[L. & M.
2,000—2 [illegible]-97.]

# Local & Munl. (1897) Department.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

**G.O., No.** 2491-M

**DATED** 12-11-97

INDEXED.

DESPATCHED

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[Despatch Abstract.]

Bubonic Plague

Agreeing with the Collector of N. Arcot generally in his remarks on the inspection notes of the Sanitary Commr. on the Arkonam plague Camp and drawing the attention of the Inspector General of Police to the Sanitary Commr's remarks thereon in para 11 of his notes.

979 - 1287 - 1354

2385

## BACK PAPERS.

| G.O. | No. | Department. | Date. | G.O. | No. | Department. | Date. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | | |

## FURTHER PAPERS.

| G.O. | No. | Department. | Date. | G.O. | No. | Department. | Date. |
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[ 5 ]
200—23-9-7.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT.

Papers to be read in Proceedings :—

Again G.O., No. , dated /189 .

in G.O. 2385 M. - Arkonam [illegible] only

Current No. 3569 M of 1897, dated 15th Octr. 97 from the Sanitary Commr.

Current No. 3783 M of 1897, dated 1st Novr. 97 from the Collector of N. Arcot

Mis
Order. No. 2491 M Mis. d/ 12-11-97

Done

The Government agrees generally with the Collector in his remarks, except ~~that~~ in regard to the well in the camp, which should be provided with a pump, as recommended by the Sanitary Commissioner

2. The attention of the Inspector General of Police will be drawn to the remarks of the Sanitary Commissioner in para 11 of his notes.

Where are they

Please see flag X
11/11/97

3. It is observed that the Sanitary Commissioner appears to have ~~has~~ inspected the camp in this case ~~also~~ without giving timely notice to the Collector ~~local officers~~, as required in G.O. No. 1354 M dated 3rd June 1897.

The

The Government trusts that this "neglect ~~to obey orders~~ of the instructions on the subject" ~~irregularity~~ will not be repeated.

(From orders) 11/11

V.R.
11/11/97

To
The Collector of N. Arcot — P of both L.O. S.
— Inspector Genl. of Police — para 11 of 1st C S.
— Sanr. Commr. — P of 2nd L.O. P of 1st C
L ~~[illegible]~~ of 2nd L.O.

Out 2218 M 97

IR
11/11/97

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[G./25]
250—7-4-97.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT.

Portion relating to Arkonam in ~~G.O.~~ C. No. 3569 M (G.O. 2385 M 9/97)

L. C. No. 3783 M

SUBJECT. Arkonam Inspection notes.

FOR ORDERS.

The Collector's remarks on the inspection notes of the Arkonam plague camp may be recorded and the attention of the Inspector General of Police may be drawn to the remarks of the Sanitary Commissioner in para 11 of his notes. HM

8/11

V.R.
5/11/97

[illegible] the urgency [illegible] ~~that~~ it should [illegible] nearly of P.M.

5/11/97

for the Secretary

It was thought that if the paper was [illegible] in the office until the 8th, there will [illegible] delay of two days.

IR
5/11/97

Office

There is no such special urgency about the paper as to have required this.

8/11

HM

I think the Cr. had better provide the well with a pump. It won't cost much. Otherwise I agree with the Cr. —

In this case also the San. Commr. seems to have inspected without notice to the local officers — He is really getting quite intolerable — I think the next time he does so his report should be simply returned to him.

10/11/97

noted IR
8/11/97

## Local & Munl. (189 ) Department.

**CURRENT No.** 3783 M

*From* The Collector of North Arcot

*Order*

No. 2234 / Dis Eng of 97

*Dated* 1st November 97

*Received* 3-11-97

*Registered* 3-11-97

*Enclosures* 2

*Spare copies*

SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT * LOCAL & MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT * 3 NOV. 97

SUBJECT.

Replying to the remarks of the Sanitary Commissione made in his notes of inspection of the Plague Camp at Arkonam in October 189

S-M 3/11/97

BACK PAPERS.

| G.O. | No. | Department. | Date. |
|---|---|---|---|
|  |  |  |  |

FURTHER PAPERS.

| G.O. | No. | Department. | Date. |
|---|---|---|---|
|  |  |  |  |

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Office of Sanitary Commissioner
Fort. St. George 6th July 1897

No $\frac{1376}{S.}$

From Surgeon-Lieut-Col W. G. King M.B., C.M., D.P.H.
Sanitary Commissioner for Madras

To The Medical officer
on Plague duty
Arkonam.

Sir With reference to your letter No 149 dated 15th June 1897 in which you inform me that the President, District Board North Arcot, was of opinion that in my inspection notes, embodied in G.O. No 974 M dated 26th april 1897 I referred to the necessity of protecting the water-supply of the Railway and not of the isolation Camp, I have the honour to state that I refer to the well within, as far as I can remember, the aloe hedge enclosure on which the Camp stands, and which was pointed out to me by you as that from which the camp would derive its water-supply. Whether this well belongs to the Railway Company or not, I do not know, but, so long as it is likely to be the source from which the supply for the isolation camp is derived, I am distinctly of opinion that.

that the precaution of covering it and providing it with a pump, should be required. If the President, District Board North Arcot, is of opinion that he has provided the camp with a water-supply over which he has not full powers of control, you should at once urge upon him that such a source is inappropriate for the requirements of a plague camp, and ask him to kindly make other arrangements in consultation with you.

I have etc

(Sd) W. G. King

Surg. Lieut. Col

Sanitary Commissioner

for Madras.

No $\frac{1377}{S}$

True Copy forwarded to President District Board, North Arcot for information

(Sd) W. G. King.

Surg. Lieut. Col.

Sanitary Commissioner

for Madras.

True Copy.

S. H. Wynne

Collector.

1/3783 M of 1897

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North Arcot Collectorate office

Chittoor 16th July 1897.

From

S. H. Wynne Esquire

Collector of North Arcot

To

The Sanitary Commissioner

Madras.

Sir,

With reference to your letter $\frac{1376}{S}$ dated 6th July 1897 to the Medical Officer, Plague Camp, Arkonam, copy of which was sent to President District Board of this district, I have the honor to refer you to your letter to Government $\frac{883}{S}$ dated 16.4.97. Arkonam para 1. You will see that according to your notes you referred to the supply at the Railway station. In paras 2 & seq: – which refer to the camp you said nothing about the water-supply or about a pump. I now learn three of months after your inspection that you intended to refer to the well at the Camp.

2. After a full consideration of the matter I am of opinion that it would not be right for me to impose this cost upon the Local Boards, for the following reasons:—

3. There are six hospitals (Municipal and Local) in this district where Cholera &c cases may be received. In none of them is there a well provided with a pump. To arbitrarily compel the supply of a pump to the well of a temporary Camp hospital where no infectious case may ever be received, would show a lack of sense of proportion.

4. The well at the Camp is for the inmates of the Camp only and the Camp is surrounded by a substantial fence. If the Camp staff allow it to become infected it will show a want of discipline and care which no pumps will remedy. Danger of infection to each other among the inmates of the Camp will be greater by other media.

5. There never has been a case of plague at the Camp and judging from the returns which you send to me the plague has almost disappeared from the Bombay presidency. Passengers have to pass another inspection station before they reach Arkonam.

6 Money cannot be spent and had also. The water supply of the district is getting into a precarious condition and the District Board has had to make allotments

to Taluq Boards for the purpose of improving it, their own funds being insufficient. If the monsoon continues to hold off there is a great danger of a water famine and the local resources will be taxed to the utmost to relieve it. It is necessary therefore to husband resources to meet a danger which is serious compared with the remote and infinitesimal risk which the pump is intended to avoid.

I have &c.
(Sd) S. H. Wynne
Collector

(True Copy)

S. H. Wynne
Collector

Copied by Cal.
Exd by — [illegible]

2/3783 M of 1897

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NORTH ARCOT, COL[illegible] OFFICE,
Chittoor 1st November 1897.

~~Do~~ Ey No. 2234 of 1897.

3783M

Despatched 2.11.97
Dated

From

S. H. Wynne Esquire
Collector & District Magistrate,
North Arcot.

To

The Secretary to Government
Local & Municipal Department
Fort St George
Madras

Sir,

I have the honor to reply to Memo No 1101 of 28th October 1897. The paras of the Sanitary Commissioner's report are dealt with according to their order.

Para 7. The Sanitary Commissioner does not state in what way the segregation is of "a most imperfect charac The Government have a plan of the camp — vide G.O. No 974 M of 26th April 1897 and in its orders G.O. 498 M. of 12th March 9 and G.O. 1184 M. Mis of 12th May 1897 approved of the arrangements. Withoutles details, which should surely be given when the arrangements are found "most imperfect", I am unable to make any remarks. The remainder of this para is unintelligible. There i
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I have &c.
(Sd) S. H. Wynne
Collector.

(True Copy)

S. H. Wynne
Collector

Copied by Col.
Exd by — [illegible]

2/3783 M of 1897

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NORTH ARCOT, COL RS OFFICE,
Chittoor 1st November 1897.
No. 2234 of 1897.

3783 M

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Dated

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Para 8. There are two latrines for natives, one for plague patients and the other for those segregated. Both f them are large pucka masonry latrines of approved design and tarred &c. That for plague patients

is

is somewhat distant from the plague sheds, though the distance is not greater than ~~the distance~~ in some hospitals, but I considered that the advantage of usin a pucka properly constructed latrine instead of a kutcha shed with the certain risk of contaminating the soil, was greater than any that coul be secured by placing it nearer. A latrin close to a ward is at all times in itsel a disadvantage, and, as I pointed out to the Plague Officer, for patients whom it was undesirable to move, bed pans should be used. If a patient can go 30 yards to a latrine he can go 70 yards. The reference to European ladies (who by the way will themselves be plague patients) I do not understand.

Para 9. The arrangement delegates the duty of decision in these matter to the Collector and not to the Presiden District Board. The matters in the former portion of this para are questions of policy upon which I am

not

not sure that my remarks are required; but I may say that if the Medical officers are (which I understand to be the suggestion) to spend whatever they choose, the total cost, judging from such indications as are given in their various proposals, from that of the Surgeon General referred to in G. O. 315 M of 26th February 1897 onwards up to date, will be so heavy, that the recovery thereof from local bodies will completely cripple them.

To the language and personalities indulged in by the Sanitary Commissioner in the remainder of this para I take strong exception. I enclose copies of a letter addressed by the Sanitary Commissioner to the Plague Officer (of which the former sent me a copy for information) and of a letter which I addressed to the former thereon. I said nothing whatever about the "protection" of water supply in the district having a prior claim. It

was

was the supply of water itself which at that time was so anxiously engaging our attention. What we were afraid of was not an unprotected supply but a water famine. In the exercise of the discretion imposed upon me by law I considered that the requisition for a pump to the wel at the Camp was not one which shou be complied with, and I gave reason which I believe to be neither "trivia nor "factious" but cogent and well considered. It would save me a grea deal of trouble, and cost me nothing, th to pass on all requisitions to the Local Board and compel them to comply therewith; but when I pass decisions in accordance with what I consider my duty, and give reasons in full, I do not think that public interests are advanced by the application thereto of language such as the Sanitary Com-missioner has thought fit to employ. I need hardly point out that the Sanitary

Commissioner

Commissioner's reference to the "trivial expenditure" as he calls it, of this particular item is entirely irrelevant. Moreover if the necessity for a pump at the Camp is so great how negligent have the Sanitary Commissioner himself and the Plague officer been. It was not till 3 months after the inspection of the Sanitary Commissioner that the requisition was made to me, and then only indirectly, and on receipt thereof I sent an immediate reply. I[illegible] could at once have forwarded the in[illegible] [illegible]respondence to Government and orders in the matter could have been passed; but he has allowed three months more to elapse and then only refers to the matter incidentally, without even setting out what the particular requisition was, and only in order apparently to obtain an opportunity of applying personal abuse to myself. The Plague officer again who was

requested

Was there any previous reference

no

requested by the Sanitary Commissioner to address me in the matter, has never written to me a word on the subject from that day to this.

Para 10. No such requisition has yet been made by the Plague officer. I should have thought one dhoby who will have his whole time available should be ample.

Para 11. The personnel of the Police is a matter for the Inspector General. A clerk can be appointed for writing lists of names. For this not very exacting or onerous duty a salary of Rs 10 a month should be sufficient. I am issuing order accordingly.

Para 12. These seem to be general remark not referring to Arconam in particular. It is fully recognised that at Arconam the sheds employed shall give full protection from sun and rain, and I believe this is secured. From the heavy rain and wind which occurred in the latter perio of the South West Monsoon, the sheds

require

required some repairs and this was ordered on 1st September 1897. Afterwards G.O. 1951 M. Mis of 8th September 1897 was received and full instructions were given to the District Board Engineer, which were repeated in the Monthly review of Engineering work on 15th September 1897 and again on 23rd September 1897. With regard to the remaining items in this para, the separation of the two camps has been dealt with in G.O. 1184 M. Mis of 12th May 1897 and the other recommendations involve the maintenance of three Plague officers and three separate staffs, establishments and guards. As to this my remarks are hardly called for, but it seems to me that Arconam is in a different position from Guntakal and if the inspection is thoroughly carried out at the latter station, the number of admissions at the former should be small. There must be very few persons who come from infected localities via the Southern Mahratta Railway, the

Mysore

Mysore State Railway and Bangalore

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedient servant

Collector

Copd Ex
Rd. CB.