

PROCEEDINGS OF THE PLAGUE COMMISSIONER.

(1899)

MISCELLANEOUS.

No. 531

Dated 27-2-88

Despatched 27. 2/88

[Despatch Abstract.]

Plague Commissioner's diaries of 19.2.99 to
20.2.99 being notes of inspection of
infected villages in Pattikonda Taluk.

BACK PAPERS.

No.	Date.	No.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

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NO. 260789			

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Pro no 53187-28

NOTE FOR THE

19. 2-99. Sunday
On Sunday morning I went
up by the morning train to
Maddiera in Riverpool West
to meet the Colly & inspect the
village. The number of
attacks up to date had been
64 with 52 deaths. The majority
of them had taken place among
people who lived in the fort &
have occurred either in the
fort itself or in the huts in
the fields to which they have
removed themselves. There have
been only 4 isolated cases at the
village of which 2 occurred a
long time back. The fort is
nearly encircled, there being
only 26 houses left with
people in them. I have discussed
the matter with the Colly & he
has arranged to get the remainder
of the people out of the fort by the
course of the week & to keep
the people from returning at
present. A considerable camp
is erected near the Ry station.
This was done suddenly.

when the train from Guntakal
were inspected at the station,
before before was inspection station
& was completed when it was found
that the village itself was infected.
Up to date, however, none of the sick
people or their contacts are willing
to go in & the buildings are therefore a
waste. The material is generally
good. When time comes for repairing
the Tungalbadra of Hospital, if such a
course is necessary, the huts at Maddikera
may be dismantled & the material
sent to one of those stations for use.
They have in any case to be imported
into Tungalbadra. I returned by
train to Guntakal in the evening &
arranged to meet the Colly next day
at Pallikonda.

no. 299 Monday

I left Guntakal again by the
morning train met Mr. Muhammad
Razakhan at Maddikera, went on
with him to Tuggali station &
drove in to Pallikonda. The town
of Pallikonda like Maddikera
is divided into two parts - the
Pettah & the Fort. In the Fort there have been
only 2 or 3 isolated cases; other attacks

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have occurred among those
who lived in the Pettah. A
very considerable portion
of the Pettah is evacuated,
there being only 24 houses
in the vicinity of infected
quarter in which people
still reside. It is there
seems to have first brought
by Malas from Alardene
& have since spread to other
castles. There have been 21
attacks & 17 deaths. Of the
attacks 13 have occurred in
the town, 8 in the fields.
There have been no attacks
since the 17th. I visited some
of the infected houses which
have been disinfected & also
some of the camps round the
village. In the afternoon
we went to see how dis-
infection of the floors was
carried out. However things
are not properly but I
had not fair sample of the
work.

21-2-99 Tuesday

Mr Muhammad Razakhan drove me
12 miles to ~~Yelamank~~ ^{Venimank} & from there we
walked about 3 miles ^{across 1/2} fields
to Alardenne. The village is a small
one & is completely evacuated. The village
was evacuated long time ago and as there were
no cases between 10th & 18th January the villagers
went back. On the 20th a second outbreak
took place & they immediately left the village
again. Since then there have been no seizures
& 10 deaths. Of these seizures no less than 14 occurred
in the first ten days after the second evacuation.
Since then the disease has practically come to an
end. There have been no more cases reported
since 10th; that is for the past 14 days. The experience
of this village teaches us a lesson; that is, that
where a village has been & evacuated re-inhabitation
should not be allowed for a considerable time & if possible
all the houses in the infected village should be to a
certain extent disinfected. The disinfection work
in the village as far as I can see has been satisfactorily
carried out except that the holes in the roofs are not
sufficiently large. ^{The} Supervisor's attention has been drawn
to this. He has disinfected all the houses belonging to persons
in whose families cases of plague have occurred & will
make a thorough disinfection of houses in which dead
rats have been found. I have also directed him to
treat all the other houses in the village with perchloride
of mercury. He has not time nor labour to make a

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Thorough disinfection of all the houses.
In the same circle lies the village of
Podadadi Kote Konda. Cases have been
reported by telegram from this village.
This is a mistake. The main village
is clean. Cases have occurred in two
hamlets, namely, Wodagonda and
Togalakalle. Both these hamlets are
small & have been completely evacuated.
There have been 12 attacks & 10 deaths in
Wodagonda, the last attack being on the
17th. There have been 11 attacks & 10
deaths in Togalakalle, the last attack
being on the 8th. I have directed the
Supervisor to treat the houses in the same
way as Alardenne. I have not visited
these two villages. They would involve
at least ~~and~~ another day's stay.

The steps taken to combat the disease
^{appear to be} satisfactory, for it may be taken
for granted that what has been done
in the village I have seen has been
done in these villages and the disease
seems to have come to an end. The
other villages from which cases have
been reported in the Pablikonda
Taluk are not indigenously affected.

The Experience I have recently gained in the Hosur Taluk of the Salem Dist., in Srirangapatna Taluk of the Amantapur Dist. & in Pattikonda Taluk of the Kurnool Dist. combined with my previous experience of the Gooty Taluk in the Amantapur Dist. leads me to think that the only effective way of grappling with plague is by evacuation. It is not necessary that the people should all go to Gout Camps. They don't like it and it is less expensive to let them build their own sheds. It is true that the supervision that we can then exercise over them is reduced, but I am inclined to think that the mere fact of their being free gives them less reason to wish to run away, for agriculturists as a rule settle in their own fields and there is the strongest bond for them to remain there. In Hosur & in Pattikonda Taluks the people undoubtedly seem to grasp the necessity for the segregation of the sick. They have an idea of it in Srirangapatna Taluk, but they did not act up to it so very readily. Inoculation is ~~completely~~ nowhere popular & the amount of work that can be done in this direction except in a big town can give very little protection. It is not much good if no people inoculated in one village, 30 in the next & 10 in the next. To be of real use, inoculation must be done general and with the present staff & the attitude of the people it is impossible to make it so. Evacuation is a very different

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matter, when we come to consider towns like Vellore & Arcot which are not primarily agricultural. It is in such places that our real difficulties commence. I have hopes in our agricultural villages; the disease will never cause any really terrible loss provided the people in these parts attacked realise, as they do now in Hosur & in Srirangapatna & in Pattikonda, the necessity for early evacuation. As to the ~~proximity~~ ^{Sanitation} of towns I should like to discuss the question with H. M. I may add the dead rats have been found in the fort of Pattikonda, and ⁱⁿ hitherto uninfected village in the neighbourhood called Bill ~~of~~ ^{is} Kaller. It has not been thought necessary to compulsorily evacuate the places, but the Collector having a warning issued to all people of the risks they run by remaining in the huts where rats begin to die of plague, the people generally understand this and are usually

ready to evacuate of their own
accord.

26 1/2 hs

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