

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	1578	Press
	257-258	Mis.
Dated	16-7-	18 67.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 257. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 27th March 1867, No. 1,933 :—

Read the following Report from J. THACKER, Esq., Veterinary Surgeon, Bangalore, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 22nd February 1867.

In submitting my present report to Government, I have the honour to state that during the past season cattle have been comparatively healthy.

2. On the 17th December 1866 the Collector of Kurnool reported the outbreak of a new form of cattle disease, known amongst the natives by the name of "Domma Pegooloo," the first intelligence of which reached me through the Proceedings of the Revenue Board, dated 4th October 1866. In a letter received by me from the Acting Collector, I gather that only thirty cattle were seized by the disease, of which fifteen died, and the remainder recovered. No detailed information further than that sent to the Board of Revenue was procurable, or sent to me.

3. A description of, and suggestions for, the prevention of the extension of the disease is attached in Appendix A. So rapid is the progress of this malady, and so great my want of confidence in any known treatment of it, that I look chiefly to the adoption of preventive measures for reducing the losses occasioned by the disease.

4. In October I was informed, through the Commissary General, of an outbreak of sickness amongst the Government cattle at Bellary. From a clear description of the disease by the Officer in charge, I was enabled to recognize a type of Rinderpest implicating the brain. A telegram was despatched directing a mode of treatment for the sick, and recommending segregation and other measures for the healthy. The outbreak soon ceased; the number of animals attacked being ten only, of which eight died, and two recovered. The important step so promptly adopted of dispersing the herd resulted in stopping further ravages of the disease.

5. Official information from the Special Assistant Collector of Ootacamund, during December, of an outbreak of the foot-and-mouth disease in Kandal, of an unusually serious type, the deaths being over fourteen per cent., led to my considering a visit to that place necessary. On arrival and inquiry there, I found that the fatality had been aggravated by the owners of the cattle employing sick animals for work, because of the scarcity in the number of these required for draught purposes.

6. At eleven other villages which I visited, I found as many as 280 sick animals in various stages of the same type of disease as had manifested itself at Kandal. I heard of no casualties amongst these. At and about Segore, I saw more than seventy cases of the same disease; none of the cattle died.

7. Considering there was nothing unusual in the mortality that I saw, I deemed my further stay in the district unnecessary, and left it after the disease had been extinguished at Kandal. A description, with a simple mode of treatment of this particular disease, is shown in Appendix B.

8. As an instance of the ignorance and superstition prevailing in the minds of natives in connection with this disease, I beg to enclose (Appendix C) for perusal, a memorandum written by one of themselves, which will show the difficulty I have

in inducing them to follow any rational mode of treatment. The memorandum, though containing some good practical hints on the subject of the treatment of the disease, recommends the observance of such childish ceremonies that to induce them to adopt any proper plan of treatment for the more serious and fatal cattle diseases, is almost impossible.

9. The Collectors of South Arcot, Kurnool, and Kistna Districts, have communicated with me on the subject of an outbreak of some slight but interesting cattle diseases; the information these gentlemen sought I have been enabled to furnish. The extent and character of the diseases have not necessitated my visiting the districts, nor do they call for any special remarks in this report.

APPENDIX A.

The outbreak of disease in the Koilguntla Talook of Kurnool known by the name of "Domma Pegooloo" in Telooogo, in Badaghar "Tondinew," in English "Malignant sore-throat," is accompanied by fever resulting in death ensuing from suffocation.

CAUSES.

Endeavouring to trace these, I thought many of the cases arose among animals feeding in swamps, thereby subjected to miasmatic influence; but as the same conditions did not exist in more recent cases occurring in the plains, there are, I think, other exciting agencies, in some manner connected with seasons of drought and sudden changes at the commencement of monsoon. It is infectious, and as no measures are used to separate the sick from the healthy animals, the disease is thus spread far and wide, and its type eventually much heightened in malignancy.

SYMPTOMS.

1st Stage.—The attack is sudden, appetite failing, cessation of rumination, drooping ears, pulse quickened.

2nd Stage.—Swelling around throat, difficult breathing, protrusion of head, discharge of saliva from mouth, countenance anxious, visible mucous membranes congested, pulse quick and small.

3rd Stage.—Symptoms heightened, pulse almost imperceptible, swelling of throat greatly increased, extending down the neck; respiration painful, laboured, short, quick; great prostration.

TREATMENT.

I. *Prevention.*—Separation of the sick should be the consideration, and, wherever the outbreak is extensive, a change of locality, or pasturage, or kind of food would mitigate its type and assist in its eradication. Cleansing of buildings in which have been sick animals would also tend towards this end.

II. *Cure.*—From the rapid swelling of the throat and inability to swallow, any medicine administered must be at the commencement of the attack, or it would be difficult, and attended with a liability to its passing into the lungs, producing suffocation. No class of medicines or external applications appear to have any such specific effect as to induce me to rely on, or recommend them. "Tracheotomy," which is making an artificial opening in the windpipe, for breathing through, suggests itself as the only mode by which suffocation might be prevented, but such could only be performed by a taught operator, and, consequently, I cannot recommend it for use amongst ryots. To decrease the loss of cattle from this disease, those means under the head of prevention, if faithfully carried out, would, I think, succeed to a large extent.

"POST MORTEM."

The swelling around the throat, extending down the neck, and, in some cases, into the substance of the lungs, consists of a yellow gelatinous-looking deposit from the blood. The mucous lining membrane of the throat highly inflamed, its surface being in some places blackened, and approaching a state of decomposition.

APPENDIX B.

EPIZOOTIC APHTHA,

commonly known as "foot-and-mouth disease" is a specific fever, contagious, generally epizootic and attended with the formation of vesicles or blisters on the tongue, inside the lips, roof of the mouth, and clefts of the hoofs.

SYMPTOMS.

1st Stage.—Loss of appetite, dry nose, slight redness of the lining of the eyelids and nostrils, pulse somewhat quickened, skin hot, and cessation of rumination.

2nd Stage.—Febrile symptoms heightened; when standing, frequently holding up and violently shaking the feet, sometimes obstinately laying down; discharge of saliva from mouth, frequent smacking of the lips, or champing the jaws. An examination will discover numerous vesicles in the mouth and between the digits of the feet, on the complete formation of which the fever gradually subsides, and as the tongue becomes less sensitive the appetite returns.

DURATION.

From seven to fourteen days elapse before the patient may be considered convalescent, but a return to draught labour may be indefinitely prolonged for the healing of the vesicular sores of the feet.

TREATMENT.

I. *Prevention.*—Generally occurring in an epizootic form, and being an infectious disease, perfect separation from healthy animals should be the first and chief aim.

II. *Cure.*—As a rule the disease may be permitted to run through its stages without having recourse to medicines, but from the soreness and pain of the vesicles in the mouth, little or no food of the usual hard dry kind is eaten; it is, therefore, necessary to support the strength by offering soft food, such as bran mash, or young green grass, and in case this cannot be eaten, pour five or six quarts of gruel down the throat daily with a drenching horn. The blisters of the mouth and feet should be opened, and the latter kept carefully cleaned and free from maggots, to prevent which the best application is oil or spirit of turpentine mixed with an equal quantity of cocoanut oil, but where a difficulty of procuring this occurs, the following mixture may be used:—

Camphor...	...	...	...	...	3 oz.
Cocoanut oil	...	...	...	...	1 pint.

After the fever has entirely subsided, some benefit may be expected from causing the animal to stand five or six hours daily in clean cold water. I consider the common practice of covering the wounds with quick-lime very prejudicial, producing sloughing, thereby retarding the cure. A large comfortable bed of dry straw should be given, to induce the animal to lie down as much as possible.

APPENDIX C.

Memorandum of the origin, symptoms, and cure of the cattle disease called "Kala jarah" and "Bayi jarah" prevailing in Mysore, as ascertained from some of the old and respectable ryots of Teomkoor.

Origin, symptoms, and progress of the disease.—No sooner are bullocks attacked with the disease called "Kala jarah" "Bayi jarah" when saliva begins to pour out from their mouths, and they refuse grass. Matter and blood also flow from their nostrils. Their hoofs get sore and are unable to stand steady. Cattle attacked with this disease begin to shake with ague. Water flows superfluously from their mouths for three days incessantly, and they reject all food.

Remedy for this disease.—As soon as the owner who keeps a small number of cattle, i.e., within ten heads, apprehends the symptoms of the disease among his cattle, he should boil the plant called "Putchari Chokkay" with water, he should then cause their mouths and legs to be well washed with the same, both morning and evening, which course will prevent flies settling on their mouths and nostrils. Raggi Umbli (gruel) in which plantains should be mixed up ought to be given them for food. A wet cloth plastered with red earth should be applied to their backs,

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
16th July 1867.*

and to keep the cloth wet, water should be constantly sprinkled. This gruel (or Raggi Umbli) mixed with a sufficient quantity may be given to the cattle for drink, instead of water, and after a lapse of three days their legs will be strengthened a little, and they will be inclined to eat grass. When this inclination is perceived paddy straw should be given to them immediately, and after they partake of this straw, which would remove the infection of fever on their tongues, any kind of grass may be given to them."

Remedy to cattle kept in large numbers in jungles.—“Two jugalies or platforms should be erected in the jungle opposite to each other, one to the east, and another to the west, each of the size of one square foot, and at about 3 p.m. five pieces of “Bewachellor” quartz should be placed to the east of the western platform, and three to the west of the eastern ditto. After which certain joojas to be performed to the native baugle called “Ballay,” and the palmyra leaf called Bitchalay. A kid should be killed in the eastern direction, and its intestines tied to the trees in the north and south. The cattle belonging to the herd should be made to pass from the western over the flesh, and the stones to that of the east, when the blood running out of the belly of the kid thus killed should be sprinkled over them.

"When the above animals enter their pound in the evening, another kid should be killed near the entrance gate of the pound, and its blood, flesh, etc., should be sprinkled all round; as the goats live on variety of plants, kids are generally sacrificed for this purpose.

"Either 'Balachennemjee' or 'Haraka' mixed with tyre should be scattered over the cattle at 5 a.m. This must be continued for three days when they would get a little strength and prosper."

"If they be only attacked with 'Kala-jarah' they eat straw, but if with 'Bayi-jarah' they do not eat it. Some animals are apt to be attacked with one of the above, or sometimes with both of the diseases."

(Signed) J. THACKER,
Veterinary Surgeon.

Submitted for the information of Government. Owing to the comparative absence of epidemic disease among cattle, Mr. Thacker's services have happily been little required during the past season. At the same time, the Board consider it advisable that he should continue to prosecute his present investigations.

2. The Board request Collectors to have the Appendices A. and B. of the report carefully translated into the vernaculars, and published in the several *District Gazettes*, for general information.

ORDER RECORDED 18th July 1867. No. 1,578.

Miscellaneous

Miscellaneous.

The Government desire to receive Mr. Thacker's opinion as to the necessity for his further retention on the special duty of investigating cattle disease to the exclusion of his Military duties.

(True Exact)

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

To J. Thacker, Esq.
of the Board of Revenue,
of the Military Department.

End of Street

The last seen of
 Maria H. Roberts
 given as 5th
 March 3pm in the
 morning at the house
 No 3 of the street.
 On the evening of the
 18th July 1878.
 J. W. Roberts
 10th July 1878

Copy to J. Thacker & Co. of New York
10 copies — 1000000
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Rev. 1867. Department
Pro of Govt. for July

No. 869

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

Dated 27th March 1867.
Received

From the off^r Under Secy to the
Govt. India. d/13th Aug 67
No. 1933.

Submitting to Government, with remarks,
report of Veterinary Surgeon J. Thacker on
cattle diseases during past season; and request-
ing Collectors to publish in District Gazettes
translations of that officer's description of cer-
tain diseases, and his suggestions for preventing
their extension.

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10/10/68