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# TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

## GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Revenue DEPARTMENT

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*Not to be folded or roughly handled.*

Archives 1—10,006—19-4-79.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,*
*20th April* 1877. *No.* 1,349.

Read the following papers :—

No. 169. Proceedings of the Madras Government, in the Revenue Department, dated 24th March 1877, No. 1,225.

Miscellaneous.

THE attention of the Consulting Engineer for Railways is called to the statements contained in the *Athenæum and Daily News* newspaper of the 22nd instant regarding the state of the cholera steel at Jollarpett and the absence of any medical assistance there. He is requested to report if there is any foundation for the statements advanced, and if so, who is responsible for the state of affairs described.

2. A copy of the newspaper is enclosed for reference.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. H. GARSTIN,
Additional Secretary to Government.

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No. 169-A. Endorsement of the Consulting Engineer for Railways, dated Madras, 9th April 1877, No. 216 :—

From R. B. ELWIN, Esq., Agent and Manager of the Madras Railway Company, to Lieutenant-Colonel J. H. M. SHAW-STEWART, R.E., Consulting Engineer for Railways, dated Madras, 5th April 1877, No. 571.

I HAVE the honor to inform you in reply to your letter of this date, No. 527, that my attention had been drawn to the paragraph* which appeared in the *Athenæum and Daily News* of the 22nd ultimo, and I wrote on that date to the Traffic Manager and to the Consulting Physician on the subject.

* Copy returned herewith.

2. I enclose for your information copies of their replies to my letters.

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From W. ELDER, Esq., Consulting Physician, to R. B. ELWIN, Esq., Agent and Manager of the Madras Railway Company, dated Royapooram, 26th March 1877, No. 67.

ADVERTING to your letter No. 1,179, of the 22nd instant, I beg to forward for your information letters* from our Apothecary at Jollarpett relative to the statement which appeared in the *Athenæum and Daily News* of 22nd March, to the effect that recently cholera patients who had alighted at that station were not attended to, and that the carriages in which the sick travelled were not disinfected.

* Sent in original (to be returned).

2. You will observe from the enclosures that there is no truth in the charges. There have been no cases of cholera among passengers at Jollarpett Station since December last, and the "virulent type" of cholera which has broken out among the Locomotive staff, and which the correspondent to the *Athenæum and Daily News* considers to be so very alarming, has confined its ravages to eight persons, four of whom have recovered.

3. It will be further observed that our Apothecary does not neglect his duty, and that he takes every interest in the sick who come under his care.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,*
*20th April 1877. No. 1,349.*

From A. W. DARKE, Esq., Acting Deputy Traffic Manager, to R. B. ELWIN, Esq., Agent and Manager of the Madras Railway Company, dated Madras, 29th March 1877, No. C $\frac{97,549}{2,993}$.

*Cholera at Jollarpett.*

WITH reference to your No. 1,180, dated 22nd March, I beg to say that Mr. Craik informs me as follows:—

"No cases of cholera have occurred this year among passengers alighting at Jollarpett."

*Note on the arrangements for the treatment of Cholera at Jollarpett Station.*

THERE appears to be no truth whatever, so far as I can learn, in the statement contained in the *Athenæum and Daily News* of the 22nd ultimo, regarding the absence of medical aid to passengers suffering from cholera at Jollarpett. It may perhaps be a sufficient refutation to say that no case of cholera among passengers has occurred at this station since December last. A few cases have occurred among the Railway employés, some of whom were removed to the cholera shed, which has however not been occupied for about three weeks.

2. The shed which has been built by the Revenue authorities (apparently without consultation with the Railway staff) appears to be farther from the station than is necessary on sanitary grounds, if we may judge by the proximity of the camp in the General Hospital compound at Madras. The site selected is about half a mile to the west of the station-house, and three-quarters of a mile from the residence of the Apothecary, who lives near the other end of the yard. Passengers have thus to be taken half a mile, and the attendance on patients, if they were numerous, would be a heavy tax on the Apothecary, owing to the long distance from his quarters. I am informed that, owing to the remote situation of the shed, it is very difficult to prevail on the attendants to remain there during the night, and all the staff whom I consulted seem to be of opinion that it would be more convenient if the shed were placed opposite the station-house, or a little to the east, at a safe distance from the line. There is a high bank which would screen it from observation, and as no houses are built on that side danger from infection would probably be avoided.

3. A few cases have recently occurred in the Locomotive parcherry at the east end of the station yard, and difficulty is experienced in removing these patients to the shed. Their relatives refuse to accompany them, and the sweepers who are the only attendants at the disposal of the Apothecary are afraid to remain in the shed at night. I would suggest that the location of the shed be referred for the opinion of the Company's Consulting Physician.

4. I think it right to state, in justice to Apothecary Mr. Koy, that from a personal inspection of the whole of the yard I consider its condition to be creditable to him.

(Signed) W. H. COAKER, Captain, R.E.,
Dy. Consulting Engineer for Railways.

(True Copy.)

MADRAS, 9th April 1877.

(Signed) J. H. M. SHAW-STEWART, Lt.-Col., R.E.,
Consulting Engineer for Railways.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,*
*20th April 1877. No. 1,349.*

SUBMITTED for the consideration of Government, with reference to their Proceedings in the Revenue Department, under date the 24th March 1877, No. 1,225.

2. The Jollarpett station was inspected by Captain Coaker on the 6th instant. Attention is drawn to the inconvenient location of the cholera shed.

(Signed) J. H. M. SHAW-STEWART, Lt.-Col., R.E.,
Consulting Engineer for Railways.

No. 470. ORDER THEREON, 20th April 1877, No. 1,349.

RAILWAY. No. 60.

HIS GRACE the Governor in Council considers the result of the inquiry to be fairly satisfactory, with the exception of two points, viz., attendance upon patients and supply of food, &c., to them. Difficulty is apparently experienced in making the toties do their duty at the cholera shed; and the Apothecary appears to have had to feed some patients from his own pocket.

2. The attention of the Agent will be drawn to these points, and he will be asked to state whether assistance is desired from Government. As there is no Civil station in the neighbourhood of Jollarpett, it is desirable that the cholera shed should be supervised by the Railway Apothecary.

3. With regard to the location of the shed, it is observed that it was erected in July 1876 by the Collector of Salem, at the instance of the Railway officials. As the site chosen is represented to be inconvenient, the Collector will be asked to arrange, in communication with the Railway officials, for the removal of the shed to a more convenient site.

(True Extract.)

~~Lieut.~~-Col., ~~R.E.~~,
Joint Secy. to Govt., P.W.D.,
Railway Branch.

To the Consulting Engineer for Railways,
Revenue Department.

Exd. S. T. Austin.

Spare Copies.