M.R.O. 14—13,000—27-9-24

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 1798 Press Mis.

67-68

Dated 3 - 8 - 1865

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
3rd August 1865.

No. 47. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Military Department:—

Communicating an omission which has occurred on the part of the Collector of Coimbatore to notify, to the proper Military authorities, the existence of Cholera on the route of Troops on the march, in view to the issue of stringent orders for the prevention of similar omissions in future. } (Here enter 29th July 1865, No. 2,811.)

No. 48. ORDER THEREON, 3rd August 1865, No. 1,798.

Miscellaneous.

1. Ordered to be communicated to the Collector of Coimbatore, for such explanation of his supposed neglect as he may desire to offer.

2. Ordered also to be communicated to the Board of Revenue, with the request that they will issue such instruction to the District Officers under their orders as may ensure the attainment of the object in view.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. GROSE,
Acting Under Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue,
„ the Collector of Coimbatore, } With Proceedings Military Department, No. 2,811.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

Note by the Honorable F. D. Phillips
in Proceedings No 2811 dated 29th July 1865.

Mr P. Grant should be
called on for an explanation of the
neglect which is supposed by the
General Commanding Southern Division
to have been guilty, but that need not
delay the dispatch of this communication.

Signed F. D. P.

post."

mmanding Southern Division, Head Quarters, Trichinopoly, 25th June 1865,
Quarter Master General, Ootacamund.

t to submit the following for the consideration of His Excellency the Com-

th May, I issued a Division Order, in paragraph 5 of which the Officer
gton was desired to make the usual notification to the Civil Authorities in the
ichinopoly Districts, respecting the march of the Detachment 105th Regiment
ie states that he complied with that order.

h June, after the movement had commenced, the camp, families and baggage
rn to Mettapollium that day, I received from the Deputy Inspector General
Division, a letter reporting that he had heard there was Cholera at that place,
vement of the Detachment should be postponed. In reply he was informed that
or any orders to be given here. I had moreover every right to expect that the
store would, with reference to paragraph 3 of the notification sent to him by the
Wellington, have apprized that Officer of the existence of the disease, of which
he had become aware on the 16th instant, as appears
ched, marked A. by his note* of the 17th idem, sent to the Deputy
Assistant Quarter Master General of this Division
the evening of the 19th, and that the Officer Commanding Wellington, being, as

MILITARY DEPARTMENT.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following papers :—

From the Quarter Master General, Head Quarters, Ootacamund, 1st July 1865, No. $\frac{137}{6819}$; to the Secretary to Government, Military Department, Fort St. George.

I have the honor, by order of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, to forward, for the information of Government, correspondence relating to the omission on the part of a Civil Officer, to notify to the proper authority, the existence of Cholera on the route of Troops.

2. In the notification to Civil Authorities, found at paragraph 30 of G. O. G., No. 166 of 1856, the Collector of the District is required to notify to the Quarter Master General's Department, or to the Officer Commanding the Troops, the presence of Cholera on the route about to be traversed; but as this notification appears to be sometimes disregarded and treated as a matter of routine; and as at other times mis-information is communicated, to the great embarrassment of this Department, the Commander-in-Chief proposes the following G. O. G. to be published :—

Draft G. O G.

"The Right Honorable the Governor in Council is pleased to direct, with reference to paragraph 30 of G. O. G., No. 166 of 1856, that the existence of Cholera at any Military Station shall be immediately telegraphed by the Officer Commanding, to the adjacent Military Stations, and that Civil Authorities shall keep themselves constantly informed of the presence of the disease on all Military routes passing through their Districts. This information is to be instantly conveyed to the nearest Military Stations by telegraph when available, or by post.

2. In all cases the Officer Commanding the Division or Force is to be informed of the fact at the same time.

3. All movements of Troops and Officers are thereupon to be immediately suspended, until it has been ascertained that the road is safe.

4. The existence of Cholera will also be reported to Army Head Quarters whether by Civil or Military Officers, whichever happens to be nearest, by telegraph or post."

From the Officer Commanding Southern Division, Head Quarters, Trichinopoly, 25th June 1865, No. 152 ; to the Quarter Master General, Ootacamund.

I have the honor to submit the following for the consideration of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief.

2. On the 27th May, I issued a Division Order, in paragraph 5 of which the Officer Commanding Wellington was desired to make the usual notification to the Civil Authorities in the Coimbatore and Trichinopoly Districts, respecting the march of the Detachment 105th Regiment from Wellington ; he states that he complied with that order.

3. On the 19th June, after the movement had commenced, the camp, families and baggage having been sent down to Mettapollium that day, I received from the Deputy Inspector General of Hospitals Southern Division, a letter reporting that he had heard there was Cholera at that place, and suggesting the movement of the Detachment should be postponed. In reply he was informed that it was then too late for any orders to be given here. I had moreover every right to expect that the Collector of Coimbatore would, with reference to paragraph 3 of the notification sent to him by the Officer Commanding Wellington, have apprized that Officer of the existence of the disease, of which he had become aware on the 16th instant, as appears by his note* of the 17th idem, sent to the Deputy Assistant Quarter Master General of this Division by Dr. Reynolds on the evening of the 19th, and that the Officer Commanding Wellington, being, as

**Copy attached, marked A.*

ordered by me, in direct communication with the Collector, would be best able to judge of the expediency of staying the movement. Lieutenant Colonel Spurgin now states that no report was at any time made to him of the existence of Cholera at Mettapollium or elsewhere on the route.

4. If His Excellency thinks fit I trust he will submit the matter to Government, in view to such orders being passed, as shall prevent a recurrence of a like omission, which might have been attended with such serious results.

5. The notifications made by Commanding or Divisional Staff Officers to Collectors of Districts are, I fear, but too often treated as mere affairs of routine. That such has been the case in this instance appears very certain. The Collector of Coimbatore would seem to have rested content with making a non-official intimation to the Civil Surgeon of Coimbatore, who, so far as any orders issued by me are concerned, had nothing to do with the matter; while on the other hand he failed to communicate in any way with the Officer Commanding Wellington who was principally concerned, and who had under my orders and agreeably to a General Order, officially called upon him to do so.

6. Assuming, as the cause of his not communicating with the Officer Commanding Wellington, that the Collector had received later intelligence which led him to think it unnecessary to disturb the arrangements for the march, the dilemma in which I was placed will be easily understood, had time admitted of my adopting the suggestion of the Deputy Inspector General of Hospitals: what confusion and needless expense and trouble to Government and all concerned would have accrued, the necessity for which I might have found it difficult to explain. In the absence of other information, the Officer Commanding Wellington must have delayed the march, involving the return of camp, families and baggage from Mettapollium to Wellington, loss of supplies which must have been paid for; detention batta to cart-owners, &c.; the whole caused by the failure of the Collector of Coimbatore to place himself in communication with the Officer Commanding Wellington, and by his adopting a channel of communication different to that he had been asked to do.

7. I beg also to forward copy* of letter, No. 4, dated 4th January 1865, from the Officer Commanding Wellington to the Collector of Coimbatore, by which the omission of the Collector appears to be inexcusable.

**Attached marked B.*

A.

MY DEAR DR. DAVIS,

I learnt yesterday evening at Mettapollium that there was Cholera at that Station, not much, but still the disease was there. Troops should not march at present; once the S. W. monsoon has regularly set in, we shall, I think, get rid of the disease, but not before.

COIMBATORE, *17th June* 1865. (Signed) P. GRANT.

B.

No. 4.

* * * * *

I should also feel much obliged if you would favor me with reports of any sickness that may be prevailing at Coimbatore and of its cessation, for the responsibility of allowing Troops to leave Wellington during sickness on the road depending upon me, and I have no means of ascertaining this except from bazar report.

* * * *

COIMBATORE, *4th January* 1865. (Signed) J. B. SPURGIN, Lieut. Colonel.
Commanding Wellington.

ORDER, No. 2811, 29th July 1865.

The Governor in Council regrets to learn, that omission has occurred on the part of a Civil Officer to notify, to the proper Military Authority, the existence of Cholera on the route of Troops on the march.

2. This omission will be communicated to the Revenue and Judicial Departments, in view to the issue of stringent orders in those Departments, for the prevention of similar omissions in future; and to impress on all Revenue and Magisterial Officers throughout the Provinces, the necessity for a careful observance of this important duty.

3. It appears to the Governor in Council that the object His Excellency has in view is sufficiently provided for by existing rules, if properly obeyed; and this, it is hoped, will be ensured by the instructions conveyed in the foregoing paragraph. The Government also doubt the expediency of publishing a General Order in terms of the draft submitted with the Quarter Master General's letter—telegraphic messages of the description contemplated being, if sent hastily, or on imperfect information, calculated to create unnecessary public alarm.

(True Extract.)

Under Secretary to Government.

To the Quarter Master General, with 3 enclosures.
" Revenue Department, with copy of note. 420 Spare Copies.
" Judicial do.
" Adjutant General,... ... ... } for information.
" Controller of Military Accounts, }

Exd. T. Stubbs.

26-4-66

Revenue 1865 Dept.
Grant of Goods for August
No. 2103.
Proceedings of the
Madras Govt. in
the Military Dept.

Dated 29th July
Received 31st " 1865

No. 2811 dated
from the Coll. of Coimbatore
& 5th ult. No. 2192

Communicating
an omission which
has occurred on the
part of the Collr of Coim-
batore to notify to the
proper Mily Authorities
the existence of cholera
on the route of troops
on the march in view
to the issue of stringent
orders for the prevention
of similar omissions in
future. No. 1798 3d Augt

With an order

No. 1798

Direct to communt &
the Collr of Coimbatore for
such explanation of his
apparent neglect as he
may desire to offer

Direct also to
Commt & the Bd of Rev.
with the request that they
will communicate instructions
to the Dist Officers under their
orders as may ensure
the attainment of the
object in view.

3d August 65

No. 1798 to Chief Sec. to Govt Pub. Dept. No. 2811 dated 5th Sept
Collr of Coimbatore

No 17 & 18