1. Number of pages. 12
2. Date of repair. 7-4-37
3. Initials of Reference.

M.R.O. 1—[illegible],000—16-10-29.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1597	Press ~~Mis.~~
Dated 10-12-1970	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department, 10th December 1870.

No. 58. Read the following letter from the Officer Commanding 17th Regiment, N. I., to the Quarter-Master-General of the Army, Fort Saint George, dated Madras, 16th November 1870, No. 235:—

In paragraph 4 of letter, No. 553, dated Madras, 8th October 1870, from Major G. B. Bowen, Officiating President of the Municipal Commission, Madras, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, forwarded, with decision of Government, under your docket, No. 5432, for my information, occurs the following paragraph:—"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,"—and an annexed letter, No. 951, from the Sanitary Commissioner of Madras, paragraph 3, has the following:—"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."

2. The road in question intersects the Lines of the 17th Regiment, N. I.

3. The Officers residing in the houses are the Commanding Officer, Adjutant, and Wing Subaltern; their doing so is a distasteful necessity, there being no other houses within a convenient distance in respect to their men.

4. Frequent appeals have, in vain, been made, during the last two years, to the municipal authorities to improve the sanitary condition of this vicinity; no steps are taken for proper drainage of the soil, and its use as a latrine is unchecked by the Police, and the filth in and around the village is suffered to be festering in the scorching noon-day sun, emitting the most poisonous odours.

5. Contrast with this the alacrity of the President of the Municipal Commission to give a well-metalled stand with drains and latrines, &c., especially to accommodate native bandies—the existing bandy-stand, which it is proposed to close, covering an area for thirty carts, being, I may observe, an insignificant nuisance, compared with the filth generated by the occupants of the huts alongside the said road about what is known as "Peer Dadah's Bagh." That a stand on the principles recommended is a most desirable improvement there can be no question; but impartial reasoning cannot show just grounds why the supply of this requirement, which will take considerable time to effect, should take precedence of other more pressing sanitary reform.

If the Commissioner wishes practically to prove that "dust, dirt, and filth can be reduced to a minimum," there can surely be no excuse for Strahan's Road being perpetuated as the most filthy place in Madras, and I respectfully appeal to His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief to urge on Government the immediate sanitary reform so essential to the preservation of the health of the troops located in Perambore.

6. Two senior Officers not long since fell victims to disease contracted here, and I submit that we have a fair claim on the interposition of Government to rid us of the revolting fact disclosed by the President of the Municipal Commission that the heart of the 17th Lines in which Officers are residing "is a most filthy place."

7. I would wish His Excellency to be informed that the prevailing sea breeze frequently reaches us tainted with sickening smells of the adjacent burning-ground,

of the 17th Regiment, N. I.

sewage farm, and tanneries, which, of themselves, are nuisances bad enough to suffer; our being further subjected to internal nuisances is intolerable. It is no fault of the European residents that the road is in this disgraceful condition, or that Strahan's Road is "the most filthy place in Madras." The municipal authorities are solely responsible, but I am sure they would be most willing and forward to aid the civil authorities in remedying the evil, and will be grateful to His Excellency if he will give the subject his early consideration.

No. 4398.

MADRAS, (Countersigned) G. B. SHAKESPEAR, Brigadier-Genl.,
18th November 1870. *Commanding Centre District.*

No. 5607.

Forwarded, with reference to Order of Government, No. 1415, of 2nd instant, with the strong recommendation from His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief that Government may be moved to urge on the Municipal Commissioners the necessity which exists for taking immediate steps towards remedying the unsanitary state of the road and ground referred to, and which have been condemned both by the Municipal and Sanitary Commissioners.

(By order)
FORT SAINT GEORGE, (Signed) A. HOWLETT, Colonel,
21st November 1870. *Offg. Quarter-Master-General.*

To the Secretary to Government, Military Department, Fort Saint George.

Transferred to the Public Department.

FORT SAINT GEORGE, (Signed) A. T. WILDE, Major-General,
24th November 1870. *Secy. to Govt., Mily. Dept.*

No. 59. ORDER THEREON, 10th December 1870, No. 1597.

A copy of this letter will be furnished to the President of the Municipal Commission, Madras, who is requested to report, at an early date, what steps are being taken to abate the serious nuisances complained of in Strahan's Road.

(True Extract.)

Chief Secretary.

To the President of the Municipal Commission, Madras,
,, Military Department.
,, Sanitary Commissioner.

Exd. J. H. Burns.

of the 17th Regiment, N. I.

Govt. of 1870} Madras.

PUBLIC.

To

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

Dated December, 10th.

Recd. *Encl.*

G. O., 10th December 1870, No. 1597.

DECEMBER.
Nos. 58-59.

Furnishing copy of a letter from the Officer Commanding 17th Regiment, N. I., and requesting the President to report what steps are being taken to abate the serious nuisances complained of in Strahan's Road, Perambore.

Through Centre District — Madras 16th November 1870

No. 235.

3

From

Colonel T. J. Batten
Commandant 17th Regt. N.I.

To,

The Quarter Master General
of the Army
Fort St. George,

Sir,

[illegible]

In para 4 of letter No. 555 dated Madras 8th October 1870, from Major G. B. Bowen Officiating President of the Municipal Commission, Madras to the Chief Secretary to Government Fort St. George forwarded with decision of Government under your docket No. 5432 for my information [illegible] occurs the following para. "Strahan's road, which "is the most filthy place in Madras, I should think "considering the number of respectable houses "to be found in it (some of which are, I "believe, inhabited by Officers) is some 200 "to 300 yards from the lines," and in [illegible]

Do. [illegible]ed letter No. 951 from the Sanitary Commissioner of Madras para 3 has the following "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."

2. The road in question intersects the lines of the 17th Regiment N. I.

3. The Officers residing in the houses are the Commanding Officer, Adjutant, and Wing Subaltern, their lodging is a distasteful necessity, there being no other houses within a convenient distance in respect to this [illegible].

4. Frequent appeals have in vain been made during the last 2 years to the Municipal Authorities to improve the Sanitary condition of the village; no steps are taken for better drainage of the soil and its use as a latrine is unchecked by the Police, and the filth in and around the village is suffered to lie festering in the scorching noon day sun emitting the most poisonous odours.

5. Contrast with this the alacrity of the President of the Municipal Commission to give a well metalled stand with drains and latrines &c especially to accommodate native bandies, the existing bandy stand which it is proposed to close, covering an area for thirty carts, being I may observe an insignificant nuisance compared with the filth generated by the occupants of the huts along side the said road about what is known as "Peer Dadah's Nook"; that a stand on the principles recommended is a most desirable improvement there can be no question, but impartial reasoning cannot show just grounds, why the supply of this convenience which will take considerable time to effect should take precedence of other more pressing Sanitary reform.

4

If the Commissioner wishes practically to prove that "dust, dirt, and filth, can be reduced to a minimum," there can surely be no excuse for Strahan's Road being notorious as the most filthy place in Madras, and I respectfully appeal to His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief to urge on Government the immediate Sanitary reform so essential to the preservation of the health of the troops located in Perambore.

6. Two Senior Officers not long since fell victims to disease contracted here, and I submit that we have a fair claim on the interposition of Government to rid us of the revolting fact disclosed by the President of the Municipal Commission, that the part of the 17th Lines in which Officers are residing "is a most filthy place".

7. I would wish His Excellency to be informed that the prevailing sea breeze frequently reaches us tainted with sickening smells of the adjacent burning ground, sewage farm and tanneries, which of

3. Nuisances are grievances bad enough to submit to, but being further subjected to internal annoyances is intolerable. It is a fault of [illegible] Road that the road is kept in this disgraceful condition at that very spot [illegible] Road is "the most filthy place in Madras". The Municipal authorities may be partly responsible, but I am sure the [illegible] would be most willing and forward to aid the Civil authorities in remedying it, and I will be grateful if His Excellency he will give the subject his early consideration.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most Obedt. Servant
Colonel
Commandant 7th Regt. N.I.

No. 8. To 4834 of 1870.

No. 4398.
Head Quarters Centre Dist.
Madras 18th Nov./70

Brigadr. Genl.
Commanding Centre Dt.

6

Public Department

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following letter from the Officer Commanding 17 Regiment N.I. thro' the Military Depart.

Dated 16 November 1870. No 235.

Order thereon. 10 Decr/70 No 1597.

A copy of this letter will be furnished to the President of the Municipal Commission Madras, who is requested to report at an early date what steps are being taken to abate the serious nuisances complained of in Strahan's Road.-

To the President of the Municipal Commission, Madras.
- Military Department. 11
- Sanitary Commissioner 6

desp 15/12

Quarter Master General's Office
Fort Saint George 21st Novr 1870

No 5607.

To
The Secretary to Government
Military Department.

Forwarded with reference to Order of Government No 1415 of 2nd Instant, with the strong recommendation from His Excellency the Commander in Chief, that Government may be moved to urge on the Municipal Commissioners the necessity which exists for taking immediate steps towards remedying the insanitary state of the road and ground referred to, and which have been condemned both by the Municipal and Sanitary Commissioners.

(By order)
Colonel
Offg. Dy. Mr. General.

Public
~~Mily~~
Dept

~~No 235~~
No 4834
Memo: Offg. Quarter Mr Genl.
Officer Commg &c 5607.

No 1597

D/21st
R/22nd } Novr 17th Regt N.I. Madras

Dated 16th
R 25 } Novr/70

No 2031. E. 1. 8

~~Report on the question~~ Requesting that the Madras ~~Municipality~~ ~~of Establishing by the Madras~~ be moved to take steps for ~~Municipality of a Cart~~ remedying the insanitary ~~shed at~~ condition of Strahan's Road interesting the lives of the 17th Regt N.I. Transferred

No 8086

Procs 2nd Novr /70 Nos 12 & 14
" — 26 Septr " — " 125-127
" — 24 " — " 1162 & 1166
" — 23 " — " 110-111
" — 29 July — " 128-129
" — 1 June /69 — " 11-13
" — 5 Aug. /67 — " 19-20
" — 2nd July " — " 17-19

Fort Saint George,
24th November/70.

Transferred to the Public Departt.-

Mr Genl
Secretary to Govt.

116

116

Govt. of {1870} Madras.

Public

To

The Presdt. Munl. Commrs.
Madras.
&c.

Dated Decr. 10
Recd.
} 1870, No. 1597.

Nos. 58 - 59

~~Sanctioning the charge of Rs. 700 for the proposed Sanitary arrangements at the Sirungam Festival in the Trichinopoly Dt. but directing the Collr. to endeavour to keep the Expenditure within the amount Expended Last year.~~

Furnishing copy of a letter from the Offg. Commg. 17 Regt. N. I. and requesting the Presdt. to report what steps are being taken to abate the serious nuisances complained of in Strahan's Road Perambore.

J. C.

a 2/12
R. 9/12