M.R.O.1—77.003—5-6-91.

(1) Number of pages 16

(2) Date of repair 3/11/92

(3) Initials of the Reference

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	1217	Press Mrs.
		202-203
Dated	27-7	18

9/10

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department,
20th July 1874.

No. 202. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 2nd July 1874, No. 1,657 :—

Read again Board's Proceedings, dated 13th April 1874, No. 841.

Read also the following letters :—

From F. PRICE, Esq., Acting President, Local Fund Boards, Salem District, to the Hon. D. F. CARMICHAEL, Acting Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated 7th February 1874, No. 130.

I HAVE the honor, with reference to the Proceedings of Government, Public Department, No. 1,055, dated 9th October 1873, to enclose copy of a Resolution passed by the Local Fund Board, Salem Circle, together with one of my Minutes referred to therein.

2. As the latter contains my views upon the subject of the management of vaccine affairs, in which I have always taken much personal interest, it is unnecessary for me to repeat them here.

3. It will be observed that the Local Fund Board strongly advocate the transfer of the working of the department to them. I may add that the opinions of all independent natives with whom I have conversed upon the point have been in favor of placing vaccinators under the immediate direction and supervision of the Revenue officers.

TRANSFERRED to the Board of Revenue through whom the report should have been communicated.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
17th February 1874.

(Signed) J. STURROCK,
Acting Under Secretary.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Local Fund Boards, Salem Circle, dated 17th January 1874.

* * * *

PRESENT :

The Acting President.
„ „ Vice-President.
„ Tahsildar of Salem.
„ Deputy Inspector of Schools.
M. R. Ry., A. Coopoosawmy Naidoo Garoo.
(Present 5, Absent 19.)

Read G. O., No. 1,055, dated 9th October 1873, requesting Presidents of Local Fund Boards to submit their opinions on the subject of the change of system proposed by the Sanitary Commissioner in the management and control of the Vaccination Establishment.

Read also the Sanitary Commissioner's letter referred to in the above, and the Acting President's minute embodying his views, and suggesting the adoption of the system urged by Dr. Cornish regarding vaccination.

Resolved that this Board fully concur in the opinions expressed by the Sanitary Commissioner and the Acting President, and strongly advocate the transfer to them of the entire control of the Vaccine operations of this district as being the only means of remedying the highly unsatisfactory state of things which at present exists.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. W. JOHNSTON,
Acting Vice-President.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) F. PRICE,
Acting President.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.

MINUTE.

I WOULD commend the accompanying paper to the special consideration of the Local Fund Board.

The views expressed by Dr. Cornish are those which I have myself held all along. There can be no doubt that the present system is a sheer waste of money, and that for what is now spent in vaccinating a very small number of persons, very extensive, and really effective operations might be carried on.

The measure of employing as Vaccinators natives of the taluqs in which operations are in progress, is one upon which I have always insisted, and the sooner we set about its introduction the better.

If the Board would wish a scheme for the distribution of Vaccinators throughout the district, I will, in consultation with the Revenue authorities, have one prepared and placed before them.

I would like to see a Vaccinator attached to every Divisional Officer, Tahsildar, and Deputy-Tahsildar in the district. I feel assured that if the Revenue officers were thus shown that the Local Fund Boards looked to them as the chief and most efficient promoters of the cause of vaccination, a most marked improvement in the number of operations would soon be observable; "scamping" in work would be kept down, and what little opposition to vaccination still exists would disappear.

In my opinion the assertion that there is opposition to vaccination is, for the greater part, a fiction invented to account for the idleness and supineness of the existing establishment, and that the real truth is that there is little or none.

If we have the management of vaccination operations of the district, I would strongly advocate the abolition of the post of Superintendent, which appears to me to be utterly useless. A man might be employed as an Inspector on a less salary than that of the present Superintendent, and the saving thus effected could go to pay extra Vaccinators.

Dr. Cornish's idea of payment by result grants is a good one, but as he observes, difficult to work. It might be managed, perhaps, by paying regular salaries and fixing the number of operations, per month for each Vaccinator, say 250 to begin with, and allowing a man who was favorably reported upon, and who showed an increase of operations above the number stated, a lump gratuity in addition to his salary at the end of the year.

This might of course, lead to dishonesty, but the Revenue Officers could not have much difficulty in ascertaining in a year's time whether any particular Vaccinator was an idle or industrious and deserving man, and there could be no difficulty in the Inspector, if worth his salt, checking by personal examination, the work of any operators whose returns looked suspiciously high.

In the Sub-Division I, when Sub-Collector, had a system by which a considerable check was, in my belief, exercised over the special Vaccinators. The Board could easily, if it wished, obtain the forms.

SALEM,
11th February 1874.

(Signed) F. PRICE,
Acting President.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) F. PRICE,
Acting President.

From F. PRICE, Esq., Acting President, Local Fund Boards, Salem District, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 31st March 1874, No 333.

I HAVE the honor to forward, herewith, as promised a copy of this Office letter to Government, No. 130, dated 7th February last, referred to in paragraph 3 of my letter to you, No. 262, dated 19th instant.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department,
20th July 1874.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.—Copy of letter from Acting President, Local Fund Boards, Salem District, to the Acting Chief Secretary to Government, 7th February 1874, No. 130.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.—Extract from Proceedings of Local Fund Boards, dated 17th January 1874.

ENCLOSURE No. 3.—Minute of President of Local Fund Boards, dated 6th January 1874.

From Surgeon-Major J. SHORTT, M.D., Superintendent-General of Vaccination, Madras Presidency, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 8th May 1874, No. 307.

I HAVE the honor in acknowledging the receipt of Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 13th April 1874, to offer the following explanations thereon—

2. I regret to have to observe that the treatment the Vaccinating Department has received from Mr. Price, the Acting Collector of Salem, is quite exceptional either as Acting Collector, President of the Local Fund Board, or as President of the Municipal Commission of Salem. In no other district in this Presidency has this department experienced such unsatisfactory treatment.

3. As President of the Municipal Commission, I had the honor to submit a report of my inspection of the work of the Municipal Vaccinators of Salem, in good faith, after personal inspection, going from street to street, and house to house. I reported on the work, and, on the representations of the two Municipal Vaccinators, who not only made a distinct statement in the presence of several respectable witnesses, which was reduced to writing immediately, that they were required to attend at the Civil Dispensary from two to four hours daily to assist in dispensing medicines and to attend on Out-patients, and in support of this statement they showed me an order requiring the senior Vaccinator who was named to go and attend on a sick peon this order was initialed by the Native Surgeon. I took possession of it immediately, and in my report to the President, I protested against the practice of taking away Vaccinators from their legitimate work, to assist at the Dispensary. This the Zillah Surgeon, who was also Vice-President denied, but I represented that not only had I several witnesses to prove the statement made by the Vaccinators, but that I had documentary evidence also in support of my representations, notwithstanding the President has been pleased to charge me with being "under erroneous apprehensions" in the face of positive documentary evidence, and I have been obliged to represent the matter to the Surgeon-General, and the whole correspondence is, I believe, now before Government.

4. Mr. Price has been Acting Collector for nearly a year, and not once during that time has he taken or evinced any interest whatever in the matter of vaccination in the district, beyond that of fault-finding. The Superintendent of Vaccination repeatedly represented in his reports that he waited on the Collector to represent the difficulties experienced by the department, but that gentleman invariably refused to see him not only in the Sadr station, but also out in the district.

5. The Zillah Surgeon also acted after a way of his own when Vaccinators applied for leave on the plea of sickness, they were directed to produce a medical certificate in support of the statement from the Zillah Surgeon, which this officer refused to grant, or to certify, whether the Vaccinator was actually sick or not, but referred the man back to the head of the department. In no other district had we trouble in this way, and the Vaccinators going away with the impression that they were really very ill, and that the Zillah Surgeon could not grant them leave were clamorous in sending petitions to this Office, and struck work; at last, I was obliged to represent the matter to the Surgeon-General, and to ask the Zillah Surgeon simply to certify as to the Vaccinators being sick or not; if sick, to grant the usual medical certificate as is done in all other districts throughout this Presidency, and the man gets his leave; this representation gave offence, and the Zillah Surgeon found fault with the Superintendent of Vaccination, but it was not the Superintendent's fault, as he had only carried out orders issued to him on the subject from this office. It must here be stated that the Zillah Surgeon was also Vice-President of the Municipality, and the Local Fund Board.

6. I have never had occasion to visit the Sub-Collectorate of Salem, the more so, as there was only one Vaccinator working in the Dharampooram Taluq, and the other talugs were worked by the "Price" Vaccinators, and as I gave Mr. Price the option, and he preferred to keep these Vaccinators under his own orders, I did not wish to interfere, but directed the Superintendent of the district to inspect their work.

7. My stay in any district seldom exceeds three or four days, and frequently it happens, that when I go to the Sadr Station, the Collector is out in the district on Jamabundy, and I have no particular occasion to see him, but when at the station I invariably make it a rule to see the Collector and Zillah Surgeon; to this Mr. Collector Longley can testify as regards Salem.

8. Frequently, even in a taluq, the Tahsildar is away somewhere else on duty, and the headman of the village is away too, perhaps to see the Tahsildar or on some other business, so that we may visit village after village without seeing a single official.

9. On the 23rd June 1873, in consequence of the prevalence of much small-pox in the Salem District, I suggested the payment of money batta to induce the people to get vaccinated, failing in this, I applied for the services of a few temporary Vaccinators to work in the localities where small-pox was prevalent, and the Superintendent of Vaccination also applied for the emergent services of a few temporary Vaccinators to arrest the epidemic of small-pox, then prevalent, without meeting with attention; an Extract from the Proceedings of the Local Fund Board, dated 30th July 1873, was received on the 12th August—*Vide* copy attached.

10. In reply to these Proceedings, evidence from two Tahsildars and some eighty-five village heads was submitted, showing the difficulty the department had to contend with; and I stated, from my own personal knowledge having visited the whole of the talugs of this district, with the exception of those in the Sub-Collectorate, how determined the people were to oppose vaccination in most villages, more especially when small-pox was present; notwithstanding all this, my representations were unheeded.

11. On the 28th January 1874, I pointed out to the Acting Collector of Salem the large number of casualties among the Vaccinators of the district since 1st January 1870, and invited suggestions to better their prospects; to this communication, the reply received was condemning the Superintendent of Vaccination, whilst the Collector himself refused to see or support the Superintendent in any way, and the subordinate officials are generally guided by the conduct of their superiors and in many instances, they say one thing before them, and give a different version behind their backs.

12. Mr. Price, the Acting Collector, is well aware that I have no objection to make over the vaccinators should the necessary sanction of Government be obtained, but to unjustly condemn a department merely to have them placed under his own orders is unjust, I submit, to this Department.

13. The work of the Government Vaccinators compares very favorably with the work of the Municipal or "Price" Vaccinators, notwithstanding deaths, sickness, resignations and changes among the staff; the Government Vaccinators have an average area of 845 square miles to traverse, whilst the Municipality is limited to that of two or four miles, the Vaccinators living in a town in which the inhabitants must be superior to that of their brethren in the rural villages in point of intelligence, education, etc.; though Mr. Price denies this, but I leave it to the Board of Revenue to decide.

14. The range of the "Price" Vaccinators is much less than that of the Government, and the people are favorable to vaccination, so much so that they have subscribed for, and support four Vaccinators of their own, and more than one are located in a taluq; for instance there are three Vaccinators in the Oossoor Taluq.

15. The Superintendent of Vaccination is an intelligent Mahomedan, and he has worked well and given satisfaction, he may have been remiss in his inspection duties for which I have fined him, and I would here respectfully appeal to Mr. Longley's Settlement Reports for the year 1872-73, for the general conduct of the staff. What can the Superintendent do with the

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department,
20th July 1874.

President, and the Vice-President of the Local Fund Board against him; had I been aware that the Superintendent was not liked, or had Mr. Price intimated to me any objections he had against the Superintendent, or that he had found him remiss in his duties, I should have removed him from the district at once, which I did, when I found out that there was an actual prejudice against the man both by the Acting Collector and the Zillah Surgeon.

16. I will express no opinion about placing the Vaccinators under the orders of the Zillah Surgeon, but this I know, from my own personal experience, that the experiment was fairly tried and found wanting, and that it had to be given up years ago.

17. I respectfully appeal to the Board of Revenue for support from such treatment as this department has experienced from the Acting Collector of Salem, and to show further that a dual authority must prove fatal to any scheme, and further to point out how well the Vaccine staff have worked in other districts, and I may here cite Coimbatore as an instance when left alone, and not meddled with, and such assistance given when required by the officials in support of which I have only to submit an order* of Mr. Wedderburn, the Collector of Coimbatore, and to point to the results obtained for the year 1873-74, that good work has been done.

*To be returned.

18. The largest number of casualties among the Vaccine staff has occurred in the Salem District from deaths, resignations and dismissals, and yet there is not a single Vaccinator who has left this department, but what he begs to be taken back, but this would be bad practice, and will only encourage them to leave when they like and return when they like; the rule is that a man once leaving the department is never re-admitted.

19. With this letter I submit one† from the Superintendent of Vaccination, late of Salem, but now of the Coimbatore District.

†To be returned.

Enclosure No. 1.—Extract from Proceedings of Local Fund Boards, Salem Circle, dated 30th July 1873.

Enclosure No. 2.—Order of the Collector of Coimbatore.

Enclosure No. 3.—Letter from Superintendent of Vaccination, Coimbatore District, to the Superintendent-General of Vaccination, dated 27th April 1874.

The Proceedings of the Local Fund Boards of Salem and Oossoor, regarding the question referred for their consideration by Government, in G. O., Public Department, 9th October 1873, No. 1,055, will lie over till the views of other Local Fund Boards have been received.

2. As the points at issue between Mr. Price and Dr. Shortt depend on the disposal of the general question, the Board do not consider it necessary to record any opinion thereon.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) J. GROSE,
Secretary.

No. 203. Order thereon, 20th July 1874, No. 1205.

The Government await the report of the Board of Revenue on the general question.

(True Extract.)

Acting Chief Secretary.

To the Board of Revenue.

Exd. G. A. Turton.

No. 841.

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 13th April 1874.

Read the following letter from F. PRICE, Esq., Acting President of the Local Fund Boards, Salem District, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Namakul, 19th March 1874, No. 262 :—

I have the honour to forward, for the consideration of the Board of Revenue, and with a strong recommendation that the proposal therein made should be sanctioned, a copy of a Resolution passed by the Oossoor Local Fund Board, at a special Meeting held on the 3rd instant.

2. The state of vaccination in this district has, for some time past, been a source of very considerable dissatisfaction to the Boards of both of the Circles which it comprises.

3. The views of the Salem Board have already been laid before the Government, in my letter* No. 130, dated 7th February 1874, and the expression of opinion which has now emanated from the Oossoor Circle is one which is entirely independent, and which is not based upon any communication from me to the Vice-President.

* Copy will follow.

4. My own opinion with regard to the management of Vaccine operations in the district is, that they never can be efficiently supervised until the Zillah Surgeon is made as much the Medical Head of the district, as the Collector is the Revenue. The present system is all nonsense. I have been nearly eight years in this district, and have never seen Dr. Shortt. To the best of my recollection and belief, he has never been during that time in the Sub-Division, which has a population of more than half a million. The Superintendent has done next to nothing ; and though I have often asked about the Government vaccinators, I have seen but one, and he came, under orders, to report that he had joined. The vaccinators on the Government staff will not acknowledge any authority over them on the part of the Revenue Officers, and the late Superintendent, Abdul Aziz, who has, after a sharp discussion with Superintendent-General, been very recently removed, has never looked after them. I am aware that I am making a serious charge against this officer's efficiency, but I am prepared to produce the best and most overwhelming testimony to prove it.

5. What the Local Fund Boards want is that the Medical Head of the district should have the power of generally directing and occasionally inspecting work done by vaccinators ; that there should be an Inspector of Vaccination in each Circle; that the post of Superintendent of Vaccination should be abolished ; and that the direction of vaccine operations should be in their hands. Let Dr. Shortt by all means have authority to make as many inspections and reports thereon as he likes ; but it is utterly out of the question to expect that vaccination will be looked after properly, unless the working part of the scheme is put into the hands of the Local Fund Boards and the Revenue Officials, who are those most interested in it, and most likely to see to its efficiency.

6. As a revenue officer, who has taken some personal interest in vaccination, and who has had a longer experience of this district than any one in the service, I feel bound to pronounce the present vaccine system here a waste of the public money. I have spent a good deal of energy and paper in trying to improve matters; but the only result has been discussions with Dr. Shortt, whose explanation as regards the shortcomings of his department in this district I cannot accept ; and the only thing that I can now recommend is to allow the Local Fund Boards to try what they can do. They cannot well turn out worse results than under the present system; and my opinion is, that they will produce much better.

Referred to the Superintendent-General of Vaccination for his remarks.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) J. GROSE,
Secretary.

To the Superintendent-General of Vaccination.
„ the Acting President of the Local Fund Boards, Salem District.

Exd. G. A. Turton.

1874.

Board of Revenue,
MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 13TH APRIL 1874, No. 841.

Read.

APRIL.
No. 841.

Vaccination—in Salem District.—Letter from President, Local Fund Boards, forwarding copy of Resolution of Cossor Board regarding management of Vaccine operations, referred to Superintendent-General of Vaccination for his remarks.

No. 1,657.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 2nd July 1874.

Read again Board's Proceedings dated 13th April 1874, No. 841.

Read also the following letters :—

From F. PRICE, Esq., Acting President, Local Fund Boards, Salem District, to the Hon. D. F. CARMICHAEL, Acting Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated 7th February 1874, No. 130.

I HAVE the honour, with reference to the Proceedings of Government, Public Department, No. 1,055, dated 9th October 1873, to enclose copy of a Resolution passed by the Local Fund Board, Salem Circle, together with one of my Minutes referred to therein.

2. As the latter contains my views upon the subject of the management of vaccine affairs, in which I have always taken much personal interest, it is unnecessary for me to repeat them here.

3. It will be observed that the Local Fund Board strongly advocate the transfer of the working of the department to them. I may add that the opinions of all independent natives with whom I have conversed upon the point have been in favour of placing vaccinators under the immediate direction and supervision of the Revenue officers.

TRANSFERRED to the Board of Revenue through whom the report should have been communicated.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
17th February 1874.

(Signed) J. STURROCK,
Acting Under Secretary.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Local Fund Boards, Salem Circle, dated 17th January 1874.

* * * *

Present :

The Acting President.
„ „ Vice-President.
„ Tahsildar of Salem.
„ Deputy Inspector of Schools.
M. R. Ry., A. Coopoosawmy Naidoogaroo.
(Present 5, Absent 19.)

Read G. O., No. 1,055, dated 9th October 1873, requesting Presidents of Local Fund Boards to submit their opinions on the subject of the change of system proposed by the Sanitary Commissioner in the management and control of the Vaccination Establishment.

Read also the Sanitary Commissioner's letter referred to in the above, and the Acting President's minute embodying his views, and suggesting the adoption of the system urged by Dr. Cornish regarding vaccination.

Resolved that this Board fully concur in the opinions expressed by the Sanitary Commissioner and the Acting President, and *strongly* advocate the transfer to them of the entire control of the Vaccine operations of this district as being the only means of remedying the highly unsatisfactory state of things which at present exists.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. W. JOHNSTON,
Acting Vice-President.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) F. PRICE,
Acting President.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.

MINUTE.

I WOULD commend the accompanying paper to the special consideration of the Local Fund Board.

The views expressed by Dr. Cornish are those which I have myself held all along. There can be no doubt that the present system is a sheer waste of money, and that for what is now spent in vaccinating a very small number of persons, very extensive, and really effective operations might be carried on.

The measure of employing as Vaccinators natives of the taluqs in which operations are in progress, is one upon which I have always insisted, and the sooner we set about its introduction the better.

If the Board would wish a scheme for the distribution of Vaccinators throughout the district, I will, in consultation with the Revenue authorities, have one prepared and placed before them.

I would like to see a Vaccinator attached to every Divisional Officer, Tahsildar, and Deputy-Tahsildar in the district. I feel assured that if the Revenue officers were thus shown that the Local Fund Boards looked to them as the chief and most efficient promoters of the cause of vaccination, a most marked improvement in the number of operations would soon be observable; "scamping" in work would be kept down, and what little opposition to vaccination still exists would disappear.

In my opinion the assertion that there is opposition to vaccination is, for the greater part, a fiction invented to account for the idleness and supineness of the existing establishment, and that the real truth is that there is little or none.

If we have the management of vaccine operations of the district, I would strongly advocate the abolition of the post of Superintendent, which appears to me to be utterly useless. A man might be employed as an Inspector on a less salary than that of the present Superintendent, and the saving thus effected could go to pay extra Vaccinators.

Dr. Cornish's idea of payment by result grants is a good one, but as he observes, difficult to work. It might be managed, perhaps, by paying regular salaries and fixing the number of operations, per month for each Vaccinator, say 250 to begin with, and allowing a man who was favourably reported upon, and who showed an increase of operations above the number stated, a lump gratuity in addition to his salary at the end of the year.

This might of course, lead to dishonesty, but the Revenue Officers could not have much difficulty in ascertaining in a year's time whether any particular Vaccinator was an idle or industrious and deserving man, and there could be no difficulty in the Inspector, if worth his salt, checking by personal examination, the work of any operators whose returns looked suspiciously high.

In the Sub-Division I, when Sub-Collector, had a system by which a considerable check was, in my belief, exercised over the special Vaccinators. The Board could easily, if it wished, obtain the forms.

SALEM,
11th February 1874.

(Signed) F. PRICE,
Acting President.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) F. PRICE,
Acting President.

From F. PRICE, Esq., Acting President, Local Fund Boards, Salem District, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 31st March 1874, No 333.

I HAVE the honour to forward, herewith, as promised a copy of this Office letter to Government, No. 130, dated 7th February last, referred to in paragraph 3 of my letter to you, No. 262, dated 19th instant.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.—Copy of letter from Acting President, Local Fund Boards, Salem District, to the Acting Chief Secretary to Government, 7th February 1874, No. 130.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.—Extract from Proceedings of Local Fund Boards, dated 17th January 1874.

ENCLOSURE No. 3.—Minute of President of Local Fund Boards, dated 6th January 1874.

From Surgeon-Major J. SHORTT, M.D., Superintendent-General of Vaccination, Madras Presidency, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 8th May 1874, No. 307.

I HAVE the honour in acknowledging the receipt of Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 13th April 1874, to offer the following explanations thereon—

2. I regret to have to observe that the treatment the Vaccinating Department has received from Mr. Price, the Acting Collector of Salem, is quite exceptional either as Acting Collector, President of the Local Fund Board, or as President of the Municipal Commission of Salem. In no other district in this Presidency has this department experienced such unsatisfactory treatment.

3. As President of the Municipal Commission, I had the honour to submit a report of my inspection of the work of the Municipal Vaccinators of Salem, in good faith, after personal inspection, going from street to street, and house to house. I reported on the work, and, on the representations of the two Municipal Vaccinators, who not only made a distinct statement in the presence of several respectable witnesses, which was reduced to writing immediately, that they were required to attend at the Civil Dispensary from two to four hours daily to assist in dispensing medicines and to attend on Out-patients, and in support of this statement they showed me an order requiring the senior Vaccinator who was named to go and attend on a sick peon, this order was initialed by the Native Surgeon. I took possession of it immediately, and in my report to the President, I protested against the practice of taking away Vaccinators from their legitimate work, to assist at the Dispensary. This the Zillah Surgeon, who was also Vice-President denied, but I represented that not only had I several witnesses to prove the statement made by the Vaccinators, but that I had documentary evidence also in support of my representations, notwithstanding the President has been pleased to charge me with being "under erroneous apprehensions" in the face of positive documentary evidence, and I have been obliged to represent the matter to the Surgeon-General, and the whole correspondence is, I believe, now before Government.

4. Mr. Price has been Acting Collector for nearly a year, and not once during that time has he taken or evinced any interest whatever in the matter of vaccination in the district, beyond that of fault-finding. The Superintendent of Vaccination repeatedly represented in his reports that he waited on the Collector to represent the difficulties experienced by the department, but that gentleman invariably refused to see him not only in the Sadr station, but also out in the district.

5. The Zillah Surgeon also acted after a way of his own when Vaccinators applied for leave on the plea of sickness, they were directed to produce a medical certificate in support of the statement from the Zillah Surgeon, which this officer refused to grant, or to certify, whether the Vaccinator was actually sick or not, but referred the man back to the head of the department. In no other district had we trouble in this way, and the Vaccinators going away with the impression that they were really very ill and that the Zillah Surgeon could not grant them leave were clamorous in sending petitions to this Office, and struck work; at last, I was obliged to represent the matter to the Surgeon-General, and to ask the Zillah Surgeon simply to certify as to the Vaccinators being sick or not; if sick, to grant the usual medical certificate as is done in all other districts throughout this Presidency, and the man gets his leave; this representation gave offence, and the Zillah Surgeon found fault with the Superintendent of Vaccination, but it was not the Superin-

tendent's fault as he had only carried out orders issued to him on the subject from this office. It must here be stated that the Zillah Surgeon was also Vice-President of the Municipality, and the Local Fund Board.

6. I have never had occasion to visit the Sub-Collectorate of Salem, the more so, as there was only one Vaccinator working in the Dharampooram Taluq, and the other taluqs were worked by the "Price" Vaccinators, and as I gave Mr. Price the option, and he preferred to keep these Vaccinators under his own orders, I did not wish to interfere, but directed the Superintendent of the district to inspect their work.

7. My stay in any district seldom exceeds three or four days, and frequently it happens, that when I go to the Sadr Station, the Collector is out in the district on Jamabundy, and I have no particular occasion to see him, but when at the station I invariably make it a rule to see the Collector and Zillah Surgeon; to this Mr. Collector Longley can testify as regards Salem.

8. Frequently, even in a taluq, the Tahsildar is away somewhere else on duty, and the headman of the village is away too, perhaps to see the Tahsildar or on some other business, so that we may visit village after village without seeing a single official.

9. On the 23rd June 1873, in consequence of the prevalence of much small-pox in the Salem District, I suggested the payment of money batta to induce the people to get vaccinated, failing in this, I applied for the services of a few temporary Vaccinators to work in the localities where small-pox was prevalent, and the Superintendent of Vaccination also applied for the emergent services of a few temporary Vaccinators to arrest the epidemic of small-pox, then prevalent, without meeting with attention; an Extract from the Proceedings of the Local Fund Board, dated 30th July 1873, was received on the 12th August—*Vide* copy attached.

10. In reply to these Proceedings, evidence from two Tahsildars and some eighty-five village heads was submitted, showing the difficulty the department had to contend with; and I stated, from my own personal knowledge having visited the whole of the taluqs of this district, with the exception of those in the Sub-Collectorate, how determined the people were to oppose vaccination in most villages, more especially when small-pox was present; notwithstanding all this, my representations were unheeded.

11. On the 28th January 1874, I pointed out to the Acting Collector of Salem the large number of casualties among the Vaccinators of the district since 1st January 1870, and invited suggestions to better their prospects; to this communication, the reply received was condemning the Superintendent of Vaccination, whilst the Collector himself refused to see or support the Superintendent in any way, and the subordinate officials are generally guided by the conduct of their superiors and in many instances, they say one thing before them, and give a different version behind their backs.

12. Mr. Price, the Acting Collector, is well aware that I have no objection to make over the vaccinators should the necessary sanction of Government be obtained, but to unjustly condemn a department merely to have them placed under his own orders is unjust, I submit, to this Department.

13. The work of the Government Vaccinators compares very favourably with the work of the Municipal or "Price" Vaccinators, notwithstanding deaths, sickness, resignations and changes among the staff; the Government Vaccinators have an average area of 845 square miles to traverse, whilst the Municipality is limited to that of two or four miles, the Vaccinators living in a town in which the inhabitants must be superior to that of their brethren in the rural villages in point of intelligence, education, etc.; though Mr. Price denies this, but I leave it to the Board of Revenue to decide.

14. The range of the "Price" Vaccinators is much less than that of the Government, and the people are favourable to vaccination, so much so that they have subscribed for, and support four Vaccinators of their own, and more than one are located in a taluq; for instance there are three Vaccinators in the Oossoor Taluq.

15. The Superintendent of Vaccination is an intelligent Mahomedan, and he has worked well and given satisfaction, he may have been remiss in his inspection duties for which I have fined him, and I would here respectfully appeal to Mr. Longley's Settlement Reports for the year 1872-73, for the general conduct of the staff. What can the Superintendent do with the President, and the Vice-President of the Local Fund Board against him; had I been aware that the Superintendent was not liked, or had Mr. Price intimated to me any objections he had against the Superintendent, or that he had found him remiss in his duties, I should have removed him from the district at once, which I did, when I found out that there was an actual prejudice against the man both by the Acting Collector and the Zillah Surgeon.

16. I will express no opinion about placing the Vaccinators under the orders of the Zillah Surgeon, but this I know, from my own personal experience, that the experiment was fairly tried and found wanting, and that it had to be given up years ago.

17. I respectfully appeal to the Board of Revenue for support from such treatment as this department has experienced from the Acting Collector of Salem, and to show further that a dual authority must prove fatal to any scheme, and further to point out how well the Vaccine staff have worked in other districts, and I may here cite Coimbatore as an instance when left alone, and not meddled with, and such assistance given when required by the officials in support of which I have only to submit an order* of Mr. Wedderburn, the Collector of Coimbatore, and to point to the results obtained for the year 1873-74, that good work has been done.

*To be returned.

18. The largest number of casualties among the Vaccine staff has occurred in the Salem District from deaths, resignations and dismissals, and yet there is not a single Vaccinator who has left this department, but what he begs to be taken back, but this would be bad practice, and will only encourage them to leave when they like and return when they like; the rule is that a man once leaving the department is never re-admitted.

19. With this letter I submit one† from the Superintendent of Vaccination, late of Salem, but now of the Coimbatore District.

†To be returned.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.—Extract from Proceedings of Local Fund Boards, Salem Circle, dated 30th July 1873.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.—Order of the Collector of Coimbatore.

ENCLOSURE No. 3.—Letter from Superintendent of Vaccination, Coimbatore District, to the Superintendent-General of Vaccination, dated 27th April 1874.

THE Proceedings of the Local Fund Boards of Salem and Oossoor, regarding the question referred for their consideration by Government, in G. O., Public Department, 9th October 1873, No. 1,055, will lie over till the views of other Local Fund Boards have been received.

2. As the points at issue between Mr. Price and Dr. Shortt depend on the disposal of the general question, the Board do not consider it necessary to record any opinion thereon.

(True Copies and Extract.)

J. Grote.
Secretary.

To the Superintendent-General of Vaccination.
„ the Acting President, Local Fund Boards, Salem District,
with two original Enclosures returned.

Copy to the Acting Chief Secretary to Government, Financial Department,
with Board's Proceedings, 13th April 1874, No. 841.

Exd. G. A. Turton.

MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 2ND JULY 1874, No. 1,657.

Despe 14 July/74

Encl. 1

2 S C.

No 1475

Received. 17 July/74 -

JULY.

No. 1,657.

Transfer of control of Vaccine Department to Local Fund Boards.—Proceedings of Salem and Ossoor Local Fund Boards on subject of, to lie over till the views of other Local Fund Boards have been received.

With ...

Year 1874

Financial.

To the Board of Revenue.

G.O. July. 20. 1874. No. 215.

Nos. 202. 203.

Vaccination - The Board of Rev. informed that Govt. await their report on the general question of the transfer of the control of the Vaccine Dept: to Local Fund Boards.