

1. Medical
2. Miscellaneous

PROCEEDINGS OF THE PLAGUE COMMISSIONER.

(1899)

Miscellaneous

PRINTED.

No. 1110

DATED 22-4-99
Despd 22.4.99

Indexed H.L.
25.4.99

[Despatch Abstract.]

Stating that the Asst Surgeon on Plague duty at Podanur displayed a want of discretion in having allowed two suspicious persons to proceed to Coimbatore instead of being detained at Podanur & that the matter will be reported to the Surgeon General.

BACK PAPERS.

No.	Date.	No.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

No.	Date.	No.	Date.

PLAGUE COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE.

(1899)

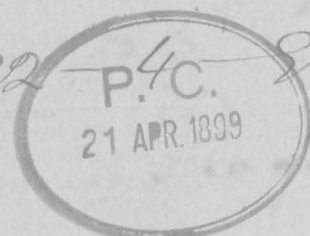
Plague

CURRENT No. 4374

Emergents

Progs.
Letter
Ref.

No 11/0 d 22



8/21/4

There is no doubt that the
has been displayed a
great deal of discretion.
The patient has been
placed in the detention
ward. The matter
will be covered by the
H.C. for such action
as he considers necessary.
2 LB.
4

From
The Collector of
Coimbatore
Ro C No. 448
PL of 1899.

Dated : 19th April 1899

Received

Registered

Enclosures : one

Spare copies

2 to C.M. of Coimbatore P + C
L.C.

Despd 22.4.99
H

SUBJECT.

Reporting with remarks on
two cases of suspicious plague
and bringing to notice the
gross carelessness on the part
of the Medical officer on plague
duty at Podanur

BACK PAPERS.

No.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

No.	Date.

R.C.C. No. 473

Plague 199

Cno 4374

Coimbatore District MAGISTRATE'S OFFICE,

Dated 19th April 1899.

FROM

C. H. Munnay Esq.,

Acting Collector & District MAGISTRATE OF

Coimbatore,

To

The

Plague Commission,

Madras.

SIR,

I have the honour to report as follows.

At 3 P.M. the day before yesterday

the 11th & 12th men were brought to the Hospital

at Coimbatore under orders from the Assistant

Surgeon on Plague duty at Pondicherry. A

translation of the ga. book which came with

the same is as follows. (The name of the patient is not given)

One Coimbatore Municipal Hospital Assis.

Reports of the Station House Officer, Railway

Police, Pondicherry, in accordance with a

to two persons named Madayadun and Panikhan

Came by the mail train this morning from

Holar.

Idolur. They were ill and one sent herewith
for treatment. The Assistant Surgeon on
plague duty at Podanur requested the
Village Magistrate of Podanur and Platform
orderly No 168 to send them to the hospital.
I have sent the patients for your care and
treatment.

Your most obedient Servant

17. 4. 1899.

(Signed) M. Thomas

Railway Police Head Constable

2 The Hospital Assistant at Coimbatore
wrote to the Assistant Surgeon for orders. ^{The Asst. Surgeon} ~~had~~
them removed to the Plague shed. (One shed was
available in the site you saw. The others were
in process of removal to another site about
which I know nothing). The Assistant Surgeon
visited the men in the evening and found
that one man was suffering from high fever and
a fluctuating abscess in the upper part of
the left thigh with temperature 103° and
delirious. The Assistant Surgeon considered
the

the case as a case of suspicious plague
if not as a genuine case. This report I got
at daybreak and at once went and visited
the man. He was still unconscious but his
temperature was 102° at the time of visit ^{the} which
was before the Assistant Surgeon saw him
in the morning. The Assistant Surgeon was
asked through the Hospital Assistant in
attendance to specially report to me if he found
in his morning examination that the case was one
of plague. This he could not say. Yesterday
evening the man's temperature was 103° and
^{was} then could not diagnose the case as one of plague.
but this morning after a good night's rest, ^{the temperature} it
was when I visited him only 101.6° and the
man was conscious and much better asking for
curry and rice.

3 I sent over to Podanur yesterday
morning

morning to the Assistant Surgeon to ask his reasons
for sending in the man. He replied as I added
in a ^{post script} to my yesterday's letter as follows:-

Podanur 18th April 1899.

Respected Sir,

There were 7 Malayalee passengers
yesterday by the Mail out of which one was a Sickman.

These were all Coolies working in some mines in
Godavary District and were returning home via

2 Deltone, Renigunta (= Tirupati) and Arkonam.

They all had tickets from Arkonam to Podanur.

They were all detained on the 16th at Arkonam
probably for disinfection and discharged the
same day.

Tickets No	Names
1884	Ladi
1885	Musa Sahib
1886	Vavari Ravathan
1887	Nayanar
1888	Hasanar
1889	Malanghoo
1890	Narayanar

These

These men are neither from infected areas nor
passed through it. When I examined the sickman
he had no fever but had dropsy of the
lower extremities. He was also anemic. Only one
was a Sickman and the other accompanied
him. They are not from Kolar.

I beg to state that I will pay my
respects in person and explain at 4.45.

I beg etc.

(Signed) D. H. Govind Singh

4 In the afternoon I saw the Assistant
Surgeon, Podanur, and he stated that
though he was aware the man had fever
he considered as he did not come from an
affected area that there was no risk
in sending him on to Coimbatore. He did
not know of the fluctuating abscess.
He told me the man had a ticket from
Renigunta.

Renegades to Podamir and this may have
been the case. (From Kolar men might join
the Shanmavaram Pakala line). However,
the men now state that ^{they} have come from
Kolar and deny that they were ever in the
Godavary. They have told various stories
as to detention etc and it is a little difficult
to know what to believe. * Among other things that they had
The Hospital Assistant a passport at one time which
attending them is a Malayalee. they lost or destroyed and that
and speaks their own they were detained 3 days at some
language. He ^{pronounced} ~~pronounced~~ camp whether Jalarpet or Arkonam
in Malayalam the words Kolar and Godavari, could not be ascertained.
the sound is not dissimilar, and he says that he
thinks their pronunciation of Kolar has been
mistaken for that of Godavary. They must
have spoken about Kolar at Podamir
as the Constable's yadast says the men
came from there.

It is admitted the man has no
bubo

(+ the morning)
bubo and ~~as~~ last night the Assistant
Surgeon could not say the case was plague,
as the appearance of the abscess is said
to tally with the man's statement that he
has been suffering from it for about a month,
As his temperature is not very high, it is to be
hoped and is believed that the case is not
one of plague. But for all that I consider
the Assistant Surgeon was guilty of gross
carelessness in not detaining the patient
at Podamir (for even supposing he had
never been near Kolar, he might have
contracted the disease on his journey. If the
man has come from Kolar, as I believe, the
Assistant Surgeon should have ascertained
^{detection was obligatory}
it and the man ~~thus~~ being a suspicious person
from an infected area and detention
was obligatory) where every arrangement
for

for such Cases is made. And thus I hereby
bring to your notice.

I have the honour to be

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant

W. Manning

Acting Collector and District Magistrate.

First copy sent to Press.

Returned for signature.

Despatched in print.

READ AGAIN No.
159

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