INDEXED. N48

# Local & Munl. (1897) Department.

PRINTED

**G.O., No.** 327 M

**DATED** 27-2-97

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[Despatch Abstract.]

Bubonic plague

Ordering the issue of a telegram to the Govt of India reporting on the question of establishing at Aden a medical inspection of crews & passengers proceeding from any port in India to Europe.

## BACK PAPERS.

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# Government (1897) of Madras.

## LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL.

*Recd.* } 1897. *Enclosures*
*Regd.* *Spare copies*

### G.O., No. 327 M., 27th February 1897.

### FEBRUARY.

### Bubonic Plague.

Ordering the issue of a telegram to the Government of India reporting on the question of establishing at Aden a medical inspection of crews and passengers proceeding from any port in India to Europe.

## GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

## LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT.

**Read**—again G.O., Mis. No. 240 M., dated 18th February 1897.

From the Government of India, Home Department, dated 18th February 1897.

Number 538, Sanitary. Following telegram received from Government of Bombay. Begins—"Bombay Chamber Commerce urge establishment at Aden of medical inspection of crews and passengers of all vessels proceeding from any port in India to Europe, that no vessel should be permitted to proceed from Aden towards Europe unless with an absolutely clean bill of health there obtained that at Moses Wells near Suez, the various continental nations most concerned with the trade of India might be invited to appoint medical delegates to constitute an international board of health who should inspect and certify to the condition and health of the passengers and crew on every vessel proceeding through the canal towards Europe. Government of Bombay consider these proposals worthy of most serious consideration and that the suggestion regarding Moses Wells might be placed before Venice Conference."—Ends. What are views of Government of Madras and Madras Chamber of Commerce and Mercantile Community. Please telegraph reply as soon as possible.

*Order*—No. 240 M., dated 18th February 1897.

Referred to the Madras Chamber of Commerce and the Trades Association for the favour of an expression of their views of a very early date.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) G. S. FORBES,
*Secretary to Government.*

To the Chairman, Madras Chamber of Commerce.
" " Madras Trades' Association.

**Read**—also the following papers :—

From the Trades' Association, Madras, dated 22nd February 1897.

I have the honour to acknowledge proceedings of the Madras Government and order, Mis. No. 240 M., dated 18th February 1897.

This association is of opinion that the suggestion of the Bombay Chamber of Commerce is (so far as the passenger service from the infected ports is concerned) an admirable one, but the members protest strongly against any action which would have the effect of declaring Madras (amongst others) an infected or unclean port, which as yet—it certainly is not, and I trust it will continue to enjoy its present immunity from the plague. Of course, if the European Powers choose to declare the *whole* of India to be unclean, the proposal now made would doubtless be desirable, but until that contingency happens the association objects to the clean ports of the Eastern Coast of India being ranked in the same category with those ports on the Western Coast now unhappily suffering the scourge of the bubonic plague, and I trust the Government of Madras will exert its influence on behalf of this port as it did when the Government of India proposed to make Madras a pilgrim port, a proposal now happily abandoned.

From the Chairman, Chamber of Commerce, Madras, dated 24th February 1897.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of G.O., Mis. No. 240 M., dated the 18th instant, forwarding for an early expression of this Chamber's opinion, copy of a telegram from the Government of Bombay embodying certain proposals of the Bombay Chamber of Commerce for the medical examination of passengers and crews at Aden and Moses Wells, and to inform you, in reply, that so far as vessels proceeding from Bombay and other plague-infected ports are concerned, there is considerable difference of opinion among the members of this Chamber as to the advisability of adopting the measures proposed. This Chamber is, however, practically unanimous in deprecating the adoption of any such restrictions in the case of vessels proceeding from Madras and other clean ports, as being unwarrantable and calculated to very seriously hamper, if they did not paralyze, the whole export trade of this country.

**Order**—No. 327 M., dated 27th February 1897.

The following telegram will be despatched to the Government of India :—

"Your telegram Number 538, Sanitary. Madras Chamber of Commerce and Trades' Association consulted are unanimous in protesting against measures suggested by Bombay Chamber of Commerce being applied to vessels proceeding from Madras and other clean Indian ports. Madras Chamber consider proposed restrictions unwarrantable in case of vessels from such ports and calculated to hamper very seriously if they do not paralyze whole export trade of India. The Chamber is divided even as to expediency of their application to Bombay and infected ports. This Government most strongly endorses mercantile opinion here, and earnestly trusts that if negotiations are opened on lines proposed by Bombay Chamber nothing will be said or done which may be seized on by Continental Powers of Europe as an admission that all Indian ports are in same infected category."

(True Extract.)

G. S. FORBES,
*Secretary to Government.*

Exd. P. Seetharam.

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P 200/7

# Government (1897) of Madras.

## LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL.

Proof for approval

Press strike off as revised

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3/3/97

*Recd.* } 1897. *Enclosuees*

*Regd.* } *Spare copies*

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## G.O., No. 327 M., 27th February 1897.

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## FEBRUARY.

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(True Extract.)

*Secretary to Government.*

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(True Extract)

(Signed) G. S. Forbes,
Secy to Govt

To the Chairman, Madras Chamber of Commerce
" " Madras Trades Association

Exd. P. Seetharam.

wire to Govt of India — urgent
State

Again G.O. No 200 M of 18.2.97 &
Cur. Nos 792 M & 817 M

Despd. 27/2/97

~~Pub.~~ P.S.: Order No. 327 M./27-2-97
The following telegram will be despatched to the Government of India.

Exn
Please make a copy of this G.O. (& of enclosures) and send to press returning the orig. here. 27

HS 25/2/97

JG 25/2/97

A.E.H 26.2.97

Draft for approval

To Govt of India — Home —

Telegm

Your telegm no 538 Sany Madras Chamber of Commerce & Trades Assocn consulted are unanimous in protesting against measures suggested by Bombay Chamber of Commerce being applied to vessels proceeding from Madras & other clean Indian ports. Madras Chamber consider (the) ~~ex~~ proposed restrictions unwarrantable in (the) case of vessels from such ports and calculated to hamper very seriously if they ~~do~~ do not paralyze (the) whole export trade of India. The Chamber is divided even as to expediency of their application to Bombay & infected ports. This Govt most strongly ~~supports the views of Madras Chamber~~ endorses mercantile opinion here; and earnestly trusts [that if negotiations are opened on lines proposed by Bombay Chamber] nothing will be said or done which may be ~~reported~~ seized on by Continental

This of course is what the Contl. powers are after
HS

Powers of Europe as an admission that all Indian ports are in same infected category

25/2/97

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Again G.O., dated 18/2/97 189 , No. 2407

Current No. 792 M of 189 , dated from the

Current No. 817 M of 189 , dated from the

1) Hon. Mr Bliss ✓
2) Hon. Mr Price ✓
3) H.E. the Governor

FOR ORDERS.

Please see the telegram from the Govt of India & the replies of the Chamber of Commerce & the Trades Association.

The suggestion of the Bombay Chamber of Commerce may be dictated by a desire to benefit the whole of India by obtaining acceptance for a measure which they hope w^d^ obviate the strict quarantine declared by the European powers at the Continental ports.

In the first place the proposal, however much it might benefit Bombay & infected ports, would tend to do irreparable harm to Madras & other clean ports: for it w^d^ be an admission, which Continental Powers or some of them ~~would~~ might not be slow to take advantage of, ~~as~~ ~~[illegible]~~ that the other Indian ports, i.e. that all the ports of India, were *suspect*; and they wd. act accordingly

This is, as I understand it, the gist of the objection taken by the Mad. Ch. of Com. & the Trades Assocn.; & the point which mainly concerns us.

So far as I can ascertain none of the chief European powers (with the doubtful exception of Russia) has yet declared the whole of India to be infected; and it wd. be insensate to *say* or do anything which might hasten such a declaration.

In the second place it seems to be extremely doubtful whether as a practical measure it wd. at all mitigate the rigor of the quarantine which the Powers ~~will~~ insist on in the case of vessels coming from an *infected* port. If they accept ~~you~~ a clean Bill of Health at Aden & Moses Wells, we may depend upon it that it will only be after such a length of quarantine at those places (perhaps, as a matter of grace, inclusive of the days at sea) as they may consider a full safeguard against the *most* plague stricken port in India. And personally I wd. rather be quarantined at a European port than at Aden or Moses Well in the hot weather. Of course if the Powers are willing to accept a clean B. of Health with disinfection at Aden & M. Wells for passenger vessels & ships not carrying proscribed cargo, coming from *infected* ports, well & good; but do not let them lump up clean ports with infected ports in the negotiations.

B.
25/2/97

This Govt. may reply to the Govt. of India supporting the Ch. of Commerce & the Trades Assocn. I have put up a draft for approval below

S. J. L. 25/2/97

FOR ORDERS.

[L. & M. / 1,000—28-10-96.]

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# Local & Munl. (1897) Department.

again G.O. 240 M d. 18-2-97
& current Nos. 792 & 817 M

CURRENT No. 792 M

For Orders

**From**
The Trades' Association
Madras.

**No.**

**Dated** 22. 2- 1897

**Received** 23-2-1897

**Registered** 23-2-1897

**Enclosures**

**Spare copies**

## SUBJECT.

Protesting against Madras being declared a Pilgrim Port.

A 24/2
22/2/97.

## BACK PAPERS.

| G.O. | No. | Department | Date. |
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## FURTHER PAPERS.

| G.O. | No. | Department. | Date. |
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[ L. & M. ]

Urgent

The Trades Association
Madras

22nd February 1897

LOCAL & MUNICIPAL DEPT
79 L.M.

SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT
LOCAL & MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT
23 FEB 1897

The Secretary to Government
Local & Municipal Department
Madras

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge proceedings of the Madras Government and order No 240 M. Mis. dated 18th February 1897.

This Association is of opinion that the suggestion of the Bombay Chamber of Commerce is (so far as the passenger service from the infected Ports is Concerned) an admirable one but the members protest strongly against any action which would have the effect of declaring Madras (amongst others) an infected or unclean port, which as yet it certainly is not and I trust it will Continue to enjoy its present immunity from the

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crews at Aden and
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I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most Obedient Servant

Chairman

Rd 6/3/97

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L. & M.
1,000—28-10-96.

# Local & Munl. (1897) Department.

**CURRENT No.** 817 M

**Order**

**From**
The Chairman,
Chamber of Commerce
Madras.

**No.**

**Dated** 24-2-97.
**Received** —
**Registered** —
**Enclosures**
**Spare copies**

## SUBJECT.

Forwarding the opinion of the Chamber of Commerce regarding the Medical examination of passengers & crews at Aden and Moses Wells.

BACK PAPERS.

| G.O. | No. | Department. | Date. |
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FURTHER PAPERS.

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

The Madras Chamber of Commerce,

Madras, 24th Feby 1897.

LOCAL & MUNICIPAL DEPT.
CURRENT No. 817 M

FROM
G. G. Arbuthnot Esqre
CHAIRMAN, CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,
MADRAS.

To
The Secretary to Government
Local & Municipal Department
Fort Saint George

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of G.O. No 240, M. Mis. dated the 18th instant, forwarding for an early expression of this Chamber's opinion copy of a telegram from the Government of Bombay, embodying certain proposals of the Bombay Chamber of Commerce for the medical examination of passengers and crews at Aden and Moses Wells, and to inform you, in reply, that so far as

24 FEB. 1897

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I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedt. Servant

Geoge. G. Arbuthnot.

Chairman

V urgent

The C I ~~[illegible]~~
wired the reference

R 6/12/97

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First copy sent to Press.

Returned for signature.

Despatched in print.

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- Letter only.
- Order complete with Letter.

READ AGAIN G.O., No. DATED, 189 ,

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURES TO C. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT .. .. ..

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

PAPERS NOT FILED UP BEING MEANT FOR DESPATCH IN ORIGINAL.

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