M.R.O. 14—18,000—27-9-24

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 2801 Press Mis.

380 381

Dated 15 - 10 - 18 16.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 15th October 1866.

No. 380. Read the following:—

REPORT FROM Mr. J. THACKER ON THE CATTLE DISEASE OF THIS PRESIDENCY.

In compliance with the Order of Government, dated 23rd April 1866, No. 957, I have now the honour to submit my first report for the quarter ending 31st July; the reason for the delay in forwarding which was my desire to be enabled to say the disease had ceased around as well as in Bangalore, which is now the case.

2. Immediately on receipt of the Government Order above quoted, I commenced an investigation into the nature of a disease called "Tondinow," visiting the villages on the Neilgherry Hills, when it was stated to be prevalent, but was only enabled to see two or three cases of animals actually attacked, which I treated; the impression forcing itself upon me that the people were averse to any interference, as I ascertained that, during May, thirty-three fatal cases in two villages only occurred. The statistics I was enabled to gather were not many, and the information was unwillingly given; but though I can hardly call them reliable, I here shortly state the deductions drawn from them, which I shall hereafter endeavour to verify and amplify.

3. I had not heard much of this disease before, but from what I could learn together with the result of dissections, it appears to me to be an attack of malignant sore throat, generally terminating fatally in from twenty-four hours to four or five days.

4. The malignity of the attack seemed to culminate in the hottest weather, and after the early rains to subside. I attribute its severity this year to be due to the unusual drought, and the consequent inability to obtain sufficient pasture except in the swamps, where they are more subject to miasmatic influence than on the uplands.

5. At the end of May and beginning of June, I received a report of an outbreak of Rinderpest in Bellary and Kurnool; the attack, at the former place, was of an ordinary type; but at the latter it seemed to have set in with such severity, of fifty-five animals attacked, forty-five having succumbed. I started at once for Kurnool, on arrival, however, at Bangalore, severe sickness among the Government Commissariat cattle detained me for a time, and, as I received a telegram on the 20th June to the effect that all sickness there had ceased, I gave my whole time to watch the disease.

6. The type of Rinderpest here was virulent; at one period so much so that I feared losing every animal then under my treatment—

Number of Cases.	Died.	Cured.	Per cent. of Cures.	Remarks.
39	26	13	33·33	Treated before my arrival.
29	15	14	48·27	Do. subsequently.

The treatment pursued by me was substantially the same as before used, and already reported. I had everything I required to assist, but the recoveries are less than at Kurnool in 1864, where I had not so many advantages.

7. At one time the type became so virulent that within twelve hours half my patients died, and I feared much for the remainder. Steps were immediately taken to remove the herd of healthy cattle quarter of a mile away, to be picketed in detachments at intervals of two hundred yards; the immediate effect of which was to modify the type, and eventually exterminate the disease.

8. A case of sickness occurred on the hills in the early part of the year, and vaccine matter was telegraphed for to Madras, to carry out the series of experiments as desired by Government; on hearing which Dr. Shortt sent up some animals that had been operated on, to test their immunity from Rinderpest when placed in contact with diseased cattle; such was rendered abortive for a time by the sickness subsiding.

9. Reports were received from South Arcot that Rinderpest prevailed; the sickness, however, soon ceased, having been of a local nature.

10. The Collector of North Arcot also reported that ordinary disease existed, attributing it chiefly to want of pasture. It did not seem necessary that I should visit either place, but sent a copy of the printed instructions for their guidance.

11. From the report of the disease called "Nulli," occurring in the Chendragherry Talook of North Arcot, I regret I was unable to arrive at any satisfactory decision of its nature. From the description of the symptoms it does not appear to accord with any disease generally known. In the event of another outbreak, I think an investigation would be of much interest to Government.

(Signed) J. THACKER,
Veterinary Surgeon.

BANGALORE,
18*th September* 1866.

No. 381. ORDER THEREON, 15th October 1866, No. 2,801.

Miscellaneous.

DR. THACKER should take the first opportunity that offers of investigating the nature, etc., of the "Nulli" disease.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) A. J. ARBUTHNOT,
Chief Secretary.

To J. Thacker, Esq.
" the Board of Revenue.
" the Editor's Table.

Exd. E. C. Shunker.

-2801

Bangalore
18th Septr 1866.

My dear Mr. Sim,

I hope I am not wrong in sending my Report direct to You, but if so I should feel grateful by You telling me for future guidance.

I have said but little, confining myself as far as possible to facts founded

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since only.

In connection with the
outbreak of Rinderpest the
most important point gained
by the experience is the
marked modification of the
type, & eventual cessation of
the disease resulting from
our treating up the herds
of cattle; I think it re-
sulted from the steps we

adopted, but I have not
pushed this point as promi-
nently forward officially
as I hope to do on further
experience, as on the present
occasion there has been
a general decrease in the
cases of villages surrounding
my ground of Labaun, owing
to fish bound to behind
from the atmospherical changes

based on reliable experience, and under such impressions I am not intended to specially express mere criticism on what I have felt to be simply "popularity writing".

I am anxious to see more of this disease called "Tendinous" which I saw in the Hills & Sullivan as reported from Dr. Arcot; having

occurring about that time this will be a very important matter for future deep & careful study, especially as the Royal Commission are shortly to appoint Surgeon.

I have not referred much to Dr. Shortt's report, for I must candidly confess to you that it seems to me to contain nothing of value

Rec.d 23d April 66 at 35 m.t
35 m.a

Reported to England
per 26 Octr No. 47 of 1866
Mun

Rec.d 1866. Oct. 1st
Pro of Govt for Octr
No. 3225.

From
Wm. James Thacker

Dated 18th Sept.r 1866
Recd 2[illegible] 1866

Submitting his
first report on the Cattle
disease of this Presid.cy
for the quarter ending
31st Inst. Last. —

No. 380-381.

No. 2301 to Govt

With Order

6 Enclosures