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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. / B.P. No.	1572	Press / Mis.
	3-11-1875	
Dated	~~3-11-1875~~	196 .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Blemish

1592/1

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
3rd November 1875.

Read the following letters:—

No. 47. From H. W. BLISS, Esq., Acting Collector of Madura, to the Hon. D. F. CARMICHAEL, Acting Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated 26th October 1875, No. 2,368.

I HAVE the honor to enclose copy of a telegram I despatched to you late last night after consultation with the Acting Zillah Surgeon.

2. My weekly telegraphic report of cholera attacks and deaths, despatched earlier in the same day, will have acquainted Government with the fact that during the last week there has been an alarming increase in the prevalence of the disease. This is generally attributed to the very heavy rains we have had and to the consequent continued dampness of the atmosphere. Very probably this may be the reason, and, as there now seems to be a break in the weather, the public health may improve. It is impossible to say, however, that it will. I trust, therefore, that my telegraphic request for more medical assistance may be complied with.

3. A good many of the 672 deaths reported in the week were old cases, which should have come into former returns had the village officers obeyed orders and sent in daily reports as they were directed to do; but the proportion of old cases reported was rather less last week than on many previous occasions, as the disease has now travelled inwards from the seaboard across the great zemindaris into the Government taluqs, and returns are, therefore, coming in with more regularity than was the case when we had only the zemindari curnams to depend upon for them. The truth, therefore, as to the increased prevalence of the disease is rather worse than the telegraphed returns would indicate, even after allowing for the source of error I have pointed out.

4. I may state that what could be done with cholera all over the district to arrest its progress has been done. But that has necessarily been very little. Medicines and instructions for using them have been widely distributed, and the importance of cleanliness and of the destruction of infected clothing has been impressed on the heads of villages. Hospital Assistants have been moved from place to place as the disease showed itself, and so far as could be done without breaking up the regularly-established dispensaries. Some of the medical subordinates have knocked up. But we have obtained two more to take their places from the Deputy Surgeon-General at Trichinopoly, and have now at different places in Madura (where cholera still continues) and in the three taluqs above mentioned fifteen medical officers of all grades, including the Acting Zillah Surgeon and Dr. Chester. There are also two or three American Mission Dressers, and some Vaccinators have been diverted from their ordinary duties, and set to treat the sick as well as they can. But the area of these three taluqs and of the portion of the Madura Taluq where cholera still prevails is over 3,500 square miles, with a population of close on a million, so that additional medical aid will not be wasted if it can be afforded, though it is, of course, impossible to send a medical officer to every village which may be attacked.

5. I request that if the medical subordinates I ask for can be sent, Government will telegraph to the Acting Sub-Collector at Dindigul to receive and post them. He can do so more quickly than I can.

P.S.—193 deaths, nearly all recent cases, were reported yesterday.

No. 47A. Telegram from the same officer, dated 25th October 1875.

CHOLERA bad Periakolum, Palaney, Dindigul Taluqs. I beg five or six additional medical sub-ordinates may be sent Dindigul for distribution thence to infected villages.

No. 48. ORDER THEREON, 3rd November 1875, No. 1,572.

Miscellaneous.

RECORDED. It is observed that immediate action was taken on the telegram referred to in the foregoing letter asking for additional medical aid.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) L. A. CAMPBELL,
Under-Secretary to Government.

To the Acting Collector of Madura.
„ the Board of Revenue.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

Govt. of Madras.

REVENUE.

To

THE ACTING COLLECTOR OF
MADURA,
&c, &c, &c.

Dated November, 3rd.

Read.

Encl.

G. O., 3rd November 1875, *No.* 1,572.

NOVEMBER.

Nos. 47-48.

Cholera in Madura District.—Recording letter from the Collector reporting the prevalence of —, and observing that immediate action was taken on the telegraphic report.

No 2368

Madura Collectors office
26th October 1875

1572/3

From

H. W. Bliss Esquire
Ag Collector of Madura

To

The Honorable D. F. Carmichael
Ag Chief Secretary to Govt.
Madras.

Sir,

I have the honor to enclose copy of a telegram I despatched to you late last night after consultation with the Ag Civil Surgeon.

You will see by telegraphic report of Cholera attacks and deaths despatched earlier in the same day, will have acquainted Government with the fact that during the last week there has been an alarming increase in the prevalence of the disease. This is generally attributed to the very heavy rains we have had & to the consequent continued dampness of the atmosphere. Very probably this may be the reason, and as there now seems to be a break in the weather, the Public Health may improve. It is impossible to say, however, at

that

that it will. I trust therefore that my telegraphic request for more medical assistance may be complied with.

3. A good many of the 672 deaths reported in the week were old cases which should have come into former returns, had the village officers obeyed orders & sent in daily reports as they were directed to do; but the proportion of old cases reported was rather less last week than on many previous occasions, as the disease has now travelled inwards from the seaboard across the great Zemindaries into the Govt Taluks, and returns are therefore coming in with more regularity than was the case when we had only the Zemindari Servants to depend upon for them. The truth therefore as to the increased prevalence of the disease is rather worse than the telegraphed returns would indicate, even after allowing for the source of error I have pointed out.

4 I may state that what could be done, with Cholera all over the District, to arrest its progress, has been done. But that has necessarily been very little. Medicines and instructions for using them have been widely distributed, and the importance of cleanliness and of the destruction of infected clothing &c has been impressed on the heads of Villages. Hospital Assistants have been moved from place to place as the disease showed itself and so far as could be done without breaking up the regularly established Dispensaries. Some of the Medical Subordinates have fainted up. But we have obtained 2 more to take their places from the Ag Surgeon-General at Trichinopoly and have now at different places in Madura (where Cholera still continues) and in the 3 Taluks above mentioned 15 Medical Officers of all grades including the Ag Zillah Surgeon and Doctor Chesters. There are also 2 or 3 American Mission Dressers, and some Vaccinators have been diverted from their ordinary duties and set to treat the sick as well as they can. But the area of these 3 Taluks and of the portion of the Madura Taluk where Cholera still prevails is over 3500 Square miles, with a population of close on a million, so that additional medical aid will not be wasted if it can be afforded, though it is, of course, impossible to send a Medical Officer to every village which may be attacked.

5. I request that if the Medical Subordinates I ask for can be sent,

Government

will telegraph to the Ag Sub Collector at Dindigul to receive and post them. He can do so more quickly than I can.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your Most Ledt Servant

[illegible]

Ag Collector

P.S. 193 deaths, nearly all recent cases, were reported yesterday.

[illegible]

No 1572

Recorded - It is observed that immediate action was taken on the Telegram, referred to in the foregoing letter asking for additional medical aid. —

Med Copy to the Ag Collr of Madura dt 13 Nov.
do Board of Rev S
Overshed Copies dt 8 Nov

3d November 1875

Revenue - ~~Letter~~ (1875) Defn
(~~Sanitary~~)

From No 4267
The Ag Collector of Madura

To
The Ag Chief Secretary to Govt Madras

Dated 26 October 1875
Received 1st Nov.
No 2368

No 1587

Enclosure 1

Enclosing copy of a Telegram despatched to him late last night regarding prevalence of Cholera in the District & requesting services of certain number of additional Medical Subordinates.

With Order

No 1572. 3d November 1875