Political (1895) Department.

(1)

ORDINARY PRINTED.

G.O., No 593

Dated 6th Sept. 1895.

INDEXED.

Bundle - 99 -

[Despatch Abstract.]

THE LACCADIVE ISLANDS

Communicating to the Board of Revenue, Proceedings, Public Department, expressing opinion that the District Medical Officer, Malabar, should, on the occasion of the next inspection of --, accompany the inspecting officer, and requesting it to give the Surgeon-General timely notice of the next visit

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

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பாதுகாப்பு பிரிவு-1

செய்யவேண்டியவர் பெயர்: V ராஜா

செய்யவேண்டுவதற்காக எடுத்துக் கொள்ளப்பட்ட நாள்: 06/08 / 10/08

சரிபார்க்கும் முதல் முறியாள் கையொப்பம்

14/11/08
சரிபார்க்கும் 2ம் முறியாள் கையொப்பம்

சரிபார்க்கி உதவியாளர் கையொப்பம்

Govt. of {1895} Madras.

2/593

POLITICAL.

Issued

Rcd. *Encl.*

G.O., 6th September 1895, No. 593.

SEPTEMBER.

The Laccadive Islands.

Communicating to the Board of Revenue Proceedings, Public Department, expressing opinion that the District Medical Officer, Malabar, should, on the occasion of the next inspection of —, accompany the Inspecting officer, and requesting it to give the Surgeon-General timely notice of the next visit.

3/593.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following paper :—

G.O., dated 3rd September 1895, No. 732, Public.

Read—the following papers :—

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue), dated 6th August 1895, Mis. No. 3874.

Read—the following letter from H. MOBERLY, Esq., Acting Collector of Malabar, to the Secretary to the Commissioners of Land Revenue, dated 18th July 1895, Dis. No. 114 Isl. of 1895 :—

I have the honour to submit herewith, for the information of the Board, copy of the Annual Return and Report of the Civil Dispensary on the Island of Minicoy for the year 1894.

2. As the suggestions made by the Hospital Assistant require consideration by the District Medical and Sanitary Officer on the Island, I have the honour to request the Board to move Government to allow him to accompany the officer next visiting the islands. With reference to G.O., dated the 17th May last, No. 326, Political, enquiries have to be made at the next inspection as to the cause of the severe outbreak of cholera on the Island of Androth, and instructions have to be given to the Islanders to provide against a recurrence. The presence of the District Medical and Sanitary Officer would be very desirable on this account as well.

Resolution—dated 6th August 1895, Mis. No. 3874.

Submitted for the orders of Government. The Board supports the Collector's request.

(True Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) L. M. WYNCH,
Secretary.

To the Chief Secretary to Government,
Political Department, with one enclosure.
Copy to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

[Enclosures.

ENCLOSURES.

ANNUAL RETURN of In and Out Patients treated at the Dispensary at Minicoy for 1894.

Class and Grade of Dispensary—III.

Number of beds available ——: Male ——, Female ——.

	* Total number of patients treated, out-door.
General Diseases.	
Group A—	
Small-pox	..
Cholera	..
Dysentery	..
Malarial fevers †	18
Primary syphilis	65
Secondary syphilis	..
Gonorrhœa	1
Group B—	4
Scurvy	..
Worms	..
Group C—	615
Debility	10
Group D—	..
Rheumatic affections	167
Tubercular	3
Leprosy	13
Venereal diseases other than those in group A	..
All other general diseases	55
Local Diseases.	
Diseases of the nervous system	17
Do. of the eye	75
Do. of the ear	29
Do. of the nose	3
Do. of the circulatory system	7
Lungs (diseases of)	10
Other diseases of the respiratory system	154
Diarrhœa	99
Dyspepsia	43
Diseases of liver	2
Other diseases of digestive system	113
Goitre	..
Spleen (diseases of)	1
Diseases of the lymphatic system	19
Do. of the urinary system	3
Do. of the generative system	5
Do. of the organs of locomotion	5
Do. of the connective tissue	39
Do. of the skin	345
Ulcers	..
Poisons	205
General injuries	
Local injuries	
Total ..	2,474

NOTE.—All under 12 years of age to be counted as children.

* "Total treated" should include both those remaining from the previous year and those admitted during the year under report.

† All fevers other than "malarial" should be entered under "all other general diseases."

Ratio should be calculated on the grand total of daily average number of men, women and children.

27/593

SHOWING the class and sex of the patients treated.

Out-patients.			—	Total treated.															Daily average number.			
				Europeans.			Eurasians.			Muhammadans.			Hindus.			Other classes.			Total.					
Attended personally.	Represented by friends.	Total treated. *		Men.	Women.	Children.	Men.	Women.	Children.	Men.	Women.	Children.	Men.	Women.	Children.	Men.	Women.	Children.	Men.	Women.	Children.	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
..	..	..	In-door ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
2,327	147	2,474	Out-door ..	..	..	..	8	7	3	970	520	965	..	..	..	1	..	..	979	527	968	8·96	5·43	4·68	19·07
			Grand Total.	..	..	..	8	7	3	970	520	965	..	..	..	1	..	..	979	527	968	8·96	5·43	4·68	19·07

NOTE.—All under 12 years of age to be counted as children.

* "Total treated" should include both those remaining from the previous year and those admitted during the year under report.

† All fevers other than "malarial" should be entered under "all other general diseases."

Ratio should be calculated on the grand total of daily average number of men, women and children.

SHOWING the result of the Major Surgical operations performed during the year 1894.

Disease for which operation was performed.		Nature of operation according to Circular No. 21, dated 24th May 1872.	Remaining on 31st December.	Performed during the year.	Result.						Remaining under treatment.	*Remarks.* (Distinguish operations performed by the Surgeon from those performed by the Medical Subordinate, and name of operator should be entered.)
—	Name.				Total.	Cured.	Relieved.	Discharged otherwise.	Died.			
					Nil.							
		Total ..										
		Total number of minor operations performed.	59									

SHOWING the Income and Expenditure on account of the Dispensary during the year 1894.

	Income.	RS.
A	Balance on 1st January invested *	
A½	Do. do. Floating	
B	From Government—	
	As salary	
	For Registers and Forms	
	European medicines	
	For diet	
	Sales of medicines	
	Special allowances	
C	From Local Funds	
C½	From Municipal Funds	
D	Interest on invested Capital	
D½	Sale of Securities	
E	Subscriptions—	
	Europeans	
	Natives	
E½	Sale of medicines from dispensaries maintained by Local and Municipal Funds. .	
	Total, Income ..	

* Only the sum invested in Government securities should be shown here and not the amount in a Savings Bank which should come under head "Floating."

Expenditure.

A	On establishment	
B	On Bazaar medicines	
C	On European medicines	
D	On diet	
E	On Miscellaneous	
F	On Buildings or repairs	
F½	Invested during the year *	
	Total, Expenditure ..	
	Floating balance on 31st December	
	Total ..	
	Invested Capital balance on 31st December ..	
	Average cost of each diet	

* Only the sum invested in Government securities should be shown here and not the amount in a Savings Bank which should come under head "Floating."

ANNUAL REPORT.

1. *Dispensary Buildings—Present state of repairs, &c., furniture, fittings, &c.*—The dispensary which was built in 1890 at a cost of Rs. 30 is the property of Government. It is a thatched building, consisting of a hall without ceiling. Its doors and windows have become so old and worn out that they are apt to be broken to pieces if used with force. They are therefore required to be replaced by stronger ones. A store-room is much needed. A small wall about three feet high built within the area of the hall and surrounded with a wooden railing would answer the purpose. The thatched roof of the building may be substituted by ordinary tiles, after raising the present low walls to three feet high. Wooden railing is also needed in the middle of the hall, as to form a compounding room and an office, and to prevent the patients from trespassing into these places. A small platform should be erected in front of the dispensary along its front wall and seats either wooden or made up of coral stones placed over it for the reception and waiting in of the out-patient. The construction of the house for the medical subordinate is over excepting the out-houses such as a cook-room, a provision store-room, and a latrine, which are absolutely required. The compound wall which surrounds the house and the dispensary is too small and should be sufficiently raised as early as practicable as the backyard of the dwelling-house is quite exposed. It is very desirable that the thatched roof of this building should be substituted by tiles as in the case of the dispensary, as it is a common occurrence on the island for the thatched houses to take fire.

The furniture, &c., is sufficient for the present, as two almirahs and an examining cot were received during the year.

2. *Dispensary Committee—Frequency of meeting.*—Nil.

3. *Most common diseases among out-door patients; their prevalence and fatality as compared with other years.*—The diseases most common amongst the out-door patients were: worms, skin affections, ulcers, local injuries, rheumatic affections, respiratory affections, diseases of the digestive system, and bowel-complaints.

4. *Epidemics which have occurred in the station or its vicinity.*—Influenza of a severe type broke out in the island both in the middle of the year and towards its end. This is mainly attributed to the insanitary state of the island.

5. *Inspections by Civil Surgeons and Surgeon-General.*—Nil.

6. *Attendance of patients as contrasted with previous years, distinguishing in-door from out-door.*—There are no in-patients treated here. Patients 2,474 were treated against 2,879 of the previous year, thus showing a decrease of 405 for the year under report. This is simply due to the dispensary being closed for about two months in the year owing to the then subordinate in charge being compelled to leave the island for Colombo for treatment on account of his sudden and serious illness.*

Years.	Attendance.
1890	749
1891	1,530
1892	2,398
1893	2,879
1894	2,474

The foregoing figures show that there has been a steady increase in attendance since the opening of the dispensary excepting the figures for the year under report, which though somewhat less than that of the previous one, yet the daily average number for the latter two months of the year after the re-opening of the dispensary was more than ever noticed in the annals of the institution, owing to the patients having anxiously awaited for treatment. This clearly proves to what extent the institution is gaining popularity and the islanders appreciating English treatment—

Years.	Average daily sick.
1892	25·86
1893	21·13
1894	19·07

The reason for the decrease as shown above in the first two years is the irregularity on the part of the patients attending the dispensary and that for the last year is the closing of the dispensary for about two months in the year, although the attendance was much improved.

I now beg to submit the following suggestions for the improvement of sanitation, since the opening of the dispensary and the repeated advices and requests of the subordinates in charge to the amin and islanders on the subject has not had the desired effect up to date:—

(1) The Athery boys, whom a large number of cocoanut trees are allotted to by Government and who are expected to keep their atheries (sections) clean, in reality, do nothing. They should, I beg to suggest, be strictly made to keep their sections clean and that portion of the sea-shore into which their respective sections terminate towards the lagoon.

(2) There are nine sections in the village and for every three sections, two permanent latrines should be constructed in the lagoon, a few yards away from the sea-shore, so as to allow the night-soil to drop into the water.

(3) Two dust-bins in each section should be constructed to collect the rubbish of all description which is now recklessly thrown at large, and it should be burnt at least once a week—Friday.

(4) The water from the wells and tanks should be removed at least once a month.

(5) The present graveyards should be closed, new ones opened at some distance out of the village, and bodies buried in graves at least four feet deep.

(6) The whole work should be supervised by a "sanitary maistry" who must be employed from the mainland, the management of the same being placed under the immediate charge of the subordinate in charge of the dispensary, and the amin being at the same time strictly ordered by the Collector to render the necessary help in the same, and lastly

(7) The miserable condition of the lepers demand the most earnest and merciful consideration of the authorities in charge of the islanders.

7. *General Remarks.*—The sanitation of the island is indeed very unsatisfactory. The houses are built of low walls and close to each other in rows. They are over-crowded, and in spite of having no windows, they are kept closed at nights to prevent the swarms of misquitoes from getting into them. The beds, besides, are protected by thick misquito curtains for the same reason, thus rendering the air inside the houses quite unhealthy. Several narrow lanes intersect the village in various places and form the main roads of the island. As there is no conservancy establishment, heaps of rubbish of various descriptions are allowed to accumulate in the houses, and are also carelessly thrown over the pathways. Profuse water also is allowed to saturate in the yards of the houses as there is no drainage system. Numerous pits are dug out in and about the houses and cocoanut husks are allowed to soak in them for months together for the preparation of coir. The stench from these combined with that arising from the guts, scales and bones, &c., of the mass fish (bonito), a large number of which are daily cured in each and every house especially during the fishing season, which generally lasts from October till March, renders the atmospheric air quite obnoxious and adds to the insanitary state of the island. There are six burial grounds of old age within the village without any boundary walls and are encroached upon by dwelling-houses. The graves are dug so superficially that bodies interred are not much below the surrounding earths. There are shallow wells and tanks in these grave-yards besides those in other places. The water of these is generally either greenish or reddish or has some other hue owing to the impurities contained in it, and is used by the majority of islanders, that of the wells for drinking and cooking, while that of the tanks for bathing purposes. No latrines are yet erected in the village. The western sea-shore facing the lagoon is much resorted to by both sexes for the calls of nature during the night and the eastern jungle in the day. To the north and south of the village there is a dense jungle covered with screwpine and other wild vegetations. It forms the chief abode of the misquitoes and appears to be malarious owing to the decomposition of vegetable matter in it on account of its perpetual shade.

Leper Settlement.—The lepers are kept in a place set apart for them to the north of the island about two miles from the village. There were twelve of them, namely, six males and six females in the beginning of the year. On the 14th June 1894, a young lad of fourteen years and of the class of Malacheries (toddy drawers) was segregated with the above by the "Kazhee," thus making at present a total of seven men and six women. As noticed in the previous year's

report, want of food and clothing continues to increase day after day amongst them. Their relatives and friends do not help them by at least one meal a day, since they are themselves in a state of extreme poverty. They have been frequently visited by me and medical aid rendered to them. But each time I appear before them they yell out for food and clothing and nothing else. The instance of the female leper who died the previous year of starvation and debility is conclusive evidence of the actual state of these miserable creatures.

MINICOY,
7th January 1895.

(Signed) MUHAMED IBRAHIM,
Second-class Hospital Assistant, No. 307,
In Medical charge.

(Signed) J. J. SREENIVASAGAM, PILLAI
for *Ag. District Medical and Sanitary Officer, Malabar.*

From the Surgeon-General, dated 16th August 1895, No. 603-T.

Order—dated 3rd September 1895, No. 732, Public.

The Government is of opinion that the District Medical Officer should, on the occasion of the next inspection of the islands, accompany the Inspecting officer. The Hospital Assistant's report evidences a most deplorable state of affairs which should be seen to at the earliest possible date.

2. In the absence of details it is impossible for the Government to consider the suggestion made in paragraph 3 of the Surgeon-General's letter.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. F. PRICE,
Chief Secretary.

To the Political Department, with enclosure returned.
" Surgeon-General.

ORDER—dated 6th September 1895, No. 593, Political.

Communicated to the Board of Revenue which will give the Surgeon-General timely notice of the next visit.

(True Extract.)

J. F. PRICE,
Chief Secretary.

To the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue).
" Surgeon-General.
" Accountant-General.

Exd. C. M. Brisson.

CURRENT No. 1062

1895.

Board of Revenue
(Land Revenue),
MADRAS.

6/593

326 : 17-5-95
155 : 5-3-95 &c

Endt No. 1902

Referred to the Surgeon General for early remarks.

Fredk Price
Chief Secretary

Ootacamund
14 August 1895

To the Chief Secretary to Government, Political Dept.

RECEIVED
CHIEF SECRETARY'S OFFICE
MADRAS

Read: 9-8-95
Rep to

Proceedings, dated 6. August 1895,
3874 No. Mis. / Routine Enclosures.

Subject.

Submitting for the orders of Government letter from the Collr of Malabar re the visit to the Laccadive Islands by the Dt. Medical and Sanitary Officer.

Referred to the Public Department for favour of remarks

CMS
WTC
12. VIII. 95

ANNUAL RETURN of In and Out Patients treated at the Dispensary at [illegible] for 1894.

Class and Grade of Dispensary III

Number of Beds available ——— : Male ———, Female ———

	NAMES OF DISEASES.	Total number of patients treated, Out-door.	In-Patients					Total number of patients treated, both In-door and Out-door.	Remarks.
			Total treated.	Cured.	Relieved.	Discharged otherwise.	Died.		
GENERAL DISEASES. Group A.	Small-pox.	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	
	Cholera.	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	
	Dysentery.	18	"	"	"	"	"	18	
	Malarial fevers.†	65	"	"	"	"	"	65	
	Primary syphilis.	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	
	Secondary syphilis.	1	"	"	"	"	"	1	
	Gonorrhœa.	4	"	"	"	"	"	4	
Group B.	Scurvy.	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	
	Worms.	615	"	"	"	"	"	615	
Group C.	Debility.	10	"	"	"	"	"	10	
Group D.	Rheumatic affections.	167	"	"	"	"	"	167	
	Tubercular.	3	"	"	"	"	"	3	
	Leprosy.	13	"	"	"	"	"	13	
	Venereal diseases other than those in group A.	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	
All other general diseases.		55	"	"	"	"	"	55	
LOCAL DISEASES.	Diseases of the nervous system.	17	"	"	"	"	"	17	
	Do. eye.	75	"	"	"	"	"	75	
	Do. ear.	29	"	"	"	"	"	29	
	Do. nose.	3	"	"	"	"	"	3	
	Do. circulatory system.	7	"	"	"	"	"	7	
	Lungs (diseases of).	10	"	"	"	"	"	10	
	Other diseases of the respiratory system.	154	"	"	"	"	"	154	
	Diarrhœa.	99	"	"	"	"	"	99	
	Dyspepsia.	43	"	"	"	"	"	43	
	Diseases of liver.	2	"	"	"	"	"	2	
	Other diseases of digestive system.	113	"	"	"	"	"	113	
	Goitre.	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	
	Spleen (diseases of).	1	"	"	"	"	"	1	
	Diseases of the lymphatic system.	19	"	"	"	"	"	19	
	Do. urinary system.	3	"	"	"	"	"	3	
	Do. generative system.	5	"	"	"	"	"	5	
	Do. organs of locomotion.	5	"	"	"	"	"	5	
	Do. connective tissue.	39	"	"	"	"	"	39	
	Do. skin.	349	"	"	"	"	"	349	
	Ulcers.	345	"	"	"	"	"	345	
	Poisons.	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	
	General injuries.	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	
	Local injuries.	205	"	"	"	"	"	205	
	TOTAL ..	2474	"	"	"	"	"	2474	

SHOWING THE CLASS AND SEX OF THE PATIENTS TREATED.

Out-Patients.				Total Treated.																Daily Average Number.			
Attended personally.	Represented by friends.	Total treated.		Europeans.			Eurasians.			Muhammadans.			Hindoos.			Other Class.			Total.			Men.	Women.	Children	Total
				M.	W.	C.	M.	W.	C.	M.	W.	C.	M.	W.	C.	M.	W.	C.	M.	W.	C.				
			In-door ..																						
2327	147	2474	Out-or ..	"	"	"	8	7	3	970	520	965	"	"	"	1	"	"	979	527	968	8.96	5.43	4.68	19.07
			Grand Total..	"	"	"	8	7	3	970	520	965	"	"	"	1	"	"	979	527	968	8.96	5.43	4.68	19.07

Note.—All under 12 years of age to be counted as children.

* "Total treated" should include both those remaining from the previous year and those admitted during the year under report.

† All fevers other than "malarial" should be entered under "All other general diseases."

Ratio should be calculated on the grand total of daily average number of men, women and children.

SHOWING THE RESULT OF THE MAJOR SURGICAL OPERATIONS PERFORMED DURING THE YEAR 189

Disease for which Operation was performed. Name.	Nature of Operation according to Circular No. 21, dated 24th M[ay] 1872.	Remaining on 31st December.	Performed during the year.	Total.	Result. Cured.	Result. Relieved.	Result. Discharged otherwise.	Result. Died.	Remaining under treatment.	Remarks. (Distinguish operations performed by the Surgeon from those perfo[rmed] by the Medical Subordinate, and name of operator should be entere[d].)
			Nil							
	Total ..									
	Total number of minor operations performed		59							

SHOWING THE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ON ACCOUNT OF THE DISPENSARY DURING THE YEAR 189 .

INCOME.	Rs.	A.	P.	EXPENDITURE	Rs.	A.	P.
A Balance on 1st January invested*				A On establishment			
A½ Do. do. Floating				B On Bazaar medicines			
B From Government .. As salary				C On European Medicines			
For Registers and forms ..				D On diet			
European medicines				E On Miscellaneous			
For diet				F On buildings or repairs			
Sales of medicines				F½ Invested during the year*			
Special allowances							
C From Local Funds				Total, Expenditure ..			
C½ From Municipal Funds							
D Interest on invested Capital				Floating balance on 31st December			
D½ Sale of Securities							
E Subscriptions .. Europeans							
Natives				Total ..			
E½ Sale of medicines from dispensaries maintained by Local and Municipal Funds				Invested Capital balance on 31st December ..			
				Average coast of each diet			
Total, Income ..							

* Only the sum invested in Government securities should be shown here and not the amount in a Savings Bank, which should come under head "Floating."

ANNUAL REPORT.

1. *Dispensary Buildings.*—Present state of repairs, &c., furniture, fittings, &c.

The Dispensary which was built in 1890 at a cost of Rs 80 is the property of Government. It is a thatched building consisting of a hall without ceiling. Its doors and windows have become so old and worn out that they are apt to be broken into pieces if used with force. They are therefore required to be replaced by stronger ones. A store-room is much needed. A small wall about 3 feet high built within the area of the hall and surmounted with a wooden railing would answer the purpose. The thatched roof of the building may be substituted by ordinary tiles, after raising the present low walls to 8 feet high. Wooden railing is also needed in the middle of the hall, so as to form a compounding room and an office, and to prevent the patients from trespassing into these places. A small platform should be erected in front of the dispensary along its front wall and seats either wooden or made up of coral stones placed over it for the reception and sitting in of the out-patient. The construction of the house for the medical subordinate is now expecting the [illegible] such as a Cook-room, a proper Store-room, and a latrine, which are absolutely required. The Compound wall which surrounds the house in the Dispensary is too small and should be [illegible] as early as practicable, as the back yard of the dwelling house is quite exposed. It is very [illegible] that the thatched roof of this building should be substituted by tiles as in the case of the Dispensary, as it is a common occurrence on this Island for the thatched houses to take fire.

The furniture &c is sufficient [illegible] as two almirahs [illegible] received during the year.

2. *Dispensary Committee.*—Frequency of meeting.

—— Nil ——

3. Most common diseases among Out-door patients; their prevalence and fatality as compared with other years.

The diseases most common amongst the outdoor patients were:— Worms, Skin affections, Ulcers, local injuries, Rheumatic affections, Respiratory affections, Diseases of the Digestive System, and Bowel Complaints.

4. Epidemics which have occurred in the station or its vicinity.

Influenza of a severe type broke out in the Island late in the middle of the year and towards its end. This is mainly attributed to the insanitary state of the Island.

5. Inspections by Civil Surgeons and Surgeon-General.

—— Nil ——

6. Attendance of patients as contrasted with previous years, distinguishing In-door from Out-door.

There are no In-patients treated here. Patients 2474 were treated against 2879 of the previous year, thus showing a decrease of 405 for the year under report. This is simply due to the Dispensary being closed for about two months in the year owing to the then Subordinate in charge being compelled to leave the Island for Colombo for treatment on account of his sudden and serious illness.

Year	Attendance
1890	749
1891	1500
1892	2398
1893	2879
1894	2474

The foregoing figures show that there has been [illegible] in attendance since the opening of the Dispensary, excepting for the figures for the year under report, which though somewhat less than that of the previous one, yet the daily average number for the latter two months of the year after the re-opening of the Dispensary was more than ever noticed in the annals of the Institution, owing to the patients having anxiously awaited for treatment. This clearly proves to what extent the Institution is gaining popularity and the Islanders appreciating English treatment.

Year	Average daily sick
1892	25.86
1893	21.13
1894	19.07

The reason for the decrease, as shown above, in the first two years is the irregularity on the part of the patients [illegible] the Dispensary and that for the last year is the closing of the Dispensary [illegible]

7. General remarks.

The Sanitation of the Island, is indeed very unsatisfactory. The houses, are built of low walls and close to each other in rows. They are over-crowded and in spite of having no windows, they are kept closed at nights to prevent the swarms of mosquitoes from getting into them. The beds, besides, are protected by thick mosquito curtains for the same reason, thus rendering the air inside the houses quite unhealthy. Several narrow lines intersect the village. [illegible] various places, and from the main roads of the Island. As there is no Conservancy Establishment, heaps of rubbish of various description are allowed to accumulate in the houses, and are also carelessly thrown over the pathways. Profuse water also is allowed to saturate in the yards of the houses as there is no drainage System. Numerous pits are dug out in and about the houses, and Cocoanut husks are allowed to soak in them for months together, for the preparation of Coir. The Stench from these combined with that arising from the guts, scales, bones &c. of the mass fish (bonito), a large number of which are daily cured in each and every house especially during the fishing season which generally lasts from October till March, renders the atmosphere air quite obnoxious and adds to the insanitary state of the Island. There are six burial grounds of old age within the village, without any boundary walls, and are encroached upon by dwelling houses. The graves, are dug so superficially that bodies interred are not much below the surrounding Earth. There are shallow wells and tanks in these grave-yards besides those in other places. The water of these, is [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] has some [illegible] impurities contained in it, and is used by the majority of Islanders that of the wells for drinking and cooking while that of the tanks for bathing purposes. No latrines are yet erected in the village. The western seashore facing the lagoon is much resorted to by both sexes for the calls of nature, during the night and the day. To the north and south of the village there is a dense jungle covered with screwpine and other wild vegetation. It forms the chief abode of the mosquitoes and appears to be malarious owing to the decomposition of vegetable matter in it on account of its perpetual shade.

Leper Settlement. The lepers are kept in a place set apart for them to the north of the Island about two miles from the village. There were 12 of them namely 6 males and 6 females the beginning of the year. On the 4th June 1894 a young lad of 14 years and of the class of Melacharis (toddy drawers) was segregated with them by the "Kaghee", thus making at present a total of 7 men and six women. As noticed in the previous year's report, want of food and clothing continue to increase day after day amongst them. Their relatives and friends do not help them by at least one meal a day, since they are themselves in a state of extreme poverty. They have been frequently visited by me and medical aid rendered to them. But each time I appear before them, they yell out for food and clothing and nothing else. The instance of the female leper who died the previous year of starvation and debility is conclusive evidence of the actual state of these miserable creatures.

Sd. Muhamed Ibrahim
Second Class Hosptl. Asstt. No. 307
Minicoy 7-1-95. In Medical charge.

Surgeon.

(Signed) J. J. Sreenivasagam Pillay
for Ag. District Medical & Sanitary Officer.
(Malabar)
Dist.

(True Copy) [illegible signature]
for Ag. Collector

I now beg to submit the following suggestions for the improvement of Sanitation. Since the opening of the Dispensary [illegible] the repeated advices and requests of the subordinate in charge to the Ameen and Islanders on the subject [illegible] has the desired effect up to date.

1. The [illegible] to whom a large number of cocoanut trees are allotted to by Government and who are expected to keep their Athiris (sections) clean, in reality, do nothing. They should, I beg to suggest, be strictly [illegible] to keep their sections clean, and that portion of the sea shore up to which their respective sections terminate towards the lagoon.

2. There are nine sections in the village and for every 3 sections, 2 permanent latrines should be constructed in the lagoon, a few yards away from the sea shore, so as to allow the night soil to drop into the water.

3. Two dust bins in each section should be constructed to collect the rubbish of all description which is now recklessly thrown at large and it should be burnt at least once a week - Friday.

4. The weeds from the wells and tanks should be removed at least once a month.

5. The present grave yards should be closed, new ones opened at some distance out of the village, and bodies buried in graves at least 4 feet deep.

6. The whole work should be supervised by a "Sanitary inspector" who must be employed from the mainland [illegible] of the same [illegible] and under the immediate charge of the subordinate in charge of the Dispensary, and the Ameen being at the same time strictly ordered by the Collector to render the necessary help in the same [illegible]

7. The [illegible]able condition of the lepers demands [illegible] authorities in charge of the Islanders.

ANNUAL RETURN AND REPORT

OF THE

DISPENSARY AT Minicoy

Malabar DISTRICT,

FOR THE YEAR

1894.

Received in the Office of the Surgeon-General

N.B.—This Return should be despatched as early, after the completion of the year to which it refers, as possible, and not later than the 31st January.

Sub. 28/8/95

B/13 2,000—1-2-94.

CURRENT No. 62

REVENUE BOARD OFFICE MADRAS

13/592

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue

(Land Revenue).

Dated 6. August 1895.

No. 3874 Mis:

READ the following letter from H. Moberly Esquire, Collector of Malabar, to the Secretary to the Commissioners of Land Revenue, dated 18. July 1895, Mis: No. 114 Jdl: 95 :-

I have the honor to submit herewith for the information of the Board, copy of the Annual Return and Report of the Civil Dispensary on the Island of Minicoy, for the year 1894.

2. As the suggestions made by the Hospital Assistant, require consideration by the District Medical and Sanitary Officer, on the Island, I have the honor to request the Board, to move Government, to allow him to accompany the officer next visiting the Islands. With reference to G.O., dated the 17th May last, No: 326 Political, enquiries have to be made at the next inspection, as to the cause of the severe outbreak of Cholera on the Island of Kendroth, and instructions have to be given to the Islanders to provide against a recurrence. The presence of the District Medical and Sanitary

Officer

Officer, would be very desirable on this account as well.

Resolution

Submitted for the orders of Government. The Board supports the Collector's request.

(True Copy & Extract)

[signature]

Secretary.

To

The Chief Secretary to Government, Political Depts., with 1 Enclosure.

Copy to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

[initials]

Ed [illegible]

CURRENT No. 1204

Govt. of 1895 Madras.

14/593

To

The Political Dept.

Recd. 4 } 9/95
Regd 4 }

Encl. C No 1062 & Encl (returned)

Proceedings, dated 3rd Sept. 1895
No. 732

Subject.

Re Medical inspection of the Laccadives

C.S./P.S.

(A) write orders (A)

C. No. 1062 of 1206

ORDER

of 6th September 1895, No. 593

Comm^d. to the Board of Revenue ~~[illegible]~~ which will give the Surgeon General timely notice of the next visit

C.S. 5/9/95.

[initials] 5/9/95.

Board of Rev (L. R) 21
Surgeon Genl. 6
Acct. Genl. 6
Revenue Dept. 7

despd 2/10/95

despd 2/10/95

Despatches

Office Send S. a spare copy for "Laccadive" file

C.S.

WITH ORDER

[G. / 53]

500—3-3-93.

Department.

CHIEF SECRETARIAT. MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

READ the following paper :—

[G / 53]

1,000—30-3-95.

CURRENT No. 234

Public Department.

15/593

78

CHIEF SECRETARIAT. MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

READ the following paper :—

From the Political Department dated 12th August 1895, referring Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue) dated 6th August 1895. No. 3874 Mis.
From the Surgeon General dated 16th August 1895. No. Jail 603
Order dated 3rd September 1895. No. 732.

Govt Print

The Government is of opinion that the District Medical Officer should, on the occasion of the next inspection of the Islands, accompany the inspecting Officer. The Hospital Assistant's report evidences a most deplorable state of affairs which should be seen to at the earliest possible date.

2. In the absence of details it is impossible for the Government to consider the suggestion made in para. 3 of the Surgeon General's letter.

/True Extract/
Chief Secretary

To The Political Department with enclosure
" Surgeon General

16/593

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following paper:—

G.O., dated 3rd September 1895, No. 732, Public.

Read—the following paper:—

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue), dated 6th August 1895, Mis. No. 3874.

Read—the following letter from H. MOBERLY, Esq., Acting Collector of Malabar, to the Secretary to the Commissioners of Land Revenue, dated 18th July 1895, Dis. No. 114 Isl. of 1895:—

I have the honour to submit herewith, for the information of the Board, copy of the Annual Return and Report of the Civil Dispensary on the Island of Minicoy for the year 1894.

2. As the suggestions made by the Hospital Assistant require consideration by the District Medical and Sanitary Officer on the Island, I have the honour to request the Board to move Government to allow him to accompany the officer next visiting the islands. With reference to G.O., dated the 17th May last, No. 326, Political, enquiries have to be made at the next inspection as to the cause of the severe outbreak of cholera on the Island of Androth, and instructions have to be given to the Islanders to provide against a recurrence. The presence of the District Medical and Sanitary Officer would be very desirable on this account as well.

Resolution—dated 6th August 1895, Mis. No. 3874.

Submitted for the orders of Government. The Board supports the Collector's request.

(True Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) L. M. WYNCH,
Secretary.

To the Chief Secretary to Government,
Political Department, with one enclosure.
Copy to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

ENCLOSURES.

ANNUAL RETURN of In and Out Patients treated at the Dispensary at Minicoy for 1894.

Class and Grade of Dispensary—III.

Number of beds available ——— ; Male ———, Female ———.

	* Total number of patients treated, out-door.
General Diseases.	
Group A—	
Small-pox	..
Cholera	..
Dysentery	18
Malarial fevers †	65
Primary syphilis	..
Secondary syphilis	1
Gonorrhœa	4
Group B—	
Scurvy	..
Worms	615
Group C—	
Debility	10
Group D—	
Rheumatic affections	167
Tubercular	3
Leprosy	13
Venereal diseases other than those in group A	..
All other general diseases	55
Local Diseases.	
Diseases of the nervous system	17
Do. of the eye	75
Do. of the ear	29
Do. of the nose	3
Do. of the circulatory system	7
Lungs (diseases of)	10
Other diseases of the respiratory system	154
Diarrhœa	99
Dyspepsia	43
Diseases of liver	2
Other diseases of digestive system	113
Goitre	..
Spleen (diseases of)	1
Diseases of the lymphatic system	19
Do. of the urinary system	3
Do. of the generative system	5
Do. of the organs of locomotion	5
Do. of the connective tissue	39
Do. of the skin	349
Ulcers	345
Poisons	..
General injuries	..
Local injuries	205
Total ..	2,474

NOTE.—All under 12 years of age to be counted as children.

* "Total treated" should include both those remaining from the previous year and those admitted during the year under report.

† All fevers other than "malarial" should be entered under "all other general diseases."

Ratio should be calculated on the grand total of daily average number of men, women and children.

17/593

SHOWING the class and sex of the patients treated.

Out-patients.				Total treated.																Daily average number.			
Attended personally.	Represented by friends.	Total treated. *	—	Europeans.			Eurasians.			Muhammadans.			Hindus.			Other classes.			Total.						
				Men.	Women.	Children.	Men.	Women.	Children.	Men.	Women.	Children.	Men.	Women.	Children.	Men.	Women.	Children.	Men.	Women.	Children.	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
..	..	..	In-door ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
2,327	147	2,474	Out-door ..	..	..	..	8	7	3	970	520	965	..	..	..	1	..	..	971	527	968	8·96	5·43	4·68	19·07
			Grand Total. ..	..	..	..	8	7	3	970	520	965	..	..	..	1	..	..	971	527	968	8·96	5·43	4·68	19·07

NOTE.—All under 12 years of age to be counted as children.

* "Total treated" should include both those remaining from the previous year and those admitted during the year under report.

† All fevers other than "malarial" should be entered under "all other general diseases"

Ratio should be calculated on the grand total of daily average number of men, women and children.

SHOWING the result of the Major Surgical operations performed during the year 1894.

Disease for which operation was performed.		Nature of operation according to Circular No. 21, dated 24th May 1872.	Remaining on 31st December.	Performed during the year.	Total.	Result.				Remaining under treatment.	*Remarks.* (Distinguish operations performed by the Surgeon from those performed by the Medical Subordinate, and name of operator should be entered.)
—	Name.					Cured.	Relieved.	Discharged otherwise.	Died.		
						Nil.					
		Total ..									
		Total number of minor operations performed.	59								

SHOWING the Income and Expenditure on account of the Dispensary during the year 1894.

	Income.	RS.
A	Balance on 1st January invested *	
A½	Do. do. Floating	
B	From Government—	
	As salary	
	For Registers and Forms	
	European medicines	
	For diet	
	Sales of medicines	
	Special allowances	
C	From Local Funds	
C½	From Municipal Funds	
D	Interest on invested Capital	
D½	Sale of Securities	
E	Subscriptions—	
	Europeans	
	Natives	
E½	Sale of medicines from dispensaries maintained by Local and Municipal Funds. .	
	Total, Income ..	

* Only the sum invested in Government securities should be shown here and not the amount in a Savings Bank which should come under head "Floating."

Expenditur

A	On establishment	
B	On Bazaar medicines	
C	On European medicines	
D	On diet	
E	On Miscellaneous	
F	On Buildings or repairs	
F½	Invested during the year*	
	Total, Expenditure ..	
	Floating balance on 31st December	
	Total ..	
	Invested Capital balance on 31st December ..	
	Average cost of each diet	

* Only the sum invested in Government securities should be shown here and not the amount in a Savings Bank which should come under head "Floating."

ANNUAL REPORT.

1. *Dispensary Buildings—Present state of repairs, &c., furniture, fittings, &c.*—The dispensary which was built in 1890 at a cost of Rs. 30 is the property of Government. It is a thatched building consisting of a hall without ceiling. Its doors and windows have become so old and worn out that they are apt to be broken to pieces if used with force. They are therefore required to be replaced by stronger ones. A store-room is much needed. A small wall about three feet high built within the area of the hall and surrounded with a wooden railing would answer the purpose. The thatched roof of the building may be substituted by ordinary tiles, after raising the present low walls to three feet high. Wooden railing is also needed in the middle of the hall, as to form a compounding room and an office, and to prevent the patients from trespassing into these places. A small platform should be erected in front of the dispensary along its front wall and seats either wooden or made up of coral stones placed over it for the reception and waiting in of the out-patient. The construction of the hos[illegible] the medical subordinate is over excepting the out-houses such as a cook-room, a provision store-room, and a latrine, which are absolutely required. The compound wall which surrounds the house and the dispensary is too small and should be sufficiently raised as early as practicable as the backyard of the dwelling-house is quite exposed. It is very desirable that the thatched roof of this building should be substituted by tiles as in the case of the dispensary, as it is a common occurrence on the island for the thatched houses to take fire.

The furniture, &c., is sufficient for the present, as two almirahs and an examining cot were received during the year.

2. *Dispensary Committee—Frequency of meeting.*—Nil.

3. *Most common diseases among out-door patients; their prevalence and fatality as compared with other years.*—The diseases most common amongst the out-door patients were: worms, skin affections, ulcers, local injuries, rheumatic affections, respiratory affections, diseases of the digestive system, and bowel-complaints.

4. *Epidemics which have occurred in the station or its vicinity.*—Influenza of a severe type broke out in the island both in the middle of the year and towards its end. This is mainly attributed to the insanitary state of the island.

5. *Inspections by Civil Surgeons and Surgeon-General.*—Nil.

6. *Attendance of patients as contrasted with previous years, distinguishing in-door from out-door.*—There are no in-patients treated here. Patients 2,474 were treated against 2,879 of the previous year, thus showing a decrease of 405 for the year under report. This is simply due to the dispensary being closed for about two months in the year owing to the then subordinate in charge being compelled to leave the island for Colombo for treatment on account of his sudden and serious illness.

Years.	Attendance.
1890	749
1891	1,530
1892	2,398
1893	2,879
1894	2,474

The foregoing figures show that there has been a steady increase in attendance since the opening of the dispensary excepting the figures for the year under report, which though somewhat less than that of the previous one, yet the daily average number for the latter two months of the year after the re-opening of the dispensary was more than ever noticed in the annals of the institution, owing to the patients having anxiously awaited for treatment. This clearly proves to what extent the institution is gaining popularity and the islanders appreciating English treatment—

Years.	Average daily sick.
1892	25·86
1893	21·13
1894	19·07

The reason for the decrease as shown above in the first two years is the irregularity on the part of the patients attending the dispensary and that for the last year is the closing of the dispensary for about two months in the year, although the attendance was much improved.

I now beg to submit the following suggestions for the improvement of sanitation, since the opening of the dispensary and the repeated advices and requests of the subordinates in charge to the amin and islanders on the subject has not had the desired effect up to date:—

(1) The Athery boys, whom a large number of cocoanut trees are allotted to by Government and who are expected to keep their atheries (sections) clean, in reality, do nothing. They should, I beg to suggest, be strictly made to keep their sections clean and that portion of the sea-shore into which their respective sections terminate towards the lagoon.

(2) There are nine sections in the village and for every three sections, two permanent latrines should be constructed in the lagoon, a few yards away from the sea-shore, so as to allow the night-soil to drop into the water.

(3) Two dust-bins in each section should be constructed to collect the rubbish of all description which is now recklessly thrown at large, and it should be burnt at least once a week—Friday.

(4) The water from the wells and tanks should be removed at least once a month.

(5) The present graveyards should be closed, new ones opened at some distance out of the village, and bodies buried in graves at least four feet deep.

(6) The whole work should be supervised by a "sanitary maistry" who must be employed from the mainland, the management of the same being placed under the immediate charge of the subordinate in charge of the dispensary, and the amin being at the same time strictly ordered by the Collector to render the necessary help in the same, and lastly

(7) The miserable condition of the lepers demand the most earnest and merciful consideration of the authorities in charge of the islanders.

7. *General Remarks.*—The sanitation of the island is indeed very unsatisfactory. The houses are built of low walls and close to each other in rows. They are over-crowded, and in spite of having no windows, they are kept closed at nights to prevent the swarms of mosquitoes from getting into them. The beds, besides, are protected by thick mosquito curtains for the same reason, thus rendering the air inside the houses quite unhealthy. Several narrow lanes intersect the village in various places and form the main roads of the island. As there is no conservancy establishment, heaps of rubbish of various descriptions are allowed to accumulate in the houses, and are also carelessly thrown over the pathways. Profuse water also is allowed to saturate in the yards of the houses as there is no drainage system. Numerous pits are dug out in and about the houses and cocoanut husks are allowed to soak in them for months together for the preparation of coir. The stench from these combined with that arising from the guts, scales and bones, &c., of the mass fish (bonito), a large number of which are daily cured in each and every house especially during the fishing season, which generally lasts from October till March, renders the atmospheric air quite obnoxious and adds to the insanitary state of the island. There are six burial grounds of old age within the village without any boundary walls and are encroached upon by dwelling-houses. The graves are dug so superficially that bodies interred are not much below the surrounding earths. There are shallow wells and tanks in these graveyards besides those in other places. The water of these is generally either greenish or reddish or has some other hue owing to the impurities contained in it, and is used by the majority of islanders, that of the wells for drinking and cooking, while that of the tanks for bathing purposes. No latrines are yet erected in the village. The western sea-shore facing the lagoon is much resorted to by both sexes for the calls of nature during the night and the eastern jungle in the day. To the north and south of the village there is a dense jungle covered with screwpine and other wild vegetations. It forms the chief abode of the misquitoes and appears to be malarious owing to the decomposition of vegetable matter in it on account of its perpetual shade.

Leper Settlement.—The lepers are kept in a place set apart for them to the north of the island about two miles from the village. There were twelve of them, namely, six males and six females in the beginning of the year. On the 14th June 1894, a young lad of fourteen years and of the class of Melacheries (toddy drawers) was segregated with the above by the "Kazhee," thus making at present a total of seven men and six women. As noticed in the previous year's

report, want of food and clothing continues to increase day after day amongst them. Their relatives and friends do not help them by at least one meal a day, since they are themselves in a state of extreme poverty. They have been frequently visited by me and medical aid rendered to them. But each time I appear before them they yell out for food and clothing and nothing else. The instance of the female leper who died the previous year of starvation and debility is conclusive evidence of the actual state of these miserable creatures.

MINICOY,
7th January 1895.

(Signed) MUHAMED IBRAHIM,
Second-class Hospital Assistant, No. 307,
In Medical charge.

(Signed) J. J. SREENIVASAGAM, PILLAI
for *Ag. District Medical and Sanitary Officer,*
Malabar.

Order—dated 3rd September 1895, No. 732, Public.

The Government is of opinion that the District Medical Officer should, on the occasion of the next inspection of the islands, accompany the Inspecting officer. The Hospital Assistant's report evidences a most deplorable state of affairs which should be seen to at the earliest possible date.

2. In the absence of details it is impossible for the Government to consider the suggestion made in paragraph 3 of the Surgeon-General's letter.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. F. PRICE,
Chief Secretary.

To the Political Department, with enclosure returned.
" Surgeon-General.

ORDER—dated 6th September 1895, No. 593, Political.

Communicated to the Board of Revenue which will give the Surgeon-General timely notice of the next visit.

(True Extract.)

Chief Secretary.

To the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue).
" Surgeon-General.
" Accountant-General.

Extd. C. M. Brisson, "

Govt. of {1895} Madras.

POLITICAL.

Issued

Read. *Encl.*

G.O., 6th September 1895, No. 593.

SEPTEMBER.

The Laccadive Islands.

Communicating to the Board of Revenue Proceedings, Public Department, expressing opinion that the District Medical Officer, Malabar, should, on the occasion of the next inspection of —, accompany the Inspecting officer, and requesting it to give the Surgeon-General timely notice of the next visit.

NOTE FOR THE H. C.

20/593

Coll. G.O. 593/6/9/95 has been this day conned to the Revenue Dept. Please send the usual number of spare copies.

[illegible]
20/9/95

