

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	844	Press
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Dated	22-8-	1866.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,
22nd August 1866.*

No. 142. Read the following letter from the Collector of Malabar, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Calicut, 1st August 1866, No. 104.

At the request of the Honorary Secretary, Friend-in-Need Society, Cochin, I

Addressed to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated 27th July 1866. have the honor to forward the enclosed for the consideration of Government. It is certainly true that all classes in Cochin

are in a depressed condition, and, though most of the better-to-do are liberal in their charities, the assistance rendered is not co-extensive with the prevailing destitution.

From the Honorary Secretary, Friend-in-Need Society, Cochin, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Cochin, 27th July 1866.

Agreeably to a requisition made to me by the Committee of the Cochin Friend-in-Need Society, I beg to address you on the subject of the languishing state of the Funds of the Society, and to request that you will be so good as to submit this communication to the Right Honorable the Governor in Council, for His Lordship's favorable consideration.

2. Before I proceed to lay before you the direct subject of the present appeal, I think it proper to mention that, upon an application made to Government in July 1864, for a grant in aid of the funds of the Society, the Government were pleased to observe that they did "not feel called upon to interfere for the relief of local communities from the support of such Institutions, unless in very strong and exceptional cases."

3. Two years have elapsed since the above application was made, and it is a significant fact that the condition of the lower classes in the Town of Cochin has steadily and most painfully retrograded. Nothing can describe the complete destitution that has seized a large portion of the population. A declension in the Oil Trade, once so prosperous and flourishing here, and the closing of two European Firms, have thrown out of employ hundreds of men, who have now literally nothing to look forward to, for the support of themselves and their families, than the eleemosynary and inadequate aid of the Public. The demands upon public benevolence have become so considerable that a local Rice Fund has been organized upon subscriptions exceeding Rupees 1000, and relief is thereby afforded to some; but, after all, this relief, owing to the general destitution that prevails, is but of a partial nature, and does not reach every case of distress and poverty.

4. The "Friend-in-Need" too is most liberally supported by the Community, but, unhappily, the funds are much below what is required to meet the demands of the Institution, and the result has been that the Committee have been forced most unwillingly to deny assistance to many of the poor of the place. But, besides this denial of aid, the Committee apprehend that it will eventually become necessary to reduce the number of even the existing incumbents, as, owing to the prevailing dearth and dearness of the necessaries of life, the present rate of pensions allowed, Rupees 1-8-0 a month, is altogether insufficient to keep the pensioners from begging in the streets.

5. The present annual income is Rupees 2339, of which a sum of Rupees 1164 is granted by His Highness the Rajah. The annual expenditure is 2528 Rupees.

6. At the last meeting a balance against the Society of Rupees 39-4-3, a fact which I submit is in itself sufficient to demonstrate both the utter impossibility of enhancing the present rates of pensions, and holding out any hope to the many applicants who appeal for charity.

7. Under these circumstances, the Committee are deeply concerned at the alternative which seems to threaten them, viz., of either their operations being paralyzed and brought to a stand still, or of closing the Society altogether. At present, they are merely tantalized by the spectacle of scores of people flocking to them for relief, without any prospect of obtaining it.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,
18th July 1867.*

11. The Government concur in thinking that it is desirable to employ a few men of each caste, and to distribute them over the several Circles, with a view to conciliating the prejudices, and meeting the wishes, of the various classes of the community.

(True Extract).

Acting Chief Secretary.

To the Inspector General, Indian Medical Department.
„ Public Works Department.

Frd. J. H. Burns.

Proceedings of the Madras Government. 2

Read the following letter from the Principal Inspector General, Indian Medical Dept.

Here with 25th March 1867 No. 113.

Order thereon 18th July 1867 No. 844.

With the foregoing letter the Principal Inspector General Medical Dept. submits the Report of the General Superintendent of Vaccination showing the results of the operations of the Vaccine Department during the year 1866.

Notwithstanding the difficulties with which this Department had to contend during the ~~year~~ ^{season} under review, owing to the unhealthiness of the year, the prevalence of famine, and the consequent increase of disease, the results of the past year are by no means unsatisfactory.

3. The total number of persons vaccinated was 194,509, exclusive of those whose names appear in the Mysore Returns; the number of persons vaccinated in 1865 was 191,394.

The average proportion of successful cases throughout the Presidency was 86.38, a result which, considering the exception

of the season, and the fact that all doubtful cases, and cases which are not watched after the operation, are returned as unsuccessful, must, as the Inspector General remarks, be considered very satisfactory.

4. These results, are in great part, owing to the exertions and good management of Dr. Shortt, who has, it appears, been generally ably assisted by his subordinates.

5. The Department, as reorganized a few years ago, appears to work well, but it is urged that the Districts are too large for the Deputy Superintendents & Supervisors thoroughly, and that the staff of vaccinators is inadequate. These representations will be duly considered when orders are passed on the proposal for increasing the staff of vaccinators and number of superintendents.

6. The names of Dr. Thompson and Pulney and will, as recommended by the General Superintendent, and the Inspector General, be removed from the staff of the Vaccine Department and borne on a separate list in virtue of their permanent

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rent employments.

7. The Government learn with pleasure that efforts have been made by various ~~members~~ officers of Government and ~~several~~ independent gentlemen to make widely known the advantages and the modus operandi of vaccine operations.

8. Dr. Shortt's experiments on the propagation of vaccine virus on the lower animals have led to valuable results: the remarks of the General Superintendent with reference to the protective power which he believes vaccination may possess over cattle, and the benefits which may accrue from vaccinating cattle in villages where operations are going on, ^{with a view to testing} the results, ^{and propagating} lymph, are especially worthy of consideration and representation.

9. It is gratifying to remark that the number of vaccinators employed by seminaries, municipal associations, and private individuals is steadily increasing.

10. The attention of the Public Works Department is drawn to the remarks of Dr. Shortt with reference to

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Repairs which are required for
the Chintadpettah Dispensary.
These repairs should at once
commence.

11. The Government cannot in thinking
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tribute them over the several
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the prejudices and meeting the
wishes of the various classes of
the community.

M.
10/7.

To the Inspector of the Department }
Public Works Department }
Copy for the selection

Public 1867 Department.

No. *114*

PROCEEDINGS OF GOVERNMENT.

Dated. *16th January 1867.*

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