Local & Munl. (1899) Department.

MISCELLANEOUS.

G.O., No. 1681 L

DATED 19. 8. 99

INDEXED.

DESPATCHED

[Despatch Abstract.]

Memorandum by the army Sany. Comr. on the Sany. Comr's report for 1896 – Stating that the suggestion made by the Sany. Comr. that Dt. Medl. & Sany. Officers should be required to devote greater attention to Sanitary, Vaccination & Registration work than at present by being permitted to go on tour at their discretion will be considered in the Public Dept and disallowing for the reasons stated the Sany. Comr's proposal to employ two reserve Deputy Inspectors of Vaccination in his office.

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 and Municipal Dept.

Cur Nos 622 L, 1948 L and 1949 L

Issue 5 viii 99

A.A. 7.8.99

Order No. 1681 L mis 19.8.99

The Government of India will be addressed.

2. The suggestion made by the Sanitary Commissioner in para 2 of his second letter read above, that District Medical and Sanitary Officers should be required to devote greater attention to sanitary, vaccination and registration work than at present and that they should be permitted to go on tour at their discretion, will be considered in the Public Department.

3. With reference to the Sanitary Commissioner's proposal in the same paragraph that two reserve deputy Inspectors of Vaccination should be attached to his office so that they may be available for filling up temporary

I should think it would be better first to consider the matter in Pub. Depmt., decide upon it & then address the Govt. of India & so dispose of the whole matter at once.

It will be very long before orders are passed on this point as the S.G. must be consulted and it is submitted the letter to the Govt of India may go at once

4 viii 99

2

vacancies among the staff of Deputy Inspectors caused by men proceeding on leave or falling ill, it is observed that as a large number of Certificated Sanitary Inspectors, now employed on temporary plague duty, all of ~~them~~ will eventually be available for other employment, and as the number of men securing certificates as trained Sanitary Inspectors will go on increasing year by year, there will, in the opinion of Government, be no difficulty in filling up vacancies among Deputy Inspectors of Vaccination.

V.R.
25/7/99

G.S.W.
28.7.99

[redacted]

To
The Public Dept
" Sanitary Commr.

Desp 23/8/99

Memorandum by the Army Sanitary Commission on the Sanitary Commissioner's report for 1896.

HM

Pub u o No. 23 d 28. 7. 99.

[redacted]

Public Dept for C.i

with reference to the portion marked P on pp 11 & 12 of the note.

A

Para 4 of the memorandum

Local and Municipal Dept.

Cur Nos 622 L, 1948 L and 1949 L

For orders

In its letter transferred with the endorsement of the Public Department read above, the Government of India draws the attention of this Government to certain passages in the memorandum by the Army Sanitary Commission on the report of the Sanitary Commissioner for Madras for the year 1896, namely:—

(1) that a satisfactory explanation is wanting of the reason why only about one in ten villages was, on an average, attacked by Cholera, although the disease prevailed in every district in the Presidency and although in point of

their sanitary or insanitary condition there is probably little distinguishable difference between those that suffered and those that escaped and

(2) that in view of the inaccuracy of the vaccination returns and the fraudulent practices which prevail with reference to their preparation; it is desirable that Civil Surgeons should have charge of and should be held responsible for the work of vaccination in their districts so that an improvement in the accuracy of the returns might be effected.

para 5 of the memorandum

2. The Sanitary Commissioner having been called upon to report on these points, the second and the third letters read above contain the explanations received from him.

As regards the first point, Dr King submits a lengthy memorandum in

Office.

It was quite unnecessary to re-write in this note Dr. King's memorandum.

B.J.W

which he states

(1) that in dealing with an epidemic microbic disease like cholera there have to be considered the lines of passenger traffic, the habits of the people in respect to their water supplies and the nature of these supplies, and these being literally "sanitary conditions" in which villages differ from each other enormously, the results produced must be likewise different.

(2) that villages differ from each other in their chances of being attacked, according as their water supplies are open to pollution and common to each other and, in some measure, in accordance with their proximity to each other, implying even where water-supplies are not common, the possibility of contamination of their special sources by villagers arriving from infected localities

(3) that if a river, for instance, be contaminated with some specific cause of cholera, it might be expected

that villages near its bank using its water would suffer from the disease while the villages with which these are in Common, even if they do not use the water, would be affected in a greater ratio than villages having no water supply in common and having less inter-Communication and (4) that if it were possible to classify the villages in a large area of Country under the different conditions referred to in Clause (3) above, it should be capable of proof that the incidence of Cholera is, in an appreciable measure, determined by them.

Dr King also forwards maps showing the rivers in the Kurnool district and the whole of the Cauvery basin and states that the case of the Hindree river in Kurnool illustrates in a marked manner, the carriage of infective matter by water, for when cases were reported in the village of Kullur and there was

? ab ovo
AA

was at the time no other case in the district except a single one in the distant taluk of Markapur on the previous date, and it therefore seemed, in the absence of reports of Cholera from villages up the river, to be a genuine ab ovo instance of production, it was ascertained on personal enquiries made by the Sanitary Commissioner, that cases of Cholera had occurred among pilgrims who had washed their clothing in the river within two days previously. Again in the case of the Kunder river passing along the Nandyal town, Cholera-infected clothing was washed in the river and in spite of the warning given to the villagers on the banks not to use the river water, some of them, it is believed, did use the water, with the result that Cholera appeared down the stream as shown on the map. As the incidence of the disease during both of the above epidemics was, with one exception, confined to those villages using the water of the stream known to have been contaminated, Dr King considers that although this may have been, after all, a mere coincidence, still the chances would seem to indicate that it was cause and effect. From an inspection of the map showing the Cauvery basin which represents the results obtained in two epidemics in 1887 and 1896, the incidence of the former being indicated by red dots and that of the latter by blue dots, Dr King states that no one could help feeling otherwise than struck with the fact that whilst the villages along the river bank were almost invariably affected, those which are distant from it escaped in a great measure. Taking the Bhavani stream as an example, it is seen that for every ten villages within five miles of either bank of the river 1·34 were affected against 0·24 in every ten beyond

that distance and that in tracing the river towards the Mettapalaiam taluk, a curious fan-like aspect of attacked localities is exhibited - a result which implies, to Dr King's mind, the contamination of the main stream and the distribution of the virus by the endless irrigation channels on its approach to the coast.

Certain other passages bearing on cholera in the Memorandum of the Army Sanitary Commission are also commented upon by Dr King, although the attention of this Government has not been drawn to them by the Government of India.

In para 4 of its memorandum, the Commission maintains that cholera refuses to accommodate itself to any law, seeing that whilst in Coimbatore it was during the last three months of the year that cholera prevailed, in Bellary, the greatest incidence was during May, June and July. To Dr King, however, it appears that

This is a misquotation of wh. I regret to see that Dr. King has also been guilty. The following very important words have been omitted "which has yet been discovered"

MA

these very instances which the Army Sanitary Commission quotes of inapplicability of laws, are good examples of their applicability, and he proceeds to prove by facts and figures that so long as Coimbatore and Bellary occupy their present respective geographical positions and in consequence their sub-soil and water supplies are chiefly affected by different monsoons, the greatest incidence of mortality will, in the presence of existing insanitary conditions affording opportunities for the continued vitality and propagation of the Cholera microbe, continue in these districts with clock-like regularity in the months referred to by the Commission.

In the same paragraph, the Army Sanitary Commission states that "such sanitary improvements as have been effected in towns have not so far placed them in a better position for warding off Cholera

than

than villages in which things remain pretty much what they have been from time immemorial." With regard to this, Dr King remarks that it is futile to compare, as is done by the Commission, the death rate from Cholera in Municipalities with the Presidency as a whole, for the reason that the Municipalities in the districts affected by the South west monsoon are not equal in number and population to those in the districts affected by the north-east monsoon, so that it would be unfair to compare their total average rate with that of the whole Presidency. To make a proper comparison the rates for each district must be compared with those for its own Municipalities, or better still, each Municipality with its own taluk, and Dr King proves by statistics that in the case of the Cuddapah Municipality where public water works have been so largely extended as to embrace the whole of the town, the rate of mortality from Cholera has decidedly shown a reduction without a corresponding decrease in the rate for the Cuddapah taluk.

Adverting to the suggestion made by the Army Sanitary Commission that Civil Surgeons should have charge of and should be held responsible for vaccination work in their districts, Dr King points out that under existing orders this work is already in charge of District Medical and Sanitary officers, although the departmental instructions issued by the Surgeon General in 1895 placing certain restrictions on the touring of these officers has had the effect of making them take greater care of medical work than vaccination and sanitation and the Sanitary Commissioner therefore requests that in order to secure the correct working of the present system, the Government should issue orders that

that District Medical and Sanitary officers shall in communication with his office devote greater attention to Sanitary, Vaccination and registration work than at present and shall be at liberty to effect their tours at their discretion. Dr King also suggests that his office should be provided with two reserve Deputy Inspectors of Vaccination as great inconvenience is now felt in providing suitable substitutes when vacancies are caused among Deputy Inspectors by illness or departure on leave.

3. It is submitted that a copy of Dr King's memorandum on cholera may be forwarded ~~may be forward~~ ~~it~~ to the Government of India for its information.

The suggestion made by the Sanitary Commissioner that Government should direct the District Medical and Sanitary Officers to devote greater attention to Sanitary, Vaccination and registration work than at present and should permit them to

This may be done. Dr King has exposed the ineptitude of the remarks of the Commission.

GTW
28.7.99

The Army Sanitary Commn. seems to be a singularly unintelligent body at times. I had one or two curious illustrations of this when I was Presdt. M.C. Madras in the early eighties. But see below.

AA.

P

go on tour at their discretion is for consideration in the Public Department.

With reference to Dr King's suggestion that his office should be provided with two reserve Deputy Inspectors of Vaccination who may be available to take up the places of men proceeding on leave or falling ill, it is submitted that as in G.O. No 435 Public dated 17th April 1897, the Sanitary Commissioner has been permitted to enlist trained Sanitary Inspectors as Deputy Inspectors of Vaccination, there should be no difficulty in finding men to take up vacancies among the latter. From para 66 of the Sanitary Commissioner's administration Report for 1898, it appears that there were at the end of that year 76[*] certificated Sanitary Inspectors employed by Local Boards and Municipal Councils and 69 employed

[*] on Salaries ranging between Rs 20 and Rs 70 with a pony allowance of Rs 15 per mensem

[*] First Class - Rs 70 or Rs 60 per mensem
Second Class. Rs 40 -do-

employed on plague duty. As there are only 61 Deputy Inspectors[*] of Vaccination in the Presidency and as a large number of certificated Sanitary Inspectors is likely to be available for employment especially when plague disappears and more candidates pass out from year to year, it is submitted that there is no need to entertain two reserve Deputy Inspectors of Vaccination as recommended by Dr King.

4 The accompanying draft order and letter are submitted for approval:—

V.R.
25/7/99

There must be many Sanitary inspectors recently freed from plague duty.

G.P.W.

To. Pub. Depart. C.O.

Dr King's memo. is excellent except for his para 8 (vide page 7 of off. note) the argument of wh. is based on a misquotation. The A.S.C. does not maintain that "cholera refuses to accommodate itself to any law". It says

"Cholera refuses to accommodate its incidence to any law which has yet been discovered." para 4. of A.S.C. report.

It is nonsense therefore "to conclude that cholera distribution according to the A.S.C. is the mere result of chance". para 8 of Dr K's memo.

It may be that Dr K. rightly indicates what the law is, showing that it has been discovered, & I am disposed to agree with him, but that is not his argument.

MA 7.8.99.

[H. / 73]
1,000-31-7-97.

NOTE FOR THE Chief Secy.

These papers have been referred to Public (u.o.) with reference to the passage marked P at pages 11 & 12 of the note for orders, & to the remark by the Secy. L & M. Dept. in the margin of the draft G.O. below the note for orders.

2. If it is decided that, before addressing the Govt. of India in L & M, orders should be passed in Public on the question of the inspection tours of Dist. Medl. & Sany. officers, the letter from the Sany. Commr. of the 7th July 1899 (L & M. Current No 1949) should be referred officially to Public, when the remarks of the Surgeon Genl. will be obtained, & the necessary action taken —

28.7.99. L & M. u.o.

30.7.99.

It seems unnecessary to wait before replying to India. It is submitted that the draft letter may go.

HM 4.viii.99

Yes
MA 7.8.99

Memorandum by the Army Sanitary Commission on the Sanitary Commissioner's report for 1896

[L. & M. / 200—8-11-98.]

Local and Municipal Departt.

Cur. Nos. 622 L, 1948 L and 1949 L.

NOTE FOR THE Secretary.

It is submitted that the letter to the Government of India in this case should be sent up for His Excellency's approval with reference to Office note No. 629 Public, dated 20th March 1896, (flagged O) from which it will be seen that His Excellency wishes to see the drafts of all letters to the Government of India other than those on purely routine matters.

VR
10/8/99

Very well. Send it to H.E.

A
12. viii 99

Public Department Office-Note
No. 629 dated 20th March 1896.

To The Secretaries to Government,

Please note that His Excellency the Governor wishes to see the drafts of all letters to the Government of India other than those on purely routine matters.

the Department Office - Pub

No 639 dated 20th March 189

the Secretaries to Government

Please note that His Excellency

the Governor wishes to see the

drafts of all letters to the

Government of India other

than those on purely routine

matters

Sanitary Commissioner, Madras
Register No. 1446/5
15 MAR 99

Local & Munl. (1899) Department.

CURRENT No. 622

TO BE RETURNED WITH REPLY

From The Public Department.

~~**Order**~~ No 311 d/ 14-3-99

Referred to the Sanitary Commissioner for report.

H Tremenheere
Secretary to Government

V.R.
10/3/99

No. 561

Dated 23-2-99

Received ———

Registered 24-2-99

Enclosures 1

Spare copies nil

SUBJECT.

Transferring letter from the Govt. of India, Home Department drawing attention to certain passages in the memorandum by the Army Sanitary Commission on the Report of the Sanitary Commissioner of Madras for 1896

Ag. 5.99 4/3/99

BACK PAPERS

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Public (1899) Department.

CURRENT No. 565

N/

LOCAL & MUNICIPAL DEPT.
CURRENT No. 622L

From

The Govt. of India
Home Dept.

~~Order~~ Endorsement:- No. 561. d/23-2-99.

Transferred to the Local
and Municipal department.

A. R. Knapp
for Under Secretary.

No. 634

Dated 16. 2. 99.

Received } 20. 2. 99.
Registered }

Enclosures

Spare copies 7

KM
22/2/99

Cm
22.2.99

SUBJECT.

Drawing the attention of the Madras Govt. to certain passages in the Memorandum by the Army Sanitary Commission on the Reports of the Sanitary Commissioner for Madras for the year 1896

To

The Local & Municipal department.

9l
23/2

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
	160	Pub.	8.2.98.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

CURRENT NO. 565

No. 634.

FROM

R. NATHAN, Esq.,
Under Secretary to the Government of India,

To

THE CHIEF SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

Home Department.
Sanitary.

Calcutta, the 16th *February* 1899.

CHIEF SECRETARIAT
20 FEB. 1899
GOVERNMENT MADRAS

SIR,

I AM directed to state that the Government of India desire to draw the attention of the Government of Madras to certain passages in the memorandum by the Army Sanitary Commission on the Report of the Sanitary Commissioner of Madras for the year 1896, copies of which were forwarded to the Government of Madras by the Secretary of State with his Despatch No. 1 (Statistics), dated the 10th November 1898.

D
in G.O. 187 L / 26.1.99

2. In paragraph 4 of the memorandum, the Commission remark that a satisfactory explanation is wanting of the reason why, although cholera prevailed in every district in the Presidency, only about one in ten villages was on an average attacked.

A
B

3. In paragraph 5, the Commission comment on the inaccuracy of the vaccination returns and the fraudulent practices which prevail with reference to their preparation. The Commission suggest that if Civil Surgeons were to have charge of, and were held responsible for, the work of vaccination in their districts, an improvement in the accuracy of the returns might be effected.

I have the honour to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient Servant,

R Nathan

Under Secretary to the Government of India.

1 / 622/L/99

Local & Munl. (1899) Department.

CURRENT No. 1948L

From
The Sanitary Commissioner
for Madras.

Order

No. 1807/S

Dated 7th July 1899.

Received 10 JUL. 1899

Registered 11 July 99

Enclosures Six.

Spare copies.

SUBJECT.

Submitting report with ref: to Endorsement of Govt: No 311 dated 14th March 1899 on letter from the Govt. of India, Home Deptt: drawing attention to certain passages in the memorandum by the Army Sanitary Commission on the report of the Sanitary Commissioner of Madras for 1896.

18/7/99.

NB
10/7

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

[300—10-2-99.]

No. 1807/S

Office of Sanitary Commissioner,
Madras ~~Madras~~, 7th July 1899

From

Lieut.-Colonel W. G. King, M.B., C.M., D.P.H., I.M.S.,
Sanitary Commissioner for Madras,

To

The Secretary to Government
Local & Municipal Deptt.

LOCAL & MUNICIPAL DEPT.
CURRENT No. 19482

Enclosures.
(Six).

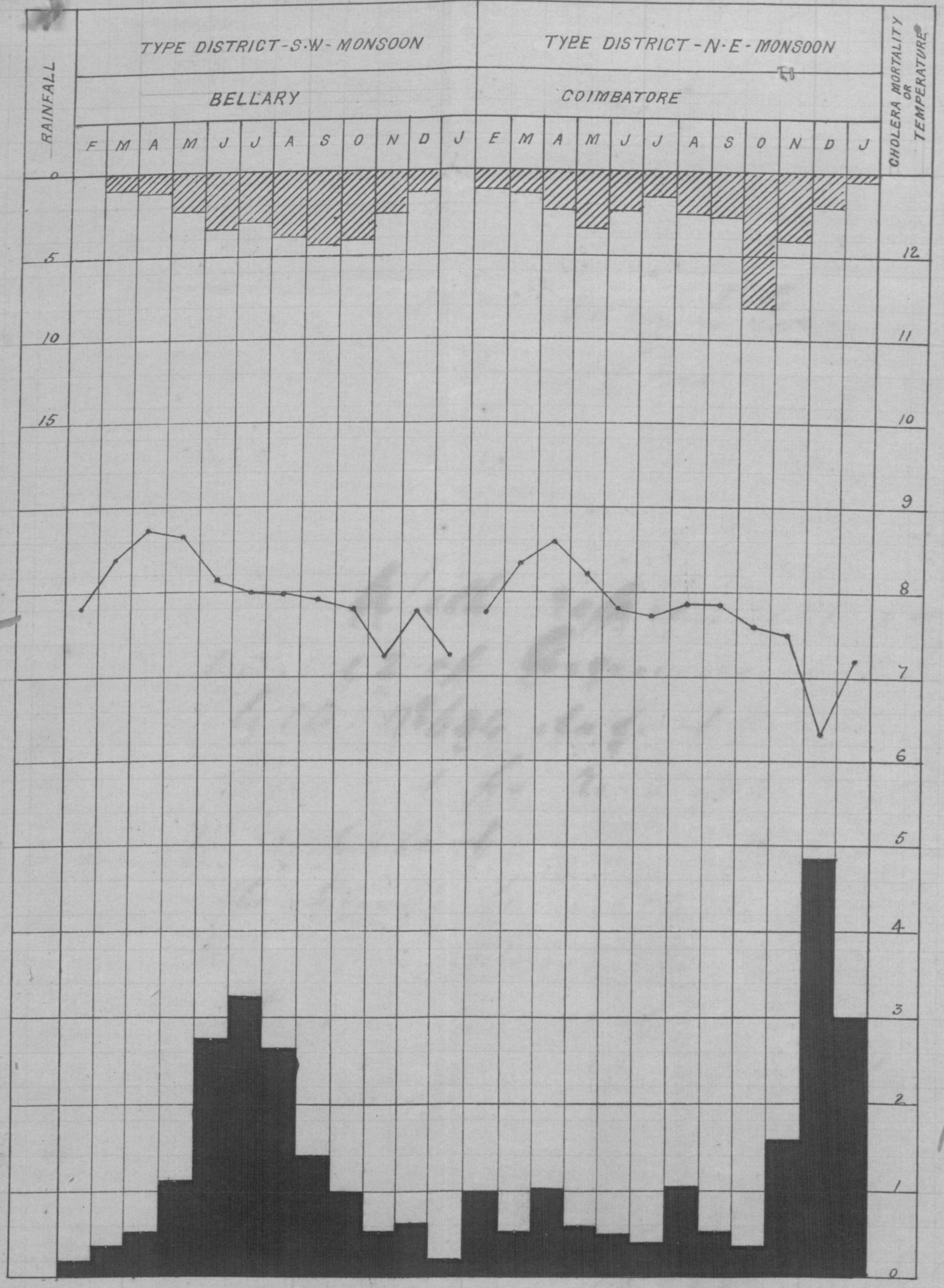
Sir,

With reference to paras 1 and 2 of Government of India's letter No. 634 dated 6th February 1899, referred for remarks with Endt. No. 311 dated 14 March 1899, I have the honor to enclose herewith a memorandum on the question therein raised.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedt. Servt.
W G King
Lt. Col. I.M.S.
Sanitary Commissioner
for Madras

A

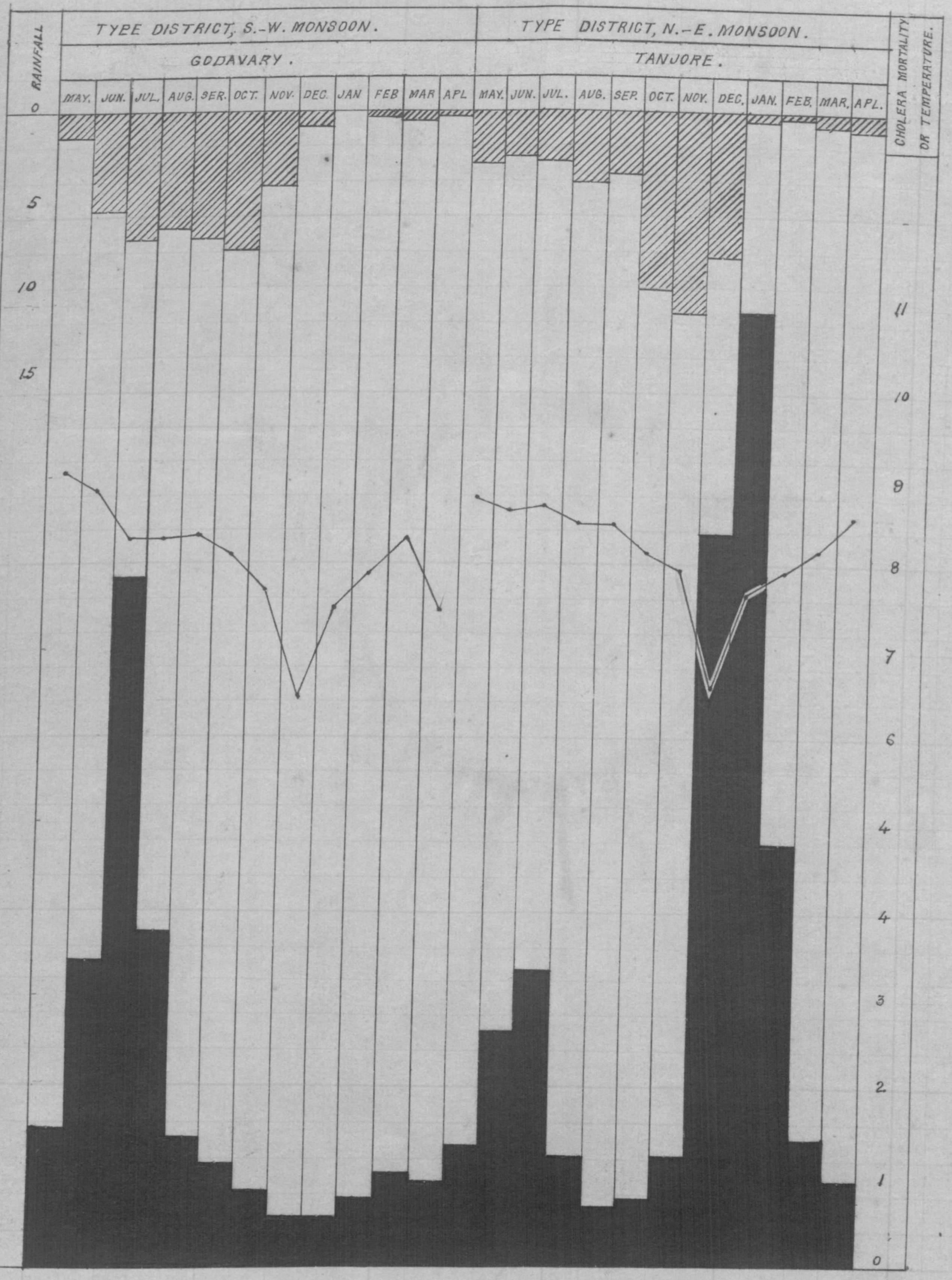
SEASONAL INCIDENCE OF MORTALITY FROM CHOLERA.
(DEDUCED FROM A TEN YEAR AVERAGE)



Cus. 2/194 CL 8779

B

Seasonal incidence of Mortality from Cholera in the Madras Presidency



REFERENCES.

RAINFALL IN INCHES THUS ▨

CHOLERA MORTALITY PER 10,000, „ ■

TEMPERATURE IN DEGREES „ ∨

NOTE.— IN READING THE TEMPERATURE ON THIS DIAGRAM, THE SCALE SHOULD BE TAKEN TO RISE BY TEN INSTEAD OF BY ONE AS MARKED.

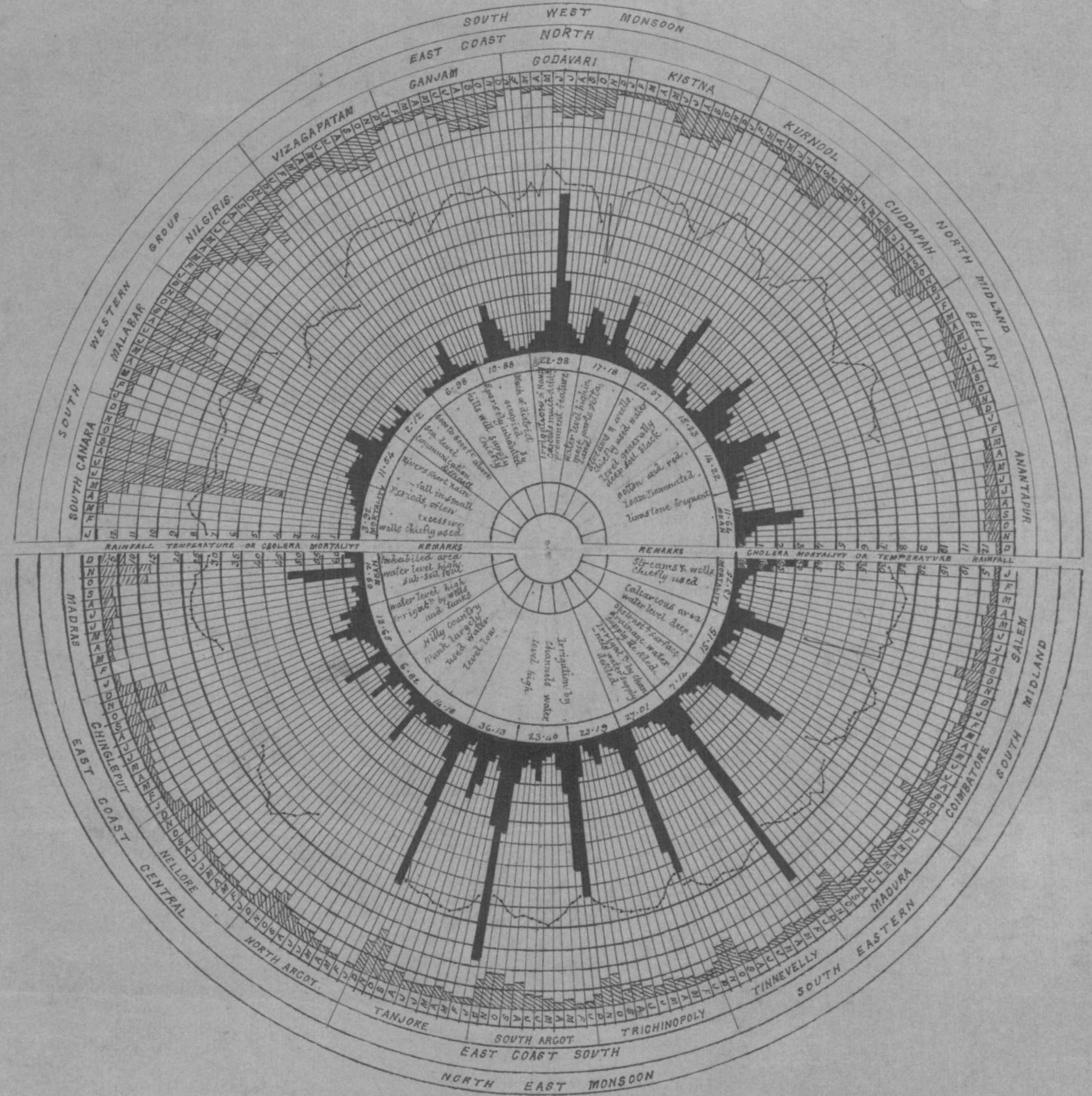
18/7/81

1895, the Surgeon-General issued Depart-

3
Cno. 19682 889

C

No. 2



REFERENCE.

Shade represents Rainfall in inches.
Thick black represents Cholera Mortality Per 10,000.
Hard line represents Temperature in degrees.

NOTE. — In reading the Temperature on this diagram, the scale should be taken to rise by ten instead of by one as marked.
In the notes within the circle the term "Water Level" is to be understood as applying to the subsoil water Level.

liberty to effect them
their discretion.

96/11

18/7/89

mental instructions whic t restricted the movements of

$\frac{4}{1948}$ L of 99

Local & Munl. (1899) Department.

CURRENT No. 1949 L.

From The Sanitary Commissioner for Madras.

Order

No. $\frac{1808}{S.}$

Dated 7. July 1899.

Received 10 JUL. 1899

Registered 11 July 99.

Enclosures –

Spare copies. –

SUBJECT.

Stating with reference to para 3 of Govt of India's letter No: 634 dated 6. February 1899 that in the circumstances stated District medical and Sanitary officers be required to devote better attention to sanitary, vaccination and registration work and be at liberty to effect their tours at their discretion.

18/7/99

mental instructions whic t restricted the movements of

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Office of Sanitary Commissioner,
Madras, 7 July 1899.

No: 1808/S

From,

Lieut-Colonel W.G.King,M.B.,C.M.,D.P.H.,I.M.S.
Sanitary Commissioner for Madras,

TO

The Secretary to Government,
Local and Municipal Department.

LOCAL & MUNICIPAL DEPT.
CURRENT No. 1949L

Sir,

With reference to para 3 of the Government of India's letter,No: 634 dated 6th February 1899,I have the honour to state that in G.O.No: 391,Public,dated 22nd February 1883,the Government of Madras arranged that Assistant Surgeons should be appointed in each district,and that Civil Surgeons should be known as District Medical and Sanitary officers,in significance of the fact that they were no longer to consider their duties confined to medical matters and vaccination,but that sanitation in rural areas should receive attention. Under the operation of this order,District Medical and Sanitary officers were allowed to tour as they chose throughout their districts and with,I think,the very best results-as they gathered experience that enabled them to grasp both medical and sanitary requirements of the population. Matters progressed favourably until under G.O.No: 57,Public, dated 24th January 1895,the Surgeon-General issued Departmental instructions which [illegible] restricted the movements of

F

in G.O 259 L/9-2-95 H

medical officers. They were directed to inform him of the date of their departure from head-quarters, to submit programmes, and to make certain of their being back in head-quarters within ten days. Whether it was so intended or not, I consider, that this order resulted in officers taking care that medical work in head-quarters obtained much more of their time than formerly. As a result, I have no doubt the Surgeon-General has secured more attention to medical work at the Head-Quarter towns of Districts, but this order of things has been inimical to sanitary and vaccination advance. Government having been made aware of the extent to which the movements of District Medical and Sanitary officers were trammelled in G.O.No: 541, Public, dated 11th May 1897, issued orders stating it had no wish to lay down rules of the description referred to. It has not, however, seemed to me that the passing of the latter order has had the desired effect, but that the tendency is yearly for medical officers to devote less attention to sanitary and vaccination details. Possibly, the influence of the Surgeon-General's original Departmental order has not been fully counteracted. In short instead, as was hoped, the expensive change inaugurated in the G.O. first quoted enabling the Medical and Sanitary officer to frequently tour in his District, it has simply relieved him of a certain amount of personal attention to the smaller branches of his profession at Head Quarters, and thus afforded relief (which I admit was necess[illegible]or administrative work

in GO 1059 L / 3-6-97 I

in connection with Local Fund Hospitals.

2. Under these circumstances, I consider all that is necessary to secure the correct working of the present system is ~~that Government require~~ that Government require that District Medical and Sanitary officers shall, in communication with this office, devote better attention to sanitary, vaccination, and registration work, and shall be at liberty to effect their tours at their discretion. It would, however, still be desirable to provide this office with two reserve Deputy Inspectors of Vaccination, as great inconvenience is undergone in providing suitable substitutes for vacancies caused amongst Deputy Inspectors by illness and leave. When not so employed, these two subordinates could be given useful work in tracing falsifications, which frequently require more prolonged investigation than is feasible either on the part of the District Medical and Sanitary officer, or this office.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your Most Obedient Servant,

W G King
Lieut-Colonel, I.M.S.
Sanitary Commissioner for Madras.

When given for copying ——
When copied ——
When examined ——
When signed —— 22/8 } 189 .

READ AGAIN G.O., No. , DATED
189 .

URRENT No.

CLOSURES TO C. No.

ER OF GOVERNMENT .. .. .. A A A A A A A

TTER OF GOVERNMENT.

ATEMENT WITH DITTO.

APERS NOT FILED UP; BEING MEANT FOR DESPATCH
IN ORIGINAL.

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