Revenue No. 3014 Dept.

Govt. of {1869} Madras.

PUBLIC.

To

THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

&c., &c., &c.

Dated August, 30th.

Recd. Sept. 6th. *Encl.*

G. O., 30th August 1869, No. 1209.

AUGUST.

Nos. 105[illegible]3.

Passing orders on the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue regarding the scheme of Returns of vital statistics proposed by Major Malleson for adoption throughout India.

No 30.

RECORDED.

8 Sept/69

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department, 30th August 1869.

No. 195. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 2nd August 1869, No. 5626.

Read the following letter from the Secretary to the Sanitary Commissioner for Madras, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue; dated 5th July 1869, No. 2529.

I have the honour by desire of the Sanitary Commissioner, and with reference to the order of Government quoted in the margin, to solicit that the Board of Revenue will be good enough to instruct all Collectors to furnish me, from the 1st January of the current year, with lists of every town and village in which deaths from cholera may have occurred in their several districts; noting also the date of the first and last death in each monthly return.

No. 4261, of the 30th October 1868, in the Military Department.

2. I may explain that this detailed information is required to enable the Sanitary Commissioner to prepare a map, referred to in the Proceedings noted, showing the movements of cholera throughout each district of the Presidency, to accompany his annual Sanitary Report.

3. I am also instructed to request that similar information may in future accompany each monthly abstract of deaths in the provinces. A form of return is enclosed.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.—Form of Return.

The Board have conferred with the Sanitary Commissioner on the subject of the above letter.

2. They learn from him that since the letter was written, a Commission has been appointed in Madras, and is at present sitting to devise measures for giving effect to the orders of the Home Government on the subject of collection of cholera statistics.

3. They learn, moreover, that orders have been received from the Supreme Government, calling on the Sanitary Commissioner for his opinion in communication with the Board on a scheme of Returns of vital statistics proposed by Major Malleson, for adoption throughout India.

4. In this is proposed a series of registration circles, and the adoption of such would, in the opinion of the Board, tend to improve the accuracy of the returns. The Board concur with the Sanitary Commissioner that the taluqs of this Presidency should be divided into two or three such circles according to size, one being named after the cusbah station, and the others taking their name from the most important town they contain. It will be convenient to adopt the divisions of the Revenue Inspector, and make this Officer the Registrar and Tabulating Officer for the villages within his Range. Towns of 5000 inhabitants and upwards would constitute separate circles, and Municipal towns would be classed by themselves; these towns, however, being in all cases, as suggested by Major Malleson, placed in juxtaposition with the adjacent rural circle for facility of comparison.

5. In regard to returns of deaths from cholera, the Board are of opinion that it would not be possible, except at an enormous cost, to organize a system by which returns should be prepared and transmitted with that promptitude which would be

necessary in order to render them practically useful as enabling the authorities to take instant remedial measures.

6. In this particular class of return, they are unanimously of opinion that the present police organization provides the only efficient medium of collection.

7. The village establishment cannot be depended on to register deaths from day to day, nor have they the means of frequently transmitting their reports. But the Board understand that the rural Beat Constable visits all villages at short intervals when information on this subject may be obtained and brought up to the Station-house, whence there is a daily report to Police Head-quarters which may be made to contain all such urgent information to be disposed of as the Government may direct.

(A true copy and extract.)

(Signed) J. GROSE,
Acting Secretary.

To the Acting Secretary to Government, Revenue Department,
with an enclosure.

No. 196. ORDER THEREON, 30th August 1869, No. 1209.

It is observed that the points referred to in the foregoing Proceedings of the Board of Revenue were noticed by the Sanitary Commissioner in his letter, dated the 16th July last, No. 2638, and that the orders passed thereon, under date the 5th instant, have been communicated to the Board of Revenue.

(True Extract).

Chief Secretary.

To the Board of Revenue.
" Revenue Department.
" Sanitary Commissioner.

Exd, J. Wright.