

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	763	Press Mis.
<i>18-19</i> Dated	25-3-	1868

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
25th March 1868.*

No. 418. Read the following Endorsement of the Inspector General, Indian Medical Department, dated Fort St. George, 18th March 1868, No. 122 :—

Read the following letter from Mr. J. HARGREAVES, Apothecary on tour with W. ROBINSON, Esq., to the Secretary to the Inspector General, Indian Medical Department, Madras, dated Camp at Ahtoor, 11th March 1868.

1. In pursuance of my report, dated Chinna Salem, I beg now to forward further particulars about the cholera infected parts. I arrived here on the evening of the 9th, and ascertained from the Tahsildar all the information I could regarding the disease, which he reported was now on the decline.

2. The cholera first appeared on the 2nd February, after a case had been imported from Salem, where cholera was at the time epidemic, the man was seized midway, and brought into this town on a litter. From the above date to 9th March the number of seizures in this place alone amount to fifty-six, forty-eight of which proved fatal. This is an exorbitant ratio of mortality; but from what I can gather, the type must have been virulent, most of the victims being carried off after a few hours' suffering, the symptoms being accompanied by violent spasmodic action. Two fresh cases presented on my arrival, and to these I at once gave my attention; the both cases had been severely vomited and purged, the latter copious and congee-like, and although considerable prostration had set in cramps were absent. The pills *without* opium were commenced with, and repeated every hour. In six hours there were signs of amendment, the purging checked, temperature and pulse rose, and they went to sleep. Next day urine flowed, and the dejections assumed a bilious natural appearance, and the both soon rallied. Taking the cases in time is everything; this I full impressed on the people; to go at *once* for medicine. I stayed here two days, during which I patrolled the whole place. The sanitary condition of such a large village, with a population of about 6,000, is on the whole not bad, the main streets and drains being kept clean; but in some other parts where the disease had taken hold the houses were perfect cowsheds, and on the east side of the town, which is used as a bandy-stand, I found a large accumulation of dung manure, which was being excavated daily and carried to the fields, being to windward of the houses; I brought it to notice at once, recommending the removal of the whole to a less objectionable spot.

3. The drinking water obtained from the Vyshista river, skirting the north side of the town, is a nice clear running stream, never dry, and found to be good and wholesome.

4. A small village situated on the opposite bank of the river has also been the scene of cholera lately, a few cases only, and none since. I found the cactus flourishing here, and a good deal of filth and rubbish also. This will be attended to.

5. Cholera has also occurred in fifteen outlying villages of this talook, but not to a severe extent. I could not obtain statistics to shew the actual number attacked, but the mortality is reported to have been about thirty-four, or about two to each village. I supplied the Tahsildars and Inspectors of Police with cholera medicine for distribution amongst the infected villages.

6. I also visited another village, seven miles west of this place, where cholera was reported. Since the 1st of this month they have had fourteen cases, out of which eight died. I found but one case, and that convalescent.

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7. The cholera tracks in this instance seem to be from west (Salem) travelling eastwards along the trunk road, branching off occasionally to outstanding villages. It has got up about forty miles, and strange to say that several intermediate villages between Salem and this have escaped.

8. I have reported the above to Mr. Robinson, who is gone on to Salem.

P. S.—The favorable issue of the two cases I attended has, it is gratifying to observe, inspired confidence in our treatment, and I am beset on all sides for the "good medicine."

Forwarded to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, in continuation of this Office letter No. 112 of the 13th instant.

(Signed) W. MACKENZIE, M. D.,
Inspector General, Indian Medical Department.

No. 419. ORDER THEREON, 25th March 1868, No. 763.

Miscellaneous

Communicated to the Board of Revenue.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Secretary to Government.

Inspector General, Indian Medical Department.

Ed. S. T. Anglin.

Reported to England
By 30th March 1868.

No 122

Memo

Forwarded to the Secy
to Government Revenue Dept
in continuation of the
Office letter No 112 of
the 13th instant

G. Mac Kenzie Esq
Inspector General India

For the Secy
18 March 1868

1868/1219

Revenue 1868. No 112
Pro. of Govt for March
No. 908

From
The Secy. Genl. India
Ind. L. No 112

Noted 18th 3 March
Received 21st 4 1868.
No. 122.

Forwarding further
particulars given
by Apthys MacKenzie
regarding the cholera
infected parts in
Salem District—
Comm^d to the Board
of Revs.
25th March 1868

In reply to Mr. Robinson's letter of 25th March 1868.