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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue

DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.
B.P. No.

504

Press
Mis.

Dated

24 . 4 . 1874 196 .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
24th April 1874.*

No. 201. Read the following despatch from the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for India :—

Revenue,
No. 2.

INDIA OFFICE, LONDON,
19th March 1874.

My Lord,—I have received and considered in Council your Excellency's despatches, dated December 16th, (No. 40) 1873, and January 13th, (No. 1) 1874, the former reporting the results of experiments on the therapeutic action of Calcinquinovate in the treatment of fever and dysentery, and the latter forwarding Mr. Broughton's account of his investigations of the tubers of *Aconitum heterophyllum*.

2. The use of quino-vinate was recommended on account of its cheapness, and the facility with which abundant supplies can be procured. Its inferiority to quinine in cases of fever, and to ipecacuanha in dysentery was understood; but it was believed, with reference to the greater cost of the more potent medicines, that quino-vinate might prove a valuable auxiliary in the treatment of diseases which annually commit such ravages in British India. I observe that Dr. Andrews of Mercara is of opinion that quino-vinate will become a valuable aid in the treatment of dysentery, and Dr. Houston of Mysore also thinks that it would prove serviceable.

3. I am certainly of opinion, looking to the high price of the more potent remedies, that the importance of making the natives of India acquainted with a more economical though less efficacious remedy ought not to be lost sight of. At a time when epidemics are ravaging a district, the sufferers are occasionally so numerous that the more expensive medicines can only be administered to a small portion of them. In April 1871, for instance, 114,012 persons sought relief at the dispensaries in the Burdwan District, and many undoubtedly succumbed owing to the impossibility of supplying them with expensive remedies.

4. On these grounds, I have to request that you will cause further and careful experiments to be instituted as to the value of the drug in the treatment of dysentery.

5. I have perused Mr. Broughton's report on the results of his investigation of the tubers of *Aconitum heterophyllum*, the Hindustani Atis, and perceive that he has succeeded in extracting a new alkaloid previously unknown, to which he has given the name of Atisine; the separation of which is neither difficult nor laborious. This substance may prove of future use in medicine, and, as it is quite new to chemists, I desire that specimens of the drug as sold in the bazaars, and of the Atisine hydrochlorate, may be forwarded to this office.

I have, etc.,

SALISBURY.

His Excellency the Right Honourable

The Governor in Council, Fort St. George.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
24th April 1874.*

No. 202.

ORDER THEREON, 24th April 1874, No. 504.

Miscellaneous:

Board of Revenue.
Surgeon-General, Indian Medical Department.
Do. British do. do.
Sanitary Commissioner.
Commissioner of Nilgiris.
Government Quinologist.

COMMUNICATED to the Departments
and Officers noted in the margin.

2. The Surgeon-General, Indian
Medical Department, will arrange for
the institution of further and careful
experiments as to the value of Calcic
quinovinate in the treatment of dysen-
tery, as desired by the Secretary of
State in paragraph 4 of his despatch.

3. The Government Quinologist, who is at present on leave, will, on his
return, be requested to comply with the Surgeon-General's future requisition for
this drug, and will also be directed to forward to Government specimens of the
Atising hydrochlorate, and of the tubers from which it is prepared, for transmis-
sion to the Secretary of State.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) C. G. MASTER,
Acting Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.
.. the Surgeon-General, Indian Medical Department.
.. the Surgeon-General, British do. do.
.. the Sanitary Commissioner.
.. the Commissioner of Nilgiris.
.. the Government Quinologist.

Letter of 20 November 75 No 1702.
 Letter of 21/1/76.

Therapeutic action of Colic quinine.
 In the report of the Secretary of State's reply to dispatch regarding
 etc. to be communicated to Department and
 Officers concerned; direct institution of further
 experiments as to value of this drug; requests
 Government Quinquinate to comply with requests
 for its use by Government to Government
 specimens of the Abies hydrochloride, and others
 from which it is prepared.

Recd. 21/1/76

Out.

THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

REVENUE.

GOVT. of 1874 21/1/76

Revenue

No 2

India Office, London.
 19th March, 1876

My Lord,
 I have received
 and considered in
 Council, your Excellency's
 Dispatches dated December 16th
 (No 40) 1873, and
 January 13th (No 1)
 1874, the former reporting
 the results of experiments
 on the therapeutic action
 of colic quinine in
 the treatment of fever
 and dysentery, and

His Excellency The Right Honourable
 The Governor in Council
 Fort St George.

Mr. Broughton's account
of his investigations
of the tubers of *aconitum
napellaphyllum*.

2. The use of quinine
was recommended on
account of its cheapness,
and the facility with
which abundant supplies
can be procured. Its
superiority to quinine
in cases of fever, and
to procaine in
dysentery was understood,
but it was believed,
with reference to the
greater cost of the
more potent medicines,
that quinine might
prove a valuable
auxiliary in the treatment

of diseases which annually
commit such ravages
in British India. I
observe that Dr. Andrews
of Mysore is of opinion
that quinine will
become a valuable
aid in the treatment
of dysentery, and Dr.
Houston of Mysore
also thinks that it would be
proved serviceable.

3. I am certainly of opinion
looking to the high price
of the more potent remedies
that the importance of
making the natives of
India acquainted with a
more economical though
less efficacious remedy
ought not to be lost
sight

light of. At times when
patients are passing
a district, the sufferers
are occasionally so numerous
that the more expensive
medicines can only be
administered to a
small portion of them.
In April 1871, for instance,
100,000 persons sought relief
of the dispensaries in the
Burmah district, and many
undoubtedly succumbed
owing to the impossibility
of supplying them with
expensive medicines.

As I have previously stated
I request that you will
cause further and more extensive
to be instituted in the value
of the drug in the treatment of
dysentery.

I have permitted to be printed

the results of his
investigation of the tubers
of *Arum heterophyllum*,
the Hindustani Atis, and
perceive that he has succeeded
in extracting a new alkaloid,
previously unknown, to
which he has given the
name of Atisine; the
separation of which is neither
difficult nor laborious. This
substance may prove of future
use in medicine, and, as it is
quite new to chemists, I desire that
specimens of the drug as sold in the
bazaar, and of the *Arum heterophyllum*,
may be forwarded to this Office.

I have the honor to be,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's most obedient

Humble Servant

Arthur

No 10

Revenue
19th March 1874
The
Letter to Mr. George
No 2

Recd. 14 April '74

Replying to Despatch reporting
results of experiments on the ther-
apeutic action of Calcei quinquinae
in treatment of fever & dysentery,
and to Despatch forwarding Mr. Broughton's account
of his investigations of the value of aconitine
heterophyllum —

50. No 504 - 24 April 1874

Revenue Department.

No. 504

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Under date the 24 April 1874

Read the following Despatch from the
Secretary of State

Replying to Despatch reporting
results of experiments on the therapeutic action of
Calcei quinquinae in treatment of fever & dysentery,
and to Despatch forwarding Mr. Broughton's account
of his investigations of the value of aconitine
heterophyllum —

H. E. 19 March 1874 No 2

* Hon. Secy of Revenue
Surgeon General. A. R. Dept
— Do — B. In —
Sanitary Commissioner,
Commissioner of Madras
Govt. Quinquinae

Communicated to the
Departments and Officers noted
in the margin

2 The Surgeon General
Madras Medical Department
will arrange for the institution
of further and careful
experiments as to the value of
Calcei quinquinae in the
treatment of dysentery, and
decide

ordered by the Secretary of State
para 4 of his despatch

The Asst. Surgeon-General,
who is at present on leave, will,
on his return, be requested to
comply with the Surgeon-General's
instructions for this duty, and
will also be directed to forward
to the Asst. Surgeon-General
specimens of the
various hydrochlorates, and
the tubers from which it is
prepared, for transmission to
the Secretary of State.

Yours
J. H. C.

10. To the Asst. Surgeon-General
11. To the Asst. Surgeon-General
12. To the Asst. Surgeon-General
13. To the Asst. Surgeon-General
14. To the Asst. Surgeon-General
15. To the Asst. Surgeon-General
16. To the Asst. Surgeon-General

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