

[L. & M.]
[8,000-5-3-96.]

Local & Munl. (1897) Department.

MISCELLANEOUS.

G.O., No. 310 P^{mo} ✓

DATED 1-3-99

[Despatch Abstract.]

Flaque Commr's diary

*Recording — of the work done
from 13th to 18th Feb 99*

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. (189) Department.

CURRENT No. 406 P

From

Mr. Plaque Comm.

Order

No. 505

Dated 24 - 2 - 99.

Received 27 - 2 - 99.

Registered 27/2

Enclosures

Spare copies

SUBJECT.

Sub 9. his diary of the
work done from 13th to 18th
Feb. 99

BACK PAPERS

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

N^o 505 d/24.2.99

No 310 Phis 1-3-99
H. 24. 28.2.99
Recorded.
H. 27.2.99

Interesting
This should
be noted in the
report to India
MS

PC for personal
H. 1.3.99

Diary of Plague Commissioner.

13-2-99 Monday

I drove out to Brikai 18 miles with the Collector,

Capt. Wrench and Dr. Noble. We found the village had been wholly evacuated and no cases had occurred for many days. This is an excellent instance of the people having commenced to help themselves. When plague appeared at Shulagiri there was no doubt that the people absolutely lost their heads. They not only did not know what to do, but they refused to do what they were told and they paid a heavy price. This has not been lost upon the people of the surrounding villages. On the appearance of the very first case the people of Brikai immediately went into huts, some of which had been held in readiness for the purpose. 12 or 15 more cases occurred and the epidemic stopped. The only question to be decided on the spot was, what disinfection should be done. A general disinfection will probably be impossible. The houses of people known to have died of plague and those in which dead rats are known to have existed will be thoroughly disinfected and the remaining houses in the blocks concerned will be freely treated with perchloride of mercury.

14-2-99 Tuesday

The general situation was discussed with the Collector and with the Superintendent, Remount Depot. The latter is ready to do anything he possibly can to help the civil authorities. He has used his influence to get the hamlets in which any of his syces reside evacuated at once and the sick people to go into camps. Contacts have been arranged for within the Remount lines. The Collector considers that no additional Sanitary Inspectors or Assistant Sanitary Inspectors are required for the district at present. The present staff will, however, be utilised in a different way to what it is at present, the charges of the different officers varying with the areas infected. There are at present 5 Supervisors. Their work and the work of the circle Inspectors is under the



direct supervision of Drs. Noble and Tebbs. Dr. Noble has up to date held charge of Hosur and Ba/galur ranges and Dr. Tebbs has had Shulagiri range. The Hosur and Ba/galur ranges include practically all the frontier and all the villages except one in which plague has been found up to the present time. Dr. Tebbs has got rid of plague at Shulagiri and the disease exists in his range only in a hamlet, called Hosahalli, consisting only of a few houses that have been evacuated, and there should be no further trouble there. It has been decided to relieve Dr. Noble of some of his work of looking after Supervisors and circle inspectors by transferring it to Dr. Tebbs. After discussing the question with the Collector, I have approved of the appointment of a 4th Supervisor, so as to place two each under Drs. Noble and Tebbs. With my concurrence he is going to appoint a native Sub-Magistrate to the post. The man is very anxious to see what he can do and I am very glad to make the experiment, for the European and Eurasian Supervisors whom we have hitherto generally employed require to be equipped with tents and this is a very serious item of expenditure. The new supervisor will be well looked after and it is hoped he will do his work well. Disinfection in the Hosur Taluk had been done very thoroughly, thanks to the energy of Capt. French; but his time has been very much taken up with keeping the sappers in order. Complaints against these men are general and serious. It is to be hoped that a British Officer of their own corps will be sent with the extra 50 sappers who have been asked for. The presence of a European officer to keep them in order is urgently required. Unless things get very much worse in Hosur I am of opinion that the situation is improving in the taluk and the advent of hot weather which seems to have begun already, will, I hope, stamp out the disease at any rate temporarily. It will no doubt be asked, why does the disease travel from village to village, why can it not be confined? and it may be said that the measures taken are inadequate. In the Hosur taluk I am inclined to think that the measures taken

Certainly
K.A.

This should
be intimated
to the mil
author's

M.A.
a. l. m. f.
17-11-15

by Government are not only satisfactory but that we have to a very great extent the co-operation of the people. They have fully realised the necessity for instant evacuation and the desirability of segregation. But segregation they detest and to avoid it they will not give

notice to the authorities of any suspicious case in their houses. They are also in earnest in keeping out strangers from infected villages; but men are men all ^{the} world over; and money gives a passport to the rich, while the ties of relationship often allow the rule of exclusion to be relaxed. As long as this goes on, I do not see how to prevent the disease from spreading from one village to another.

15-2-99 Wednesday

I drove from Mattigiri to Bangalore 28 miles and left by the evening train for Hindupur. (Anantapur District)

16-2-99 Thursday

I examined the camp in the early morning with Capt. Robertson. 13 new sheds have been added to the observation camp as suggested when I was here last. Latrines still require to be built and kitchens. In the sick camp more accommodation is necessary for persons attending on the sick and Hospital Assistants - servants. This will be arranged for. A latrine is also necessary for the Hospital servants and friends of patients; otherwise the camp is fit for present requirements. Water is supplied to the observation camp by a pipe from the Railway well and a good supply is obtained. It is carried from the observation camp to the sick camp. After seeing the camp I went round the town with Capt. Robertson. With the exception of about 10 houses, the whole place is deserted and the people are living in the fields. The disease is undoubtedly declining among the towns folk but it has unfortunately been carried to several of the surrounding villages; and how this is done, I have already said in my notes on the Hosur taluk. We saw the sepoys at work. They are working hard, but the quality of the work is certainly not satisfactory, for they will not do things in the way they are told. They do a great deal of what is unnecessary and leave undone a great deal which is most

If segregation cannot be successfully carried out, it must be abandoned.

It is of course

exhausting to the

people, and it

is worse than

useless to maintain

a farce. Before

this such a decision

could be come to

however further

information is

necessary. In the

larger towns I

understand the

system breaks

down for want

of sufficient

police. As every

house has a back

door, two policemen

are needed for

each house, besides

relays. M.B.

Then get him
changed.
MS

Then what is
the good of the
sepoys?
MS

Plan
see below
1/3

They have since
joined
A

4
necessary, while what is done is not done with the
thoroughness which is required. They have been told what to
do by Dr. Hunter and Capt. Robertson, but a native officer
who is in command seems to have no idea of carrying out
the instructions properly. An attempt is made to scrape
the whole of the walls inside of the houses from top to
bottom. The work is ~~properly~~ done and even this takes a long
time. It would be sufficient if it is done to about the
height of a man's waist and done thoroughly. Holes are not
made to admit light and air, or if made are not nearly
large enough. The floor of the houses is dug up fairly
well, but the sepoys will not burn it properly in kilns,
they put the soil outside and pile bratties and straw on
the heaps and set the tops on fire. This is useless, worse
than useless, for it induces a false sense of security.
Dr. Hunter has a lot of other work to attend to and it is
nearly impossible for him to attempt to see how each
house is disinfected. Since my inspection of the town I
have had an opportunity of discussing the situation in the
district with the collector and Capt. Robertson, and we all
agreed that the Hindupur Taluk is in a far worse state than
Gooty Taluk, where 100 sepoys are under the command of a
British officer. ~~The~~ ^{The} Gooty ~~Taluk~~ ^{Taluk} men have worked for a
long time under proper supervision and know how to do
their work properly. We have therefore arranged to bring
the British officer with 50 men to the town of Hindupur.
Mr. Marshall, the Plague Deputy Collector, will also be brought
down, and a Deputy Tahsildar for plague purposes will be
sanctioned for Gooty Taluk if required. The Road Inspec-
tion Station near Hindupur is useless at present. It has
been arranged to move it further north to where the roads
from the south pass through the ghaut towards Penulonda.
Over night Mr. Mac Michael, the Head Assistant Collector,
had heard of a suspicious case in the village called Devana-
halli, about 5 miles out. He went there in the morning and
found it was true that there was plague in the village. He
ordered immediate evacuation. In the evening, he, Capt:

Her services
should be
acknowledged
by the thanks
of the Govt.
Hl

Again the
question - what
use are they?
Hl

28.2.29

5

Robertson and myself went out to the village and found that most of the people had gone out and that others were in course of moving. Much help has been given in these parts by a brahmin lady who before the new rules came into force was Reddi of ^{Kallegina} ~~Kallegina~~. Although ousted she is still virtually Reddi and appears to possess much influence among the people.

17-2-29 Friday.

Capt. Robertson, Mr. Mac Michael and myself went in the morning to Parigi, about 7 or 8 miles out. There have been 7 cases altogether in the village of which 2 have proved fatal. With the exception of one house the village, a large one, had been wholly evacuated. The houses of the people attacked had already been disinfected by sepoy; but here again the work has been most unsatisfactorily done. Attacks have occurred only among the Brahmins and Komatis. We visited both the encampments. There is an attempt made to segregate the sick, but there is reason to believe that friends and relations generally come without restraint to see patients continually. Evacuation appears to have put a stop to further spread of the disease. The houses already disinfected must be done again properly and it will be advisable to treat the adjoining houses with disinfectants.

18-2-29 Saturday.

The Collector, Capt. Robertson, Mr. Mac Michael, Dr. Hunter and myself visited ~~Kolakunta~~ ^{Kolakunta}, a small hamlet of ~~Kolakunta~~ ^{Kolakunta}, 4 or 5 miles north of Hindupur. This hamlet has suffered ^{severely} ~~seriously~~. It consists of only 150 people and among them there have been 30 attacks and 23 deaths. They say that a long time back they told the Tahsildar the rats were dying in their houses but nothing was done. This fact did not come to the notice of the Head Assistant Collector or Dr. Hunter, and an explanation has been called for from the Tahsildar. The people are now all out in the fields with the exception of Voddas who live in an isolated place. We discovered two sick persons placed outside the

all asserted that they have been kept there for several days, but as there were no huts and no signs of any food or anything about I have not the slightest doubt, they were removed from the encampment on one side as we came in on the other. Directions were given for the reddi to - construct huts for the sick and to see that none but - immediate attendants were allowed to communicate with him. A Sanitary Inspector is left on the spot to see the orders carried out. Disinfection done in this village is also very unsatisfactory and must be done again. I left at night for Guntakal.

D. S. Mascarenhas
24/2/99

for Plague Commissioner.

H.S.
24.2.99

*admission to
place*

When given for copying _____
When copied _____
When examined _____
When signed _____

189 .

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

CURRENT No. _____

ENCLOSURES TO C. No. _____

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT A A A A A A A

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT. _____

STATEMENT WITH DITTO. _____

PAPERS NOT FILED UP, BEING MEANT FOR DESPATCH
IN ORIGINAL.

N.B. —
A = Copy in full.
B = Not to be copied
P = Copy abstract only.
Q = Copy heading only.