief that it is proposed to have a general Cart-stand for Madras in close vicinity to the Lines: so far from this being the case, the proposed bandy-stand will afford accommodation for only 40 bandies, and the accommodation will not be for bandies from other parts of Madras, but expressly for those that put up in the heart of Serampore on very filthy ground.

4. ground in Strahan's road and far closer to the Lines than the ground marked out in Stephenson's road.

4. Strahan's road, which is the most filthy place in Madras probably, considering the number of respectable houses to be found in it, some of which are, I believe, inhabited by Officers, is from 200 ~~yards~~ to 300 yards from the Lines - the nearest corner of proposed bandy-stand is more than a quarter of a mile from the nearest corner of Lines and more than double the distance of the Depot of Sewage in

in Olay Mullah of Left
Wing Lines.

5. The Medical Officer
of 17th Regiment has evidently
a slight idea only of what
is meant by a Municipal
Bandy-stand. I have
pointed out to you the
vast difference between a
private Cart-stand, where
the provisions of the
~~Municipal~~ Act have
not been enforced, and
one where they have been
partially carried into
effect. I regret that
we have not established
a Municipal Cart-stand
yet. with its metalled
standing ground, drains,
Latrines and European
Superintendence

5.
Superintendence, ~~and~~ ^{to} prove
how completely the dirt,
dust and filth alluded to,
may be reduced to a
minimum. Had the
Medical Officer been aware
moreover, that one of the
objects of having a European
and person in charge is
that a Cholera patient may
be, at once, removed to
hospital, he would have
admitted that the Cart
stands in Strahan's road
are more likely to bring disease
among the men of the
Regiment than the one
we propose to establish.
6. With regard to the
objections of private
individuals, I give
the

the ~~maximum~~ distances of the houses of the various petitioners from the proposed site of Bandy-stand, omitting those which are more than 800 feet. some of the ~~houses~~ are a thousand yards off.

Miss C. B. Souza	Feet	500	from proposed	Feet	stand
Mr H. C. Cook	120	Do	Do	Do	
Mr S. Stephenson	800	Do	Do	Do	

7. If we are to make no reform of this kind without bringing an alleged nuisance to these distances from 2 or 3 houses, we shall make slow progress in Madras, where valuable property is scattered over an area of 28 square miles and waste land is scarce.
The

8. The ground we have selected appears from the reports made to Government to be an open maidon. It is simply a foul waste, covered with prickly pear and used as a latrine, where it is not too far from the houses of the inhabitants. It was the intention of the Municipality to remove the prickly pear and put the land under cultivation, reserving only the space marked out for the Bandy-stand.

9. I may further observe that out of the 18 Gentlemen who signed ^{the memorial} one, Mr Cardozo, agreed that the change was salutary.

Salutary - the remaining
17 only represent 7 houses;
and of these 7 again, 2
are on the other side of
Prambore Station.

10. The proposed Cart
Stand will accommodate
about 70 baddies - another
Cart-stand of larger
size will be established
near the Salt Cotour for
the further relief of
Prambore and the
neighbourhood of the
Gunpowder Manufactory.

11. The Municipality
would have great difficulty
in providing another
site in Government
land (indeed, I feel
certain

certain such cannot be
found) and are ~~not~~ present
not in a position to pay
Rupees 3000, the value
of land, if purchased - if,
on Military grounds, the
change is still considered
advisable, I would ask
Government to contribute
Rs 2500 towards the cost,
the balance to be paid by
the Municipality.

I have the honor to be,
Sir
Your most Obedt Servant
M. M. M.
Offg. Presdt. Mun. Comm.

Bowen has stated in reference to the existing cart stand in Strahan's road. At the time of my visit, the surface was very foul, covered with mud and slush to a depth of five or six inches; the neighbourhood bore evidence of use as a latrine, and the ground had no proper convenience for the accommodation of travellers. The smaller cart stand at the bottom of Stephenson's road was also dirty, ill-drained and badly conserved. These places, in their existing shape, I regard as much more likely foci of disease than a well drained, enclosed and carefully managed cart stand, such as the Municipal Commissioners propose erecting in the Perambore High Road.

4 The suburban district of Perambore abounds in defects in a sanitary point of view; amongst these, the existing cart stands and the locality used as a cattle market, are not the least. Any change by which travelling carts can be brought under Municipal inspection and control, is a move in the right direction, and the locality chosen with this view is not in my opinion, calculated to become a nuisance to the neighbouring proprietors or the general public.

I beg to return Major Bowen's letter and plans of the locality.

I have the honour to be
Sir

Yours most obedient Servt.

W. McCorrick. F.R.C.S.

Sanitary Commissioner
for Madras.

clearly shows that the
new Cart Stand will
enable the Commissioners
to close existing cart
stands much closer to
the Regimental Lines &
which are a source
of danger to the health
of the neighbourhood.
The Municipal Cart
stand will be carefully
metalled & drained
and be under immediate
Sanitary supervision.

The question has been
referred to the Sanitary
Commissioners who
after personal inspection
strongly advocates the
the improvement proposed
by the Municipal
Commissioners.

Mr. Cornish states
that the site of the
proposed Cart stand
"is sufficiently removed
from any bazaar or
inhabited building, the
neighbourhood is very

sparsely populated and
of all sorts in the neigh-
bourhood the one selected
by Major Bowen seems
to possess the fewest
objectionable features
Under these circumstances,
His Excellency ^{in Council} with draws
the objection, to the
proposal of the Municipal
Commissioners, contained
in the order of Govt
No 1208, of 23 Sept
last. R.H.

c 20/10.
1931
To the President M. C. Madras. with Plan returned
— Secretary Commr.
— Military Dept.

Public

West India Company

Madras

1000

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12.14

the objection of
the establishment of
the municipality of a
city at Bangalore.