Local & Munl. (1898) Department.

PRINTED ✓

G.O., No. 1365. P.

DATED 25-10-98

Sent to Press 27/10/98

Received 28/10/98

[Despatch Abstract.]

Plague cases at Vaniyambadi & Trichinopoly

Recording, with remarks, reports of ______ and stating that the proposal of the Collector of Salem to station troops in Salem town cannot be accepted.

Compared [illegible] 28-10.

Ch 28-10

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
—	1409	—	7-11-98				
Cur. no.	106P	—	16-1-99				

Con

Government (1898) of Madras.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL.

Recd.
1898.
Regd.

Enclosures
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G.O., No. 1365 P., 25th October 1898.

OCTOBER.

Plague cases at Vaniyambadi and Trichinopoly.

Recording, with remarks, reports of —, and stating that the proposal of the Collector of Salem to station troops in Salem town cannot be accepted.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following papers :—

Office-note from the Plague Commissioner, dated 21st October 1898.

Abstract.—Submitting reports from the Collectors of Salem and Trichinopoly regarding plague disturbances there.

Enclosures.

From R. H. SHIPLEY, Esq., District Magistrate of Trichinopoly, to the Chief Secretary to Government, through the Plague Commissioner, Madras, dated 19th October 1898, Ref. (n) on Current No. 980—B.G.

In reply to your telegram, dated 19th instant, I have the honour to submit the following report on the disturbance that resulted in the burning of the plague sheds.

2. On the 4th instant, I presided at a meeting held in the Town Hall for the purpose of explaining and discussing the measures which might become necessary should the plague make its appearance in this town. The District Surgeon, Lieutenant-Colonel W. O'Hara, I.M.S., made a speech in English which was translated —more or less freely—first into Tamil and then into Hindustani by two fluent members of the Native community. Committees and sub-committees were formed; promises of help were freely made; and everything went off as satisfactorily and smoothly as at a District Board meeting.

3. On Thursday and Friday, some Muhammadans who had come from Bangalore were lodged in the segregation camp near the Municipal hospital, as one of the party was suffering from fever. The patient died on the 9th October. He was a very old man, and as no suspicious symptoms had shown themselves, we hoped for the best, but took the usual precautions. That same morning, a general Muhammadan meeting was held at the musjid about noon. It had been advertised by tom-tom the previous evening. The summons to the meeting is, by some, said to have been couched in violent terms, those who would not attend being threatened with all kinds of pains and penalties in this and the next world—by others it is said to have been an ordinary notice. But, the general opinion is that it was "a three-lined whip." The Kazi and the chief Muhammadans of the town were at the meeting, as well as a very large number of the "masses," both Muhammadan and Hindu. No one was in even the imaginary chair; and anybody who could get a hearing, and a good many who could not, spoke. It is impossible to say what part in the proceedings the more influential Muhammadans took. They themselves say they advised compliance with Government orders, and, finding that the crowd was getting out of hand, quietly retired. The Hindu Police Inspector Parthasarathi Aiyangar, on the other hand, who had constables in plain clothes watching the proceedings, says that it was arranged by half a dozen of the "big" men what was to be said, and that their mouth-pieces passed their words and opinions on to the crowd. Whatever the truth of this may be, it is certain that the "sense" (I speak idiomatically, not technically) of the gathering was hostile to the plague measures. The crowd dispersed quietly enough.

4. As soon as I heard of the proposed meeting, I sent an express to Mr. Bidie, District Superintendent of Police, who was at Manaparai, asking him to come in. He took the first train back and we met at about 4 P.M. I suggested that he should bring in a Muhammadan Inspector of Police and some Muhammadan head constables, if he had any good ones. He had seen Inspector Parthasarathi Aiyangar and learnt from him about the meeting and that the town was quiet and there seemed to be no immediate danger of a disturbance. At 8 P.M., however, Lieut.-Colonel W. O'Hara

and Mr. Bidie came to my house and told me that, at about 6 o'clock, a mob had collected near the sheds and had burnt them down, that Parthasarathi Aiyangar had been hustled and M. Srinivasa Row, the Deputy Collector, had his head broken, but that happily the heavy shower of rain, that came down just about then, dispersed the crowd. Mr. Bidie had meanwhile sent into the town and found that all the streets were quiet.

5. Next morning early I went into the town, and found small knots of people gathered in the streets, and a lot of school-boys and loafers looking at the charred remains of the sheds. There was no excitement, and the people were as respectful as usual. However, in consultation with Lieutenant-Colonel W. O'Hara, who is Municipal Chairman as well as District Surgeon, and Mr. Bidie, I decided to call out two companies of Madras Infantry. One was lodged in the Sub-Jail, which I had emptied of its inmates, temporarily transferred to the Central Jail (the Sub-Jail is close to the municipal hospital and plague camp); to the other was given the duty of patrolling the town. This duty they performed very efficiently and the streets presented their normal appearance that and the following nights. Meanwhile, Mr. Bidie had wired for extra police from the neighbouring districts, whom he posted at the plague camp itself, and kept in reserve against contingencies. I kept the sepoy patrols, and guard, on for a couple of days, while the arrests of persons implicated in the disturbance were being made. Then I dispensed with their services, arranging, instead, for a signalling party to be lodged in the sub-jail, who would signal to the cantonment, in case of urgency. This was done at Mr. Bidie's suggestion. This party has been sent back, too, and we have only police on duty. Two or three days after the riot, I sent for the Kazi, a Muhammadan Honorary Magistrate and a few other leading Muhammadans, whom I had reason to suspect of doubtful loyalty to the plague measures, and I spoke to them—as also to some Hindus—in terms of mingled severity and surprise. They said they were not responsible for the riot, or sympathetic with the rioters and promised me their unflinching aid in the future.

6. I composed and scattered broadcast through town and taluk, a few words on the plague policy of Government. I am told the circular has had a good effect. I enclose a copy. The Chairman of the Municipal Council has circulated Ghulam Muhammad's Hindustani pamphlet too. I have also, in company with Lieutenant-Colonel W. O'Hara, chosen fresh sites for the segregation of Brahmans, Muhammadans and such other castes as prefer their own hospitals and sheds to ours; and I have no reason, whatever, to believe that we are acting contrary to any reasonable prejudices or scruples held by the native community.

7. I do not look upon the riot as serious. The arson was the unpremeditated act of an idle, curious crowd of Hindus and Muhammadans. The men who began it, I am semi-officially informed, were two butchers-men "accustomed in the pursuit of their daily avocations to shed blood without shuddering," and perhaps on that account more prone to deeds of violence than other people. The better class of persons are thoroughly ashamed of the out-burst, as are by this time, I have no doubt, also those rioters who are languishing in the dungeons of Darke's bridge and other Police stations.

8. There were, of course, the usual rumours abroad in the town, and for one day the people would not touch the pipe-water. But then common sense, aided by the now unaccustomed nastiness of the tank and irrigation canal water enabled them to laugh at these rumours and return to their matutinal and evening pipes. The attendance at the hospital and schools decreased for a time, but is now again about normal, and in short, all points to the thorough restoration of peace and quiet.

9. My thanks are due to Lieut.-Col. Clothier, 27th M. I., who so readily responded to my call for troops, to Lieut.-Col. W. O'Hara for his advice and co-operation in calming the people, and to Mr. Bidie, District Superintendent of Police, who proved himself to be a very resourceful and energetic officer. The Tahsildar, M.R.Ry. R. Kandaswami Pillai Avergal, afforded also invaluable help in tranquillizing the fears of the people, and in explaining what was intended and wanted.

I apologize for the delay in submitting this report. I was aware that Mr. Bidie had sent a detailed report to the Inspector-General of Police, and I presumed it would be communicated to the Government.

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READ—the following papers :—

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ABSTRACT.—Submitting reports from the Collectors of Salem and Trichinopoly regarding plague disturbances there.

ENCLOSURES.

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From R. B. CLEGG, Esq., Acting Collector and District Magistrate, Salem, to the Plague Commissioner, dated Camp Vániyambádi, 20th October 1898, No. 368-P.C.

With reference to your telegram of the 18th instant calling for a report regarding all the circumstances of the incident at Vániyambádi up to the time of your arrival there on the 14th instant, I have the honour to state as follows.

2. As already reported in my letter of the 12th instant, the girl died at 4 A.M. on the 10th. The Deputy Tahsildar got the information at about 12 noon after the body was interred in the burial-ground of the masjid. He, the Police Inspector, the Hospital Assistant and the Sub-Registrar went to the spot immediately suspecting it to be a case of plague and advised the inmates of the house in which the girl died to be segregated. They sternly refused. A large mob assembled which assumed an attitude of defiance, and violence was apprehended if segregation was insisted on. The idea of segregation was then given up and the crowd dispersed. The local authorities reported the matter to myself and to the Temporary Deputy Collector in charge of the Head Assistant's Division by wire. I arrived at Vániyambádi from Krishnagiri with the Assistant Superintendent of Police and the Additional Medical Officer, Dr. Thomas, on the afternoon of the 11th instant, and the Deputy Collector, the previous night. At 7 A.M. on the 11th, the Deputy Collector had statements taken in his presence from the hospital assistant. the father of the deceased girl, and the hakim who treated her as to when the party arrived from Bangalore, as to their having been under observation and as regards the illness and death of the girl. I enclose a copy of the hospital assistant's statement and translations of the statements given by the hakim and the deceased's father. The Deputy Collector at the same time sent for all the leading men (Jamayahdars) and was trying to persuade them till 11 A.M. to consent to segregation. Some of them including the father of the deceased agreed to segregation, disinfection, &c. Meanwhile, a man in the crowd standing outside in the street said that segregation and disinfection were against their religious principles and that they would not yield to these measures. Then the others also retracted. Immediately on my arrival, I sent for some of the leading men and also the father of the deceased, explained to them the orders and intentions of Government and tried to persuade them to make their own arrangements for segregation. The infected house was one of a row of houses in a crowded street, and on sanitary grounds I did not consider home segregation desirable. I did not try to induce them to go to the municipal shed as it was useless. They were told that they could use any of the field sheds of their own and if they would move no sircar official would go near them so as to respect the "gosha" of their females. I took them out with me and enquired for detached houses in the neighbourhood where they could be segregated. A house to the east of the railway line was selected and the father of the deceased agreed to be segregated there; but the occupants of the house refused to vacate it though a liberal rent of one rupee a day was offered. The deceased's father then pointed out a house in his own street and consented to remove into it. Subsequently he changed his mind, went away on the plea of finding his brother, concealed himself in his house and would not come out, evidently at the instigation of ill-advisers. There was then a mob collected about his house in the street and in the adjoining streets of Kaderpet up to the compound of the railway station where I was staying. This mob, I believe, influenced everybody else. I had an interview with the leading men and mullahs again at the railway station when they put forth their religious objections to segregation at all and nothing could move them. I left the place in the evening for Jalarpet, where my camp had arrived. I returned to Vániyambádi again next morning, sent for the leading Muhammadans at 8–30 A.M., saying that I would consider about home segregation as directed in your telegram. Meanwhile, the reserve had arrived (28 men, I believe, armed) under the Superintendent of Police. They assembled at the Kaderpet mosque, but did not appear. A mob of budmashes from this and other towns collected and filled the streets of Kaderpet all the day. Shops of both Muhammadans and Hindus were closed and the people were prevented by the Muhammadan going on with their usual avocations. As I could do nothing with th at my disposal without making a disturbance and possibly having t

fire, I wired to you to know whether I should use force and for troops as a precautionary measure. I went back to Jalarpet at 11–40 A.M., leaving the Superintendent of Police to keep order until your further orders were received. After I left the place, some of the leading men appeared before the Deputy Collector and agreed to home segregation, but stipulated that the men should go to mosque. The Superintendent of Police wired to me at Jalarpet about this, and I replied to him that he might await your orders. On the 14th, I went to Vániyambádi with the troops and sent for the leading men. Then you arrived and are acquainted with what occurred afterwards.

3. I have been encamped here with the troops up to now. The occupants of the two infected houses have been kept to their homes under a guard of four constables. They say they have done all we have instructed them to do. Up to now no further case has occurred, and I propose to release them to-morrow morning. I have had meetings of the leading Muhammadans and they have appointed five men for each of the nine pettahs into which the town is divided to help the local officials in carrying out preventive measures. It remains to be seen whether they will keep to their promises. I have given them a list of instructions at their request. I imagine, seeing the opposition to leaving their homes, it will not be possible either here, Tiruppattúr, or Salem, to enforce segregation other than home segregation without trouble. There are excitable mobs in each of these towns which have all sorts of wild notions as to what plague measures mean, and I would therefore ask your consideration whether, in the light of what has occurred at Vániyambádi, it would not be a wise precaution to station a company or two of troops at Salem, not with a view to use them, but as a safeguard against disturbance and a means of persuasion. I am satisfied that nothing at all could have been done here at Vániyambádi without their presence. I propose, which proposal I believe has your approval, to keep the troops here for a short time longer until I receive your orders on the above suggestion.

ORDER—No. 1365 P., dated 25th October 1898.

Recorded with the following remarks:—

(1) Mr. Shipley's report does not state whether any persons engaged in burning the sheds or in the assault on the Deputy Collector are being prosecuted.

(2) The Government is not prepared to accept the proposal of the Collector of Salem to station troops in the town of Salem. He can telegraph for them if he finds it really necessary.

(3) The recommendation of the Plague Commissioner to have a sepoy guard over the camp at Jalarpet and to allow the troops to remain for another fortnight at Vániyambádi are approved.

(True Extract.)

H. TREMENHEERE,
Secretary to Government.

To the Plague Commissioner.
,, Collector of Trichinopoly, } A, F, G, H.
,, Collector of Salem, }
,, Sanitary Commissioner.
,, Surgeon-General.
,, Deputy Adjutant-General.
,, Public Department.
,, Judicial Department.
,, Inspector-General of Police.

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Government (1898) of Madras.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL.

Proof for approval

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Recd. } 1898.
Regd.

Enclosures

Spare copies Nil

This has to go to Press today at least.

Recd 4-11-98
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G.O., No. 1365 P., 25th October 1898.

OCTOBER.

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Abstract.—Submitting reports from the Collectors of Salem and Trichinopoly regarding plague disturbances there.

Enclosures.

From R. H. SHIPLEY, Esq., District Magistrate of Trichinopoly, to the Chief Secretary to Government, through the Plague Commissioner, Madras, dated 19th October 1898, Ref. (n) on Current No. 980—B.G.

In reply to your telegram, dated 19th instant, I have the honour to submit the following report on the disturbance that resulted in the burning of the plague sheds.

2. On the 4th instant, I presided at a meeting held in the Town Hall for the purpose of explaining and discussing the measures which might become necessary should the plague make its appearance in this town. The District Surgeon, Lieutenant-Colonel W. O'Hara, I.M.S., made a speech in English which was translated —more or less freely—first into Tamil and then into Hindustani by two fluent members of the Native community. Committees and sub-committees were formed; promises of help were freely made; and everything went off as satisfactorily and smoothly as at a District Board meeting.

3. On Thursday and Friday, some Muhammadans who had come from Bangalore were lodged in the segregation camp near the Municipal hospital, as one of the party was suffering from fever. The patient died on the 9th October. He was a very old man, and as no suspicious symptoms had shown themselves, we hoped for the best, but took the usual precautions. That same morning, a general Muhammadan meeting was held at the musjid about noon. It had been advertised by tom-tom the previous evening. The summons to the meeting is, by some, said to have been couched in violent terms, those who would not attend being threatened with all kinds of pains and penalties in this and the next world—by others it is said to have been an ordinary notice. But, the general opinion is that it was "a three-lined whip." The Kazi and the chief Muhammadans of the town were at the meeting, as well as a very large number of the "masses," both Muhammadan and Hindu. No one was in even the imaginary chair; and anybody who could get a hearing, and a good many who could not, spoke. It is impossible to say what part in the proceedings the more influential Muhammadans took. They themselves say they advised compliance with Government orders, and, finding that the crowd was getting out of hand, quietly retired. The Hindu Police Inspector Parthasarathi Aiyangar, on the other hand, who had constables in plain clothes watching the proceedings, says that it was arranged by half a dozen of the "big" men what was to be said, and that their mouth-pieces passed their words and opinions on to the crowd. Whatever the truth of this may be, it is certain that the "sense" (I speak idiomatically, not technically) of the gathering was hostile to the plague measures. The crowd dispersed quietly enough.

4. As soon as I heard of the proposed meeting, I sent an express to Mr. Bidie, District Superintendent of Police, who was at Manaparai, asking him to come in. He took the first train back and we met at about 4 P.M. I suggested that he should bring in a Muhammadan Inspector of Police and some Muhammadan head constables, if he had any good ones. He had seen Inspector Parthasarathi Aiyangar and learnt from him about the meeting and that the town was quiet and there seemed to be no immediate danger of a disturbance. At 8 P.M., however, Lieut.-Colonel W. O'Hara and Mr. Bidie came to my house and told me that, at about 6 o'clock, a mob had collected near the sheds and had burnt them down, that Parthasarathi Aiyangar had been hustled and M. Srinivasa Row, the Deputy Collector, had his head broken, but that happily the heavy shower of rain, that came down just about then, dispersed the crowd. Mr. Bidie had meanwhile sent into the town and found that all the streets were quiet.

5. Next morning early I went into the town, and found small knots of people gathered in the streets, and a lot of school-boys and loafers looking at the charred remains of the sheds. There was no excitement, and the people were as respectful as usual. However, in consultation with Lieutenant-Colonel W. O'Hara, who is Municipal Chairman as well as District Surgeon, and Mr. Bidie, I decided to call out two companies of Madras Infantry. One was lodged in the Sub-Jail, which I had emptied of its inmates, temporarily transferred to the Central Jail (the Sub-Jail is close to the municipal hospital and plague camp); to the other was given the duty of patrolling the town. This duty they performed very efficiently and the streets presented their normal appearance that and the following nights. Meanwhile, Mr. Bidie had wired for extra police from the neighbouring districts, whom he posted at the plague camp itself, and kept in reserve against contingencies. I kept the sepoy patrols, and guard, on for a couple of days, while the arrests of persons implicated in the disturbance were being made. Then I dispensed with their services, arranging, instead, for a signalling party to be lodged in the sub-jail, who would signal to the cantonment, in case of urgency. This was done at Mr. Bidie's suggestion. This party has been sent back, too, and we have only police on duty. Two or three days after the riot, I sent for the Kazi, a Muhammadan Honorary Magistrate and a few other leading Muhammadans, whom I had reason to suspect of doubtful loyalty to the plague measures, and I spoke to them—as also to some Hindus—in terms of mingled severity and surprise. They said they were not responsible for the riot, or sympathetic with the rioters and promised me their unflinching aid in the future.

6. I composed and scattered broadcast through town and taluk, a few words on the plague policy of Government. I am told the circular has had a good effect. I enclose a copy. The Chairman of the Municipal Council has circulated Ghulam Muhammad's Hindustani pamphlet too. I have also, in company with Lieutenant-Colonel W. O'Hara, chosen fresh sites for the segregation of Brahmans, Muhammadans and such other castes as prefer their own hospitals and sheds to ours; and I have no reason, whatever, to believe that we are acting contrary to any reasonable prejudices or scruples held by the native community.

7. I do not look upon the riot as serious. The arson was the unpremeditated act of an idle, curious crowd of Hindus and Muhammadans. The men who began it, I am semi-officially informed, were two butchers-men "accustomed in the pursuit of their daily avocations to shed blood without shuddering," and perhaps on that account more prone to deeds of violence than other people. The better class of persons are thoroughly ashamed of the out-burst; as are by this time, I have no doubt, also those rioters who are languishing in the dungeons of Darke's bridge and other Police stations.

8. There were, of course, the usual rumours abroad in the town, and for one day the people would not touch the pipe-water. But then common sense, aided by the now unaccustomed nastiness of the tank and irrigation canal water enabled them to laugh at these rumours and return to their matutinal and evening pipes. The attendance at the hospital and schools decreased for a time, but is now again about normal, and in short, all points to the thorough restoration of peace and quiet.

9. My thanks are due to Lieut.-Col. Clothier, 27th M. I., who so readily responded to my call for troops, to Lieut.-Col. W. O'Hara for his advice and co-operation in calming the people, and to Mr. Bidie, District Superintendent of Police, who proved himself to be a very resourceful and energetic officer. The Tahsildar, M.R.Ry. R. Kandaswami Pillai Avergal, afforded also invaluable help in tranquillizing the fears of the people, and in explaining what was intended and wanted.

I apologize for the delay in submitting this report. I was aware that Mr. Bidie had sent a detailed report to the Inspector-General of Police, and I presumed it would be communicated to the Government.

From R. B. CLEGG, Esq., Acting Collector and District Magistrate, Salem, to the Plague Commissioner, dated Camp Vániyambádi, 20th October 1898, No. 368-P.C.

With reference to your telegram of the 18th instant calling for a report regarding all the circumstances of the incident at Vániyambádi up to the time of your arrival there on the 14th instant, I have the honour to state as follows.

2. As already reported in my letter of the 12th instant, the girl died at 4 A.M. on the 10th. The Deputy Tahsildar got the information at about 12 noon after the body was interred in the burial-ground of the masjid. He, the Police Inspector, the Hospital Assistant and the Sub-Registrar went to the spot immediately suspecting it to be a case of plague and advised the inmates of the house in which the girl died to be segregated. They sternly refused. A large mob assembled which assumed an attitude of defiance, and violence was apprehended if segregation was insisted on. The idea of segregation was then given up and the crowd dispersed. The local authorities reported the matter to myself and to the Temporary Deputy Collector in charge of the Head Assistant's Division by wire. I arrived at Vániyambádi from Krishnagiri with the Assistant Superintendent of Police and the Additional Medical Officer, Dr. Thomas, on the afternoon of the 11th instant, and the Deputy Collector, the previous night. At 7 A.M. on the 11th, the Deputy Collector had statements taken in his presence from the hospital assistant. the father of the deceased girl, and the hakim who treated her as to when the party arrived from Bangalore, as to their having been under observation and as regards the illness and death of the girl. I enclose a copy of the hospital assistant's statement and translations of the statements given by the hakim and the deceased's father. The Deputy Collector at the same time sent for all the leading men (Jamayahdars) and was trying to persuade them till 11 A.M. to consent to segregation. Some of them including the father of the deceased agreed to segregation, disinfection, &c. Meanwhile, a man in the crowd standing outside in the street said that segregation and disinfection were against their religious principles and that they would not yield to these measures. Then the others also retracted. Immediately on my arrival, I sent for some of the leading men and also the father of the deceased, explained to them the orders and intentions of Government and tried to persuade them to make their own arrangements for segregation. The infected house was one of a row of houses in a crowded street, and on sanitary grounds I did not consider home segregation desirable. I did not try to induce them to go to the municipal shed as it was useless. They were told that they could use any of the field sheds of their own and if they would move no sircar official would go near them so as to respect the "gosha" of their females. I took them out with me and enquired for detached houses in the neighbourhood where they could be segregated. A house to the east of the railway line was selected and the father of the deceased agreed to be segregated there; but the occupants of the house refused to vacate it though a liberal rent of one rupee a day was offered. The deceased's father then pointed out a house in his own street and consented to remove into it. Subsequently he changed his mind, went away on the plea of finding his brother, concealed himself in his house and would not come out, evidently at the instigation of ill-advisers. There was then a mob collected about his house in the street and in the adjoining streets of Kaderpet up to the compound of the railway station where I was staying. This mob, I believe, influenced everybody else. I had an interview with the leading men and mullahs again at the railway station when they put forth their religious objections to segregation at all and nothing could move them. I left the place in the evening for Jalarpet, where my camp had arrived. I returned to Vániyambádi again next morning, sent for the leading Muhammadans at 8–30 A.M., saying that I would consider about home segregation as directed in your telegram. Meanwhile, the reserve had arrived (28 men, I believe, armed) under the Superintendent of Police. They assembled at the Kaderpet mosque, but did not appear. A mob of budmashes from this and other towns collected and filled the streets of Kaderpet all the day. Shops of both Muhammadans and Hindus were closed and the people were prevented by the Muhammadans from going on with their usual avocations. As I could do nothing with the small force at my disposal without making a disturbance and possibly having to order the police to

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fire, I wired to you to know whether I should use force and for troops as a precautionary measure. I went back to Jalarpet at 11–40 A.M., leaving the Superintendent of Police to keep order until your further orders were received. After I left the place, some of the leading men appeared before the Deputy Collector and agreed to home segregation, but stipulated that the men should go to mosque. The Superintendent of Police wired to me at Jalarpet about this, and I replied to him that he might await your orders. On the 14th, I went to Vániyambádi with the troops and sent for the leading men. Then you arrived and are acquainted with what occurred afterwards.

3. I have been encamped here with the troops up to now. The occupants of the two infected houses have been kept to their homes under a guard of four constables. They say they have done all we have instructed them to do. Up to now no further case has occurred, and I propose to release them to-morrow morning. I have had meetings of the leading Muhammadans and they have appointed five men for each of the nine pettahs into which the town is divided to help the local officials in carrying out preventive measures. It remains to be seen whether they will keep to their promises. I have given them a list of instructions at their request ~~(a copy of which I enclose)~~. I imagine, seeing the opposition to leaving their homes, it will not be possible either here, Tiruppattúr, or Salem, to enforce segregation other than home segregation without trouble. There are excitable mobs in each of these towns which have all sorts of wild notions as to what plague measures mean, and I would therefore ask your consideration whether, in the light of what has occurred at Vániyambádi, it would not be a wise precaution to station a company or two of troops at Salem, not with a view to use them, but as a safeguard against disturbance and a means of persuasion. I am satisfied that nothing at all could have been done here at Vániyambádi without their presence. I propose, which proposal I believe has your approval, to keep the troops here for a short time longer until I receive your orders on the above suggestion.

ORDER—No. 1365 P., dated 25th October 1898.

Recorded with the following remarks:—

(1) Mr. Shipley's report does not state whether any persons engaged in burning the sheds or in the assault on the Deputy Collector are being prosecuted.

(2) The Government is not prepared to accept the proposal of the Collector of Salem to station troops in the town of Salem. He can telegraph for them if he finds it really necessary.

(3) The recommendation of the Plague Commissioner to have a sepoy guard over the camp at Jalarpet and to allow the troops to remain for another fortnight at Vániyambádi are approved.

(True Extract.)

for Secretary to Government.

To the Plague Commissioner,
" Collector of Trichinopoly, } A, F, G, H.
" Collector of Salem,
" Sanitary Commissioner,
" Surgeon-General.
" Deputy Adjutant-General.
" Public Department.
" Judicial Department.
" Inspector-General of Police.

Despd 7/11/98

Exd. P. Shaik Karim.

[L. & M.
500-16-3-95.]

Papers to be read in Proceedings:—

Again G.O., No. dated 189 ,

Again G.O., No. dated 189 ,

[illegible] —Current No. 2177 P. of 1898, dated 14-10-98, from the Plague Commr.

" " 2248 P " 1898, " 17-10-98. ——— Do ———

" " 2295 P. " 1898, " 21-10-98. ——— Do ———

~~Memo~~ D.3

ORDER. 1,365 P of 25-10-98

Recorded with the following remarks:—

(1) Mr. Shipley's report does not state whether any persons engaged in burning the sheds or in the assault on the Deputy Collector are being prosecuted.

(2) The Govt. is not prepared to accept the proposal of the Collector of Salem to station troops in the town of Salem. He can ~~[illegible]~~ telegraph for them if he finds it really necessary.

(3) The recommendations of the Plague Commissioner to have a sepoy guard over the camp at Jalarpet and to allow the troops to remain for another fortnight at Vaniyambadi

are approved.
(From orders)

H.T.
23-10-98

[illegible] 25/10

To the Plague Commr. ~~P.M.C.~~ in note to all
Do Collrs. of Trichinopoly & Salem
Do S. Cr.
Do S. Genl.
Do D. [illegible] G. M. E.
Do Public Deptt
Do Judl. Deptt
Do I. G. of Police.
Despd. M. Sn
26-10.

Local & Munl. (1898) Department.

CURRENT No. 2177 F 8

Telegram
From The Plague Commissioner
Madras

Order

~~File~~
~~(Sd) H.T.~~
~~14/10/98~~

No.

Dated 14-10-1898
Received 14-10-1898
Registered
Enclosures
Spare copies.

SUBJECT.

Stating that everything has been reported quiet at Vaniyambadi and that the troops reached there on the ~~th~~ morning of the 14th October 1898

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Code Class. DS.

INDIAN TELEGRAPHS

Monthly Number

To (Office) Ootacamund
From (Office) Jalarpet-m

Words.	Day.	Hour.	Minute.	Official Instructions.
42	14	8	10	Dfd.

To (Person) Ootacamund Madras L and M. deptt.
From (Person) Plague Commr

A
werything reported quiet at Vaniembadi last night troop reached there this morning am off there now apprehend no disturbance if still met with refusal to reason will arrest principal offenders-

Comm'd by do to H.Qrs.

File
14.10.98

J Mason
Telegraph Master

OOTACAMUND 14-10-98

Local & Munl. (189) Department.

CURRENT No. 2248P

From Plague Commissioner

Order

File.

No. 208

Dated 17-10-98
Received 18-10-98
Registered 19-10-98
Enclosures
Spare copies.

SUBJECT.

Submitting a letter from the Collector of Salem reporting on the plague case ~~and~~ at Vaniyambadi

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their hands one by one
Then I called over the name of Bee Bee

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

~~Board of Revenue.~~

(1898) Department.

General Register No. C. No. 353

From The Ag Collector
Salem

Resolution. No. 2298 / 17/10/98

No.

Recd 13/10/98

Copy submitted to Spl. Officer yesterday referencing my telegram of 4 days date.

P. Comr

13-X-98

Dated 12. 10. 98
Received
Registered
Enclosures

SUBJECT.

Reporting on the plague case at Vaniyambady & requesting instructions in the matter of effecting segregation & disinfection.

Plague

No. 368

SALEM COLLECTOR'S OFFICE,

12th October 1898.

Camp Jalarpet.

FROM Robert B. Clegg ESQ., I.C.S.

ag COLLECTOR AND DISTRICT MAGISTRATE,

Salem,

TO

Plague Commissioner

THE ~~SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT~~,

Fort St George ~~DEPARTMENT~~,

Madras.

SIR,

In Continuation of my telegrams of yesterday and this morning, I have the honor to report as follows regarding the Suspected plague case at Vaniambady.

2. The deceased Fathma Bee, a girl of 7 years of age, was the daughter of one Salar Sahib, and came with her father and 13 other members of the family from the Bangalore City on the 1st instant. She died at 4 a.m. on the 10th instant and her illness was not known to the officials until her interment took place at the Khaderpet Musjid near the Railway station. She was purported

and is said to have been under the observation of the Local Hospital Assistant, she being produced before him daily for the purpose under a veil. He strongly suspects false personation. This was actually the case one day. In the course of ~~the~~ examining five or six females an elderly woman put forth her hand with bangles on it as the girl in question. The Hospital Assistant discovered this and the man who came in charge of the women on being questioned begged to be pardoned. The deceased's father says that his daughter was ill of ordinary fever but that he did not report it. Considering that the girl had arrived only a few days previously from the Bangalore city and that her illness was concealed, it is ~~exceedin~~ extremely probable that this was a case of plague. The news reached me at Kristnagiry at 10 P.M. on the 10th instant. I immediately wired to the

the Superintendent of Police for assistance as trouble was anticipated in the matter of segregation. I arrived at Vaniembady with Dr Thomas, the additional Medical officer, yesterday noon, sent for the leading Muhammadans and explained to them the benefits of segregation and disinfection and that all that was required was that the contacts should vacate the infected house and remain away from habitations until they could re-occupy it. They were advised that they could use any of the field sheds of their own but they would not agree and objected to the removal of the females from the house and to disinfection. They argued that it was necessary according to the commandments of their prophet that the deceased's father and other members of his family should not quit the house for a period of 40 days and that certain

Certain ceremonies were to be performed there during the period. I gave them time to consider over the matter. This morning I again sent word to the leading men, saying that I would consider about home segregation as directed in your telegram but they refused discussion and did not turn up at all. They are determined to oppose all plague measures and are assisted, I understand, by the Muhammadans of Tiruppattur, ~~and~~ Ambur and other places. The shops have all been closed at Vaniembady to-day and workmen have stopped work. It is said that the Vaniembady merchants have not even attended the weekly market at Jalarpet today as usual. The mob is assembled all day long at the mosques and in the streets of Khaderpet which is near the Railway Station in large numbers and private meetings are being held. They have assumed
this

Page 3

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this attitude from the beginning since the question of providing private segregation sheds was brought to their notice. It was impossible to compel segregation with the police at our disposal. The Superintendent of Police arrived with 28 men of the reserve not at all sufficient but in accordance with your instructions by telegram I refrained from attempting forcible segregation as it was an absolute certainty that any attempt would cause a serious disturbance. There are two houses in which the arrivals are located in a crowded street and at the outset it was not considered of any use suggesting home segregation. I consider that the presence of two companies of sepoys in charge of European officers ~~is~~ is quite necessary, if segregation is attempted. As I am writing they have offered to agree to home segregation provided the men are allowed to attend the mosque, the leading members being responsible that they do not mix with others. This does not mean segregation at all. I await orders for which I have wired.

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your most obedient Servant

Robert Bolen

Ag Collector

Copy by bE
12. 10. 98

xd as

Perumal Naidoo, Hospital Assistant

11. 10. 98.

I know Mahomed Selar Sahib! He and his people all about 15 in number were under my observation from 2nd october. One of them was a girl of about 6 or 7 years. She was produced under veils. The above said Mahomed Salar Saib is the father of the girl. I was not allowed to see the girls face. She was under observation for 9 days. On all the days I was feeling her pulse. I found in her no symptoms of fever. I did not suspect any kind of illness in her. 4 or 5 days ago one Hussain Saib who is also a passport holder came to me with some females in a covered carriage. He said there were 6 females including the girl in question in the carriage. When they were in the carriage I called out the names one by one and they stretched out their hands one by one When I called over the name of Bee Bee

Statement of Syed Saheb 11. 10. 98.

I live in the Fort. I am Hakim. I know Mahomed Salar Saheb residing at Naderpet. I treated his daughter. I attended upon her for 5 days. There was fever, Cough, and pain in the chest. The girl was 6 or 7 years of age. I last saw her on Saturday morning. I did not see her afterwards. When I saw her she had no fever. Fever was likely to come that afternoon. She was able to sit. I did not make her walk. She was able to walk if required. I know of only 5 or 6 days' illness. I heard that she died at 4 A.M yesterday. I did not go when the corpse was buried. She had no glandular swellings; nor giddiness, no tetanus.

I knew that she had come from Bangalore. I do not know when she came. I was not aware that she had been passported.

Statement of Muhammed Salar Saib, 11-10-98

I was living in the Bangalore city near the Market. I came here on the 30th of last month. We five members came. We have been living in the same house in which we now are in Kaderpet ever since our arrival. We have been going to the Medical officer daily. My daughter Fathma Bee also came with me from Bangalore. She was 7 years old. We produced her also before the dresser daily. She died yesterday morning at 4. A.M. She was ailing for the last 4 or 5 months. She had cough. No fever, had chest pain and stomach ache. She had convulsions frequently. Hakim Sahib was treating her for 4 or 5 days. Yesterday at day-break the girl had convulsions foamed and expired.

I did not at all mention to the Medical officer that the girl was unwell.

felt her pulse. The dresser did not say that the girl was sick. We had the body interred at the Kaderpet Musjid yesterday at 10 a.m. 10 of my relations accompanied me to Vaniembady. They belong to a different family. They put up in the house opposite to mine. When the corpse was being removed they came to my house.

Maistry Munusamy used to come to me daily and take my signature in a book. I did not tell him that my child was ill. Nor did he ask me about it.

Mahomed Salar, again examined, deposed as follows:—

Deceased Fathma Bee was my daughter. We still reside in the same house in which she died. We could not leave that house and remove to the segregation shed. We wont go. We have to perform ceremonies in our house. We are looking for another house. If proper house is available and if the authorities approve of it I am willing to remove into it. I shall find out a house in a day or two and then intimate.

General Simple instructions to be observed in case of plague or suspected cases of plague

1. It is very desirable for people to keep out from their village or town any person or persons coming from Bangalore or other locality declared to be infected.

2. Arrivals, cases of fever among arrivals and cases of death from fever among arrivals from Bangalore or other infected locality should be promptly reported to the local authorities.

3 If any case or suspected case should occur in any house the inmates should not be allowed to mix with other persons in the town and they must be kept preferably in isolated houses or in their own ~~houses~~ homes for a period of ten days. For this purpose a guard will be posted at the infected house. The health of the inmates should also be daily inquired into and reported to the local authorities by the leaders headmen of the place during have not been inside the

4. As far as practicable, the roof of the infected house if thatched or tiled should be removed here and there to admit of sunlight and air getting into it. The doors and windows should be opened out to admit of free ventilation and light.

5. The floor of the house if of mud where the patient had been lying, defaecating, urinating, vomiting etc should be scraped off, and the scraped earth burnt and the burnt earth thrown away from inhabited houses.

6. The floor should be well sprinkled with disinfectants dissolved in pure water, which will be supplied by the Sanitary officers of Government.

7. The walls of the house inside and outside should be well whitewashed.

8. The rags and other valueless clothes which might have been used by or [illegible] have come in contact with [illegible] [illegible] should be burnt.

9. Other clothes of any value in the house should be well boild in hot ~~water~~ water and washed and dried in the sun for six hours. Pots and other vessels, furniture etc should be put out in the sun and exposed to the sun's rays for at least six hours. Clothes of value, such as embroidered clothes etc which cannot be washed should be exposed to the sun's rays for a period of six hours. All the inmates of the house, including women and children should thoroughly wash themselves and keep as clean as possible and wear clean clothes.

10. It is absolutely necessary that the inmates of the infected house do not mix with anybody else and do not therefore go out anywhere. But if any person in the affected house has to go out as a matter of necessity, he must thoroughly wash himself in a place outside the infected house and put on new clothes or such clothes as have not been inside the

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the infected house and he must avoid mixing with others as much as possible.

11. The burial should be not less than four to four and a half feet deep; and any one who has been in contact with corpses should bathe and have his clothes disinfected.

12. Any losses which may be incurred by the people by the removal of the roof, by the burning of clothes etc will be fully compensated for by Government.

Romers Oliver
Ag Collector
20/10/98

Capmoly HQ
20 10 98

x/d
20-10

"Plague"

Trichinopoly Distt Mugte's Offi
19th October 189

Ref-(u) in current No 980/B.G. of 98.

From
R. H. Shipley Esq
Distt Magistrate of
Trichinopoly,

To
The Chief Secretary to Government,
Judicial Department,

Through the Plague Commissioner,
Madras.

Sir,

In reply to your telegram dated 19th instant, I have the honour to submit the following report on the disturbance ~~that~~ resulted in the burning of the Plague Sheds.

2) On the 4th instant, I presided at a meeting held in the Town Hall for the purpose of explaining and discussing the measures which might become necessary, should the plague make its appearance

in this town. The District Surgeon Lieut-Col. W. O'Hara, I.M.S., made a speech in English which was translated - more or less freely - first into Tamil and then into Hindustani by two fluent members of the Native Community. Committees and Sub-Committees were formed: promises of help were freely made: and everything went off as satisfactorily and smoothly as at a District Board meeting.

3. On Thursday and Friday some Mahomedans who had come from Bangalore were lodged in the segregation Camp near the Municipal Hospital, as one of the party was suffering from fever. The patient died on the 9th October

October. He was a very old man, and as no suspicious symptoms had shown themselves, we hoped for the best, but took the usual precautions. That same morning a general Mahomedan meeting was held at the musjid about noon. It had been advertised by tom-tom the previous evening. The summons to the meeting is, by some, said to have been couched in violent terms, those who would not attend being threatened with all kinds of pains and penalties in this and the next world - by others it is said to have been an ordinary notice. But, the general opinion is that it was 'a three-lined whip'. The Kazi and the Chief Mahomedans of the in this town. The District Surgeon, Lieut-Col. W. O'Hara, I.M.S., made a speech in English which was translated - more or less freely - first into Tamil and then into Hindustani by two fluent members of the Native Community. Committees and sub-committees were formed: promises of help were freely made: and everything went off as satisfactorily and smoothly as at a District Board meeting.

3. On Thursday and Friday some Mahomedans who had come from Bangalore were lodged in the Segregation Camp near the Municipal Hospital, as one of the party was suffering from fever. The patient died on the 9th October

October. He was a very old man, and as no suspicious symptoms had shown themselves, we hoped for the best, but took the usual precautions. The same morning a general Mahomedan meeting was held at the musjid about noon. It had been advertised by tom-tom the previous evening. The summons to the meeting is, by some, said to have been couched in violent terms, those who would not attend being threatened with all kinds of pains and penalties in this and the next world - by others it is said to have been an ordinary notice. But, the general opinion is that it was 'a three-lined whip'. The Kazi and the Chief Mahomedans of the town were at the meeting, as well as a very large number of the 'masses'; both Mahomedan and Hindu. No one was in even the imaginary chair; and anybody who could get a hearing, and a good many who could not, spoke. It is impossible to say what part in the proceedings the more influential Mahomedans took. They themselves say they advised compliance with Government orders, and finding that the crowd was getting out of hand, quietly retired. The Hindu Police Inspector, Parthasarathi Aiyangar, on the other hand, who had constables in plain clothes watching the proceedings, says that it was arranged by half a dozen of the 'big' men what was to be said, and that

~~that~~ their mouth-pieces passed their words and opinions on to the crowd. Whatever the truth of this may be, it is certain that the 'sense' (I speak idiomatically, not technically) of the gathering was hostile to the plague measures. The crowd dispersed quietly enough.

4. As soon as I heard of the proposed meeting, I sent an express to Mr Bidie, District Superintendent of Police who was at Mannaparai, asking him to come in. He took the first train back and we met at about 4 P.m. I suggested that he should bring in a Mahomedan Inspector of Police and some Mahomedan head constables, if he had any good ones. He had seen Inspector Parthasarathi

-Aiyangar and learnt from him about the meeting and that the town was quiet and there seemed to be no immediate danger of a disturbance. At 8 p.m., however, Lieut-Col. W. O'Hara and Mr Bidie came to my house and told me that, at about 6 o'clock, a mob had collected near the sheds and had burnt them down, that Parthasarathi Aiyangar had been hustled and Mr. Srinivasa Row, the Deputy Collector had his head broken, but ~~that~~ happily the heavy shower of rain, ~~that~~ came down just about then, dispersed the crowd. Mr Bidie had meanwhile sent into the town and found that all the streets were quiet.

5. Next morning early I went into

into the Town, and found small knots of people gathered in the street, and a lot of school-boys and loafers looking at the charred remains of the sheds. There was no excitement, and the people were as respectful as usual. However, in consultation with Lieut-Col. W. O'Hara who is Municipal Chairman as well as District Surgeon, and Mr Bidie, I decided to call out two companies of Madras Infantry. One was lodged in the Subjail, which I had emptied of its inmates, temporarily transferred to the Central Jail (the Sub-jail is close to the Municipal Hospital and Plague Camp); to the other was given the duty of patrolling the town. This duty they performed very efficiently and the streets presented their normal appearance that and the following nights. Meanwhile, Mr Bride had wired for extra police from the neighbouring districts, whom he posted at the plague camp itself, and kept in reserve against contingencies. I kept the sepoy patrols, and guard, on for a couple of days, while the arrests of persons implicated in the disturbance were being made. Then I dispensed with their services, arranging, instead, for a signalling party to be lodged in the subjail, who would signal to the Cantonment, in

in case of urgency. This was done at Mr Bride's suggestion. This party has been sent back, too, and we have only police on duty.

Two or three days after the riot, I sent for the Kazi, a Mahomedan honorary magistrate and a few other leading Mahomedans, whom I had reason to suspect of doubtful loyalty to the Plague measures, and I spoke to them — as also to some Hindus — in terms of mingled severity and surprise. They said they were not responsible for the riot, or sympathetic with the rioters and promised me their unflinching aid in the future.

6. I composed and scattered broadcast through town and taluk, a few words on the Plague policy of Government. I am

told the circular has had a good effect. I enclose a Copy. The Chairman of the Municipal Council has circulated Ghulam Mohummed's Hindustani pamphlet too. I have also, in Company with Lieut-Col. W. O'Hara, chosen fresh sites for the segregation of Brahmans, Mahomedans and such other castes as prefer their own hospitals and sheds to ours, and I have no reason, whatever, to believe that ~~were~~ we are acting contrary to any reasonable prejudices or scruples held by the Native Community.

7. I do not look upon the riot as serious. The arson was the unpremeditated act of an idle, curious crowd of Hindus and Mahomedans. The men who began it, I am semi-officially informed

informed, were two butchers—men "accustomed in the pursuit of their daily avocations to shed blood without shuddering," and perhaps on that account more prone to deeds of violence than other people. The better class of persons are thoroughly ashamed of the outburst, as are by this time, I have no doubt, also those rioters who are languishing in the dungeons of Darkie's Bridge and other Police Stations.

8. There were, of course, the usual rumours abroad in the Town, and for one day the people would not touch the pipe-water. But then common sense, aided by the now unaccustomed nastiness of the tank and irrigation canal

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8. There were, of course, the usual rumours abroad in the Town, and for one day the people would not touch the pipe-water. But then common sense, aided by the now unaccustomed nastiness of the tank and irrigation canal

water enabled them to laugh at these rumours and return to their matutinal and evening pipes. The attendance at the hospital and Schools decreased for a time, but is now again about normal, and in short, all points to the thorough restoration of peace and quiet.

9. My thanks are due to Lieut-Col. Clothier, 27th M. I who so readily responded to my Call for troops, to Lieut-Col. W. O'Hara for his advice and Co-operation in calming the people, and to Mr Bidie, District Superintendent of Police who proved himself to be a very resourceful and energetic officer: The Tahsildar M.R.Ry.

M.R.Ry. R. Kandaswami Pillai avl., afforded also invaluable help in tranquillizing the fears of the people, and in explaining what was intended and wanted.

10. I apologize for the delay in submitting this report. I was aware that Mr Bidie had sent a detailed report to the Inspector-General of Police and I presumed it would be communicated to the Government.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedt. Servt.,
R H Shipley
District Magistrate.

Exd.

No. 368/6C

SALEM COLLECTOR'S OFFICE,
20th October 1898.
Camp Vaniembady

FROM
Robert B. Clegg ESQ.,
ag COLLECTOR AND DISTRICT MAGISTRATE,
Salem,

TO
THE ~~SECRETARY TO THE~~ Plague COMMISSIONER ~~OF~~ Fort St George
Madras.

SIR,

With reference to your telegram of the 18th instant calling for a report regarding all the circumstances of the incident at Vaniembady up to the time of your arrival there on the 14th instant I have the honor to state as follows:—

2. As already reported in my letter of the 12th instant the girl died at 4 a.m. on the 10th. The Deputy Tahsildar got the information at about 12 noon after the body was interred in the burial ground of the masjid. He, the Police Inspector, the Hospital assistant and the Sub-Registrar went to the spot immediately suspecting it to be a case of plague and advised the inmates of the house in which the girl died to be segregated. They sternly refused. A large mob assembled which assumed

assumed an attitude of defiance, and Violence was apprehended if Segregation was insisted on. The idea of Segregation was then given up and the crowd dispersed. The Local authorities reported the matter to myself and to the Temporary Deputy Collector in charge of the Head Assistant's Division by wire. I arrived at Vaniemhady from Krishnagiry with the Assistant Superintendent of Police and the Additional Medical officer Dr Thomas, on the afternoon of the 11th instant and the Deputy Collector the previous night. At 7 A.M on the 11th, the Deputy Collector had Statements taken in his presence from the Hospital Assistant, the father of the deceased girl and the Hakim who treated her as to when the party arrived from Bangalore, as to their having been under observation and as regards the illness and death of the girl. I enclose a copy of the Hospital Assistant's Statement and translations of the Statements given by the Hakim and the deceased's father. The Deputy Collector at the same time sent for all the leading men (Jamayat dars)

Page 2

(Jamayat dars) and was trying to persuade them till 11 a.m. to consent to Segregation. Some of them including the father of the deceased agreed to Segregation, disinfection etc. Meanwhile a man in the crowd standing outside in the Street, said that Segregation and disinfection were against their religious principles and that they would not yield to these measures. Then the others also retracted. Immediately on my arrival I sent for some of the leading men and also the father of the deceased, explained to them the orders and intentions of Government and tried to persuade them to make their own arrangements for segregation. The infected house was one of a row of houses in a crowded Street and on Sanitary grounds I did not consider home segregation desirable. I did not ~~bring~~ try to induce them to go to the Municipal Shed as it was useless. They were told that they could use any of the Field Sheds of their own and if they would move more no Sircar official would go near them so as to respect the 'gosha' of their females. I took them out with me and enquired for detached houses in the neighbourhood where they could be segregated. A house to the east of the Railway line was selected and the father of the deceased agreed to be segregated there, but the occupants of the house refused to vacate it though a liberal rent of one Rupee a day was offered. The deceased's father then pointed out a house in his own street and consented to remove into it. Subsequently he changed his mind, went away on the plea of finding his brother, concealed himself in his house and would not come out evidently at the instigation of ill-advisers. There was then a mob collected about his house in the street and in the adjoining streets of Kaderpet up to the compound of the Railway station where I was staying. This mob I believe

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Page 3

influenced everybody else. I had an interview with the leading men and mullahs again at the Railway Station when they put forth their religious objections to segregation at all and nothing could move them. I left the place in the evening for Jolarpet where my camp had arrived. I returned to Vaniembady again next morning, sent for the leading Muhammadans at 8.30 Am saying that I would consider a limit home segregation as directed in your telegram. Meanwhile the reserve had arrived (28 men I believe armed) under the Superintendent of Police. They assembled at the Kaderpet mosque but did not appear. A mob of budmashes from this and other towns collected and filled the streets of Kaderpet all the day. Shops of both Muhammadans and Hindus were closed, and the people were prevented by the Muhammadans from going on with their usual avocations.

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As I could do nothing with the small force at my disposal without making a disturbance and possibly having to order the Police to fire I wired to you to know whether I should use force and for troops as a precautionary measure. I went back to Jalarpet at 11.40. A.M. leaving the Superintendent of Police to keep order until your further orders were received. After I left the place some of the leading men appeared before the Deputy Collector and agreed to home segregation but stipulated that the men should go to mosque. The Superintendent of Police wired to me at Jalarpet about this and I replied to him that he might await your orders. On the 14th I went to Vaniembady with the troops and sent for the leading men. Then you arrived and are acquainted with what occurred afterwards.

3. I have been encamped here with the troops up to now. The occupants of the two ~~suspected~~ infected houses have been kept to their homes under a guard of four constables. They say they have done all we have instructed them to do. Up

Page 4.

Up to now no further case has occurred and I propose to release them to-morrow morning. I have had meetings of the leading Muhammedans and they have appointed five men for each of the nine pettahs into which the town is divided to help the local officials in carrying out preventive measures. It remains to be seen whether they will keep to their promises. I have given them a list of instructions at their request. (a copy of which I enclose). I imagine, seeing the opposition to leaving their homes, it will not be possible either here, Tiruppattur, or Salem, to enforce segregation other than home segregation without trouble. There are excitable mobs in each of these towns which have all sorts of wild notions as to what plague measures mean and I would therefore ask your consideration whether in the light of what has occurred at Vaniembady it would not be a wise precaution to station a company or two of troops at Salem, not with a view to use them, but as a safeguard.

guard against disturbance and a means of persuasion. I am satisfied that nothing at all could have been done here at Vaniembady without their presence. I propose, which proposal I believe has your approval, to keep the troops here for a short time longer until I receive your orders on the above suggestion.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedient servant
Romesgalen
Ag Collector
20/10/98

Copied by
20. 10. 98

Plague

Judicial (1898) Department.

Thro' the Plague Commissioner.

CURRENT No.

8
21st Nov 98

From
R. H. Shipley Esq.,
District Magistrate,
Trichinopoly.

Order

Ref(n)m C. No. 980/B.G. of 98.

Dated 19th October 1898.
Despd 19/10/98.

Received

Registered

Enclosures - 2.

Spare copies

SUBJECT.

Submitting report on the disturbance that resulted in the burning of the Plague Shed.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Local & Munl. (189) Department.

CURRENT No. 2295 P.

From The Plague Commissioner
Madras.

Order

No.

Dated 21-10-98
Received 22-10-98.
Registered 22-10-98.
Enclosures
Spare copies.

SUBJECT.

Regarding the plague disturbances at Vaniyambadi & Trichinopoly ~~Salem~~ ~~District~~.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

189

DEPARTMENT.

FROM

THE COLLECTOR

AND DISTRICT MAGISTRATE,

Salem.

To

The Plague commissioner

Madras.

Dated 20
Despatched 20 } october 1898.
Received

Ref No. 368/6C

ENCLOSURE 3

SUBJECT

Submitting report regarding the circumstances of the incident at Vaniyambadi.

B

NOTICE.

The following are the Government orders about the treatment of Plague, and the segregation of patients :—

All cases of suspicious illness should be reported without delay to the Sanitary Inspector of the Ward in which it occurs.

2. Every effort will be made to respect caste and religious scruples.

3. Women suffering from suspicious fever will be examined by Plague female nurses only.

4. House to house inspection may become necessary in case the plague spreads. As far as possible only persons of the same caste and sex as the house occupiers will be employed. Respectable citizens are earnestly requested to send in their names as Volunteers for this search duty. The Municipal Chairman will be glad to receive and register their names.

5. Segregation & isolation may be carried out in private houses, provided that such houses are absolutely cut off from neighbouring houses, and that cases can be treated there without danger to the neighbours. Such houses will, however, be few in number; and as the Government is assured that segregation is absolutely necessary in plague cases, all persons suspected of or suffering from plague who are not living in such houses will be removed to the Plague Hospitals.

6. In these Hospitals every attempt will be made to respect religious and caste scruples. There will be women to nurse and attend on the sick women. There will be separate wards for Brahmins, Sudras, Mohamedans, Panchamas and Christians.

7. But in order to safeguard against any infraction of caste, the inhabitants of this town are earnestly requested to arrange for the erection of their own hospitals. The cost will be small, the benefit will be very great. Government will bear half the cost of the buildings and of maintenance.

8. There will be no compulsory examination of corpses; nor will there be any interference with burial rites.

9. In the public or in the private hospitals it is not compulsory that the patients should submit to English treatment. Native doctors can be called and the patients may use their own food and medicines. They may also be attended by a reasonable number of relations and servants, but these must reside within the precincts of the hospital.

TRICHINOPOLY COLLECTOR'S OFFICE,
12th October 1898.

R. H. SHIPLEY,
Collector.

B

விளம்பரம்.

மஹாமாரி (பிளேக்) என்னும் வியாதியின் சிகிச்சையைப்பற்றியும் அவ்வியாதியை அடைந்தவர்களையும் அடையக்கூடியவர்களையும் பிரத்தியேகப்படுத்திவைப்பதைப்பற்றியும் உள்ள கவர்ன்மெண்டு உத்திரவுகள் பின்வருமாறு இருக்கின்றன.

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1. மஹாமாரி என்று அனுமானிக்கக்கூடிய ஜுரம் முதலிய வியாதி ஒரு வீட்டில் கண்டால் அதை அவ்வீட்டுக்காரர்கள் உடனே வார்டு சானிட்டேரி இன்ஸ்பெக்டருக்குத் தெரிவிக்கவேண்டியது.

2. அந்தந்த ஜாதி மதத்திற்குரிய ஆசாரங்களை அனுசரித்து ஏற்பாடுகளைச்செய்ய என்னென்னவித முயற்சி உண்டோ அவைகளைச்செய்யப்படும்.

3. மஹாமாரி என்று அனுமானிக்கக்கூடிய ஜுரம் கண்ட பெண்டுகளை, பிளேக்குக்காக நியமிக்கப்படுகிற பெண்பிள்ளை தாதிகளே பார்த்து விசாரிப்பார்கள்.

4. மஹாமாரி நோய் பட்டணத்தில் பரவுகிறபட்சத்தில் வீடு வீடாகப்போய் விசாரிக்கவேண்டிய அவசியம் உண்டாகலாம். அப்போது கூடியவரையில், உயர்ந்த ஜாதியாராவது, வீட்டில் குடியிருப்பவர்களின் மதாசாரத்தையே உடையவர்களாவது வீடுகளில் பிரவேசிப்பார்கள்; மேலும் இந்த நிபந்தத்தை அனுசரித்தே ஸ்திரீகளை ஸ்திரீகளே பரிசோதிப்பார்கள்; ஸ்திரீகள் இருக்கும் அறைகளில் ஸ்திரீகளே பிரவேசிப்பார்கள். தக்கபெரியமனுஷர்கள், இச்சோதனைக்காக நியமிக்கப்பட்ட உத்தியோகஸ்தர்களுடன் அந்த வீடுகளுக்குப்போய் அவர்கள் அக்கிரமம் செய்யாதபடிக்கு தடுக்கவும் ஜனங்களுக்கு நியாயம் சொல்லி சாந்தப்படுத்தவும ஜனோபகாரமாக சகாயம் செய்ய இஷ்டமுள்ளவர்கள் தங்களுடைய பெயர்களைத் தெரிவிக்கவேண்டுமென்று கோருகிறோம். அவர்கள் தங்களுடைய பெயர்களை மியுனிசிபல் அக்கிராசனாதிபதியவர்களுக்குத் தெரிவித்தால் அவர் சந்தோஷப்பட்டு அந்த பெயர்களை குறித்துக் கொள்ளுவார்.

5. மஹாமாரியானது அதிசீக்கிரத்தில் கோடி கோடியாகப்பெருகிப் பரவும் கண்ணுக்குத்தெரியாத சிறு புழுக்களால் உண்டாகிறது. அப்படிப்பட்ட ஒரு சிறு புழு நம்முடைய தேகத்தில் புகுந்தால் அங்கே பெருகி உடம்பு எல்லாம்பரவி சுரம முதலிய வியாதிகளை உண்டுபண்ணிக் கொல்லும். மேலும் நோயாளியின் கபம், சீ, இரத்தம் முதலியவைகளிலிருந்து வெளிப்பட்டு வீடெங்கும் பரவி மற்றவர்களுக்கும் அந்த நோயை உண்டாக்கும். அப்படியே வீடு வீடாகவும் பரவும். இப்புழுக்கள் கண்ணுக்குத் தெரியாதவைகளாயினும் பூதக்கண்ணாடியால் பார்த்தால் நன்றாய் கண்ணுக்கு விளங்கும். இப்படிப்பட்டகொடிய தொத்துவியாதிபரவாமல் தடுத்து ஜனங்களை காப்பாற்றவேண்டுமென்பதே கவர்ன்மெண்டார் கருத்து.

6. ஆகவே, ஒரு வீட்டில் ஒருவருக்கு இவ்வியாதிகண்டவுடன், அவ்வீட்டை ஒழித்து மருந்துகளால் மேற்சொல்லிய புழுக்களைக்கொன்று அந்த வீட்டை பரிசுத்தம்செய்து, நோயாளியையும் அவனைத் தொட்டுக்கொண்டிருந்தவர்களையும் விலக்கி வைப்பது அவசியமாகிறது.

7. சாதாரணமாக நோயாளியை ஆஸ்பத்திரிக்கு அனுப்பி, அவனைத்தொட்டுக்கொண்டிருந்தவர்களை பிரத்தியேகமான கட்டடங்களில் சிலகாலம் (10-நாளைக்கதிகப்படாமல்) வைக்கப்படும். ஆனால் நோயாளியை தனித்துவைப்பதற்கு சொந்த வீட்டிலேயே தகுந்தயேற்பாடு செய்யக்கூடுமானால் அவனை அப்படியே தனித்துவைத்து மற்றவர்களும் அந்த வீட்டிலேயே இருக்கலாம். அவ்வீடு பக்கத்து வீடுகளை அடுத்து இருக்கக்கூடாது; நோயாளி அங்கே தங்குவதினால் அயலாருக்கு அபாயம நேரிடாமல் இருக்கவேண்டும்.

8. ஆனால், அப்படிப்பட்ட தக்க வீடுகள் கொஞ்சமாகத்தானிருக்கும். வீடுகள் நெருங்கியிருக்கும் வீதிகளில் தகுந்த யேற்பாடு செய்வது அசாத்தியம். ஆகவே நோயாளியையும் அவனை தொட்டுக்கொண்டிருந்தவர்களையும் அப்புறப்படுத்தி தனித்துவைக்கவேண்டியது மிகவும் அவசியம் என்று கவர்ன்மெண்டார் நிச்சயித்திருக்கிறபடியால் அத்தீர்மானத்தை அனுசரித்து ஏற்பாடுகள் செய்யப்படும்.

9. சர்க்காரால் நோயாளிகள் இருக்க ஆஸ்பத்திரிகளும், அவர்களைத்தொட்டுக் கொண்டிருந்தவர்கள் இருக்க பிரத்தியேகமான கட்டடங்களும ஏற்படுத்தப்படும. இவைகளில் ஜாதிமதாசாரங்களை அனுசரித்த யேற்பாடுகளைச்செய்ய சாத்தியமான முயற்சி யாவற்றும் செய்யப்படும். வியாதிகண்ட ஸ்திரிகளை ஸ்திரீகளே உபசரிப்பார்கள். பிராமணர்கள், சூத்திரர்கள், மஹம்மதியர்கள், பஞ்சமர்கள் கிறிஸ்தவர்கள் இவ்வினத்தார்களுக்காக தனித்தனி கட்டடங்கள் கொடுக்கப்படும்.

10. சர்க்காரால் செய்யப்படும ஏற்பாடுகளில் ஒருவேளை ஜாதிமதாசாரங்களுக்கு பங்கம் நேரிடுமென்று சிலர் நினைக்கலாம்; அப்படிப்பட்டவர்களுடைய சௌக்கியத்திற்காக, ஒவ்வொரு இனத்தாரும் அவர்களுடைய இஷ்டப்படி கவர்ன்மெண்டார் யேற்பாடுகளை அனுசரித்தே ஜாதிமதாசாரங்களுக்குத் தகுந்த யேற்பாடுகளைச் செய்துகொள்வதில் ஒரு ஆக்ஷேபமுமில்லை. அப்படிச்செய்யும்படி இப்பட்டணத்திலுள்ள தனவான்களையும் ஜனங்களையும மிகவும வேண்டிக்கொள்ளுகிறோம். செலவு சிறிதாகத்தானிருக்கும், ஆனால் பலன் மிகப்பெரிதாயிருக்கும். சர்க்கார் நிலத்தில் கட்டடங்களைத் தீர்வை அன்னியில் கட்டிக்கொள்ளலாம். கவர்னமெண்டார் மொத்த சிலவில் பாதிக்கு அதிகப்படாமல் திரவியசகாயமும் வேண்டிய பந்தோபஸ்தும் செய்வார்கள்.

11. சர்க்கார் ஆஸ்பத்திரிகளிலாவது சொந்த ஆஸ்பத்திரிகளிலாவது இங்கிலீஷ் மருந்துகளையே சாப்பிடவேண்டும் என்கிற கட்டாயமில்லை. நாட்டு வைத்தியர்களை வைத்தியம பார்க்கலாம நோயாளிகள் இஷ்டப்படி மருந்துகளையும ஆகாரத்தையும தருவித்துக்கொள்ளலாம. பந்துக்களும ஊழியக்காரர்களும நோயாளியுடன் இருந்து உபசரிக்கலாம. ஆனால் அவர்கள் ஆஸ்பத்திரிக்கு அருகிலேயே வசிக்கவேண்டும.

12. நோயாளிகள் இறந்தால் அவர்கள் மஹாமாரியால் இறந்தார்களாவென்று பந்துக்களுடைய அனுமதியின்றி சர்க்கார் வைத்தியர்கள் பிரேதங்களை பரிசோதிக்கமாட்டார்கள். பிரேத அடக்கம் தகனம் இவைகளுக்குரிய கர்மங்களை ஆசாரப்படி நடத்த ஒரு தடையுமில்லை.

13. அம்மை குத்துவதைப்போலவே மஹாமாரிப்பாலெடுத்து குத்தவும ஏற்பாடு செய்யப்படும. எல்லாரும குத்திக்கொள்ளவேண்டும என்று கட்டாயமில்லை. இஷ்டமுள்ளவர்கள் குத்திக்கொள்ளலாம. அப்படிக்குத்திக்கொள்ளுகிறவர்களை இந்த தொத்து வியாதி 6-மா வரையில் பீடிக்கிறதில்லையென்று அனுபவத்தால் ரூபிக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. அப்படி குத்திக்கொள்ளுகிறவர்கள் ஆறுமாதம வரையில் மஹாமாரி கண்ட நோயாளிகளைத்தொட்டுக்கொண்டிருந்தாலும விலக்கிவைக்கப்படமாட்டார்கள். இந்த நோயாளிகளை உபசரிப்பவர்கள் மஹாமாரி குத்திக்கொண்டவர்களாயிருப்பது நன்மை. அதினால் ஒரு அபாயமும இல்லை.

திருச்சிறாப்பள்ளி,
12-10-1898.

ஆர்-எச்-ஷிப்லி,
கலெக்டர்.

Local and Municipal Department.

Proceedings of the Madras Government.

Pres.

Read the following paper:—

Abstract. Office note from ~~From~~ the Plague Commissioner ~~No.~~ dated ~~14th~~ 21st October 1898 submitting reports from the Collrs. of Salem & Trichinopoly regarding ~~reported quiet at Vaniyambadi stating that everything has been~~ plague disturbances there. ~~and that the troops reached there on the morning of the 14th October 1898.~~ (Here print the reports in full)

From the same officer No.208 dated 17th October 1898 submitting letter from the Collector of Salem reporting on the Plague case at Vaniyambadi.

From the same officer dated 21st October 1898 regarding the disturbance at Vaniyambadi, Salem District.

Order No.1565-P dated 25th October 1898.

Recorded with the following remarks:-

(1) Mr. Shipley's report does not state whether any persons engaged in burning the sheds or in the assault on the Dy. Collector are being prosecuted.

(2) The Govt. is not prepared to accept the proposal of the Collector of Salem to station troops in the town of Salem. He can telegraph for them if he finds it really necessary.

(3) The recommendation of the Plague Commissioner to have a Sepoy guard over the camp at Jalarpet and to allow the troops to remain for another fortnight at Vaniyambadi are approved.

(True Extract.)

For Secretary to Govt.

To,
The Plague Commissioner
The Collector of Trichinopoly
The Collector of Salem
The Sanitary Commissioner.
The Surgeon-General
The Dy. Adjutant General
The Public Department
The Judicial Department
The Inspector-General of Police.

A. F. G. H

Mr. Shipley's letter may be recorded with the remark ~~AA~~ that the Collr. omits to state ~~state~~ whether not how his Depy. Collr. got a broken head, ~~so~~ ~~why he called in troops when "there was no excitement"~~ any persons engaged in burning the sheds or in the assault on the Dy. Collr. are being prosecuted.

AB

Note for Secretary L. & M. Dept

I submit for the information of Government two reports – one as regards the recent riots at Trichinopoly – and one as regards the use of troops at Vaniambadi.

I need add nothing to Mr. Shipley's report on the Trichinopoly incident; it explains everything –

As regards Vaniambady, Mr. Clegg reports what happened at Vaniambady up to my arrival, and his report shows that as in all these cases, it is the ignorant mob, which prevents, the more intelligent men falling in with our views. The few men of some position dare not move at present in the face of a mob filled with the wildest stories of the intentions of Government which are all believed.

Besides the state of Vaniambady the condition of all the other neighboring towns & big villages had to be considered. The Village of Visharam – some 8 miles from Vellore, where I was at two days before I was at Vaniambady I found full of an ignorant excited mass of people determined not to allow segregation of any kind –

The people in Ambur, Tirupatur, & Salem were also all reported to be in an excited condition. At Tirupatur, the Tahsildar could get no one to supply food for the troops. The people were afraid to do it.

The case at Vaniembadi was probably not a plague case at all. + The girl who appears to have been a sickly child died probably from illness brought on by the hurried removal from Bangalore. No one has since been reported ill & more than ten days have now elapsed.

+ Apparently it was not.
MA

I am not in favour of the Collr's proposal to station troops in Salem. Their arrival there will create great excitement and talk & might do more harm than good. Collr. was using all persuasive measures they can & the people are fairly reassured, & I don't think there is much likelihood of a further disturbance.

The Colr. & Dt. Magte. can wire for the troops if he finds it really necessary. But this is not likely

MA

I think however as I said in my previous note to Government, it is well to have a sepoy guard over the camp at Jolarpet — 30 sepoys are there now — and I would allow them, and the troops at Vaniembadi to remain for another fortnight & then if there is no further excitement send them all back to Bangalore — At Vaniembady the troops are handy in case of trouble at Vellore where they have had two cases of plague & there will be no further excitement if left at Vaniembady. If the troops are moved, fresh rumours & talk are started & fresh suspicion excited — which is particularly to be avoided just now —.

Plague Commr

21-X-98

This can be done.

MA

MA
22.10.98

The original of the Govt. Order referred to is now in the Judicial Department.

V. Raghava Charlu
First Assistant
11/11/98

It is requested that a copy may be kindly sent when the original has been returned.

M. S. Mascarenhas
11/11/98

Ref. [illegible] the orig. when recd.
2-12-98

The note referred to is herewith forwarded with the request that it may be returned after taking a copy.

V. Raghava Charlu
8/12/98

The note is herewith returned to the L & M dept. with thanks

M. S. Mascarenhas
14/12/98
Personal Clerk

a copy has been taken.

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turned for signature.

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B

AIN G.O., No. DATED
189

No. 2295.P. Report [illegible] of Trichy } A.

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27/10/98

LOSURES TO G. No.

OF GOVERNMENT

OF GOVERNMENT.

WITH DITTO.

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N.B.—
A = Print in full.
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