

PROCEEDINGS OF THE PLAGUE COMMISSIONER.

(1899)

MISCELLANEOUS.

No. 503

Dated 24-2-88

Despatched 24-2-88

[Despatch Abstract.]

Plague Commissioner's diary from
13 to 18-2-88

BACK PAPERS.

No.	Date.	No.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

No.	Date.	No.	Date.

28.8.310 P. Mis 971-3-99 ✓
(initials) H.I. A.I.A. 18-2-99
Sp today 24/2/99
Recorded 27-2-99

NOTE FOR THE / *10 am 7 P.C.*
 13. 12. 99. Monday

I drove about to Borikari
 18 miles with the Collyer, Capt
 I French & Mr Noble. We found the
 village had been wholly evacuated
 & no cases had occurred for many
 days. This is an excellent instance
 of the people having commenced
 to help themselves. When plague
 appeared at Shulaguri 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 whatever ^{the} ~~was~~ told &
 they paid a heavy price. This has
 not been lost upon ^{the} ~~the~~ people
 of the surrounding villages. On
 the appearance of the very first case
 the people Borikari immediately
 went into huts some which had
 been held in readiness for the purpose.
 12 or 13 more just occurred & 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

Interesting
This should be noted
in the do report to
India

(Std) A.I.A.

P. C for perusal
(Std) H.I. 1-3-99

No.

+ those in which dead rats are known to have existed will be thoroughly disinfected

+ 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 + with the Supdt 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 resided, evacuated at once + have the sick people to go into camps.

Contact have been arranged for within the Remount Lines. The Colbr 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 rearranging with the areas infected. There are at present 3 supervisors. Their work + the work of the Circle Inspectors is under the direct supervision of Mr Noble + Mr Theblis. Mr Noble has up to date held charge of Hosur + Bagalur ranges + Mr Theblis has the range. The Hosur + Bagalur ranges include all other frontier + all the one in which plague has been found. Mr Theblis has got plague at disease exists only in a hamlet

NOTE FOR THE

called Hosahalli consisting only of a few houses, have been evacuated + there should be no further trouble there. It has, however, been decided to relieve Mr Noble of some of his work of looking after Supervisors + Circle Inspectors by transferring it to Mr Theblis. The work of supervising properly any supervisor is considered necessary by the Collector + after discussing the question with him I have approved the appointment. With my concurrence he is going to appoint a native sub-divisional officer to the post. The man is very anxious to see what he can do + I am very glad to make the experiment, for the European + Eurasian supervisors whom we have hitherto generally employed require to be equipped with tents + this is a very serious item of expenditure. The new Supervisor will be well looked after + it is hoped he will do his work well. His infection in the Hosur Taluk had been done very thoroughly, thanks to the energy of Capt French, but

certainly
(S.D.) A.J.A.

his time has been very much taken up with keeping the sappers in order. Complaints against these men are general & 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 Hoser I am of opinion that the situation is improving in the Taluk.

& in 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 do the disease travel from village to village, why can't it be confined, & it may be said that the measures taken are inadequate. In the Hoser Taluk I am inclined to think that the measures taken by Government are not only with the other measures, 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 & the desirability of segregation. Segregation they detest & 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 even one man all over the world over & money gives passport to the rich while the

This should be
intimated to the
Milby: authorities
(J.C.) A.J.A.

If Segregation
cannot be
successfully
carried out it
must be abandoned

NOTE FOR THE

It is of course variations of relationship often allow to the people and it is more than useless to maintain a farce. Before 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.

(J.C.) A.J.A.

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 Malligiri to Bangalore 28 miles & left by the evening train to Haidapur.

16-2-99 Thursday

I examined the camp in early morning with Capt. Robertson.

13 men should have been added to the observation camp as suggested when I was here last. Latrine still require to be built & kitchens. In the sick camp more accommodation is necessary for persons attending on the sick and hospital servants. This will be arranged for. A latrine is also necessary for the hospital servants & friends of patients, otherwise the camp is fit for present requirements. Water is supplied to the observation camp

by a pipe from the city well to a good supply
is obtained. It is carried from observation
camp to the rock camp. After seeing the
camp, I went round the town with Capt
Robertson, but the exception of about 10 houses
the whole place is deserted by the people and living
in the fields. The disease is undoubtedly declining
in the town, but it has unfortunately been
carried to several of the surrounding villages
& the manner how this is done, I have already said
in my notes on the Hozur 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 the way they are told. They do a
great deal of what is unnecessary & leave
undone a great deal which is most necessary
while what is done is not done with the
thoroughness which is required. They have
been told what to do by Mr Hunter & 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
poorly done & even this takes a long time. It
would be sufficient if it is done to about the
height of a man's waist & done thoroughly.
The holes are not made to admit light &
air & if made are not nearly large enough.

Then get him
changed
(Jtd) A. J. A.

NOTE FOR THE

Then what is the good
of the Sepoys?

The floor of the houses is dug up fairly
well, but the sepoy will not
know it properly in kilns, they
put the soil outside, & pile
them in heaps & set the tops on
fire to them. This is useless &
more than useless, for it
induces false sense of security.
Mr Hunter has a lot of other
work to attend to & it is nearly
impossible for him to attempt
to see how each house is dis-
infected. Since my inspection
of the town I have had an
opportunity to discuss the situa-
tion in the district with Mr
Collier & Capt Robertson & we
all agreed that the Sindhpur
Taluk is in the far worse
state than Gooly Taluk where
100 sepoy are under the command
of a British officer. This latter
men have worked for a long
time under proper supervision
& know how to do their work
properly. We have therefore
arranged to bring a British

NOTE FOR THE

about 7 or 8 miles out. There have been 7 cases altogether in the village about 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 has already been disinfected by Sepoys; but here again the work has been most unsatisfactorily done. Attacks have occurred only among the Brahmins & Komatis. We visited both the encampments. There is an attempt made of the segregation of the sick, but there is reason to believe that friends & 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 & it will be advisable to treat the adjoining houses with disinfectant.

again the question - what use are they?
(Std) A.J.A.
28.2.99.

officer with 50 men to the town of Hindupur. Mr Marshall the Plague Deputy Collector will also be brought down & the Deputy Tahsildar for plague purposes will be sanctioned for Gooty Taluk. The Road Inspection 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 ghats towards Penunkonda.

Over night Mr MacMichael the Asst. Col. had heard of a suspicious case in the village called Barkanahalli about 5 miles out. He went there in the morning & found it was true that there was plague in the village. He ordered immediate evacuation. In the evening, he, Capt. Robertson, & myself went out to the village & found that most of the people had gone out & that others were in course of moving. Much help has been given in these parts by a Brahmin lady who before new rules came into force was ready to Reddi. (Balarani) although ousted, she is still virtually ready & appears to possess much influence among the people.

Her services should be acknowledged by the thanks of the Collector.
(Std) A.J.A.

17.2.99. 4 Sunday
Capt. Robertson, Mr MacMichael & myself went in the morning to Penung

18 2 99 Saturday

The Col^r, Capt Robertson, Mr
Mac Michael, Mr Hunter & myself
visited ~~Kolamunda~~ ^{Kotman} a small hamlet of
Kotman at 5 miles north of Haidapur.
This hamlet has suffered severely. It
consists of only 150 people, among them
there have been 30 attacks & 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 Col^r or
Col^r or Mr Hunter and explanation
has been called for from the Tahsildar.
The people are now all out in the fields
with the exception of ^{Vodis who live in an} ~~warden~~ isolated
place. We discovered two sick persons placed
outside the encampment under the trees. The
peddi & the Villagers all asserted that they
have been kept ^{but} for several days, & as there
were no huts & no signs of any food or anything
about I have not slightest doubt they were
removed from the encampment ^{on} ~~from one side~~ as
we came by the other. Perfections were given
for the peddi to construct huts for the sick & 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. His infection done in this village
is also very unsatisfactory must be done again.

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