

1898
Local & Munl. (~~190~~) Department.

Plague.

MISCELLANEOUS.

G.O., No. 254 P.

DATED 23-3-1898

[Despatch Abstract.]

Destruction of rats.

Recording, with remarks letter from the Sanitary Commissioner forwarding copy of the correspondence which passed between him and the Collector of Bellary regarding the destruction of rats as a plague precautionary measures within the area placed under observation.

BACK PAPERS.

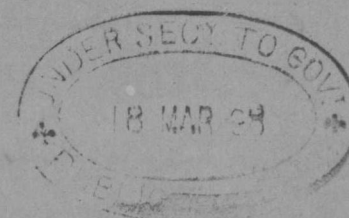
G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

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

Local & Munl. (1898) Department.

CURRENT No. 296P



From

The Sanitary Commissioner
for Madras.

Order No 254 P. mis. dt 23.3.98

Recorded, pending receipt
of the report called for from the
Colls of Kurnool in para 5 of
G.O. No 1848, dt 11-3-98.

No. 642
S

Dated 17 March 1898.

Received 18 March '98

Registered

Enclosures Two.

Spare copies.

To The Sanitary Commr: P.O.

SUBJECT.

Copy to the Colls of Kurnool
" Bellary
" " Forwarding certain correspondence which passed between
" " himself and the Collector of Bellary
" " District on the subject of distrib-
" " ution of rats.

Oct 26/98

with copy of
G.O. No 1848
dt 11-3-98

18/11/98
S.A.
18/11/98

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

483-86
S

2nd March 1898.

From

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

TO

The Collector of Godavari, Kurnool, Kistna & Bellary

Sir,

I have the honour, with reference to the severe incidence of plague in the dominions of His Highness the Nizam to advise that some early and active action be taken by you in regard to the killing of rats. That rats are important factors in spread of the disease once a locality has been attacked, all authorities admit; that rats are frequently first attacked, and that they therefore may form the medium of introduction of a district in the first place, is an open question but has much to support it. It is at least quite certain that whilst the disease may be limited by restraining human intercourse, any effort in this direction would be useless, if rats over whom there is no human control and who will not obey Plague Regulations, are allowed to be the carriers of the disease from house to house, and perhaps from village to village.

2. There are certain sanitary efforts that if they demand much expenditure and much effort for their accomplishment are likely to be regarded as the true route for success, whilst more humble, yet possibly equally efficacious, methods are liable to be forgotten. Of the latter class, I regard the killing of rats as a precautionary measure. It is true that it is not possible to secure the destruction of the whole rat population of an area; but, if rats are capable of conveying the plague microbe, as they undoubtedly are, it would be no small satisfaction to find that the population of rats in any place threatened had been appreciably thinned, and that, consequently the chances of conveyance of infection had at least been diminished.

n/a/

inished. I therefore ask you not to ~~insist~~ the ~~signature~~ I
ask you to undertake, but to attempt your best to put it in
force notwithstanding obvious difficulties. In short, I advise
you to do your utmost to free the villages of your border of
rats of a species that live in and near human habitations.
Wholesale poisoning could be conducted by men specially en-
ployed for the purpose, but as some danger would result from
this method-should ~~be~~ poisoned materials be left about in the
neighbourhood of houses-I suggest that the mode of compassing
the death of rats be left to villagers, and that you offer two
pies for the tail of every rat certified to have been killed
(by the Reddi of any village) within 20 miles of the borders of
your district, you regard as specially exposed to infection.
If it were possible to secure a band of country along your
borders in which the rat population was diminished, I believe
the chances of infection would also be immensely diminished
and that there would result much good in rendering the efforts
made after invasion by plague more likely to be effective.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,

Your Most Obedient Servant,

(sd) W. G. King,

M.B., O.M., D.P.H.,

Surgeon Lieut Colonel,

Sanitary Commissioner for Madras.

(True Copy)

W. G. King

Surgeon Lieut Col,
Sanitary Commr. for
Madras.

2460

NO. 1093

Bellary Collector's office,

Dated 11th March 1898,

From

E.A. Elwin Esquire,

acting Collector of Bellary.

TO

The Sanitary Commissioner for Madras.

Sir,

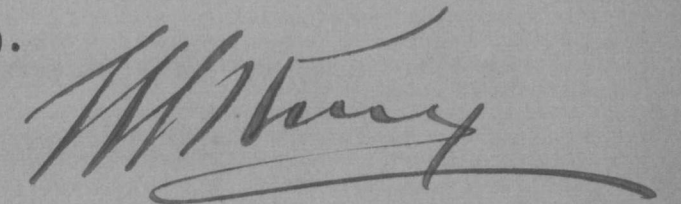
In reply to your letter 553/S of the 8th instant, I have the honour to state that I doubt whether I should be justified in incurring expenditure for the destruction of rats, except under the orders of Government. Para 10 of G.O. 93 P dated 26th February 1898 does not contemplate the offer of rewards for the destruction of rats, until an area is declared infected.

I have etc,

(Signed). P.L. Moore,

For acting Collector.

(True Copy).



Surgeon Lieut Colonel,

Sanitary Commissioner for Madras.

*Recd.
C. No. 2061*

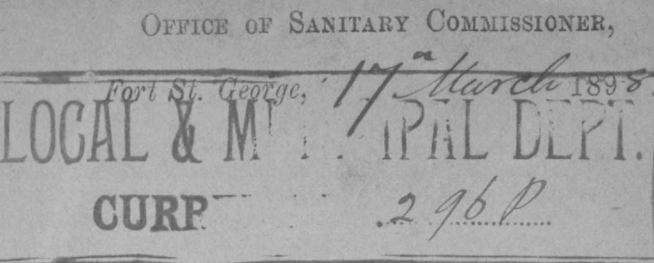
Plague

No.

642
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From

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



SANITARY COMMISSIONER FOR MADRAS,

To

THE

Secretary to Government,
 Local and Municipal Department,
 Fort Saint George.

Enclosure.

SIR,

I have the honor to forward herewith
 correspondence which passed between myself
 and the Collector of Bellary on the subject of
 destruction of rats as a sanitary precaution,
 I advise that when a district is placed —
 "under observation" the killing of rats be re-
 quired as an officially recognized measure,
 more especially, on borders likely to be first
 invaded.

I have the honor to be,

Sir

Your most obedient servant,

W. G. King

Respectful Col
 Sanitary Commissioner