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Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
31st October 1871.

No. 301. Read the following letter from the Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Agriculture, Revenue, and Commerce, (Statistics,) to the Secretary to the Government of Madras, dated Simla, 21st October 1871, No. 158:—

WITH reference to the Resolution of the Government of India in the Home Department, No. 515—24, dated 31st December 1869, on the subject of recording mortuary statistics on a uniform system throughout British India, I am directed to forward herewith copy of a letter from the Sanitary Commissioner with the Government of India, No. 866, dated the 7th instant, and to inquire what is the present practice in Madras in filling up the returns prescribed for the purpose.

2. I am also to inquire whether, in the opinion of His Excellency the Governor in Council, there is any objection to Dr. Cunningham's proposal as regards the registration of deaths of mehters, chamars, and other low castes.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From the Sanitary Commissioner with the Government of India, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Agriculture, Revenue, and Commerce, dated Simla, 7th October 1871, No. 866.

THE Sanitary Commissioner of the North-Western Provinces lately inquired whether deaths of mehters, chamars, and other low castes, should be registered as deaths among "Hindoos" or "other classes." As the point is of some importance, I requested the Sanitary Commissioners of the other Presidencies and of the several Local Governments and Administrations to inform me what method is followed in their respective Provinces, and also at the same time to state what procedure ought, in their opinion, to be adopted.

2. The general opinion is in favour of including all such low castes as "Hindoos," and I believe that for the present this arrangement will be the simplest and the least liable to lead to error. But as some of the Sanitary Commissioners believe that valuable information may be obtained by separating these classes, because as regards water-supply and other sanitary conditions they are on a very different footing from ordinary Hindoos, and as the division of the people by class and race varies much in different parts of India, it appears to be better to leave the exact classification to be adopted in each Province to the local authorities, so long as the population of each of the classes can be given among whom the deaths are separately shown. A foot-note should invariably be attached to annual Form No. V., indicating what castes or races are embraced in "other classes."

3. If this proposal should be adopted, I have the honour to suggest that the requisite instructions may be issued to all Local Governments and Administrations.

4. It should be distinctly borne in mind that the statistics are not intended to include either Europeans or Eurasians.

No. 302. ORDER THEREON, 31st October 1871, No. 1,871.

Miscellaneous.

REFERRED to the Board of Revenue
for report.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.
,, the Sanitary Commissioner.

Ed. F. R. Bantleman,

No. 158

FROM

A. O. HUME, Esq., C. B.,

Secretary to the Government of India,

To *the Secretary to the Govt. of Madras.*

Dept. of Agriculture,
Revenue, and Commerce.
(Statistics.)

SIMLA, the 21 October 1871.

SIR,

WITH reference to the Resolution of the Government of India in the Home Department, No. 515—24, dated 31st December 1869, on the subject of recording mortuary statistics on a uniform system throughout British India, I am directed to forward herewith copy of a letter from the Sanitary Commissioner with the Government of India, No. 866, dated the 7th instant, and to enquire what is the present practice in *Madras*, in filling up the returns prescribed for the purpose:

2. I am also to enquire whether in *the opinion of His Excellency the Govt. in Council* there is any objection to Dr. Cunningham's proposal as regards the registration of deaths of mehters, chamars, and other low castes.

I have the honor to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient Servant,

A. O. Hume

Secretary to the Govt. of India.

Revenue No. 1445
Sept 1871.

Department of Agriculture,
Revenue, and Commerce.

[Statistics.]

CIRCULAR.

From

The Govt of India

3.6. of 1871
5. of 1871.

No. 158

one enclosure

Dated 21 Oct/71

J. Oct/71.

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1871.

Report to the
of the Government.

31st Oct. 1871.

REGISTRATION of deaths of melters, chamars,
and other low castes.

14. 10. 1871. of 1871.
Copy to the Secy of the Govt.