

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	365-	Press
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23.24		
Dated	31 — 3 —	1857 .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Fort St. George, Judicial Consultation, 31st March 1857.

No. 23. Read the following letter from J. ROHDE, Esq., Inspector of Prisons; to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, dated 12th March 1857, No. 93.

SIR,

I have now the honor to report the result of returns received to the enquiry as to the precautions taken to ensure the orders respecting vaccination in the Prisons, being carried out.

2. Returns have now been received from 15 Prisons, at one only does it appear that vaccination is employed without reference to marks of cicatrix, or small pox, and in some the subject does not appear to have been very carefully attended to, but in general, the orders of the Foudaree Udawlut on the subject have been carried out. A brief abstract of the replies received, is appended.

3. I have again called on the Officers in charge of the Jails at Chingleput, Cuddalore, Masulipatam, Nellore, Tellicherry, Tinnevely, Calicut, Rajahmundry, Salem, Ootacamund and Itchapore to send in the information required.

4. A copy of my first letter on the subject is appended.

(Signed) J. ROHDE,
Inspector of Prisons.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S STATEMENT OR REMARKS OF THE OFFICER IN CHARGE.

CHITTOOR.—There has been a certain degree of regularity in the vaccinating of those under trial, prisoners who could neither show marks of vaccination, or of having suffered from the small pox. The result have generally been unsatisfactory, as one would expect in the vaccinating of adults, who are much less susceptible to the influence of the prison.

TRICHINOPOLY.—All those who appeared to require vaccination or regarding whom there was any doubt as to their requiring this preventive measure were vaccinated, that is 59 were vaccinated in 1855, and 108 in 1856.

CHICACOLE.—The order of the Foudaree Udawlut No. 17 is carried out.

SIRCY.—The Sudr Aumeen of Sircy has been directed to enforce the Rule which hitherto has been neglected.

HONORE.—I have instructed the Jailer that when any prisoner is convicted or any person is detained on requisition of security, they shall be brought specially to my notice upon my next visit, and at it, I instruct the Dresser to vaccinate each such prisoner or person without reference either to their wishes or to the fact of their having or not having been previously vaccinated or inoculated.

KURNOOL.—All Prisoners who have not had small pox or do not present satisfactory cicatrices of previous vaccination are vaccinated on admission into Jail. I beg also to state that a record of all cases vaccinated in the Jail is kept. If the operation is not successful in the first instance, it is invariably repeated.

BELLARY.—I have caused all fresh Prisoners, of the classes specified to be examined by the head vaccinator of this Zillah, with directions to vaccinate all such as had not been the subject of small pox, or bear marks of vaccination on their persons: and I am in the habit of seeing all such fresh arrivals in the Jail during my weekly inspection of the Prisoners and Jail on Sunday mornings. To ensure a greater degree of security, if possible, than at present exists, against any future outbreak of small pox amongst the classes of prisoners already alluded to, here or elsewhere, I propose having all the inmates of the Jail vaccinated of ages below middle life, who do not exhibit traces of having had small pox, or who cannot positively speak to the fact.

CUDDAPAH.—When prisoners are brought to Hospital, for the Medical Inspection, (ordered by Court of Foudaree Udawlut) prior to reception into the Jail, special enquiries are made of them as to whether they have had small pox or been vaccinated, and such as do not seem to bear evident marks of having been subjected to the protecting influence of the one or the other, are, as ordered by the Court of Foudaree Udawlut in the Circulars alluded to, subjected to inoculation by cow-pox matter. It has been the custom in this Jail to keep a record, in the Hospital, of all persons vaccinated on committal.

COCHIN.—Every prisoner on conviction, and security prisoners, on incarceration are submitted to a Medical examination, when admitted into the Jail, and all are then vaccinated who do not exhibit marks on the operation having been performed or of having had small pox.

Fort St. George, Judicial Consultation, 31st March 1857.

COMBACONUM.---The provisions contained in the orders Nos. 14 and 17 of the Court of Foujdaree Udawlut are in full force in the Jail under my charge.

COIMBATORE.---The orders therein alluded to are strictly observed in the Jail.

MANGALORE.---I have invariably examined all prisoners of whatever class, immediately on admission, and where no *satisfactory* marks either of previous small pox or vaccination were discernible have recorded their names for vaccination which has been carried into effect upon the earliest opportunity.

I have never given the person admitted any occasion to refuse, as in no one instance that I remember have I asked their choice in the matter, and I have never experienced any opposition in consequence to vaccination which would otherwise have been the case.

A Register is kept in the Jail for all such cases, every name is entered, whether marks of small pox or vaccination exist or not, date of vaccination, from whom the lymph is obtained and whether the vaccination is successful or not.

In this way full information is obtained, and when one vaccination has been unsuccessful, re-vaccination has been performed when opportunity served.

Lastly, I would also beg to observe that I have made my best endeavours to ensure vaccination, but have met with as much difficulty in procuring satisfactory lymph owing to its speedy degeneration, and frequent failure when brought from a distance as has been experienced in the Calicut Jail, allusion to which is made in the Circular from the Inspector of Prisons' Office.

MADURA.---That all Convicts and Prisoners detained on requisition of security, are vaccinated without reference to their wishes on the subject.

GUNTOOR.---It has been the invariable practice to vaccinate all convicted and security Prisoners, who do not bear marks of small pox, or satisfactory proofs of their having been vaccinated, and during this period not a single case of small pox, has occurred in the Jail. A register of vaccination has not hitherto been kept, but this will be done for the future in conformity to the instructions conveyed in Circular No. 25.

VIZAGAPATAM.--- That all the Prisoners on admission into the Jail are vaccinated without reference to previous marks of vaccination, and they generally proved successful.

(True Extracts.)

(Signed) J. ROHDE,
Inspector of Prisons.

CIRCULAR.

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INSPECTOR OF PRISONS' OFFICE.

THE Government having been addressed by the Officiating Under Secretary to the Government of India, forwarding a communication, from the Governor of the Straits' Settlements, reporting an outbreak of small pox in a party of Convicts transported from Madras, and proposing that all Convicts, under sentence of transportation, be vaccinated before leaving India, and the Government having required the Inspector of Prisons to report what precautions are taken to ensure the orders, Nos. 14 and 17 of the Court of Foujdaree Udawlut, for the vaccination of all Convicts, being carried out, and having further directed "THAT ALL CONVICTS SENTENCED TO TRANSPORTATION, BE VACCINATED ON THEIR ARRIVAL AT THE DEPÔT, AT CHINGLEPUT, WHETHER THEY HAVE BEEN PREVIOUSLY VACCINATED OR NOT"; the Inspector of Prisons desires the attention of all officers in charge of Gaols to the orders already passed on the subject, and requests the several Surgeons in charge, to keep a record of all cases of vaccination, a practice that already obtains in some Gaols; the Register should shew whether the operation is successful or not; when not successful, and the failure is not attributable to immunity from previous vaccination or from the individual having had small pox, it should be repeated at the most proper season: every attempt to evade the operation of the vaccine virus should be discouraged and punished, and, if thought desirable, the labor and diet of prisoners under its influence might be regulated, so as to act as an inducement to favor its action.

Fort St. George, Judicial Consultation, 31st March 1857.

The Inspector is aware of the difficulties experienced at Calicut, in promoting the healthy action of the vaccine virus, notwithstanding the utmost care and diligence, and he has no doubt that occasionally similar causes may induce failure elsewhere; he is not informed of the names of those among whom the disease appeared, but will communicate directly with the Assistant Surgeon in charge, to ascertain this: he trusts all Officers in charge of Gaols and the Officers in Medical charge especially will give the subject the attention it deserves and that which they will see that the Government require.

Officers in charge of Gaols are requested to communicate to the Inspector, for the information of Government, the measures that are taken at their respective Gaols to secure the object in view, with reference to the orders of the Foujdaree Udawlut, Nos. 14 and 17 referred to.

THE SESSIONS JUDGE OF CHINGLEPUT is requested to carry out the orders of Government above quoted, in reference to all prisoners received under sentence of transportation.

MADRAS, 19th January 1857.

TO ALL OFFICERS IN CHARGE OF GAOLS.

(Signed) J. ROHDE,
Inspector.

No. 24.

ORDER THEREON, No. 365; dated 26th March 1857.

The Inspector of Prisons reports the result of the Returns which he has received from the Medical Officers in charge of Jails, in reply to the inquiry made by him, under direction of Government, whether the orders of the Foujdaree Udawlut, which require the vaccination of convicted Prisoners, or Prisoners confined on requisition of security, without reference to their wishes, have been fully carried out.

2. These orders seem to have been attended to on the whole in the Jails under report, though in some more strictly than others. In only one,† however, does it appear that "vaccination is employed without reference to marks of cicatrix or small pox." The Right Honorable the Governor in Council directs, that the practice at this Jail, Honore, be made the invariable rule henceforward. He also approves the orders given by the Inspector in his Circular that, whenever the operation is unsuccessful, and the failure is not attributable to immunity from previous vaccination or from the individual having had the small pox, it should be repeated at the most proper season.

3. Mr. Rohde will forward the Returns from the remaining Jails when received.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

Judicial Dept

No 315

Extract from the Minutes of Cons.

Dated 26th March 1857

Read the following letter
from the Inspector of Prisons.

(Here enter 12th March 1857 No 93)

The Inspector of
Prisons reports the result
of the returns which he
has received from the Medical
Officers in charge of Jails,
in reply to the inquiry made
by him, under direction of
Gov^t, whether the orders of
the Sanitary Board, which
require the Vaccination of
convicted prisoners - or pri-
soners confined on requisi-
tion of Security, without
reference to their wishes,
have been fully carried
out.

2. These orders seem to
have been attended to on
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I think all jail
Prisoners & servants
connected with
the jails should
also be vac-
cinated and the

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McClure Honore.

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3. Mr. Rhode will forward the returns from the remaining Sails when received.

Copy to the Insp. of Prisons - Disp. 30th



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9/20th March 1871
From the office of the
19th March 1871

Abstract of the

No 315

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