

ORDINARY, MS.

Pub DEPARTMENT.
G.O., DATED 26th July 1894
No. 545

INDEXED.

When given for copying.

[Despatch Abstract.]

Recording letter from the
President of a meeting
of the members of the
Jain community of Ben-
bag forwarding for
perusal a copy of a
petition addressed to
His the Viceroy regarding
that the establishment
of a Parsi Institute in
India may not be sanction-
ed and that the
practice of various
in this country may
be prohibited.

BLACK PAPER, No.

2516

OF 1895

See p. 675

28-5-97

READ AGAIN ORDER OF GOVERNMENT, DATED
189 , No. , MISCELLANEOUS.

ENCLOSURES.

CURRENT No.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT

A A

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

PAPERS NOT FILED UP, BEING MEANT FOR DESPATCH
IN ORIGINAL (not paged).

N.B.—
A — Copy in full.
B — Not to be copied.
P — Copy abstract only.
Q — Copy heading only.

To

HIS EXCELLENCY THE RIGHT HONOURABLE
THE EARL OF ELGIN AND KINGARDINE, P.C., LL.D., &C.,
VICEROY AND GOVERNOR GENERAL OF INDIA IN COUNCIL,

SIMLA.

*The humble Petition of the
Members of the Jain Community
in Public Meeting assembled.*

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH :—

That a Committee, consisting of medical and military officers and laymen, have issued an appeal to Englishmen, who are temporary residents in India, the people of this country and to the princes and people of the Native States of India, for funds necessary to establish a Pasteur Institute where persons who are in actual danger of hydrophobia may be saved by the virus inoculations after Pasteur's method where the means of prevention of dire Indian diseases, such as cholera, fever and leprosy, may be sought out, and where instruction may be afforded to selected native students in bacteriological study and practice, and that the Committee have further determined to record by inscription upon the building itself the names of those who contribute most generously to the funds of the proposed Institute. It has been also announced that this scheme has received special encouragement at the hands of the Punjab Government and met with the approval of the Government of India.

2. The question of establishing a Pasteur Institute, though in itself it demands very serious consideration at the hands of all thoughtful persons, is inseparably connected with what is a most painful subject to the majority of the people of India, viz., the question of Vivisection. This question, which is being hotly debated even in Great Britain and other countries with a view to the total prohibition of vivisectional experiments, is so inextricably mixed up with the most highly cherished ethical and religious ideals of the Jain and the Hindu communities that the petitioners feel it their bounden duty to place before Government certain considerations why Her Majesty's Government should not directly or indirectly lend countenance to a movement which, however humanitarian it may appear to superficial observers, is destined, when its character and working are more fully understood than now

by the generality of the people in India, to introduce an element of serious complication in the administration of the country. From these observations it is abundantly clear that the question involved in the present movement is not purely scientific but has an important moral, religious and political bearing which the petitioners now proceed to explain.

3. With regard to the proposed establishment of a Pasteur Institute your Lordship's humble petitioners do not desire to enter into any lengthy discussion of the scientific aspects of Pasteurism. However great may be the services of M. Pasteur to the cause of science, the interests of truth and humanity are higher than other considerations and the petitioners have reasons to believe that the merits and demerits of his anti-rabic inoculations have not been placed before the people with equal candour and impartiality except in this presidency. Assuming that his hydrophobic cure is successful to the extent described by its advocates, it is an acknowledged fact that the number of deaths from genuine hydrophobia in India is infinitely smaller than the number of deaths from other preventible causes. From the latest Statistical Abstract for British India, it appears that out of 2,07,152 persons killed between 1881-1889 by elephants, tigers, leopards, bears, wolves, hyenas, snakes and other wild beasts, about 50 persons were killed by mad dogs. But even this statement does not show how many died from hydrophobic symptoms and how many from the severity and deadly character of the wounds themselves. Even if all these were cases of hydrophobia they do not establish the existence of any over-mastering necessity for the foundation of a Pasteur Institute. No doubt during this period of nine years about 700 persons were killed by wild dogs and about 2,000 by wolves. But the best way to lessen the number of these and other casualties is to equip villagers with the means of defending themselves against wild beasts by relaxing the undue rigidity of the Arms Act. During the same period about 6,00,000 cattle were killed by wild beasts and this method will, therefore, be found to be vastly more useful to poor villagers than any Institute worked at the foot of the Himalayas.

4. Your Lordship's petitioners have shown above that even if the Pasteur cure were as efficacious as it is alleged to be, it is the first duty of Government and the public to provide for the safety of thousands of men and cattle that are annually killed by wild beasts before trying to save a small number of persons by inflicting terrible sufferings on thoroughly innocent dogs and rabbits for the purpose of obtaining the required virus for inoculations. As a matter of fact, however, there is among eminent scientific men of great Britain and Europe a marked divergence of views regarding the efficacy and rationale of Pasteur's cure.

No doubt, attempts are now and then made to prove its success by means of statistics. But these are vitiated to a very large extent by unavoidable sources of error. In the first place there is no perfect agreement among scientific men regarding the essential symptoms of the disease, cases having occurred in which spasms and convulsions have been mistaken for signs of hydrophobia; secondly, the percentage of deaths in cases without any treatment is uncertain. Thirdly, there is no sure test by which to determine whether animals after death were or were not rabid. Dr. Charles Bell Taylor, M.D., F.R.C.S.E., Fellow of the Medical Society of London, and late President of the Parisian Medical Society, in an address delivered at the Nottingham Medical Chirurgical Society, observed that "the most profound veterinarian cannot say with certainty whether a dog is mad or not." It was this very element of incertitude that led to the discontinuance of the project for establishing a Pasteur Institute in New York. Fourthly, the influence of imagination is a potent but an undeterminable factor in the progress of the disease. These are some of the principal considerations for receiving Pasteur's statistics with extreme caution. That his intensive method is dangerous, and has proved fatal, has been virtually admitted by the British Commission. Professor Michel Peter, one of the first physicians in Europe, and who has been in charge of one of the largest hospitals in Paris, Dr. Lutaud, the Chief Editor of the *Journal De Medecine*, the late Dr. Constantine James, Professor Jules Guerin, Mr. Bouillier, Dr. Colin of Alfort and numerous other countrymen of Pasteur, entertain the same view. Professors Von Freisch and Billoth of Vienna, Professors Rhenzi and Amoroso of Naples, Professor Abreu of Lisbon, Professors Spitzka, and Dulles and Hermann C. Biggs of New York, Dr. Dowdeswell and Dr. Clarke of London and Professeur Augusto Michelacci of Florence have condemned Pasteur's process in most emphatic terms, "first, because of the inefficacy of the injections when sterilized, and second, because when stronger than water, they are apt to prove fatal." As regards its rationale the *Lancet* has proclaimed it as irrational in principle, and many scientists regard it as opposed to the accepted principles of scientific treatment of disease.

5. It was considerations like those above set forth that led the Italian Government to suppress two anti-rabic institutions established at Turin. The Florentine authorities as well as the Belgian Government have also for similar reasons prohibited the establishment of a Pasteur Institute in Florence and Brussels respectively. As already pointed out, New York (~~exchange~~) abandoned the project of a Pasteur Institute. England, the richest and most enterprising country in the world has not yet thought fit to emulate the example of France. The committee of the proposed Pasteur Institute in India announced in their appeal that an

institute was going to be established in England under the auspices of the Prince of Wales. Your Lordship's petitioners are, however, extremely gratified to learn that His Royal Highness has declined to associate himself with the movement, and that the Home Secretary only recently announced that as advised, he had intention to grant licenses for the practice of experiments in rabies and hydrophobia. Germany has reduced its death rate from hydrophobia to absolute zero, not by the establishment of an Institute but by the adoption of three simple measures, viz., (1) the taxation of useless dogs, (2) prohibition of the importation of rabid dogs, and (3) compulsory muzzling. The British Commissioners have made the same recommendations for the suppression of hydrophobia, and since their adoption in England mortality from hydrophobia has been very greatly reduced. The employment of vapour baths is an indigenous method especially resorted to in cases of fever but their utility in cases of hydrophobia is confirmed by the efficacy of Buisson baths. The superiority of this remedy to Pasteur's cure is attested by the fact that it answers after hydrophobia has set in, while Pasteur has himself admitted "I can preserve, but I do not cure." It is thus clear that when some of the most advanced countries in Europe, have declined to avail themselves of his method of treatment, it is a little too premature to call upon a poor and back-ward country-like India to go in for a doubtful but costly project in preference to more certain preventive measures of acknowledged utility, and involving no suffering whatsoever to mute and innocent creatures of God.

6. The project of a Pasteur Institute is intimately connected with the question of vivisectional experiments. They have been carried on for some centuries past in Europe and according to the reckoning of vivisectioners themselves above a million of animals have been sacrificed in the last few years in modern Europe after subjecting them to varying degrees of torture. Fontana caused 4,000 to be bitten by poisonous snakes. Between 1850 and 1852, 26,000 dogs, 25,000 animals, cats and rabbits, and 5,000 horses, asses and cattle were vivisected in Vienna alone. Orfila poisoned 6,000 dogs in the course of his studies and lessons on toxicology. Schiff vivisected 14,000 dogs and altogether 70,000 animals during 10 years' work at Florence. Majendie sacrificed 4,000 dogs to prove Bell's theory of the nerves, and as many more to disprove it. Pasteur confessed seven years ago that he had then inoculated innumerable dogs with rabies. Dr. Koch has admitted that he used 4,000 guinea-pigs for his now discredited cure of tuberculosis, and since that time he has used so many varieties of animals that he has erected a crematorium which is in constant work on his premises to destroy their diseased bodies. These truesome figures well illustrate the very extensive scale on which animals have been experimented upon in the past. The experiments

performed on them have been as various as scientific ingenuity and curiosity could devise. Their most important and delicate organs have been mangled, and artificial diseases induced in them. They have been poisoned in numberless ways; burnt and frozen alive, flayed and varnished with a view to suppress their cutaneous evaporation, and subjected to the agonising process of suffocation and starvation in various forms. Vivisectioners have performed many of their experiments without the employment of any anaesthetics whatsoever, or after the administration of *curare* which "abolishes voluntary motion without annulling sensation." Claude Bernard has admitted that this drug, which has been justly denounced as "hellish," by the late Poet Laureate, is employed in a vast number of experiments for the purpose of rendering defenceless animals perfectly motionless and placing them at the absolute mercy of the operator.

7. Even with such extraordinary facilities and with the help of countless experiments in physiological laboratories, the benefit to humanity has proved quite incommensurate with the number of animals sacrificed and the unspeakable sufferings inflicted on them. Prof. Lawson Tait, whose brilliant achievements as the most accomplished abdominal surgeon have been acknowledged on all hands, has declared it as "the result of careful, critical, historical examination of the records of surgical advance, that on matters surgical the claim set up on behalf of vivisection is entirely unfounded and that the vivisectional experiments usually led us astray and did more harm than good." He says further "I am inclined to make the claim for physiology, pathology, and practice of medicine and surgery that the very retention of this cruel method of research is hindering real progress, that if it were utterly stopped, the result would certainly be the search for the finding of far better and more certain means of discovery." These opinions are in accord with those of Sir William Fergusson who was "undoubtedly the titular head of his profession, its most successful operator, one of its greatest anatomists, its most widely employed practitioner, its most successful teacher, the author of its principal text-book on surgery." Mr. Goodsir, who may be looked upon as the father of modern histological research, condemned the employment of vivisection as useless and misleading. To take an instance nearer home, for Dr. Brunton's chloroform experiments at Hyderabad, the details of which are sufficiently horrifying, 354 dogs and 70 monkeys were used and though the investigation was carried on under very favourable conditions, the most competent and experienced chloroformists and anaesthetists in England have declared that the conclusions arrived at by the Hyderabad Commission are opposed to all clinical experience. Lastly, Claude Bernard, the greatest vivisectioner of modern times,

has admitted that in spite of the numerous vivisectional experiments hitherto performed "Our hands are empty of results."

8. It is alleged that one of the principal objects of the Pasteur Institute is to discover the means of preventing cholera, fever and leprosy. With reference to the first Dr. Koch has stated "we then made experiments on monkeys, cats, poultry, dogs and various other animals that we were able to get hold of; but we were never able to arrive at anything in animals similar to the cholera process. Hence I think that all the animals on which we can make experiments, and all those, too, which come into contact with human beings, are not liable to cholera. We must, therefore, dispense with them as a material for affording proofs." Vivisectional experiments have not reduced by one the number of deaths from scarlet fever. Past experience shows that it is not easy to bridge the great hiatus between experiments upon lower animals and the experiments on man, and the pronounced failure of vivisection to advance the cause of science, therefore admits of easy explanation. The number of deaths from cholera and fever in India in 1891-92 was 5,83,634 and 38,22,358 respectively. This mortality is certainly appalling, but as stated by the Army Sanitary Commission, sanitary improvements are the *only* efficient means of preventing these destructive diseases. Prevention is better than cure. Pure drinking water, good conservancy, good food and good drainage are the best preservatives against the inroads of fever and cholera. It is the paramount duty of the British Government, native princes and the people at large to reduce the terrible mortality from these causes with the latest resources of hygiene, and not by subjecting lower animals to fruitless and endless torments.

9 Your Lordship's petitioners believe that they have demonstrated on the authority of eminent men of science, including vivisectors themselves, that vivisection has hitherto done no good to humanity, and even assuming that experiments in the physiological laboratory have thrown a solitary ray of light on vital phenomena, its value is infinitely less than that of the number of harmless animals crucified and the excruciating tortures entailed on them. Assuming further that the gain is more substantial than is admitted by the advocates of vivisection, your Lordship's petitioners maintain that Science in its higher and wider sense cannot be divorced from morality. The two must march together and specialists, however learned they may be in their department of knowledge, cannot and must not be allowed to override higher and more abiding interests that transcend by far the sphere of physiology and medicine. Scientists, illustrious though they may be, are no more entitled

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than ordinary men, as is forcibly pointed out by Lord Coleridge, the Lord Chief Justice of England, to discriminate between lawful and unlawful knowledge, and lawful and unlawful means of gaining it. On the contrary, there is overwhelming evidence to believe that the exclusive pursuit of one object in physiological laboratories deadens moral perceptions and distorts and perverts the moral constitution of man. Claude Bernard, the prince of experimentalists, says "A physiologist is a learned man, a man possessed and absorbed by a scientific idea. He does not hear the animals' cries. He is blind to the blood that flows. He sees nothing but his idea and organisms which conceal from him the secrets he is resolved to discover." According to Elias Cyon, another eminent physiologist, a true vivisector must approach a difficult vivisection with joyful excitement. The indescribably horrible experiments of Claude Bernard in his specially contrived oven for baking animals alive, the revolting and barbarous tortures inflicted by Professor Mantegazza with the help of an ingenious machine, expressly constructed for the purpose of inflicting the maximum of pain, the agonising experiments of Dr. Legge at St. Bartholomew's Hospital and numberless similar instances in some of which students as well as professors were concerned, and the cases in which experiments were deliberately performed upon human patients, regardless of their maladies, demonstrate in a conclusive manner the fatal moral danger to which vivisectors as well as the community are exposed, and the dangerous facility with which the most sacred duties and responsibilities of man towards man and the animal creation are forgotten in the pursuit of an intensely selfish and cowardly object.

10. The social, moral and theological atmosphere of Christendom is more or less responsible for the all but universal encouragement it has met with in Europe and America. But the ethical and religious doctrines of the majority of the population of this country find daily expression in universal sympathy with all forms of sentient being. Your Lordship's petitioners find it impossible to believe that the wise economy of nature and in a just divine polity it would ever be possible to serve humanity by the sacrifice of justice and its eternal principles which constitute humanity. They emphatically repudiate the doctrine that relief of human sufferings is attainable in the torture chamber of science. Even if this proposition were proved, it would be a sin against God that human beings should escape, by the vicarious tears and torments of defenceless animals, the consequences of transgressing moral and hygiene laws. If vivisection with its ghastly accompaniments is to be the future road to scientific advance, as millions of human beings have quietly suffered in the past and gone to their rest, your Lordship's petitioners and many of their countrymen are likewise prepared to

resign their bodies and souls uncomplainingly but without making themselves parties to the unpardonable crime of vivisection. As observed by John Ruskin, "For one secret discovered by the torture of a thousand animals, a thousand means of health, peace and happiness were lost," by the general degradation of moral and intellectual ideals of professors and their students and the community at large. Vivisectional experiments mean certain vivisection of the vivisector's soul, a slaying of the moral conscience, a perversion of natural laws, recognition of the debasing human tyranny over absolutely innocent and helpless animals, the demoralization of men to whom the lives of poor men, women and children are daily entrusted, and the general deterioration of national character.

11. Even in a country like England, where the legislature has intervened to regulate the practice of vivisection, and where anti-vivisectionists are powerful enough to make their voice heard, animals do not enjoy sufficient immunity against painful experiments. Dr. Klein has admitted that many of the vivisectional experiments are necessarily of a painful character. That experiments on dogs, rabbits, cows, horses and monkeys in the Pasteur's Institute are instrumental in causing incalculable suffering, is acknowledged by Dr. Reid who personally observed them, and by the Swiss expert, Dr. Borel, who says that the sufferings of the animals after the experiments are so acute that they are almost stupefied. Your Lordship's petitioners, therefore, suppliantly implore that the Government of Her Majesty, who represents in her august person some of the highest and tenderest attributes of her noble sex, will not transplant these horrors to this land, so renowned from ancient times for the proverbial gentleness of its inhabitants and their exemplary humanity towards the unoffending creatures of God. In England members of the Royal Family and representatives of Her Majesty's Government have generally abstained ~~and wisely~~ from taking sides in questions of scientific controversy affecting the feelings and sensibilities of even a section of the people, and only recently His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales disclaimed all connection with the Chelsea Institute. The establishment of a Pasteur Institute under the auspices of Governors, Lieutenant-Governors and Viceroys in India, where there is no legislative enactment to restrain the ingenuity and curiosity of the vivisector, is, therefore, a matter for surprise and regret, and may lead to no inconsiderable moral and political mischief. It will bring into marked opposition the ethical and religious ideas of the rulers and the ruled, widen the unhappy gulf already subsisting between them, and sow the germ of social and religious opposition and hatred which it is eminently desirable to avoid in the very interests of science and peaceful government. In conclusion, your humble petitioners respectfully pray that Government will be pleased, on the considerations above set forth, not to sanction the establishment of a Pasteur

Institute, prohibit the practice of vivisection in this country, and adopt the practical measures which have been found successful in Germany for the suppression of hydrophobia, and further by a generous recognition of indigenous medical talent, by the improvement of sanitation in its widest sense, by encouraging the foundation of well-equipped hospitals, by a liberal treatment of the existing institutions with a generous supply to them of food, medicine and other sick requisites, and by diffusing the knowledge of the laws of hygiene, prevent human suffering and advance the cause of science in India without violating the immutable principles of justice and humanity towards God's sentient creatures and without giving a terrible shock to the moral and religious susceptibilities of a people whose sublime ideal in this respect is destined to be the exemplar to the rest of mankind.

And for this act of mercy your Lordship's petitioners shall, as in duty bound, ever pray.

15th June 1894.

signed) E4121E N3321E
President of the Meeting

Jain Association's Office,

Pyithoni

Bombay 12th July 1894

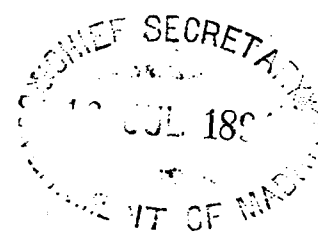
To

The Secretary to Government

General Department

Madras

Sir



I have the honour to forward
to you an accompanying copy of the
representation which has been addressed
to H. E. the Viceroy in Council from the
members of the Jain Community on the sub-
ject of a Pasteur Institute which Government
have proposed to establish in India for
the perusal of Madras Government.

I have the honour to be

Sir

Your most obedient servant

(Signed) *Emile Negre*

President of the Meeting

Public Dept

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The President of the
Meeting of the Jain
Community at
Bombay.

J.S.B.
18/7

for

18/7/94

19/7/94

22/7

24 July

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Order. 26 July 1894. No 545.

Recorded.

25/7/94

Dated 12th
Recd 16th
Repd 17th } July 1894
End. m.

J.S.B.
25/VII.

Subject

Forwarding a copy of the
petition addressed to H. E.
the Viceroy in Council on
the Subject of the Pastur
Institute to be established
in India.

WITH ORDER

19/7

20 2 02/1
5-7-06

ORDINARY, MS.

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No. 544

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[Despatch Abstract.]

Fixing the 22 of person attached
of on the Court of Session
revenue who are to receive
clothing and the 22nd
attached to the Ass.
Court at Erode who
are to receive warm
clothing.

Note

Please return
to me after reading