

Public (1899) Department.

ORDINARY M.S.

G.O., No. 406-7

Dated 7-4-99 .

INDEXED.

[Despatch Abstract.]

Informing the Govt of Burma
that this port is not prepared at present
to issue a local Act requiring un-protected coolie
emigrants to be vaccinated before
embarkation for Burma at Madras ports.

T
7-4-99

BACK PAPERS.

[illegible]

FURTHER PAPERS.

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

ACT No. OF 1897.

*Received the Lieutenant-Governor's assent
on the 1897 and the
Governor-General's assent on the
1897.*

An Act to amend the Vaccination Act,
1880.

XIII of 1880.

WHEREAS it is expedient to amend the Vaccination Act, 1880, it is hereby enacted as follows:—

I. For the first five words of section 2, clause (4) of the said Act the following shall be substituted:—

“ ‘Unprotected person,’ or ‘unprotected child,’ means a person or child.”

2. After clause (8) of section 2 of the said Act the following shall be inserted:—

"(g) 'Port' means the area included within a port as defined for the purposes of the Indian Ports Act, 1889."

3. After section 21 of the said Act the following sections shall be inserted:—

“21A. (1) In the Municipality of Rangoon
Power to require or any other Municipality
unprotected persons to which the provisions of
persons to be vaccinated this section may be ex-
after notice. tended by notification un-

der section 21 E, every unprotected person may, whenever the Superintendent of Vaccination shall deem it advisable, be served with a notice in the form in Schedule A hereto annexed, requiring him within seven days after the service of the same to submit himself to a public vaccinator or medical practitioner to be vaccinated, and every person so served shall within the said period submit himself to a public vaccinator or medical practitioner for vaccination.

"(2) The provisions of sections 9 to 21 applicable to any unprotected child or the parent or guardian of such a child shall so far as they can be made applicable apply to any person served with a notice under subsection (1).

Port Health Officer may in certain cases require immediate vaccination of unprotected person on board ship.

Port Health Officer may, if he deem it expedient in order to prevent the risk of the conveyance inland of the contagion of small-pox, require any unprotected person on board such vessel to submit himself forthwith to be vaccinated and every such person shall before leaving the vessel or wharf submit himself for vaccination to the said Health Officer or any person authorized by him.

Provided that nothing herein contained shall apply to any vessel belonging to, or in

Bengal Act, V of 1880, section 11.

Bengal Act, V of 1880, section 12.

Bengal Act, V of 1880, section 13.

the service of, Her Majesty or to any vessel belonging to any foreign Prince or State.

"21 C. In the Municipality and port of Bengal Act, II of 1887, section 6.

Occupier of Rangoon or any other house, &c., to allow Municipality or port to access.

which the provisions of this section may be extended by notification under section 21E every person occupying any, or part of any, house, enclosure, vessel, or other place shall allow the Superintendent of Vaccination or a medical practitioner or public vaccinator authorized by him in this behalf such access thereto between sunrise and sunset as he may require for the purpose of ascertaining whether the inmates are protected or not, and every inmate of such house, enclosure, vessel or other place shall be bound to answer truly any enquiries touching the question whether or not he is an unprotected person and shall be bound to show on demand the marks of any previous vaccination alleged by him to have been performed. Any person failing to answer questions or to show marks shall be deemed to be an unprotected person.

"Whenever it is necessary to ascertain whether a woman is protected or not the investigation shall be conducted by a woman with strict regard to the customs of the class to which the person examined belongs.

"21 D. (1) In the Municipality of Rangoon New.

Power to vaccinate inmates of lodging houses to which the provisions of this section may be extended by notification under section 21 E the Superintendent of Vaccination for the Municipality of Rangoon may, whenever he deems it advisable, require any unprotected inmate of a building or part of a building which is let in lodgings or occupied by members of more than one family to submit himself forthwith to be vaccinated and such person shall thereupon submit himself to the said Superintendent or to any public vaccinator authorized by him in this behalf.

Lower Burma Municipal Act, XVII of 1884, section 106, clause (d).

"(2) The provisions of sections 9 to 21 shall apply with the necessary alterations to the case of such unprotected inmates as aforesaid.

"21E. The local Government may by notification in the *Burma Gazette* extend to any municipality the provisions of sections 21A, 21B, 21C, and 21D, or any of them and to any port the provisions of sections 21B and 21C, or either of them." New.

Extension to other municipality or port of sections 21A, 21B, 21C, and 21D.

4. After section 22 of the said Act the following sections shall be inserted:—

"22A. Whoever in contravention of the provisions of section 21A, 21B, 21C, or 21D neglects 21A, 21B, 21C, or refuses to be vaccinated, 21D. or after vaccination to be inspected, or refuses to allow access to any premises, or to answer any questions, or to show any marks of alleged vaccination, or fails to answer any question truly shall be Bengal Act, V of 1880, section 28.

Penalty for breach of section 21A, 21B, 21C, or 21D neglects 21A, 21B, 21C, or refuses to be vaccinated, 21D. or after vaccination to be inspected, or refuses to allow access to any premises, or to answer any questions, or to show any marks of alleged vaccination, or fails to answer any question truly shall be

punished with fine which may extend to Rs. 50.

"22B. (1) Any public vaccinator who unnecessarily and vexatiously enters any house, enclosure, vessel, or other place on pretence of ascertaining whether any resident thereof is unprotected shall be punished with fine which may extend to Rs. 50.

Penalty for vexatious entry.

"(2) No Magistrate shall entertain a complaint under this section unless the prosecution is instituted by order of, or with the sanction of, the Superintendent of Vaccination or the local Government.

5. After section 23 of the said Act the following schedule shall be inserted:—

"SCHEDULE A.

(See section 21A.)

"To

Bengal Act V, of 1880, Schedule D.

TAKE notice that you are hereby required under the provisions of the Vaccination Act, 1880, to submit yourself to a public vaccinator or medical practitioner within seven days from the service of this notice for vaccination, and that in default of so doing you will be liable to a fine which may amount to Rs. 50.

"The public vaccine station nearest your house is at

"The day and hours for vaccination at that station are as follows:—

(Here insert the days and hours when the public vaccinator is in attendance.)

"On your attending before a public vaccinator at the said station within the said hours on any of the said days, or at any other public vaccine station in the town on the days and within the hours prescribed for public vaccination at such station you will be vaccinated free of charge.

If you wish to be vaccinated at your own house, the public vaccinator will attend there upon payment of a fee of

"Date.....

Supdt. of Vaccination."

A
BILL

TO

*Make further provision for Compulsory
Vaccination in Burma.*

WHEREAS it is expedient to make further provision for compulsory vaccination in Burma; It is hereby enacted as follows:

1. (1) This Act may be called the Burma
Short title, extent and commencement. Vaccination Law Amendment Act, 1898;

(2) It extends to the whole of Burma (inclusive of Upper Burma); and

(3) It shall come into force at once.

2. In this Act, unless there is anything repugnant in the subject or context,—

Definitions.

(a) "inoculation" and "vaccinator" have the meanings assigned to them respectively by the Vaccination Act, 1880, and "Superintendent of vaccination" means a Superintendent of vaccination appointed under that Act:

(b) "port" means a port as defined for the purposes of the Indian Ports Act, 1889: and

(c) "unprotected person" means a person who has not been protected from small-pox by having had that disease either naturally or by inoculation, or by having been successfully vaccinated, and who has not been certified, under the Vaccination Act, 1880, or this Act, to be insusceptible to vaccination.

3. (1) In the municipality of Rangoon and any other municipality [Ben. Act V of 1880, s. 11.]

Power to require unprotected persons to be vaccinated after notice. to which the provisions of this section may be extended in manner hereinafter provided, a Superintendent of vaccination may, if he deems it advisable, by notice in writing in the form set forth in the schedule or in some similar form, require any unprotected person to submit himself within seven days after the service of the same to a vaccinator to be vaccinated, and every person so served with a notice shall within the said period submit himself for vaccination as aforesaid.

(2) The provisions of sections 9 to 21 of [Ibid, s. 12.] the Vaccination Act, 1880, shall so far as they can be made applicable, apply to any person served with a notice under subsection (1).

4. If a vessel arrives at the port of Rangoon [Ibid, s. 13.]

Power for Port Health Officer in certain cases to require immediate vaccination of unprotected person on board ship. or any other port to which the provisions of this section may be extended in manner hereinafter provided, and there is on board any person suffering from small-pox, the Port Health Officer may, if he deems it advisable in order to prevent the risk of the conveyance

inland of the contagion of small-pox, by notice in writing, require any unprotected person on board to submit himself forthwith to a vaccinator to be vaccinated, and every such person shall, before leaving the vessel or wharf, submit himself for vaccination as aforesaid:

Provided that nothing herein contained shall apply to any vessel belonging to, or in the service of, Her Majesty, or to any vessel belonging to any foreign Prince or State.

5. (1) In the municipality and port of [Ben. Act II of 1887, s. 6.]

Occupier of house, municipality or port to etc., to allow access.

which the provisions of this section may be extended in manner hereinafter provided, every person occupying any, or part of any, house, enclosure, vessel or other place shall allow a Superintendent of vaccination or a vaccinator authorized by a Superintendent of vaccination in this behalf such access thereto between sunrise and sunset as may be necessary for the purpose of ascertaining whether the inmates are protected or not, and every inmate of such house, enclosure, vessel or other place shall be bound to answer truly any inquiries touching the question whether or not he is an unprotected person and shall be bound to show on demand the marks of any previous vaccination alleged by him to have been performed.

(2) Every person failing to answer questions or to show marks in compliance with the provisions of subsection (1) shall be deemed to be an unprotected person.

(3) Whenever it is necessary to ascertain whether a woman is protected or not, the investigation shall be conducted by a woman with strict regard to the customs of the class to which the person examined belongs.

6. (1) In the municipality of Rangoon and [New.]

Power to vaccinate any other municipality inmates of lodging-houses forthwith. to which the provisions of this section may be extended in manner hereinafter provided, a Superintendent of vaccination may, if he deems it advisable, by notice in writing, require any unprotected inmate of a building or part of a building which is let in lodgings or occupied by members of more than one family, to submit himself forthwith to a vaccinator to be vaccinated, and every person so required shall thereupon submit himself for vaccination as aforesaid.

(2) The previous of section 9 to 21 of the Vaccination Act, 1880, shall, so far as they can be made applicable, apply to any person required to submit himself for vaccination under subsection (1).

7. The Local Government may, by notification in the Gazette, extend to any municipality in which the Vaccination Act, 1880, is for the time

being in force, the provisions of sections 3, 5 and 6 or any of them, and to any port in which the said Act is for the time being in force, the provisions of sections 4 and 5 or any of them.

8. Whoever, in contravention of any of the provisions of this Act, refuses or neglects to be vaccinated or after vaccination to be inspected, or refuses to allow access to any place, or refuses to answer any question or to show marks of alleged vaccination, or fails truly to answer any question, shall be punishable with fine which may extend to fifty rupees.

9. (1) Whoever, being a vaccinator, unnecessarily and vexatiously enters any house, enclosure, vessel or other place on pretence of ascertaining whether any inmate thereof is unprotected, shall be punishable with fine which may extend to fifty rupees.

(2) No Magistrate shall take cognizance of any complaint under this section unless the prosecution is instituted by order, or with the sanction, of a Superintendent of vaccination or the Local Government.

THE SCHEDULE.

(See Section 3.)

To.....

TAKE notice that you are hereby required, under the provisions of the Burma Vaccination Law Amendment Act, 1898 (Burma Act of 1898), to submit yourself to a vaccinator within seven days from the service of this notice for vaccination, and that, in default of so doing, you will be liable to a fine which may amount to fifty rupees.

The public vaccine-station nearest your house is at

The days and hours for vaccination at that station are as follows:—

(Here insert the days and hours when the vaccinator is in attendance.)

On your attending before a vaccinator at the said station within the said hours on any of the said days, or at any other public vaccine-station in the town on the days and within the hours prescribed for public vaccination at such station, you will be vaccinated free of charge.

If you wish to be vaccinated at your own house, the vaccinator will attend there upon payment of a fee of

Dated.....

Supdt. of Vaccination.

From W. T. HALL, Esq., President, Rangoon Municipality, to the Secretary to the Chief Commissioner, Burma,—No. 2656-594—H.O., dated the 5th March 1897.

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith, for the information of the Chief Commissioner, an extract from the Proceedings of an Ordinary Meeting of the Municipal Committee, dated the 2nd instant, together with copy of a memorandum by the Health Officer on the incidence of small-pox in Rangoon and on the present Vaccination Act and Rules.

It will be noticed that the Municipal Committee recorded the opinion that the Municipal Bill should contain provision for compulsory vaccination of adults and revaccination of all persons after a term of years.

Extract from the Proceedings of an Ordinary Meeting of the Municipal Committee, dated the 2nd March 1897.

IX.—The following report of the Hospital Sub-Committee was considered:—
Report of the Hospital Sub-Committee, dated the 16th February 1897.

13. *Read.*—Memorandum by the Health Officer, Rangoon Municipality, on the incidence of small-pox in Rangoon and on the present Vaccination Act and Rules.

The Sub-Committee is of opinion that the Municipal Bill should contain provision for compulsory vaccination of adults and re-vaccination of all persons after a term of years.

NOTE.—*On the incidence of small-pox in Rangoon and on our present Vaccination Act and Rules.*

In accordance with a Presidential note, dated the 7th August 1896, in case No. 363 of 1896-97, I have made the following investigation.

Sources of information.—I have read, and here quote freely, the health reports of my predecessors in office from the year 1889 onwards.

I have also obtained information from the Superintendent of Vaccination and from the Head Vaccinator, and I have conferred with several local medical men.

The present position of things briefly is this: Large numbers of coolies come to Rangoon every year. The majority of them are not protected by vaccination. They are opposed to the operation, and we have *no legal power* to compel them to submit to it.

They furnish the bulk of the cases of small-pox which occur in Rangoon. Especially is this noticeable when the disease becomes epidemic.

The work of the Vaccination branch of the Health Officer's Department at present stands thus: To secure anything like efficient vaccination among these coolies, he must use, and his predecessors have used, compulsion, which is illegal. Further the Head Vaccinator has been threatened repeatedly with arrest, and the Health Officer's position in the matter is, I submit, a serious one.

At present efficient vaccination would mean that compulsion had to be used. This practically amounts to an assault and, if the operation was attended with ill or fatal effects, the legal position of the Health Officer and his vaccinators might be very serious.

The Health Officer further represents that, as a servant of the Municipality, he is bound not only to see that the law is carried out but, further, should be the first one to respect it, and therefore he asks—

(i) for definite instructions as to the course he is to pursue with regard to these coolies; and

(ii) he asks that the President and Committee, if they think fit, will make such representations to the local Government as shall tend to strengthen their hands in stamping out this disease, which is a constant menace to the common weal.

In the following notes I deal with the reports of my predecessors, and then make some suggestions of a remedial nature:—

1889.—The Health Officer wrote in his Annual Report—

“The constant influx of multitudes of unprotected natives of India renders it absolutely necessary that adult vaccination should be provided for and encouraged in every way, for it is from these people that the great danger to the community arises.”

1890.—The Health Officer says in his Annual Report—

In “the end of 1889 thousands of these people,” referring to the immigrant population, “returned, as is their custom, to work in the rice-mills. In January 1890 the disease

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showed itself to be epidemic amongst them and numbers of cases were soon reported in all parts of the town."

I have pointed out in previous reports the danger to the permanent residents, Native and European, the Military and the Shipping, from the unprotected state of great numbers of these Indian immigrants.

"The Municipality should have special and expansive powers for dealing with such dangers, or the Government should take the matter into its own hands."

1891.—The Health Officer says, in his Annual Report—

"What is urgently required is some law to enforce coolies being vaccinated before leaving the wharf. Until this is done small-pox will continue to break out in Rangoon."

1892.—Health Officer's Annual Report—

"The Hindoos suffering the most severely."

1893 and 1894.—Health Officer's Annual Report. No special remarks are made.

1895.—Health Officer's Annual Report—

"The Coringee coolies class were the greatest sufferers."

To further prove my case I here give figures relating to small-pox in Rangoon since 1889.

In 1889.—Out of 89 cases, 71 were coolies and in these 71 there were 13 deaths.

In 1890.—There were 736 cases, out of which 528 were Hindoos.

In 1891.—Seven hundred and eighty-four cases. No information as to race distribution, but I think it is not too much to assume that most of these cases were coolies. This view is supported by the text of the Health Officer's report.

In 1892.—Out of 107 deaths from small-pox, 85 were Hindoos. There appear to have been 416 cases; 346 were Hindoos.

In 1893.—One hundred and twenty cases. There were 26 deaths; of these 20 were Hindoos.

In 1894.—Thirty-nine deaths—17 Hindoos; 216 cases. The figures for the year are not quite clear. Probably at least half the cases were coolies.

In 1895.—A good year: only 10 deaths; number of cases 83.

In 1896.—Two hundred and forty-seven cases. The Coringhee coolies class were the greatest sufferers.

We thus see that in the past eight years there have been 2,691 cases known to have occurred in Rangoon, and I venture to say that, if it had not been for the wholesale judicious, though illegal, vaccination among the coolie class, the number would have been increased twentyfold; but it is for the Committee to say whether we should endeavour to get the law altered or purchase comparative safety by breaking it.

Turning again to the past, we see various remedies proposed.

1890.—The Health Officer's report suggests—

(i) small rewards (anna 1) to coolies to submit to operation;

(ii) small rewards for information as to cases;

(iii) an Act similar to the Bengal Vaccination Act, 1880, should be enforced in Rangoon.

[This and rules made under it (*Calcutta Gazette*, 2nd October 1889) are most applicable.]

(iv) Vaccination of these people should be compulsory before they leave India or immediately on arrival here. The first would be much the best.

1891. The Health Officer's report:—

What is urgently needed is some law to enforce coolies being vaccinated before leaving the wharf.

It is obvious that the only remedy of a drastic and therefore effectual character is that the Committee should obtain such legislation as will ensure every immigrant being vaccinated before or immediately after arrival in Rangoon.

This might be done—

(1) At the Port of departure, or

(2) On board ship, or

(3) At the landing wharf.

In America no immigrant is allowed to land unless he or she is vaccinated (unless protected by a previous attack of small-pox).

The Act V. B. C., 1880, alluded to by Dr. Pedley in 1890 was primarily intended for Calcutta and, after providing for compulsory infant vaccination says (section 11): Every unprotected person may whenever the Superintendent of Vaccination shall deem it advisable be served with a notice requiring him to be vaccinated within 15 days (section 13). The powers of sections 11 and 13 may in the case of unprotected persons arriving in the Port of Calcutta be exercised by the Health Officer of the Port immediately upon their arrival.

If we could get a similar Act enforced in Rangoon, a great and necessary advance would be made, but I would point out that the interval of 15 days is far too long. It would give facility for the coolies getting out of Rangoon into the district or those in Rangoon

changing their employment and abode. Subsequent detection after serving the first notice would, I fear, be difficult or impossible.

I would amend the 15 days to a section giving the Port Health Officer or Superintendent of Vaccination power to vaccinate on arrival at the wharf.

If this proposal could be carried, alternative ones would be unnecessary.

Nevertheless, I append some further proposals of a temporary and more practicable nature. I attach far less importance to them than I do to the foregoing plan, though I believe they would be useful.

(1) Legislative powers making it penal for employers to employ unvaccinated (or unprotected) servants.

(2) Power to the Health Officer to give anna 1 to each cooly vaccinated and annas 2 to each cooly vaccinated and inspected.

(3) Power to the Health Officer to give annas 2 for information of the existence of small-pox.

Except in times of epidemic, no active help can be expected from mill-owners and maistries, as the operation entails the men possibly being idle for two or three days.

If ours was a city where the immigration was not large I would not urge these proposals. Careful and systematic infant vaccination would suffice for all but unprotected immigrants.

The lack of legislative power to deal with these is a source of danger to Rangoon, to its trade, to its population and through them to its financial prosperity, while it is also a drag and a hindrance to the Executive Officers of the Municipality in their efforts to stamp out and prevent the disease, and further renders it impossible for the Health Officer and vaccinators to do their duty to the Municipality on the one hand and to keep within the limits of the law on the other.

I have the honour to submit draft clauses regarding compulsory vaccination of—

(i) unprotected cooly immigrants, and

(ii) unprotected adults

in accordance with the President's instructions of the 6th November 1896.

In the case of coolies it will be noted that the best, if not the only, place where satisfactory vaccination can be performed is the wharf before they enter the town and get scattered in the mills or district.

The vaccination of coolies on the wharf is really a matter within the province of the Port Commissioners and their Health Officer. But in view of the fact that the benefit accruing from the vaccination would be Municipal, the Municipality would, I am sure, endeavour to make a suitable arrangement with the Port Trust.

It follows that, if the coolies are to be vaccinated on the wharf, no notice can be given them, and I doubt whether service of a notice on these immigrants would be found to answer.

Draft clauses.

I. Every unprotected cooly immigrant into the Port of Rangoon may whenever the shall deem it advisable be required to submit himself to be vaccinated by the Health Officer, or some person authorized by him, and shall be so vaccinated before he leaves the wharf unless—

I.—He is in the opinion of the Health Officer in such a state of health as to render the operation dangerous, save that he may appeal from the decision of the Health Officer to a duly qualified medical practitioner.

Penalty for refusing to be vaccinated Rs. 50.

Breaking Declaration I, Rs. 50.

II.—The compulsory vaccination of adults.

Every unprotected person may, whenever the shall deem it advisable, be served with a notice in the form hereto annexed requiring him, within seven days after the service of the same, to submit himself to a public vaccinator or medical practitioner, to be vaccinated, and every such person shall within the said period submit himself to a public vaccinator or medical practitioner, for vaccination.

Penalty for non-compliance, Rs. 50.

Power to the Health Officer or medical practitioner to postpone vaccination.

NOTE.—The blanks in clauses I and II can be filled by either (1) the Local Government, (2) the Municipal Committee, or (3) the Municipal Health Officer.

FORM A.

For Coolies.

To

TAKE notice that you are hereby required under the provisions of to submit yourself forthwith to a public vaccinator for vaccination, and that in default of so doing you will be liable to fine which may amount to Rupees fifty.

(Here insert days and hour of attendance of Head Vaccinator.)

(4)

FORM B.

For adult persons, not cooly immigrants.

To

TAKE notice that you are hereby required under the provisions of to submit yourself to a public vaccinator, or medical practitioner, within seven days from the service of this notice for vaccination. In default of so doing you will be liable to a fine which may amount to Rs. 50, unless you produce a certificate from a public vaccinator, or medical practitioner, of unfitness for vaccination.

(Here insert days and hour of attendance of Head Vaccinator.)

FORM C.

For coolies or adults.

I, the undersigned, hereby certify that in my opinion resident at is not now in a fit and proper state to be vaccinated (here insert cause of unfitness), and I do hereby recommend that the vaccination be postponed for the period of (up to three months) from this date.

Dated this day of 189 . Signature.

Note.—The Burma Branch of the British Medical Association, at their last meeting, passed a resolution urging the Local Government to amend the law relating to small-pox and other infectious diseases.

G. B. C. P. O.—No. 4224, B. S., 19-8-97—70.

From the Secretary to the Chief Commissioner, Burma, to (1) the Chairman, Rangoon Chamber of Commerce, (2) Chairman, Rangoon Port Commissioners,—Nos. 649 and 650-1Z.—13, dated the 23rd April 1897.

I AM directed to forward a copy of the letter cited in the margin and of its annexures, regarding a proposal to include in the new Municipal Bill a provision for the compulsory vaccination of adults and revaccination of all persons after a term of years.

2. Sir Frederic Fryer thinks that some provision of the kind proposed would be beneficial, but inclines to the opinion that the proposed measures are in the first instance too drastic. As an alternative it has been suggested that power might be taken—

- (a) as in section 13 of Bengal Act V of 1880 to vaccinate forthwith any unprotected person who comes in a vessel on which small-pox has occurred;
- (b) to vaccinate forthwith any unprotected inmate of a lodging-house or cooly barrack; and
- (c) to serve notice upon any unprotected person to be vaccinated within seven days.

3. I am to request that you will be so good as to favour the Chief Commissioner with an expression of the opinion of the Port Commissioners the Chamber of Commerce with regard to—

- (i) the necessity for legislation,
- (ii) the form which such legislation should take.

G. B. C. P. O.—No. 4224, B. S., 19-8-97—70.

From A. D. WARREN, Esq., Secretary, Rangoon Chamber of Commerce, to the Secretary to the Government of Burma,—dated the 12th May 1897.

I AM desired by the Committee to acknowledge receipt of your letter No. 649-1Z.—13, of the 23rd April, with reference to a proposal to include in the new Municipal Bill a provision for the compulsory vaccination of adults, &c.

I am desired to say that, in the opinion of the Committee, such legislation is necessary, and that it should be on the lines proposed in clauses (a), (b), and (c) of the 2nd. paragraph of your letter now under reply.

G. B. C. P. O.—No. 4224, B. S., 19-8-97—70.

From G. C. KYNOCH, Esq., Vice-Chairman, Rangoon Port Commissioners, to the Secretary to the Government of Burma,—No. 504-133, dated the 14th May 1897.

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter General Department No. 650-1Z.—13, dated the 23rd April 1897, forwarding a copy of a letter from the President, Rangoon Municipality, No. 2656-594H.O., dated the 5th March 1897, and of its annexures, regarding a proposal to include in the new Municipal Bill a provision for the compulsory vaccination of adults and revaccination of all persons after a term of years. You state that Sir Frederic Fryer considers that some provision of the kind proposed would be beneficial, but that His Honour inclines to the opinion that the proposed measures are, in the first instance, too drastic and that, as an alternative, it has been suggested that power might be taken—

- (a) as in section 13 of Bengal Act V of 1880 to vaccinate forthwith any unprotected person who comes in a vessel on which small-pox has occurred;
- (b) to vaccinate forthwith any unprotected inmate of a lodging-house or cooly barrack; and
- (c) to serve notice upon any unprotected person to be vaccinated within seven days.

You ask for the Port Commissioners' opinion with regard to—

- (i) the necessity for legislation;
- (ii) the form which such legislation should take.

Your letter and its annexures were considered by the Commissioners at their meeting on the 12th May 1897.

2. In reply I am to submit—

- (i) that the Commissioners consider that legislation is necessary in the matter, and
- (ii) that they accept the alternative proposals enumerated in your letter.

G. B. C. P. O.—No. 4224, B. S., 19-8-97—70.

1009
Dep.
Nos. No. 7
To
O. No. 11-11-97
Encl. N° 5 to Protector's
letter to B. S. 11-1-99

From the Secretary to the Government of Burma to the President, Rangoon Municipality,—No. 149-1Z.—
13, dated the 5th June 1897.

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 2656-594 H.O., dated the 5th March 1897, regarding a proposal to include in the new Municipal Bill a provision for the compulsory vaccination of adults and revaccination of all persons after a term of years.

2. In reply I am to say that, after consulting the Port authorities and the Chamber of Commerce, the Lieutenant-Governor is of opinion that the proposed measures are in the first instance too drastic. As an alternative it is proposed by amendment of the Vaccination Act to give power to the Municipal Health Officer—

- (a) as in section 13 of Bengal Act V of 1880 to vaccinate forthwith any unprotected person who comes in a vessel on which small-pox has occurred;
- (b) to vaccinate forthwith any unprotected inmate of a lodging-house or cooly barrack; and
- (c) to serve notice upon any unprotected person to be vaccinated within seven days.

G. B. C. P. O.—No. 4224, B. S., 19-8-97—70.

Encl No. 6 to Protector's letter.

Orders—continued.

No.

Pub.

4.

2340

Encl No. 8 to Director's letter
No. 5 to Board, Sep Dec.
4-1-29

Regr. No.

A

HOME 1897. DEPT.

FROM

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF BURMA.

D. } 17th August 1897.

R. }

No. 599-1Z.—13.

Enclosures, 6.

Spare copies, 25.

D. No. }

Progs.

L. No. }

No.

References.

Abstract.

SUBMITS, with remarks, a Bill to amend the Vaccination Act, 1880, and solicits sanction to its introduction in the Burma Legislative Council.

Office suggestions.

Orders.

Burma.

GENERAL DEPARTMENT.—No. 599-1Z.—13.

FROM

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF BURMA,

To

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,
HOME DEPARTMENT.

Dated Rangoon, the 17th August 1897.

SIR,

I AM directed to submit a Bill to amend the Vaccination Act, 1880, and, with reference to section 5 of the Statute 55 and 56 Vic., Chapter 14, to solicit the sanction of the Governor-General in Council to its introduction in the Burma Legislative Council.

2. The necessity for the Bill is explained in the marginally cited correspondence, of which copies are submitted. It will be seen that the Lieutenant-Governor has not thought it expedient to go as far as the Rangoon Municipal Committee desire. In fact, Sir Frederic

1. From President, Rangoon Municipality, to Secretary to Chief Commissioner, No. 2656-594, dated 5th March 1897.

2. From Secretary to Chief Commissioner, to Chairman, Rangoon Port Commissioners and Chairman, Rangoon Chamber of Commerce, Nos. 649 and 650, dated 23rd April 1897.

3. From Chamber of Commerce, dated 12th May 1897.

4. From Rangoon Port Commissioners No. 504-138, dated 14th May 1897.

5. To President, Rangoon Municipality, No. 149, dated 5th June 1897.

Fryer does not consider it practicable to vaccinate, on their arrival and before their dispersion throughout Burma, the crowds of Madras coolies who come over to reap the harvest. As many as 1,900 have come in a single steamer, of whom the great majority are unprotected by vaccination.

3. On the other hand, it may be said that it is unfair to single out the Madras immigrant for special treatment in coolie barracks and lodging-houses while vaccination is not compulsory throughout Burma. The allegation against the Madras coolie is not that he brings small-pox from Madras, but that he catches it in Burman villages and brings it into Burman towns. It may therefore be argued that small-pox should be suppressed in Burman villages by compulsory vaccination and then the Madras coolies' migrations would do no harm. Although vaccination has been more widely disseminated in rural tracts during the last three years than it was previously, neither the staff of vaccinators, nor the amount of money available, nor the temper of the people, would permit vaccination to be made compulsory at present in the villages. Such being the case, the migratory coolies who move from town to village and village to town are a special danger, and it is proposed to treat them in a special manner. A reference to page 8 of the Vaccination Report for 1896 will show that legal powers of compulsion in their case are necessary.

I have the honour to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient servant,

F. C. GATES,

Secretary.

G. B. C. P. O.—No. 4224, B. S., 18-8-97—50.

Over.

From R. NATHAN, Esq., Under Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department, to the Secretary to the Government of Burma,—No. 543, dated Calcutta, 15th March 1898.

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letters noted on the margin, relative to the draft Bill to amend the Vaccination Act, 1880, submitted for the sanction of the Governor-General in Council to its introduction in the Council of the Lieutenant-Governor of Burma for the purpose of making Laws and Regulations.

2. In reply I am directed to forward herewith a copy of the Bill which has been roughly redrawn in the form contemplated by Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India in his Despatch, No. 44, dated the 3rd December 1896, a copy of which was communicated to the Government of Burma with the letter from the Government of India, Legislative Department, No. 254, dated the 7th February 1898, and to state that the introduction of the Bill in the Burma Legislative Council in that form is recommended and, if accepted, is hereby sanctioned by the Governor-General in Council.

G. B. C. P. O.—No. 4666, B. S., 12-10-89—50.

1898
Pmt
Encl. No. 11
To
C. No. 2540 (10)

Note by DR. J. C. HOYLE, M.B., Rangoon Municipal Health Officer, dated the 27th July 1898.

THE thesis set to me to prove is—that coolies import, from the district, small-pox to such an extent as to justify the exceptional legislation proposed.

I.—Coolies form the bulk of the small-pox cases in Rangoon:—

- (1) This may be taken as proved in my first note on small-pox.
- (2) I have however,—Table I,—shown the figures for 1895, 1896, and 1897.

Taking the total number of small-pox cases which became known to the Health Officer's Department during those years we find that out of a total of 1,520 cases, 1,161 occurred among coolies and other natives of India.

I have included "other natives of India" (who form an extremely small number) because the cases were largely those of either Chittagonian sampan-wallahs or in the durwan *jât*, natives whose habits and mode of life approximates to the cooly type.

- (3) Over 70 per cent. of the total small-pox cases for 1895, 1896, 1897 occurred among natives of India.

II.—Does this small-pox come from India? I maintain it does not.

- (1) In 1895,—three cases,
1896,—three cases,
1897,—five cases,
1898 (to date),—one case,
have been sent from steamers to the infectious diseases wards. Thus, in three years and seven months only 12 cases have as far as is known been brought to Rangoon by sea.

- (2) Taking it for granted that coolies come to Rangoon in October, November and December, one would expect to find that if they brought the disease with them and stopped in Rangoon, a considerable amount of small-pox would occur in those months.

(a) Neither in Rangoon curve nor in the district curve is there any sign to warrant this assumption. The cooly does not bring small-pox either to Rangoon or to the district. It is waiting there for him and seizes on him because he is unprotected.

(b) The curve for Rangoon shows a summit in March when all the coolies have come in from the district.

(c) The curve for the districts shows a summit a little later. I have little doubt but that the summit of a cooly curve for the district would be about the end of February, and I attribute the summit of the district curve being in May to—

(1) Climatic conditions.

(2) The coolies having started a *pucca* epidemic.

Any how the months May to October, when the cooly is out of both Rangoon and the district, show a marked decline.

- (3) Both for the district and for Rangoon two facts are visible:—

(a) When the cooly comes on the scene small-pox begins.

(b) When he is absent small-pox declines.

III.—Does the small-pox come from the district? I maintain it does.

- (1) It certainly does not come over with the cooly.

(2) It is not prevalent in Rangoon to any extent when he comes over.

(3) It rages as soon as he returns from the jungle, *i.e.*, by March, not May as in the district curve.

Is the amount of disease sufficient to warrant exceptional legislation? I respectfully submit that it is: In the last nine years (not counting 1898) 3,182 cases are known to have occurred. I doubt if this number represents half the total. (This arises from causes the consideration of which is outside the scope of the present argument). Still assuming the number 3,182 to be correct that would give an

Pub 8

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average of over 353 cases a year (say one every day). The average for 1890, 1891, 1892, 1893, 1894, for London (population $4\frac{1}{2}$ millions), was 821 cases.

Small-pox is a disease that is much worse in some years than in others.

In 1890 736 and in 1891 784 cases were recorded in Rangoon. In the 1890 epidemic 528 of the 736 cases were actually Hindus.

Remembering the difficulties in enforcing—

(1) notification, | (2) isolation,

of small-pox cases in Rangoon I would submit that the only way to protect the city is to cut at the *fons et origo mali*, the cooly.

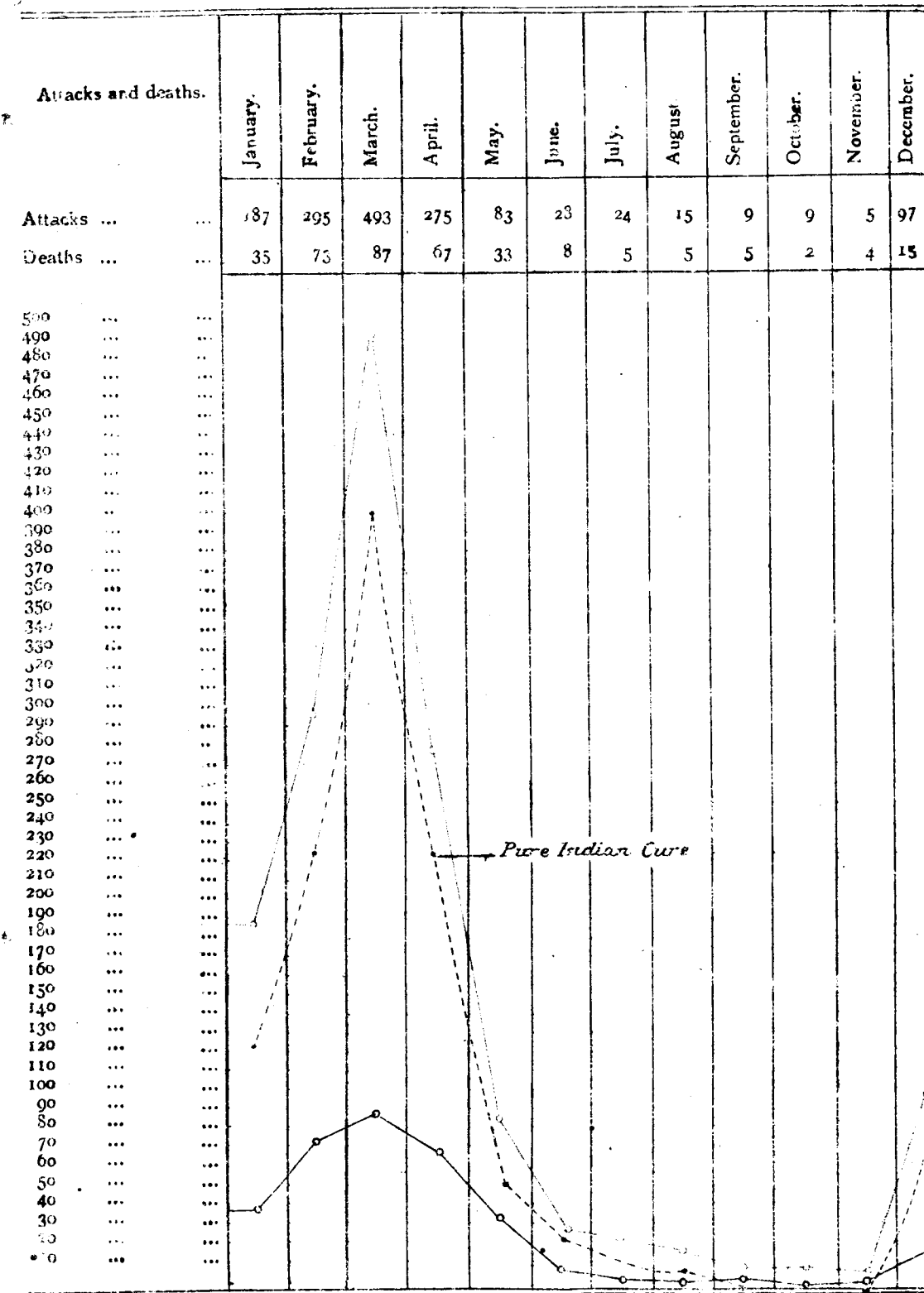
Statement showing the attacks and deaths from small-pox in Rangoon monthly during 1895, 1896, 1897, and 1898 up to date.

Month and year.	Attacks.	Deaths.	Month and year.	Attacks.	Deaths.
1895.			1896.		
January ...	3	...	January ...	160	28
February ...	48	...	February ...	180	51
March ...	80	2	March ...	251	58
April ...	39	5	April ...	113	47
May ...	12	3	May ...	30	15
June ...	5	2	June ...	3	2
July ...	1	...	July ...	1	...
August ...	3	...	August ...	...	1
September ...	1	1	September ...	...	...
October ...	3	...	October ...	1	...
November ...	5	3	November ...	...	1
December ...	80	13	December ...	10	1
Total ...	280	29	Total ...	749	204
1897.			1898.		
January ...	24	7	January ...	26	11
February ...	67	22	February ...	59	16
March ...	162	27	March ...	100	24
April ...	123	15	April ...	59	19
May ...	41	15	May ...	43	19
June ...	20	4	June ...	24	16
July ...	22	5	1st to 25th July ...	12	5
August ...	12	4			
September ...	8	4			
October ...	5	2			
November ...	...	...			
December ...	7	1			
Total ...	491	106	Total ...	323	110

Statement showing the total number of coolies and other classes attacked with small-pox in the town and suburbs of Rangoon for the years 1895, 1896, and 1897.

Month.	ATTACKS.	
	Coolies.	Other classes.
January ...	121	66
February ...	221	74
March ...	397	96
April ...	223	52
May ...	49	34
June ...	22	6
July ...	20	4
August ...	14	1
September ...	7	2
October ...	7	2
November ...	3	2
December ...	77	20
Total ...	1,161	359

Chart showing the total number of attacks and deaths from small-pox monthly in the town and suburbs of Rangoon for the years 1895, 1896, and 1897.



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Burma.

GENERAL DEPARTMENT.—No. 169-1Z.—4.
(Sanitary.)

FROM
THE SECRETARY TO THE
GOVERNMENT OF BURMA,
TO
THE CHIEF SECRETARY TO THE
GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

Dated Rangoon, the 11th October 1898.

SIR,

I AM directed to forward for the consideration of the Government of Madras copies of the papers cited in the margin concerning certain proposals for further compulsory vaccination in Burma.

A
B
C

- (1) Letter No. 599-1Z.—13, dated the 17th August 1897, with enclosures, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department.
- (2) Letter No. 543, dated the 15th March 1898, with enclosure, from the Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department.
- (3) Note, dated the 27th July 1898, with annexures, by Dr. Hoyle, Rangoon Municipal Health Officer.

A

2. The Lieutenant-Governor proposed that power should be taken by legislation to vaccinate forthwith any unprotected person who comes to Burma in a vessel on which small-pox has occurred, and the Government of India approved of this proposal and sanctioned the introduction in the Burma Legislative Council of a Bill giving effect to it. But it has now been made clear that the condition that a case of small-pox must have occurred on board would render the proposed legislation practically inoperative. One steamer out of ten might have a case of small-pox on board, the remaining nine would send out their thousands of unprotected coolies to the interior to contract the disease and spread it as they do now. In the letter (enclosure I) to the Government of India Sir Frederic Fryer expressed the opinion that it would not be practicable to vaccinate on their arrival and before their dispersion throughout Burma the crowds of Madras coolies who come over to reap the harvest. But it is now clear that any measure short of this would be ineffectual for the attainment of the object in view. His Honour is assured, however, that the sudden introduction of wholesale vaccination in the case of unprotected coolies arriving from Madras would be disastrous to the trade of the province. It has been suggested that the Burma Legislative Council might pass an Act providing for the compulsory vaccination of all unprotected coolie immigrants, but remaining in abeyance for two or three years, during which its provisions might be widely notified in the coolie districts of Madras, in order that coolies intending to cross over to Burma may gradually submit to vaccination at their homes.

3. Before taking any further steps in the matter His Honour desires to ascertain whether, as an alternative measure, the Madras Government would be willing to pass a local Act requiring unprotected coolie emigrants to be vaccinated before embarkation for Burma at Madras ports. I am to submit that the statistics showing the extent to which Madras emigrants to Burma suffer from small-pox furnish ample grounds for such legislation on the part of the Madras Government. It is true that the number of authentic cases of small-pox actually imported from Madras is inconsiderable. But it is abundantly proved that the migratory habits of the Madras coolie render him specially liable to contract and dis-

with 153 Copies

1898
Pch Dept.
Enclos. No. 2
O. No. 3340 407

(2)

seminate the disease in this province, and the statistics show that the great bulk of the sickness and mortality from small-pox in Rangoon occurs among the class which is chiefly composed of Madras coolies. If vaccination were enforced before embarkation, instead of on arrival in Burma, the coolie would have the option of abandoning his visit to Burma, and with this option the compulsory nature of the measure would be alleviated, the hardship to the coolie would be much reduced, and the risk of evasion avoided.

4. I am to request that the Lieutenant-Governor may be acquainted with the views of the Government of Madras on this proposal.

I have the honour to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient servant,

W. E. W. W.
Officiating Secretary.

G. B. C. P. O.—No. 4666, B. S., 12-10-98—50.

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Public
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407

Encl No 12 to Protector's letter
No 5 to Board, Sep Dec.
4-1-99

Public (1899) Department.

CURRENT No. 407



From

The Secretary to the Commissioner
of Salt, Abkari and Separate Revenue,
Madras.

Order

Mis. No. 375.

Dated 29th January 1899.

Received 3. 2. 99

Registered 3. 2. 99

Enclosures 12

Spare copies

SUBJECT.

Submitting to Government the report called for on the proposal of the Secretary to the Government of Burma as to the desirability of passing a local Act requiring unprotected cooly emigrants to Burma to be vaccinated before embarkation for that Province.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Copy of reply from the Presidency Port Officer, Madras,
No. 1097 M, dated 7th December 1898, to the Protector of
1477
Emigrants, Madras.

"As the Native passenger traffic between Madras ports and Burma is supervised by the officers appointed by Government under Section 7(1) of the Native Passenger Ships Act X of 1887, the question has been referred to them, and, from the replies received, it would appear that though vaccination at the principal ports could be carried out without much difficulty provided that a Medical Assistant for the purpose is stationed at each port during the period the Native passenger traffic continues, it is anticipated that not only would there be a strong objection on the part of the Native passengers to undergo vaccination but delay in the departure of the steamer might ensue. At the smaller ports it would be difficult if not impossible to vaccinate intending passengers owing to the want of efficient official control. The Port Officer, Bimilipatan, reports that the majority of the coolies embarking at that port came from a village in the taluk where vaccination is not compulsory, and that if they had to undergo vaccination immediately prior to embarking, it is probable they would suffer from fever which, combined with sea sickness, in a crowded vessel might lead to loss of life. The opinion of Surgeon Lieut. Colonel Leapingwell, I.M.S, the District

Medical and Sanitary Officer at Vizagapatam, who was consulted by the Port Officer, Vizagapatam, is as follows:-

- "1. Vaccination could be carried out, but due notice would have to be given, that vaccination and ^(sic) lymph might be in readiness.
2. In any case considerable delay in embarkation will occur.
3. I think it was your suggestion that the idea might get about among the coolies that plague inoculation for plague and not vaccination was being carried on. I should say this is very probable".

In my opinion compulsory vaccination at ports of embarkation would have a bad effect on the passenger traffic, and I think that the best plan would be for Government to issue an order that coolies who have not undergone vaccination will not be allowed to land at Rangoon and to have the men who engage coolies for work in Burma warned that they should not engage persons who have not been vaccinated.

(True copy)

B. J. S. S.
Acting Secretary.

1.2.99.

Copy of letter from the Protector of Emigrants, Madras, No. 5 of 1899, dated 4th January 1899.

"Adverting to Board's reference No. 969, dated 31st October 1898, calling for my remarks on the proposal to make vaccination compulsory on all intending emigrants to Burma, I have the honour to forward herewith the remarks of the Presidency Port Officer to whom I referred the question as the officer administering the Native Passenger Ships Act X of 1887 under which emigration to Burma is carried on. It will be seen that, in his opinion, an order should be issued by ^{Government that} coolies who have not been vaccinated will not be allowed to land at Rangoon. The same end will be attained with less risk of possible inconvenience to coolies by not allowing those who are unvaccinated to embark in this country, and therefore I think it preferable that if action is to be taken by the Madras Government at all vaccination should be made compulsory on all emigrants going to Burma. I do not think there need be any apprehension of vaccination in these ^{cases} being mistaken for inoculation, as suggested by the District Medical and Sanitary Officer of Vizagapatam; and even if so, the coolies have the remedy in their own hands, since they are under no compulsion to emigrate. Vaccination is compulsory in the case of all emigrants to Natal and Mauritius, and I have never heard of any objection being raised.

2. I am unaware of any provision of law under which intending

emigrants to Burma can be compelled to be vaccinated. The Indian Emigration Act does not apply to them; and I presume that if the proposal of the Burmese Government is accepted by that of Madras, legislation would be necessary. Under these circumstances, I submit that there is no sufficient reason to adopt the suggestion of the Government of Burma, which may be left to deal with the matter as it deems fit".

(True copy).

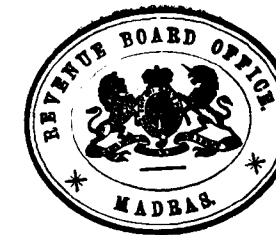
G. S. S. S.
Acting Secretary.

1-2-99.

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407

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue

(Separate Revenue),

Dated 29th January 1899.

Mis. No. 375.

Read Endorsement of Government, Public Department, No.

2294, dated 27th October 1898, and

Board's reference thereon No. 969, dated 31st October 1898, to the Protector of Emigrants.

Read also reply from J. N. Atkinson Esquire, I.C.S., Protector of Emigrants, Madras, No. 5 of 1899, dated 4th January 1899.

Resolution:-

With reference to Government Endorsement No. 2294, Public, dated 27th October 1898, calling for report on the proposal of the Burma Government to make vaccination compulsory on all intending emigrants to that Province, the Board begs to submit the accompanying letter from the Protector of Emigrants, Madras, who was consulted in compliance with the instructions of Government, together with the remarks of the Presidency Port Officer, who administers the Native Passengers Ships Act X of 1887 under which emigration

to Burma is carried on. The Presidency Port Officer is of opinion that compulsory vaccination of emigrants at the ports ^{of} embarkation would check the passenger traffic, besides entailing much delay in the departure of ships and expense in connection with the entertainment of the necessary medical establishments, and that the best method of preventing the influx of unprotected cooly immigrants into Burma would be for Government to issue an order that coolies who have not undergone vaccination will not be allowed to land at Rangoon and to warn the men who engage coolies for work in Burma not to recruit those who have not been vaccinated. The Protector of Emigrants remarks that a more convenient plan, if action is to be taken by the Madras Government, would be to make vaccination compulsory on emigrants going to Burma so that those who are unwilling to undergo the operation may abandon the visit, but, as this can be secured only by legislation, he is not in favour of adopting the suggestion of the Government of Burma and recommends that that Government may be left to deal with the matter as it deems fit.

2. The Board is inclined to think that the course proposed by the Presidency Port Officer is the only feasible one open to the Madras Government, if the Government of Burma is averse to the introduction of unprotected emigrants. It is for that Government to take the necessary preventive measures ~~in the matter~~ if it regards the matter as of importance, but it appears unwilling to move in that direction on the ground that the sudden introduction of wholesale vaccination in the case of unprotected coolies arriving from

Madras would be disastrous to the trade of the Province. It is, however, obvious that the same consequence will follow from, and that the same objection therefore applies ^{to} the Madras Government's enacting a measure to enforce vaccination on emigrants to Burma. At all events the Board does not see any sufficient reason why the Madras Government should undertake the proposed legislation and the attendant expense unless it is prepared to make vaccination compulsory throughout the Presidency.

3. The enclosures received with the Government Endorsement quoted above are herewith returned as requested.

(True extract.)

G. S. S. S.
Acting Secretary.

1.2.99.

To the Chief Secretary to Government, Public Department,
with a copy of the letter from the Protector of Emigrants and the Presidency Port Officer.

Copy to the Protector of Emigrants.
Copy to the Presidency Port Officer.

Public (1899) Department.

CURRENT No. 4109



From

The Secretary to the Commissioner
of Salt, Abkari and Separate Revenue,
Madras.

Order

Mis. No. 376.

Dated 29th January 1899.

Received 3. 2. 99

Registered 3. 2. 99

Enclosures

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SUBJECT.

Informing the Presidency Port Officer,
Madras, that the powers of the Protector
of Emigrants have not been extended and
that a certain reference regarding the
compulsory vaccination of emigrants to
Burma was made to the latter officer in
accordance with the wishes of Government
in that behalf.

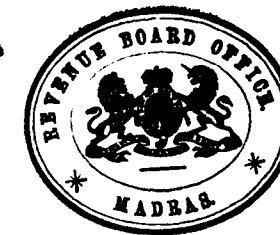
BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

NO. 409



Proceedings of the Board of Revenue

(Separate Revenue),

Dated 29th January 1899,

Mis. No. 376.

Read letter from Commander H.A. Street, R.I.M., Presidency Port Officer, Madras, No. 1097 M, dated 15th December 1898, enquiring, in connection with the proposal to compulsorily vaccinate all Natives proceeding to Burma, whether Government has authorized the Protector of Emigrants under the Native Passenger Ships Act X of 1887 to control such emigration and thus conferred new powers on him.

Resolution:-

With reference to his letter read above, the Presidency Port Officer is informed that the powers of the Protector of Emigrants have not been extended, and that the reference in question was made to that Officer as the Government had requested the Board to submit its remarks on the proposal of the Burma Government in consultation with him. (True extract.)

2.2.99.

G. H. M. S.
Acting Secretary.

To the Presidency Port Officer, Madras.
Copy to the Secretary to Government, Public Department.

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Public (1899) Department.

CURRENT No. 981.

From The Govt. of Burma.

Order

No. 589/234.

Dated 17. 3. 99.

Received }
Registered } 27. 3. 99

Enclosures one

Spare copies.

SUBJECT.

Requesting to be favoured with
his views of this Govt. re: his
vaccination of unprotected Coolie
Emigrants to Burma.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Extract from letter No. 639 dated the 16th

February 1899 from the Secretary to the Government of India Home Department to the Chief Secretary to the Government of Burma.

-----00:-----

4. In paragraph 6, reference is made to the propagation of small-pox by the immigration from India of unprotected coolie. and it is observed that the remedy might be found in a measure for securing the vaccination of coolies at the time and place of their recruitment, or at all events before they land in Burma. The Government of India are aware that this matter is engaging the attention of His Honour the Lieutenant Governor.

Extract from paragraph 6 of the memorandum by the Army Sanitary Commissioner.

-----:0:-----

Small-pox Vaccination The number of deaths as due to small-pox was only 814, which gives a ratio of 0.37 per thousand of population. In Rangoon city alone, 275 of these deaths were recorded. The propagation of the disease in Burma is supposed to be connected with immigration from India of unprotected coolies; and proposals for remedying this evil are under consideration. Perhaps the remedy might be found in a measure for securing the vaccination of the coolies at the time and place of their recruitment, or at all events before

they
land in Burma.

(True copy)

Estab. Secy
Superintendent Secretary's office.

CURRENT NO. 981.

General DEPARTMENT.—No. 589 11Z-4.

FROM

The Secretary to the Government of Burma,

TO

The Secretary to the,
Government of Madras.

Dated Rangoon, the 17th March 1899.

SIR,

Pub?

I am directed to invite a reference to this office letter No. 169/1Z-4, dated the 11th October 1898, regarding the vaccination of unprotected Coolie emigrants to Burma and to say that His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor will be glad to be acquainted with the views of the Madras Government on the proposal at an early date.

2. I am to forward for the information of the Madras Government in relation to this matter a copy of paragraph 4 of a letter No. 639 from the Government of India in the Home Department dated the 10th February 1899 and an extract from paragraph 8 of the memorandum by the Army Sanitary Commissioner on the report of the Sanitary Commissioner for Burma for 1898, referred to therein.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Full
For Secretary.

189 .

For order

H. M. sine

With the earnestness
made above, the Govt. of
Burma forwarded for
the consideration of the
Govt. copies of papers
concerning proposals for
further compulsory vaccination
in Burma - and on
2. - the 11th Feb. 1902 original
proposals met Govt. records
has taken by legislation to
vaccinate forthwith every
unprotected person who
comes to Burma in an
unprotected condition and such
proposals were approved by the Govt.
of India approved by the
Govt. and the instructions

in the Burma Legislative
Council for a Bill giving effect
to it. It was subsequently
made clear that that the
condition that a case of
small pox must have
occurred on board would
under the proposed
legislation practically in-
operative. It was admitted
in the correspondence that
Madras coolies did not
as a rule take small pox
with them into Burma,
but that they contracted
it in the villages after
arrival, & spread it
through the country. Thus
one cluster out of the many
have a case of small pox
on board, & the remaining
nine would lead out
thousands of unprotected
coolies to the interior to
contract & spread the
disease. It became clear
to the Burma Govt. that
no measure short of
vaccinating on their arrival

3

the Council of Ministers
Coolies who go on to
work the harvest, would
be of great value. The
condition, however,
in view of the fact
that it is certain
that the coolies, inter-
duction of the disease
Karrington in the form
of unprotected coolies
arriving from the
west for distribution to
the Trade of Burma. It
was suggested that the
Burma Legislative Council
should be asked to
provide for the
protection of the
coolies, but after
it was found that
for the purpose of
distributing the
disease, the coolies
in the form of
coolies intended to go

to the extent of official
control. It is also the
opinion of the Port Officer
Bundaberg that the carrying
of coolies embarking at that
port came from a village
in which vaccination is not
compulsory. If they
have to undergo vaccination
immediately prior to sailing,
it is probable that they
suffer from fever, which
combined with exposure
to a crowded vessel, might
lead to loss of life. The
Port Officer is of
opinion that compulsory
vaccination at ports of
embarkation would have
a salutary effect on the
trading community and that
the Government should
issue an order that coolies
who have not undergone
vaccination will not be
allowed to land at Rangoon
& to warn the men who
employ coolies for work
in moving on men

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in Rangoon port. It is
also the opinion of the
Bundaberg Port Officer
of Bundaberg that the
same result would be
obtained with less risk
of further complications
if the Government
imposed a compulsory
vaccination on all
coolies in this country,
and that therefore it is
proposed to submit a
to be taken by the Govt
at all, that vaccination
should be made com-
pulsory on all coolies
going to Rangoon and
that would be a
legislation, the result
of which is a
decision to adopt
the suggestion of the
Bundaberg Port Officer
and to issue an order
that coolies who have
not undergone
vaccination will not be
allowed to land at Rangoon
& to warn the men who
employ coolies for work
in moving on men

the British, and of course
is the only feasible one
open to the British Govt.,
if the Govt. of India is
averse to the introduction
of unprotected immigrants,
with regard to the plan
of the British Govt. with
the introduction
of the vaccination
in the case of unprotected
coolies arriving from India,
would be deductions to
the trade of the Province.
The Rev. Mr. [unclear] states
that it is obvious that
the same course will
follow here, and that
the same objection will
apply, if the Govt. should
attempt to enforce
vaccination on immigrants
to Burma. The Board
does not see any sufficient
reason why this Govt. should
undertake the proposed
legislation and attendant
expense unless it is prepared
to [unclear] on this

9

to make vaccination com-
pulsory throughout the
Presidency.

6. If the Burmese Govt.
officer's suggestion is
considered a sufficient
solution of the difficulty,
it is admitted that
before it can be adopted
the Burmese Govt. must
have an enactment
forbidding the landing
of unprotected coolies
at Rangoon, further
difficulties would probably
arise in the matter of
examining the coolies
prior to debarkation.
The Burmese Govt's own
suggestion would perhaps
be the best plan, viz.
that it should pass an
act providing for the
compulsory vaccination
of all unprotected coolie
immigrants, and leaving
it in abeyance until
its provisions become

Handwritten signature

12 - I think that if
16/4/99 it would be widely
known that in fact the other side
was not a part of the movement &
that the only one who was
for would be the one who was
carrying it. The time left that
with wife on the farm in
Inverness is now very widely
spread over our land there
- moving on now

KT 20.2-99.

16-3

The note put up in reply shows that no help can be derived from that side.

MA 1070

The matter must be left in the
 first instance to the
 Govt. of Burma. If that
 Govt. thinks proper to legislate
 to protect ^{unprotected}
 from leaving the landing
 place at Rangoon ~~or other~~
 or a depot provided there, until
 they have been vaccinated,
 and will intimate to the Govt.
 when it is likely the act will
 into force, the Govt. furnished
 the information to the district
 likely to be affected, to provide
 facilities for all applicants
 to be vaccinated. I do not
 ask the Govt. of Burma to share
 the extra cost of the vaccine. The
 cookies all ^{or almost all} return to Madras
 and their protection from
 small pox throughout the country
 is arranged there to be
 vaccinated.
 Mt 14.3.29.

R

I concur -
 The only remark I wish to
 make is that even now
 great numbers of emigrants
 to Burma embark at
 the French Port, Karikal -
 the French Govt. also
 emigration of vaccinated
 coolies would work better
 the French Govt. also
 adopted it - Mt.
 16-3-29-

I am in the Hon. Mr. Fremantle's views.
 20.3.29.

D. W. 1/12/29.

[G.
24]
1,000-1

[G.
76]
1,000-2-11-98.

c 14.2.29 7.8.29
 16.3.29

Public C.Nos.3340 of 98
 407 of 99.

NOTE FOR THE Chief SECRETARY.

Please see the M.M.'s note on
 the note for orders below.

2. Vaccination is compulsory in
 the case of emigrants to Natal and
 Mauritius, under clause 66 of the Rules
 framed under Act XXI of 1885, - please
 see page 41 of the Volume. This rule
 however appears to have embodied a
 very long standing regulation, as will
 be seen from the papers of 1843, flagg-
 ed G and H.

3. Emigration to Burma is subject
 to no restrictions, and coolies going
 there cannot be distinguished from
 ordinary passengers. The annual
 returns received by Govt. therefore
 give only the total number of British
subjects who embarked for Burma from
 Indian ports. The numbers in the last
 three years were as follows:-

1895...38,978
 1896...61,020
 1897...71,190.

The numbers of emigrants who left
 India for Mauritius and Natal during
 the three years 1895 to 1897 are as
 follows:-

	1895	1896	1897
Mauritius	724	942	123
Natal	1,691	1972	3123

via h.p. 27-30 of 90.
 no 908 Public 7
 25.6.98

seen.
 Mt 1.3.29

Cu 14.2.29
 6/3/99
 17/2/10

For

C. No. 3340 From the Govt. of Burma No. 14-154, dated 11-10-1897.

407, " Board of Rev. " 375, " 29-1-1899.

981 " Govt. of Burma " 577, " 17-3-1899.

" " " " " 189

Order
mis No 406 of 7-4-99

to the Govt. of Burma
with the attachment.

Cy 14/99 5/4/99 11/4/99

Letter No 407 of 7-4-99

to the Secy. to the Govt. of Burma

and 15th General Dept

of the Govt. of Burma

and 15th General Dept

of the Govt. of Burma

and 15th General Dept

of the Govt. of Burma

and 15th General Dept

of the Govt. of Burma

and 15th General Dept

of the Govt. of Burma

and 15th General Dept

Issue
14/99

embarkation for Burma
at mares ports.

2. In reply I am to
say that this Govt. is
not prepared at present
to undertake legislation
in the direction indicated
and that it is of opinion
that the matter must
be left in the first
instance to the Govt. of
Burma - If the Govt. of
Burma thinks proper
to legislate so as to
forbid unprotected
immigrant coolies from
leaving the landing place
at Rangoon, or a depot
provided there, until they
have been vaccinated, and
will sign a certificate to this Govt.
when it is signed that the
Govt. will comply with the
the Govt. is committed with English
the information in all districts
being to be reported, and will
provide facilities for all
applicants, ~~under the~~ ^{the} vaccination of all
(from the)

Cu
5/4/99

6/4/99

When given for copying
When copied 7/4
When examined
When signed } 1899

READ AGAIN G.O. No. , DATED
189 .

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURES TO C. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT A A A A A A A

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DETAIL.

PAPERS NOT FILED UP, BRING HEART FOR DEPART
IN ORIGINAL.

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