

PROCEEDINGS OF THE PLAGUE COMMISSIONER.

(1899)

MISCELLANEOUS.

No. 51
Dated 6-1-99
Despatched

[Despatch Abstract.]

Fortnightly Narrative

Recording G.O. recording Plague cases
of plague for the period from 4th to

17th Dec. '98.

BACK PAPERS.

No.	Date.	No.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

No.	Date.	No.	Date.

Government {1898} of Madras. LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL.

To be filed with
Prog 57
67-99

1899
16/12/99

Recd.

Regd.

1899.

Enclosures

Spare copies

G.O., No. 1621 P., 30th December 1898.

DECEMBER.

Fortnightly Narrative of Plague Cases.

Recording letter from the Plague Commissioner submitting — for the period from Sunday the 4th December to Saturday the 17th December 1898.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following paper :—

From L. E. BUCKLEY, Esq., I.C.S., Plague Commissioner, Madras, to the Secretary to Government, Local and Municipal Department, dated 19th December 1898.

I have the honour to submit, for the information of Government, the fortnightly narrative of plague cases for the period from Sunday, 4th December, to Saturday, 17th December 1898.

2. I regret that G.O., No. 1553 P., dated 9th December 1898, did not reach me in time to call for information from Collectors as to the progress of inoculation.

ENCLOSURES.

FORTNIGHTLY narrative for period from 4th to 17th December 1898.

Progress of Plague.—During the fortnight the following cases were reported :—

	Imported.		Indigenous.	
	Seizures.	Deaths.	Seizures.	Deaths.
Anantapur District	4	2	35	22
Bellary	3	2	57	54
Chingleput	4	3	..	..
Kurnool	1	1	3	1
North Arcot	7	4	..	..
Salem	8	4	21	14
Trichinopoly	1	..	..	..
Madras City	5	2	..	..
Total	33	18	116	91

Details are given in the Appendix.

2. Anantapur District.—The number of seizures and deaths reported from Guntakal showed a marked decrease, the deaths falling to 11 from 40 reported in the previous fortnightly report. It is probable that the reports are not accurate, for the people are all living in scattered encampments in the fields and the collection of statistics is difficult. The people put up hospitals for themselves, but they will not make use of them. Deaths can often be traced only by fresh graves. A daily inspection of all would probably result in scattering the people, which should be avoided. There can be little doubt, however, that things are taking a turn for the better in this village. During the last few days no deaths were discovered among the villagers. The disinfection of the village is progressing satisfactorily and should be completed in a few days. Inoculation is not popular. The outbreak at Kotala, a hamlet of Guntakal, which was reported last fortnight, became serious, there being 23 attacks and 9 deaths out of a population of about 250. The villagers evacuated the village almost immediately, many of them being helped with tents transferred from Guntakal. They have almost all settled in one encampment; the returns may be regarded as reliable. They themselves place their sick in sheds a small distance away from

the encampment; sheds are being erected for them at a rather greater distance. The village will be disinfected as soon as the sepoys have finished Guntakal. Inoculation is not popular. The disease has become indigenous in Hindupur. The affected houses have been disinfected, and the sick and contacts removed to the Government camp. Three-fourths of the population has taken to the fields. Subsequent reports show that the disease is spreading. Inoculation is not popular.

Bellary District.—The history of the first indigenous case is obscure.

The disease proved very fatal in Molagavalli, where no less than 55 seizures and 52 deaths were reported; but these figures are probably below the mark. The village, the population of which is over 3,000, has been evacuated and is being disinfected by sepoys. The people have gone to live in huts in the fields. The area of the village is a large one, the encampments are small and scattered, and information is difficult to obtain. The people cannot be got to attend the Government camp. The village is very much isolated, there being no other village for seven miles round. Inoculation has been started but is not very popular.

Kurnool District.—At the close of the fortnight indigenous plague was reported from Maddikera, a village ten miles or so from Molagavalli and Guntakal. The cause of the outbreak has not been traced clearly, but is probably due to communication with Guntakal. It is probable that the disease had been in the town for some days before it was discovered. The Collector has acted promptly, and is preparing a camp for contacts and sick, who are at present confined to isolated houses in the town. People are leaving for the fields. Arrangements are being made for inoculation.

Salem District.—In the last fortnightly report it was stated that a suspected indigenous case had occurred at Mattigiri in the Hosur taluk about thirty miles from Bangalore. Since then the disease has established itself indigenously, probably through the medium of infected grain. The Collector has taken prompt and energetic measures. The quarter affected has been evacuated, and is being disinfected by sepoys. People are freely coming forward for inoculation.

3. Segregation, &c.—Segregation has been carried out satisfactorily in practically all the imported cases, and also in Mattigiri, Hindupur, Maddikera and Hospet, and so far as the sick are concerned fairly in Kotala. In Guntakal and Molagavalli where the people are widely scattered it has been found practically impossible to secure segregation. In all the villages seriously affected the people have realised the value of evacuation.

4. Attitude of the people.—There has been no active hostility during the fortnight. In most parts the people distrust the Government camps, and the camps at Guntakal village and Molagavalli have been of little use. Inoculation is unpopular in the affected areas except at Mattigiri and for a short time at Molagavalli. In the latter village a woman was seized with plague a few hours after inoculation, and died, and people then grew suspicious. The feeling of the people is reported to be improving in South Anantapur, and the Collector is organising observation circles which were held in abeyance after the murder of the Hindupur Tahsildar. I have questioned several of the contacts detained in Hindupur camp. They were taken there much against their will but they express themselves pleased with their treatment, and promise to tell their friends so when they get out. Two persons went from Molagavalli to Kavutalam, to tell their friends so when they get out. The villagers seized them and sent them back under the escort of the village thirty miles away. The villagers seized them and sent them back under the escort of the village servants. From Western Bellary it is reported that the people are fencing their villages with thorns to keep out intruders. They are apparently awakening to the necessity for protecting themselves.

(Signed) L. E. BUCKLEY,
Plague Commissioner.

STATEMENT showing Plague Seizures and Deaths during the Fortnight ending 17th December 1898.

Infected places.	Imported.		Indigenous.		Remarks.
	Seizures.	Deaths.	Seizures.	Deaths.	
Anantapur District.					
Guntakal	..	..	10	11	Deaths occurred mostly in huts in fields. The whole village has been evacuated. Nearly 700 out of 800 houses have been thoroughly disinfected by sepoys.
Kotala	..	..	23	9	Village evacuated. Villagers have adopted a rough method of isolation. Village will be disinfected when Guntakal is finished.
Signaller's Lines, Guntakal Railway Station	1	..	..	..	Infection possibly carried by the case reported next below; patient removed to Government camp, and contact segregated.

Statement showing Plague Seizures and Deaths during the Fortnight ending 17th December 1898—cont.

Infected places.	Imported.		Indigenous.		Remarks.
	Seizures.	Deaths.	Seizures.	Deaths.	
<i>Anantapur District—cont.</i>					
Timmencherla Paracheri ..	1	..	..	..	Case imported from Kotala. The Paracheri consists of 30 houses. Tents have been pitched in the fields and huts are being put up. Evacuation is proceeding. Sick and contacts take to Government camp. Huts will be disinfected by sepoys.
Hindapur	2	2	2	2	Evacuation of infected houses, and isolation of sick and contacts carried out.
<i>Salem District.</i>					
Kothakondapalli	1	..	..	..	Detained at inspection station and treated in plague hospital attached to the station. Particulars not received.
Perumalpet	1	1	..	..	Contacts segregated.
Mattigiri	..	..	20	13	
Hósúr	2	1	..	..	
Jalarpet	4	3	..	..	Treated in plague hospital attached to the railway inspection station.
Kamanthoddi	..	..	1	1	Case suspicious. Patient isolated. Contacts segregated. House disinfected.
<i>Trichinopoly District.</i>					
Trichinopoly	1	..	..	..	Details not reported.
Madras City	6	2	..	..	Patients treated in plague hospitals.
<i>Bellary District.</i>					
Regret that G.O., No. 1553 P., dated 9th December, 1907, is hereby cancelled.					
Bellary	1	1	..	..	Patient treated in plague hospital. All precautionary measures taken.
Holagondi	..	1	..	..	Patient isolated in a temple on a hill. No contacts.
Hospet	2	..	2	2	Patients isolated. Contacts segregated in the plague camp.
Molagavalli	..	..	55	52	Deaths occurred partly in huts in fields and partly in the village. About three-fourths of the inhabitants have left the village, and are living in huts put up in fields. Steps are being taken to disinfect the whole village by the agency of sepoys.
<i>Chingleput District.</i>					
Chingleput	1	1	..	..	Contacts segregated in a bungalow outside the town. House evacuated and disinfected.
Vinnamangalam	1	1	..	..	Contacts segregated in a shed specially put up. House evacuated and disinfected.
Conjeeveram	2	1	..	..	The death occurred in the house and the other patient removed to plague hospital. Contacts segregated in plague camp. House evacuated and disinfected.
<i>Kurnool District.</i>					
Kurnool	1	1	..	..	The case occurred among certain arrivals from Bangalore who had been segregated in sheds and kept under observation. The deceased was isolated in a shed.
Maddikera	..	..	3	1	Patients isolated in their own houses. Contacts home-segregated. House clothing disinfected.
<i>North Arcot District.</i>					
Chandragiri	1	1	..	..	This case occurred in a party who arrived from Bangalore. The arrivals were refused admission into the village by the villagers and they lodged in a building outside the village. Contacts segregated. The building disinfected.
Kalathur	1	1	..	..	Patient isolated in a hut outside the village. Contacts partly segregated in huts outside the village and partly home-segregated.
Beddimankuppam	1	1	..	..	Patient and contacts segregated in sheds. Disinfection measures were also taken.
Satyavijayanagaram	1	1	..	..	Patient segregated in a shed and contacts in a separate building. House disinfected.
Kuttiyam	1	..	..	..	Details not reported.
Pollar	1	..	..	..	Patients and contacts segregated first in a mantapam and then in huts specially put up. House disinfected.
Nedumpalle	1	..	..	..	Patient segregated in his own house. House disinfected.

ORDER—No. 1621 P., dated 30th December 1898.

Recorded.

(True Extract.)

A. Edgington
for Secretary to Government.

To the Plague Commissioner.

Copy to the Sanitary Commissioner.
,, the Surgeon-General.

Exd. T. K. Narayana Aiyangar.

PLAGUE COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE.

(1899)

CURRENT No. 138

From The L & M Dept.

Order

Recorded

No. 1621 P.

Dated 30-12-1898

Received 5-1-1899

Registered 5-1-1899

Enclosures

Spare copies

SUBJECT.

Recording Plague Commis-
sioner's fortnightly narra-
tive of plague cases
for the period from
4th to 17th December
1898.

BACK PAPERS.

No.	Date

FURTHER PAPERS.

No.	Date.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

READ the following paper:—

From the Plague Commissioner No. 977 dated 19-12-98, submitting fortnightly narrative of plague Cases for the period from 4th December to 17th December 1898.

Order No. 1631-P dated 30th December 1898.

Recorded.

(True Extract.)

A. Edington

For Secretary to Government

To the Plague Commissioner
Copy to the Sanitary Commissioner
Surgeon-General
President, Municipal Commission, Madras
all Collectors
the Bombay Government with C.L.
Mysore Government with covering letter
Hyderabad Government with C.L.

2
4/1/99.

When given for copying—

When copied

When examined—

Then signed

189