

PROCEEDINGS OF THE PLAGUE COMMISSIONER.

(1899)

MISCELLANEOUS.

No. 122

Dated 16-1-99

Despatched

[Despatch Abstract.]

Quarantine Regulations

According to govt. order regarding the publication of the revised regulations issued by the Govt. of Ceylon under the Quarantine and Prevention of Diseases Ordinance 1897.

BACK PAPERS.

No.	Date.	No.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

No.	Date.	No.	Date.

Government {1898} of Madras. MARINE.

Recd.

Enclosures

1898.

Regd.

Spare copies

G.O., No. 1054, 22nd December 1898.

DECEMBER.

Quarantine Regulations

Ordering the publication in the Fort St. George and Maritime District Gazettes of the revised regulations made by His Excellency the Governor of Ceylon under "the Quarantine and Prevention of Diseases Ordinance, 1897."

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

MARINE DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following paper:—

From the Honourable the Colonial Secretary, Colombo, to the Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras, dated 8th December 1898, C. No. 2689 P.

I am directed by His Excellency the Governor to forward for your information twelve copies of the revised regulations made by His Excellency the Governor, under "the Quarantine and Prevention of Diseases Ordinance, 1897."

ENCLOSURE.

REGULATIONS UNDER "THE QUARANTINE AND PREVENTION OF DISEASES ORDINANCE, 1897."
(Promulgated in the "Ceylon Government Gazette" of November 25, 1898.)

The following regulations made by the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Council, under the provisions of the Ordinance No. 3 of 1897, are published for general information. All previous regulations dealing with this subject are revoked and superseded by these regulations:—

NOTE 1.—The term "proper authority," in the following regulations shall mean—

- (a) Wherever there shall be established a Municipality, the Chairman of the Municipal Council, or the Principal Civil Medical Officer, or the Colonial Surgeon of the Province, or the Health Officer of the Municipality, or any officer appointed by the Governor to perform the duties of the proper authority.
- (b) Wherever there shall be established a Local Board, the Chairman of the Local Board, or the Assistant Government Agent of the district, or the District Judge, or the Police Magistrate, or the Chief Medical Officer resident within the Local Board limits, or any officer appointed by the Governor to perform the duties of the proper authority.
- (c) Wherever there shall be no Municipality or Local Board established, the Government Agent of the Province, or the Assistant Government Agent of the district, or the Police Magistrate of the division, or the Colonial Surgeon of the Province, or the Chief Medical Officer of the district or place, or any officer appointed by the Governor to perform the duties of the proper authority.

NOTE 2.—The term "health officer" shall mean any person appointed by the Governor to exercise authority in regard to sanitary matters in any port, or where no such person has been appointed the medical officer of the district or place.

PART I.

Regulations with regard to all Diseases of a Contagious, Infectious, or Epidemic Nature.

1. The master or person in charge of any vessel or boat in which there shall have been any disease before departure from the original port of clearance or during the voyage, or which shall have come from any port or place in which at the time of her leaving there was disease, or on which there shall be any person affected with disease, or which shall have communicated otherwise than by signal with any vessel, boat, or place in which disease existed or might be reasonably supposed to have existed, shall not enter any port or harbour, and shall not allow any person to land from such vessel or boat, or to leave such vessel or boat, save by the order in writing of the proper authority.

2. The master or person in charge of such a vessel or boat shall, before entering the port or harbour, hoist at the fore by day a yellow flag, and by night a red light over a white light six feet apart, hoisted well up where best seen; and after the hoisting of such flag or light such vessel or boat shall be deemed in quarantine.

3. The master or person in charge of such a vessel or boat shall anchor or moor such vessel at such a place as shall be pointed out by the Master Attendant or some person acting on his behalf, and shall not leave such place without the permission in writing of the Master Attendant

or some person acting on his behalf; and until the master or person in charge of such vessel or boat has received such permission such vessel or boat shall be deemed in quarantine.

4. If at any time a case of disease shall occur on board a vessel or boat in any port or harbour, or during the period a vessel or boat is in quarantine under regulations 2 and 3, the said vessel or boat shall be placed in quarantine or remain in quarantine from the date of such case for a period of ten days should the disease be plague, for a period of five days should the disease be cholera, and for any other disease for such period as the Principal Civil Medical Officer shall fix, and be subject to all the prohibitions provided for in regulations 3 and 5.

5. The master or person in charge of any vessel or boat in quarantine shall keep a yellow flag constantly flying at the foremast of such vessel or boat, or in some conspicuous place on such vessel or boat, from sunrise to sunset, and from sunset to sunrise shall exhibit a red light over a white light six feet apart, hoisted well up where best seen. The display of such flag and such light shall be sufficient notice that such vessel or boat and the land or sea surrounding the same to a distance of fifty yards are in quarantine.

6. The health officer shall go on board of every vessel or boat entering any port or harbour, and may in his discretion refuse or grant pratique to any vessel or boat, subject always to the limitations contained in these regulations.

7. The master or person in charge of any vessel or boat, and every person on board such vessel or boat, shall answer truly every question put to him by the health officer.

8. The master or person in charge of any vessel or boat, and, if there be a surgeon on board such vessel or boat, the surgeon, shall, before the pilot or health officer shall come on board such vessel or boat, truly and fully inform such pilot or health officer if there shall have been any disease on board such vessel or boat before departure from the original port of clearance or during the voyage, or if such vessel or boat shall have come from any port or place in which there was disease, or if there be any person affected with disease on board such vessel or boat, or if such vessel or boat shall have communicated otherwise than by signal with any vessel, boat, or place in which disease existed or might be reasonably supposed to have existed.

9. The master or person in charge of a vessel shall not allow any boat of such vessel to be lowered, or any boat whatsoever, to lie alongside such vessel, before such vessel shall have obtained pratique, except for the purpose of saving life or for the purpose of mooring such vessel. The master or person in charge of a vessel which has lowered a boat for the purpose of saving life or of mooring such vessel shall cause such boat to be hoisted up immediately thereafter.

10. No person shall approach within fifty yards of a vessel or boat not admitted to pratique. No person shall leave any vessel or boat not admitted to pratique, nor shall any person transmit or receive any article or thing from any vessel not admitted to pratique, without the permission of the proper authority.

11. No goods shall be removed from any vessel in quarantine, save to such place and under such restrictions and subject to such detention and disinfection as shall be prescribed by the Principal Officer of Customs of the port.

12. The proper authority may order the destruction of any prohibited goods or goods believed to be contaminated brought from any vessel in quarantine. No compensation shall in such case be paid to any person. The owner and consignee of the goods and the master or person in charge of the vessel by which they were carried shall pay the cost of the destruction thereof.

13. A diseased person may, in the discretion of the health officer, be removed from any vessel to a quarantine station or hospital.

14. Whenever there are found on board any vessel coming with a clean bill of health from an Indian port persons who are unable to satisfy the health officer as to their place of origin, but who are in good health, such vessel shall not be placed in quarantine; but such persons shall be kept on board under supervision, and shall not be allowed to land, but shall be compelled to return by the same vessel. Provided that it shall be lawful, for the proper authority to remove from any vessel such persons coming from an area in which epidemic disease exists and to place them in quarantine at any quarantine station, or under observation at any place of observation, for such period as the Principal Civil Medical Officer may direct, having regard to the nature of the disease and the circumstances of the case.

15. The Principal Civil Medical Officer shall fix the number of days during which a vessel shall remain in quarantine, subject to the limitations contained in these regulations.

16. No person shall approach within fifty yards of a vessel in quarantine, and no person shall leave a vessel in quarantine, save with the permission in writing of the health officer and under such restrictions as shall be by him prescribed.

17. The proper authority shall, wherever expedient, establish a quarantine station, a hospital, and a place of observation, and shall affix thereto a notice setting out that the same is a quarantine station, hospital, or place of observation. Such place shall thereafter be deemed to be a quarantine station, hospital, or place of observation, as the case may be, within the meaning of these regulations.

18. No person shall approach within one hundred yards of any quarantine station or hospital so established. Any person approaching within one hundred yards of any quarantine station or hospital, or of any vessel or boat in quarantine, may be removed to a quarantine station, in addition to any penalty imposed for a breach of the regulations.

19. The conveyance of passengers from any place in India to any place not being a Customs port is prohibited.

20. The conveyance of passengers to any place in this Island from any place in India in any vessel or boat not having a bill of health is prohibited.

21. Any vessel or boat in which passengers are conveyed in breach of the preceding regulations shall be forfeited.

22. The landing of any person from any place in India at any place in this Island not being a Customs port is prohibited.

23. Whenever in any place there shall be any person diseased with plague, cholera, or small-pox, the proper authority shall cause the removal of such person to some building set apart as a hospital.

Whenever in any building there shall be any person diseased with plague, cholera, or small-pox, it shall be lawful for the proper authority, after the removal of such person, to cause the building and its contents, either wholly or in part, to be destroyed, or the roof to be removed and the contents, either wholly or in part, to be destroyed, and such process of cleaning and disinfection to be carried out as the proper authority may see fit: provided that compensation shall be paid to the person whose property is destroyed, and such compensation shall be assessed as may by a regulation be directed.

Whenever in any building there shall be any person diseased with plague, cholera, or small-pox, any other persons found in such building shall be removed by the proper authority to a place of observation. Every person on being ordered by the proper authority shall proceed to a place of observation. No person removed to a place of observation, or who has proceeded to a place of observation, shall leave such place without permission of the proper authority.

24. Any medical practitioner, or person professing to treat disease, attending any diseased person shall within three hours of such attendance give information in writing to the proper authority, stating the name of the diseased person, his residence, and the nature of his disease.

Every occupant of any building in which there shall be any person affected with any serious illness shall forthwith inform the proper authority thereof.

25. No person shall, without the written permission of the proper authority, enter or go away from any quarantine station, hospital, or place of observation.

26. Whenever it shall appear to him expedient, the proper authority shall give notice by beat of tom-tom and by affixing written notice in conspicuous places, requiring that the walls of any building in any town, village, or place shall be whitewashed and cleaned and disinfected, and the drains, sewers, pits, and cesspits cleaned and disinfected. The owner and occupant of any building and of any land upon which there shall be any building, drains, sewers, pits, or cesspits shall whitewash clean, and disinfect the same within forty-eight hours of the giving of such notice.

27. Whenever it shall appear expedient, the proper authority may give notice to the owner or occupant of any land to fill up or disinfect any well upon such land. The owner or occupant of such land shall thereupon fill up or disinfect, as the case may be, such well.

28. Whenever there shall be found at any time to be in any building a larger number of persons than should in the opinion of the proper authority be found to be dwelling there, it shall be lawful for such authority to order the departure from such building of the number of persons in excess of the number which in the opinion of such authority should be found dwelling there; and if at any time after the giving of such order there shall be found in any such building any number of persons in excess of the number who should be found dwelling there, the owner of such building shall be guilty of an offence.

29. It shall be lawful for the proper authority to cause persons diseased with plague, cholera, or small-pox, in any house or place hereunder described, to be removed to some public hospital or other place provided by Government—

- (1) In any house or place in which goods are exposed for sale.
- (2) In any house or place of public resort.
- (3) In any building in which there are no means of isolating the patients from the other inmates, or in any building where the retention of the patient is likely to prove a source of danger to others.

Provided that it shall be competent for the proper authority, in case the removal of any person so diseased in any house or place in which goods are exposed for sale is objected to, and the house or place is not otherwise open to objection, to allow the patient to be retained, on condition, however, that the sale of goods shall not be carried on in such house or place during such time as any person shall remain so diseased in such house or place.

Provided further, that it shall be lawful for the proper authority to allow any patient to be removed to any locality which such patient or his or her friends may choose, and to which the medical authorities of the town or place, if any, do not object, instead of to the public hospital or place provided by Government.

30. Except as provided by these regulations, and except as provided by the Ordinance No. 8 of 1866, it shall not be lawful for any person to remove or assist in removing any person suffering from cholera, small-pox, chicken-pox, or other infectious, contagious, or epidemic disease from the house or place in which such person shall be to any other house or place, without the sanction in writing of the proper authority.

31. It shall be lawful for the proper authority to prohibit the removal from any house or place in which goods are exposed for sale, or from any house or place of public resort, or from any building in which cholera, small-pox, chicken-pox, or other infectious, contagious, or epidemic disease may have occurred, of any articles of merchandise or trade, or goods of any kind, until such time as such building or place is declared to be free from infection by the medical authorities of the town or place in which such building is situated.

Provided that it shall be lawful for the proper authority to permit any goods from an infected house or place in which goods are exposed for sale, or from any house or place of public resort, or from any building in which cholera, small-pox, chicken-pox, or other infectious, contagious, or epidemic disease may have occurred, to be removed to any other locality which the owner or occupier of such building may choose, and to which removal the medical authorities of the town or place do not object.

32. It shall be lawful for the proper authority to prohibit the removal for interment or cremation of corpses of persons who have died of plague, cholera, small-pox, chicken-pox, or other infectious, contagious, or epidemic disease along any particular thoroughfare, and to prescribe the thoroughfares leading to the place of interment or cremation along which such corpses shall be carried, and to direct the disinfection of corpses before removal. Information of such prohibition shall be given by notice in writing under the hand of the proper authority, which shall be posted in two or more conspicuous places in the prohibited thoroughfare and by publication in such other way as may be deemed necessary by such proper authority.

PART II.

Regulations with regard to vessels infected with Plague, or arriving from ports infected with Plague.

1. The following terms shall in the regulations made under this heading (Part II) have the meanings in this section assigned to them:—

The term "infected port" shall mean any port which, by a notification in the *Government Gazette*, is declared to be a port infected with plague.

The term "vessel" shall mean any steamer, sailing ship, buggalow, boat, or native craft.

The term "healthy vessel" shall mean any vessel which, although coming from an infected port, has had no death from plague or a case of plague on board either before departure, during the voyage, or on arrival.

The term "suspected vessel" shall mean any vessel on board of which there has been a case of plague at the time of departure or during the voyage, but on which no fresh case has occurred for twelve days.

The term "infected vessel" shall mean any vessel having any person affected with plague on board, or on board which there has been any person affected with plague within twelve days.

The term "observation" shall mean segregation either on board a vessel or in an isolation camp or place.

2. Whenever any healthy vessel from an infected port shall arrive at any port it shall be the duty of the health officer—

- (a) To medically inspect or cause to be medically inspected the persons on board.
- (b) To disinfect or cause to be disinfected, or direct the person in charge of the vessel to disinfect, the soiled linen of the persons on board and such other effects as may in his opinion be contaminated.
- (c) To watch or cause to be watched the health of the persons on board until ten days shall have elapsed from the day of the departure of the vessel from an infected port.

3. Whenever ten days shall have elapsed from the day of the departure of a healthy vessel from an infected port, the health officer shall, after such inquiries and inspection as he may think necessary, grant such vessel pratique.

4. On the arrival of a healthy vessel within ten days of the day of departure from an infected port the health officer shall permit any passenger to land, after such disinfection as shall seem proper to such officer; provided that such passenger shall inform the Chief Officer of Customs of

the port of landing of his intended place or places of residence, and shall, during the ten days immediately succeeding his landing at any port in Ceylon, daily report himself to such medical officer as the Chief Officer of Customs of the port shall direct. Provided, further, that it shall be lawful for the Principal Collector of Customs to place under observation any person whom he may consider to be in any way likely to carry the infection of the plague for the period necessary to complete ten days from the date of the vessel's departure from the infected port last visited. Members of the crew shall not be allowed to land except when on duty and after such disinfection as may be ordered by the health officer.

5. Every suspected and infected vessel shall, until she shall have obtained pratique, continue and remain at the port of Point de Galle and at no other place. The master of any such vessel shall, upon being thereto directed by the health officer of any port, proceed to the port of Point de Galle, provided however that any such vessel shall be free to put back to sea.

6. The proper authority shall permit the landing of cargo and mails from a healthy vessel and the transshipment of cargo and mails and passengers from a healthy vessel, under such conditions and restrictions as shall appear necessary to such authority.

7. Whenever a suspected vessel shall arrive at the port of Point de Galle it shall be the duty of the health officer—

- (1) To medically inspect or cause to be medically inspected the persons on board.
- (2) To disinfect or cause to be disinfected, or direct the person in charge of the vessel to disinfect, the soiled linen and personal effects of the persons on board.
- (3) To disinfect or cause to be disinfected, or direct the person in charge of the vessel to disinfect, all parts of the vessel in which plague patients may have been located, and, if necessary, to order more thorough disinfection.
- (4) To watch the health of the persons on board until the expiry of ten days from the date of the vessel's arrival at the port.

8. Whenever an infected vessel shall arrive at the port of Point de Galle it shall be the duty of the health officer—

- (1) To medically inspect all persons on board the vessel.
- (2) To watch the health of the persons on board until ten days shall have elapsed from the date of the existence of any case of plague on board the vessel.
- (3) To disinfect or cause to be disinfected, or direct the person in charge of the vessel to disinfect, the soiled linen and effects of the persons on board the vessel.
- (4) To disinfect or cause to be disinfected, or direct the person in charge of the vessel to disinfect, as often as he shall deem necessary, all parts of the vessel in which plague patients may have been located, and to order more thorough disinfection when necessary.

9. The health officer of the port of Point de Galle shall, unless an infected vessel shall immediately put to sea, cause to be removed every person affected with plague from such vessel to some building or vessel set apart as a hospital.

10. No person shall without the permission of the health officer enter or go away from a suspected vessel or infected vessel.

11. The health officer of the port of Point de Galle may permit the removal to a place of observation, after such disinfection as shall seem proper to such officer, from a suspected vessel or infected vessel, of any person, provided that no person shall go away from such place of observation without the written permission of the proper authority, and until ten full days shall have elapsed from the day of such removal.

12. The health officer of the port of Point de Galle may permit the removal to a place of observation from a healthy vessel of any person, provided that no such person shall go away from such place of observation without the written permission of the proper authority, and until ten full days shall have elapsed from the date of departure of such vessel from an infected port.

13. Free pratique shall not be granted to a suspected or infected vessel until all the requirements of these regulations have been complied with; nor, in the case of an infected vessel, until ten days shall have elapsed from the date of the last case of plague which has occurred on board; nor, if the person attacked has been treated on board, until ten days from the death or recovery of such person.

14. It shall be the duty of the master or person in charge of any vessel arriving from an infected port to cause the bilge water to be pumped out after disinfection before the vessel enters the port, and pass fresh sea water over the parts that have been in contact with the bilge water. And in all cases when the vessel is infected or suspected, and in the case of a healthy vessel when ordered to do so by the health officer, to pump out the drinking water after disinfection, and to substitute pure drinking water.

15. It shall be the duty of every officer granting a bill of health to any vessel to set out in such bill of health the inspection and quarantine undergone by such vessel.

16. The landing at any place in this island of the following goods, shipped at an infected port, or transhipped to any vessel from any vessel which shall have conveyed such goods from an infected port, is prohibited:—

- (1) Used body linen, clothes, bedding, and other personal effects.
- (2) Rags, including rags compressed by hydraulic pressure and transported in bales as merchandise.
- (3) Used sacking or bags, carpets, and old embroidery.
- (4) Green and untanned hides and skins.
- (5) Animal refuse, bones crushed or uncrushed, claws, hoofs, horsehair, hair of animals generally, raw silk, and wool.
- (6) Human hair.

17. The transshipment within any port in this island of such prohibited goods from one vessel to another is prohibited.

18. The Principal Officer of Customs at any place at which any landing or transshipment shall take place of such prohibited goods shall, unless the Governor shall otherwise direct, cause the destruction of such goods. The cost of effecting such destruction shall be paid by the owner and consignee of such goods and by the master of the vessel by which such goods were carried. No compensation for such destruction shall be paid to any person.

19. Any vessel having on board any such prohibited goods shall, so long as she shall have any such goods on board, be deemed in quarantine, and such vessel and all persons and goods shall in respect of such vessel be subject to the regulations relating to vessels in quarantine.

20. The foregoing regulations 16, 17, 18 and 19 shall not apply to used body linen, clothes, bedding, and other personal effects, being the personal effects accompanying any person, provided that such personal effects shall have been disinfected to the satisfaction of the health officer.

21. Crowded vessels, vessels carrying emigrants, and vessels which appear to be in an insanitary state may, at the discretion of the health officer, be treated as suspected or healthy vessels.

22. Any mails or cargo that may be brought by any vessel subject to these regulations may be landed under such precautions as the health officer may deem necessary to prevent the spread of the disease.

23. It shall be the duty of the Chief Officer of Customs of the port to facilitate the conveyance to all vessels detained under these regulations of mails and of such supplies of provisions, stores, or other articles as may be required by those on board. Such mails and supplies shall be placed on the boats of the vessel to be subsequently removed by the crew.

24. All vessels arriving at any port of Ceylon which may have communicated with vessels coming from an infected port shall be subjected to the same rules as vessels arriving from an infected port.

PART III.

Plague Regulations relating to Villages and Places outside Municipalities and Local Boards.

The symptoms of plague are fever of recent commencement, violent headache, severe pain in the back and limbs, and lassitude. The glands in the groin, or in the armpit or neck, are generally swollen and tender. Cough and pain in the lungs are frequently observed, and delirium often comes on early in the disease. Death often occurs in two or three days.

2. If in any house a person becomes ill or dies with symptoms similar to those described above, it shall be the duty of the occupier of such house and of every male resident therein above the age of 18 years to report to the headman of the village or, in his absence, to the headman of the adjoining village (1) the illness of any person in such house, or (2) the death of any person in such house, immediately such illness is apparent or death occurs; and any person who shall fail to make such report as is hereby required will be liable, on conviction, to imprisonment for six months and to a fine of Rs. 1,000, under sections 6 and 7 of Ordinance No. 3 of 1897.

3. The headman having satisfied himself by inquiry, but without entering the house, that the case is one of bubonic plague, or that the symptoms are such as give rise to a reasonable suspicion that the case may be one of plague, shall at once station two guards at a distance of about ten yards from the door of the house occupied by the person believed to be suffering from plague, with instructions to prevent persons from entering or leaving the house; and any person who shall enter or leave such house without the sanction of the Government Agent, or Assistant Government Agent, or the Medical Officer will be liable, on conviction, to imprisonment for six months and to a fine of Rs. 1,000, under sections 6 and 7 of Ordinance No. 3 of 1897. He shall also forthwith report the occurrence to—

- (a) The Government Agent or Assistant Government Agent.
- (b) The nearest Government Medical Officer.
- (c) The Police Magistrate.
- (d) The Chief Headman of the district.

4. In case of illness the headman shall select an isolated house, as far as possible removed from other houses in the village, and not less than thirty yards distant from any other residence, and shall require the occupants of such house to vacate it within six hours of notice given, and shall make arrangements for the transfer thereto of the sick person. He shall also notify to the owners or occupants of such house that they will be paid compensation at the rate of Rs. 5 per diem for so long as the house may be required for plague purposes. Should the owner or occupier of any such house fail or refuse to give up possession when required, he will be liable, under sections 6 and 7 of the Ordinance No. 3 of 1897, to imprisonment for six months and to a fine of Rs. 1,000.
5. On the house being vacated the person believed to be suffering from plague may be removed thereto with such of his friends and relatives or occupants of his residence as may have been in attendance on him, but this removal must not take place before the arrival on the scene of the chief headman of the district, the Government Agent, the Assistant Government Agent, or the Medical Officer.
6. The headman shall prepare a list of all persons who may have been in the house occupied by the sick person for any considerable time during the preceding week.
7. The headman must arrange to supply the inmates of the infected house with food, fuel, and all other reasonable requirements, the articles required being deposited at a distance of about twenty yards from the house, and one of the inmates being called to remove them to the house. The vessels, mats, or leaves in which the articles are delivered shall be destroyed by the person in charge of the house. No articles of any kind shall be allowed to be removed from the infected house before the arrival of the chief headman of the district, the Government Agent, the Assistant Government Agent, or the Medical Officer.
8. In case of death the headman shall have a grave dug at least 6 feet in depth, but the corpse shall not be buried till the arrival of the chief headman of the district, the Government Agent, the Assistant Government Agent, or the Medical Officer. The place of burial shall be isolated, well away from habitations and sources of water-supply.
9. The chief headman of the district, or the Medical Officer, or the Government Agent, or the Assistant Government Agent may, for the purposes of these regulations, enter upon any lands or demand the use of any cart, horses, or bullocks; and any person opposing such entry or refusing to comply with such demand will be liable, under sections 6 and 7 of the Ordinance No. 3 of 1897, to imprisonment for six months and to a fine of Rs. 1,000.
10. The headman, when he has reason to believe that a case of plague has occurred in his village, shall immediately send word to the headman of surrounding villages, directing them to prohibit the inhabitants of their villages from entering or having dealings with the infected village, and to impress upon their villagers the danger of allowing residents in the infected village to enter other villages. No person shall communicate with the infected village till the disease has completely disappeared. Any person acting contrary to this regulation will be liable, on conviction, to imprisonment for six months and to a fine of Rs. 1,000 under sections 6 and 7 of the Ordinance No. 3 of 1897.
11. Whenever deaths in any village are more numerous than usual, and especially sudden deaths attributed to fever, or when there occurs unusual sickness accompanied by fever, the headman of the village shall make a special report of the same to the chief headman of the district or to the Government Agent without delay.
12. Every headman shall report any excessive mortality or sickness among rats or monkeys that may come to his notice.
13. Registrars shall also make careful inquiry in the case of all deaths attributed to fever to ascertain whether other symptoms of plague, more particularly whether buboes or swellings in the groin or armpit were present, and shall note on the death register whether or not such inquiry has been made. In the event of his being informed of the presence of these symptoms, the Registrar shall at once report the matter to the nearest Medical Officer, to the Government Agent, or the Assistant Government Agent direct, and to the chief headman of the district.
14. The Government Agent or Assistant Government Agent, on receiving a report of the existence of a case of plague or suspected plague in any village, shall forward a copy thereof to the Principal Civil Medical Officer, and shall himself proceed, with as little delay as possible to the spot, taking with him a Medical Officer unless the latter shall have preceded him.
- On arrival the Government Agent or Assistant Agent will assume entire control and responsibility, being guided, as far as possible, by the advice of the Medical Officer, and shall make the best arrangements that the circumstances will permit for dealing with the case on the lines approved by Government. But should the Principal Civil Medical Officer be present he will assume the control of all operations and make such arrangements as circumstances may appear to require.

15. The Government Agent or Assistant Government Agent shall be authorized to issue such orders as he may consider necessary in the circumstances to officers of the public service, and all such officers shall be held responsible for the prompt and satisfactory execution of the orders so issued. The Government Agent or Assistant Government Agent may issue his orders to the officer directly and not through heads of departments. Such necessary expenditure as the Government Agent or Assistant Government Agent may incur in the carrying out of the measures directed by him shall be drawn on personal vouchers, to be supported subsequently by under receipts when such are readily obtainable, or by certificates on honour when receipts are not procurable.

16. On receiving a report of the occurrence of a case of plague or suspected plague the Medical Officer and (or) the chief headman of the district shall forward copies immediately to the Principal Civil Medical Officer and to the Government Agent or Assistant Government Agent, together with a report stating what action has been taken and what is proposed to be taken. In forwarding their reports the Medical Officer and the chief headman must make use of the most expeditious means at their command. If a letter sent by special messenger would arrive more quickly than by post, the former mode of despatch must be used; but when possible the telegraph should be employed in preference to either post or messenger, the telegraphic message sent being as full and complete as a written report.

17. Pending the arrival of the Government Agent or Assistant Government Agent, the Medical Officer shall take charge of the operations, and, pending the arrival of the Medical Officer, the chief headman of the district. These officers shall, while so occupied, have powers and duties similar to those of the Government Agent.

The chief headman shall not, except upon orders from the Government Agent or Assistant Government Agent, allow the removal of a patient or the burial of a corpse before the arrival of the Medical Officer, who will prescribe the measures to be adopted.

18. Whenever a report is made to the Police Magistrate he will forthwith send copies thereof to the Principal Civil Medical Officer and to the Government Agent or Assistant Government Agent, and shall satisfy himself by personal inquiry that the Medical Officer has started for the place where the case is reported as having occurred, or shall require him to start immediately and shall see that he does so.

Should the Medical Officer be absent from the station the Police Magistrate shall communicate by telegraph with the Government Agent or the Assistant Government Agent and the Principal Civil Medical Officer till such time as he shall have received an assurance that a Medical Officer has started.

Regulations applicable to Estates.

The duties imposed on headmen in the case of villages shall, in the case of estates, devolve on superintendents, assistant superintendents, managers, conductors and (or) other persons in actual charge of the estates.

The chief headman of the district shall, on receiving a report of the occurrence of a case of plague or suspected plague, at once make arrangements for placing at the disposal of the Medical Officer such supplies and materials as are likely to be wanted. He will also assemble the headmen of the neighbourhood and be in readiness to furnish whatever help may be required. He will not, however, take any active steps unless requested to do so by the superintendent or other person in charge, to whom he must furnish all reasonable assistance.

The duties of the Government Agent and of the Medical Officer are the same with respect to estates as to villages.

N.B.—The penalty under sections 6 and 7 of Ordinance No. 3 of 1897 for breach of any of these regulations is imprisonment for a period of six months or a fine of Rs. 1,000, or both.

The penalty for obstructing or impeding any police officer (including village headman) in the execution of any provision of the ordinance or of any regulation made thereunder is imprisonment for a period of six months or a fine of Rs. 1,000, or both. (See sections 6, 7 and 8 of Ordinance No. 3 of 1897.)

By His Excellency's command,

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Colombo, 19th November 1898.

E. NOEL WALKER,
Colonial Secretary.

No. 286 P.

Transferred to the Public Works (Marine) Department.

17th December 1898.

(Signed) H. TREMENHEERE,
Secretary to Government.

Ce 310

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No. 1054, MARINE, 22ND DECEMBER 1898.

ORDER—No. 1054, Marine, 22nd December 1898.

Ordered to be published in the Fort St. George and Maritime District Gazettes.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) W. B. DEWINTON,
Secretary to Government.

gE

To the Presidency Port Officer.
" Superintendent, Government Press.
" Collectors, Maritime Districts.
" Local and Municipal Department.
" Public Department.
" Political Department.

Local and Municipal Dept

Order No. 30. P. M. dated 5th January 1899

Recorded.
(True Extract.)

A Edgington

For Secretary to Govt.

Copy to the Plague Commissioner
Sanitary Commissioner
Surgeon. Quessa C
President Municipal Commission
Madras.

Exd. W. D'Moss

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