

To Secy
H.S. 15/10/98
Local & Munl. (1898) Department.

PRINTED.

G.O., No. 794 P.

DATED 12-8-98

RECEIVED

[Despatch Abstract.]

Suspected case of plague at Negapatam

Recording, with remarks, report
of the Collector of Tanjore on the

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. 794 P., 12th August 1898.

AUGUST.

Suspected Case of Plague at Negapatam.

Recording, with remarks, report of the Collector of Tanjore on the —.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—again the following papers:—

G.O., No. 743 P., dated 2nd August 1898.

ABSTRACT.—Requesting the Collector of Tanjore to telegraph particulars regarding the suspected plague death in Negapatam reported by the "South Indian Post."

G.O., No. 744 P., dated 3rd August 1898.

ABSTRACT.—Requesting the Collector of Tanjore to proceed to Negapatam with District Medical Officer and to report fully on the suspected case.

G.O., No. 757 P., dated 5th August 1898.

ABSTRACT.—Recording telegram from the Collector of Tanjore stating that the death was due to fever and dysentery and not to plague.

READ—also the following paper:—

From J. TWIGG, Esq., Acting Collector of Tanjore, to the Secretary to Government, Local and Municipal Department, dated Camp, Negapatam, 5th August 1898, Ref. on Cur. No. A-Tour.

With reference to your telegrams of the 2nd and 3rd instant, I have the honour to report as follows regarding the death of Thamby Raja Pillai at Negapatam.

2. The man died about 2-30 P.M. on the 27th July, the body was burnt about 7-30 P.M., and the death duly reported the next day as one of dysentery. A rumour seems to have arisen on the 28th that the man had come from Hubli and had died of plague, and the Civil Surgeon being informed of this by a municipal peon, went at once to the house and made inquiries. Living in the house were Natesa Pillai, a brother of the deceased, and his wife, who had both arrived in Negapatam from Hubli (via Bangalore) on the 25th July. They had been duly kept under observation by the hospital assistant on plague duty, who, however, had failed to discover that there was illness or death in the house as he should have done.

3. This concealment, the evasion by the deceased of the regulations regarding persons coming from infected areas, and the unsatisfactory accounts given by the aforesaid Natesa Pillai and his wife, and another brother named Ratnam Pillai, gave the matter a suspicious look and, pending inquiry, it was thought necessary to take the precautions of disinfecting the house and removing and segregating the inhabitants.

4. Two native physicians had attended the deceased, one of whom said he had dysentery but no fever or swellings, and the other that he was very weak and had fever but no swellings.

5. The brothers had given the Civil Surgeon and the Head Assistant Collector to understand that they knew nothing of deceased's movements. He had turned up in a cart on the 24th July, having last been seen at Hubli, where he was a railway stores clerk, on the 12th July; and it was represented that he must have been staying some time at Tranquebar and had come to Negapatam through Karikal. All this was in due time shown to be false by the information received from Hubli.

6. It has been ascertained that the deceased was treated by the railway apothecary at Hubli from the 12th to the 20th July for ague and dysentery. On the 21st he applied to the storekeeper for leave, and, on being refused, resigned. It is pretty certain then that he left Hubli with Natesa Pillai and his wife, who left that place on the 22nd July. The journey was broken at Bangalore, whence their departure was duly notified to the authorities at Negapatam. In this notice the name of one Gnanapragasam Pillai appears between the names of Natesa Pillai and his wife as going to the same address. This man has never turned up and the story told by the other two that he changed his mind and went to Pondicherry is decidedly unsatisfactory. It seems most probable that the deceased being unwell and fearing interference by plague authorities gave a wrong name at Bangalore with a view to avoiding observation, and that he travelled with his brother and wife and got down at some small station (probably Vettar) and came on thence by cart, with the same view of escaping observation.

7. The case was suspicious on account of the concealment and prevarication practised, and this necessitated precautionary measures and a careful enquiry; but there is no other reason for suspecting that it was a case of plague, and the whole evidence and circumstances point to the conclusion that the case was really one of dysentery.

8. Dr. Nailer, the District Medical Officer, after investigation of all the sources of information available, has no hesitation in pronouncing the case to be one of fever and dysentery and not plague. I am of the same opinion.

ORDER—No. 794 P., dated 12th August 1898.

Recorded. The Collector is requested to consider the advisability of prosecuting the principal inmate of the house in which the deceased lived after coming to Negapatam for omission to report his arrival under Mufassal Regulation 1 printed on page 8 of "the Madras Plague Regulations and Rules."

2. It is presumed the deceased proceeded to Negapatam from Bangalore through Jalarpet and Erode and not through Arkonam. If he passed through Arkonam, the medical officer in charge of the inspection station at that place should report, through the Collector of North Arcot, why he did not detain the passenger for observation.

(True Extract.)

H. TREMENHEERE,
Secretary to Government.

To the Collector of Tanjore (A, F).

" Sanitary Commissioner.

" Surgeon-General.

" Collector of North Arcot (A, F, H).

Please see query marked in this
proof
G.O. of Madras.
LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL.

S. A.
Proof Submitted for
approval.
MHS

Recd. } 1898.
Regd. }
Enclosures
Spare copies

26/8/98
Recd at 24th
24th
Very much delay
not only in 27th
MHS
Shake 11
27/8/98
26/8/98

G.O., No. 794 P., 12th August 1898.

AUGUST.

Suspected Case of Plague at Negapatam.

Recording, with remarks, report of the Collector of Tanjore on the —.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—again the following papers:—

G.O., No. 743 P., dated 2nd August 1898.

ABSTRACT.—Requesting the Collector of Tanjore to telegraph particulars regarding the suspected plague death in Negapatam reported by the "South Indian Post."

G.O., No. 744 P., dated 2nd August 1898.

ABSTRACT.—Requesting the Collector of Tanjore to proceed to Negapatam with District Medical Officer and to report fully on the suspected case.

G.O., No. 757 P., dated 5th August 1898.

ABSTRACT.—Recording telegram from the Collector of Tanjore stating that the death was due to fever and dysentery and not to plague.

READ—also the following paper:—

From J. TWIGG, Esq., Acting Collector of Tanjore, to the Secretary to Government, Local and Municipal Department, dated Camp, Negapatam, 5th August 1898, Ref. on Cur. No. A-Tour.

With reference to your telegrams of the 2nd and 3rd instant, I have the honour to report as follows regarding the death of Thambi Raja Pillai at Negapatam.

2. The man died about 2-30 P.M. on the 27th July, the body was burnt about 7-30 P.M., and the death duly reported the next day as one of dysentery. A rumour seems to have arisen on the 28th that the man had come from Hubli and had died of plague, and the Civil Surgeon being informed of this by a municipal peon, went at once to the house and made inquiries. Living in the house were Natesa Pillai, a brother of the deceased, and his wife, who had both arrived in Negapatam from Hubli (via Bangalore) on the 25th July. They had been duly kept under observation by the hospital assistant on plague duty, who, however, had failed to discover that there was illness or death in the house as he should have done.

3. This concealment, the evasion by the deceased of the regulations regarding persons coming from infected areas, and the unsatisfactory accounts given by the aforesaid Natesa Pillai and his wife, and another brother named Retnam Pillai, gave the matter a suspicious look and, pending inquiry, it was thought necessary to take the precautions of disinfecting the house and removing and segregating the inhabitants.

4. Two native physicians had attended the deceased, one of whom said he had dysentery but no fever or swellings, and the other that he was very weak and had fever but no swellings.

5. The brothers had given the Civil Surgeon and the Head Assistant Collector to understand that they knew nothing of deceased's movements. He had turned up in a cart on the 24th July, having last been seen at Hubli, where he was a railway stores clerk, on the 12th July; and it was represented that he must have been staying some time at Tranquebar and had come to Negapatam through Karikal. All this was in due time shown to be false by the information received from Hubli.

6. It has been ascertained that the deceased was treated by the railway apothecary at Hubli from the 12th to the 20th July for ague and dysentery. On the 21st he applied to the storekeeper for leave, and, on being refused, resigned. It is pretty certain then that he left Hubli with Natesa Pillai and his wife, who left that place on the 22nd July. The journey was broken at Bangalore, whence their departure was duly notified to the authorities at Negapatam. In this notice the name of one Gnanapragasam Pillai appears between the names of Natesa Pillai and his wife as going to the same address. This man has never turned up and the story told by the other two that he changed his mind and went to Pondicherry is decidedly unsatisfactory. It seems most probable that the deceased being unwell and fearing interference by plague authorities gave a wrong name at Bangalore with a view to avoiding observation, and that he travelled with his brother and wife and got down at some small station (probably Vettár) and came on thence by cart, with the same view of escaping observation.

7. The case was suspicious on account of the concealment and prevarication practised, and this necessitated precautionary measures and a careful enquiry; but there is no other reason for suspecting that it was a case of plague, and the whole evidence and circumstances point to the conclusion that the case was really one of dysentery.

8. Dr. Nailer, the District Medical Officer, after investigation of all the sources of information available, has no hesitation in pronouncing the case to be one of fever and dysentery and not plague. I am of the same opinion.

ORDER—No. 794 P., dated 12th August 1898.

Recorded. The Collector is requested to consider the advisability of prosecuting the principal inmate of the house in which the deceased lived after coming to Negapatam for omission to report his arrival under Mufassal Regulation 1 printed on page 8 of "the Madras Plague Regulations and Rules."

2. It is presumed the deceased proceeded to Negapatam from Bangalore through Jalarpet and Erode and not through Arkonam. If he passed through Arkonam, the medical officer in charge of the inspection station at that place should report, through the Collector of North Arcot, why he did not detain the passenger for observation.

(True Extract.)

for Secretary to Government.

To the Collector of Tanjore. (A, 2.)

" Sanitary Commissioner.

" Surgeon-General.

" Collector of North Arcot. (A) (A, 2. 4.)

Also also the following paper
C No 1211 P
Tanjore Collectin office
Camp. Negapatam
5th August 1898

From J. Twigg Esquire.
Ag. Collector.

Tanjore,
The Secretary to Government
Local & Municipal Department
Madras.

Sir.

With reference to your telegram
of the 2nd and 3rd instant, I have the
honour to report as follows regarding the
death of Thambi Raja Pillai at
Negapatam.

2. The man died about 2.30 P.m. on the
27th July. The body was burnt about
7.30 P.m. and the death duly reported
the next day as one of dysentery. A
rumour seems to have arisen on
the

The 28th that the man had come from Hubli and had died of plague, and the Civil Surgeon being informed of this by a Municipal peon, went at once to the house and made enquiries. Living in the house were Natesa Pillai, a brother of the deceased, and his wife who had both arrived in Secapattam from Hubli (via Bangalore) on the 25th July. They had been duly kept under observation by the Hospital Assistant on plague duty, who however had failed to discover that there was illness or death in the house as he should have done.

3. This concealment, the evasion by the deceased of the regulations regarding persons coming from infected areas

areas, and the unsatisfactory accounts given by the aforesaid Natesa Pillai and his wife, and another brother named Retnam Pillai, gave the matter a suspicious look, and pending enquiry it was thought necessary to take the precaution of disinfecting the house and removing and segregating the inhabitants.

4. Two native physicians had attended the deceased, one of whom said he had dysentery but no fever or swellings, and the other that he was very weak and had fever but no swellings.

5. The brothers had given the Civil Surgeon and the Head Assistant Collector to understand that they knew nothing of deceased's movements. He had turned up

up in a ^{cart} ~~Cart~~ on the 24th July having
last been seen at Hubli, where he
was a Railway Stores Clerk, on the 12th
July; and it was represented that
he must have been staying some time
at Tranquoban, and had come to
Negapatam through Karikkhal. All
this was in due time shown to be
false by the information received from
Hubli.

6 It has been ascertained that
the deceased was treated by the Railway
Apothecary at Hubli from the 12th
to the 20th July for ague and dysentery.
On the 21st he applied to the
Storekeeper for leave, and on being
refused, resigned. It is pretty certain
then that he left Hubli with Natesa
Pillai and his wife who left that
place on the 22nd July. The journey
was

was broken at Bangalore, whence their
departure was duly notified to the
authorities at Negapatam. In this
notice the name of one Guanapragasam
Pillai appears between the names of
Natesa Pillai and his wife as going to
the same address. This man has never
turned up and the story told by the
other two that he changed his mind
and went to Pondicherry is decidedly
unsatisfactory. It seems most probable
that the deceased being unwell and
fearing interference by plague authorities
gave a wrong name at Bangalore
with a view to avoiding observation,
and that he travelled with his
brother and wife, and got down at
Some

Some Small Station (probably Vettan)
and Came on thence by Cart, with
the same view of escaping observation.

7. The Case was suspicious on
account of the concealment and pre-
varication practised, and this
necessitated precautionary measures
and a careful enquiry, but there is
no other reason for suspecting that
it was a case of plague, and the
whole evidence and circumstances
point to the conclusion that the
Case was really one of dysentery.

8 Dr. Nair The District Medical
Officer after investigation of all the
Sources of information available
has no hesitation in pronouncing
the Case to be one of fever and dysentery,
and not plague. I am of the same opinion.
I have the honour to be,

Sir,
Your most obedient servant
D. W. S.

Papers to be read in Proceedings:—

Again G.O., No. 743P dated 2-1-98 189
Again G.O., No. 744P dated 2-2-98 189
Current No. 1211P of 1898, dated 5-2-98, from Coll. of Tanjore
" " " 189 " "
" " " 189 " "

ORDER. No 794P dt 12-8-98

Recorded. The Collector is requested
to consider the advisability of
presenting the principal inmate
of the house in which the deceased
lived after coming to Nagapattanam,
for omission to report his arrival
under Mufassal Regulation 1
printed on page 8 of the Madras
Plague Regulations and Rules.

3. The medical officer in
charge of the hospital. A suggestion
has been made to Government
in connection with this case
that when a person arrives from
a plague-infected place either at
the place of destination or at an
intermediate place.

It is presumed the deceased
proceeded to Nagapattanam from Bangalore
through Jalapet and Erode and
not through Arakonam. If he
had passed through Arakonam,
medical officer in charge of the
station station at that place
would report this to the Colls of N.
Why he did not detain the
deceased for observation.

Ch. of Tanjore
Sanitary Comm.
By order of the District
Magistrate (H. F. H.)

Home

and should be specially
marked like the ticket
issued to him at the station
starting, so that he may without
difficulty be recognized at once
on the completion of his railway
journey as a passenger requiring
to be observed. The Government
considers the suggestion is a good
one and should be adopted. The
duty of seeing that it is carried
out will rest on the passport-
issuing officer, to whom the local
authority mentioned in Mysore
Regulation 17-i (page 14 of the
Madras Mysore Regulations and
Rules) shall communicate without
delay the intended departure of
the newly arrived passenger.

Leup.
10/10/98

- To All Collectors (A. L.)
All Administrations
The Sanitary Comm.
• Surge-General
• Resident, Madras

Your most obedient
Wm.

27-8-98
27-8-98
27-8-98
27-8-98
27-8-98

All this looks well
on paper; but it will
be a hard job. At least
wait a bit, & meanwhile
we must consider about
Hull - Bangalore form.
HT 8 9 8
12

note This case suggests the necessity
for inspection at Jolarpet or at the
station near Bangalore.

Local & Munl. (1898) Department.

CURRENT No. 142.

From The Collector of Tanjore

Order

No.

Dated 6-8-1898
Received 8-8-1898
Registered 8-8-1898
Enclosures
Spare copies.

SUBJECT.

Stating the reason why he
did not report the suspicious
death at Nagapattanam
and making certain suggestions
with regard to punching of
tickets.

in file 794P
12848

BACK PAPERS

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

L. & M.
 1,000-13-0-98.
 Senior Collector's Office
 VALLAM
 8 AUG - 1898
 6th Aug 1898
 MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT

My dear Mr. Tremble
 Your D.O. of the 3rd inst. is 46p.
 I received information of the
 Negopalain affair on the 3rd July,
 but did not report it, as it
 did not seem to me to be necessary
 to trouble Government with a case
 of this kind. The fact that
 the deceased had recently come from
 Kabi, and had escaped notice

the after cremation, made it necessary to make careful enquiries to verify the cause of death, and meantime to take the precautions of disinfection and Segregation. The result you have learnt from my report of yesterday. If I was wrong in not reporting to Government I am sorry.

I am attending to the question

of disinfection of persons from plague infected areas, but meantime throw out the following suggestion. The party seem to have re-booked at Bangalore, and had they not had punched tickets could not have escaped observation when passing the Railway barriers. If I am right in thinking that when passengers re-book at Bangalore, Madras, or other

Station whence their departure is notified by platform slips, they are furnished with unpunched tickets, could not this loophole be closed? Could it not be arranged that the fresh tickets should be checked with the declared destination, and punched? It is so easy for any one with an unmarked ticket to evade detection at a Railway barrier, and

I believe passengers avoid observation by getting down at other stations and not going straight to their declared residence. With a marked ticket no passenger could pass undetected.

A considerable number of Negapatam people are said to be engaged in Railway work at Habli. If the Railway authorities there know where

these employees come from
and would notify the department
of any Negapatam people to
the authorities there that
would be an additional
safeguard.

Yours sincerely
Dun.

P.S. The floors at Negapatam
were not dug up and burnt

Had the can turned out plague
then would of course have been
done — and much more.

SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT
8-AUG-1898
LOCAL & MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT

Local & Munl. (1898) Department.

CURRENT No. 1211 P

From The Collector of
Tanjore

Order.

Ref. on. Cur. No. A of 98
Tonn

Dated 5th August 1898

Received 8-8-1898

Registered 8-8-1898

Enclosures nil

Spare copies

SUBJECT.

Reporting on the Suspected
plague Case at Nag-
patam.

BACK PAPERS

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
	757	Pms	5-8-98
	744	Pms	2-8-98
	743	Pms	2-8-98

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

First copy sent to Press. 17-8-98
 Returned for signature. 31-8-98
 Despatched in print. 1-9-98

READ AGAIN G.O. No. 189.
 743P
 744P
 757P
 DATED: 2-8-98
 2-8-98
 5-8-98
 } — P
 1211P — A

Order complete. 80
 Letter only.
 Order complete with Letter.

ENCLOSURES TO C. No.

Order of Government

Letter of Government.

Statement with Dicto.

PAPERS NOT FILED UP BEING READY FOR DELETION IN ORIGINAL.

N.B.—

- A = Print in full.
- B = Not to be printed.
- P = Print abstract only.
- Q = Print heading only.

SUBJECT

Report on a subject
 prepared by Mr. [illegible]
 [illegible]