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G.O., No. 563 M

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DESPATCH

[Despatch Abstract.]

Fairs & festivals

Recording with remarks, the report on the Karthigai festival held at Tiruvannamalai in November 1896.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Government {1897} of Madras.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL.

Recd. } 1897. *Enclosures*

Regd. *Spare copies*

G.O., No. 563 M., 16th March 1897.

MARCH.

Fairs and Festivals.

Recording, with remarks, the report on the Kartigai festival held at Tiruvannámalai in November 1896.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following papers:—

From A. E. CASTLESTUART STUART, Esq., Collector and District Magistrate of South Arcot, to the Secretary to Government, Local and Municipal Department (through the Sanitary Commissioner, Madras), dated Cuddalore, 17th December 1896, Dis. No. 1016-Eng.

I have the honour to submit, in original, the following reports on the late Kartigai festival in Tiruvannámalai:—

(*a*) Sub-Collector's report, No. 3101, dated 10th December 1896.

(*b*) Report of the Civil Apothecary, Tiruvannámalai, dated 1st December 1896, with endorsement thereon of the District Medical and Sanitary Officer, No. 1703, dated 5th December 1896.

2. The festival lasted from 11th to 20th November 1896 (both days inclusive). It is highly gratifying to record that again not a single case of cholera occurred, neither was there any cattle disease. That such satisfactory results should have been obtained in two successive years is eloquent testimony to (*a*) the value of Lieutenant-Colonel W. G. King's sanitary suggestions and (*b*) to the highly efficient manner in which they were carried out, as far as possible, by the Sub-Collector and the other officers who assisted him. Where all concerned did their best, I hesitate to name individuals, but the unwearying energy and zeal of the Sub-Collector displayed both before and during the festival, literally day and night, were so conspicuous that on the principle *palmam ferat qui meruit*, Mr. Muhammad Raza Khan must be specially mentioned.

3. The absence of crime proves that the Police arrangements were creditable to the Superintendent Mr. H. E. Sullivan, who was seriously handicapped this year by paucity of men. Owing to the Negapatam riots, many of the South Arcot reserve were in the Tanjore district and some men promised from other districts failed to attend. I am of opinion that the Police force available for its multifarious duties during the Kartigai feast in future years should not be less than 250.

4. M.R Ry. Rai Bahadur Thanakoti Mudaliyar Avargal, the Dharmakarta of the Tiruvannámalai temple, has practically shown his appreciation of the efforts made to improve the arrangements for the festival by raising his annual contribution from Rs. 200 to Rs. 500 and his example has also been followed by the trustee of the Oyamadam. This young municipality has already done itself much credit and there is no reason why its councillors should not soon make it in all respects a model for imitation by much older institutions.

From MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN, Esq., Sub-Collector and Joint Magistrate, South Arcot, to the Collector and Magistrate, South Arcot, dated Chengam, 10th December 1896, Cur. No. 1283-Eng.

I have the honour to submit my report on the annual *Kartigai* festival held at Tiruvannámalai this year.

2. The festival began on the 11th November last and terminated on the 20th idem.

3. The number of pilgrims assembled is estimated at 60,000, which is below the average as against 70,000 in the preceding year; of these 60,000, 20,000 were by rail, as against 22,892 of the last year, the rest being made up of the permanent population (13,650) and those who came by road from other places. The decrease is attributed to the impending drought in other parts, to the ruling high prices of food stuff generally and to the prevalence of cholera and other epidemics in the neighbouring taluks to Tiruvannámalai.

4. An attempt to find out the approximate number of pilgrims was made on the last day of the festival by counting at one of the two gates of the temple the number of pilgrims entering it between the hours of 2 to 4-30 P.M. when all the people usually gathered to see the *Kartigai dipam*, and this resulted in about 20,000 only. It is intended to get more accurate data next year by establishing more stations for registering the number of pilgrims.

5. The weather throughout the festival was thickly cloudy and moderate showers of rain fell occasionally, rendering the soil damp and the nights very chill. Owing to the failure of the south-west monsoon and the late advent of the north-east monsoon, the water-supply was at its lowest ebb and gave much cause for great anxieties as to the issue of this great festival. The meteorological conditions were favourable to the development of cholera, but happily public health continued to be very good, and the festival passed away without the occurrence of a single case of that fatal epidemic. In justice to the Sanitary Commissioner, Dr. King, I must attribute the perfect immunity that we all enjoyed from this disease only to the very excellent and elaborate sanitary proposals formulated by that officer and carefully carried out this year by the municipality on the lines adopted last year by the taluk board. Three suspicious cases were admitted into the isolation shed, but these were soon found out not to be cholera, and the patients made a rapid recovery and were discharged. Few cases of small-pox were reported among the permanent residents; they were immediately segregated, and the unprotected inmates of the infected houses were at once vaccinated.

6. Every attention was specially devoted to the maintenance of the general cleanliness of the town and its environs, to the careful preservation of the water-supply, to the satisfactory disposal of all collected rubbish and night-soil and to the constant inspection of all articles of food which was being held by myself and by my subordinates. Houses in the town were ordered to be whitewashed and their back-yards were also required to be cleared out before the festival. The choultries where food was distributed to pilgrims were all visited by us as often as possible.

7. Two large sheds for the accommodation of cholera-stricken persons, two similar ones for the use of the cattle-dealers and the visitors to the cattle market, two sheds for the toties from Madras and Tirupati and the usual number of sheds for the Police and the lessees of the fees levied in the cattle market were erected under *amani* by the sub-committee of councillors appointed by me for the purpose. The cholera sheds were in charge of two medical officers and the extra ward coolies supplied by Dr. Marsden and had also convenient kitchens and toti sheds newly added to them this year.

8. The sanitary staff employed consisted of 4 trained inspectors, 4 maistries, 84 sweepers, 117 toties, 40 stretcher-bearers, 12 peons, 6 tank-watchers and 17 adults and 46 juveniles for work in the cattle market, and a large number of rubbish and night-soil carts were in use. The difficulty of obtaining such a large number of toties was again overcome by Dr. King who, with his wonted energy and willingness to help, kindly procured their services from Tirupati and Madras, and was present during a portion of the festival affording me material advice and assistance. The Acting District Medical and Sanitary Officer and his Assistant also attended the festival alternately, and supervised the sanitary arrangements. The conservancy staff commenced its operations *five days before* the festival began and continued its work for *five days after* it terminated. The town was well lighted up and divided into several wards, to each of which was allotted a staff of warders; 30 incinerators were constructed for the burning of discarded rags and other rubbish, and 73 moveable tatti latrines were put up. Two open trench latrines and two fields worked as latrines on the modified Jewish principle were also arranged for. Many of these latrines were

lighted by night, and one and all of them were provided with one toti each and also with water pots for washing purposes, and tarred receptacles for the depositing of night-soil. The road around the sacred hill was also carefully guarded as advised by Dr. King last year.

The drinking-water wells and ponds and also bathing tanks were carefully guarded by watchmen and by the Police, and they were systematically disinfected by the local Civil Apothecary. Unprotected wells and tanks containing filthy water were barricaded and the two tanks reported last year as being absolutely dangerous on sanitary bases, as held by Dr. King, were permanently closed with brickwalls against the public.

9. Major Shelley, R.E., Agent of the South Indian Railway, kindly furnished me with daily information about the destination of pilgrims returning by rail from Tiruvannámalai as suggested by Dr. King last year, and also arranged for the stopping of pilgrims' train at two selected localities on each side of Tiruvannámalai, in view that the passengers might use the special temporary latrines constructed by the company. A large temporary shed was also erected by Major Shelley for the accommodation of passengers at the Tiruvannámalai railway station where special medical officers were deputed by him to search for cases of infectious diseases amongst the passengers; my best thanks are due to Major Shelley for his hearty co-operation.

10. About 25,000 head of cattle were brought to market from the 16th to 23rd November, and the business appeared to be very brisk. A very large well was sunk in the bed of the Samudram tank to provide drinking-water for cattle, and a water-pandal was opened close to the cattle market for the convenience of the people assembled there. The provisions of the Cattle Disease Act were made temporarily applicable, and a Stock Inspector from Madras was in attendance. Five sheds for the treatment of diseased cattle were in readiness, but no cattle disease occurred.

11. The Police arrangements made by Mr. Sullivan for the preservation of order and peace were, as usual, admirable, in spite of the insufficiency of the Police staff he had this year to work with on the occasion, namely, 2 inspectors, 14 head constables and 181 constables as against 5 inspectors, 12 head constables and 195 constables last year.

12. Through the instrumentality of myself and Mr. Sullivan, coupled with the hearty co-operation of the Dharmakarta Rai Bahadur Thanakoti Mudaliyar, the nocturnal processions were brought to a close at an early hour, and the people instead of unduly risking their health by exposure to the chill night air retired to their much-needed rest without demur.

13. The *cost* incidental to this festival amounted to *Rs. 3,120* as against *Rs. 4,912* last year. The decrease is due to expenditure on permanent improvements, such as that on walls, carts, lanterns, &c., having been incurred in last year, and to savings under various heads this year attributable mainly to construction of sheds and latrines, &c., under *amani* as referred to in paragrah 7 *supra*. The receipts on account of the festival amounted to *Rs. 3,135* or about Rs. 15 over and above what it has cost the municipality. I most gladly bring to your notice that the Dharmakarta Rai Bahadur Thanakoti Mudaliyar has in response to the remarks of Government on our last budget enhanced his festival contribution for the current year from Rs. 200 to Rs. 500 from the Temple funds. The trustee of the Oyamadam also raised his contribution from Rs. 10 to Rs. 15 this year.

14. The report of the local Civil Apothecary, with Dr. Marsden's remarks, is herein enclosed. His suggestions which are generally based on Dr. King's proposals for the permanent improvement of the water-supply, &c., are excellent and will be undertaken when the funds at our disposal become more elastic. I will, however, specially commend shortly to the council for favourable consideration his remarks that compulsory vaccination be introduced. This would seem imperative in progressive and prosperous town like Tiruvannámalai with a population of 13,650 souls and containing an important sacred shrine to which thousands of pilgrims are attracted.

15. *General Remarks.*—As usual, I proceeded to Tiruvannámalai a few days, as kindly advised by you, ere the festival began to satisfy myself that every thing that was

necessary for the safety and comfort of the pilgrims and others concerned was carried out and I remained there until the crowd had well dispersed. I carefully patrolled the town by day and night and attended the procession accompanied by Mr. Sullivan and the Assistant Collector Mr. Willimott, together with the Tahsildar and the Stationary Sub-Magistrate to maintain order. No grave crimes occurred save only one case of theft of property worth Rs. 2 as reported, but it was subsequently found to be false. I am happy to be able to report that the sanitary restrictions imposed upon the pilgrims in the matter of bathing and drinking-water from the same source, &c., was sensibly realized by them as being conducive to their own personal weal and safety, and that these restrictions in no wise detracted from the religious obligations devolving on them as staunch devotees to the Holy God *Annamalai*. I must now conclude my report by acknowledging my deep sense of obligation to Dr. King, Messrs. Willimott and Sullivan, Dr. Marsden and also to the marginally-noted officers who have rendered invaluable assistance to me, and on their steady and personal labours in a great measure depended the successful issue of the festival. I must also place on record my full appreciation of the very excellent services of three of the Municipal Councillors M.R.Rys. Appasami Nayudu Garu, Arunagiri Mudaliyar and Kolandavelu Nainar who ably seconded my personal exertions to promote the comfort and convenience of the vast crowd of pilgrims. These gentlemen formed the members of the sub-committee to carry out certain sanitary arrangements under *amani* stated above. Lastly, my special thanks also are due to the Tahsildar and Councillor M.R.Ry. Krishnaswami Aiyar and to the Deputy Tahsildar and Chairman-Delegate M.R.Ry. Rangaswami Aiyar who were unremitting in their zealous and hearty exertions to carry out my orders most promptly.

1. M.R.Ry. Krishnaswamy Aiyar, Tahsildar.
2. „ Rangaswami Aiyar, Deputy Tahsildar and Stationary Sub-Magistrate.
3. „ Komarasamy Pillai, } Police Inspectors.
4. Mahomed Khan Saib, }
and
5. M.R.Ry. Muthuswamy Pillai, Civil Apothecary.

Report on the Karthigay festival held at Tiruvannámali, South Arcot.

District.	South Arcot.
Name of reporter.	S. Muthuswamy Pillay, Civil Apothecary.
Name of festival and where held.	Karthigay festival, Tiruvannámalai.
Date of festival.	From 11th to 20th November 1896.
Number assembled.	Said to be 60,000.

Accommodation and sanitary arrangements made.	Water-supply.
There are many madams and choultries in this town that are utilized by the public for lodging. Two temporary sheds (32×15 feet) were put up this year in the town—one to the north of the tank-bund of Thamaraykolum—for accommodating Tirupati Yanathies and Madras toties who were specially brought in for service during the festival. An isolation temporary shed (48×15 feet) with a kitchen and a toty shed attached. 2 furlongs off the hospital at Thandrampet road. This shed was divided into two compartments—one for male and the other for female—and the shed was intended to accommodate about sixteen patients (last year to accommodate about 36). There were also a kitchen and a toty shed attached to this. The latter was put up at the suggestion of the District Medical and Sanitary Officer. At the cattle market there were two temporary sheds for officers, one for water-pandal, two (48×15 feet) for visitors and cattle dealers, five sheds for hospital pounds and one isolation shed (48×15 feet) with a kitchen and a toty shed attached. Seventy-three temporary latrines with bamboo tatties were erected this year in different parts of the town (69) and cattle market (4). Besides these 73, two long open-trench latrines at the cattle market and two on modified Jewish system in the town were also provided. There was a toty attached to each of these latrines and those much frequented were lighted during nights.	Owing to the failure of rain, water in almost all the tanks and public wells was at a low level and some tanks dry. All the tanks in the town were either reserved for "drinking" or "bathing" purposes or "closed" to the public use and they were all watched by the police and temporary watchmen. Besides the Fillai Pillay kolum which is reserved through-out the year for drinking purposes, four other tanks in the town and two round the hill were temporarily reserved for the same purpose. The Iyenkolum, which is the important first bathing tank, was, as in the previous year, temporarily barricaded with bamboo railings with openings on two sides and a few dholy stones and tins were kept on the platform. People were required to bathe and wash their clothes first on the platform before bathing in the tank itself. All public and a few private wells (31), which were in good condition, were allowed for public use and others in insanitary and dangerous condition were closed. At the cattle market only two wells excluding the one near the isolation shed were available for public use. These two were provided with buckets and ropes. Some other wells in the ayacut of the Samudram tank were also, I learn, used by the people at the market. As there was no water in the Samudram tank, a small tank of 16×6×3½ yards was therein dug up and the people were required to carry water in tins for the use of cattle. There was also a temporary water-pandal for five days during the period of the fair. All the tanks and private wells in the town reserved for drinking purposes were disinfected every third night with pottassa permanganate by me. The three wells at the cattle market were hankinized on alternate nights by the hospital assistant, and about ten wells in choultries and two tanks on the hill road were likewise hankinized by the Municipal Sanitary Inspector. The disinfection with potassa permanganate was more thoroughly carried out this year by tying the chemical to a thin piece of cloth and dipping the bag in or dragging it along the water either with the help of a rope or pole till the chemical is entirely dissolved as suggested by Surgeon-Major J. C. Marsden, District Medical and Sanitary Officer, Cuddalore. The important bathing tanks, Iyenkolum, Agnitirtham, &c., were disinfected with alum and chunam. On the noon of the last day of the festival (20th instant) after the usual hours of bathing, the Iyenkolum was disinfected with potassa permanganate. On days on which the Birmatirtham, a drinking-water tank within the temple, was not hankinized, it was disinfected with alum and chunam as directed by the District Medical and Sanitary Officer.

Conservancy.	Epidemics.	General health.	Recommendations.
The town was divided into five blocks as usual—three important blocks were placed in charge of trained sanitary inspectors and the other two were under sanitary maistries from Tirupati. Each block was provided with a peon, a stretcher with four bearers, and sufficient number of rubbish-carts, sweepers, toties, &c., according to the importance of the block. The total number thus engaged for the town, which is in its full swing, was, I learn, 11 rubbish-carts, 64 sweepers, 99 toties, 5 stretchers with 20 bearers, 6 peons, 6 watchmen and 10 mounted night-soil buckets excluding the 20 sweepers, 4 rubbish-carts and 3 toties attached to the permanent staff of the municipality. During the early part of the festival a less number of rubbish-carts, sweepers, stretcher-bearers, &c., was employed as the crowd had not then assembled. For the cattle market 5 peons, 7 toties, 10 to 15 rubbish-carts, 17 sweepers, 46 boys and girls, 1 stretcher with 4 bearers, 1 night-soil bucket and 1 road maistry to supervise the above staff were engaged from the 16th to 23rd instant. Three stretchers with bearers, 4 toties, 1 peon, and 1 road maistry were also engaged for the 5 miles distance round the hill not comprised in the town and cattle market. Each latrine had a toty; four toties for each block were engaged to remove the night-soil in streets. All the night-soil were removed and deposited in dust-bins or tarred baskets covered with a tarred lid and finally removed in mounted receptacles by special toties to four night-soil depôts where they were buried. The street sweepings were also carted to four depôts out of the town. All the stretcher-bearers at the town and railway station were provided with iron-pointed sticks and match boxes to collect and burn the rags scattered about the roads and streets. These bearers and the peons in each block were instructed to go round in their respective blocks, to report and to remove at once any suspicious case of cholera to the isolation shed and the sanitary inspectors and maistries were required to disinfect all such infected places with sublimate lotion. The sanitary inspector of the municipality did duty as chief inspector and attended to the disinfection of a few tanks round the hill and some wells in chattrams. The sanitary staff in the town continued to work for five days after the festival. Fifty-six constables and two head constables were deputed this year to the sanitation staff to watch tanks and prevent nuisances. A few of these were also placed at each toll-gate to detect cases of infectious diseases amongst the pilgrims entering the town. Each of the isolation sheds was in charge of an hospital assistant especially brought in for the purpose; each shed had a ward cooly and two toties (male and female) and all necessary medicines, stimulants, comblies, disinfectants, medical comforts, &c., were kept in readiness at the sheds. One of the hospital assistants and a sanitary inspector were required to attend to all the trains, to inspect all incoming persons for infectious diseases and to segregate all such cases at once to the isolation sheds. As soon as the railway medical officers came in, these two were required to attend to their respective duties. A stretcher and four bearers were at the railway station.	There was no epidemic this year except a few cases of small-pox amongst the residents of this town; steps were at once taken to check its further spread by isolating the patients in their respective houses and vaccinating, as far as possible, all unprotected cases in those houses. Three suspicious cases were brought in to the isolation shed; they were found to be not cases of cholera; the patients were all discharged cured.	Good.	As the water-supply for the town and cattle market especially was found to be somewhat deficient this year owing to the unfavourable season, it would be advisable to open an additional and permanent well at the cattle market and to fit up the Kalyani well for pumping out water to supply portions of the town with pure drinking-water as suggested by the Sanitary Commissioner. All public wells in the town and cattle market should be provided with common buckets and ropes during the festival. Another isolation shed near the railway station is necessary, and the hospital assistant in charge of the isolation shed at the cattle market should be provided with a shed wherein he may lodge and these sheds be put up permanently in shelton form with the floors cemented. The Sanitary Commissioner, Madras, the District Medical and Sanitary Officer, Cuddalore, and Assistant Surgeon were here during the festival and inspected the sanitary arrangements of the town and cattle market.

(Signed) S. MUTHUSWAMY,
Civil Apothecary.

Tiruvannamalai,
1*st December* 1896.

Arcot District, from 11th to 20th November 1896.

No. 1703.

Forwarded to the Sub-Collector with the following remarks :—

(1) The arrangements were made in a careful and satisfactory way and there was a happy exemption from cholera. But, on future occasions, the sanitary staff (including the police employed on this duty) should be collected at least a week before the festival actually commences so that they may be properly organized and taught their duties. Everything should be in perfect readiness before hand.

(2) There is no suitable water-supply at the cattle-stands. As a permanent improvement, two large drinking-water wells should be constructed there, properly protected and fitted with pulleys, buckets and chains. Large stone drinking-troughs for cattle should also be built.

(3) The Sanitary Commissioner's project for supplying drinking water to the town should be carried out.

(4) All sources of water-supply of doubtful quality should be entirely and compulsorily closed during the festival.

(5) Three iron-constructed isolation sheds, with properly cemented floors, should be constructed near the cattle stand, railway station and Thandrampet road, respectively. These should have smaller sheds attached to them to accommodate the attendants.

(6) A sum of at least Rs. 5,000 should be allotted in future (inclusive of contributions from the district board and temple authorities).

(7) Vaccination should be made compulsory as soon as possible.

CUDDALORE, *5th December* 1896. (Signed) J. C. MARSDEN, Surgn.-Major, *District Medical and Sany. Officer, South Arcot.*

Endt. No. 145.

Referred for the remarks of the Sanitary Commissioner, through whom this report should have been submitted.

FORT ST. GEORGE, *12th February* 1897. (Signed) G. S. FORBES, *Secretary to Government.*

From Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel W. G. KING, M.B., C.M., D.P.H., Sanitary Commissioner for Madras, to the Secretary to Government, Local and Municipal Department, dated Camp, Chintagunta, 21st February 1897, No. 444-S.

With reference to your endorsement, No. 145, dated 12th instant, I have the honour to state that the sanitary arrangements were as good as funds at disposal would permit. The Tiruvannámalai festival was formerly a notorious focus whence cholera spread; but owing to the willingness which has, during Mr. Stuart's tenure, distinguished district officials in South Arcot to do their best to undertake sanitary precautions, the last two festivals have passed off without any disaster. Precautions of this description demand much patience and care in supervision, as they consist of a mass of petty details, one of which being forgotten renders the whole useless. Hence, it is necessary that one energetic person should take full command and "run" the whole matter through, with a determination to succeed. This ideal Mr. Muhammad Raza Khan certainly managed to reach, and I consider, consequently, that his assiduous attention to this troublesome work has resulted in all probability in the saving of human life.

ORDER—No. 563 M., dated 16th March 1897.

Recorded.

2. The attention of the municipal council is drawn to the suggestions of the District Medical and Sanitary Officer in his endorsement, No. 1703, dated 5th December 1896.

3. The question of increasing the police force, referred to in paragraph 3 of the Collector's letter, will be referred in the Judicial Department to the Inspector-General of Police for consideration.

4. The Government notes with satisfaction the energy displayed by the Sub-Collector, Mr. Muhammad Raza Khan, and the local officers in carrying out the suggestions of the Sanitary Commissioner.

5. This report has not been submitted through the Sanitary Commissioner as intended by the Collector.

(True Extract.)

G. S. FORBES,
Secretary to Government.

To the Chairman, Municipal Council, Tiruvannámalai.
" Collector of South Arcot.
" Sanitary Commissioner.
" Public Department.
" Judicial Department.
Editors' Table.

Exd. A. Raitt.

Government {1897} of Madras.

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5. The weather throughout the festival was thickly cloudy and moderate showers of rain fell occasionally, rendering the soil damp and the nights very chill. Owing to the failure of the south-west monsoon and the late advent of the north-east monsoon, the water-supply was at its lowest ebb and gave much cause for great anxieties as to the issue of this great festival. The meteorological conditions were favourable to the development of cholera, but happily public health continued to be very good, and the festival passed away without the occurrence of a single case of that fatal epidemic. In justice to the Sanitary Commissioner, Dr. King, I must attribute the perfect immunity that we all enjoyed from this disease only to the very excellent and elaborate sanitary proposals formulated by that officer and carefully carried out this year by the municipality on the lines adopted last year by the taluk board. Three suspicious cases were admitted into the isolation shed, but these were soon found out not to be cholera, and the patients made a rapid recovery and were discharged. Few cases of small-pox were reported among the permanent residents; they were immediately segregated, and the unprotected inmates of the infected houses were at once vaccinated.

6. Every attention was specially devoted to the maintenance of the general cleanliness of the town and its environs, to the careful preservation of the water-supply, to the satisfactory disposal of all collected rubbish and night-soil and to the constant inspection of all articles of food which was being held by myself and by my subordinates. Houses in the town were ordered to be whitewashed and their back-yards were also required to be cleared out before the festival. The choultries where food was distributed to pilgrims were all visited by us as often as possible.

7. Two large sheds for the accommodation of cholera-stricken persons, two similar ones for the use of the cattle-dealers and the visitors to the cattle market, two sheds for the toties from Madras and Tirupati and the usual number of sheds for the Police and the lessees of the fees levied in the cattle market were erected under *amani* by the sub-committee of councillors appointed by me for the purpose. The cholera sheds were in charge of two medical officers and the extra ward coolies supplied by Dr. Marsden and had also convenient kitchens and toti sheds newly added to them this year.

8. The sanitary staff employed consisted of 4 trained inspectors, 4 maistries, 84 sweepers, 117 toties, 40 stretcher-bearers, 12 peons, 6 tank-watchers and 17 adults and 46 juveniles for work in the cattle market, and a large number of rubbish and night-soil carts were in use. The difficulty of obtaining such a large number of toties was again overcome by Dr. King who, with his wonted energy and willingness to help, kindly procured their services from Tirupati and Madras, and was present during a portion of the festival affording me material advice and assistance. The Acting District Medical and Sanitary Officer and his Assistant also attended the festival alternately, and supervised the sanitary arrangements. The conservancy staff commenced its operations *five days before* the festival began and continued its work for *five days after* it terminated. The town was well lighted up and divided into several wards, to each of which was allotted a staff of warders; 30 incinerators were constructed for the burning of discarded rags and other rubbish, and 73 moveable tatti latrines were put up. Two open trench latrines and two fields worked as latrines on the modified Jewish principle were also arranged for. Many of these latrines were

lighted by night, and one and all of them were provided with one toti each and also with water pots for washing purposes, and tarred receptacles for the depositing of night-soil. The road around the sacred hill was also carefully guarded as advised by Dr. King last year.

The drinking-water wells and ponds and also bathing tanks were carefully guarded by watchmen and by the Police, and they were systematically disinfected by the local Civil Apothecary. Unprotected wells and tanks containing filthy water were barricaded and the two tanks reported last year as being absolutely dangerous on sanitary bases, as held by Dr. King, were permanently closed with brickwalls against the public.

9. Major Shelley, R.E., Agent of the South Indian Railway, kindly furnished me with daily information about the destination of pilgrims returning by rail from Tiruvannámalai as suggested by Dr. King last year, and also arranged for the stopping of pilgrims' train at two selected localities on each side of Tiruvannámalai, in view that the passengers might use the special temporary latrines constructed by the company. A large temporary shed was also erected by Major Shelley for the accommodation of passengers at the Tiruvannámalai railway station where special medical officers were deputed by him to search for cases of infectious diseases amongst the passengers; my best thanks are due to Major Shelley for his hearty co-operation.

10. About 25,000 head of cattle were brought to market from the 16th to 23rd November, and the business appeared to be very brisk. A very large well was sunk in the bed of the Samudram tank to provide drinking-water for cattle, and a water-pandal was opened close to the cattle market for the convenience of the people assembled there. The provisions of the Cattle Disease Act were made temporarily applicable, and a Stock Inspector from Madras was in attendance. Five sheds for the treatment of diseased cattle were in readiness, but no cattle disease occurred.

11. The Police arrangements made by Mr. Sullivan for the preservation of order and peace were, as usual, admirable, in spite of the insufficiency of the Police staff he had this year to work with on the occasion, namely, 2 inspectors, 14 head constables and 181 constables as against 5 inspectors, 12 head constables and 195 constables last year.

12. Through the instrumentality of myself and Mr. Sullivan, coupled with the hearty co-operation of the Dharmakarta Rai Bahadur Thanakoti Mudaliyar, the nocturnal processions were brought to a close at an early hour, and the people instead of unduly risking their health by exposure to the chill night air retired to their much-needed rest without demur.

13. The *cost* incidental to this festival amounted to *Rs. 3,120* as against *Rs. 4,912* last year. The decrease is due to expenditure on permanent improvements, such as that on walls, carts, lanterns, &c., having been incurred in last year, and to savings under various heads this year attributable mainly to construction of sheds and latrines, &c., under *amani* as referred to in paragrah 7 *supra*. The receipts on account of the festival amounted to *Rs. 3,135* or about Rs. 15 over and above what it has cost the municipality. I most gladly bring to your notice that the Dharmakarta Rai Bahadur Thanakoti Mudaliyar has in response to the remarks of Government on our last budget enhanced his festival contribution for the current year from Rs. 200 to Rs. 500 from the Temple funds. The trustee of the Oyamadam also raised his contribution from Rs. 10 to Rs. 15 this year.

14. The report of the local Civil Apothecary, with Dr. Marsden's remarks, is herein enclosed. His suggestions which are generally based on Dr. King's proposals for the permanent improvement of the water-supply, &c., are excellent and will be undertaken when the funds at our disposal become more elastic. I will, however, specially commend shortly to the council for favourable consideration his remarks that compulsory vaccination be introduced. This would seem imperative in progressive and prosperous town like Tiruvannámalai with a population of 13,650 souls and containing an important sacred shrine to which thousands of pilgrims are attracted.

15. *General Remarks.*—As usual, I proceeded to Tiruvannámalai a few days, as kindly advised by you, ere the festival began to satisfy myself that every thing that was

necessary for the safety and comfort of the pilgrims and others concerned was carried out and I remained there until the crowd had well dispersed. I carefully patrolled the town by day and night and attended the procession accompanied by Mr. Sullivan and the Assistant Collector Mr. Willimott, together with the Tahsildar and the Stationary Sub-Magistrate to maintain order. No grave crimes occurred save only one case of theft of property worth Rs. 2 as reported, but it was subsequently found to be false. I am happy to be able to report that the sanitary restrictions imposed upon the pilgrims in the matter of bathing and drinking-water from the same source, &c., was sensibly realized by them as being conducive to their own personal weal and safety, and that these restrictions in no wise detracted from the religious obligations devolving on them as staunch devotees to the Holy God *Annamalai*. I must now conclude my report by acknowledging my deep sense of obligation to Dr. King, Messrs. Willimott and Sullivan, Dr. Marsden and also to the marginally-noted officers who have rendered invaluable assistance to me, and on their steady and personal labours in a great measure depended the successful issue of the festival. I must also place on record my full appreciation of the very excellent services of three of the Municipal Councillors M.R.Ry. Appasami Nayudu Garu, Arunagiri Mudaliyar and Kolandavelu Nainar who ably seconded my personal exertions to promote the comfort and convenience of the vast crowd of pilgrims. These gentlemen formed the members of the sub-committee to carry out certain sanitary arrangements under *amani* stated above. Lastly, my special thanks also are due to the Tahsildar and Councillor M.R.Ry. Krishnaswamy Aiyar and to the Deputy Tahsildar and Chairman-Delegate M.R.Ry. Rangaswami Aiyar who were unremitting in their zealous and hearty exertions to carry out my orders most promptly.

1. M.R Ry. Krishnaswamy Aiyar, Tahsildar.
2. " Rangaswami Aiyar, Deputy Tahsildar and Stationary Sub-Magistrate.
3. " Komarasamy Pillai, } Police In-
4. Mahomed Khan Saib, } spectors.
and
5. M.R.Ry. Muthuswamy Pillai, Civil Apothecary.

REPORT on the Karthigay festival held at Tiruvannámali, South Arcot District, from 11th to 20th November 1896.

South Arcot.	District.
S. Muthuswamy Pillay, Civil Apothecary.	Name of reporter.
Karthigay festival, Tiruvannámalai.	Name of festival and where held.
From 11th to 20th November 1896.	Date of festival.
Said to be 60,000.	Number assembled.

Accommodation and sanitary arrangements made.

There are many madams and choultries in this town that are utilized by the public for lodging. Two temporary sheds (32×15 feet) were put up this year in the town—one to the north of travellers' bungalow and the other on the tank-bund of Thamaraykolum—for accommodating Tirupati Yanathies and Madras toties who were specially brought in for service during the festival. An isolation temporary shed (48×15 feet) for the town was, as usual, put up in a place about 2 furlongs off the hospital at Thandrampet road. This shed was divided into two compartments—one for male and the other for female—and the shed was intended to accommodate about sixteen patients (last year to accommodate about 36). There were also a kitchen and a toty shed attached to this. The latter was put up at the suggestion of the District Medical and Sanitary Officer.

At the cattle market there were two temporary sheds for officers, one for water-pandal, two (48×15 feet) for visitors and cattle dealers, five sheds for hospital pounds and one isolation shed (48×15 feet) with a kitchen and a toty shed attached.

Seventy-three temporary latrines with bamboo tatties were erected this year in different parts of the town (69) and cattle market (4). Besides these 73, two long open-trench latrines at the cattle market and two on modified Jewish system in the town were also provided. There was a toty attached to each of these latrines and those much frequented were lighted during nights.

Water-supply.

Owing to the failure of rain, water in almost all the tanks and public wells was at a low level and some tanks dry. All the tanks in the town were either reserved for "drinking" or "bathing" purposes or "closed" to the public use and they were all watched by the police and temporary watchmen. Besides the Ellai Pillay kolum which is reserved throughout the year for drinking purposes, four other tanks in the town and two round the hill were temporarily reserved for the same purpose. The Iyenkolum, which is the important first bathing tank, was, as in the previous year, temporarily barricaded with bamboo railings with openings on two sides and a few dhoby stones and tins were kept on the platform. People were required to bathe and wash their clothes first on the platform before bathing in the tank itself. All public and a few private wells (31), which were in good condition, were allowed for public use and others in insanitary and dangerous condition were closed.

At the cattle market only two wells excluding the one near the isolation shed were available for public use. These two were provided with buckets and ropes. Some other wells in the ayacat of the Samudram tank were also, I learn, used by the people at the market. As there was no water in the Samudram tank, a small tank of 16×5×3½ yards was therein dug up and the people were required to carry water in tins for the use of cattle. There was also a temporary water-pandal for five days during the period of the fair.

All the tanks and public and private wells in the town reserved for drinking purposes were disinfected every third night with pottassa permanganate by me. The three wells at the cattle market were hankinized on alternate nights by the hospital assistant, and about ten wells in choultries and two tanks on the hill road were likewise hankinized by the Municipal Sanitary Inspector. The disinfection with potassa permanganate was more thoroughly carried out this year by tying the chemical to a thin piece of cloth and dipping the bag in or dragging it along the water either with the help of a rope or pole till the chemical is entirely dissolved as suggested by Surgeon-Major J. C. Marsden, District Medical and Sanitary Officer, Cuddalore. The important bathing tanks, Iyenkolum, Agnithirtham, &c., were disinfected with alum and chunam. On the noon of the last day of the festival (20th instant) after the usual hours of bathing, the Iyenkolum was disinfected with potassa permanganate. On days on which the Birmathirtham, a drinking-water tank within the temple, was not hankinized, it was disinfected with alum and chunam as directed by the District Medical and Sanitary Officer.

Conservancy.

The town was divided into five blocks as usual—three important blocks were placed in charge of trained sanitary inspectors and the other two were under sanitary maistries from Tirupati. Each block was provided with a peon, a stretcher with four bearers, and sufficient number of rubbish-carts, sweepers, toties, &c., according to the importance of the block. The total number thus engaged for the town, when the festival was in its full swing, was, I learn, 11 rubbish-carts, 64 sweepers, 99 toties. 5 stretchers with 20 bearers, 6 peons, 6 watchmen and 10 mounted night-soil buckets excluding the 20 sweepers, 4 rubbish-carts and 3 toties attached to the permanent staff of the municipality. During the early part of the festival a less number of rubbish-carts, stretcher-bearers, &c., was employed as the crowd had not then assembled.

For the cattle market 5 peons, 7 toties, 10 to 15 rubbish-carts, 17 sweepers, 46 boys and girls, 1 stretcher with 4 bearers, 1 night-soil bucket and 1 road maistry to supervise the above staff were engaged from the 16th to 23rd instant. Three stretchers with bearers, 4 toties, 1 peon, and 1 road maistry were also engaged for the 5 miles distance round the hill not comprised in the town and cattle market.

Each latrine had a toty; four toties for each block were engaged to remove the night-soil in streets. All the night-soil were removed and deposited in dust-bins or tarred baskets covered with a tarred lid and finally removed in mounted receptacles by special toties to four night-soil depôts where they were buried. The street sweepings were also carted to four depôts out of the town.

All the stretcher-bearers at the town and railway station were provided with iron-pointed sticks and match boxes to collect and burn the rags scattered about the roads and streets. These bearers and the peons in each block were instructed to go round in their respective blocks, to report and to remove at once any suspicious case of cholera to the isolation shed and the sanitary inspectors and maistries were required to disinfect all such infected places with sublimate lotion.

The trained sanitary inspector of the municipality did duty as chief inspector and attended to the disinfection of a few tanks round the hill and some wells in chattrams. The sanitary staff in the town continued to work for five days after the festival.

Fifty-six constables and two head constables were deputed this year to the sanitation staff to watch tanks and prevent nuisances. A few of these were also placed at each toll-gate to detect cases of infectious diseases among the pilgrims entering the town.

Each of the isolation sheds was in charge of an hospital assistant especially brought in for the purpose; each shed had a ward cooly and two toties (male and female) and all necessary medicines, stimulants, cumblies, disinfectants, medical comforts, &c., were kept in readiness at the sheds.

One of the hospital assistants and a sanitary inspector were required to attend to all the trains, to inspect all incoming persons for infectious diseases and to segregate all such cases at once to the isolation sheds. As soon as the railway medical officers came in, these two were required to attend to their respective duties. A stretcher and four bearers were at the railway station.

Epidemics.

There was no epidemic this year except a few cases of small-pox amongst the residents of this town; steps were at once taken to check its further spread by isolating the patients in their respective houses and vaccinating, as far as possible, all unprotected cases in those houses.

Three suspicious cases were brought in to the isolation shed; they were found to be not cases of cholera; the patients were all discharged cured.

General health.

Good.

Recommendations.

As the water-supply for the town and cattle market especially was found to be somewhat deficient this year owing to the unfavourable season, it would be advisable to open an additional and permanent well at the cattle market and to fit up the Kalyani well for pumping out water to supply portions of the town with pure drinking-water as suggested by the Sanitary Commissioner.

All public wells in the town and cattle market should be provided with common buckets and ropes during the festival.

Another isolation shed near the railway station is necessary, and the hospital assistant in charge of the isolation shed at the cattle market should be provided with a shed wherein he may lodge and these sheds be put up permanently in skelton form with the floors cemented.

The Sanitary Commissioner, Madras, the District Medical and Sanitary Officer, Cuddalore, and Assistant Surgeon were here during the festival and inspected the sanitary arrangements of the town and cattle market.

TIRUVANNAMALAI,
1st December 1896.

(Signed) S. MUTHUSWAMY,
Civil Apothecary.

No. 1703.

Forwarded to the Sub-Collector with the following remarks :—

(1) The arrangements were made in a careful and satisfactory way and there was a happy exemption from cholera. But, on future occasions, the sanitary staff (including the police employed on this duty) should be collected at least a week before the festival actually commences so that they may be properly organized and taught their duties. Everything should be in perfect readiness before hand.

(2) There is no suitable water-supply at the cattle-stands. As a permanent improvement, two large drinking-water wells should be constructed there, properly protected and fitted with pulleys, buckets and chains. Large stone drinking-troughs for cattle should also be built.

(3) The Sanitary Commissioner's project for supplying drinking water to the town should be carried out.

(4) All sources of water-supply of doubtful quality should be entirely and compulsorily closed during the festival.

(5) Three iron-constructed isolation sheds, with properly cemented floors, should be constructed near the cattle stand, railway station and Thandrampet road, respectively. These should have smaller sheds attached to them to accommodate the attendants.

(6) A sum of at least Rs. 5,000 should be allotted in future (inclusive of contributions from the district board and temple authorities).

(7) Vaccination should be made compulsory as soon as possible.

CUDDALORE,
5th December 1896.

(Signed) J. C. MARSDEN, Surgn.-Major,
District Medical and Sany. Officer, South Arcot.

Endt. No. 145.

Referred for the remarks of the Sanitary Commissioner, through whom this report should have been submitted.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
12th February 1897.

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

From Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel W. G. KING, M.B., C.M., D.P.H., Sanitary Commissioner for Madras, to the Secretary to Government, Local and Municipal Department, dated Camp, Chintagunta, 21st February 1897, No. 444-S.

With reference to your endorsement, No. 145, dated 12th instant, I have the honour to state that the sanitary arrangements were as good as funds at disposal would permit. The Tiruvannámalai festival was formerly a notorious focus whence cholera spread; but owing to the willingness which has, during Mr. Stuart's tenure, distinguished district officials in South Arcot to do their best to undertake sanitary precautions, the last two festivals have passed off without any disaster. Precautions of this description demand much patience and care in supervision, as they consist of a mass of petty details, one of which being forgotten renders the whole useless. Hence, it is necessary that one energetic person should take full command and "run" the whole matter through, with a determination to succeed. This ideal Mr. Muhammad Raza Khan certainly managed to reach, and I consider, consequently, that his assiduous attention to this troublesome work has resulted in all probability in the saving of human life.

ORDER—No. 563 M., dated 16th March 1897.

Recorded.

2. The attention of the municipal council is drawn to the suggestions of the District Medical and Sanitary Officer in his endorsement, No. 1703, dated 5th December 1896.

3. The question of increasing the police force, referred to in paragraph 3 of the Collector's letter, will be referred in the Judicial Department to the Inspector-General of Police for consideration.

4. The Government notes with satisfaction the energy displayed by the Sub-Collector, Mr. Muhammad Raza Khan, and the local officers in carrying out the suggestions of the Sanitary Commissioner.

5. This report has not been submitted through the Sanitary Commissioner as intended by the Collector.

(True Extract.)

Secretary to Government.

To the Chairman, Municipal Council, Tiruvannámalai.
„ Collector of South Arcot.
„ Sanitary Commissioner.
„ Public Department.
„ Judicial Department.
Editors' Table.

Exd A. Baitt.

necessary for the safety and comfort of the pilgrims and others concerned was carried out and I remained there until the crowd had well dispersed. I carefully patrolled the town by day and night and attended the procession accompanied by Mr. Sullivan and the Assistant Collector Mr. Willimott, together with the Tahsildar and the Stationary Sub-Magistrate to maintain order. No grave crimes occurred save only one case of theft of property worth Rs. 2 as reported, but it was subsequently found to be false. I am happy to be able to report that the sanitary restrictions imposed upon the pilgrims in the matter of bathing and drinking-water from the same source, &c., was sensibly realized by them as being conducive to their own personal weal and safety, and that these restrictions in no wise detracted from the religious obligations devolving on them as staunch devotees to the Holy God *Annamalai*. I must now conclude my report by acknowledging my deep sense of obligation to Dr. King, Messrs. Willimott and Sullivan, Dr. Marsden and also to the marginally-noted officers who have rendered invaluable assistance to me, and on their steady and personal labours in a great measure depended the successful issue of the festival. I must also place on record my full appreciation of the very excellent services of three of the Municipal Councillors *Messrs. Appasami Naidu Garu, Arunagiri Mudaliar* and *Kolandavelu Nainar* who ably seconded my personal exertions to promote the comfort and convenience of the vast crowd of pilgrims. These gentlemen formed the members of the sub-committee to carry out certain sanitary arrangements under *amani* stated above. Lastly, my special thanks also are due to the Tahsildar and Councillor Mr. Krishnasamy Iyer and to the Deputy Tahsildar and Chairman-Delegate Mr. Rangasami Iyer who were unremitting in their zealous and hearty exertions to carry out my orders most promptly.

1. M.R.Ry. Krishnasawmy Iyer, Tahsildar.
2. „ Rungasami Iyer, Deputy Tahsildar and Stationary Sub-Magistrate.
3. „ Komarasamy Pillai, } Police Inspectors.
4. „ Mahomed Khan Saib, }

and

5. M.R.Ry. Muthusami Pillai, Civil Apothecary.

No. 563M, 15th JANUARY 1897.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following papers:—

From A. E. CASTLESTUART STUART, Esq., Collector and District Magistrate of South Arcot, to the Secretary to Government, Local and Municipal Department (through the Sanitary Commissioner, Madras), dated Cuddalore, 17th December 1896, Dis. No. 1016-Eng.

I have the honour to submit, in original, the following reports on the late Kartigai festival in Tiruvannámalai:—

(*a*) Sub-Collector's report, No. 3101, dated 10th December 1896.

(*b*) Report of the Civil Apothecary, Tiruvannámalai, dated 1st December 1896, with endorsement thereon of the District Medical and Sanitary Officer, No. 1703, dated 5th December 1896.

2. The festival lasted from 11th to 20th November 1896 (both days inclusive). It is highly gratifying to record that again not a single case of cholera occurred, neither was there any cattle disease. That such satisfactory results should have been obtained in two successive years is eloquent testimony to (*a*) the value of Lieutenant-Colonel W. G. King's sanitary suggestions and (*b*) to the highly efficient manner in which they were carried out, as far as possible, by the Sub-Collector and the other officers who assisted him. Where all concerned did their best, I hesitate to name individuals, but the unwearying energy and zeal of the Sub-Collector displayed both before and during the festival, literally day and night, were so conspicuous that on the principle *palmam ferat qui meruit*, Mr. Muhammad Raza Khan must be specially mentioned.

3. The absence of crime proves that the Police arrangements were creditable to the Superintendent Mr. H. E. Sullivan, who was seriously handicapped this year by paucity of men. Owing to the Negapatam riots, many of the South Arcot reserve were in the Tanjore district and some men promised from other districts failed to attend. I am of opinion that the Police force available for its multifarious duties during the Kartigai feast in future years should not be less than 250.

4. M.R Ry. Rai Bahadur Thanakoti Mudaliar Avergal, the Dharmakarta of the Tiruvannámalai temple, has practically shown his appreciation of the efforts made to improve the arrangements for the festival by raising his annual contribution from Rs. 200 to Rs. 500 and his example has also been followed by the trustee of the Oyamadam. This young municipality has already done itself much credit and there is no reason why its councillors should not soon make it in all respects a model for imitation by much older institutions.

From MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN, Esq., Sub-Collector and Joint Magistrate, South Arcot, to the Collector and Magistrate, South Arcot, dated Chengam, 10th December 1896, Cur. No. 1283-Eng.

I have the honour to submit my report on the annual *Kartigai* festival held at Tiruvannámalai this year.

2. The festival began on the 11th November last and terminated on the 20th idem.

3. The number of pilgrims assembled is estimated at 60,000, which is below the average as against 70,000 in the preceding year; of these 60,000, 20,000 were by rail, as against 22,892 of the last year, the rest being made up of the permanent population (13,650) and those who came by road from other places. The decrease is attributed to the impending drought in other parts, to the ruling high prices of food stuff generally and to the prevalence of cholera and other epidemics in the neighbouring taluks to Tiruvannámalai.

4. An attempt to find out the approximate number of pilgrims was made on the last day of the festival by counting at one of the two gates of the temple the number of pilgrims entering it between the hours of 2 to 4-30 P.M. when all the people usually gathered to see the *Kartigai dîpam*, and this resulted in about 20,000 only. It is intended to get more accurate data next year by establishing more stations for registering the number of pilgrims.

5. The weather throughout the festival was thickly cloudy and moderate showers of rain fell occasionally, rendering the soil damp and the nights very chill. Owing to the failure of the south-west monsoon and the late advent of the north-east monsoon, the water-supply was at its lowest ebb and gave much cause for great anxieties as to the issue of this great festival. The meteorological conditions were favourable to the development of cholera, but happily public health continued to be very good, and the festival passed away without the occurrence of a single case of that fatal epidemic. In justice to the Sanitary Commissioner, Dr. King, I must attribute the perfect immunity that we all enjoyed from this disease only to the very excellent and elaborate sanitary proposals formulated by that officer and carefully carried out this year by the municipality on the lines adopted last year by the taluk board. Three suspicious cases were admitted into the isolation shed, but these were soon found out not to be cholera, and the patients made a rapid recovery and were discharged. Few cases of small-pox were reported among the permanent residents; they were immediately segregated, and the unprotected inmates of the infected houses were at once vaccinated.

6. Every attention was specially devoted to the maintenance of the general cleanliness of the town and its environs, to the careful preservation of the water-supply, to the satisfactory disposal of all collected rubbish and night-soil and to the constant inspection of all articles of food which was being held by myself and by my subordinates. Houses in the town were ordered to be whitewashed and their backyards were also required to be cleared out before the festival. The choultries where food was distributed to pilgrims were all visited by us as often as possible.

7. Two large sheds for the accommodation of cholera-stricken persons, two similar ones for the use of the cattle-dealers and the visitors to the cattle market, two sheds for the toties from Madras and Tirupati and the usual number of sheds for the Police and the lessees of the fees levied in the cattle market were erected under *amani* by the sub-committee of councillors appointed by me for the purpose. The cholera sheds were in charge of two medical officers and the extra ward coolies supplied by Dr. Marsden and had also convenient kitchens and toti sheds newly added to them this year.

8. The sanitary staff employed consisted of 4 trained inspectors, 4 maistries, 84 sweepers, 117 toties, 40 stretcher-bearers, 12 peons, 6 tank-watchers and 17 adults and 46 juveniles for work in the cattle market, and a large number of rubbish and night-soil carts were in use. The difficulty of obtaining such a large number of toties was again overcome by Dr. King who, with his wonted energy and willingness to help, kindly procured their services from Tirupati and Madras, and was present during a portion of the festival affording me material advice and assistance. The Acting District Medical and Sanitary Officer and his Assistant also attended the festival alternately, and supervised the sanitary arrangements. The conservancy staff commenced its operations *five days before* the festival began and continued its work for *five days after* it terminated. The town was well lighted up and divided into several wards, to each of which was allotted a staff of warders; 30 incinerators were constructed for the burning of discarded rags and other rubbish, and 73 moveable tatti latrines were put up. Two open trench latrines and two fields worked as latrines on the modified Jewish principle were also arranged for. Many of these latrines were

lighted by night, and one and all of them were provided with one toti each and also with water pots for washing purposes, and tarred receptacles for the depositing of night-soil. The road around the sacred hill was also carefully guarded as advised by Dr. King last year.

The drinking-water wells and ponds and also bathing tanks were carefully guarded by watchmen and by the Police, and they were systematically disinfected by the local Civil Apothecary. Unprotected wells and tanks containing filthy water were barricaded and the two tanks reported last year as being absolutely dangerous on sanitary bases, as held by Dr. King, were permanently closed with brickwalls against the public.

9. Major Shelly, R.E., Agent of the South Indian Railway, kindly furnished me with daily information about the destination of pilgrims returning by rail from Tiruvannámalai as suggested by Dr. King last year, and also arranged for the stopping of pilgrims' train at two selected localities on each side of Tiruvannámalai, in view that the passengers might use the special temporary latrines constructed by the company. A large temporary shed was also erected by Major Shelly for the accommodation of passengers at the Tiruvannámalai railway station where special medical officers were deputed by him to search for cases of infectious diseases amongst the passengers; my best thanks are due to Major Shelly for his hearty co-operation.

10. About 25,000 head of cattle were brought to market from the 16th to 23rd November, and the business appeared to be very brisk. A very large well was sunk in the bed of the Samudram tank to provide drinking-water for cattle, and a water-pandal was opened close to the cattle market for the convenience of the people assembled there. The provisions of the Cattle Disease Act were made temporarily applicable, and a Stock Inspector from Madras was in attendance. Five sheds for the treatment of diseased cattle were in readiness, but no cattle disease occurred.

11. The Police arrangements made by Mr. Sullivan for the preservation of order and peace were, as usual, admirable, in spite of the insufficiency of the Police staff he had this year to work with on the occasion, namely, 2 inspectors, 14 head constables and 181 constables as against 5 inspectors, 12 head constables and 195 constables last year.

12. Through the instrumentality of myself and Mr. Sullivan, coupled with the hearty co-operation of the *Dharmakarta Rai Bahadur Thanakoti Mudaliar*, the nocturnal processions were brought to a close at an early hour, and the people instead of unduly risking their health by exposure to the chill night air retired to their much-needed rest without demur.

13. The *cost* incidental to this festival amounted to *Rs. 3,120* as against *Rs. 4,912* last year. The decrease is due to expenditure on permanent improvements, such as that on walls, carts, lanterns, &c., having been incurred in last year, and to savings under various heads this year attributable mainly to construction of sheds and latrines, &c., under *amani* as referred to in paragrah 7 *supra*. The receipts on account of the festival amounted to *Rs. 3,135* or about Rs. 15 over and above what it has cost the municipality. I most gladly bring to your notice that the *Dharmakarta Rai Bahadur Thanakoti Mudaliar* has in response to the remarks of Government on our last budget enhanced his festival contribution for the current year from Rs. 200 to Rs. 500 from the Temple funds. The trustee of the *Oyamadam* also raised his contribution from Rs. 10 to Rs. 15 this year.

14. The report of the local Civil Apothecary, with Dr. Marsden's remarks, is herein enclosed. His suggestions which are generally based on Dr. King's proposals for the permanent improvement of the water-supply, &c., are excellent and will be undertaken when the funds at our disposal become more elastic. I will, however, specially commend shortly to the council for favourable consideration his remarks that *compulsory vaccination* be introduced. This would seem imperative in progressive and prosperous town like Tiruvannámalai with a population of 13,650 souls and containing an important sacred shrine to which thousands of pilgrims are attracted.

15. *General Remarks.*—As usual, I proceeded to Tiruvannámalai a few days, as kindly advised by you, ere the festival began to satisfy myself that every thing that was

necessary for the safety and comfort of the pilgrims and others concerned was carried out and I remained there until the crowd had well dispersed. I carefully patrolled the town by day and night and attended the procession accompanied by Mr. Sullivan and the Assistant Collector Mr. Willimott, together with the Tahsildar and the Stationary Sub-Magistrate to maintain order. No grave crimes occurred save only one case of theft of property worth Rs. 2 as reported, but it was subsequently found to be false. I am happy to be able to report that the sanitary restrictions imposed upon the pilgrims in the matter of bathing and drinking-water from the same source, &c., was sensibly realized by them as being conducive to their own personal weal and safety, and that these restrictions in no wise detracted from the religious obligations devolving on them as staunch devotees to the Holy God *Annamalai*. I must now conclude my report by acknowledging my deep sense of obligation to Dr. King, Messrs. Willimott and Sullivan, Dr. Marsden and also to the marginally-noted officers who have rendered invaluable assistance to me, and on their steady and personal labours in a great measure depended the successful issue of the festival. I must also place on record my full appreciation of the very excellent services of three of the Municipal Councillors *Messrs. Appasami Naidu Garu, Arunagiri Mudaliar* and *Kolandavelu Nainar* who ably seconded my personal exertions to promote the comfort and convenience of the vast crowd of pilgrims. These gentlemen formed the members of the sub-committee to carry out certain sanitary arrangements under *amani* stated above. Lastly, my special thanks also are due to the Tahsildar and Councillor Mr. Krishnasamy Iyer and to the Deputy Tahsildar and Chairman-Delegate Mr. Rangasami Iyer who were unremitting in their zealous and hearty exertions to carry out my orders most promptly.

1. M.R.Ry. Krishnasawmy Iyer, Tahsildar.
2. „ Rungasami Iyer, Deputy Tahsildar and Stationary Sub-Magistrate.
3. „ Komarasamy Pillai, } Police In-
4. „ Mahomed Khan Saib, } spectors.

and

5. M.R.Ry. Muthusami Pillai, Civil Apothecary.

Report on the Karthigay festival held at Tiruvannâmali, South Arcot District, from 11th to 20th November 1896.

District.	Name of reporter.	Name of festival and where held.	Date of festival.	Number assembled.	Accommodation and sanitary arrangements made.	Water-supply.
South Arcot.	S. Muthuswamy Pillay, Civil Apotheary.	Karthigay festival, Tiruvannâmalai.	From 11th to 20th November 1896.	Said to be 60,000.	There are many madams and choultries in this town that are utilized by the public for lodging. Two temporary sheds (32×15 feet) were put up this year in the town—one to the north of Thamaraykolum—for accommodating Tirupati Yunathies and Madras toties who were specially brought in for service during the festival. An isolation temporary shed (48×15 feet) for the town was, as usual, put up in a place about 2 furlongs off the hospital at Thandrampet road. This shed was divided into two compartments—one for male and the other for female—and the shed was intended to accommodate about 36; there were also a kitchen and a toty shed attached to this. The latter was put up at the suggestion of the District Medical and Sanitary Officer. At the cattle market there were two temporary sheds for officers, one for water-pandal, two (48×15 feet) for visitors and cattle dealers, five sheds for hospital pounds and one isolation shed (48×15 feet). Seventy-three temporary latrines were erected this year in different parts of the town (69) and cattle market (4). Besides these 73 two long open-trench latrines at the cattle market and those much frequented were in the town were also provided. There was a toty attached to each of these latrines and those much frequented were lighted during nights.	Owing to the failure of rain, water in almost all the tanks and public wells was at a low level and some tanks dry. All the tanks in the town were either reserved for "drinking" or "bathing" purposes or "closed" to the public use and they were all watched by the police and temporary watchmen. Besides the Eilai Pillay kolum which is reserved for the out the year for drinking purposes, four other tanks in the town and two round the hill were temporarily reserved for the same purpses. The Iyenkolum, which is the important first bathing tank, was, as in the previous year, temporarily barricated with bamboo railings with openings on two sides and a few dholy stones and tins were kept on the platform. People were required to bathe and wash their clothes first on the platform before bathing in the tank itself. All public and a few private wells (31), which were in good condition, were allowed for public use and others in insanitary and dangerous condition were closed. At the cattle market only two wells exluding the one near the isolation shed were available for public use. These two were provided with buckets and ropes. Some other wells in the vicinity of the Samudram tank were also, I learn, used by the people at the market. As there was no water in the Samudram tank a temporary water-supply was arranged in the ayacut of the Samudram tank, a small tank of 16×5×3½ yards was therein dug up and the people were required to carry water in tins for the use of cattle. There was also a temporary water-pandal for five days during the period of the fair. All the tanks and public and private wells in the town reserved for drinking purposes were disinfected every third night with potassa permanganate by me. The three wells at the cattle market were likewise disinfected by the Municipal Sanitary Inspector. The disinfection with potassa permanganate was more thoroughly carried out this year by tieing the chemical to a thin piece of cloth and dipping the bag in or dragging it along the water either with the help of a rope or pole till the chemical is entirely dissolved as suggested by Surgeon-Major J. C. Marsden, District Medical and Sanitary Officer, Cuddalore. The important bathing tanks, Iyenkolum, Agnitirtham, &c., were disinfected after the usual hours of bathing, the Iyenkolum was disinfected On the noon of the last day of the festival (20th instant) after the Brimathirtham, a drinking-water tank within the temple, was not with potassa permanganate. On days on which the Brimathirtham was directed by the District Medical and Sanitary Officer. hankinized, it was disinfected with alum and chunam as directed by the District Medical and Sanitary Officer.

Conservancy.	Epidemics.	General health.	Recommendations.
The town was divided into five blocks as usual—three important blocks were placed in charge of trained sanitary inspectors and the other two were under sanitary inspectors from Tirupati. Each block was provided with a peon, a stretcher with four bearers, and sufficient number of rubbish-carts, toties, &c., according to the importance of the block. The total number thus engaged for the town, I learn, 11 rubbish-carts, 64 sweepers, 99 toties, 5 stretchers with 20 bearers, 6 peons, 6 watchmen and 10 mounted night-soil buckets excluding the 20 sweepers, 4 rubbish-carts and 3 toties attached to the permanent staff of the municipality. During the early part of the festival a less number of rubbish-carts, stretcher-bearers, &c., was employed as the crowd had not then assembled. At the cattle market 5 peons, 7 toties, 10 to 15 rubbish-carts, 17 sweepers, 46 boys and girls, 1 stretcher with 4 bearers, 1 night-soil bucket and 1 road maistry to supervise the above staff were engaged for the 5 miles distance round the hill not comprised in the town and cattle market. Eight sanitary inspectors were engaged to remove the night-soil in streets. All the night-soil stretchers with bearers, 4 toties, 1 peon, and 1 road maistry were also carted to were removed and deposited in dust-bins or tarred baskets covered with a tarred lid and finally removed in mounted receptacles by special toties to four night-soil depôts where they were buried. The street sweepings were also carted to four depôts out of the town. All the stretcher-bearers at the town and railway station were provided with iron-pointed sticks and match boxes to collect and burn the rags scattered about the roads and streets. These bearers and the peons in each block were instructed to go round in their respective bocks, to report and to remove at once any suspicious case of cholera to the isolation shed and the sanitary inspectors were required to disinfect all such infected places with sublimate lotion. The travelling sanitary inspector and maistries were deputed to the disinfection of a few tanks round the hill and some wells in chattrams. The sanitary staff did duty as chief inspector and attended to the disinfection of a after the festival.	There was no epidemic this year except a few cases of small-pox amongst the residents of this town; steps were at once taken to check its further spread by isolating the patients as far as possible, all unprotected cases in those houses. Three suspicious cases were brought in to the isolation shed; they were found to be not cases of cholera; the patients were all discharged cured.	Good.	As the water-supply for the town and cattle market especially was found to be somewhat deficient this year owing to the unfavourable season, it would be advisable to open an additional and permanent well at the cattle market and to fit up the Kalyani well for pumping out water to supply portions of the town with pure drinking-water as suggested by the Sanitary Commissioner. All public wells in the town and cattle market should be provided with common buckets and ropes during the festival. Another isolation shed near the railway station is necessary, and the hospital assistant in charge of the isolation shed should be provided with a shed wherein he may lodge and these sheds be put up permanently in at the cattle market should be put up permanently in the floors cemented. skelon form with the Sanitary Commissioner, Madras, the District Medical and Sanitary arrangements of the town and cattle market. The Sanitary Commissioner, Madras, the District Medical and Sanitary Officer, Cuddalore, and Assistant Surgeon were here during the festival and inspected the sanitary arrangements of the town and cattle market.

TIRUVANNAMALAI,
1st December 1896.

(Signed) S[illegible]

—

[illegible]IY,
thecarry.

No. 1703.

Forwarded to the Sub-Collector with the following remarks :--

(1) The arrangements were made in a careful and satisfactory way and there was a happy exemption from cholera. But, on future occasions, the sanitary staff (including the police employed on this duty) should be collected at least a week before the festival actually commences so that they may be properly organized and thought their duties. Everything should be in perfect readiness before hand.

(2) There is no suitable water-supply at the cattle-stands. As a permanent improvement, two large drinking-water wells should be constructed there, properly protected and fitted with pulleys, buckets and chains. Large stone drinking-troughs for cattle should also be built.

(3) The Sanitary Commissioner's project for supplying drinking water to the town should be carried out.

(4) All sources of water-supply of doubtful quality should be entirely and compulsouly closed during the festival.

(5) Three iron-constructed isolation sheds, with properly cemented floors, should be constructed near the cattle stand, railway station and Thandrampet road, respectively. These should have smaller sheds attached to them to accommodate the attendants.

(6) A sum of at least Rs. 5,000 should be allotted in future (inclusive of contributions from the district board and temple authorities).

(7) Vaccination should be made compulsory as soon as possible.

CUDDALORE,
5*th December* 1896.

(Signed) J. C. MARSDEN, Surgn.-Major,
District Medical and Sany. Officer, South Arcot.

C: no. 3386 M

Tiruvannamalai
Kartigai festival

No. 444/S 88

OFFICE OF SANITARY COMMISSIONER,

Camp Chittagunta 21st July 1897.
~~Fort St. George,~~ Desp. 23d do

Rec'd No. 812 M

From

SURGEON LIEUT.-COL. W. G. KING, M.B., C.M., D.P.H.,

SANITARY COMMISSIONER FOR MADRAS,

To

THE

Secretary to Government
Local & Municipal Department

Enclosure 54

SIR,

With reference to your endorsement No 145 dated 12th instant I have the honor to state that the sanitary arrangements were as good as funds at disposal would permit. The Tiruvannamalai festival was formerly a notorious focus whence cholera spread, but owing to the willingness which has, during Mr Stuarts tenure, distinguished District officials in South Arcot to do their best to undertake sanitary precautions, the last two festivals (have) passed off without any disaster. Precautions of this description demand much patient and care in supervision, as they consist of a mass of petty details one of which being forgotten renders the whole useless. Hence it is necessary that an energetic person

should

Refer

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should take full command and
"run" the whole matter through with
a determination to succeed. This ideal
Mr Muhamed Raza Khan certainly
managed to reach, and I consider,
consequently, that his assiduous
attention to this troublesome work
has resulted in all probability in
the saving of human life.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedient Servant
W. Wren
Lieut: Col:
Sanitary Commissioner
to Madras.

Local & Munl. (1897) Department.

98

CURRENT No. 812 M

C. No. 3386. M. of '96 &
812. M. of '97

From The Sanitary Commissioner for Madras

Press. 144

Order No. 563 M. 16/3/97

Recorded. 16-3-97

SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT
23 FEB 1897
LOCAL & MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT
No. 464

Dated 23d February 1897

Received 23-2-1897

Registered 24-2-1897

Enclosures 4. C. No 3386 M of 1896 etc

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SUBJECT.

Forwards his remarks on the Karthigai festival held at Tiruvannamalai in November 1896.

2. The attention of the municipal council is drawn to the suggestions of the District medical and Sanitary officer in his endorsement No. 1703, dated 5th December 1896.

3. The question of increasing the police force refered to in para 3 of the Collector's letter will be refered in the Judicial Department to the Inspector-General of Police for consideration.

4. The Government notes with satisfaction the energy displayed by the Sub. Collector Mr. Muhammad Raza Khan and the local officers in carrying out the

26/7

Q = Print heading only.

the suggestions of the Sanitary
Commissioners.
5. This report ~~shall be~~ has not been submitted
Thro' the Sanitary Comm. as intended by the Collector.
VR
3/3/97

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G.O.	No	Department.	Date.

* Rec'd in the office 15/3/97 VR

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To The Chairman, M.C. Tirunamanallai
" Collector of South Arcot
" Sanitary Commissioner
" Public Department
" Judicial Department.
15/3/97

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