Local & Munl. (189) Department.

PRINTED

G.O., No. 429 P

DATED 4-5-98

[Despatch Abstract.]

Bubonic Plague Amending Muf. Regulations 25 and City Reg. 16 by the omission of the words "and for placing that quicklime be placed with the corpse" [illegible] Current No 459 P.

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 (1898) of Madras.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL.

Recd.
Regd. } 1898.

Enclosures
Spare copies

G.O., No. 429 P., 4th May 1898.

MAY.

Plague Regulations.

Amending Original Mufassal Regulation 25 and City Regulation 16 by omitting the clause requiring the use of quicklime in burials.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following paper :—

From the Sanitary Commissioner, dated 29th March 1898, No. 10.

Order—No. 429 P., dated 4th May 1898.

As recommended by the Sanitary Commissioner, clauses (1) (*b*) of Original Mufassal Regulation 25 and of City Regulation 16 will be amended by omitting the words "and for requiring that quicklime be placed with the corpse." Any regulations that Collectors or the President, Municipal Commission, Madras, may find necessary to frame under these clauses should, however, provide that, when the burial of a person who has died of plague takes place in proximity to habitations or sources of water-supply, the corpse shall be wrapped in a cloth soaked in a solution of corrosive sublimate and be buried six feet deep. The following notification will be published in the Fort St. George and all District Gazettes :—

NOTIFICATION.

Under the provisions of the Epidemic Diseases Act III of 1897, His Excellency the Governor in Council is pleased to direct that clauses (1) (*b*) of Mufassal Regulation No. 25 and of City Regulation No. 16 published in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated the 18th December 1897, shall be amended by omitting the words "and for requiring that quicklime be placed with the corpse."

(True Extract.)

H. TREMENHEERE,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

To all Collectors.
" all Presidents of District Boards.
" all Chairmen of Municipal Councils.
" the President, Municipal Commission, Madras.
" the Public Department.
" the Public Works Department (Railway Branch).
" the Marine Department.
" the Inspector-General of Police.
" the Surgeon-General.
" the Sanitary Commissioner.
" the Superintendent, Government Press.
" the Translators to Government.

Exd. A. Raitt.

Confidential. Current No 45

760l

Proof 12/5

Government {1898} of Madras.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL.

S.A
Proof Submitted for approval
MHP
14/5/98

Recd. } 1898. *Enclosures*
Regd. } *Spare copies*

Issue as revised
14/5/98

G.O., No. 429 P., 4th May 1898.

MAY.

Plague Regulations

Amending Original Mufassal Regulation 25 and City Regulation 16 by omitting the clause ~~portion~~ requiring ~~relating to~~ the ~~placing~~ use of quicklime in burials.

15/12/5 sent 12/5/5

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT.

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(True Extract.)

for *Ag. Secretary to Government.*

To all Collectors.
,, all Presidents of District Boards.
,, all Chairmen of Municipal Councils.
,, the President, Municipal Commission, Madras.
,, the Public Department.
,, the Public Works Department (Railway Branch).
,, the Marine Department.
,, the Inspector General of Police.
,, the Surgeon-General.
,, the Sanitary Commissioner.
,, the Superintendent, Government Press. Tapal
,, the Translators to Government.

A. Raitt.

Confidential. Current No 4

2,250—1-1-97.

L and M dept-

Proceedings of the Govt of Madras

Read the following

paper:-

From the Sanitary Commissioner

dt 29. 3. 98, No 10.

Order No 429 P dt 4-5-98

As recommended by the Sanitary Commissioner, Clause (1) (b) of Original Mufassal Reg 25 and of City Reg 16 will be amended by omitting the words " and for requiring that quicklime be placed with the Corpse". Any regulations that Collectors or the President, Municipal Commission, Madras may find necessary to frame under these clauses should, however, provide that when the burial of a person

who

who has died of plague takes place in proximity to habitations or sources of water supply, the corpse shall be wrapped in a cloth soaked in a solution of corrosive sublimate and be buried six feet deep. The following notification will be published in the Fort Saint George and all District Gazettes:—

Notification

Under the provisions of the Epidemic Diseases Act III of 1897 H. E. the Governor in Council is pleased to direct that clause (1)(b) of Mufassal Reg. No. 25 and of City Regulation No. 16 published in the Fort Saint George Gazette dated the 18th December 1897 shall be amended by omitting the words "and for requiring that quicklime be placed with the corpse".

To

Confidential. Current No 4591.

2,250—1-1-97.

ISSIONER

To.

V P

To all Collectors. ✓ Despd 25/5/98
,, all Presidents of District Boards. ✓ Despd 26/5/98
,, all Chairmen of Municipal Councils. ✓ Despd 27/5/98
,, the President, Municipal Commission, Madras. 6
,, the Public Department. ✓6
,, the Public Works Department (Railway Branch). ✓24
,, the Marine Department. ✓6
,, the Inspector-General of Police. ✓30
,, the Surgeon-General. ✓6
,, the S itary Commissioner. ✓3
,, the Sup ntendent, Government Press. ✓2
,, the Transl to Government. ✓15

Despd 28/5/98

Confiden

2,250—1-1-97.

ITARY COMMISSIONER

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT.

[L. & M.]
500-16-3-98.

Papers to be read in Proceedings:—

Again G.O., No. dated 189 ,
Again G.O., No. dated 189 ,
Current No. 459P of 1898, dated 29-3-98 , from the Sanitary Comr.
" " " 189 , "
" " " 189 , "

ORDER. No. 429P dd 4-5-98

From order.

As recommended by the Sanitary Comr., clause (1)(b) of Original Mufassal Reg 25 and of City Regulation 16 will be amended by omitting the words "and for requiring that quicklime "be placed with the corpse". Any regulations that Collrs or the Presdt M.C. Madras ~~may be found~~ may find necessary to ~~be framed~~ frame under these clauses should, however, provide that when the burial of a person who has died of plague takes place in proximity to habitations or sources of water supply the corpse shall be wrapped in a cloth soaked in a ~~strong~~ solution of corrosive sublimate and be buried six feet deep. The following notification will be published

4/5/98

[illegible]

Fort St George and all Dt Gazettes:—

Notification.

Under the provisions of the Epidemic Diseases Act III of 1897, H.E. the Governor in Council is pleased to direct that clause (17) (b) of Mufassal Reg No 25 and of City Reg No 16 published in the Fort St George Gazette dated the 18' Dec 1897 shall be amended by omitting the words "and for requiring "that quicklime be placed with the "corpse"

H. T.
3 5 98

[illegible] It seems undesirable to [illegible] any [illegible] in the G.O. for the [illegible], nor does it seem necessary to prescribe the [illegible] of the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] local circumstances and the [illegible] of the local Sanitary & medical officers.

The papers may [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] not necessary

Gazette 5/5/98

Confid

2,250—1-1-97.

OFFICE OF SANITARY COMMISSIONER,

No. 10

24-3-1898

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT.

Again G.O., dated 189 , No.

Current No. 459 P of 1898, dated 29-3-98 from the Sanitary Comr

~~Current~~ Do No. 65 of 189 , dated 25-4-98 from the Do.

It does not seem necessary to treat this as confidential

SUBJECT.

Use of quicklime in burying plague corpses

FOR ORDERS.

H. M.

G.O. 2830 M / 17-12-97

Original Mufassal Regulation 25 (17) (b), and City Regulation 16 (17) (b) read as follows:—

"The Coll: of the Dt / The President of the Municipal Comrs", when "and to the extent he may deem "necessary, may make regulations "for enforcing burial in certain "places or at a certain depth "and for requiring that quicklime "be placed with the corpse"

The Sanitary Comr: recommends the omission of the provision regarding the use of quicklime on the ground "that in this Presidency the use "of quicklime will be regarded "as equivalent to burning, and no "argument to the opposite will be "[illegible]

9

The Muhamadans seem to believe ~~with reason~~ that dead bodies are in a state of suspended animation pending the resurrection, and hence object to cremation, or anything approaching it.

2. The Regulations in question are taken from the Bombay rules of the 29-3-97. The actual practice in Bombay was, however, to ~~be~~ wrap the dead body in a sheet soaked in perchloride of mercury and hand it over to the relatives & friends of the deceased for disposal according to the custom of their sect.

3. In the N.W. Provinces, the rules originally issued required that "in the case of a European or "Muhamadan, the body shall be "buried at least six feet deep "and be covered with chloride of lime" The use of quick lime in burials being objected to, and a deputation of the representative Muhamadan citizens of Lucknow having suggested that if used, the lime should not be allowed to come into contact with the coffin or corpse, the rule was revised as follows:—

"If the place of burial be a grave-"yard in which by reason of its "proximity to habitations or water-"supply special precautions are "necessary, the Health Officer may "in addition" (to requiring the body to be buried six feet deep) "require the "disinfection of the grave by placing "a layer of chloride of lime in the "grave. In this case, two feet of "earth shall be interposed between "the lime and the corpse, so that lime "shall not come in contact with the "corpse".

4. The Sanitary Comsr. was asked demi officially whether this rule would do & whether the lime should be placed above or below the corpse. His reply is as follows:—

"The N.W.P. Regulation would "be of no use, if it left the sides "of the corpse undefended. The "difficulty of arranging this in an "ordinary grave, you can readily "conceive. To forbid burial in "a desired place would result "in more [illegible] injury to feelings "than any attempt to deal with

Confidential. Current No 459 F.

2,250—1-1-97.

OFFICE OF SANITARY COMMISSIONER,

No. 10

24-3-1898

"is a distinct sop to prejudices. If not effectual, it is advisable not to run the risk of public fuss. There does not in reality seem ~~to~~ so much reason to fear a plague corpse as might at first sight appear. As soon as decomposition sets in, acids are formed, and ~~Hankin~~ Hankin suggests that these would probably be inimical to their continued life. Of course in this matter generally it may ~~ap~~ happen that a dozen Muhamadan corpses may be buried in lime with or without earth interposed and no murmur may be provoked; but it only requires a single bigoted or seditious man to suggest to his fellow-religionists that the object of the lime is to "burn" the flesh — as I have heard Muhamadans insist — when nothing would appease the relations of the formerly buried dozen. In short, considering the very ~~Objectionable~~ questionable utility of the ruling, it is not wise to retain it". In my humble opinion, it might prove to this Presidency a source [illegible]."

H.T.

Please see also last sentence p. 51. Vol. II. The Plague in India. "Both Dr. Bitter & Mr. Hankin are inclined to think that graveyards containing plague corpses are not likely to be a source of danger."

page 51, Vol II, Indian Plague Report

H.I.
28 4 98

Perhaps the refce to quicklime might be omitted & we might say that burials in cases of proximity to water supply or to habitations must be 6 ft. deep & that the corpse must be wrapped in a cloth soaked in a strong (1 to ?) solution of corrosive sublimate —

H.S.
29/4/98

5. It is submitted that the provision regarding the use of quicklime be omitted from the Regulations as recommended by the Sanitary Commr. The following is an extract from Mr. Hankin's report No 430 d/ 15-7-97:-

"The microbe of plague is extremely sensitive to the action of acids .... It is destroyed under the conditions of my experiments within five minutes by lactic acid of a strength of 1 in 333.... The tissues of animals after death acquire an acid reaction owing to the development of an ally of lactic acid. Dr. Rohak under my direction has found that this acid reaction appears in the bodies of animals dead of plague. This point, though it has no bearing on the admitted danger of handling & washing plague corpses, may, if worked out, be found to have an important bearing on the old idea that graveyards may be a lasting source of infection."

28/4/98

~~Confidential~~ Current No 459 P.

2,250—1-1-97.

OFFICE OF SANITARY COMMISSIONER,

No. 10.

Fort St. George, 24-3- 1898.

TO GOVERNME

Confidential

Local & Munl. (189) Department.

CURRENT No. 459 P

From The ~~Sanit~~ Sanitary Commissioner, Madras

Order

No. 10

Dated 29th March 1898

Received Do

Registered 1st April 1898

Enclosures –

Spare copies.
Pages 171, 188 & 259 of Indian Report

SUBJECT.

Advising the omission from Reg 25 (1) (b) of the Original Mufassal Regulations, of the clause relating to the use of quick lime.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Confidential. Current No 459 P.

2,250—1-1-97.

OFFICE OF SANITARY COMMISSIONER,

No. 10.

Fort St. George, 24-3-1898.

SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT
20 MAR. 1898
LOCAL & MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT

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

Enclosure.

SIR,

With reference to Notification under the Epidemic Diseases Act 1897, I have the honour to advise that Imperial Regulation 25 (1) (b)x be modified by omission of permission to use "quicklime", &

x R 16 (1) (b) of the City Regulations

2. In the case of "Christians", it would not seem necessary to require any legal power in the matter, as they would readily submit to any reasonable method that would not be disapproved by the clergy. In the case of Hindus there are but few who, even if not customary with a special caste, would object to cremation. The treatment by "quicklime" would therefore specially affect Mahomedans, who practically hold [illegible] te of "Suspendeo

animation" pending the resurrection. To completely burn or destroy the body so as to include a certain bone, implies impossibility of resurrection. This being so, as is well known to Government, except as a punishment to fanatics, the body of a Mahomedan is never burnt.

2. From practical Experience I say confidently that in this Presidency the use of quicklime will be regarded as equivalent to burning, and no argument to the opposite will be listened to by any Mahomedan. I am aware that the Regulation is based upon that used in Bombay. Whether or not it has ever been enforced, ~~or not~~ I do not know; but I have no doubt whatsoever as to what would result in this Presidency were the attempt made to enforce it.

I have the honour
to be Sir
Your most obedient Servant
W E King

D.O. No 6 P.

Dear Dr King

Your Confidential letter No 10, d/ 29-3-98 regarding the use of lime in burials. Kindly see Rule 41 of N.W.P and Oudh and let me know if the provision requiring that ~~[illegible]~~ two feet of earth shall be interposed between the lime and the corpse will suffice. Should the lime be above or below, or is its position immaterial?

H. J.
19 4 98

Seen
18/4/98

A copy of the N.W.P. rules should be sent with the D.O.

Despd
19-4-98

Confidential

Local & Munl. (189) Department.

D.O.
~~CURRENT~~ No. 65

Order

From
The Sanitary Commissioner

No.

Dated 25. 4. 98
Received 27. 4. 98
Registered 28. 4. 98
Enclosures
Spare copies.

SUBJECT.

Regarding the Regulation requiring the use of quicklime in the burial of plague corpses

BACK PAPERS

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
Do	No 6	P. L	19-4-98

FURTHER PAPERS

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

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189

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURES TO C. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

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960—1-7-97.

No. Confidential

Office of Sanitar mis

Madras, 25

Dear Mr Tre

Your D.O.

of the 19th inst

The N.W.P. Punjab Regulation
would be of no use, if
it left the side of
the corpse undefended. The difficulties
of arranging this
in an ordinary
grave, you can readily
conceive. To postpone
burial in a desired
place, would result

in much less
injury to feelings
than any attempt
to deal with lime-
although the earth
interposed is as
destructive to
prejudices. If not
effectual, it is
advisable not to
run the risk of
public fuss.
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in that, considering the very questionable utility of the ruling, it is not wise to retain it. In my humble opinion, it might prove in the Presidency a source of very serious trouble.

Yours faithfully

W. E. King.

Put up with a note

I think the rule might be omitted

H. 27.11.88

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Re er for signature.

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IN C No.

DATED

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CURRENT NO.

ENCLOSURES TO C. NO.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT.

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

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