

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

[L. & M.
300-29-3-99.]

Local & Munl. (1899) Department.

CURRENT No. 8259

From

The Secretary to the
Chief Commr
Assam.

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Dated 7.

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Enclosures 1

Spare copies 2 of incl.

SUBJECT.

Forwarding copy of the Reso-
lution of the Chief Commr.
together with copies of plague
regulations for Assam issued
under the Epidemic Diseases

Act 1897.

Order No 6059 Dtd 26.10.99
mis

Recorded

16.10.99

Copy to the Plague Commr.
26/11/99

26/11

27/11

The 3rd April 1899.

ENFORCEMENT OF PLAGUE REGULATIONS IN ASSAM.

RESOLUTION.

No. 2186G.—The reappearance of plague in Calcutta and the occurrence of local outbreaks in Bengal, in all of which it is proved that the infection has been carried by fugitives from Calcutta, have led the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal to take steps for the protection of districts in Bengal against the importation of infection from Calcutta, and it is announced that the Government of Bengal has established places of inspection at Naihati, Khulna, and Goalundo for the examination, and, if necessary, detention of suspected persons proceeding by rail or steamer from Calcutta into the districts of Bengal or to Assam. The time has, therefore, now come when in the Chief Commissioner's opinion the draft Regulations for the protection of Assam under the Epidemic Diseases Act, 1897, which were prepared in anticipation of the necessity arising, and have already been circulated for the information and guidance of those concerned, should be enforced without further delay, and the Regulations, which are herewith published, will accordingly come in force from this date.

2. The first of these Regulations relates to the inspection and segregation of persons travelling from infected areas to Assam. The object of these rules is to prevent the introduction of plague into the province. The second of these Regulations is to prevent the outbreak of plague or the spread thereof within the province itself.

3. Three places of inspection only have been established: one at Dhubri for passengers by steamer up the Assam Valley; one at Madna for passengers by steamer up the Surma Valley; and one at Itakhola, a station near the frontier of Sylhet on the Assam-Bengal Railway. The Chief Commissioner does not contemplate the establishment of any places of inspection on the high roads leading into the province. It would be impossible to maintain efficient supervision on such roads or to exercise any check over persons who might choose to deviate from them for the purpose of avoiding inspection. It is impossible also to provide any system of inspection in the case of passengers by country boat. The Chief Commissioner has also decided to abandon the proposal for the establishment of Rowmari ghat as a place of inspection for the protection of the Garo Hills and adjacent portion of the Goalpara district. The number of passengers by Rowmari is too small to render any special arrangements at that landing place necessary.

4. Upon the recommendation of the Chief Commissioner, and in consultation with the Tea Association, the Government of Bengal have made arrangements which will obviate the necessity of detaining emigrant coolies in Calcutta. Up-country coolies now all proceed *via* Naihati, and they are subject to ten days' detention and observation at Goalundo. The Chief Commissioner does not intend to prohibit immigration; any such prohibition must be injurious to the true interests of the province, and it ought always to be possible, by means of sanitary precautions and segregation, to ensure that cases of plague—and it may be added cholera and small-pox—among coolies in transit shall be strictly isolated and prevented from becoming a source of danger on tea gardens. Tea planters and others may therefore be assured that immigration will not be prohibited unless circumstances should render such a course absolutely unavoidable.

5. It will be observed that the second Regulation is of the simplest possible character. It has not been thought necessary to devise any special rules for municipalities and towns. The small urban areas which exist in Assam can be dealt with without

11. At places of inspection it shall be the duty of the Railway administration or Steamer Company—

- (a) to carry out the orders of the inspecting officer as to the manner in which passengers are to be inspected;
- (b) to make provision for the segregation of suspected persons in hospital and temporary accommodation to the satisfaction of the Deputy Commissioner, and in accordance, so far as may be, with standard plans approved by the Principal Medical Officer and Sanitary Commissioner;
- (c) to prevent persons from leaving such hospital or accommodation without the permission of the inspecting officer;
- (d) to make provision to the satisfaction of the inspecting officer for the supply of food and water to persons undergoing segregation and for the proper sanitation of the place where they are detained; and
- (e) generally to carry out the orders of the inspecting officer in respect of the above matters.

12. It shall be lawful for the Railway administration or Steamer Company to enter upon and occupy any waste or arable land required for the purpose of hospitals or temporary accommodation on payment to the owner, lessee, or occupier of such reasonable sum as compensation for damage done and by way of rent as the Deputy Commissioner of the district may assess on that account.

13. Any expenditure which may be incurred by the Railway administration or Steamer Company in providing hospital and temporary accommodation for suspected persons, or for the maintenance of any additional medical inspecting or executive staff which may be employed, or otherwise in carrying out the duties which may be imposed on them under Rule 11 of this Regulation, will be refunded to them by Government.

14. All officers of the District and Railway Police are required to assist the inspecting officer in enforcing this Regulation.

15. It shall be incumbent on all officers employed in enforcing this Regulation to consult the convenience of the public in all respects so far as is compatible with the due discharge of their duties thereunder, and to show every possible consideration to the feelings and prejudices of the people affected by it.

Regulation for Preventing the Outbreak of Plague or the Spread thereof in the Plains Districts of Assam.

PLAGUE NOTIFICATION No. 2.

The 3rd April 1899.

No. 2185G.—In exercise of the powers conferred by section 2 of the Epidemic Diseases Act, 1897, and by the Notification of the Government of India, Home Department, No. 1330, dated the 27th May 1898, the Chief Commissioner, being satisfied that Assam is threatened with an outbreak of a dangerous epidemic, namely, bubonic plague, and that the ordinary provisions of the law are insufficient for the purpose of preventing such outbreak, prescribes the following Regulation for preventing the outbreak of the disease or the spread thereof in the plains districts of Assam:

PART I.

POWERS AND DUTIES OF OFFICERS.

1. The Deputy Commissioner may, in any case in which he sees reason to believe or suspect that any person is, or may be, infected with bubonic plague, direct such person to proceed to, and remain in, any place or places from time to time specified by him, and may direct the other occupants of the house in which such person resides or has resided to be removed to any place or places from time to time specified by him, and there be segregated or detained under observation for ten days.

Whenever segregation is necessary, it will be carried out with the strictest regard to the feelings of human nature.

2. The Deputy Commissioner may, in any case in which he sees reason to believe or suspect that any person is, or may be, infected with bubonic plague, or is, or has been, suffering from that disease, order the disinfection or destruction of any article which is, or has been, in the possession of such person, or which is, or has been, in the possession of any person whom he considers to have been in dangerous proximity to any such person.

3. The Deputy Commissioner may order the disinfection or destruction of any building or part of any building inhabited by any person who is, or has been, infected with, or suffering from, bubonic plague, or who is believed or suspected to be, or to have been, so infected or suffering.

4. The Deputy Commissioner may, in his discretion, pay compensation to any person who has sustained substantial loss or damage by reason of anything done under this Regulation: Provided, however, that no person shall be entitled as of right to claim any compensation whatsoever.

5. When the Deputy Commissioner has reason to believe that a case of plague has occurred in a house, he may enter the house and examine any person whom he has reason to believe to be infected with plague. The owner and occupier of the house shall permit him to enter his premises and examine any such person. In case of resistance or refusal, the Deputy Commissioner may call in the police officer in charge of the station, who may arrest without warrant any person offering active resistance, and shall take such other steps as may be necessary to give effect to the rule. If the person to be examined be a female, the examination shall be made through female agency.

6. The Deputy Commissioner may, by order in writing, delegate to a Subdivisional Officer or to any person exercising first-class magisterial powers, or to any Civil Medical Officer, all or any of the powers hereby conferred upon him, and any direction or order given by any such officer under any powers thus delegated to him shall be deemed to have been given by the Deputy Commissioner.

7. The powers delegated to any person by the Deputy Commissioner shall be exercised subject to the control of the Deputy Commissioner, and the powers conferred upon the Deputy Commissioner shall be exercised subject to the control of the Commissioner and of the Chief Commissioner.

8. It shall be incumbent on all officers employed in enforcing this Regulation to consult the convenience of the public in all respects so far as is compatible with the due discharge of their duties thereunder, and to show every possible consideration to the feelings and prejudices of the people affected by it.

PART II.

A.—PROVISIONS RELATING TO THE COUNTRY GENERALLY.

9. Whenever the deaths reported from any locality, and especially sudden deaths attributed to fever, are more frequent than usual, the officer in charge of the police station in the Surma

difficulty. Their condition is very different from the small towns in the Punjab or Bombay, or even in Bengal. What is primarily needed in them is to enforce all elementary sanitary precautions, and Deputy Commissioners have already been instructed to take all means in their power for putting the sanitary and conservancy arrangements of all municipalities, and other places in their districts where there are considerable numbers of houses crowded together, into as satisfactory a condition as possible. The principal cause for anxiety in Assam lies in the large body of imported labourers collected together at tea gardens, or on the Margherita settlement, or on the railway works, and for these special provision has been made. The duty of reporting plague cases, and the taking action on them, has been imposed on the garden Managers and not on the ordinary agency available, for it is recognised that the Managers are not only more competent, but are thoroughly alive to their own interests in the matter, and will of their own motion take all the steps required for the prevention of the spread of the disease. In the case of railway coolie camps, the Executive Engineer in charge of the division—and not the contractors, upon whom it has been found impossible to impose responsibility—is required to discharge the duties imposed upon the Manager of a tea garden.

6. Though power has been taken in the second Regulation to enforce the segregation of persons infected with plague, where necessary, the Chief Commissioner directs that no person shall be removed to a public hospital without his consent, provided that suitable arrangements are made for the treatment of the case at home. If there is any ward, caste, or family hospital, for admission to which he is eligible, and to which he is willing to go, he may be moved thither. If there is no such hospital available, an endeavour should be made to explain to the patient or his friends the advantages which he would obtain in a public hospital in respect of treatment, attendance, and surroundings. But if, notwithstanding this, he still prefers to be treated at his own home, arrangements must be made to adapt the latter to the purposes of a private isolation hospital. The other inmates, except such as are in attendance on the patient, should be induced to remove elsewhere. Medicines and medical attendance should be provided free of cost, and on the recovery of the patient (or after his death if the case should terminate fatally), the premises must be either thoroughly disinfected or if necessary, demolished, compensation being paid to the owner. All clothing or bedding which is likely to have become contaminated should also be at once disinfected or destroyed on payment of compensation.

7. Mr. Cotton has enjoined upon all officers who may be called on to work these Regulations the need of consulting the convenience of the public in all respects so far as is compatible with the due discharge of their duties, and to show every possible consideration to the feelings and prejudices of the people affected thereunder.

8. The Chief Commissioner does not propose to extend these Regulations to any of the hill districts in the province. It will be in the power of the Deputy Commissioners of these districts, in the event of emergency, to take any steps which may be required to prevent the introduction or spread of plague. In such sparsely-populated tracts the risk is slight, the customs of the hill tribes will facilitate any measures of segregation it may be expedient to adopt, and the authority vested in frontier officers is ample for any requirements.

By order of the Chief Commissioner of Assam,

F. J. MONAHAN,

Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Assam.

Regulation for the Inspection and Segregation of Persons travelling from Plague-infected Areas to Assam.

PLAGUE NOTIFICATION No. 1.

The 3rd April 1899.

No. 2184G.—In exercise of the powers conferred by section 2 of the Epidemic Diseases Act, 1897, and by the Notification of the Government of India, Home Department, No. 302, dated the 4th February 1897, the Chief Commissioner, being satisfied that Assam is threatened with an outbreak of a dangerous epidemic, namely, bubonic plague, and that the ordinary provisions of the law are insufficient for the purpose of preventing such outbreak, prescribes the following Regulation for the inspection of persons travelling by railway or steamer within the territories subject to the Chief Commissioner of Assam, and the segregation in hospital or in temporary accommodation of persons suspected of being infected with bubonic plague:

1. In this Regulation—

- (a) "Inspecting officers" means a medical officer appointed by the Chief Commissioner to inspect travellers and empowered to inspect and order the segregation of persons suspected of being infected with plague.
- (b) "Place of inspection" means the railway stations or steamer ghâts at which the Chief Commissioner has ordered travellers to be inspected, and includes the area round such stations or ghâts subject to the control of, or habitually used for the purposes of the railway or steamer services by, the Railway administration or Steamer Company, as the case may be.
- (c) "Railway servant" means any person employed by a Railway administration in connection with the service of a railway.
- (d) "Steamer servant" means any person employed by a Steamer Company in connection with the service of a steamer.
- (e) "Hospital" and "temporary accommodation," respectively, mean a hospital and a place of temporary accommodation provided by a Railway administration or Steamer Company.

2. Persons travelling by steamer up the Brahmaputra, as far as, or beyond, Dhubri, shall be inspected at Dhubri.

3. Persons travelling by steamer in the Surma Valley from the direction of Eastern Bengal shall be inspected at Madna.

4. Persons travelling by the Assam-Bengal Railway from the direction of Eastern Bengal shall be inspected at the Itakhola Railway station.

5. Persons suspected by the inspecting officer of being infected with plague shall be required by him to undergo segregation in hospital or in temporary accommodation for a period of not more than ten days, which may be reduced at the discretion of the inspecting officer. All persons travelling from any infected area who appear to be suspicious by reason of their appearance or the dirty condition of their clothes, and all persons travelling in gangs or belonging to classes which are likely to disseminate the disease or not to be traceable on arrival at their destinations or depended upon to give information should plague occur among them after arrival at their destinations, may also, at the discretion of the inspecting officer, be required to undergo segregation for a period not exceeding ten days: Provided that any person who holds a certificate showing that he has been inoculated against plague by M. Haffkine's method within the previous six months shall be exempted from segregation or detention, except for such period as may be required to disinfect his baggage and clothes, if those are considered suspicious.

6. All persons travelling by railway or steamer aforesaid, who are required by the inspecting officer or by a railway servant, or steamer servant, or police officer, to submit themselves to medical inspection, shall comply with the instructions given to them, and shall not leave the place of inspection without the permission of the inspecting officer.

7. All such persons who are required by the inspecting officer to undergo segregation in hospital or in temporary accommodation shall comply with the instructions given to them, and shall not leave the said hospital or accommodation without the permission of the inspecting officer.

8. In conducting the medical inspection of females, and in arranging for their segregation, the inspecting officer shall, as far as possible, have regard to the customs of the country.

9. The inspecting officer may disinfect, or, in his discretion, cause to be destroyed, any article which he considers liable to convey infection.

10. The Deputy Commissioner may, in his discretion, pay compensation to any person who has sustained substantial loss or damage by reason of anything done under the powers conferred by this Regulation: Provided that no persons shall be entitled as of right to claim any compensation whatsoever.

11. At places of inspection it shall be the duty of the Railway administration or Steamer Company—

- (a) to carry out the orders of the inspecting officer as to the manner in which passengers are to be inspected;
- (b) to make provision for the segregation of suspected persons in hospital and temporary accommodation to the satisfaction of the Deputy Commissioner, and in accordance, so far as may be, with standard plans approved by the Principal Medical Officer and Sanitary Commissioner;
- (c) to prevent persons from leaving such hospital or accommodation without the permission of the inspecting officer;
- (d) to make provision to the satisfaction of the inspecting officer for the supply of food and water to persons undergoing segregation and for the proper sanitation of the place where they are detained; and
- (e) generally to carry out the orders of the inspecting officer in respect of the above matters.

12. It shall be lawful for the Railway administration or Steamer Company to enter upon and occupy any waste or arable land required for the purpose of hospitals or temporary accommodation on payment to the owner, lessee, or occupier of such reasonable sum as compensation for damage done and by way of rent as the Deputy Commissioner of the district may assess on that account.

13. Any expenditure which may be incurred by the Railway administration or Steamer Company in providing hospital and temporary accommodation for suspected persons, or for the maintenance of any additional medical inspecting or executive staff which may be employed, or otherwise in carrying out the duties which may be imposed on them under Rule 11 of this Regulation, will be refunded to them by Government.

14. All officers of the District and Railway Police are required to assist the inspecting officer in enforcing this Regulation.

15. It shall be incumbent on all officers employed in enforcing this Regulation to consult the convenience of the public in all respects so far as is compatible with the due discharge of their duties thereunder, and to show every possible consideration to the feelings and prejudices of the people affected by it.

Regulation for Preventing the Outbreak of Plague or the Spread thereof in the Plains Districts of Assam.

PLAGUE NOTIFICATION No. 2.

The 3rd April 1899.

No. 2185G.—In exercise of the powers conferred by section 2 of the Epidemic Diseases Act, 1897, and by the Notification of the Government of India, Home Department, No. 1330, dated the 27th May 1898, the Chief Commissioner, being satisfied that Assam is threatened with an outbreak of a dangerous epidemic, namely, bubonic plague, and that the ordinary provisions of the law are insufficient for the purpose of preventing such outbreak, prescribes the following Regulation for preventing the outbreak of the disease or the spread thereof in the plains districts of Assam:

PART I.

POWERS AND DUTIES OF OFFICERS.

1. The Deputy Commissioner may, in any case in which he sees reason to believe or suspect that any person is, or may be, infected with bubonic plague, direct such person to proceed to, and remain in, any place or places from time to time specified by him, and may direct the other occupants of the house in which such person resides or has resided to be removed to any place or places from time to time specified by him, and there be segregated or detained under observation for ten days.

Whenever segregation is necessary, it will be carried out with the strictest regard to the feelings of human nature.

2. The Deputy Commissioner may, in any case in which he sees reason to believe or suspect that any person is, or may be, infected with bubonic plague, or is, or has been, suffering from that disease, order the disinfection or destruction of any article which is, or has been, in the possession of such person, or which is, or has been, in the possession of any person whom he considers to have been in dangerous proximity to any such person.

3. The Deputy Commissioner may order the disinfection or destruction of any building or part of any building inhabited by any person who is, or has been, infected with, or suffering from, bubonic plague, or who is believed or suspected to be, or to have been, so infected or suffering.

4. The Deputy Commissioner may, in his discretion, pay compensation to any person who has sustained substantial loss or damage by reason of anything done under this Regulation: Provided, however, that no person shall be entitled as of right to claim any compensation whatsoever.

5. When the Deputy Commissioner has reason to believe that a case of plague has occurred in a house, he may enter the house and examine any person whom he has reason to believe to be infected with plague. The owner and occupier of the house shall permit him to enter his premises and examine any such person. In case of resistance or refusal, the Deputy Commissioner may call in the police officer in charge of the station, who may arrest without warrant any person offering active resistance, and shall take such other steps as may be necessary to give effect to the rule. If the person to be examined be a female, the examination shall be made through female agency.

6. The Deputy Commissioner may, by order in writing, delegate to a Subdivisional Officer or to any person exercising first-class magisterial powers, or to any Civil Medical Officer, all or any of the powers hereby conferred upon him, and any direction or order given by any such officer under any powers thus delegated to him shall be deemed to have been given by the Deputy Commissioner.

7. The powers delegated to any person by the Deputy Commissioner shall be exercised subject to the control of the Deputy Commissioner, and the powers conferred upon the Deputy Commissioner shall be exercised subject to the control of the Commissioner and of the Chief Commissioner.

8. It shall be incumbent on all officers employed in enforcing this Regulation to consult the convenience of the public in all respects so far as is compatible with the due discharge of their duties thereunder, and to show every possible consideration to the feelings and prejudices of the people affected by it.

PART II.

A.—PROVISIONS RELATING TO THE COUNTRY GENERALLY.

9. Whenever the deaths reported from any locality, and especially sudden deaths attributed to fever, are more frequent than usual, the officer in charge of the police station in the Surma.

Valley and in the district of Goalpara, or the tahsildar or mauzadar, as the case may be, in other districts, shall make enquiries with a view to ascertain whether any of the deceased suffered from the symptoms of bubonic plague.

10. On ascertaining from any source that a death was preceded by symptoms such as those described in the General Instructions contained in Part III of this Regulation, the officer in charge of the police station, or the tahsildar or mauzadar, as the case may be, shall either go himself or depute a competent subordinate to make an enquiry, any action taken being recorded in the station or tahsildar's or mauzadar's diary.

11. If the officer making the enquiry is of opinion that the death was due to bubonic plague he shall do what he can, without using compulsion, to induce the persons living in the house in which the death occurred, as well as the inhabitants of houses in the immediate neighbourhood, to leave it and camp out in the open, and to see that the said General Instructions are in other respects observed. In the case of a village becoming badly infected, all the inhabitants should be induced to remove to a segregation camp.

12. The officer in charge of the police station, or the tahsildar or mauzadar, as the case may be, shall report immediately to the Deputy Commissioner, the nearest medical subordinate, and the Civil Surgeon, any case of bubonic plague, or suspicious case, brought to his notice. The Civil Surgeon will inform the Principal Medical Officer and Sanitary Commissioner and the Secretary to the Chief Commissioner by telegram.

13. Every medical officer subordinate to the Civil Surgeon, on receiving intimation from any source of the occurrence of a case, or suspected case, of plague, shall send immediate information to the Deputy Commissioner or to some Magistrate to whom powers have been delegated by the Deputy Commissioner and to the Civil Surgeon; and shall proceed himself, or depute a competent subordinate to proceed, to the spot to make an enquiry and to treat the patient and do what he can without use of compulsion to see that the General Instructions contained in Part III of this Regulation are carried out.

14. Every Magistrate, on receiving intimation from any source of the occurrence of a case, or suspected case, of plague, shall send immediate intimation to the Deputy Commissioner or to some Magistrate to whom powers have been delegated by the Deputy Commissioner, and shall, if practicable, proceed himself to the spot, and shall satisfy himself that the provisions of this Regulation and the General Instructions contained in Part III are being observed without the use of any compulsion, except such as may be justified by legally authorised action under this Regulation.

15. On receiving information of the occurrence of a case, or suspected case, of plague, the Deputy Commissioner or other officer to whom powers have been delegated by the Deputy Commissioner under Part I of this Regulation shall, if the persons concerned cannot be induced to observe voluntarily the General Instructions contained in Part III, take steps to enforce compliance with those Instructions by the removal and segregation of persons infected, or believed or suspected to be infected, with plague, and by the disinfection of houses in which cases of plague have occurred: Provided that no person holding a certificate which shows that he has been inoculated against plague by M. Haffkine's method within the previous six months shall be required to undergo segregation; any such person may, however, be required to evacuate an infected house.

16. The owner or occupier of any house in which a case of plague has occurred shall permit the Deputy Commissioner or other officer empowered as aforesaid to enter his house or premises for the above purposes. In case of resistance or refusal, the Deputy Commissioner or other officer so empowered may call in the police officer in charge of the station, who may arrest without warrant any person offering active resistance, and shall take such further steps as may be necessary to give effect to the rule: Provided that when an apartment is occupied by a female who, according to the custom of the country, does not appear in public, the Deputy Commissioner or other officer to whom he has delegated his powers, shall not enter such an apartment without giving notice and affording time to such female to withdraw.

B.—PROVISIONS RELATING TO STEAMERS, STEAMER GHATS, AND RAILWAY STATIONS.

17. If a suspected case of bubonic plague occurs in any steamer, the commander of the steamer shall report the case to the person discharging the duties of steamer agent at the nearest landing place to the place at which the case of plague is discovered, who shall report the matter to the officer in charge of the nearest police station and to the Deputy Commissioner and the Civil Surgeon of the district in which the station is situated. Similar action shall be taken by the person discharging the duties of steamer agent in the event of a case of plague or suspected plague occurring at or near the steamer ghat of which he is in charge.

If there is a temporary hospital near the ghat, the steamer agent shall arrange for the removal of the person affected to the temporary hospital. If there is no temporary hospital, the steamer agent shall arrange to have the patient conveyed by steamer to the nearest steamer ghat at which there is a temporary hut.

18. Temporary huts will be provided at Goalpara, Gauhati, Tezpur, Shikarighat, Desangmukh, Dibrugarh, Madna, Fenchugani, Karimganj, Silchar, Sunamganj and Sylhet.

19. On receiving the report from the steamer agent of the steamer ghat at which there is a temporary hut, the officer in charge of the police station shall send immediate information to the nearest medical officer or medical subordinate, who shall proceed himself, or depute a competent subordinate to proceed, to the spot to treat the patient and carry out the General Instructions contained in Part III of this Regulation.

20. Similar action shall be taken if a case of bubonic plague occurs in any railway train or any railway premises, the station master performing the duties required from a steamer agent. Temporary huts will be constructed at Gauhati, Kampur, Srimangal, and Karimganj.

C.—PROVISIONS RELATING TO TEA GARDENS, COLLIERIES, RAILWAY COOLIE CAMPS, ETC.

21. The manager of every tea garden in Assam shall, from such date as the Deputy Commissioner shall fix for this purpose, enter in a list the name of every person who has arrived on his garden from any place in which bubonic plague is, or has been declared to be, prevalent. He will also enter in the list the names of all fresh arrivals from the said places as they occur.

22. In every tea garden in which such a list has been prepared, all cases of serious illness, and all deaths occurring among persons whose names are entered in the list, shall be reported daily by the medical officer of the garden to the manager, and the medical officer shall, at the same time, inform the manager whether such patient or the deceased person, as the case may be, had symptoms such as those described in the General Instructions contained in Part III of this Regulation.

23. Whenever, in any garden, the medical officer in charge observes that the cases of serious illness are more numerous than usual, he shall report the circumstance to the manager, after carefully examining the patients with a view to ascertaining whether they are suffering from the symptoms of bubonic plague.

24. On ascertaining from any source that any person in his tea garden is suffering from, or that any death in it was preceded by, the symptoms of bubonic plague, the manager shall either go himself, or depute a competent subordinate, to make an enquiry, and if the medical arrangements of the garden are under the supervision of a medical practitioner qualified under the British Medical Act of 1858, he shall at the same time inform that officer.

25. If the tea garden on which a case, or suspected case, of plague has been reported is not under the supervision of a medical practitioner qualified under the British Medical Act of 1858, the manager shall cause the patient to be removed for treatment to a hut provided for the purpose, shall arrange for the accommodation of other persons living in the house in a segregation hut, and shall cause all the other several instructions in Part III of this Regulation to be observed.

26. Every tea-garden medical practitioner qualified under the British Medical Act of 1858, on being informed that any person in any tea garden under his medical supervision is suffering, or is suspected of suffering, from symptoms of bubonic plague, shall proceed to the spot without delay, and if he is of opinion that the person is suffering from bubonic plague, he shall arrange to have the General Instructions in Part III of this Regulation carried out.

27. Every manager of a tea garden, on receiving intimation from any source of the occurrence of a case, or suspected case, of plague in a tea garden under his charge, shall send immediate information to the Deputy Commissioner and Civil Surgeon or Civil Medical Officer of the district in which the tea garden is situated. The Civil Surgeon or Civil Medical Officer will inform the Principal Medical Officer and Sanitary Commissioner and Secretary to the Chief Commissioner.

28. The above Regulations shall *mutatis mutandis* be applicable to the case of collieries and other industries where foreign labour is gathered together and also to railway coolie camps, whether the coolies are employed under contractors or not. In the case of railway coolie camps the Executive Engineer in charge of the Railway Division where the coolies are encamped shall be responsible for discharging the duties imposed upon the manager of a tea garden.

PART III.

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS REFERRED TO IN PART II.

1. *Symptoms of persons suffering from plague.*—The symptoms of plague are fever of recent commencement, severe headache, great depression, marked weakness, severe backache, also frequently pain in the chest and cough. When the fever has lasted two or three days, painful swellings in the groin or armpits sometimes make their appearance. There is often delirium and rapid sinking, the patient dying in many cases on the second or third day.

2. *Method of treatment of persons suffering from plague.*—The principal treatment consists in having a free supply of fresh air. All doors and windows should be kept open. A purgative should be given, unless the patient is suffering from diarrhoea. Cool drinks and *sherbets* of lime-sago, or ground rice thinly made, or, if the patient's caste allows it, soup. One *chittak* of any injurious. Hot fomentations or hot poultices should be applied to swellings when they occur. The faces, vomited matters, and urine of the patient should be buried at least 3 feet deep at some distance from the hut and the source from which drinking water is obtained.

3. *Method of segregating persons suffering from plague.*—A patient should be removed as quickly as possible to a hut made of *ekra*. All that is necessary is a roof to keep the sun's rays and rain off, and light screen wall. The more open the structure is the better. Near relatives should be allowed to accompany and to remain in attendance on the sick person. The hut should be erected at some distance from habitations, and the attendants should not be allowed to enter the town or village so long as they are in attendance on the patient, and for ten days after the patient's recovery or death. Arrangements should be made for bringing food to the sick person and the attendants. The person bringing the food should not, however, enter the segregation hut.

4. *Method of segregating inhabitants of infected houses and areas.*—All persons who had been living in the house in which the case of sickness occurred and in other houses in the immediate neighbourhood which may reasonably be suspected to be infected should be removed to *ekra* huts at some distance from the town or village, and from the hut in which patients are under treatment. For purposes of cleanliness all such persons on arrival at the segregation camp should be required to bathe in a solution of carbolic acid, one to a hundred parts of water. Their clothing and effects should also be removed from the village, and thoroughly disinfected in the manner indicated in Rule 6. Arrangements should be made for their food and water. They should not be allowed to draw water from the source of supply themselves. After ten days, if no case of sickness occurs among them, they may be allowed to return to the village.

5. *Method of disinfection of a house in which a case of plague has occurred.*—If the house is a small hut of little value, it should be burned. In the case of better houses, the following measures should be adopted:

(a) *The earth of the floor should be dug up to a depth of 3 inches.* Before the digging up of the floor is commenced, the room should be sprayed or well washed down with an acid solution of perchloride of mercury, so as to minimise the risk to the disinfectant. The soil removed from the floors should be burned, if possible; otherwise it should be buried in a pit at least 6 feet deep, and far removed from the village and the source of its water-supply.

(b) The walls and floors of all the rooms, with their contents, except articles of food, which it is not intended to destroy, should be thoroughly drenched with a solution of perchloride of mercury of a strength of 1 in 1,000 (prepared in accordance with the instructions contained in the Appendix), and after two or three days they should be coated with freshly-prepared whitewash.

(c) The doors and windows should be kept open, and the house should remain vacant for fourteen days. The huts in which the sick are treated should be burned.

6. *Method of disinfection of clothes, bedding, and effects.*—The clothing and bedding of sick and infected persons, if of little value, should be burned. If of better quality, they should be thoroughly boiled, and afterwards dried in the sun. Articles that cannot be boiled, such as leather goods, boxes, etc., should be soaked with the solution of perchloride of mercury.

7. *Disposal of bodies.*—If the deceased was a Hindu, or in cases in which burial is objected to, the body should be completely burned in an isolated place. In other cases the body should be buried at least 6 feet deep at a place at some distance from the village and the water-supply.

APPENDIX.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR PREPARING THE SOLUTION OF PERCHLORIDE OF MERCURY.

(See Rules 5 and 6, Part III of the Regulation)

The ingredients should be mixed in a 50-gallon cask in the following quantities:—to 77 lbs. of perchloride of mercury and 38½ lbs. of pure salt add 15 gallons of boiling water, stir well with a wooden stick, and then fill up the cask with cold water. The solution contains one part of perchloride to 6½ of water, and one ordinary quart bottle of it added to 25 gallons of water—the capacity of the ordinary wooden tubs in use—will give a strength of 1 in 1,000.

The standard solution can be carried about in quart bottles placed in partitioned boxes, and is always ready for use without further weighing or measuring.

If the solution is prepared with cold water, the perchloride of mercury must be powdered, and two parts of pure salt to one part of perchloride added. The whole should be well stirred until the solids are completely dissolved.

It is of advantage, for several reasons, to add 1½ per cent. of crude hydrochloric acid to the solution.

Iron hoops of all casks, tubs, and buckets should be dampered. If iron receptacles are used, they should be dampered inside and outside.

If metal pumps are employed for distributing the solution, they should, previous to use, be worked in vegetable oil, and after use thoroughly cleaned in water. This will tend to lessen the corrosive action of the mercury.

F. J. MONAHAN,

Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Assam.

No. 214 M 18
2357-73-9



From

The Secretary to the Chief Commissioner
of Assam,

To

The Secretary to the Government of Madras,
Local and Municipal Department.

Dated Shillong, the 7th April 1899.

Sir,

I am directed to forward, for information,
3 copies of the Chief Commissioner's Resolution No.
2186 G, dated the 3rd April 1899, together with copies of
the Plague Regulations for Assam, which have been
issued under the Epidemic Diseases Act, 1894.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

W. J. Monahan

For Secretary to the Chief Commissioner
of Assam.

Wm
94

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