

PROCEEDINGS OF THE PLAGUE COMMISSIONER.

(1898)

MISCELLANEOUS.

No. 270

DATED 20. 9. 98

Recd 21-10-98.

[Despatch Abstract.]

Segregation

Passing orders on the letter of the Collector of M. Arcot reporting the result of his enquiries about 300 weavers attempting forcibly to liberate their fellows under — at Wallajahpur.

BACK PAPERS.

No.	Date.	No.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

No.	Date.	No.	Date.

PLAGUE COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE. (1898)

CURRENT No. *579*

From

The Collector of North Arcot

Order

(Please see within)

No. *292 P*

Dated *18-10-1898*

Received *20-10-1898*

Registered *20-10-1898*

Enclosures

Spare copies

SUBJECT.

Subj report of his enquiry about 300 weavers attempting forcibly to dilute weavers under segregation at Wallajahm

Plague Chittoor, dated 18th October 1898.
Reference No. 292 P of 1898.

BACK PAPERS.

No.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

No.	Date.

From

J. H. Batten Esquire
Collector & District Magistrate,
North Arcot.

To

The Plague Commissioner
Fort St George
Madras.

The Com. action was very judicious - in cases of individuals writing to leave Camp for Special Commission. Sir, let meet out for disinfecting them. When some people women go to the market or to the temple, they should be kept away from the public places. The Com. action was very judicious - in cases of individuals writing to leave Camp for Special Commission. Sir, let meet out for disinfecting them. When some people women go to the market or to the temple, they should be kept away from the public places.

At 2.40 P.M. the day before yesterday (the 16th) I received the following telegram from the Wallajahpur Municipal Chairman:
"About 300 weavers attempt forcibly liberating weavers under segregation for Maniyammal performing tenth day ceremony of her deceased husband Krishnakka."
"mob temporarily dispersed fear of rioting continues divisional officers wired instructions solid."
"- cited."

2. I telegraphed to the chairman that I would come, and that meanwhile he should be firm

firm but avoid a riot. As the
Mail train had left when I got
the telegram I and Mr. Scott Elliot
went by goods train to Nitpadi
whence we proceeded by bicycle
and gutha to Raipur where we
arrived 7.45 P.M. I sent a message
from Raipur to the Wallajahnagar
Chairman asking if there was
any necessity for me to go to
Wallajahnagar that night. He
replied that the people were
all in bed. We went to Wallajah-
nagar early yesterday morning.
I found that one Kristappa or
Krishnaiah of the weaver caste
had come from Visharam and
incited the weavers of Wallajah-
nagar (who had hitherto acquiesced
in the segregation arrangements
connected with the death of Kristappa
on the 6th August and who were
even proposing to erect segregation
sheds of their own) to emulate the
Labbais of Visharam and to rescue
the

the persons under segregation.
A crowd of some 300 weavers had
collected on the 16th and marched
towards the segregation Camp
(the instigator remaining in the
back ground), but they were
prevailed upon by the Police
Inspector and others to return
home, and to await my arrival.
This instigator appears to have
put on great airs, and to have
talked very big and ordered people
about. I saw him and the other
weavers yesterday morning. I
found the man to be a mere
wind bag, and he collapsed at once.
Ignoring him I asked the other
weavers what their real grievance
was if any. It appears that they
wanted the deceased's wife to
be allowed to come home to
perform the 10 days ceremony of
her deceased husband. This she
might have been allowed to do
as 10 days had elapsed since
her

her husband's death, had not she contracted fresh infection by Alamelammal, who was in segregation with her, getting plague. She was in contact with Alamelammal up to the 10th so she cannot be released from segregation until tomorrow evening. Without much difficulty I induced them to agree to perform

the necessary ceremonies after that date. There was no real reason why the woman should not perform the ceremonies at the segregation camp, and I think the whole thing was an excuse for giving trouble, put into their heads by the mischief maker from Visharam. This man has now become quite discredited and I do not propose taking any action against him, but I have warned him and ordered the police that if he gives further trouble he should be bound over

under

under the ordinary provisions of the Criminal Procedure Code. Some of the bad characters of the town took the opportunity to do a little looting at the market, and the shops were closed. They are opened again now, and the Police will deal with the offenders in the ordinary course.

3. The menbers also complained that the Arkonam Hospital Assistant who had lately come to Wallojanagar for plague duty handled the women in the segregation camp unnecessarily, and had used abusive language when taking their temperature. The complaints were, I think, exaggerated but the man appears to have been unnecessarily officious. I warned him and also arranged that the midwife should in future

take

take temperatures. A small
girl in the segregation camp
has had fever, but it has gone
down and is probably due to
ill health caused by skin disease.
Her condition is being watched.

I have the honor to be
Sir,
Your Most obedient servant.

Ch Scott Elliot
Asst Ag Collector

18/10/96

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