

Medical

PROCEEDINGS OF THE PLAGUE COMMISSIONER.

(1899)

PRINTED.

No.

723/47

842/52

27-3-88

DATED

15-3-88

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Number 842 cancelled
a fresh number added to
beginning

Indexed A.P.
10/4/88

[Despatch Abstract.]

Choleraic Plague

communicating ball callus
letter from the San'y Council
suggesting the desirability of impressing
upon all local authorities the
necessity for taking the same precautionary
measures in the case of — as in
the case of cholera, in order to keep ^{usual} plague
measures,

BACK PAPERS.

No.	Date.	No.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

No.	Date.	No.	Date.

Proceedings of the Plague Commissioner, MADRAS — 1899.

Recd.

Regd.

} 1899.

Enclosures

Spare copies

Proceedings, No. 842,
52, 27th March 1899.

MARCH.

Choleraic Plague.

Communicating to all Collectors letter from the Sanitary Commissioner suggesting the desirability of impressing upon all local authorities the necessity for adopting the same precautionary measures in the case of — as in the case of cholera, in addition to the usual plague measures.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE PLAGUE COMMISSIONER.

READ—again the following paper:—

Proceedings of the Plague Commissioner, Mis. No. 652, dated 7th March 1899.

Read—Weekly report of plague in the Alūr taluk for week ending 2nd March 1899.

Marakattu.—This village is about one mile from Peddahotur. On 15th February 1899 several cases of cholera were reported to me. I went thither accompanied by the hospital assistant attached to the ambulance staff at Peddahotur. We saw all the cases and found that every symptom of cholera was present, while there were no symptoms of plague. Till 28th February 1899 no symptoms of plague appeared, when two of the patients having all the symptoms of cholera had buboes. On the receipt of this information the hospital assistant went there (I having followed him) and examined the patients. One of them had expired with a distinct bubo as big as an orange in the left thigh and the other patient was surviving. He had a swelling in the groin which has since developed into a distinct bubo. We examined the motions which were neither so watery nor rice-coloured. They were yellow in colour. The patient had slight fever, temperature being 101°. On the outbreak of cholera and on account of plague in the neighbouring villages of Peddahotur and Chinnahotur, the people had already gone out into fields. We, therefore, superintended the burial of the dead patient and isolated the surviving patient. The contacts are segregated in their own fields. The disease has taken a peculiar type here. In every case it sets in with motions and vomitings. This was not the case in Chippigiri, Molagavalli, Peddahotur and Tiruvagal. No such thing is observed even at Alūr. I have suggested that all the houses in which attacks and deaths have occurred since 15th February 1899 should be disinfected, for the cases that had occurred till 28th February 1899 might be cases of plague succumbing to it before the formation of buboes.

Proceedings—No. 652, dated 7th March 1899.

Copy forwarded to the Sanitary Commissioner for information.

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

READ—also the following papers:—

From Lieutenant-Colonel W. G. KING, M.B., C.M., D.P.H., I.M.S., Sanitary Commissioner for Madras, to the Plague Commissioner, Madras, dated 13th March 1899, No. 838-S.

With reference to your Proceedings, No. 652, dated 7th instant, bringing to notice the appearance of the choleraic or intestinal form of plague, I have the honour to suggest the desirability of local authorities being impressed with the necessity of using preventive measures not only of the nature usually directed against plague, but also of giving attention to prevention of specific contamination of water-sources, and

the disinfection and boiling of water open to suspicion, when used for human consumption. Careful night-soil and rubbish conservancy should also be pursued not only in regard to contamination direct or indirect of water-supplies, but also of the carriage of the microbe by flies to food, water, milk, &c. In short, this special form of plague being held to be due to ingestion of the microbe and consequent infection of the intestinal tract, the same care should be taken (in addition to usual plague preventive measures) as in dealing with cholera. It is obvious also that ingestion being a possible mode of attack in man, at all times during plague epidemics the measures alluded to should be provided for; that is, the comparative rarity of this form should not allow them to be forgotten as an integral part of plague microbe—as experience shows is apt to be the case.

Ref. on C. No. 3301.

With reference to your letter No. 838-S., dated 13th March 1899, I have the honour to enquire whether the sanitary precautions to be taken are not the same for all kinds of plague. I have been under the impression that the nature of the disease in a person does not depend upon the nature of the disease in the person from whom it is contracted, but upon the manner in which it is contracted. If I am correct, no special precautions would appear to be called for for dealing with the choleraic form, but the appearance of such a form shows the desirability of greater attention being paid to measures for keeping supplies of food and drink unpolluted.

2. I have also the honour to enquire if the last sentence of your letter has been correctly fair-copied. Copy of it is appended for reference.

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

18th March 1899.

To the Sanitary Commissioner, with copy of his letter.

From Lieutenant-Colonel W. G. KING, M.B., C.M., D.P.H., I.M.S., Sanitary Commissioner for Madras, to the Plague Commissioner, Madras, dated 20th March 1899, No. 959-S.

With reference to your letter, Ref. on C. No. 3301, dated 18th March 1899, I have the honour to thank you for having invited my attention to the concluding sentence of the letter mentioned. As suggested by you, there has been a mistake in the fair-copying of my draft. The word *microbe* should read *measures*. The sentence will, as corrected, therefore stand as follows:—

"It is obvious also that ingestion being a possible mode of attack in man, at all times during plague epidemics the measures alluded to should be provided for; that is, the comparative rarity of this form should not allow them to be forgotten as an integral part of plague measures—as experience shows is apt to be the case."

Read with this correction, you will readily understand that no difference of opinion exists between us; that is, I quite agree with you that such measures as I have pointed to should form, in the language used by me, "an integral part of plague measures"; or, as stated by you, the sanitary precautions to be taken are the same for all kinds of plague. In my opening sentence, you will observe, I point to measures "of the nature usually directed against plague." You will therefore understand that, whilst I hold that measures such as I have suggested should form an integral part of all plague measures, my experience in this Presidency (see, for example, my late inspection notes on North Arcot) would go to show that they are apt to be "forgotten."

2. Generally on this subject, you are of course aware that contraction of disease by ingestion of food and water is open to discussion; but, to my mind, there is ample evidence of it being necessary to act on the defensive in the manner suggested, and, in this, as recognizing that such measures should form an ordinary part of treatment of plague epidemics, you evidently agree. This being so, the point of my letter lies in the fact that it seems to me that where this peculiar form of intestinal plague has

4 No. 42, 27th March 1899.

been so frequent as to force itself upon notice, it is a fair indication that the special sanitary efforts I have indicated have been ignored. Hence, it becomes my duty to suggest to you that local authorities should be impressed with the necessity of not neglecting the particular precautions indicated.

PROCEEDINGS—No. 42, dated 27th March 1899.

Communicated to all Collectors.

Personal Assistant,
for Plague Commissioner.

To all Collectors (A, F, G, H).
„ the Surgeon-General.
„ the Sanitary Commissioner.
„ the President, Municipal Commission, Madras.
„ the Deputy Adjutant-General.
„ the General Officers, Commanding Districts.

MARCH.

Choleraic Plague.

Communicating to all Collectors letter from the Sanitary Commissioner suggesting the desirability of impressing upon all local authorities the necessity for adopting the same precautionary measures in the case of — as in the case of cholera, in addition to the usual plague measures.

Exd A. F. Eccleston

225
35
29/3

Proceedings of the Plague Commissioner,
MADRAS—1899.

Proof for O. Coifford

Mean count &
strike of 5/4/99

12/3

12/3

Reed.

Enclosures

1899.

Regd.

Spare copies

Proceedings, No. 842, 27th March 1899.

MARCH.

Choleraic Plague.

Communicating to all Collectors letter from the Sanitary Commissioner suggesting the desirability of impressing upon all local authorities the necessity for adopting the same precautionary measures in the case of — as in the case of cholera, in addition to the usual plague measures.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE PLAGUE COMMISSIONER.

READ—again the following paper:—

Proceedings of the Plague Commissioner, Mis. No. 652, dated 7th March 1899.

Read—Weekly report of plague in the Alur taluk for week ending 2nd March 1899.

Marakattu.—This village is about one mile from Peddahotur. On 15th February 1899 several cases of cholera were reported to me. I went thither accompanied by the hospital assistant attached to the ambulance staff at Peddahotur. We saw all the cases and found that every symptom of cholera was present, while there were no symptoms of plague. Till 28th February 1899 no symptoms of plague appeared, when two of the patients having all the symptoms of cholera had buboes. On the receipt of this information the hospital assistant went there (I having followed him) and examined the patients. One of them had expired with a distinct bubo as big as an orange in the left thigh and the other patient was surviving. He had a swelling in the groin which has since developed into a distinct bubo. We examined the motions which were neither so watery nor rice-coloured. They were yellow in colour. The patient had slight fever, temperature being 101°. On the outbreak of cholera and on account of plague in the neighbouring villages of Peddahotur and Chinnahotur, the people had already gone out into fields. We, therefore, superintended the burial of the dead patient and isolated the surviving patient. The contacts are segregated in their own fields. The disease has taken a peculiar type here. In every case it sets in with motions and vomitings. This was not the case in Chippigiri, Molagavalli, Peddahotur and Tiruvagal. No such thing is observed even at Alur. I have suggested that all the houses in which attacks and deaths have occurred since 15th February 1899 should be disinfected, for the cases that had occurred till 28th February 1899 might be cases of plague succumbing to it before the formation of buboes.

Proceedings—Mis. No. 652, dated 7th March 1899.

Copy forwarded to the Sanitary Commissioner for information.

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

READ—also the following papers:—

From Lieutenant-Colonel W. G. KING, M.B., C.M., D.P.H., I.M.S., Sanitary Commissioner for Madras, to the Plague Commissioner, Madras, dated 13th March 1899, No. 838-S.

With reference to your Proceedings, No. 652, dated 7th instant, bringing to notice the appearance of the choleraic or intestinal form of plague, I have the honour to suggest the desirability of local authorities being impressed with the necessity of using preventive measures not only of the nature usually directed against plague, but also of giving attention to prevention of specific contamination of water-sources, and

the disinfection and boiling of water open to suspicion, when used for human consumption. Careful night-soil and rubbish conservancy should also be pursued not only in regard to contamination direct or indirect of water-supplies, but also of the carriage of the microbe by flies to food, water, milk, &c. In short, this special form of plague being held to be due to ingestion of the microbe and consequent infection of the intestinal tract, the same care should be taken (in addition to usual plague preventive measures) as in dealing with cholera. It is obvious also that ingestion being a possible mode of attack in man, at all times during plague epidemics the measures alluded to should be provided for; that is, the comparative rarity of this form should not allow them to be forgotten as an integral part of plague microbe—as experience shows is apt to be the case.

Ref. on C. No. 3301.

With reference to your letter No. 838-S., dated 13th March 1899, I have the honour to enquire whether the sanitary precautions to be taken are not the same for all kinds of plague. I have been under the impression that the nature of the disease in a person does not depend upon the nature of the disease in the person from whom it is contracted, but upon the manner in which it is contracted. If I am correct no special precautions would appear to be called for dealing with the choleraic form, but the appearance of such a form shows the desirability of greater attention being paid to measures for keeping supplies of food and drink unpolluted.

2. I have also the honour to enquire if the last sentence of your letter has been correctly fair-copied. Copy of it is appended for reference.

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

18th March 1899.

To the Sanitary Commissioner, with copy of his letter.

From Lieutenant-Colonel W. G. KING, M.B., C.M., D.P.H., I.M.S., Sanitary Commissioner for Madras, to the Plague Commissioner, Madras, dated 20th March 1899, No. 959-S.

With reference to your letter, Ref. on C. No. 3301, dated 18th March 1899, I have the honour to thank you for having invited my attention to the concluding sentence of the letter mentioned. As suggested by you, there has been a mistake in the fair-copying of my draft. The word microbe should read measures. The sentence will, as corrected, therefore stand as follows:—

"It is obvious also that ingestion being a possible mode of attack in man, at all times during plague epidemics the measures alluded to should be provided for; that is, the comparative rarity of this form should not allow them to be forgotten as an integral part of plague measures—as experience shows is apt to be the case."

Read with this correction, you will readily understand that no difference of opinion exists between us; that is, I quite agree with you that such measures as I have pointed to should form, in the language used by me, "an integral part of plague measures"; or, as stated by you, the sanitary precautions to be taken are the same for all kinds of plague. In my opening sentence, you will observe I point to measures "of the nature usually directed against plague." You will therefore understand that, whilst I hold that measures such as I have suggested should form an integral part of all plague measures, my experience in this Presidency (see, for example, my late inspection notes on North Arcot) would go to show that they are apt to be "forgotten."

2. Generally on this subject, you are of course aware that contraction of disease by ingestion of food and water is open to discussion; but, to my mind, there is ample evidence of it being necessary to act on the defensive in the manner suggested, and, in this, as recognizing that such measures should form an ordinary part of treatment of plague epidemics, you evidently agree. This being so, the point of my letter lies in the fact that it seems to me that where this peculiar form of intestinal plague has

No. 443, 27TH MARCH 1899.

been so frequent as to force itself upon notice, it is a fair indication that the special sanitary efforts I have indicated have been ignored. Hence, it becomes my duty to suggest to you that local authorities should be impressed with the necessity of not neglecting the particular precautions indicated.

PROCEEDINGS—No. 443, dated 27th March 1899.

Communicated to all Collectors.

Personal Assistant,
for Plague Commissioner.

To all Collectors. (A. F. E.)
 „ the Surgeon-General.
 „ the Sanitary Commissioner.
 „ the President, Municipal Commission, Madras.
 „ the Deputy Adjutant-General.
 „ the General Officers, Commanding Districts.

Prof 17/3

Proceedings of the Plague Commissioner, MADRAS—1899.

been so frequent as to force itself upon notice, it is a fair indication that the special sanitary efforts I have indicated have been ignored. Hence, it becomes my duty to suggest to you that local authorities should be impressed with the necessity of not neglecting the particular precautions indicated.

Proof for approval
17/3/99
Communicated to all Collectors

Recd.

Regd.

1899.

Enclosures

Spare copies

Please see additions made.

Proceedings, No. 423, 15th March 1899.

MARCH.

Choleraic Plague.

Communicating to all Collectors letter from the Sanitary Commissioner suggesting the desirability of impressing upon all local authorities, the necessity for adopting the same precautionary measures in the case of — as in the case of cholera, in addition to the usual plague measures.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE PLAGUE COMMISSIONER.

Read again to C. S. H. no 152 d 17-3-99. (Print full)

READ—the following paper:—

From Lieutenant-Colonel W. G. KING, M.B., C.M., D.P.H., I.M.S., Sanitary Commissioner for Madras, to the Plague Commissioner, Madras, dated 13th March 1899, No. 838-S.

With reference to your Proceedings, No. 652, dated 7th instant, bringing to notice the appearance of the choleraic or intestinal form of plague, I have the honour to suggest the desirability of local authorities being impressed with the necessity of using preventive measures not only of the nature usually directed against plague, but also of giving attention to prevention of specific contamination of water sources, and the disinfection and boiling of water open to suspicion, when used for human consumption. Careful night-soil and rubbish conservancy should also be pursued not only in regard to contamination direct or indirect of water supplies but also of the carriage of the microbe by flies to food, water, milk, &c. In short, this special form of plague being held to be due to ingestion of the microbe and consequent infection of the intestinal tract, the same care should be taken (in addition to usual plague preventive measures) as in dealing with cholera. It is obvious also that ingestion being a possible mode of attack in man, at all times during plague epidemics the measures alluded to should be provided for; that is, the comparative rarity of this form should not allow them to be forgotten as an integral part of plague microbe—as experience shows is apt to be the case.

PROCEEDINGS—No. 223, dated 15th March 1899.

Communicated to all Collectors.

Personal Assistant,
for Plague Commissioner.

To all Collectors (A, F, G, H).
„ the President, Municipal Commission, Madras.
„ the Surgeon-General.
„ the Sanitary Commissioner.

Exd. S. A. S. Raghaviengar.

Plague Commissioner's Office
Local & Muni. (1899) Department.

Prop (Order) No 223/15-3-99

Communicated CURRENT No. 3132

*To the Collectors of Bellary
all Collectors*

Order

From The Sanitary Commissioner
for Madras.

No. 838
S

Dated 13-3-99

Received

Registered 14-3-99

Enclosures

Spare copies.

SUBJECT.

Informing of the precautions
to be taken in the case of
choleraic or intestinal form
of plague

*To all Collectors 2+0
To the Collectors of Bellary (A. 78 H)
Copy to all other Collectors
To the President of Bellary
S. E.*

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
	623	6-11-98	
	652	7-3-99	

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Office of Sanitary Commissioner,
Madras, 13th March 1899.

NO. 838
8

From

Lieut-Colonel W.G. King, M.B., C.M., D.P.H.,
Sanitary Commissioner for Madras.

TO

The Plague Commissioner, Madras.

Sir,

With reference to your Proceedings NO. 652, dated, the 7th instant, bringing to notice the appearance of choleraic or intestinal form of plague, I have the honour to suggest the desirability of local authorities being impressed with the necessity of using preventive measures not only of the nature usually directed against plague, but also of giving attention to prevention of specific contamination of water sources, and the disinfection and boiling of water open to suspicion, when used for human consumption. Careful night-soil and rubbish conservancy ^{should} also be pursued not only in regard to contamination direct or indirect of water supplies but also of the carriage of the microbe by flies to food, water, milk etc. In short, this special form of plague being held to be due to ingestion of the microbe and consequent infection of the intestinal tract, the same care should be taken (in addition to usual plague preventive measures) as in dealing with cholera. It is obvious also that ingestion being a possible mode of attack in man, at all times during plague epidemics the measures alluded to should be provided for; that is, the comparative rarity of this form should not allow them to be forgotten as an integral part of plague microbe - ^{as} experience shows is apt to be the case.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,

Your Most Obedient Servant,

W.G. King
Lieut-Colonel, I.M.S.

Sanitary Commissioner for Madras.

NOTE FOR THE

On re-perusal the last
lines of L.L.'s letter
appear unintelligible.
I also doubt if L.L. is
correct in supposing that
this kind of plague requires
any special treatment.
I believe bubonic plague
may appear in a milder
form than as pneumonia
& via insecta. So
please despatch for him

Ref. on C 153301 to L.L.

Sub

Sp 18/3

Li

With reference to

June letter NW 83884
13-3-99

With reference to
specimens the the the
Sanitary precautions
the taken are not the same
for all kinds of plague.
I have been under the

impression that the nature of the disease does not depend upon the nature of the disease in the person from whom it is contracted, but upon the manner in which it is contracted.

It is the ~~Cholera~~ form of the disease from which some persons are infected. If I am correct no special precautions need appear to be taken for dealing with the Cholera form, but the appearance of such a form shows the desirability of greater attention being paid to preventive measures of a kind suitable for keeping supplies of food & drink uncontaminated.

2. It also t.b. to enquire if the last sentence of your letter has been correctly pie copied - copy of your it is appended for reference.

Desp 18/3/89
To send Comm with copy of this letter

Office of Sanitary Commissioner,

PLAGUE COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE.

(1899)

CURRENT No. 3484

From Madras

22/3/89

Progs.
Letter
Ref.

Print this letter to
Comm. & Madras

Shew in print.

Progs no 842/528 27-3-89
Communicated to all Comm

24/3/89

From The Sanitary Commissioner
for Madras

No. 959
5

Dated 20-3-99

Received

Registered 22-3-99

Enclosures

Spare copies

SUBJECT,

Informing of the precautions to be taken in the Cholera form of plague cases

Desp 8/4/99
22

BACK PAPERS.

No.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

No.	Date.

Office of Sanitary Commissioner,
Madras, 20th March 1899.

NO. 959
S

From

Lieut-Colonel W.G. King, M.B., C.M., D.P.H., I.M.S.

Sanitary Commissioner for Madras,

TO

The Plague Commissioner, Madras.

Sir,

With reference to your letter NO. Ref. on. c. NO. 3301 dated 18th March 1899, I have the honour to thank you for having invited my attention to the concluding sentence of the letter mentioned. As suggested by you, there has been a mistake in the fair-copying of my draft. The word microbe should read " measures ". The sentence will, as corrected, therefore stand as follows :-

" It is obvious also that ingestion being a possible mode of attack in man, at all times during plague epidemics the measures alluded to should be provided for; that is, the comparative rarity of this form should not allow them to be forgotten as an integral part of plague measures - as experience shows is apt to be the case " .

Read with this correction, you will readily understand that no difference of opinion exists between us; that is, I quite agree with you that such measures as I have pointed to should form, in the language used by me, " an integral part of plague measures " ; or, as stated by you, the sanitary precautions to be taken are the same for all kinds of plague. In my opening sentence, you will observe I point to measures " of the nature usually directed against plague ". You will therefore understand that, whilst I hold that measures such as I have suggested should form an integral part of all plague measures, my experience in this Presidency (See, for example, my late inspection Notes on North Arcot) would go to show that they are apt to be forgotten.

2. Generally on this subject, you are of course aware that contraction of disease by ingestion of food

food and water is open to discussion; but, to my mind, there is ample evidence of it being necessary to act on the defensive in the manner suggested, and, in this, as recognizing that such measures should form an ordinary part of treatment of plague epidemics, you evidently agree. This being so, the point of my letter **lies** in the fact that it seems to me that where this peculiar form of intestinal plague has been so frequent as to force itself upon notice, it is a fair indication that the special sanitary efforts I have indicated have been ignored. Hence, it becomes my duty to suggest to you that local authorities should be impressed with the necessity of not neglecting the particular precautions indicated.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,

Your Most Obedient Servant,

[Signature]
Lieut-Colonel, I.M.S.
Sanitary Commissioner for Madras.

First copy sent to Press. 18-3-99

Returned for signature.

Despatched in print.

READ AGAIN

CURRENT No.

3132

Ref on 3301 — A
Chs 34 & 4 — A

ENCLOSURE TO C. No.

NUMBER OF COPIES REQUIRED. { Order complete, Letter only. Order complete with Letter.

[Signature] Signatures — 35
Spans — 225

[Signature]
5-4-99

[Signature]
Please send proof.

[Signature]
18-3-99

[Signature]

The old number has been cancelled and the Prop. are issued again as revised—vide instructions given above for the revised Progs.

[Signature]
27-3-99

N.B.—

A = Print in full.
B = Not to be printed.
P = Print abstract only.
Q = Print heading only.