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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. / B.P. No.	2633/7	Press. / Mis.
Dated	3.9.1977	197 .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

3rd September 1877, No. 2,633-A.

Famine Relief.

Read the following paper:—

No. 29-A. From F. R. H. SHARP, Esq., Acting Collector of South Arcot, to J. H. GARSTIN, Esq., Additional Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, dated Cuddalore, 21st August 1877, No. 100.

In forwarding copies of the letters noted in the margin, I have the honor to make the following remarks.

Letter to Zillah Surgeon, No. 381, dated 11th August 1877.
Letter from Zillah Surgeon, No. 206, dated 20th August 1877.

2. It will be seen that on the 11th instant I asked the Zillah Surgeon "to be good enough to draw up a set of detailed instructions for the dieting and treatment by non-professional persons of [(people suffering from) as it should have been expressed] the class of diseases most likely to be met with in connection with relief-camps, including cholera, choleraic diarrhœa, and dysentery. I also requested Dr. Robertson to supply simple medicines. The instructions and medicines were wanted for use at relief depôts where no professional medical aid is available.

3. I saw the Zillah Surgeon on the early morning of the 20th instant and reminded him of my letter. I have now received his reply of that date, a copy of which is enclosed.

4. It will be observed from this that Dr. Robertson, while willing to furnish the medicines, distinctly declines to send me the detailed instructions for dieting and treatment, on the plea of press of work, and also, as I infer, of books on the subject having been already published, and to these books he refers me. He does not mention even their titles. A moment's reflection would cause him at least to doubt if I have such books, and to estimate what amount of delay would be involved in my obtaining the titles from him and the books themselves from Madras or from England.

5. I should doubt if even in these books any such useful information is available as Dr. Robertson could impart from his personal and professional experience with reference to the class of diseases (connected with famine) about which I wanted instructions; and I need hardly add that a non-professional person is far less suited than a medical man to make useful extracts from medical books. As to Dr. Robertson's press of work, of course, it is not for me to offer an opinion. But I may say for myself and for my subordinates that we certainly have not the time (even if we had the skill) to frame a précis on the subject of treating various diseases from a wide range of medical works.

6. I wish now to ask Government to have me furnished either by Dr. Robertson or from other professional source with the detailed instructions I have requested the Zillah Surgeon to supply to me.

7. I think I should bring to notice the apparently unnecessary delay in replying to my letter of the 11th. That was received by Dr. Robertson not later than the 14th instant probably, or he would in his reply have noticed the delay in transmission, and yet no answer was sent until the 20th, the day of my personal reminder. I can find in Dr. Robertson's answer nothing which shows that delay was necessary, and I must remark that the subject of the correspondence was one concerning the health and the lives of hundreds of people. The delay with reference to the subject of attenders and nurses is also, I submit, much to be regretted. They might have had several days' training by this time.

8. As this is a matter connected with famine and requiring early notice I send it to you direct.

9. Meanwhile I shall of course get from Dr. Robertson all the aid he offers.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From F. R. H. SHARP, Esq., Acting Collector of South Arcot, to Surgeon-Major C. ROBERTSON, M.D., Zillah Surgeon, Cuddalore, dated Tinnevelly, 11th August 1877, No. 381.

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the information contained in your letter, No. 186, of the 26th ultimo. As there is a prospect of a great deal of sickness in the district, with a great deficiency of professional medical aid to deal with it, I request you will be good enough to draw up a set of detailed instructions for the dieting and treatment, by non-professional persons, of the class of diseases most likely to be met with in connection with relief-camps, including cholera, choleraic diarrhœa and dysentery. I shall be obliged also if you will have prepared some simple remedies which may be administered by non-professional persons for issue to relief depôts where no medical aid is available. I will forward a list of stations to which these medicines should be sent in another letter. A great want is a set of attentive and somewhat trained persons to act as nurses and attenders of the sick, both male and female. It has occurred to me that a number of people suited for such work may be selected in Cuddalore and in other places where there are medical officers, and trained under them for a fortnight for their duties. Of course, this is a short time, but their services are urgently needed. I shall be glad if you can help in this by selecting men and women in Cuddalore and having them taught and issuing instructions on the subject to the various medical officers in the district. The pay I would fix at about Rs. 8, rising to Rs. 10 for approved service for men and somewhat less for women, but I shall be glad to have your views on the subject.

2. I shall be very much obliged by this subject receiving your earliest attention.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.

From Surgeon-Major C. ROBERTSON, M.D., Zillah Surgeon, Cuddalore, to F. R. H. SHARP, Esq., Acting Collector of South Arcot, dated Cuddalore, 20th August 1877, No. 206.

WITH reference to your letter, No. 381, dated 11th August 1877, I have the honor to observe as follows.

2. I shall be very happy to forward any medicines available to any stations you may name, and can also send printed simple instructions for their use and distribution, but with the present press of work in hand cannot undertake to draw up "a set of detailed instructions for the dieting and treatment by non-professional persons;" several such books have been already published, to which I beg to refer.

3. It would, no doubt, be advantageous to have nurses and attendants on the sick in camp. I do not, however, think "that a number of people suited for such work" are to be found in Cuddalore, nor do I imagine that a fortnight's training would be of any practical use. Some suitable individuals may, however, be obtainable, and I should, therefore, be obliged by your informing me of the number required and the staions they are to be sent to.

No. 29-B.

ORDER THEREON, 3rd September 1877, No. 2,633-A.

Miscellaneous.

HIS GRACE the Governor in Council resolves to communicate the above papers to the Surgeon-General, Indian Medical Department, with a request that he will, if possible, have the instructions asked for drawn up at an early date and forward printed copies of them to the Collector of South Arcot and to the Collectors of all other distressed districts.

2. Mr. Sharp's suggestion is a very practical one.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Collector of South Arcot.
,, the Surgeon-General, Indian Medical Department.
,, the Sanitary Commissioner.
,, the Board of Revenue.
,, the Financial Department.

Exd A. Grubert.



SOUTH ARCOT.

COLLECTOR'S OFFICE,

No. 100

Cuddalore
21st August 187

From

To H. A. Thorpe Esquire
Acting Collector of South Arcot.

H. A. Gardiner Esquire,
Additional Secretary to
Government Madras

Sir,

I have the honour to forward
the letters noted on the margin
(Letter to Revd
Morgan Nos 99
Letter to Revd
Hodge 100)
and enclose the papers noted in the
margin of
2. If could be seen that any
the Gift Institutions conducted the
Cuddalore Orphanage were to be good
enough to draw up a set of
standing instructions for the
guidance and treatment by
them professional persons of
(Hospital assistants) as it
should have been impressed
upon the class of diseases most
likely to be met with in con-
nection

action with relief Camps including Cholera, Cholerine diarrhoea and dysentery. I also requested Doctor Robertson to supply simple medicines & the instructions and, sometimes were wanted for use at relief depots where no professional medical aid was available.

3. I sent the Telegram on the early morning of the date of my letter. I have now received his reply of that date a copy of which is enclosed. It will be observed from this that Dr. Robertson is willing to furnish the medicines distinctly declines to send me the detailed instructions for dieting and treatment on the plea of press of work and

and also the Newspaper, of books on the subject having been already published, and to these books he refers, but does not mention even their titles. A memorandum reflection would cause him at least to doubt if I have such books, and to estimate what amount of delay would be involved in my obtaining the titles from him and the books themselves from Madras or from England.

4. I should doubt if even on these books any such useful information is available as Doctor Robertson could

could distinguish from his personal and professional experience wards with reference to the class of diseases (connected with famine) about which I wanted instructions; and I need hardly add that a non professional person is far less qualified than a Medical man to make useful extracts from medical books to Doctor Robertson's press of work of course it is not for me to offer an opinion. But I may say for myself and for my subordinates that we certainly have not the

the time (even if we had the skill) to frame precis on the subject of treating various diseases from a wide range of books.

6. I wish now to ask Government to have me furnished either by Doctor Robertson or from other professional sources with detailed instructions with this.

I have requested the Principal Surgeon to supply to me.

7. I think I should bring to notice the apparently unnecessary delay in replying to my letters of the

8th. That was received by Doctor

Doctor Robertson not
later than the 14th instant
probably; or he would in
his reply have noticed the
delay in transmission;
and yet no answer was
sent until the 20th the
day of my personal remonstrance.
I can find in Doctor Robertson's
answer nothing which
shows that delay was
necessary, and I must
remark that the subject
of the correspondence was
one concerning the health
and the lives of hundreds
of people. The delay with
reference to the subject
of attendance and burden
is

also, I submit, much
to be regretted. They might have
had several days training
by this time.

8. As this is a matter con-
nected with finance and
requiring early notice I send
it to your direct
Meanwhile I shall of
course get from Doctor
Robertson all the aid he
can give.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedient servant
H Shaw
Acting Collector

Collr Dispr Funerallores

No 381 11th August 1877

From

The Asst Collector for the District

To The Tillah Lungers.

Cachalong

Sir, I have the honor to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the information contained in your letter No 185 of the 26th ultimo. As there is a great deal of sickness in the District with a great deficiency of professional medical aid to deal with it I request you to be good enough to draw up a set of detailed instructions for the diet & treatment by non-professional persons of the class of diseases most likely to be met with in connection with relief camps including Cholera

Choleraic

No 381

1877

SOUTH ARCOT.

From

The Collector of

South Arcot

To

Dated 22nd August 1877

Received 23rd

Despatched

No 381

Subject

cholera diarrhoea and dysentery.
I shall be glad also if you will have prepared some simple remedies which may be administered by non-professional persons for issue to relief depots where no medical aid is available. I will forward a list of stations to which these medicines should be sent in another letter. A great want is a set of attendants and somewhat trained persons to act as nurses and attendants of the sick both male and female. It has occurred to me that a number of people suited for such work may be selected in Cuddalore and in other places where there are Medical officers and trained under them for a fortnight for their duties. Of course this is a short time but their services are urgently needed. I shall be glad if you can help in this by selecting men and women in Cuddalore and having them taught and issuing instructions on the subject to the various Medical officers in the District. The pay I would fix at about Rs 8 rising to Rs 10 for approved service for men and somewhat less for women. But I shall be glad to have your views on the subject.

2. I shall be very much obliged by this subject receiving your earliest attention.

I have &c
(sd) F.B. Sharp
Ag Collector

(True Copy)

F Sharp
Ag Collector

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Medical Department

Gillah Surgeon's Office

No 205

Cuddalore

20th August 1877.

Sir

Surgeon Major C. Robertson M.D.

Gillah Surgeon Cuddalore

Sir

I R & Sharp Esqr

Acting Collector of

South Arcot

Sir

With reference to your letter
No 2703 dated 11 August 1877, I have
the honor to observe as follows
I shall be very happy to give
to any medicines required
to any stations you may name
and can also send printed simple
instructions for their use and dis-
tribution, but with the present
press of work in hand I regret
undertake to draw up a list of
detailed instructions for the dieting
and treatment by non professional
persons" Several such books have
been

WO 33A/10

been already published to which
I beg to refer.

3rd It would no doubt be
advantageous to have nurses and
Assistants on the Sick Sea Convoys;
I do not however think that a number
of people suited for such work
are to be found in Calcutta
nor do I imagine that a fortnights
training would be of any practical
use. Some suitable individuals
may however be obtainable and
I should therefore be obliged
by your moving me to the
Commander in Chief and the
Statesmanship and to be informed.

I have &c
(Signed) C. Robertson M.D.
Surgeon Bengal
Presidency
Field Surgeon
(Sd) Geo. Copp Lieut
Actg Asst Surgeon

H Hearn
Acting Collector

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REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

7 No. 6933

7438

From

Dated Aug. 21st 1877.

FOR ORDERS.

Mr. Sharp, acting Coll. of South Arcot, asked the Civil Surgeon Dr. Robertson to draw up a set of detailed instructions for the detection & treatment by non-professional persons of the class of diseases most likely to be met with in connection with relief camps including cholera choleraic diarrhœa & dysentery. He also asked him to make up some simple remedies to be administered by the said class of people & to suggest a number of persons to be supplied with such medicines & put in charge of the Medical officers in charge of the relief camps as may from time to time be established in the district. Dr. Robertson has drawn up

Mrs Lee got Mr
Sharp's letter which
on the 11th last
was written from
Ennerdale (about
30 miles from Cockermouth
as a point line)
~~on the 11th & 12th~~ about
the 13th or 14th. & the
2nd letter
did not reach Keswick
till the 20th. & only
after Mr Sharp had
personally enquired
for it - and the post
Office to forward
any letters which
might further inform
him of the cause of the
delay - which
he declared to him
was entirely foreign
to the fault of either
Coach, Driver
Coachmen - apparently
both contain - such
information - but
without giving the

The preparation for
detection of people
(and also sentence
Sick attendance
Report in Mr Rigg's
Mr Dimmock & Mr Hodgson
delay in reply
Lord Secretary
Government &c - other
persons
just posts until
these counties all over
Dudley. And the Coll.
posts and the various
Reasons for the delay.
I shall enquire into the Office
in case of accident
as a good deal
depends upon the dead reckoning

Mr reply & a letter
Mr Harris -
Lord Secretary
Mr letter of Mr J. Gibson
Surgeon of Whitehaven
writing from
Inquest
Such enquiries
asked for - 24/50 pounds
Be
Sadler (Coll.) Must for
Suggestion was a very
practical one - Mind
the letter then from
proceed to Surg Gen
obtain Mr Dimmock
asked medical Mr Gibson
Surgeon - Should be
Coroner with addressing jury

Lam. 6 May 6 Rem.
We doubt all think
"a number" of people
will be punished -
under or attacked on
sick either a fortnight
but ~~fortnight~~ some
Sensible person may be
influential
Mainville. Dudley. how
long are remarks of these
letters are to be sent.
Mr Sharp London Re
Letter up to Jan.
Enquiries that Mr Lee
will either cause him
to be punished by Dr
Robertson or for some
Steps professional
course with the detailed
and cautious remarks
& Draws attention to the
delay in reply to his
letter
Dr Robertson is an
able but hot tempered
officer & I doubt that

Must have got Mr Sharp's letter which on the 11th last was written from Invercauld (about 30 miles from Cuddalore on a postal line) ~~on the 11th~~ about the 13th or 14th which did not reply to it till the 20th only after Mr Sharp had personally remarked to me how little he seemed to be aware of the delay in the receipt of his letter. I then explained to him that the Post Office forwarded any mail matter with particular instruction to that effect & that the Postmaster of Cuddalore had declared upon the strictest inquiry which I forwarded to the Post Office, that no letter had been detained more than the usual time. Mr Sharp then left me, after I had told the Collr of Salem & Coimbatore (both districts under my charge) that I should be glad to receive from them any information they could give me regarding the Sholagas.

The preparation for the selection of people to [illegible] Sholagas

Receipt in Salem of Mr Sharp's letter and the receipt of my reply

Delay in forwarding Mr Sharp's letter to Mr Sharp

Mr Sharp's letter to the Collr of Salem

Mr Sharp's letter to the Collr of Coimbatore

Mr Sharp's letter to Surgeon Jones

Mr Sharp's letter to Surgeon Jones

Mr Sharp's letter to Surgeon Jones

FOR ORDERS.

Response prepared

Work

W

the tone of his letter is improper. His hands, the tone of most of the officers, are entirely futile, & to if the detailed instructions asked for by the Stamps are available in several books as stated by Dr. R. he might have referred Mr. Sharp to one such book & not have written Mr. Sharp in the position to take responsible results for himself. The letter betrays an impatience & an unwillingness to do what has been asked for; & should, therefore, be sent back to Dr. R. with a request that the Surgeon General

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

No.

From

Dated 187

FOR ORDERS.

2/

2659 D 1/9

I. M. D. be requested to have a simple and better statement of the nature of those allowed to by Mr Sharp drawn up for the assistance & guidance of the Supt of Relief Centres & Depots where there is no medical officer in charge; & that he be requested through the Public Works Dept to transmit to Dr Robertson the duplicate of the despatch, & that he be asked on this occasion to adopt some such plan.

Mem. on opposite

27/9/77

FOR ORDERS.

40 No 2633 a

Mr Gr. the Governor is invited
Instructions to Communicate the
above papers to the Lords Justices
Gen: I. in D with a request that
he will if possible by Tuesday the
Instructions asked for, drawn
pursuant and prepared thereon to
the Rt. Hon. J. S. Grant Letters and
Dispatches to Thanks
Letters of the Letters dated Dec 5
Copies
Inclosures
Copy
Lord Kimberley

3-9-77

J. H.

3 September 77

MS Collection Letter Aug 9/77
de Lisgard Gent & Mr &c
Military Company
Board of Trade
Privy Council

C27-7-11 (1-9-77)