

1. Number of pages
2. Date of receipt 3-3-37
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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 899	Press Mis.
Dated 21-7-1937	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,

21st July 1870.

No. 82. Read the following letter from the Agent of the Great Southern of India Railway, to the Acting Consulting Engineer for Railways, Madras, dated Negapatam, 7th July 1870, No. 2627:—

I attach hereto copy of a letter from the Chief Engineer in which he draws attention to the unhealthy state of the country through which the Southern Extension of this Railway will run.

2. Will you please bring under the notice of Government Mr. Logan's suggestion that some investigation should be undertaken to discover and if possible remove the causes of this unsanitary state.

From D. LCGAN, Esq., Chief Engineer, to the Agent of the Great Southern of India Railway, dated Trichinopoly, 5th July 1870, No. 1875.

In connexion with the deaths of the late Messrs. Davie and Haughton, Assistant Engineers, and of several of the humbler members of the Engineer Staff of the Southern Extension, I beg you will be good enough to suggest to Government the propriety of causing some special inquiry into the sanitary condition of the country from Madura southwards through which our line is to run. Apart from, and in addition to, such a course being advisable in the interests of the people themselves, it becomes a matter very personal to those of us whose work must lie in this part of the country—a matter of life or death, so to speak, to the staff and work-people—the freedom of the neighbouring towns and villages from disease especially of cholera.

2. This scourge has been hanging more or less about the line of country to which I refer since the beginning of the year. First an European Engineering Assistant nearly died of it in the Madura Bungalow; but for the kindness and attention of Dr. Fletcher, the Civil Surgeon of the station, it is improbable that he would have survived.

3. In February several of the Engineers in marching south to various parts of the line had cholera in their camps, and the late Mr. Davie died of a most virulent attack about the middle of that month. Since then several lascars have died of cholera, and in March last I lost a servant of my own from this cause at Tirromungalum Public Bungalow, a few miles south of Madura.

4. On the 24th ultimo, as you are aware, we had to lament the death from cholera of Mr. Haughton, first-class Assistant Engineer, within a few miles (north) of Tinnevely, and I have been informed that, in the villages in that neighbourhood, the disease is *raging*; only about a fortnight before Mr. Haughton's death he lost one of his lascars from the same disease.

5. I think, therefore, you will agree with me that it is a matter of some importance, not only to the members of the staff personally, but to the progress and welfare of our work, that some investigation should be undertaken to discover and if possible remove the causes of this unsanitary state of the localities referred to.

6. "Guinea-worm" is very prevalent, and several of the native members of the staff have already been laid up by it.

No. 284.

Submitted to Government.

MADRAS, (Signed) T. L. PRENDERGAST, Captain, R.E.,
11th July 1870. *Actg. Constg. Engr. for Railways.*
To the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, Fort Saint George.

Transferred to the Public Department.

FORT SAINT GEORGE, (Signed) C. A. ORR, Colonel, R.E.,
13th July 1870. *Secy. to Govt., P. W. D.*

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,
21st July 1870.*

No. 83. ORDER THEREON, 21st July 1870, No. 899.

This correspondence will be forwarded to the Sanitary Commissioner for report. Dr. Cornish will exercise his discretion as to the necessity of visiting the tract of country which is stated to have been exceptionally unhealthy in the early part of this year.

(True Extract.)

Under Secy. to Govt.

To the Sanitary Commissioner.
,, Public Works Department.
,, Inspector-General of the Indian Medical Department.

Exd. J. Wright.

No. 2627.

GREAT SOUTHERN OF INDIA RAILWAY.

AGENT'S OFFICE,

NEGAPATAM,

July 7th 1890

From

THE AGENT,

Great Southern of India Railway,

To

The acting Consulting Engineer
for Railways
Madras

SIR,

I attach hereto copy of a letter from the Chief Engineer in which he draws attention to the unhealthy state of the country thro' which the Southern extension of this railway will run.

Will you please bring under the notice of Government Mr. Laperriere's suggestion that some investigations should be undertaken to discover and if possible remove the causes of this unsanitary state.

I have the honor to be,

Yours most obedt. Servant
W. L. Laperriere
Agent

Court of 1870: Minutes.

Public

To
The Sanitary Commission
of the City of New York

Dated July 21.

Read.

Read

July 21. July 21. 1870. No. 899

Nos. 82-83

Coming from the papers re.
-garding the unhealthy state
of the Country through which
the Southern Extension of the
great Southern of India Rail.
way passes -