

Public (1895⁸) Department.

ORDINARY MS.

G.O., No. 534

Dated 7-4-98

Indexed.

[Despatch Abstract.]

Comm. to the S. G. for
very early report, letter from Messrs.
Benny & Co complaining against
the order prohibiting the admission
of small-pox patients into the
General Hospital, Madras.

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
2172	1366/98						
	1358/98						
	1693/98						

Public (189 8) Department.

CURRENT No. 1251

H. E. The Governor

Draft submitted for approval.

The order is based upon ^{received from} the instructions of the Hon. the Secretary to His, and is submitted to H. E. under the H. M.'s orders.

From

Messrs. Binny and Co., Madras.

Order W. 534 & 7-4-98

Mis

No. . .

Messrs Binny & Co.'s letter will be communicated to the Surgeon-General for ^{very early} report. It should be stated under whose authority the admission to the General Hospital of the small-pox patients was prohibited.

Dated 2nd

Received 2nd

Registered 4th

Enclosures

Spare copies

April 1898

2. Pending the final orders of Government the prohibition should be suspended.

SUBJECT.

Mk 5/4/98

Mk 5.4.98

I would insert the words "very early" before report in the second line of the G. O. I would ^{insert} the 2nd line, and also know the reason of the new rule. There may be some good reason.

Regarding the admission of small-pox patients to the General Hospital.

To

The Surgeon-General, Madras.

5.4.98

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

B.I.S.N.Coy Ltd.
Madras, 2nd April., 1898.

The Chief Secretary to Government,
M A D R A S.

Sir,

We have the honor to bring the following to the notice of Government.

On information received from Negapatam that the Chief and Second Engineers of S.S. "Purnea" were suffering from fever, we instructed the Company's Medical Officer to go on board on arrival. He did so at 10 A.M. & reported that the Engineers were suffering from small pox. After the Steamer had complied with the necessary formalities they were landed at the direction of the Port and Marine Surgeon who recommended their removal to Hospital. They were taken to the General Hospital but after keeping them waiting for over an hour the Authorities there declined to admit them and the Resident Surgeon handed the clerk, who accompanied the Engineers, a letter to the Company's Medical Officer stating that he had directed the Engineers to return to him for treatment, as in accordance with Hospital Order No. 54 21-3-98 contagious diseases were no longer treated at that Hospital and the Municipality had undertaken the treatment of all such cases. Our representative then interviewed the President of the Municipality (it was now past 5 P.M.) who at once directed the Health Officer to provide accommodation in a disused hospital at Royapuram which had originally been set apart for plague patients, where the best arrangements possible were made.

We would draw attention to the present inadequate arrangements and lay stress on the very serious consequences that might have ensued had we been unable to make arrangements for the Engineers' accommodation during the night, and to the serious risk to the public health in conveying a couple of infectious cases about town

in

in hackney carriages.

4 It has hitherto been customary to admit small-pox patients into the General Hospital, and if the Authorities have decided to discontinue the practice we think due intimation should have been given to the public.

5 We further venture to submit that when a case of infectious disease, which is more likely to occur among passengers, declares itself on a steamer and the patient is landed, the case should be taken out of ship's hands at once and adequate arrangements made by the Port Authorities for the patient's removal and further care. Under present conditions beyond directing what should be done the Port and Marine Surgeon, who is also Health Officer of the Port, takes no action and we as Agents of the Steamer have to undertake for humanity's sake, the care of patients who should have accommodation provided for them in the public interest.

6 Small-Pox is not one of the diseases to which much importance is attached in this country but the rules and regulations apply equally in cases of plague and cholera. If the patients on this occasion had been suffering from either of these complaints results from the protracted exposure to which they were subjected whilst driving about in the heat of the day might be much more serious.

7 While writing on this subject of infectious diseases we would bring to your notice that on the 5th May 1897 a case of small-pox occurred on board the S.S. "Patiala" and permission to land a patient (a woman) was refused by the Port Authorities as she was a passenger to Negapatam and objected to be put ashore here. The patient was accordingly retained on board although there were already 200 other deck passengers. The regulations on this point are dated under Section 38 of Act VIII of 1876, but, taking into consideration the grave risk thus forced on a large number of healthy passengers, we venture to suggest that a modification of existing rules is necessary to prevent the detention on board of such cases of infection.

It seems desirable in the Public interest, provided adequate arrangements are made on shore, that such cases should be at once effectively isolated which obviously cannot be done in a crowded steamer.

In conclusion we think a small Quarantine Hospital on the Beach would be a valuable adjunct to this Port.

We have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servants.

Agents.

[5]

2,000-24-8-97.

NOTE FOR THE UNDER SECRETARY.

July C. No. 1251/98
Sir H. Bliss wishes
as L.O. to issue
on the complaint
of Messrs. Baring & Co.
directing the L.O.
to ~~can~~ suspend
pending appeal his
order prohibiting the
admission of European
Rusian smallpox

CHIEF SECRETARY
GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS
2-APR. 1898

patients from
being received &
treated at the
level Hosp.

H.M. wishes H.E.'s
approval to be
obtained.

Aty 6.4.98

CHIEF SECRETARY
GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS
2-APR. 1898

[G.
25]
1,000-22-11-97

6.4.98

Public DEPARTMENT.

C. No. 1251

SUBJECT.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.

THE HON'BLE SIR HENRY BLISS, K.C.I.E.

THE HON'BLE MR. GROSE, C.I.E.

15/2
7/4

FOR ORDERS.

I agree with H.E.
JG
6/4/98

This urgent file is
submitted for ~~orders~~
of orders, altho' the H.E.
has directed that
circulation should cease,
as the Hon^{ble} Secretary, Police
H.E. the Governor ~~differs~~

Aty
6/4/98

Issue outgoing here
2, send the file
at once to the
H.E.

Aty
7/4/98

Then given for copying _____
 Then copied _____
 Then examined _____
 Then signed _____

189

HAD AGAIN G.O., No. _____
 189 _____ DATED _____

CURRENT No. _____

CLOSURES TO C. No. _____

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT

A A A A A A A

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

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