

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.

870

Press
Mis.

Dated

14-7-1870

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,
14th July 1870.

No. 41. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 20th June 1870, No. 4250:—

Read the following letter from W. R. CORNISH, Esq., F.R.C.S., Sanitary Commissioner for Madras, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated Madras, 20th May 1870, No. 534.

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of Order of Government, No. 488, dated 22nd ultimo, and in reference thereto to state that the Department of Vital statistics of the Civil population is only now in the course of organization, and that a reduction in the number of returns, &c., is not at present feasible.

2. My attention will constantly be given to the simplification of work of this nature, and to the abolition of forms or tabular statements which have ceased to be of practical value.

3. I may mention that the Board of Revenue submits to Government an annual report and return of deaths in the Revenue Districts for the *official* year, while the same figures are employed by me for the returns and reports I prepare for the *calendar* year of deaths amongst the Civil population. The two returns can never agree, as they include the results of different months. It will be for Government and the Board of Revenue to consider whether the Board's independent report and returns on public health is required, now that the vital statistics of the population come under the review of the Sanitary Commissioner, and are included in his annual report.

4. I beg to submit a list of the periodical report, &c., compiled in this office.

Daily Report of Cholera in Towns and Villages.

Monthly Report to British Delegate to the Board of Health, Constantinople, on health of Ports.

Annual Sanitary Report including—

Statistical Returns, European Army.

„ „ Native „

Jail Returns.

Return of Births and Deaths amongst Civil population in the Districts of the Madras Presidency.

Report on Municipalities.

Deaths in Military Cantonments.

„ Public Institutions.

Report on distribution of Epidemic Cholera.

Map showing progress of Cholera.

Annual Report on the Vital Statistics of the City of Madras.

Return of Births among each class of the inhabitants arranged according to Municipal Divisions.

Return of Deaths among do. do. arranged according to (a) Age, and (b) Municipal Divisions and Villages.

Quarterly Report on the Vital Statistics of the City of Madras.

Brief Quarterly Tables of Births and Deaths.

Weekly Abstract of Births and Deaths for publication in *Gazette*.

} This work properly belongs to the Municipal Commissioners of Madras.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,
14th July 1870.*

Paragraph 3 of the letter above recorded will be referred to the Board of Revenue for the expression of their opinion.

FORT SAINT GEORGE,
24th May 1870.

(Signed) R. S. ELLIS,
Chief Secretary.

To the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue.

In this endorsement, the Government call for the opinion of the Board on a question raised by the Sanitary Commissioner whether the Board's independent annual report and returns on public health are required, now that the vital statistics of the population come under the review of the Sanitary Commissioner and are included in his annual report.

2. The separate reports now being annually furnished by Collectors upon the health of their respective districts are made in pursuance of the order of the Secretary of State, contained in paragraph 4 of his Despatch, dated the 29th February 1868, No. 2, communicated to the Board in Proceedings of the Madras Government, under date the 18th April 1868, No. 1034.

3. In these reports, the results brought out by the Statistical Returns are fully analysed and discussed, and any endeavour made to arrest the progress of disease in particular localities, and the steps taken to prevent its spread in others, are fully detailed. This system of special reporting keeps alive the interest of the District Officers in matters of hygiene, which have an important bearing on the welfare of the agricultural population, and consequently on the revenue.

4. The Board apprehend that if these special reports were done away with, and the duty of Collectors restricted to the despatch of the bills of mortality to the Sanitary Commissioner, active interest in the subject and the habit of analysis and comparison of these statistics, which is fostered by the present system, will both die out in course of time. They are, therefore, strongly of opinion, keeping in view also the great importance which the Secretary of State attaches to this duty being duly performed by Collectors, that the annual reports on the health of districts now submitted through the Board of Revenue, should not be discontinued.

5. The Board also observe that the very brief notice now allotted to the vital statistics of the civil or general population in the body of the Sanitary Commissioner's annual reports, is not adequate to its importance. It is quite true that the statistics of each district are given *in extenso* in the tables appended to his report, but, left in the midst of a mass of returns connected with the health of the Army, the Cantonments and the Municipalities, they fail to attract prominent attention.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) J. GROSE,
Acting Secretary.

To the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,
14th July 1870.*

No. 42. ORDER THEREON, 14th July 1870, No. 870.

The Government are of opinion that the Board of Revenue have shown good reasons for maintaining the present system under which Reports on the Public Health of Districts are furnished by Collectors to the Board.

(True Extract.)

Under Secy. to Govt.

To the Board of Revenue.
,, Sanitary Commissioner.

Rsd. J. Wright.

3 X

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
18th April 1868.

No. 405. Read the following Despatch from the Right Honorable the Secretary of State for India, (Sanitary,) to His Excellency the Right Honorable the Governor in Council, Fort St. George, dated India office, London, 29th February 1868, No. 2:—

1. I have had under separate consideration in Council the 12th and 13th paragraphs of the Report of the Board of Revenue for 1865-66, on the sanitary condition of the Madras districts, and also the 5th, 6th, and 7th paragraphs of the orders issued by your Excellency's Government, under date the 25th September, No. 2,244, of 1867.

2. The statement of the Board is very unfavorable. Very large numbers appear to have died from the virulent ravages of cholera, small-pox, and fever, and in some districts, it is lamentable to add, from starvation. I derive some relief from the assurance that the season has been, from a variety of causes which baffled all human precautions, one of an unusually unhealthy character, and there can be little doubt that many who have died from other immediate causes have been pre-disposed to the diseases which proved fatal to them, by want of proper food, and, in some instances, by want of all food. Facts of this kind, painful as they are, it may be trusted are not likely to be of frequent occurrence.

3. I am well aware that your Excellency's Government has displayed great promptitude, energy, and judgment in dealing with the calamity which has afflicted the districts of your Presidency, and I believe that your Excellency in Council has generally been well supported by the officers charged with the administration of the country; but I observe that few of the Collectors, according to the Board's statement, have afforded you the information which was necessary to enable your Government accurately to ascertain the extent of the mortality arising from want and epidemic disease. I desire that this important part of their duty may be impressed upon the Collectors.

4. I desire that, in future, each Collector may be directed annually to furnish a separate report upon the health of his district. These, after being considered by your Excellency in Council, should be forwarded to me with an abstract showing the ratio of mortality to population in each district.

No. 406. ORDER THEREON, 18th April 1868, No. 1,034.

Miscellaneous.

Ordered to be communicated to the Board of Revenue for their information and guidance. They will issue instructions to the Collectors for the submission of the annual Report required in paragraph 4 of the Despatch, and prescribe a form for the abstract shewing the ratio of mortality to population.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

Cont. of 1870; 32nd Nov.

PUBLIC.

To
THE BOARD OF REVENUE.
&c., &c., &c.

Dated July, 14th.
Recd. Exd.

G. O., 14th July 1870, No. 870.

JULY.
Nos. 41-42.

Directing that the submission of Annual Reports on Public Health by Collectors, to the Board of Revenue, be continued.

5+
Public Department

Proceedings of the Madras Government
Read the following Pros.
of the Board of Revenue
Dated 20th June 1870, No. 4,250.

Order thereon Botacomm 14/10/70
by 870.

The Govt are of
opinion that the Board
of Revenue have shown
good reasons for maintain-
ing the present system
under which Reports on the
Public Health of Districts
are furnished by Col-
lectors to the Board.

I. O. S.

To the Bd. of Revenue
Sanitary Commr.
Sept 23/70

In this endorsement, the Government call for the opinion of the Board on a question raised by the Sanitary Commissioner whether the Board's independent annual report and returns on public health are required, now that the vital statistics of the population come under the review of the Sanitary Commissioner and are included in his annual report.

2. The separate reports now being annually furnished by Collectors upon the health of their respective districts are made in pursuance of the order of the Secretary of State, contained in paragraph 4 of his Despatch, dated the 29th February 1868, No. 2, communicated to the Board in Proceedings of the Madras Government, under date the 18th April 1868, No. 1,034.

3. In these reports, the results brought out by the Statistical Returns are fully analysed and discussed, and any endeavour made to arrest the progress of disease in particular localities and the steps taken to prevent its spread in others, are fully detailed. This system of special reporting keeps alive the interest of the district officers in matters of hygiene which have an important bearing on the welfare of the agricultural population and consequently on the revenue.

4. The Board apprehend that if these special reports were done away with and the duty of Collectors restricted to the despatch of the bills of mortality to the Sanitary Commissioner, active interest in the subject and the habit of analysis and comparison of these statistics, which is fostered by the present system, will both die out in course of time. They are therefore strongly of opinion, keeping in view also the great importance which the Secretary of State attaches to this duty being duly performed by Collectors, that the annual reports on the health of districts now submitted through the Board of Revenue should not be discontinued.

5. The Board also observe that the very brief notice now allotted to the vital statistics of the civil or general population in the body of the Sanitary Commissioner's annual reports, is not adequate to its importance. It is quite true that the statistics of each district are given *in extenso* in the tables appended to his report, but, left in the midst of a mass of returns connected with the health of the Army, the Cantonments and the Municipalities, they fail to attract prominent attention.

(True Copies and Extract.)

J. Grole
Acting Secretary.

To the Chief Secretary to Government, Public Department.

Copy to the Acting Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
,, to the Sanitary Commissioner for Madras.

Exd. T. Cartledge.

Public 1870. No. 4,250.
Board of Revenue
MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 20TH JUNE 1870, No. 4,250.

Received 10.8.70
Encl.

JUNE.
No. 4,250.

Public health.—In Districts of Madras Presi-
dency.—Opinion submitted to Government
that annual reports on, submitted by Collectors
through Board, should not be discontinued.

10.8.70

Part No 22 of the Proceedings 1869-1870
Rev. 18-11-1869-1870-1870

From 12. July 1870.

Public Health Reports

Govt. of 1870 Madras.

Public

To

The Board of Revenue

via

Dated July. 14.

Recd.

Encl.

G. O. 14 July.

1870, No. 87

Nos. 41. 42.

Directing that the submission
of Annual reports on public
health by Collectors, to the Board
of Revenue, be continued.