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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	1758	Press
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	6-12-1875	196.

[Handwritten signature]

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 80. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 18th November 1875, No. 3,144:—

Read the following letter from C. T. LONGLEY, Esq., Collector of Salem, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 12th November 1875, No. 348:—

I HAVE the honor to forward copy of a report from the Acting General-charge Deputy Collector stating that a sickness of a peculiar and novel type has broken out in the Senkerrydroog Division of the Trichengode Taluq. I am also informed that a few cases of a similar description have appeared in Salem Town, and that the remedy generally resorted to is the same as that detailed by the Deputy Collector. I have forwarded a copy of the report to the Zillah Surgeon, and have asked for his opinion as to the treatment adopted in any case that has come to the dispensary; for, if the disease becomes epidemic in the district, the use of the present specific is likely to cause considerable inconvenience to the milk-consuming population by the destruction of goats.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From A. MAHOMED GATTALAH, Acting General-charge Deputy Collector, to C. T. LONGLEY, Esq., Collector of Salem, dated Sunkagherry, 11th. November 1875, No. 233.

I HAVE the honor to inform you that a disease of a very singular character has made its appearance in three villages of the Senkerry Division. There were thirty cases in Yadapodee during the last week, but I am glad to inform you that all of them recovered by the immediate use of the medicine. Only one case in Konaryputty proved fatal, and the reason was that the patient, who was a Brahmin, refused to take the prescribed medicine. It would appear that he died within two hours after the attack. On the 9th instant there were four cases in this place: a Police Constable who was on drill exercise was suddenly attacked, and within twenty minutes became unconscious; likewise the brother of Sub-Magistrate's gumasta, the wife of Solomon Pillai, Taluq Maistry, and another were attacked, but prompt application to the remedy gave them immediate relief.

2. It appears that all of a sudden a sharp burning pain as if stung by a scorpion is felt either in the sole or toe of any of the feet, and the pain rapidly runs to the head; the belly begins to bloat, and hard breathing commences, which is soon followed by unconsciousness and the setting in of the lockjaw. This stage reaches in an hour's time. If the remedy is not applied instantly, the man dies within two hours.

3. The remedy, which has proved so successful, is very simple; the contents of the dung in the goat's stomach is taken out, dried, and reduced into powder, and about half anna's weight of it, which makes a dose, is given internally well mixed in hot water, and as soon as it is taken in the patient begins to recover; two more doses are repeated at intervals of half an hour, and after six or eight hours the man looks as well as he was before, not the slightest symptom of any ailment remaining in him.

4. Great excitement exists in this and the surrounding villages by the sudden breaking out of this strange and dangerous disease. Each person is careful in providing himself with a sufficient quantity of dung-powder, which he keeps tied up in his turband or upper garment wherever he goes; the more especially those who go to their fields and other distant places on business never fail to do so.

5. The persons who are thus far from their homes and who cannot get hot water in time take the powder in their own urine as a matter of necessity. There has been so much demand for this powder that a dose is now sold for quarter of an anna.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
6th December 1875.*

6. The disease, I am informed, has been prevailing for the last three months to some extent in Bhowany and other taluqs of the Coimbatore District, and is now travelling towards the east in this division. I fear it might spread in other parts of our district; although I have received no such reports from other parts of my division, I have, as a precautionary measure, informed all officers in my division, inclusive of Police Inspectors, to give wide publicity to the beneficial results that have attended the prompt use of the dung-powder to patients attacked with this new epidemic.

7. Publication of a notice informing the public with the nature of the disease and the method of using the dung-powder, I beg to suggest, is very desirable.

8. I dare say that the plague exists, in more or less degree, in some of the villages, but the village heads do not generally report such cases, and confine their reports to cholera cases; however I have directed the several Sub-Magistrates to ascertain, as far as may be feasible, the number of such attacks and their results.

9. The use of dung-powder having been found in every case effectual, I see no necessity of applying for any special medical aid, as the general opinion is that no other medicine will have any effect at all, and that the longer the delay is caused in resorting to the proper medicine, the greater will be the danger to the patient.

10. The name given by natives to this novel disease is "Surookkoo Mari," and very likely they invented the name after the appearance of this disease, as they admit that they never heard of the disease before.

11. I have personally gathered the above information from persons who have attended the patients, and it is therefore very reliable.

12. The arzi of the Senkerry Deputy Tahsildar, with its enclosure on the same subject, is herein enclosed for your information.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) C. T. LONGLEY,
Collector.

COMMUNICATED to the Surgeon-General, Indian Medical Department, for his remarks.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) C. A. GALTON,
Acting Sub-Secretary.

No. 81. ORDER THEREON, 6th December 1875, No. 1,758.

Miscellaneous.

RECORDED.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) D. F. CARMICHAEL,
Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.

Outbreak of a new disease in Salem District.
— Recording Proceedings of the Board of
Revenue communicating to the Surgeon-General,
Indian Medical Department, for remarks, letter
from the Collector reporting on the —

DECEMBER
Nos. 80-81.

G. O. 661 December 1875, No. 1,758.

Recd.

Encl.

Dated December, 6th.

THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

REVENUE.

Obt. of 1875 30/12/75

No. 3,144.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 18th November 1875.

Read the following letter from C. T. LONGLEY, Esq., Collector of Salem, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 12th November 1875, No. 348:—

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From A. MAHOMED GATTALAH, Acting General-charge Deputy Collector, to C. T. LONGLEY, Esq., Collector of Salem, dated Sunkagherry, 11th November 1875, No. 233.

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2. It appears [that all of a sudden a sharp burning pain as if stung by a scorpion is felt either in the sole or toe of any of the feet, and the pain rapidly runs to the head; the belly begins to bloat, and hard breathing commences, which is soon followed by unconsciousness and the setting in of the lockjaw. This stage reaches in an hour's time. If the remedy is not applied instantly, the man dies within two hours.

3. The remedy, which has proved so successful, is very simple; the contents of the dung in the goat's stomach is taken out, dried, and reduced into powder, and about half anna's weight of it, which makes a dose, is given internally well mixed in hot water, and as soon as it is taken in the patient begins to recover; two more doses are repeated at intervals of half an hour, and after six or eight hours the man looks as well as he was before, not the slightest symptom of any ailment remaining in him.

4. Great excitement exists in this and the surrounding villages by the sudden breaking out of this strange and dangerous disease. Each person is careful in providing himself with a sufficient quantity of dung-powder, which he keeps tied up in his turband or upper garment wherever he goes; the more especially those who go to their fields and other distant places on business never fail to do so.

5. The persons who are thus far from their homes and who cannot get hot water in time take the powder in their own urine as a matter of necessity. There has been so much demand for this powder that a dose is now sold for quarter of an anna.

6. The disease, I am informed, has been prevailing for the last three months to some extent in Bhowany and other taluqs of the Coimbatore District, and is now travelling towards the east in this division. I fear it might spread in other parts of our district; although I have received no such reports from other parts of my division, I have, as a precautionary measure, informed all officers in my division, inclusive of Police Inspectors, to give wide publicity to the beneficial results that have attended the prompt use of the dung-powder to patients attacked with this new epidemic.

7. Publication of a notice informing the public with the nature of the disease and the method of using the dung-powder, I beg to suggest, is very desirable.

8. I dare say that the plague exists, in more or less degree, in some of the villages, but the village heads do not generally report such cases, and confine their reports to cholera cases; however I have directed the several Sub-Magistrates to ascertain, as far as may be feasible, the number of such attacks and their results.

9. The use of dung-powder having been found in every case effectual, I see no necessity of applying for any special medical aid, as the general opinion is that no other medicine will have any effect at all, and that the longer the delay is caused in resorting to the proper medicine, the greater will be the danger to the patient.

10. The name given by natives to this novel disease is "Surookkoo Mari," and very likely they invented the name after the appearance of this disease, as they admit that they never heard of the disease before.

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12. The arzi of the Senkerry Deputy Tahsildar, with its enclosure on the same subject, is herein enclosed for your information.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) C. T. LONGLEY.

COMMUNICATED to the Surgeon-General, Indian Medical Department, for his remarks.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) C. A. GALTON,
Acting Sub-Secretary.

To the Surgeon-General, Indian Medical Department.

Copy to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

.. to the Collector of Salem.

Exd. J. W. Fischer.

Disease—in certain places in Salem District.
Communicating to Surgeon-General, Indian
Medical Department, for remarks Collector's
report on the outbreak of a peculiar kind of —

NOVEMBER.
No. 3,144.

Received

PROCEEDINGS, 18TH NOVEMBER 1875, No. 3,144.

Encl.

Board of Revenue,
MADRAS.

1875.

Nov. 1875 Sept

144453

Revenue Department

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue

Dated 18th November 1875

No. 348

Read the following

No. 348.

From The Collector of
Salem.
To The Secretary to the
Board of Revenue
Madras.

Sir I have the honor to forward
copy of a report from the Acting
General charge Deputy Collector
stating that a sickness of a
peculiar and novel type has
broken out in the Senkerry
+ Drong Division of the Trichur-
gode Taluk. I am also in-
formed that a few cases of
a similar description have

appeared in Salem Town and
that the remedy generally
resorted to is the same as
that detailed by the Deputy
Collector. I have forwarded
a copy of the report to the Zillah
Surgeon, and have asked for
his opinion as to the treatment
adopted in any case that has
come to the Dispensary, for
if the disease becomes epide-
mic in the District, the use
of the present specific is likely
to cause considerable incon-
venience to the milk consuming
population by the destruction

of goats.

Salem Follis office

Salem

12th November 1845

I have &c

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} (10) C. T. Longley
Collector.

No. 233.

From The Acting General Charge
Deputy Collector - Salem.
To The Collector of
Salem.

Sir

I have the honor to in-
-form you that a disease
of a very singular character
has made its appearance
in 3 Villages of Sunkerry
doozy Division. There were 30
cases in Gadapadee during
the last week, but I am glad
to inform you that all of
them recovered by the use -

- immediate use of the medicine,
only one case in Komaryputty
proved fatal, and the reason
that the patient who was a
Brahmin refused to take the
prescribed medicine. It would
appear that he died within
two hours after the attack. On
the 9th Instant there were 4
cases in this place, a Phee-
bunstable who was on drill
exercise was suddenly attacked
and within 20 minutes be-
came unconscious, likewise
the brother of Sub. Magistrate
Gumastah, the wife of Solomon
Pillay, Taluk Maistry and
another were attacked.

1758
prompt application to the remedy
gave them immediate relief.

2. It appears that all of a
sudden, a sharp burning
pain as if stung by a scor-
pion, is felt either in the sole or
toe of any of the feet and the
pain rapidly runs to the
head, the belly begins to bloat,
and hard breathing commences,
which is soon followed by
unconsciousness and the
setting in of the lock jaw: this
stage reaches in an hour's
time; if the remedy is not
applied instantly, the man
dies within two hours.

3. The remedy which has proved so successful is very simple; the contents or dung in the goat's stomach is taken out, dried and reduced into powder, and about half an ounce weight of it, which makes a dose, is given internally, well mixed in hot water, and as soon as it is taken in, the patient begins to recover, 2 more doses are repeated, at intervals of half an hour and after 6 or 8 hours the man looks as well as he was before, not the slightest symptom of any ailment re-

maining in him.

4. Great excitement exists in this and the surrounding villages by the sudden breaking out of this strange and dangerous disease, each person is careful in providing himself with a sufficient quantity of dung powder, which he keeps tucked up in his turband or upper garment wherever he goes, the more especially those who go to their fields and other distant places on business never fail to do so.

5. The persons who are thus far from their homes and

who cannot get hot water in
time take the powder in their
own urine as a matter of
necessity. There has been so
much demand for this powder,
that a dose is now sold for $\frac{1}{4}$ of
an anna.

6. The disease, I am informed
has been prevailing for the
last 3 months to some extent
in Bhowany and other Taluqs
of the Fombarore District and
is now travelling towards the
east in this Division. I fear,
it might spread in other parts
of our District; although, I have
received no such reports from

8
other parts of my division. I
have, as a precautionary mea-
sure, informed all officers in
my division inclusive of Police
Inspectors to give wide publicity
to the beneficial results that
have attended the prompt use
of the dung powder to patients
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Sriests in more or less degree.

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communicated to the Surgeon
General, Indian Medical De-
partment for his ^{Mr.} remarks

remarks.

(True copies & extracts)

(22) C. A. Galton
Asst. Secy.

To The Surgeon General. U. S. A.
(True copy)

C. A. Galton
Asst. Secy.

To The Secretary to Government
Revenue Department

E. M. Smith
Secy.

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Proceedings of the
Board of Revenue

Abstract 18th November 1875
Sept. 19 — 4 — 4
Reid 20. — 0 — 0

with order

20th 1875 6th December 1876 —

Communicating
to the General Council. I have
been given the collection of value
submitting me from the Board
of Revenue, presenting the
abstract of a number
kind of allusions in the
several divisions of the
series

14th Dec 1875 of Revenue Board

Account of
1875

1875

1875

222 1875. 1875 1875