[L. & M. 1,000—16-5-99]

Local & Munl. (1899) Department.

Plague.

MISCELLANEOUS.

G.O., No. 1230

DATED 11-8-99

[Despatch Abstract.]

Venice Sanitary Convention

Recording £o Marine dept. recording letter From the Govt of India stating what Governments and Colonies have adhered to 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.

Local & Munl. (1899) Department.

CURRENT No. 2243

TRANSMIT ONLY TO BOMBAY
2 AUG 1899
MUNL FOR & LEG DEPT

From The Marine Deptt.

Order No 1230 Dated 8-11-8-99.

Recorded

4. Aug. 99.

No. 607 Mar.

Lims 4/8/99

Dated 3rd July 1899.

Received at Delhi 2-8-99
at Bombay 4-8-99

Registered 4-8-99.

Enclosures 3

Spare copies

1st J 7/8/99

SUBJECT.

Venice Sanitary Convention.

Recording letter from the Govt of India (Home Deptt) intimating that certain colonies have signified their willingness to adhere to the — of 1897.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Marine

~~Public Works~~ Department.

a/c 2244 A

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following

Letter from the Government of India, Home Department, No. 1904, dated 12th June 1899.

x copy attached

Order thereon: No. 607 Marine, dated 3rd July 1899.

Recorded.

(True Extract)

for Secretary to Govt.

To

The Presidency Port Officer.

" Local and Municipal Department ✓

With a copy of papers.

Ex 14/7

P. W. 40.
1,000—6-5-99.

No. 1904

FROM

A. H. L. FRASER, Esq., C.S.I.,
Offg. Secretary to the Government of India,

TO

The Secretary to the Government of Madras,
Local & Municipal Department.

Home Department.
Sanitary—Plague.

Simla, the 12th June 1899.

SIR,

I AM directed to state, for the information of *the Governor in Council* ——— that the Government of India have received intimation that the colonies of the Strait Settlements, the Cape of Good Hope, Newfoundland, Western Australia, Jamaica, the Leeward Islands, St. Helena, and the Gold Coast have signified their willingness to adhere to the Venice Sanitary Convention, 1897; and that the colonies of New South Wales, Australia, Victoria, Natal and Queensland have not consented to become parties to it. The Servian Government has also declined to accept the Convention.

Despatch to the Secretary of State, No. 29, dated the 23rd December 1897, and enclosures.
Despatch from the Secretary of State, No. 1 (Revenue), dated the 5th January 1899, and enclosures.

2. I am at the same time to forward a copy of the correspondence with the Secretary of State noted in the margin regarding the adhesion of Colonial and Foreign Governments to the Venice Convention.

I have the honour to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient Servant,

A. H. L. FRASER,

Offg. Secretary to the Government of India.

G. C. Press, Simla,—No. 753 H. D.—9 6-99—184.

C. 2080 P.
S.E 1/
Ind 1032/98

No. 1 (Revenue), dated India Office, London, the 5th January 1899.

From—The Right Honourable Lord GEORGE FRANCIS HAMILTON, Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India.

To—His Excellency the Right Honourable the GOVERNOR GENERAL of India in Council.

With reference to your letter No. 29, Home (Sanitary), dated 23rd December 1897, I forward, for the information of Your Excellency, a copy of the correspondence noted in the margin, showing the extent to which certain Colonies are prepared to conform to the principles and terms of the Venice Convention of 1897.

From Colonial Office, dated 6th September 1898, and enclosures.
To Colonial Office, dated 6th October 1898.
From Colonial Office, dated 12th December 1898, and enclosures.

ENCLOSURES.

No. 1.

No. 8773-98. Colonial Office, Downing Street,

Sir, 6th September 1898.

I am directed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies to transmit to you, for the information of Lord George Hamilton, with reference to the letter from your Department of the 25th of January last (R. and S. 58), a copy of the Despatches noted in the subjoined schedule on the subject of the Venice Sanitary Convention.

I am, etc.,

The Under Secretary of State for India. EDWARD WINGFIELD.

SCHEDULE.

Date.	Description.
31st August 1898	To the Governors of Ceylon, Hong Kong, and the Straits Settlements.

Enclosure 1 in No. 1.

Ceylon, No. 256. Downing Street,

Sir, 31st August 1898.

I have had under my consideration your Despatch No. 282 of the 13th August 1897, regarding the proposed adherence of Ceylon to the Venice Sanitary Convention.

2. You inform me that your Government is willing to observe the Convention generally, but you regard as insufficient or inapplicable to Ceylon—

(*a*) those provisions of the Convention which limit the definition of an infected area, and

(*b*) those which refer to the substitution of "surveillance" for the quarantining or "observation" of persons disembarked from infected vessels.

3. With regard to (*a*), I understand that the Ceylon Quarantine Regulations have already been amended so as to conform with the terms of the Convention in this respect.

4. With regard to (*b*), I have to enclose, for your information, copy of a letter* from the Foreign Office on the subject of Ceylon's becoming a party to the Convention, and I must point out that in that event it is eminently desirable that your Government should adhere strictly to its terms, and should, if possible, arrange for the surveillance of persons disembarked from infected ships, for, if the Government of a British Colony should act on the principle that the observance of section 8 of Chapter II of the Convention is not compulsory, the precedent thus created might be utilized by some foreign European Power, such as Russia, which is a signatory to the Convention, to claim all the privileges conferred by the Convention in the ports of arrival of all other signatory Powers, and at the same time to claim exemption from the requirement that she should herself observe the regulations laid down in the Convention as regards vessels leaving her infected ports in Europe.

* Foreign Office, dated 8th January 1898.

5. I trust that, after consideration of this Despatch, your Government may express its willingness to give complete adherence to the terms of the Convention when it is ratified by Her Majesty's Government.

6. I shall be glad if you will forward to me at your convenience copies of the complete set of the revised Quarantine Regulations now in force in Ceylon.

I have, etc.,

J. CHAMBERLAIN.

Governor the Right Honourable
Sir J. West Ridgeway, K.C.B., K.C.S.I.,
etc., etc., etc.

Enclosure 2 in No. 1.

Hong Kong, No. 223. Downing Street,
31st August 1898.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch No. 86 of the 23rd March, enclosing a copy of a report by the Principal Civil Medical Officer regarding the precautionary measures adopted in Hong Kong against arrivals from localities in which plague exists, together with copies of the Quarantine Regulations in force in the Colony.

2. In the event of the Colony's becoming a party to the Convention, it is eminently desirable that it should strictly adhere to its terms, and should, if possible, provide for the surveillance or observation of persons disembarked from infectious vessels, for, if the Government of a British Colony should act on the principle that the observance of section 8 of Chapter II of the Convention is not compulsory, the precedent thus created might be utilized by some foreign European Power, such as Russia, which is a signatory to the Convention, to claim all the privileges conferred by the Convention in the ports of arrival of all other signatory Powers, and at the same time to claim exemption from the requirement that she should herself observe the regulations laid down in the Convention as regards vessels leaving her infected ports in Europe.

3. I trust that, after consideration of this Despatch, your Government may express itself as willing to give complete adherence to the terms of the Convention, when it is ratified by Her Majesty's Government.

I have, etc.,

J. CHAMBERLAIN.

The Officer Administering the Government
of Hong Kong.

Enclosure 3 in No. 1.

Straits Settlements, No. 187. Downing Street,
31st August 1898.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Mr. Kynnersley's Despatch No. 33 of the 8th February last, reporting the precautions against plague which have been taken in the Straits Settlements.

2. You will have learned from my Circular Despatch of the 24th May 1897 that Her Majesty's Government agreed on behalf of the Government of the Straits Settlements that the Venice Convention should, after its ratification by this country, apply at once to the Colony.

3. I enclose, for your information, copy of a Despatch* which I have addressed to the Officer Administering the Government of Hong Kong, stating my views as to the general duties of a British Dependency which accepts the Convention.

* To the Officer Administering the Government of Hong Kong, 31st August 1898.

4. In regard to the general question, I have to observe, as regards the Straits Settlements, that the practice of your Government in treating the whole west coast of India as infected seems to go beyond the necessity of the case and beyond the spirit of the Convention, although the Convention is not clear as to the definition of an infected area.

I have, etc.,

J. CHAMBERLAIN.

The Officer Administering the Government
of the Straits Settlements.

No. 2.

R. and S. 2113. India Office,
6th October 1898.

Sir,

With reference to your letter of 6th September, reporting, for the information of Lord George Hamilton, the instructions which have been sent to the Governors of Ceylon, Hong Kong, and the Straits Settlements as to the strict observance in those Colonies of the terms of the Venice Convention, I am directed to ask whether similar instructions were sent to Malta, Gibraltar, Cyprus and Natal, whose action was also complained of by the Government of India in the Despatch of which a copy accompanied the letter to you of 25th January last.

I am also to inquire whether replies have been received from any of the Colonies to which representations have been made.

I have, etc.,

C. E. BERNARD.

The Under Secretary of State,
Colonial Office.

No. 3.

No. 22456-98.

Colonial Office, Downing Street,
12th December 1898.

Sir,

In reply to your letter R. and S. No. 2113 of the 6th October, inquiring as to the instructions sent to Malta, Gibraltar, Cyprus and Natal in regard to the Venice Sanitary Convention, I am directed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies to transmit to you, for the information of the Secretary of State for India, a copy of the Circular Despatch which was sent to the Governors of Malta, Gibraltar, Natal (as well as to the Governors of other Colonies) on the 24th May 1897, together with copies of the separate Despatch which was sent to the High Commissioner of Cyprus on the 21st May 1897, and of the further Despatches which were sent to the Governors of Malta and Gibraltar on the 24th May 1897.

2. I am also to enclose copies of the replies to those Despatches which were received from the Governors of Malta, Gibraltar and Natal and of the subsequent correspondence which has passed between this Department and the Governor of Malta.

3. I am to add that no reply has yet been received from the High Commissioner of Cyprus to the Despatch which was addressed to him.

I am, etc.,
EDWARD WINGFIELD.

The Under Secretary of State
for India.

Enclosure 1 in No. 3.

Downing Street,
24th May 1897.

Sir,

I have the honour to transmit to you, for your consideration, a copy of the Report* of the British Delegates on the proceedings of the International Sanitary Conference which was held at Venice in February and March last, together with a copy of the Convention.

* Report, 31st March 1897. Convention.

Her Majesty's Government have agreed that the Convention shall, after ratification, apply at once to India and the Straits Settlements, but not to any other British Colony or Possession, unless its adhesion is notified to the Italian Government within a year from the date of ratification, which will probably take place shortly.

Her Majesty's Government hope, however, that the Colonies generally will adhere to the Convention, and I shall be glad to learn, at an early date, whether the Colony under your Government is willing to become a party to it.

I have, etc.,
J. CHAMBERLAIN.

The Officer Administering
the Government of .

Enclosure 2 in No. 3.

Cyprus, General.

Downing Street,
21st May 1897.

Sir,

I have the honour to transmit to you, for your consideration, a copy of the Report† of the British Delegates on the proceedings of the International Sanitary Conference which was held at Venice, together with a copy of the Convention.

† Report, 31st March 1897. Convention.

Her Majesty's Government have agreed that the Convention shall, after ratification, apply at once to India and the Straits Settlements, but not to any other British Colony or Possession, unless its adhesion is notified to the Italian Government within a year from the date of ratification, which will probably take place shortly.

I have to draw your attention to the paragraph in the British Delegates' Report respecting the 4th declaration formulated by the Conference on the subject of the preventive measures to be adopted against plague in the British Colonies in the Mediterranean, and to state that I shall be glad to be furnished with your views as to the desirability of Cyprus becoming a party to the Convention.

I may mention, however, that the Delegates of Turkey have signed the Convention only *ad referendum*.

I have, etc.,
J. CHAMBERLAIN.

High Commissioner,
Sir W. J. Sendall, K.C.M.G.,
etc., etc.

Enclosure 3 in No. 3.

Malta (Confidential), General.

Downing Street,
24th May 1897.

Sir,

With reference to my Circular Despatch of the 24th instant and to previous correspondence respecting the proceedings of the International Sanitary Conference recently held at Venice, I have the honour to draw your attention to the paragraphs in the British Delegates' Report respecting the 4th declaration made at the last sitting of the Conference, urging that the preventive measures adopted against the plague by the Mediterranean Colonies should be in accordance with the Resolutions (16, 23) embodied in the Convention, and to observe that the conclusions arrived at by the Conference confirm the view expressed in my Confidential Despatch of the 26th January last as to the unnecessary stringency of the restrictions which have been imposed in Malta.

I have, etc.,
J. CHAMBERLAIN.

Governor Sir A. J. Lyon Fremantle, K.C.M.G., C.B.,
etc., etc., etc.

Enclosure 4 in No. 3.

Gibraltar, General.

Downing Street,
24th May 1897.

Sir,

With reference to my Circular Despatch of 24th instant, respecting the proceedings of the International Sanitary Conference recently held at Venice, I have the honour to draw your attention to the paragraphs in the British Delegates' Report respecting the 4th declaration on the subject of the preventive measures to be adopted against the plague by the British Colonies in the Mediterranean, and to inform you that, as the Delegates of Spain have signed the Convention *ad referendum*, I am of opinion that, if that country adheres to the Convention, it would be desirable that Gibraltar should likewise adhere to it.

I have, etc.,
J. CHAMBERLAIN.

Governor Sir R. Biddulph, R.A., G.C.M.G.,
etc., etc., etc.

Enclosure 5 in No. 3.

Malta, No. 8. The Palace, Valletta,
14th January 1898.

Sir,

I have the honour to state, with reference to your Circular Despatch of the 24th May 1897, that this Government has carefully considered the provisions of the Convention agreed to at the International Sanitary Conference held in Venice last year.

2. I am causing every effort to be made on every occasion that presents itself to so revise the standing notices on quarantine as to approach gradually to the principles and precepts of the Venice Conference.

3. I am, however, satisfied that, for the present, my Government is not in a position to accept the Convention in its entirety.

I have, etc.,
ARTHUR LYON FREMANTLE,
Governor.

The Right Hon. J. Chamberlain, M.P.,
etc., etc., etc.

Enclosure 6 in No. 3.

No. 85. Gibraltar,
29th June 1897.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt, on the 16th instant, of your Circular Despatch of the 24th ultimo, forwarding a report of the proceedings of the International Sanitary Conference recently held at Venice, and a copy of the Convention there agreed to with respect to the preventive measures to be adopted against the plague.

2. I had already received, on the 31st ultimo, your Despatch, General, also of the 24th ultimo, pointing out that, as the Delegates of Spain have signed the Convention *ad referendum*, it would be desirable, if Spain adheres to the Convention, that Gibraltar should likewise adhere to it.

3. As soon as notice has been received that Spain adheres to the Convention, there could be no objection to the relaxation in Gibraltar of restrictions which have been adopted, chiefly, as pointed out in my Despatch No. 17 of the 5th February last, to avert the risk of quarantine being established by Spain against Gibraltar. Vessels, such as those described as "indemnes" in Chapter 2, Titre VIII, of the Convention, would then be admitted to free pratique, but it is not possible to provide in Gibraltar for the treatment of either "infected" or "suspected" vessels, as there are here no means whatever of applying the measures provided for by the Convention.

4. In the lengthy correspondence which took place between 1878 and 1884, and which is referred to in my Despatch above quoted, the question of establishing a quarantine station in the Bay of Gibraltar was fully gone into, and the idea was finally abandoned. It is still less possible to establish a quarantine station on shore, or to receive suspected persons.

5. While, therefore, the Government of Gibraltar is prepared to follow as far as possible the course proposed by the Convention, it will not be possible to adhere to it in the sense of providing for the treatment of infected or suspected vessels or passengers, or to fulfil the condition laid down in the last paragraph but one of Chapter 2, Titre VIII (p. 34), which provides that every country adhering to the Convention shall establish at least one station (organization) with

sufficient appliances to deal with a vessel, whatever may be her sanitary condition.

I have, etc.,
ROBERT BIDDULPH,
General and Governor.

The Right Hon. J. Chamberlain, M.P.,
etc., etc., etc.

Enclosure 7 in No. 3.

Government House,
Pietermaritzburg, Natal,
17th February 1898.

Natal, No. 19.

Sir,

With reference to your Circular Despatch of 24th May last, I have the honour to transmit a copy of a Minute from my Ministers, in which they state that they have decided that, for the present at any rate, this Colony should not adhere to the Convention agreed to by the International Sanitary Conference held at Venice.

I have, etc.,
WALTER HELY HUTCHINSON.

The Right Hon. J. Chamberlain, M.P.,
etc., etc., etc.

Enclosure in above.

Ministers to Governor.

Prime Minister's Office, Natal,
Pietermaritzburg, 16th February 1898.

Minute No. 5.

With reference to the Circular Despatch of the 24th May last, from the Secretary of State, on the subject of the Convention agreed to by the International Sanitary Conference held at Venice, Ministers have the honour to inform His Excellency that they have given very careful consideration to this matter, and have decided that, for the present at any rate, this Colony should not adhere to the Convention.

Ministers desire to say that in arriving at this decision they have been influenced by the feeling that at the present time, when the introduction of indentured immigrants from India is going on to so large an extent, and when the utmost care has also to be exercised in connection with the working of the Immigration Restriction Act of last year, it would be undesirable to introduce any important alteration with regard to the Quarantine Regulations in force at the port of this Colony.

HENRY BINNS,
Prime Minister.

Enclosure 8 in No. 3.

Downing Street,
4th April 1898.

Malta, No. 24.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch No. 8 of the 14th of January last, and to inform you that the Convention agreed to at the International Sanitary Conference held at Venice last year has not yet been ratified, but that it will probably be ratified very soon, and that I still hope that within the time allowed

for notifying adhesion, your Government may be able to become a party to the Convention.

I have, etc.,
J. CHAMBERLAIN.

Governor Sir A. Fremantle, K.C.M.G., C.B.,
etc., etc., etc.

Enclosure 9 in No. 3.

Malta, No. 35. The Palace, Valletta,
15th April 1898.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch No. 8 of the 14th of January, and to acquaint you that, although a great deal has been done and is in progress with a view to the modification of the quarantine system in Malta, in order that it may be made to conform, as far as possible, with the recommendations of the International Sanitary Conference held in Venice last year, my Government has, after carefully considering all the bearings of the question, arrived at the conclusion that it is not possible as yet for Malta to become a party to the Convention.

I have, etc.,
ARTHUR LYON FREMANTLE,
Governor.

The Right Hon. J. Chamberlain, M.P.,
etc., etc., etc.

Enclosure 10 in No. 3.

Malta (Confidential). The Palace, Valletta,
15th April 1898.

Sir,

With reference to my Despatch No. 35 of this date, I have the honour to bring to your notice that there appears to me to be a very strong reason why Malta should not, as yet, become a party to the Convention of the Venice Sanitary Conference, namely, the circumstance that many thousands of Maltese British subjects have emigrated to Egypt, the north coast of Africa, and other countries bordering the Mediterranean. These are, as a rule, proud of their British nationality, and they do all in their power to maintain in favour of themselves and their children the status and privileges of British subjects.

2. In case of an outbreak of plague in Egypt or the north coast of Africa, or (as was the case during the bombardment of Alexandria) in case of war, famine or any such unusual emergency, these Maltese British subjects may be expected to suddenly flock back to Malta in thousands, under conditions which must certainly be productive of disease, or of the importation of diseases from other countries.

3. The contingency above referred to can, in my opinion, be only met by quarantine regulations, and viewing the position of Malta as a fortress, I think it advisable to maintain these powers at the disposal of the Commander-in-Chief, in order to lessen the disastrous consequences of the possible importation of disease, by thousands of British subjects endeavouring to return to Malta on the appearance of war or plague in Egypt, or on the northern coast of Africa.

I have, etc.,
ARTHUR LYON FREMANTLE,
Governor.

The Right Hon. J. Chamberlain, M.P.,
etc., etc., etc.

NO ORDERS.

G. I. C. P. O.—No. 204 H. D.—19-7-99.—25.—G. R.

No. 29 OF 1897.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

HOME DEPARTMENT.

SANITARY.

TO THE RIGHT HONOURABLE LORD GEORGE FRANCIS HAMILTON,
Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India.

Calcutta, the 23rd December 1897.

MY LORD,

We have the honour to address Your Lordship regarding the ratification of the Venice Convention of 1897 by Foreign Governments, and the restrictive regulations imposed in foreign countries against travellers and merchandize arriving from India.

2. It is stated in the letter from the delegates of Her Majesty's Government to the Marquess of Salisbury of the 31st March 1897 that the representatives of the following eighteen Governments signed the convention:—Germany, Austria-Hungary, Belgium, Spain, France, Great Britain, Greece, Italy, Luxemburg, Montenegro, Turkey, The Netherlands Persia, Portugal, Roumania, Russia, Servia and Switzerland. The signatures of the German and Russian representatives were associated with certain restrictions, which in the case of Germany have since been removed. We should be glad to learn which, if any, of the signatory powers have now formally ratified the convention.

3. A statement has been compiled in our Home Department from the information sent from time to time by Your Lordship, from notifications published in the *London Gazette*, and from other sources, of the regulations for the control of trade and intercourse with India which have been issued by foreign Governments. A copy of the statement is appended to this Despatch. The information contained in it appears to us to be probably in some cases incomplete and out of date. It shows that the restrictions imposed by several of the signatory powers are much more stringent than is authorized by the Convention.

4. According to the information contained in the statement, only France, Belgium, Italy and Switzerland have issued regulations based on, and conforming

to, the Venice Convention. The Egyptian Quarantine Board have also issued provisional regulations which follow those prescribed in the Convention for vessels passing through the Egyptian Canal or seeking free pratique in Egypt. In Austria the list of prohibited articles does not go beyond the Convention, and in Germany it is even more restricted; but in both cases the restrictions apply to the whole of India instead of being confined to the infected area. The Convention was not signed by representatives of Bulgaria, and the regulations imposed in that country are more stringent than the regulations of the Convention. In Greece the list of prohibited articles is wider than that authorized in Chapter II of the Convention Regulations, and includes postal packets. In Holland ten days' quarantine was imposed in February 1897 and, in so far as we are aware, that quarantine has not been withdrawn or modified. In Norway (which is not one of the signatory powers) cargo can only be landed in quarantine. In both Spain and Portugal the regulations are much stricter than the Convention allows. In Russia the restrictions with regard to the importation of merchandize are within the Convention, but ten days' quarantine against arrivals from India was at one time imposed, and so far as our information goes, has not been withdrawn. In the Turkish Empire the rules appear to differ in different localities. At one time fifteen days' quarantine was universally imposed against all arrivals from India. In Asiatic Turkey this regulation was relexed, but we have not received information that a similar relaxation has been permitted in Turkey in Europe.

5. We shall be obliged if Your Lordship will supplement this information, wherever it may be incomplete or inaccurate, by any later information of which we are not in possession. It appears to us to be desirable to issue as soon as possible, a complete statement of the regulations for the control of commerce with India for the information of the mercantile public in this country.

6. We desire in especial to invite Your Lordship's attention to the treatment accorded to arrivals from India in British Colonies, both in the Mediterranean and in other parts of the world. The information which we possess upon the subject of the regulations in force in the different Colonies is not complete, but it shows that they are in many instances more severe than those which have been imposed in foreign countries. For instance the regulations issued at Malta in May 1897 required passengers who had been in Bombay or Karachi within thirty days to be detained in the lazaretto for a period of not less than seven days from the date of disinfection, and sufficient to complete a period of thirty days from the date of departure. Revised regulations issued at Malta early in November last require passengers from Bombay and Karachi to be detained for eight days in one of the quarantine establishments. These regulations are not only opposed to the provisions of the Convention with regard to the treatment of arrivals from infected ports, but go beyond the precautions permitted by the Convention in

imposing any restrictions against arrivals from Karachi, which it was stated in our telegram No. 2019, dated the 21st August 1897, is now a healthy port within the meaning of the Convention. The importation of cotton seed from infected ports was also forbidden by these regulations. The rules at Gibraltar as relaxed in April and May forbid communication with the shore to vessels from infected ports except for the purpose of landing mails and specie, and taking in coal and provisions. The rules issued at Cyprus in February 1897 impose fifteen days' quarantine against arrivals from Indian ports. In December 1896 fifteen days' quarantine was imposed at Natal against arrivals from Bombay. The Agent of the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company at Bombay writing in the month of September 1897 stated that he was unable to book any passages to the Australian Colonies in view of the stringent regulations imposed by the Colonial Governments.

7. A copy of recent correspondence with the Government of Ceylon is appended to this Despatch. The Colonial Government has expressed its willingness to be guided by the Convention, but states that it is not prepared to adhere formally to it and thus surrender the right, should the necessity for exercising it arise, of adopting precautions in excess of those authorized by the Convention. The Colonial Government published two sets of revised Quarantine rules on the 20th and 21st September respectively. The rules issued on the 20th September are of general application and the rules issued on the 21st prescribe the treatment at present to be accorded to arrivals from Bombay. The second set of rules is drawn up in conformity to the Venice Convention, but the first set in several respects goes beyond the rules laid down by the Convention, and violates the principles on which they are based. Thus rule 3 of the rules of the 20th September prohibits the landing of any person from a ship infected as described in the rules "save by the order in writing of the proper authority"; whereas under section VIII of Chapter II of the Convention people should not be kept on board, but should be disembarked and treated as in rules 1 and 2 of section VIII. Again rules 6 and 17 provide for a maximum period of detention in quarantine for 30 days from the date of the last case of the disease, while under the Convention the maximum period of segregation prescribed is ten days. There do not appear to us to be any sufficient reason why the Government of Ceylon should reserve to itself the power of imposing precautions beyond those which the Venice Convention regards as sufficient for the protection of a country against arrivals from an infected area, or of a description which is condemned by the Convention. The considerable trade between India and Ceylon renders it of special importance that the Colonial Government should not impose unnecessary restrictions against communication between the two countries, and we would therefore suggest that the Colonial Government should be again urged to adhere to the

Convention. We should also be glad to learn how far the regulations of other Colonies of Great Britain have been modified in consequence of the adoption of the Venice Convention and would urge upon Your Lordship the extreme importance of endeavouring to ensure that the trade of India shall not be subjected in British Colonies to regulations more severe than those which can be imposed by foreign Governments which ratify the Convention.

We have the honour to be,

MY LORD,

Your Lordship's most obedient, humble Servants,

ELGIN.

G. S. WHITE.

J. WESTLAND.

M. D. CHALMERS.

E. H. H. COLLEN.

A. C. TREVOR.

C. M. RIVAZ.

LIST OF ENCLOSURES.

1. Summary of Regulations against arrivals from India enforced in other countries.
2. Letter from the Colonial Secretary, Ceylon, dated the 29th September 1897, and enclosures.
3. Letter to the Colonial Secretary, Ceylon, No. 2406, dated the 31st October 1897.
4. Letter from the Colonial Secretary, Ceylon, dated the 2nd December 1897, and enclosures (with the exception of (i) Enclosure in No. 3, (ii) Enclosure Nos. 1 and 2 in No. 5, and (iii) Enclosure in No. 6, which are not printed).

Enclosure No. 1.

Summary of Regulations against arrivals from India enforced in other countries.

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Goa	24	Switzerland	10
Greece	18	Tunis	29
Holland	11	Turkey	19
Italy	3	Turkish Arabia	20
Madagascar	31	United Kingdom	1
Malta	5	United States of America	34
Morocco	28	Zanzibar	30
Muscat	22		

* Date of Regulation.	Purport of Regulation.
	EUROPE.
	(1) United Kingdom.
November 9th, 1896 .	Arrivals from Indian infected ports were treated under the "General Regulations as to Cholera, Yellow Fever and Plague" issued by the Local Government Board on the 9th November 1896. The following is the purport of these Regulations :— The customs-officer shall visit the ship, and if he suspects that the ship is infected or has come from an infected place, he shall require the master or surgeon to state whether there has been any case or supected case of plague, etc., on board. If he finds or has reason to suspect that the ship is infected, he shall detain the ship and inform the sanitary authority of the port. Sanitary authorities of ports shall fix moorings for infected ships and make provision for the reception of persons suffering from plague, etc. On receiving notice from the customs-officer the sanitary authority shall cause the ship to be inspected by the Medical Officer of Health. The Medical Officer of Health may also examine any ship which he has reason to suspect to be infected or to come from an infected port. The detention by the customs-officer shall cease as soon as the vessel has been examined by the medical officer, or if the ship is infected, as soon as she is anchored at the mooring appointed for infected ships. If the medical officer finds the ship to be infected, he shall give a certificate to that effect, and the master shall then moor the ship at the appointed anchorage. No one shall then leave the ship until the detailed examination is completed. The medical officer shall examine every person on board, and if he finds or suspects any one to be suffering from plague, etc., shall give a cirtificate to that effect with respect to such person. Any person certified to be suffering from plague, etc., shall, if his condition admit of it, be removed to a hospital or other suitable place appointed for the purpose, there to remain until certified free from the disease. If he cannot be moved, the ship shall remain subject to the control of the medical officer, and the person shall be detained on board until the medical officer grants permission for his disembarkation. Any person certified to be suffering from illness which may be plague, etc., shall be detained on board or on shore for two days, and if found to be suffering from plague, etc., shall be treated in the manner stated above. No other person shall be allowed to land from the ship until he has satisfied the medical officer as to his name, intended place of destination and intended address. These particulars shall be communicated to the local authority of the place in which the intended destination is situated. Any person thus permitted to land who within forty-eight hours after landing arrives at any address other than that communicated to the medical officer shall immediately report his address to the local authorities. The medical officer shall give such other directions and take such other steps as may appear to him to be necessary to prevent the spread of infection from the ship. If any death from plague, etc., occurs on board whilst the ship is detained, the body shall be disposed of according to the prescribed directions. The clothing, bedding and other articles of personal use likely to retain infection belonging to sufferers from plague, etc., shall be disinfected or destroyed. The master shall cause the ship to be disinfected, and articles that may probably be infected (other than those mentioned above) to be disinfected, or destroyed. When a ship which is not infected has passengers on board who are in a filthy or otherwise unwholesome condition, or has come from an infected place, the medical officer may give a certificate stating these facts. The rules regarding passengers from an infected ship shall then apply to the vessel thus certified.

* The dates are in many instances only approximate.

Date of Regulation.	Purport of Regulation.
	The medical officer may direct the bilge-water and water ballast of infected vessel or vessels from an infected place to be pumped out at a suitable place before the vessel enters any dock or basin. On the sanitary authority providing a proper supply of water for drinking and cooking, the medical officer may direct all casks and tanks containing such water to be emptied and cleaned.
	(2) France (and Algeria).
January 4th, 1897 .	On this date the French Government issued a decree prescribing a set of general regulations to prevent the infection of exotic epidemic diseases being imported into the French ports. These regulations were based on the Sanitary Conventions of Venice, 1892, Dresden, 1893, and Paris, 1894, and they are reproduced in paper No. of this appendix.
January 19th, 1897 .	Importation into France and Algiers of the articles named in the subjoined list prohibited from Bombay and other infected Indian ports. Cotton and other rags, body linen, personal effects, and clothing and bedding (when not carried as baggage), raw hides and undressed feather, animal matter and refuse, claws and hoofs. The transit trade in the same articles prohibited if involving unloading or handling.
January 20th . .	Stringent sanitary regulations, in accordance with the decree of the 4th January, applied to Southern French ports in communication with the East, and at those in the North in communication with Plymouth.
January 28th, 1897 .	Goods arriving directly or indirectly from Bombay, Karachi or other infected place in India admitted only at Marseilles, Pauillac, Saint Nazarre, Havre, Dunkirk, and Algiers. All bales containing susceptible articles coming from ports on the West Coast of India other than infected ports, to be accompanied by a certificate of origin.
February 2nd, 1897 .	Dunkirk. Four days' quarantine imposed on healthy arrivals from infected ports, and nine days' quarantine on infected vessels. After the removal of the sick persons from infected vessels, the goods and passengers to be disinfected.
February 10th, 1897 .	Landing of all goods from plague-infected ports absolutely prohibited at the Mediterranean ports. Landing of non-interdicated goods at northern ports permitted after disinfection. Disembarkation of passengers from infected ports only permitted at Pauillac, Saint Nazarre, Havre and Dunkirk. Disembarkation permitted only after eight days' observation at Pauillac and Saint Nazarre and four days at Havre and Dunkirk; and after disinfection of baggage.
March 18th, 1897 .	Marseilles. Arsenicated and dry salted hides from India admitted. Landing of undressed leather, raw hides, rags, animal refuse, and wool prohibited even in transit. Oilseeds, coprah and carpets to be disinfected. If there were no sickness on board or death during the voyage, passengers permitted to land after medical inspection and disinfection of baggage. Steamers with interdicted cargo for English ports permitted to discharge other cargo in quarantine.
April 12th, 1897 .	Marseilles. All vessels coming from infected ports in India and the Persian Gulf subjected to 36 hours' quarantine. Linen and effects of the crew and passengers and accessible parts of the ship disinfected. If healthy, the passengers disembarked in lighters after the necessary disinfection. The vessels subjected to these precautions unless certified to be from non-infected ports.

Date of Regulation.	Purport of Regulation.
April 16th, 1897 .	Regulations regarding goods for France and Algiers based on the Venice Sanitary Convention of March 1897:— (i) Importation of the articles named in the subjoined list coming directly or indirectly from plague-infected localities prohibited: Rags, animal refuse, claws and hoofs. (ii) The transit trade in the articles same prohibited if involving unloading or handling. (iii) Raw and manufactured wool arriving directly from an infected locality admitted only after disinfection. Used and unused body linen, personal effects, clothing and bedding, raw hides and untanned skins, coming directly or indirectly from an infected locality, admitted only after disinfection. (iv) Vessels coming from infected localities or carrying goods named in article (iii), only permitted to enter the ports of Marseilles, Algiers, Pauillac, Saint Nazarre, Havre, and Dunkirk. (v) Bales containing goods mentioned in articles (i) to (iii) coming from ports in Persian Gulf and on the West Coast of India, other than infected ports to be accompanied by a certificate of origin.
Final . . .	Subsequently passengers were allowed to land at Marseilles from healthy ships with the sole restriction that soiled linen and bedding had to be disinfected before being brought on shore.
	(3) Italy.
Before the Venice Sanitary Conference.	During the height of the epidemic and before the Venice Sanitary Conference vessels arriving from Bombay, Karachi and other infected ports were only permitted to land passengers after a process of disinfection so onerous that ships of the P. and O. Company merely landed the mails at Brindisi and then carried their passengers to England.
December 1896 .	Importation of fresh, arsenicated and dry salted hides, wool, horsehair, animals and portions of animals and rags prohibited.
May 8th, 1897 .	Regulations based on the Venice Sanitary Conference. *Healthy* vessels allowed free partique after medical inspection; disinfection of wearing apparel, domestic effects and other luggage either before embarkation, during the voyage or at the time of arrival; pumping out of the bilge-water after disinfection and the substitution of fresh drinking-water for the water stored on board. *Suspected* vessels carrying a medical officer admitted to free pratique after the adoption of the precautions for healthy vessels, and in addition the disinfection of the effects belonging to the plague sufferers and their attendants, and of the cabins in which the plague sufferers resided. In the case of vessels which do not carry a medical officer or disinfecting apparatus, the ship to be detained in quarantine until the disinfection and other sanitary precautions have been completed. *Infected* vessels to be detained in quarantine and to undergo such treatment as may in each case be prescribed by the Minister of the Interior. Importation, either direct or indirect, from infected localities of all the articles enumerated in the *susceptible* list of the Convention, except raw silk, old sacking, carpets, and old embroidery, prohibited. Interdicted goods coming from a healthy port in an infected country to be accompanied by a medical certificate and certificate of origin.

Date of Regulation.	Purport of Regulation.
	The medical inspection of ships to take place during the day time.
July 2nd, 1897 . .	To facilitate the execution of the prescribed measures a doctor will, on application, be appointed at Port Said by the Italian authorities to any vessel bound for Italy. This doctor will be entrusted with the general sanitary surveillance on board the ship during the passage from Port Said to the Italian port of destination. Within twenty-four hours of arrival he is to ascertain that the disinfection of soiled articles of wearing or domestic apparel has been carried out, and to make a medical examination of all persons on board. On arrival the doctor will lodge with the harbour authorities a statement certifying to the sanitary condition of the vessel and suggesting the treatment to be adopted. If everything is satisfactory, the vessel will be immediately granted free pratique.
	(4) Belgium.
January 8th, 1897 .	The royal decree of the 15th July 1895, relating to cholera, applied to plague in the case of arrivals from British India. The decree of 15th July was drawn up in conformity with the Dresden Sanitary Convention of 1893. It forbids the importation from infected localities of rags and of used linen, clothing, personal effects and bedding. Exception is made in the case of compressed rags conveyed in bales as merchandise, and certain mercantile waste products not liable to contamination. Healthy, suspected and infected vessels treated according to the Dresden Convention of 1893.
February 6th, 1897 .	In the case of vessels arriving from infected ports, all parts of the ship which it may be deemed necessary to disinfect to be disinfected. The bilge-water to be pumped out and a fresh supply of drinking-water to be taken on board. All persons on board to be medically examined. The ship's papers to be examined in order that the nature of the cargo may be ascertained. To facilitate these measures the vessel may be detained at the sanitary station for one tide. Certificate of origin must be produced for suspicious or interdicted goods from healthy ports. Importation of the following articles forbidden even in transit :— 1. Green hides, salted or pickled, raw hides, hoofs, etc., fresh animal matter, etc. (Exception is made in the case of salted green hides which have been treated with arsenic, which are admitted for sale in Belgium.) 2. Wearing apparel, bedding (used or unused). 3. Old or new carpets, woollen goods (used or unused), silk stuffs. 4. Peacock feathers and small articles, imported retail, which might carry the germs of infection. 5. Bottles of liquor and perfumes, imported retail. 6. Dress goods, drill, etc., not packed in compressed bales and secured with hoops. 7. Samples of raw wool, cotton, and jute, if not compressed and bound with hoops. The goods mentioned in Nos. 2, 3, 4, 6 and 7 can be admitted after having been disinfected by the apparatus at the Doel Sanitary Station.

Date of Regulation.	Purport of Regulation.
	Articles admitted in transit but not for sale in Belgium— 1. Raw wood in pressed bales bound with hoops. 2. All dress goods and drill stuffs packed in pressed bales and bound with hoops. The sanitary authorities may order the bales to be sprinkled with disinfectants before they are unloaded from the vessel.
February 17th, 1897 .	The following substituted for No. 7 in the list above :— All textile or similar products, whether of an animal or vegetable nature—such as wool, cotton, jute, fibres of these products, cocoanut fibre, etc.—if not packed in compressed bales and bound with hoops.
March 12th, 1897 .	Arsenicated hides admitted. All admissible goods disinfected at Doel.
April 5th, 1897 . .	Regulations based on the Venice Sanitary Convention :— Importation from an infected locality of all the articles mentioned in the Venice Convention "susceptible" list, prohibitive. Provided that exemption may be granted by ministerial decree in the case of raw wool, raw hides and untanned skins, and certain classes of rags and carpets, subject to whatever precautions may be prescribed with respect to packing, disinfection, etc. The transit of the interdicted articles is permitted if they are packed in such a manner that they cannot be handled on the way. A certificate of origin may be required in the case of articles on the interdicted list coming from a healthy locality. Import or transit may be permitted although the interdicted article has passed through an infected locality if it be proved that it could not have been contaminated. *Infected*, *suspected*, and *healthy* ships to be treated in accordance with the Venice Sanitary Convention.
May 1st, 1897 . .	The whole of the Bombay Presidency and Sind, except the extreme east of Sind, treated as infected for the purpose of the regulations. Articles on the interdicted list coming from other Indian ports to be accompanied by a certificate of origin.
May 5th, 1897 . .	Hides from infected localities admitted if both salted and arsenicated.
	(5) Malta.
December 30th, 1896 .	Pratique refused and passengers prevented from landing if there is a case of fever on board the vessel.
January 6th, 1897 .	Two days' quarantine imposed on arrivals from Indian ports.
January 19th, 1897 .	Quarantine increased to twenty-one days.
January 22nd, 1897 .	Absolute prohibition of the disembarkation of passengers, crew and merchandise. Vessels permitted to come and take provisions.
January 27th, 1897 .	Arrivals from Mediterranean ports which have been in India within thirty days subject to medical inspection and disinfection.
February 2nd, 1897 .	Healthy vessels from India permitted to land passengers at Como island. Passengers subjected to twenty-one days' quarantine and their clothes and linen disinfected. Vessels permitted to coal at Corminotto.
November 1897 . .	Passengers from Bombay and Karachi detained for eight days' observation in a quarantine establishment, counting from the date of disinfection of clothing and articles likely to retain infection.

Date of Regulation.	Purport of Regulation.
May 11th, 1897	Restrictions removed in the case of vessels arriving from Indian ports east of Cape Comorin.
May 22nd, 1897	Arrivals from Bombay and Karachi permitted to coal and take in provisions in the quarantine harbour. Passengers who have been in Bombay or Karachi within thirty days to be detained in the lazaretto for a period not less than seven days from the date of disinfection and sufficient to complete the period of thirty days from the date of departure. The importation of cotton seed from infected ports forbidden. The importation of rags forbidden. The importation of the following articles forbidden before disinfection: wearing apparel, solid linen and clothing, bedding materials, hides, feathers, bones and jute goods.
July 9th, 1897	The restrictions in the case of vessels from Bombay and Karachi confined to vessels which have not been admitted to free pratique in any port in the Adriatic or Mediterranean Sea, or which have not, to the satisfaction of the Chief Government Medical Officer, been thoroughly disinfected before being admitted to such pratique.
	(6) GIBRALTAR.
February 1st, 1897	Vessels from India refused pratique and passengers and goods not to be landed. Mails and specie landed in quarantine. Vessels permitted to coal and take in provisions in quarantine.
April 26th, 1897	Vessels from Calcutta and other Eastern Indian ports granted pratique if provided with a clean bill-of-health and if the condition of the health on board is good.
May 11th, 1897	Restrictive measures removed in the case of arrivals from Indian ports east of Cape Comorin.
	(7) CYPRUS.
February 15th, 1897	Fifteen days' quarantine imposed against arrivals from Indian ports.
	(8) GERMANY.
February 4th, 1897	Arrivals from British India and the Persian Gulf subjected to sanitary control.
February 8th, 1897	Importation of the following articles from India and Persia prohibited:— Used bed and body linen, rags, hides, old clothes, carpets, human hair, bristles, hair, wool, claws, hoofs. Personal baggage exempted from the prohibition, but may be disinfected.
March 11th, 1897	Untanned skins and hides despatched after the 11th February from India admitted if the port of origin was free from plague, and the hides were compressed into airtight bales and prepared for transport in or near the harbour of the port of departure. Bombay and Karachi excluded from the concession.
March 13th, 1897	Prohibition against the importation of interdicted articles extended to goods transhipped at ports in India.
March 25th, 1897	Dry-salted and arsenicated hides not admitted from Indian infected ports.

Date of Regulation.	Purport of Regulation.
May 6th, 1897	Untanned air dried hides known as "kips" admitted unconditionally.
September 6th, 1897	Prohibition list reduced to the following:—Used body and bed linen, old clothes, rags.
	(9) AUSTRIA-HUNGARY.
February 12th, 1897	Importation of the following articles prohibited from Asia (Asiatic Russia excepted):— Rags, tatters, unwashed and old clothes, and bed linen, old carpets, covers, bed furniture. Personal baggage exempted but examined by the Sanitary police.
March 11th, 1897	Importation of the following articles prohibited from India and ports up to the Red Sea:— Raw skins and hides, bones, horns, hoofs, trotters, animal offal, hair, and brushes.
	(10) SWITZERLAND.
January 29th, 1897	Importation of rags, clothing, bedding, body linen (except when carried as baggage), hides, skins, furs, etc., from British India, prohibited Travellers permitted to enter *viâ* Chiasso and Geneva, after satisfactory medical inspection and disinfection if free from contact with plague cases for fourteen days.
May 11th, 1897	Import of the articles enumerated in the Venice Convention susceptible list, except arsenicated hides, prohibited. Transit of the interdicted articles forbidden unless packed in such a manner that they cannot be handled on the way. Articles in the interdicted list, if carried as baggage, to be subjected at a frontier station to sanitary inspection and if necessary disinfection. Such baggage permitted to enter only through one of eleven specified customs stations, where arrangements are made for immediate examination and disinfection. The Bombay Presidency, Sind and Goa considered infected for the purpose of the regulations. Interdicted articles from non-infected portion of India to be accompanied by sufficient proof of origin.
	(11) HOLLAND.
February 3rd, 1897	Ten days' quarantine imposed on arrivals from Bombay and Karachi.
February 15th, 1897	Importation of the following articles from Bombay and Karachi prohibited: Rags, used wearing apparel, unwashed body and bed clothing (including passengers' baggage).
	(12) SPAIN.
October 14th, 1896	Quarantine imposed against arrivals from Bombay.
February 22nd, 1897	Arrivals from India subjected to three days' observation. Importations from Bombay of rags, old clothes, tissues, mattresses, beltry, feathers, animal hair, hoofs, wood, silk, linen, hemp, jute, etc., prohibited.
March 5th, 1897	Fourteen days' quarantine enforced against passengers from Bombay; and a longer period if a case of plague occurred on board.

Date of Regulation.	Purport of Regulation.
	(13) PORTUGAL.
February 2nd, 1897 .	Vessels, cargoes and passengers from Indian ports disinfected in quarantine. All vessels from India not admitted.
February 20th, 1897 .	Lisbon, the only port open for landing mails and passengers' baggage. All arrivals subject to quarantine and disinfection. Patterns and postal parcels not admitted.
April 17th, 1897 .	Importation of the following articles from India as a rule prohibited :— (*a*) hair, horsehair, and feathers, when in their natural condition ; (*b*) patterns and postal parcels of any kind ; (*c*) hides and skins, either fresh or dried, and tanned hides if the hair remains on ; (*d*) animal refuse ; (*e*) green pulse and vegetables ; (*f*) used furniture, stuffs, and tissues for ornamenting walls, etc. ; (*g*) rags, shavings of wood or paper, waste filaments, and other articles of the same nature ; (*h*) clothes and wearing apparel, shoes, beds, and personal effects ; (*i*) cotton, hemp, wool, linen, and silk if not manufactured ; (*j*) skins of olives and grapes ; (*k*) vegetable substances such as hay and herbs even though compressed and packed in bales ; (*l*) live animals. Baggage of travellers admitted after rigorous disinfection. Interdicted articles may be admitted without quarantine, but after any measure of disinfection that may be prescribed, if they have been lying a long time in a European port, or if they have been transformed by industrial process.
	(14) RUSSIA.
February 19th, 1897 .	All Indian ports declared contaminated.
March 16th, 1897 .	Vessels only allowed to enter and discharge at the following ports of the Black and Azof Seas, at which quarantine arrangements established ; Theodosia, Kertch, Odessa, Sebastopol, Novorissisk, Batoum, and Poti. On arrival vessels from infected ports subjected to ten days' quarantine, after which they may discharge cargoes. The exterior packing of tea chests subject to disinfection. All other goods landed without disinfection, unless believed to have come into immediate contact with plague patients. In such case the exterior packing or superficial layer of goods is subject to disinfection.

Date of Regulation.	Purport of Regulation.
	(15) NORWAY.
February 1st, 1897 .	All ports in British India declared infected. Cargo can duly be discharged at the Christiana quarantine station.
	(16) ROUMANIA.
January 17th, 1897 .	Muhammadans dissuaded from going on pilgrimage and those who go to be subjected to rigorous inspection on return. Constanza closed to all ships coming from Indian ports unless they have been quarantined at an Ottoman port. In such cases vessels granted free pratique at Constanza after a satisfactory medical inspection. All other arrivals from Indian ports to be subjected to sanitary precautions at Sulina. Importation of dirty body and bed linen, old clothes and personal effects as merchandise prohibited. Travellers' dirty linen and used sacks admitted after disinfection.
January 28th, 1897 .	Importation from India of old newspapers and similar printed matters prohibited.
February 24th, 1897 .	Importation of all animal products from India prohibited.
March 19th, 1897 .	Sacks from India transhipped at British ports allowed to enter Sulina and Constanza after disinfection.
April 8th, 1897 .	New jute bags packed in bales by hydraulic pressure coming from non-infected districts in India admitted without disinfection.
	(17) BULGARIA.
February 24th, 1897 .	Importation of all merchandise from India forbidden. All Bulgarian Black Sea ports closed against infected vessels and against all vessels from India unless previously disinfected at an Ottoman port. Varna and Bourgos open in certain cases after satisfactory medical inspection. Change of ships *en route* from infected port does not secure more favourable treatment.
March 9th, 1897 .	All Bulgarian Black Sea ports unconditionally closed against Rangoon.
March 26th, 1897 .	Importation from infected countries of used and soiled paper, newspaper, and printed papers used as wrappings prohibited.
April 12th, 1897 .	Rice admitted from Rangoon.
May 18th, 1897 .	Rangoon considered a clean port and direct importation of rice allowed. Jute sacks from Calcutta admitted after disinfection.
	(18) GREECE.
March 12th, 1897 .	Importation of the following articles prohibited :—Postal packets, patterns, hides, wool, bristles, animals and their products, rags, old clothes, etc.
	(19) TURKEY.
October 13th, 1896 .	Ten days' quarantine imposed on arrivals from Bombay.
January 2nd, 1897 .	Ten days' quarantine and rigorous disinfection imposed on arrivals from Karachi. Infected ships repulsed.

Date of Regulation.	Purport of Regulation.
February 10th, 1897 .	Fifteen drys' quarantine imposed on arrivals from India. Repulse of infected ships maintained. Should plague occur during the detention of the vessel, twenty days' quarantine imposed from the occurrence of the last case, and rigorous disinfection of clothing and personal effects. The vessel to be disinfected and the drinking-water changed. The bilge-water to be pumped out after being disinfected. Vessels objecting to the precautionary measures permitted to return from the port.
March 8th, 1897 .	Importation of the following articles from India prohibited: Feathers, raw hides (salted and dried), furs, felts, hoofs, horns, bones, and all animal products.
March 9th, 1897 .	Ships from India prohibited from passing the Dardenelles unless previously detained for fifteen days in an Ottoman or other quarantine station.
March 22nd, 1897 .	Susceptible goods, including jute sacking, from Indian ports to be disinfected, unless already admitted to free pratique at a port of transhipment.
April 5th, 1897 .	Restriction regarding the passage of the Dardenelles withdrawn.
	ASIA.
	(20) Turkish Arabia.
December 6th, 1896 .	Twenty-one days' quarantine imposed at Bussorah on arrival from Bombay.
February 11th, 1897 .	Quarantine against arrivals from India raised from ten to fifteen days. If a case of plague occurs during the detention in the lazaret, the same measures prescribed as in the case of Turkish ports.
August 3rd, 1897 .	Quarantine against arrivals from India reduced to ten days.
	(21) Persia.
October 16th, 1896 .	Quarantine imposed against arrivals from Bombay.
February 12th, 1897 .	Infected or suspected vessels absolutely excluded, but allowed to land mails. Five days' quarantine for passengers and cargo imposed at Bushire, and seven days at ports nearer India. All dangerous cargo on healthy ships prohibited.
March 5th, 1897 .	Rezais, mattresses, blankets, skins, rags, cotton waste and second-hand clothing classed as suspicious.
July 8th, 1897 .	Quarantine reduced to three days.
	(22) Muscat.
February 2nd, 1897 .	Quarantine imposed against arrivals from Bombay and Karachi.
March 3rd, 1897 .	Regulations imposed at Muscat. All arrivals from Indian ports placed in quarantine and medically inspected. Healthy vessels granted pratique and allowed to land cargo. Cargo to be discharged into lighters by the ships' crew. Landing of rags and cotton waste and other articles considered susceptible, prohibited. Vessels on which a case of plague has occurred not permitted to communicate with the shore except for the purpose of landing mails. In the event

Date of Regulation.	Purport of Regulation.
	of pratique being given, passengers for Muscat landed under supervision and detained for nine days from the date of departure from the last infected port, or from the last case occurring in the lazaretto. Baggage of passengers disinfected on landing.
	(23) Ceylon.
Orders issued during the early period of the epidemic, but exact date unknown.	Fifteen days' quarantine imposed on arrivals from Western Indian ports, during which period discharge of passengers and cargo prohibited. Entry of dangerous articles forbidden.
February 19th, 1897 .	Landing from vessels coming directly or indirectly from Karachi, Bombay and Goa of the following articles prohibited: Rags, used apparel, bedding, waste paper, and used gunny bags.
July 23rd, 1897 .	Entry and transhipment prohibited of all goods classed as susceptible by the Venice Convention coming directly or indirectly from ports in the West Coast of India. Customs officer to cause the destruction of interdicted goods imported from ports on the West Coast of India.
	Arrivals from ports on the West Coast of India to be subjected to quarantine for a period not exceeding ten days from the date of departure. Persons and goods not to be landed during the quarantine period.
April 28th, 1897 .	Doctor of the Colonial Government appointed to Tuticorin for the examination of emigrants and other persons desiring to sail from Tuticorin for Ceylon.
	(24) Goa.
October 17th, 1896 .	Five days' quarantine imposed against arrivals from Bombay or the south.
	(25) Siam.
February 15th, 1897 .	Vessels from Bombay inspected at Paknam by Siamese authorities before proceeding to Bangkok.
	(26) Netherlands India.
February 3rd, 1897 .	Ten days' quarantine imposed against arrivals from Bombay and Karachi.
April 21st, 1897 .	Whole West Coast of India declared infected.
May 6th, 1897 .	Nine days' quarantine imposed against arrivals from Bombay and Karachi since the date of departure or the last case on board. Entry of butter, victuals, rags, raw wool, hair, hides, furriery from Bombay and Karachi temporarily forbidden.
	AFRICA.
	(27) Egypt.
October 12th, 1896 .	The plague regulations of 1894 put into force by the Sanitary Board, with a modification with respect to healthy vessels. The 1894 Regulations follow the Venice Sanitary Convention of 1892, but are more stringent in the treatment of infected ships.

Date of Regulation.	Purport of Regulation.
	The regulations deal with (*a*) vessels passing through the Suez Canal and (*b*) vessels bound for Egyptian ports. They are based on the threefold classification of ships into healthy, suspected and infected. Healthy vessels are those which have left an infected port for seven days or more and have had no case of plague on board; suspected vessels are those on which, though cases of plague have occurred, no fresh case has occurred within nine days; and infected vessels are those on which plague has been present within nine days of arrival. With regard to the passage of the Canal. Healthy vessels are allowed to pass through the Canal. Suspected vessels carrying a doctor and a disinfecting stove are allowed to pass through the Canal in quarantine. Suspected vessels without a doctor and disinfecting stove are detained at Moses' Wells for the period required for disinfection and for ascertaining the condition of the ship's health. Unlike the Venice Convention the regulations dealing with infected vessels make no distinction between vessels which do and which do not carry a doctor and a disinfecting stove. The vessel is detained at the sanitary station. Tha sick are landed and detained in hospital. The healthy are landed and detained under observation for a period not exceeding seven days from the last case. The baggage, the vessel and susceptible articles in the cargo are disinfected. With regard to vessels bound for Egyptian ports. Free pratique is granted to healthy vessels after satisfactory medical inspection, disinfection, of dirty linen, etc., and change of water. Suspected vessels on which a case has occurred within fourteen days are detained forty-eight hours at the sanitary station, and the ship, baggage and susceptible articles in the cargo are disinfected. Free pratique is then granted. Before free pratique is granted to the passengers they are also detained forty-eight hours on shore and their personal belongings are disinfected.
February 3rd, 1897 .	Importation of the articles named in the subjoined list prohibited from vessels which have touched at an infected port: Rags, carpets, embroideries, body linen, personal effects, used garments and bedding (when not carried as baggage), animal products (including horse hair and raw wool), claws, hocfs, sacking, plants, roots and fresh and dried fruit. Inspection of vessels from infected ports prohibited at night.
February 4th, 1897 .	Ships from an infected port passing the Canal in quarantine not allowed to coal at Port Said during the night. Regulations based on the Venice Convention of 1897 issued by the Egyptian Quarantine Board. These regulations reproduce the portions of the Venice Convention which deal with (1) the measures to be taken in the Red Sea, (2) the passage of the Canal in quarantine, and (3) the treatment of vessels arriving in Egypt from a plague-infected port in the Mediterranean. The regulations for suspected vessels prescribe, in addition to the measures expressly laid down by the Convention, the disinfection of the ship, baggage, etc., and susceptible merchandize before free pratique is granted in Egypt. The passage of the Canal in quarantine to be arranged so that the vessels arrives at Port Said during the day.
	(28) Morocco.
February 2nd, 1897 .	Vessels from British India not admitted.

Date of Regulation.	Purport of Regulation.
	(29) Tunis.
February 11th, 1897 .	Importation of the following articles from infected Indian ports prohibited: Rags, cloths, bedding, raw leather and hides, animal refuse, etc.
	(30) Zanzibar.
January 16th, 1897 .	Steamers and native craft examined on arrival. Healthy vessels granted free pratique. Arrangements for the quarantine on shore of persons from infected ships.
	(31) Madagascar.
March 25th, 1897 .	All ships coming from infected Indian ports repulsed.
	(32) Réunion.
March 25th, 1897 .	Rice and grain in bags from Bombay must be transferred on arrival to fresh uninfected bags. No susceptible articles admitted.
May 19th, 1897 .	All Indian ports declared infected. Rice ships repulsed.
	(33) Natal.
December 18th, 1896 .	Bombay declared infected.
December 30th, 1896 .	Twelve days' quarantine imposed on arrival from Bombay.
	AMERICA.
	(34) United States.
January 20th, 1897 .	Treasury Quarantine Cholera Regulations applied to plague with fifteen days' detention of exposed persons.
	(35) Brazil.
March 8th, 1897 .	All Indian ports and Burma declared infected; ships proceeded to lazaretto at Ilha-Grande.
	(36) Peru.
March 24th, 1897 .	All arrivals from healthy Indian ports with clean bill-of-health admitted to free pratique. Ten days' quarantine on arrivals from infected ports, but cargo from infected ports cannot be discharged. No relaxations in the rules allowed in the case of vessels previously calling at other ports.
	(37) French Guiana.
April 6th, 1897 .	Rags, green hides, carpets, personal effects and bedding, used or unused, from Indian ports only admitted through the quarantine ports and after disinfection.

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 affected with plague, 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.

26. 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.

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

28. 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 places 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.

29. 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.

30. 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.

31. It shall be lawful for the proper authority to cause persons infected with cholera, small-pox, chicken-pox, or other infectious, contagious, or epidemic disease, 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 infected 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 infected 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

32. 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.

33. 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 merchandize 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.

34. 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.

By His Excellency's command,

E. NOEL WALKER,

Colonial Secretary.

COLONIAL SECRETARY'S OFFICE;
Colombo, September 20, 1897.

With reference to the above regulations, it is hereby notified that the Chairmen of the Municipal Councils of Colombo, Galle, and Kandy are the Local Authorities for the enforcement and execution of the said regulations within the limits of their respective Municipalities.

By His Excellency the Governor's command,

E. NOEL WALKER,

Colonial Secretary.

COLONIAL SECRETARY'S OFFICE;
Colombo, September 20, 1897.

Regulations made by the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Council, under the provisions of the Ordinance No. 3 of 1897:—

1. Every vessel or boat coming to any place in this Island from Bombay shall be subjected to quarantine for a period not exceeding ten days from the date of her departure from that port.

2. No person shall within such period of ten days land at any place in this Island from any such vessel or boat.

3. No person shall at any time within such period of ten days, carry, take or convey any goods from any such vessel or boat to any place in this Island.

4. The landing at any place in this Island of the following goods, shipped at any port on the West Coast of India, or transhipped to any vessel from any vessel which shall have conveyed such goods from any port on the West Coast of India, 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 merchandize.

(3) Used sacking or bags, carpets, and old embroidery.

(4) Green and untanned hides and skins.

(5) Animal refuse, claws, hoofs, horsehair, hair of animals generally, raw silk and wool.

(6) Human hair.

5. The transhipment within any port in this Island of such prohibited goods from one vessel to another is prohibited.

6. The Principal Officer of Customs at any place at which any landing or transhipment 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.

Enclosure No. 2.

Dated Colombo, the 29th September 1897.

From—The Colonial Secretary, Ceylon,

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department.

I am directed by the Governor of Ceylon to state, for the information of His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor General of India in Council, that the regulations made by him, with the advice of his Executive Council, bearing date the 23rd July 1897, have been repealed, and that vessels coming from western ports of India will now be admitted to pratique unless they come from Bombay and are less than ten days out and unless they have prohibited goods on board.

2. I am at the same time to transmit to you copies of regulations since made by the Governor in Council, and published in the Gazette of the 24th instant.

Extract from the Ceylon Government Gazette, *No. 5501 of September 24, 1897.*

It is hereby notified for general information that the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Council, has revoked all regulations made prior to the 1st day of September 1897, under the provisions of the Ordinance No. 3 of 1897.

By His Excellency's command,

E. NOEL WALKER

Colonial Secretary.

COLONIAL SECRETARY'S OFFICE;
Colombo, September 20, 1897.

Regulations made by the Governor, with advice of the Executive Council, under the provisions of the Ordinance No. 3 of 1897 :—

1. The term "proper authority" in the following sections 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 he 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.

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.

3. The master or person in charge of any vessel or boat in which there shall have been any disease not less than fifteen days previous, 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.

4. The master or person in charge of such a vessel or boat shall, bofore 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.

5. 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.

6. 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 4 and 5, the said vessel or boat shall be placed in quarantine or remain in quarantine for such period as the Principal Civil Medical Officer shall fix, not exceeding thirty days from the date of such case, and be subject to all the prohibitions provided for in regulations 5 and 7.

7. 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.

8. 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.

9. 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.

10. 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 not less than twenty days previous; 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.

11. 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.

12. 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. No person shall transmit or receive any article or thing from any vessel not admitted to pratique.

13. 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.

14. The proper authority may order the destruction of any goods 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.

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

16. 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 surveillance, and shall not be allowed to land, but shall be compelled to return by the same vessel.

17. The Principal Civil Medical Officer shall fix the number of days, not exceeding thirty days during which a vessel shall remain in quarantine.

18. 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.

19. The proper authority shall, wherever expedient, establish a quarantine station, 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.

20. No person shall approach within one hundred yards of any quarantine station or hospital. Any person approaching within one hundred yards of any quarantine station or hopsital, 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.

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

22. 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.

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

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

25. Whenever in any place there shall be any person affected with plague, 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 affected with plague, it shall be lawful for the proper authority, after the removal of such person, to cause the building and its

7. 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.

8. The foregoing Regulations 4, 5, 6, and 7 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.

COLONIAL SECRETARY'S OFFICE;
Colombo, September 21, 1897.

By His Excellency's command,
E. NOEL WALKER,
Colonial Secretary.

Enclosure No. 3.

No. 2406, dated Simla, the 31st October 1897.

From—J. P. HEWETT, Esq., C.I.E., Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department.

To—The Colonial Secretary, Ceylon.

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated the 29th September 1897, forwarding a copy of the revised quarantine regulations made by His Excellency the Governor with the advice of his Executive Council, dated the 20th and 21st September 1897, respectively.

2. I am to invite attention to the correspondence ending with the letter from this office, No. 1990, dated the 20th August 1897, in the course of which the intention was expressed of adhering as far as possible to the terms of the Venice Sanitary Convention of 1897. It is, however, observed that the regulations now forwarded depart, in important points, from the provisions of the Convention. I am to refer more particularly to the provisions contained in rules 3, 6 and 17 of the regulations published on the 20th September. The first of these prohibits the landing of any person from a ship infected as described in the rule "save by the order in writing of the proper authority;" whereas under section VIII of Chapter II of the Convention people should not kept on board, but be disembarked and treated as in rules 1 and 2 of section VIII. Rules 6 and 17 provide for a maximum period of detention in quarantine of 30 days from the date of the last case of disease, while under the Convention the maximum period of segregation prescribed is ten days.

3. The Government of India trust that, in view of the large number of ships from Bombay and other ports in India which communicate with Ceylon and which will be affected by the regulations now forwarded, the Colonial Government may be moved to consider the desirability of modifying the rules in such a way as to bring them more in conformity with the terms of the Venice Convention.

Enclosure No. 4.

Dated Colombo, the 2nd December 1897.

From—The Colonial Secretary, Ceylon,

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department.

In reply to your letter No. 2406, dated 31st October 1897, I am directed to send you the accompanying copy of a Sessional Paper XXV, 1897, containing correspondence regarding quarantine regulations in Ceylon, and to state that though this Government have expressed their willingness to be guided by the Convention, they are not prepared to adhere formally to it and thus surrender the right, should the necessity for exercising it arise, of adopting precautions in excess of those authorized by the Convention.

2. The rules to which exception is taken provide for such additional precautions, should the necessity arise, but they have not been enforced and this Government continues to follow the terms of the Venice Convention.

QUARANTINE REGULATIONS IN CEYLON.

No. 1.

The Secretary to Government, Bombay, to the Honourable the Colonial Secretary, Ceylon.

No. 1694.

General Department,

Bombay Castle, March 26, 1897.

SIR,—I am directed to forward herewith, for the consideration of the Government of Ceylon, copy of a letter, dated 11th instant, from the Chamber of Commerce, Bombay, regarding the quarantine imposed in Ceylon against arrivals from Bombay.

I have, etc.,
T. D. MACKENZIE,
Secretary to Government.

Enclosure in No. 1.

The Secretary, Bombay Chamber of Commerce, to the Secretary to Government, Bombay.

The Chamber of Commerce,

Bombay, March 11, 1897.

SIR,—Information having reached the Chamber that the Government of Ceylon has imposed quarantine against Bombay to the extent of fifteen days' detention after arrival before either passengers or goods can be landed, the Committee direct me to address Government in the hope that His Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor in Council may be pleased to represent to the Ceylon Government the excessive character of this quarantine, and ask that it should be placed on a different basis.

2. The result of the imposition of such an excessive period of detention is naturally to entirely stop trade between Bombay and Ceylon, as no steamers will take passengers or cargo for that Island with the prospect of being detained there for fifteen days. It also is, in the opinion of my Committee, likely to injuriously affect the minds of foreign Governments against the sanitary condition of Bombay, as they will doubtless argue that if places like Ceylon near to Bombay, and fully posted as to its condition, impose such a quarantine as fifteen days, other countries would be justified in taking similar action. Moreover, the step taken by the Ceylon Government comes most inappropriately just when we learn that the prohibition of steamers from Bombay entering Marseilles has been removed, and a tendency appears to prevail to minimize quarantine regulations in Europe.

3. The Committee of the Chamber think there is every reason to consider the existing plague as almost entirely a personal disease, not transmitted by ordinary merchandise, and while they would quite sympathize with all endeavours on the part of the authorities at Ceylon to prevent the plague being personally imported, they see no reason for prohibiting, as they practically do, the importation of ordinary merchandise.

4. They would accordingly respectfully request that His Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor in Council may be pleased to represent to the Ceylon Government the advisability of placing quarantine against Bombay on the same basis as that sanctioned in Madras, making detention only imperative where there has actually been plague on board, or if this is not deemed sufficient, the Committee consider that, as the incubation of the disease does not exceed eight to ten days, the Ceylon Government might insist upon ten days from the departure of steamers from Bombay. Coasting steamers, such as those of the British India Steam Navigation Company, take about ten days on the passage, and this would not be prohibitive of trade in the same way as the fifteen days' detention will be.

I have, etc.,
JOHN MARSHALL,
Secretary.

No. 2.

The Honourable the Colonial Secretary, Ceylon, to the Secretary to Government, Bombay.

April 5, 1897.

SIR,—I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 1694 of the 26th March 1897, forwarding, for the consideration of this Government, copy of a communication

to your address from the Chamber of Commerce, Bombay, regarding the imposition of quarantine in Ceylon against vessels arriving from Bombay.

2. In reply, I am to state that the most careful consideration has been given to the letter in question, but in view of the admitted ignorance regarding the origin of the plague and the manner in which it can be carried and transmitted, and also in view of the fact that the appearance of the disease in Ceylon would assuredly lead to the total prohibition of the introduction of Ceylon produce and exports into Europe—a result which would be nothing short of disastrous to this Colony—the Ceylon Government have been compelled to take precautions even more stringent than those to which objection has been offered by the Chamber of Commerce, Bombay, in order not only to protect Ceylon against the introduction of the plague, but to satisfy Europe that there is no necessity for adopting against Ceylon the prohibitive measures which are being enforced against Bombay and other Indian ports.

3. I am to add that the Ceylon Government are, however, prepared to re-consider the precautionary measures already adopted when the report of the Venice Conference is published.

I am, etc.,
E. NOEL WALKER,
Colonial Secretary.

No. 3.

The Right Honourable J. CHAMBERLAIN, M.P., to Governor the Right Honourable Sir J. WEST RIDGEWAY, K.C.B., K.C.S.I.

Circular. Downing Street, May 24, 1897.

SIR,—I have the honour to transmit to you, for your consideration, a copy of the report of the British Delegates on the proceedings of the International Sanitary Conference which was held at Venice in February and March last, together with a copy of the Convention.*

Her Majesty's Government have agreed that the Convention shall, after ratification, apply at once to India and the Straits Settlements, but not to any other British Colony or Possession, unless its adhesion is notified to the Italian Government within a year from the date of ratification, which will probably take place shortly.

Her Majesty's Government hope, however, that the Colonies generally will adhere to the Convention, and I shall be glad to learn at an early date whether the Colony under your Government is willing to become a party to it.

I have, etc.,
J. CHAMBERLAIN.

Enclosure in No. 3.
Not printed.

No. 4.

The Secretary to Government, Bombay, to the Honourable the Colonial Secretary, Ceylon.

General Department,
No. 3471. Bombay Castle, June 28, 1897.

SIR,—I am directed to forward herewith, for the consideration of the Government of Ceylon, copy of a letter, dated 10th instant, from the Chamber of Commerce, Bombay, regarding the quarantine imposed in Ceylon against arrivals from Bombay.

I have, etc.,
T. D. MACKENZIE,
Secretary to Government.

Enclosure in No. 4.

The Chairman, Bombay Chamber of Commerce, to the Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Bombay, June 10, 1897.

SIR,—Referring to correspondence ending with your letter No. 2317 of the 29th April 1897, regarding the quarantine restrictions in Ceylon against arrivals from Bombay, I have the honour to address you again in the hope that His Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor in Council may be pleased to make a further representation to the Ceylon Government with the view to the present quarantine restrictions at that port being withdrawn or considerably modified.

2. In paragraph 3 of the letter from the Government of Ceylon, dated 5th April 1897, to your address, it was stated that the Chamber's previous representation on the subject would

* Not printed.

be reconsidered when the report of the Venice Conference was published. This document has now been issued, and the Committee of the Chamber would respectfully urge that, if it is not possible to abolish quarantine against Bombay altogether, the decision of the Venice Conference, as stated in clause (1) of paragraph 3 of the Government of India's circular to Local Governments, Nos. 1623—1626, dated 1st June, should be taken into consideration, and the period of quarantine at Colombo limited to ten days only from the date of departure of steamers from Bombay.

I have, etc.,
A. ABERCROMBIE,
Chairman.

No. 5.

The Secretary to Government, India, to the Hon. the Colonial Secretary, Ceylon.

Home Department,
Simla, June 1, 1897.

No. 158-D.

SIR,—I AM desired to forward a copy of a translation of the Convention framed at the Sanitary Conference recently held at Venice for the purpose of considering measures to prevent the spread of the plague, and a copy of a circular addressed by the Government of India to the Local Maritime Governments in India explaining the terms of the Convention and directing that the rules framed by the Local Governments regulating the action to be taken on the departure of vessels, and the quarantine imposed on the arrival of vessels from infected ports, should be modified in accordance with the Convention.

I am to say that the Government of India trust that the Colonial Government will find it possible to modify the quarantine regulations published in the *Ceylon Government Gazette Extraordinary* No. 5461, dated the 2nd March 1897, in accordance with the conclusion of the Venice Sanitary Conference.

I am, etc.,
J. P. HEWETT.

Enclosures Nos. 1 and 2 in No. 5.
Not printed.

No. 6.

The Right Hon. J. CHAMBERLAIN, M.P., to Governor the Right Hon. Sir J. WEST RIDGEWAY, K.C.B., K.C.S.I.

Downing Street, January 29, 1897.

Circular.

SIR,—I HAVE the honour to transmit to you, for the information of your Government, copies of regulations which have been issued by the Local Government Board for dealing with cholera, yellow fever, and plague at ports in the United Kingdom.

The Local Government Board have drawn my attention to the fact that these regulations show that a wide divergence exists between the practice as regards quarantine followed in certain Colonies, and the principles which the Board regard as suitable for effective dealing with the diseases referred to, with a view to preventing their spread both on land and water.

I have, etc.,
J. CHAMBERLAIN.

Enclosure in No. 6.
Not printed.

No. 7.

Governor the Right Hon. Sir J. WEST RIDGEWAY, K.C.B., K.C.S.I., to the Right Hon. J. CHAMBERLAIN, M.P.

Ceylon, April 8, 1897.

Miscellaneous.—No. 116.

SIR,—I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your circular despatch of the 29th January last, transmitting copies of regulations issued by the Local Government Board for dealing with cholera, yellow fever, and plague at ports in the United Kingdom, and drawing attention to the divergence of practice which exists as regards quarantine between the United Kingdom and certain Colonies.

2. I caused the despatch to be referred to the Principal Civil Medical Officer for his observations, and I herewith enclose copy of the report* received from him. I would remark that there must necessarily be a divergence of practice between a tropical Colony where, outside the principal towns, the sanitary arrangements, if they exist at all, are of the rudest and most elementary description, and the United Kingdom, where scientific sanitation has been brought almost to perfection. For instance, the sanitary supervision of arrivals prescribed in article 15 would not be possible in Ceylon. As regards the plague, this Government have been obliged to take very stringent precautions, not only because the nature of that disease and the manner in which it spreads infection are practically unknown, but because any neglect of such

* Not printed.

precautions might lead to the prohibition of the importation of Ceylon tea and other products into Europe, Australia and America. Such a prohibition would be disastrous to the Colony. The Government will, however, be prepared to reconsider the steps taken in the matter after the conclusions which may be arrived at by the Conference at Venice are published.

I have, etc.,
WEST RIDGEWAY.

No. 8.

The Right Hon. J. CHAMBERLAIN, M.P., to Governor the Right Hon. Sir J. WEST RIDGEWAY, K.C.B., K.C.S.I.

Ceylon.—No. 257. Downing Street, August 6, 1897.

SIR,—WITH reference to your despatch No. 151 of the 11th May last, I have the honour to transmit to you for your consideration and report copy of a letter from the Local Government Board relative to the regulations made under the Ceylon "Quarantine and Prevention of Diseases Ordinance, 1897."

Since the above-mentioned despatch was written you will have received my circular despatch of 24th May last,* forwarding a copy of the Venice Convention referred to in the enclosed letter, and the Ceylon Government will doubtless be prepared to modify its quarantine policy in future, as indicated in the last words of your despatch No. 116 of 8th April last.

I have, etc.,
J. CHAMBERLAIN.

Enclosure in No. 8.

The SECRETARY, Local Government Board, London, to the UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE.

Local Government Board,
Whitehall, S. W., July 30, 1897.

SIR,—I AM directed by the Local Government Board to advert to your letter of the 11th ultimo, No. 12095—97, transmitting copies of new regulations made under the Ceylon "Quarantine and Prevention of Diseases Ordinance, 1897."

In reply, I am to state that the Board do not think there would be any advantage in any detailed examination of the general code of regulations extracted from the *Ceylon Government Gazette* of March 5, 1897, or of the separate regulations extracted from the same *Gazette* of February 19, March 13, March 19, and March 26, 1897. But the Board would point out that these regulations depart very far from both the spirit and the letter of all the International Codes for the prevention of the spread of infectious disease to which Her Majesty's Government have become a party and notably so in respect of the International Sanitary Convention of Venice which was signed in March of this year, and which has to do with the prevention of bubonic plague. Thus, to quote a few instances only:—

(*a*) The three regulations signed by the Colonial Secretary at Colombo (March 2, 1897) impose a quarantine detention of fifteen days. What the diseases are to which this applies is not specified in the regulations; indeed in the document following, of the same date, the term "any disease" is used. This period is however ten days longer than that which was decided on a sufficiently long period of incubation for administrative purposes under the Venice Convention of 1892 and the Dresden Convention of 1893, relating to cholera, and five days longer than the similar period determined on for plague under the Venice Convention of 1897. In this way Ceylon not only imposes direct quarantine restrictions against plague whilst many European States, British India, and the Straits Settlements have undertaken not to impose such restrictions, but the term of control, of whatever sort, held to be necessary is altogether in excess of that which has been decided on at International gatherings to be fully sufficient. Had such a period of detention been imposed at the recent Conference at Venice for the purposes of the passage of the Suez Canal the results would have been most serious for this country.

(*b*) In the same Order vessels are judged and dealt with according to the locality of their departure, namely, from the entire West Coast of India, and this quite irrespective of whether the vessels have or have had sickness on board, or have been continuously healthy since the date of departure, and also quite irrespective of the state of health of the actual "port or place" whence they sailed. This attitude is entirely opposed to the principles which have guided Her Majesty's Government for a long term of years, and if it were applied at present by foreign Governments to departures from ports of India it could not fail to be as disastrous to British commerce as it would be useless and vexatious.

(*c*) Then again, in the same Order, there is a prohibition as to the landing both of persons and goods from any vessel coming from a port or place on the West Coast of India during fifteen days after arrival at a port of Ceylon.

The Board note that as regards persons, this restriction is imposed quite irrespective of the length of voyage, during which all on board may have been perfectly healthy. As

* *Vide* page 20, *ante*.

regards goods, the object of the restriction is not apparent to the Board. If goods are infected the Board are not aware that there is any particular limit to the duration of that infective condition, and they do not understand why an article should be deemed infective on the fourteenth day after arrival and not so on the sixteenth. The Board have always held restrictions involving the detention of goods not only as useless, but as being altogether void of any scientific basis.

(*d*) The regulations signed by the Colonial Secretary at Colombo on March 26, 1897, impose quarantine restrictions by reason of "any goods" from any port on the West Coast of India. This regulation ignores the question as to whether the goods concerned are "susceptible," *i.e.*, of a nature involving any likelihood of conveying the infection of the disease to be controlled, or are not susceptible. In view of the classification of goods accepted by many European and other Governments under the Conventions of Dresden, 1893, and of Venice, 1897, and in view of the successful efforts made recently at Venice by the British and British Indian Delegates to secure the application of a reasonable limit with regard to restrictions as to goods, this attitude on the part of the Ceylon Government seems to be particularly unfortunate.

Without further commenting on the details of the Ceylon regulations the Board would point out that regulations of this character, issued with the authority of British officials and in the name of British Colonial Governments, constitute one of the greatest hindrances which British Delegates have from time to time experienced at International Conferences when endeavouring to secure for British ships, British commerce, and British subjects reasonable freedom from those vexatious quarantine restrictions and detentions which have, again and again, been shown to be useless. Indeed, the Board feel convinced that if the regulations issued by the Government of Ceylon had been published and made known before the termination of the sittings of the recent Conference at Venice, they would have gone far to prevent the British Delegates from securing many of the advantages which were obtained on that occasion, and which have since been embodied in the Convention which was drawn up and accepted on behalf of Her Majesty's Government.

I am, etc.,
ALFRED D. ADRIAN,
Assistant Secretary.

No. 9.

Governor the Right Hon. Sir J. WEST RIDGEWAY, K.C.B., K.C.S.I., to the Right Hon. J. CHAMBERLAIN, M.P.

Queen's House, Colombo,
Ceylon, August 13, 1897.

Miscellaneous.—No. 282.

SIR,—I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your circular despatch of the 24th May last, transmitting for my consideration a copy of the report of the British Delegates on the proceedings of the International Sanitary Conference which was recently held at Venice, together with copy of the Convention, and desiring to be informed whether this Colony is willing to become a party to it.

2. In reply, I have the honour to inform you that the Ceylon Government is willing to observe the Convention generally, but, considering the peculiar position of Colombo as a port of call for all ships and its propinquity to various possible centres of the plague, I consider the restrictions proposed by the Convention to be the minimum which should be adopted if the disease is, with any hope of certainty, to be kept out of the Island. The particular conditions of the Convention which I consider to be either insufficient or inapplicable in the case of Ceylon are those relating to the limitation of the definition of an infected area to the actual district, town, or village where the disease prevails, and to the substitution of "surveillance," as defined in the Convention, for "observation." In the former case it is quite possible that the plague might be imported from Bombay into a small port on the western coast nearer Ceylon, and thence imported into Ceylon before Bombay Government can ascertain or has time to notify that the port in question is infected. In the latter case there are not the means in most districts of Ceylon of ensuring the proper medical supervision of persons who would otherwise be under observation.

3. I would further add that the Ceylon Government, while accepting the precautions proposed by the Convention as the minimum which it can safely enforce, is anxious, as far as possible, to adhere to the terms of the Convention, and will do so as long as it is not necessary to take additional precautions. As a proof of this desire, it has already reduced the period of quarantine on arrivals from infected ports from fifteen to ten days, and it has limited the prohibition of imports to goods defined as susceptible in the Convention.

I have, etc.,
WEST RIDGEWAY.

No. 10.

Governor the Right Hon. Sir J. West Ridgeway, K.C.B., K.C.S.I., to the Right Hon. J. Chamberlain, M.P.

Queen's House, Colombo,
Ceylon, August 30, 1897.

Miscellaneous.—No. 295.

Sir,—I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your despatch No. 257 of 6th August last, with which you transmit copy of a letter from the Local Government Board relative to the regulations made under the Ceylon "Quarantine and Prevention of Diseases Ordinance, 1897."

2. The Local Government Board comment severely on the stringency of the regulations which were enforced by this Government with a view of preventing the spread of plague to this Island from Bombay and other ports on the Western Coast of India. I do not think that the Board have given sufficient consideration to the difficulties and dangers of Ceylon in this matter.

3. Ceylon is not a country provided with several ports available for the purpose of trade and shipping. Colombo is practically its only commercial port, and Colombo were closed the Island would, for purposes of trade, be literally cut off from the rest of the world. At present Colombo is the port of call for all vessels, and is undoubtedly the centre of passenger and traffic communication in the East. Its maintenance, therefore, as an exceptionally "clean" port is of general and not merely local importance, and caution is as much dictated by external as by internal circumstances.

4. If the plague broke out at Colombo most vessels would doubtless case to call there, and there would be no means, except at excessively high freights, of exporting tea and other produce. This would mean disaster, if not ruin. Under these circumstances the Local Government is justified, and indeed imperatively called upon, to take every possible precaution to prevent the importation of the disease into the Island. I think also that the Local Government Board overlook the propinquity of Ceylon to Bombay and other possible centres of plague, and that it is quite possible that the plague might be introduced from Bombay into one of the intermediate ports, and thence to Colombo, before the Bombay Government could have time to declare the port in question to be infected. In a letter, dated 5th April last, to the Bombay Government this Government explained that "in view of the admitted ignorance regarding the origin of the plague, and the means by which it can be carried or transmitted, and also in view of the fact that the appearance of the disease in Ceylon would assuredly lead to the prohibition of the introduction of Ceylon produce and exports into Europe, a result which would be nothing short of disastrous to this Colony, the Ceylon Government have been compelled to take precautions, even more stringent than those to which objection has been offered by the Chamber of Commerce, Bombay, in order not only to protect Ceylon against the introduction of the plague, but to satisfy Europe that there is no necessity for adopting against Ceylon the prohibitive measures which are being enforced against Bombay and other Indian ports. I am to add that the Ceylon Government are prepared to reconsider the precautionary measures adopted when the report of the Venice Conference is published."

5. I hope that you will consider the attitude thus assumed to be reasonable. Before the Venice Conference met there was no general agreement even among experts regarding the origin of the disease, the manner in which it could be transmitted, and the period of incubation. Each nation judged for itself, and as trade with Europe was far more important to this Colony than trade with Western India, it was decided to sacrifice the latter in order to secure the former. The policy was quite successful, and the prohibition by Russia, for instance, of imports from India was not extended to Ceylon.

6. Immediately the report of the Venice Conference was received the precautions taken by this Colony were relaxed. The period of quarantine was reduced from fifteen to ten days, prohibition of imports was limited to goods defined by the Conference as "susceptible," and the restrictions, except as regards susceptible goods, imposed on trade with ports of Western India not known to be infected have been removed. In short, the recommendations of the Conference have been adopted, and it will be the anxious desire of this Government strictly to conform to them as long as possible. Nevertheless, for the reasons stated in my despatch No. 282 of 13th instant, I desire to retain liberty of action in case of the necessity arising for additional precautions owing to our propinquity to possible plague and cholera centres. If this Government failed to claim for itself this right, it would incur a grievous responsibility, and its consequent inability to act at the moment of danger might probably bring disaster upon the Colony.

I am, etc.,
WEST RIDGEWAY.

Exd.—P. K. B.

3
22 Sept 1897

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