

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Pulice DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	<i>402</i>	Press Mis.
Dated	<i>7-4-1870</i>	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,
7th April 1870.

No. 42. Read the following letter from the Officiating Sanitary Commissioner for Madras, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated Madras, 25th March 1870, No. 343.

I have the honour to solicit the instructions of Government on the subject of the sanitary inspections which it may be thought advisable I should make, as opportunities offer.

2. On reference to the Proceedings of my predecessors I observe that all the important stations, occupied by European troops within the Presidency, have been visited, and the sanitary condition of their buildings, &c., reported on. The Military stations in British Burmah have not yet been inspected by the Sanitary Commissioner for Madras. The Sanitary Commissioner of British Burmah has no authority to inspect the barracks and hospitals of the troops serving in that territory. The medical and sanitary supervision of the troops is exercised by administrative officers of the British and Indian Medical Departments; and, perhaps, in the absence of reports regarding abnormal sickness and mortality, attributed to preventable causes, Government may deem the existing arrangements sufficiently satisfactory.

3. I do not observe that any observations have as yet been attempted, on a systematic plan, of the sanitary condition of the civil population of this Presidency, and I would venture respectfully to suggest that the time has now come when the Sanitary Commissioner for Madras might give much of his attention to this important subject.

Under the recently introduced Towns' Improvement and Local Funds Acts, Government is about to raise funds for the sanitary improvement of the Municipalities and rural districts, and it seems desirable that the Sanitary Commissioner should make himself practically acquainted with the more urgent necessities of each Municipal town and district, so that he may be in a position to advise Government regarding the various measures of sanitary improvement on which local funds might be most profitably expended.

4. With this view, I would propose, for the consideration of Government, to make a tour of the more important of the Municipal institutions in the Presidency, with the special object of noting—

1st.—What has been done since their establishment, for the amelioration of the public health;

2nd.—The effects on public health of the measures adopted;

3rd.—How far the means at the disposal of the Municipalities are adequate to the introduction of further needful reforms; and

4th.—To advise the local authorities, and Government generally, concerning measures of primary importance for the protection of the public health.

5. I would propose to begin this work as soon as possible, should Government approve of the scheme I have briefly sketched out.

6. The statistical work of my office, which includes the registration of births and deaths for the whole Presidency, the tabulation of cholera statistics, and the preparation of stational statistics of the Army and of Jails, is growing daily of greater importance. It cannot be neglected for any length of time, and, supposing Govern-

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,
7th April 1870.*

ment to concur in the present proposal for an inspection of Municipalities, I shall have to accomplish the duty gradually, returning to Madras from time to time for the disposal of current work and supervision of the statistical returns. In the course of these tours, I contemplate being able to carry out the special instructions of the Secretary of State, for the investigation of the conditions favouring, or otherwise, the progress of cholera epidemics in this Presidency, a duty for which I had been specially named by Government, previous to my appointment to the office of Sanitary Commissioner; but which, on financial grounds, was not proceeded with.

7. I do not propose being away from the Presidency on distant tours, until the Annual Administration Report and Cholera Map of the current year are completed.

No. 43. ORDER THEREON, 7th April 1870, No. 402.

The proposal made by the Sanitary Commissioner that he should make a sanitary inspection of the principal towns to which the existing Municipal Act has been applied, is approved. He should keep Government acquainted with his movements.

(True Extract.)

Chief Secretary.

To the Sanitary Commissioner.

„ President of the Municipal Commissions in
„ Accountant-General.

Exd. J. Wright.

No. 343

OFFICE OF SANITARY COMMISSIONER,

Madras, 25th March

1870

From

To
The Offg Sanitary Commissioner for Madras,
The Chief Secretary to Government,
Public Department,
Fort Saint George.

Sir,

I have the honor to solicit the instructions of Government on the subject of the sanitary inspections which it may be thought advisable I should make, as opportunities offer.

Enclosure.

2. On reference to the Proceedings of my predecessor, I observe that all the important stations, occupied by European troops within the Presidency, have been visited, and the sanitary condition of their buildings &c reported on. The military stations in British Borneo have not yet been inspected by the Sanitary Commissioner for Madras. The Sanitary Commissioner of British Borneo has no authority to inspect the barracks and hospitals of the troops serving in that territory. The medical and sanitary supervision of the troops is exercised by administrative Officers of the British and Indian Medical Department, and, perhaps, in the absence of reports regarding abnormal sickness and mortality, attributed to preventable causes, Government may deem the existing arrangements sufficiently satisfactory.

3. I do not observe that any observations have as yet been attempted, on a systematic plan, of the sanitary condition

Govt. of 1870 Madras.

PUBLIC.

To

THE SANITARY COMMISSIONER.

&c.,

&c.,

&c.

Dated April, 7th.

Recd.

Encl.

G. O., 7th April 1870, No. 402.

APRIL.

Nos. 42-43.

Approving of the Sanitary Commissioner's proposal that he should make a sanitary inspection of the principal towns to which the existing Municipal Act has been applied.

Condition of the Civil Population of this Presidency, and I would venture respectfully to suggest that the time has now come when the Sanitary Commissioner for Madras might give much of his attention to this important subject.

Under the recently introduced Local Improvement and Local Funds Act, Government is about to raise funds for the sanitary improvement of the municipalities and rural districts, and it seems desirable that the Sanitary Commissioner should make himself practically acquainted with the more urgent necessities of each municipal town and district, so that he may be in a position to advise Government regarding the various measures of sanitary improvement on which local funds might be most profitably expended.

4. With this view, I would propose, for the consideration of Government, to make a tour of the more important of the Municipal institutions in the Presidency, with the special object of noting:-

- 1st What has been done since their establishment, for the amelioration of the public health;
- 2nd The effects on public health of the measures adopted;
- 3rd How far the means at the disposal of the municipalities are adequate to the introduction of further needful reforms; and,
- 4th To advise the local authorities, and Government generally, concerning measures of primary importance for the protection of the public health.

5. I would propose to begin this work as soon as possible, should Government approve of the scheme I have briefly sketched out.

6. The statistical work of my Office which includes the registration of births and deaths for the whole

Presidency, the tabulation of Cholera statistics and the preparation of statistical statistics of the Army and of jails, is growing daily of greater importance. It cannot be neglected for any length of time, and, supposing Government to concur in the present proposal for an inspection of Municipalities, I shall have to accomplish the duty gradually, returning to Madras from time to time for the disposal of current work and supervision of the statistical returns. In the course of these tours, I contemplate being able to carry out the special instructions of the Secretary of State, for the investigation of the conditions favoring, or otherwise, the progress of Cholera epidemics in this Presidency, a duty for which I had been specially named by Government, previous to my appointment to the Office of Sanitary Commissioner; but which, on financial grounds, was not proceeded with.

7. I do not propose being away from the Presidency on distant tours until the annual administration report and Cholera maps of the current year, are completed.

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your most obedient servant,

W. R. Cornish. F.R.C.S.

Offs Sanitary Commissioner
for Madras

7/18

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See

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your Most Obedt^h Servant

From

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Date 25th
 Re: 1880 } Branch 1870

Object instructions as

With an Order

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Govt. of [1870] Madras

Public

The Secretary Commission

Dated April 7

Recd.

Recd.

April 7 1870, No. 46

Nos. 42, 43.

^{Sanitary Commission}
Approving of the proposal
that he should make a San-
itary inspection of the prison
at Towns to which the Prison
Municipal Act had been
applied.

26-11-12

No. 42 & 43
176/1870-92-93
1870-92-93
1870-92-93

1/10/1870
The Secretary
to the Government
of Madras
No. 42 & 43
176/1870-92-93
1870-92-93
1870-92-93

With reference to the
sanitary inspection of the
prison at Towns to which the
Prison Municipal Act has been
applied, the Secretary
has been directed to
make a sanitary inspection
of the prison at Towns
to which the Prison
Municipal Act has been
applied.