

PROCEEDINGS OF THE PLAGUE COMMISSIONER.

(1899)

Miscellaneous
PRINTED.

No. 1109

DATED 21-4-88
Depd 22-4-88

Induced $\frac{4.8}{254.99}$

[Despatch Abstract.]

Complaint against the issue of passports to Mrs Cox & others who were coming from Secunderbad:

Offering remarks on letter from the Resident in Secunderbad reporting that Mrs Cox & her family passengers from Secunderbad were treated by the plague officials at Secunderbad as passengers from an infected area

BACK PAPERS.

No.	Date.	No.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

No.	Date.	No.	Date.

To Secy to Govt, London

Letter No 1108 of 21-4-88

With reference to your letter
No 79 P. of 10-4-88, the enclos-
to which are herewith returned, I
have the honor to forward letter
No 157 of 19-4-88 from the President
of the Council. I agree with him

C. No. 4156 & 4339 & 29.

Procs.

The letter received from
the President M. M. C. with
its enclosure will be sub-
mitted to Govt with reference
to its end. No. 79 of 10-4-88
instant.

2. The Plague Comm.

Agrees with the President
in considering that the plague
officials were right in
issuing passports to the
individuals, inasmuch
as their tickets bore the
special plague mark. The
tickets having been once
punched, the Perambore
officials were justified
in insisting upon the
travellers to take out
passports, even though
they were travelling from
an uninfected area. It
very frequently happens
that, in order to evade
the passport rules, persons
book from an infected area
to a noninfected one &
rebook

instructions if they had

though I do
not for a moment
imagine that this
is the case in the
present instance.

rebook from the latter &
proceed ^{to their destination} by the same train
or by the next train, & in
such cases, the second
tickets are punched, in
order that passports may
be issued to them at the
places where they finally
alight. The rules require
that every holder of a
punched ticket should
take out a passport. In
the present case, ~~I think~~
the blame lies on the officer
who wrongly punched the
tickets & not on the officer
who issued the passports,
whose sole guide is the special
punch mark on the tickets.
It is not known at what
inspecting station & by
whom the tickets were punched.

Numerous instances of ~~such~~ ^{have} been brought to the
attention of the ~~Committee~~ ^{Committee},
a circular has been issued ^{recently}
calling on the medical
officers in charge of
inspecting

Procp 1018

14-4-88

inspecting stations to
exercise greater care
in this work. (vide C/24
enclosed).

2/4/88

24/4

To
The Secy to Govt (d. & m.) with
papers.

Per 22-4-88
24

Mid
24/4/88

Local and Municipal Department.
PLAGUE COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE.
(1899)

CURRENT No. 722 P.

Endt. No. 79 P. of 10.4.99.

Referred to the Plague
Commissioner for remarks.

Ld/ A. Edgington
For Secretary to Govt.

From

The Public Dept

Order
Ref. on C. no. 4156 of 12-4-1899

Endt. No. 958

Forwarded to the Presi-
dent, M.C., Madras, for favour
of report.

Dated

Received

Registered

Enclosures

Spare copies

Ld/ L. Buckley 12/4
Plague Commissioner

SUBJECT.

The Pres^t, M. M. C., with
2 Encl: to be returned-

Transferring letter from the Resident at
Hyderabad reporting for such action
as may be necessary that Mrs. Cox the
wife of Major Cox and his family pas-
sengers from Secundrabad were treated
by the Plague officials at Perambur
as passengers from an infected area
although holding certificates to the
effect that they were ^{the} from infectious
disease and in no way exposed to the
contagion of plague.

Desd 13/4/99
U

BACK PAPERS.

No.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

No.	Date.

Copy of letter from the Resident ^{at Hyderabad} ~~in Mysore~~ to the Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras, dated 27th March 1899, No. 1791.

I have the honour to communicate the following facts for the information of the Governor in Council and for the issue of such order as, after consideration of the circumstances, may appear to His Excellency to be called for.

2. On the 5th March last Major Cox of the Royal Iniskilling Fusiliers obtained from the Medical Officer in charge of plague operations, Secunderabad, a certificate for his family who were proceeding on the 6th March 1899 to Coonoor via Madras. The certificate granted was to the effect that M Mrs. Cox and child, the nurse and a native servant, were free from infectious disease and had in no way been exposed to the contagion of plague; Secunderabad not being a plague infected area.

3. On reaching Perambore the plague officials at that station treated Mrs. Cox and her family as passengers from an infected area and required her on arrival at Madras to present herself along with her nurse and child daily at the police station for inspection. When leaving for Coonoor Mrs. Cox was further required to sign an undertaking to report herself personally at the Coonoor police station for a period of ten days.

4. I have examined the plague rules of the Madras Government and find no precise direction requiring all persons to present themselves at the police station for 10 days. On the contrary the rules, like those of other provinces, seem directed against persons arriving from a plague infected area, or who are, for other reasons, likely to introduce the disease; while discretion is also given to exempt from the requirements of the rules, persons who do not come within the above category.

In regard to the case under notice I have the honour to invite the attention of His Excellency the Governor in Council to the fact that Hyderabad and Secunderabad are free from plague and have never yet been infected and that therefore, even without the Principal Medical Officer's certifi-

-cate, the case of Mrs. Cox was one in which, His Excellency in Council would no doubt hold, a discretion was given to the plague officials to exempt from rigorous restrictions. I report the facts in the interests of the travelling public and for such action as may appear necessary to His Excellency the Governor in Council.

/True Copy/

J. C.

PLAGUE COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE.

(1899)

CURRENT No.

4339

Progs.
Letter
Ref.

P. C.
20 APR. 1899

From

*The President
Municipal Comm.
Madras.*

*H. No. 151
S.O.*

Wm

Dated 19 April 1899

Received 20-4-99

Registered 20-4-99

Enclosures **2** *2 No 4156 reth.*

Spare copies

SUBJECT.

*Reporting that the Plague
Officials at Darambur were right in
issuing passports to Mrs Cox and
her family passengers from
Secunderabad as their tickets
were punched.*

BACK PAPERS.

No.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

No.	Date.

c/o Fritz Simon Esq.,

Villa Louise,

March 8th.

Dear Sir,

I am writing to ask you if it is necessary for me and my little boy and English nurse to be examined at the Police station. There was some mistake made about our tickets from Secunderabad. We come from a non-infected place and I am sending you Col. Little's certificate. It is very awkward for me having to go every day to the Police station. I am here only till Friday evening and then go to Coonoor. Will you kindly let me know what to do about this and also if you could send some one to see us every day it would be more convenient. I shall want my certificate back as I have a native servant travelling with me. His ticket was not marked with the plague mark so he is all right and need not be examined here. The certificate will be useful on our way to Coonoor.

Yours sincerely,

(Sd) Marie Cox.

(True Copy)

(Sd) J. W. Cornwall

Health Officer.

H.O.

There seems to have been some mistake about this.

I have told Mrs. Cox the Inspectress will meet her at her residence.

If she need not have a passport better tell her so. I don't know what the instructions along the line are - Perambore was right.

(Intld) G.M.J.M.
9-6-99

Mrs. Pickin

(Intld) J.W.C.

9.3.99

Reg. No. 760/9-3-99

Mrs Pickin.

(Intld) V.B.

9.3.99

(True Copy)

/Sd) J.W. Cornwall

Lt. I. M. S.

Health Officer.

(True Copy)

O.C.

O.C.
Copy of letter from the President, Municipal Commission, Madras, to the Plague Commissioner dated 19th April 1899, H. No. 151/B.P.

With reference to your endorsement No. 4156 dated 12th April 1899, on Current 722 P (herewith returned) I have the honour to ~~return~~ state that passports were issued to Mrs. Cox child and nurse because their tickets were punched.

The Perambore plague officials were perfectly right in their action.

On the evening of the 8th March I received a letter from Mrs. Cox (copy herewith) and to save her any inconvenience I left my reply at her residence the first thing next morning and informed the Health Officer (copy attached). It will be seen that Mrs. Pickin - the passport - Inspectress was at once instructed to visit Mrs. Cox.

It is unnecessary for me to say any more - the Resident's remarks can be disposed of by you - I would only say a little discretion may be a dangerous thing.

(Sd) G.M.J. MOORE Lt. Col.

O.C.

First copy sent to Press.

Returned for signature.

Despatched in print.

Number of copies
required { Order complete.
Letter only.
Order complete with Letter.

READ AGAIN No.
159

DATE

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURE TO C. No.

N.B. —

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