

Marine (1898) Department.

G.O., No. 291 *mac*

DATED 19 April 1898

[Despatch Abstract.]

Plague, Letter from the Govt of Bengal
with remarks
forwarding Cpy of a telegram from the
Govt of India regarding — at Hong Kong
Macao and Canton, received

BACK PAPERS.

FURTHER PAPERS.

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

Marine (1898) Department.

CURRENT No. 456

Order In-291 Ina 2/19 April 98

Recorded

Uto

Quarantine has been
imposed at Madras ports
against the infected
places named

CS.

From the Govt of Bengal

No. 780 Inarmi

Dated 9 } April 1898
Received 18 }

Enclosures — 3

Spare copies - ~~of en 2 (2)~~

SUBJECT.

SUBJECT.

Plague. Forwarding
copy of a ~~revised~~ telegram
from the Govt. of India
regarding — at Hongkong,
Macao and Canton.

- (3) The other persons on board shall also be disembarked and, when necessary, kept under observation at the Sanitary station for a period varying, in the discretion of the Health Officer, according to the sanitary condition of the ship and the date of the last case. Such period must not exceed ten days from the date of the last case, whether that occurred on boardship or during the period of observation on shore. It is also in the discretion of the Health Officer to allow such persons to proceed to their destination on their giving a written undertaking, in the form annexed as Appendix I, to submit themselves to surveillance by the Medical Officer (if any) appointed for the purpose, at their destination, for a period of ten days from the date of the arrival of the ship. The undertaking shall be executed in duplicate, and one copy shall be sent by the Health Officer to the Medical Officer concerned.

No one arriving on the vessel shall be left on board except those persons whose presence is necessary for the care of the vessel.

- (4) The soiled linen and personal effects of the crew and passengers, which, in the opinion of the Health Officer, may be considered as infected, shall be disinfected, in accordance with the rules contained in Appendix II.
- (5) The bilge-water will be pumped out after disinfection, and good drinking-water will be substituted for the water stored on board.
- (6) All parts of the ship, which have been inhabited by plague-patients, will be disinfected; and the other parts of the ship may also be disinfected at the discretion of the Health Officer.
- (7) When these rules have been fully complied with, the Health Officer shall, by an order in writing under his hand, to be delivered to the Commander, permit the yellow flag to be hauled down.

VIII. Rules relating to suspected ships:—

- (1) If a suspected ship has, under Rule IV, been stopped at Diamond Harbour, she will await the orders of the Health Officer there. If, under Rule V, she has been brought up to Mateabrooj, the Health Officer will go on board of her there.
- (2) The passengers and crew will be medically inspected by the Health Officer.
- (3) The soiled linen and personal effects of the passengers and crew which, in the opinion of the Health Officer, may be considered as infected, will be disinfected in accordance with the rules contained in Appendix II.
- (4) The bilge-water will be pumped out after disinfection, and good drinking-water will be substituted for the water stored on board.
- (5) All parts of the ship, which have been inhabited by plague-patients, will be disinfected; and the other parts of the ship may also be disinfected at the discretion of the Health Officer.
- (6) Passengers who are suspected by the Health Officer to be infected with plague may be detained under observation in an isolation hospital appointed for the purpose, for ten days from arrival of the ship, or if plague occurs among them while under observation, from the date of the last case.
- (7) The crew will not be allowed to land, except on duty, for ten days from the arrival of the ship.
- (8) Passengers who are passed on medical inspection as healthy, will be allowed to proceed to their destination on their giving a written undertaking, in the form annexed, to submit themselves to surveillance by the Medical Officer (if any) appointed for the purpose, at their destination, for a period of ten days from the date of the arrival of the ship. The undertaking shall be executed in duplicate, and one copy shall be sent by the Health Officer to the Medical Officer concerned.
- (9) When these rules have been fully complied with, the Health Officer shall, by an order in writing under his hand, to be delivered to the Commander, permit the yellow flag to be hauled down.

IX. Rules relating to healthy ships:—

- (1) A healthy ship shall be given free *pratique* at once, whatever may be the nature of her bill of health.
- (2) Such a ship may, at the discretion of the Health Officer, be subjected to the measures prescribed in Rules VIII (2), VIII (3) and VIII (4), but the ship itself may not be disinfected as in Rule VIII (5), except with the consent of the Commander or Agent.
- (3) Passengers who, on medical inspection, are suspected by the Health Officer to be infected with plague, may be detained under observation in an isolation hospital appointed for the purpose, for ten days from the date on which the ship left an infected port, or, if plague occurs among them while under observation, from the date of the last case.
- (4) The crew will not be allowed to land, except on duty, for ten days from the date on which the ship left an infected port.
- (5) The crew and passengers may, at the discretion of the Health Officer, be subjected to surveillance in the manner described in Rule VIII (8), for a period of ten days from the date on which the ship left an infected port.

- (6) When these rules have been fully complied with, the Health Officer shall, by an order in writing under his hand, to be delivered to the Commander, permit the yellow flag to be hauled down.
- (7) None of the above measures will be considered necessary when the ship has been given free *pratique* at Colombo or other intermediate port.

X. *Ships carrying a Doctor or a stove.*—In exercising the discretion vested in him by the rules under heads VII, VIII and IX above, the Health Officer should take into consideration the fact of there being a Doctor, or a disinfecting apparatus (stove), on board the ship in question.

XI. *Rules relating to crowded and insanitary ships.*—Crowded ships, ships carrying emigrants or return pilgrims, and ships which appear to be in an insanitary state may, at the discretion of the Health Officer, be treated as suspected ships under head VIII.

XII. *Right of ship to put back to sea.*—Any ship objecting to submit to the obligations imposed by these rules will be free to put back to sea. Such objection must be notified on or before arriving at Diamond Harbour.

XIII. *Rules applying to ships claiming right to put back to sea.*—If ships claiming the right to put back to sea desire to disembark passengers or land goods, they must submit to the rules relating to suspected ships.

XIV. *Provisions and stores.*—It will be the duty of the Port Officer to facilitate the conveyance to all vessels in quarantine of such supplies of provisions, stores and other articles as may be required by those on board. Such supplies will be placed on the boats of the vessels in quarantine, to be subsequently removed by members of their crews.

A. D. McARTHUR, Col., R.E.,
Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

APPENDIX I.

I (name) of (place) do hereby declare that it is my intention at once to proceed to (place), and I agree to submit myself to medical supervision by (name or office of Medical Officer appointed for the purpose) for a period of ten days from (date from which period is to be reckoned).

Signed

In the presence of

Health Officer.

APPENDIX II.

Instructions for disinfection.

1. Personal effects, rags, infected bandages, papers, and other articles without value should be destroyed by fire.
2. Under-clothing, bedding, wearing apparel, mattresses, carpets, &c., which are contaminated or suspected, should be disinfected in stoves at normal pressure, or at a pressure of from one and-a-half to two degrees, with or without the presence of steam. Before a stove is passed as efficient for the purposes of disinfection, it should be subjected to a test, with the aid of a signal thermometer, showing the moment when the temperature in the middle of a mattress rises to, at least, 100° (centigrade). To ensure that the disinfection is effective, this temperature must be maintained for from 10 to 15 minutes.
3. Disinfecting solutions—
- (a) Solution of corrosive sublimate, of 1 part in 1,000, with the addition of 10 parts of chloride of soda. The solution should be coloured with aniline dye or indigo. It should not be placed in metal vessels.
- (b) A 5 per cent. solution of pure crystallized carbolic acid, or 5 per cent. of crude commercial carbolic acid, in a warm solution of soft soap.
- (c) Fresh slaked-lime (1).
4. Special instructions to be observed in the employment of disinfecting solutions. The linen, clothing and articles, soiled by the excreta of patients, should be soaked in the solution of corrosive sublimate. The solution of pure carbolic acid, and the solution of soap and carbolic acid, are equally suited to the purpose. The articles should remain in the solution for at least six hours.

(1) To get very strong slaked-lime, take lime of good quality, slake it, by moistening it gradually, with half its weight of water. When the operation is completed, put the powder in a carefully-corked receptacle, and place it in a dry spot. As each kilogramme of lime absorbs 500 grammes of water in order to become slack, it acquires a volume of 2 litres 200, and it is sufficient to dilute it with double its volume of water, say 4 kilogrammes 400 grammes, to obtain a white-wash, which will be of about 20 per cent. strength of lime.

Articles which cannot be subjected to the temperature of the stove (100° centigrade) without injury, such as leather goods, wooden articles stuck together with glue, felt, velvet, silk, &c., should be washed with the solution of corrosive sublimate; coins can be disinfected with the solution of soap and carbolic acid.

Persons engaged in nursing the sick should wash their hands and faces with the solution of corrosive sublimate, or with one of the carbolic solutions.

The carbolic solutions will be useful, more particularly for disinfecting articles, such as metals, instruments, etc., which can neither be subjected to a temperature of 100° centigrade, nor placed in contact with corrosive sublimate.

Slaked-lime is particularly recommended for disinfecting excreta. Expecterated matter should be burnt.

5. Disinfection of ships with plague-patients on board.

The cabin or cabins, and all parts of the ship occupied by the sick or *suspected*, should be cleared out, and all articles in them should be treated as described above.

The partitions should be disinfected with the solution of corrosive sublimate, with an addition of 10 per cent. of alcohol. The washing should commence from the top, horizontally, and be continued downwards, so that the whole surface of the partition becomes covered with a coating of minute drops.

The boarding should be washed with the same solution.

Two hours after, the walls and flooring should be washed over with plenty of water.

6. Disinfection of the hold of an infected ship.

To disinfect the hold, sulphate of iron, in quantity sufficient to neutralize the sulphuretted hydrogen, should first be thrown in, the bilge-water should be pumped out, and the hold washed with sea-water. Solution of corrosive sublimate should then be thrown in.

The bilge-water should not be pumped out while the ship is in port.

GOVERNMENT OF BENGAL.

MARINE DEPARTMENT.

The 31st March 1898.

No. 47 Marine.—The following should be substituted for rule 2, in Appendix II of the rules for the treatment of vessels arriving at Calcutta from plague-infected ports, which were published under Notification No. 160 Marine, dated the 24th August 1897, in part I, pages 1126 to 1129 of the *Calcutta Gazette* of the 25th idem :—

"Under-clothing, bedding, wearing apparel, mattresses, carpets, &c., which are contaminated or *suspected*, should be disinfected in stoves at *normal pressure*, or at a *pressure of from one-and-half to two atmospheres*, with or without the presence of steam."

T. H. CLOWES,
Under-Secretary.

Mar. 31/98
456/98

Sanitary
Copy of a telegram No 766, dated
6th April 1898 from India Home,
to the Bengal Marine, Calcutta.

It has been ascertained from Hong Kong Government that 210 cases plague have occurred Hong Kong this year up to 2nd April and that plague reported to exist also at Macao and Canton. Hence convention regulations should be imposed against Hong Kong Macao and Canton at Calcutta & Chittagong.

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received for foot of Madras

Mar 9 1898
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Hand note
Marine 18/1/98

Marine Department.
No. 780 Marine.

From

J. H. Clowes Esquire,
Under Secy. to the Govt of Bengal,

The Secy. to the Govt of Madras.

Sir

Cuttack the 9th April 1898.

I am directed to forward the enclosed copy of a telegram dated the 6th instant from the Government of India, Home Department, & to state that the officers concerned have been instructed to strictly enforce the rules for quarantine which were issued by this Department under notification No. 160 Marine dated the 24th August 1897, against vessels arriving from Hongkong, Macao & Canton.

A copy of the notification referred to above was forwarded to you with this Department No. 1613 M. of 27th idem.

I have the honor to be,
Sir

Your most Obedt. Servt.

J. H. Clowes.

Under Secretary.



Accompts
Copy of telegram
ref. to be
K.B.
9.4.98