M.R.O. 14—13,000—27-9-24

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 1876 Press Mis.

202.203

Dated 12-8-1865.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 12th August 1865.

No. 202. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Public Department :—

Communicating orders passed on Military and Revenue Proceedings relating to sanitary matters. } (Here enter 4th August 1865, No. 819.)

No. 203. ORDER THEREON, 12th August 1865, No. 1,876.

Miscellaneous.

Ordered to be communicated to the Board of Revenue.

(True Extract.)

Acting Under Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue, with Proceedings Public Department, No. 819.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

Read the following papers:—

No. 16. Proceedings of Government in the Military Department.

Read letter from the Officiating President Sanitary Commission, to the Secretary to Government, Military Department, Fort Saint George; dated Madras, 29th June 1865, No. 174.

I have the honor to solicit that you will submit to Government the opinion of the Sanitary Commission that the period has arrived when direct action should be taken by them, in accordance with the instructions conveyed in the Secretary of State's Despatches, No. 297* dated 15th August 1863, and No. 23,† dated 9th March 1865, recorded in Orders of Government, No. 3152, dated 1st October 1863, and No. 1867, dated 19th May 1865, quoted in the margin.

* "Para. (8.) I have further to request that directions may be given for the monthly "Returns of sickness and mortality of the Troops at out-stations, to be submitted "promptly and regularly to the Presidency Committees, whose duty it will be to "bring to notice any facts exhibited in such Returns requiring the attention of Govern-"ment, and to suggest at the same time the course which they would recommend for "adoption."

† "(5) I take this opportunity of requesting that the several Sanitary Commissions at "Calcutta, Madras and Bombay, may be called upon to prepare, at the close of each "Calendar year, a Report upon the sanitary condition of the Army in the respective "Presidencies, during the preceding twelve months.

"(6.) The Report should treat separately of the European and Native portion of the "Army, and should be as short and concise as possible, consistently with the ob-"ject in view, which is to contain a complete Statement of the sanitary condition of "the Troops during that period, and the various measures that have been either deter-"mined upon, or carried out, with a view to the improvement of that condition, with "the remarks upon the results of those measures."

"(7.) With a view to the preparation of these reports, arrangement should be made by "the Sanitary Commissions at the several Presidency Towns for obtaining annual "Reports of the above nature, from every Military Station in the Country. These "latter reports should be forwarded at the close of the year, so as to admit of the early "preparation of the general report from each Presidency abovementioned, and which "should be forwarded to me by the several Governments not later than the 1st "March.

2. In your letter, No. 1469, dated 2nd May 1864, we were also instructed as follows:—

"(13). All Civil and Military Authorities will be requested to afford the "Commission every assistance it may require."

"(14). Returns and Reports will be furnished periodically to the Com-"mission from all Military Stations, in such forms as may hereafter be prescribed."

"(15). The Commander-in-Chief will be requested to issue such orders "as His Excellency may think necessary, for ensuring the regular submission of "such Returns, and for enabling the Commission to obtain promptly from local "Military authorities all statistical and other information which may be required, "on matters affecting the sanitary condition of the Army."

3. In connection with this Order, the Quarter Master General, under date the 5th idem, requested this Commission to forward, for submission to His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, the forms of Returns required by this Commission; but the Office Establishment was then insufficient to carry out any statistical work, and the preparation of Returns was intentionally deferred.

4. The subject being one of an imperial character, it was the opinion of this Commission that we should, in communication with the Sanitary Commission in Bengal and Bombay, establish a general form of Return for all India. I, therefore, transmitted communications to them (Enclosure A), and shall feel obliged by instructions from Government regarding any change they desire in the Form of Return enclosed.

5. We consider it very material that this Commission should be empowered to call on any person in authority, Civil or Military, for information on Sanitary matters; but as the orders quoted above are not quite specific on this point, we beg, if Government concur in these views, that they will issue instructions accordingly.

6. Should the scheme for the constitution of a Public Health Service* for Madras be sanctioned, then Returns intended for tabulation in this Office, would go through the hands of the Local Public Health Officers and the Inspectors of Ranges. By this means, the attention of these Officers would be at once directed to extraordinary or epidemic sickness, and they could advise with the local authorities as to the best means to be adopted to promote the public health—copies of these suggestions would be furnished to the Officers Commanding the Cantonment or Station reported upon.

(* Copy of which is forwarded, enclosure B.)

7. In connection with this subject, and also in accordance with the expressed wishes of the Royal Commission and the Commissions for the improvement of Barracks, we have addressed the Board of Revenue (enclosure C) relative to the registry of deaths in agricultural Districts. The approval of Government is solicited on this measure.

No. 154, dated 24th June 1865.

8. My colleagues are also of opinion that the tabulation of Mortuary Returns for the Town of Madras and Head Quarters of Government, now recorded at the Principal Inspector General's Office, should also form part of the duties of this Office.

9. In order to complete these Returns expeditiously, and to enable the small Establishment of this Office to furnish these Reports to Government, it would seem desirable that the Mortuary Establishment sanctioned for the Office of the Principal Inspector General Medical Department should be transferred to this Office, *viz.*,

Head Clerk at 65 Rupees.
Asst. do. 30 „

10. With reference to this transfer, I would suggest that it be made so soon as the Annual Report for 1864 has passed through the Press.

A.

From the Officiating President, Sanitary Commission, Madras, to the President Sanitary Commission for Bengal, and to the President Sanitary Commission for Bombay; dated 16th June 1865, Nos. 131 and 132.

I have the honor to inform you that this Commission is anxious to enter, without further delay, upon the collection of statistics regarding the sick rate and mortality of the European and Native Troops at this Presidency.

Enclosure 1.

2. To enable the Reports for this purpose to be correctly tabulated in England, and with a view to institute an easy comparison between the vital statistics of the three Armies, it is essential that the Returns for the three Presidencies should correspond.

3. I beg to forward a monthly Form which I am about to circulate to Deputy Inspectors of Hospitals, in order to collect the required information. I solicit that you will kindly furnish me with a copy of any Forms you have adopted, or are about to issue, and further, that you will state whether you conceive Returns should be called for at shorter periods than one month.

4. These Returns should, I think, be simple in their character, so as to direct attention to the prevalence of the more important classes of disease and to the out-break of epidemics. They should also be accompanied by explanatory observations when such are necessary, regarding unusual sickness and mortality.

5. The Form enclosed will enable this Commission to collect the necessary information to embody in the Reports called for (in the Military Despatch from the Right Honorable the Secretary of State for India, dated 9th March 1864, No. 23, paragraph 7,) into any General Form which may be agreed on hereafter.

6. I may add that, with reference to this and all subjects of interest common to the three Presidencies, this Commission would be glad to place themselves in communication with you, so as to ensure a "uniformity of purpose and action in the Proceedings of the several Commissions," as ordered by Sir Charles Wood in his Military Despatch, dated 9th May 1864, No. 136, to His Excellency the Viceroy.

7. As regards the population of Cities, Towns, and rural Districts, prompt action, in this Presidency, is scarcely practicable, as little or no means at present exists of collecting reliable data; but as registration of Births and Deaths is contemplated in a Bill now before the Madras Legislative Local Council, it is to be hoped that these returns also may be soon available.

8. Soliciting the favor of an early reply, with a statement of the views of your Commission as regards these matters.

C.

From the Officiating President, Sanitary Commission, Madras, to the Secretary, Board of Revenue, Madras; dated 23rd June 1865, No. 154.

I have the honor to request that you will convey to the Members of the Revenue Board the expression of the satisfaction with which the Commission has learned that the subject of registration of Deaths in agricultural Districts has received their attention.

2. In a scheme for the constitution of a Public Health Service for the whole Presidency, prepared by this Commission, and now awaiting the Orders of Government, it is proposed that Local Health Officers, that is Medical Officers holding appointments at Military and Civil Stations, shall compile and forward to this Office detailed Returns of Births and Deaths within the limit of the Military Cantonments, or Civil Towns, under their charge as Public Health Officers.

3. It is suggested, therefore, for the consideration of your Board, whether it might not prove advantageous (should the Public Health Service be instituted) that Public Health Officers should be the persons through whom similar Returns for agricultural Districts should be transmitted.

4. A copy of the proposed scheme is forwarded for your information, and you will observe that, if the Inspectors of Ranges (whose duties are detailed in paragraphs 19 to 22), through whom the Returns of the Local Health Officers are transmitted, had their attention directed to unusual sickness or mortality, they would be in a position at once to investigate the causes giving rise to these results, without each Return having to be perhaps first forwarded to Madras through the Medical Department, and then returned for report.

5. The Royal Commissioners, when recommending that "Commissions of Public Health "be formed at each Presidency," urged also that "a system of registering deaths and the causes of "death be established in the large Cities of India, and be gradually extended, so as to determine "the effects of local causes on the mortality of the Native as well as of the European population; "the results to be tabulated and published annually by the Commission;" and in Despatches from the Right Honorable the Secretary of State, *this* office appears to be the recognized medium through which this duty should be carried out.

6. The Order of Government marginally quoted, also appears to point to this. It has not been possible hitherto to carry out these orders, but this Commission is now preparing Forms of Returns for Military Stations and Native Towns, and these could be used equally

Proceedings of Madras Government, dated 4th June 1864. "His Excellency in Council" (the Governor General) "will "only observe that the introduction of new and costly "Machinery for the purpose is out of the question, &c."

for rural Districts if the Civil Surgeons who transmit the Returns were ordered to compile them for submission to us.

7. Should this meet the approval of the Revenue Board, all due care would be exercised in this office to compile a General Statement of Mortuary Returns for the whole Presidency.

8. Doubtless at first from purely agricultural Districts, the Returns will be of little value, but in a short time a methodical system can be adopted that will more fully meet the intentions of Government.

9. This Commission has little doubt that, if the Revenue Board had been aware of the detailed plan (under preparation by them), the occasion would have been availed of to afford to this Commission the opportunity of assisting with advice on this subject, and I and my Colleagues will have much pleasure in affording any aid in our power to render the proposals of the Revenue Board, as much as possible, suited to co-operate with those made for the compilation of Returns from Military Cantonments and Civil Towns.

10. We are of opinion that the Registration of Births should be attempted along with that of Deaths. Under the orders of Government this Commission has already submitted suggestions for the collection of information on both these points, and they would strongly urge that in any scheme of registration, the omission of the latter item would tend to lessen its value very materially.

11. I would feel obliged if, after submitting the foregoing remarks to the Revenue Board, you would be so kind as to favor me with a copy of the similar order issued by the Board, and the proposed form of Return, and also by information as to whether the registration proposed by the Board is to be carried out simply under Departmental orders in the Collector's Office, or as the result of Legislative Enactment.

Order, 7th July 1865, *No.* 2523.

The Governor in Council approves of the action of the Commission reported in paragraph 4 of the foregoing letter, but observes that, as the views of the Sanitary Commissions of Bengal and Bombay, with respect to the Form of Return, have been requested, any expression of opinion by Government in the present stage of the matter would be premature.

2. With reference to paragraph 5, it appears to His Excellency in Council that the Rules quoted by the Commission in paragraph 2 of the foregoing letter, provides sufficiently for the procurement of information from all Military Authorities. The views of the Commission will be communicated to the Public Department, for the issue to Civil Authorities of such orders as may be deemed necessary.

3. Paragraph 7 will be referred to the Revenue Department, and paragraph 8 *et. seq.* to the Public Department, for disposal in those Departments respectively.

(True Extract).

(Signed) H. MARSHALL, Colonel,
Secretary to Government.

No. 17. Proceedings of Government in the Revenue Department.

Read Proceedings of Government in the Military Department:—

Referring, for disposal, paragraph 7 of a letter from the President Sanitary Commission, soliciting the approval of Government to their having addressed the Board of Revenue relative to the registry of deaths in agricultural Districts. } (Here enter 7th July 1865, No. 2523.)

Order, 15*th July* 1865, *No.* 1631.

Miscellaneous.

1. It is observed that the question of the registration of deaths was taken into consideration by the Board of Revenue, under instructions of Government in the Public Department.

2. The disposal of paragraph 7 of the Sanitary Commissioner's letter, therefore, rests with that Department, to which it will be referred accordingly.

(True Extract).

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Acting Secretary to Government.

No. 18. ORDER THEREON, 4th August 1865, No. 819.

Resolved that copies of the foregoing Proceedings be furnished to all Collectors, to the Inspectors General of Police and of Jails, and through the Department of Public Works to the several Superintending Engineers, with instructions to those officers to afford all such information on sanitary matters, within their respective ranges, as the Sanitary Commission may require.

2. Adverting to paragraph 7 of the President's letter, dated 29th June last, No. 174, the Government direct that their Proceedings of the 1st idem, No. 591, relative to the measures proposed to be adopted for the registry of deaths in Agricultural Districts, be communicated to the Commission.

3. With reference to the registration of births noticed in the President's letter to the Board of Revenue, of the 23rd June, No. 154, paragraph 10, it is observed that the question has been under the consideration of Government, but that, anticipating difficulties in the way of introducing a complete system of registering births, they have deemed it advisable to defer making any attempt to introduce it, until it shall be seen how the system of registering deaths is found to answer. These views are expressed in their letter to the Government of India of the 18th October 1864, No. 1170, copies of which and of the correspondence to which it relates, will now be furnished to the Commission.

4. As the preparation of Mortuary Returns will hereafter devolve on the Commission, the establishment allowed for this purpose in the office of the Principal Inspector General, Medical Department, will, as proposed in paragraphs 9 and 10 of their letter to Government, No. 174, be transferred to the Commission, so soon as the Annual Report for 1864 has passed through the Press.

	Rs.
Head clerk	65
Second do.	30

(True Extract).

G. J. Arbuthnot
Chief Secretary.

To the Collector of
" Inspector General of Police.
" Inspector General of Jails.
" Public Works Department.
" Sanitary Commission, with Proceedings No. 591, and letter No. 1170.
" Military Department.
" Revenue do.
" Principal Inspector General, Medical Department.
" Accountant General.
" Examiner of Claims.

Exd. J. H. Burns.

No. 3 of March 1865 No 121
and 530

Ulen = 1865 Despatch
from Govt. dated August
No. 2188
Proceedings of the
Madras Govt. in
the Public Dept.

Dated 4th Augt
Received 7th " 1865.
No. 819.

Communicating
orders passed on July
and Revd Proceedings
relating to Sanitary
matters —

No 1876. 12th Augt

With order

No 202 & 203

No. 1876.

Ordered to be communi-
cated to the Bd of Rev.

12th Augt 65.

Bd of Rev: with Govt Order No. 819 dated 12th Aug