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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Revenue DEPARTMENT

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GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

3rd October 1877, No. 2358.

Cattle Disease.

Read the following paper:—

No. 16. *Proceedings of Government in the Revenue Department, dated 15th September 1877, No. 2740.*

From G. H. M. BATTEN, Esq., Officiating Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Revenue, Agriculture, and Commerce (Studs), to the Secretary to the Government of Madras, dated Simla, 24th August 1877, No. 1-12.

I am directed to forward, for the perusal of His Grace the Governor in Council, the accompanying papers* on the subject of the measures which should be taken to prevent the spread of glanders and other contagious diseases among animals in India.

2. It will be observed that an opinion is expressed by several authorities that dangerous contagious diseases affecting animals (some of which, as glanders and anthrax, are liable also to spread to man) are common in India, and especially in such gatherings as horse-fairs and other places where horse merchants from Cabul and elsewhere resort. At present there is no legislation in force in India of the character of the Contagious Diseases (Animals) Act which is in operation in the United Kingdom, but it has been suggested that the Penal Code, in its provisions relating to "nuisance, [illegible] mischief," affords a means of checking the spread of such diseases. I am therefore to request that the attention of Magistrates of Districts may be drawn to the subject, and that they may be directed to take action under the sections referred to in any cases that may come to their knowledge. Should it prove that these provisions are not sufficiently stringent or effective, or if on trial the Courts should not consider the sections referred to applicable to the case, I am to request that the matter may be brought to the notice of the Government of India.

3. I am also to request an expression of the opinion of His Grace the Governor in Council on the suggestion that legislation should be resorted to, and the form which such legislation should take.

* From the Quartermaster-General, to the Government of India in the Military Department, No. 337-B, dated the 3rd February 1877, and enclosures.
From Military Department, No. 459-S, dated the 17th May 1877, and enclosures.
To Military Department, No. 9, dated the 26th June 1877.
From Military Department, No. 92-S, dated 4th August 1877, and enclosures.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From Lieutenant-Colonel M. HEATHCOTE, Officiating Deputy Quartermaster-General (Epidemics), to the Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department, dated Simla, 3rd February 1877, No. 337-B.

I am directed to submit, for the consideration of the Government of India, the accompanying copy of a letter, dated 22nd January 1877, addressed to the General Officer Commanding the Sirhind Division by Veterinary Surgeon Kettlewell of the Army Remount Department.

2. The Commander-in-Chief will issue the necessary orders to prevent horses suffering from glanders or other infectious disease being permitted to enter, or remain within the limits of a

Military Cantonment; but His Excellency also desires to take this opportunity of bringing to the notice of Government the danger to troops on the line of march, and to the general public, arising from horse merchants travelling about the country with diseased animals in their possession.

3. It would seem advisable that measures should be taken to have all such strings of horses periodically examined by a Veterinary Surgeon, and that the merchants themselves should, if possible, be held responsible that glandered horses should be slaughtered immediately on the disease becoming apparent.

From Major-General Sir J. BRIND, K.C.B., Commanding Sirhind Division, to the Quartermaster-General in India, dated 26th January 1877, No. 89.

I have the honor to forward herewith a letter from Senior Veterinary Surgeon G. Kettlewell, with a view to (should you think it necessary) orders being given to the stations and civil authorities on the line of route from Cabul down-country to prevent batches of horses entering cantonments before having undergone inspection by a Veterinary Surgeon.

Due precaution has been taken to prevent diseased horses entering this cantonment, a Veterinary Surgeon of the Brigade having been detailed to inspect and report on all batches of horses before being allowed to pass through.

From Senior Veterinary Surgeon G. KETTLEWELL, Army Remount Department, to Major-General Sir J. BRIND, K.C.B., Commanding Sirhind Division, dated Umballa, 22nd January 1877.

I have the honor to state that in a private letter which I have seen from Sub-Conductor and Hospital Overseer O'Connor to Colonel Parrott, he states that on the march up-country he came across a small batch of Cabul horses near Amritsar on or about, I should say, the 14th instant, and that some of these horses were unmistakably glandered, one horse in particular in an advanced stage of the disease. These horses were then marching down-country. Sub-Conductor O'Connor is now marching up towards Rawal Pindi with a batch of remounts for the Punjab. As the matter is a most important one, I think it my duty to bring it to your notice, [illegible] steps may be taken, as soon as possible, to prevent any of the glandered [illegible]ion or division. I shall take the first opportunity, on my return to Kurnal, [illegible] with a copy of this letter.

Office Memorandum from Captain A. CROOKSHANK, Assistant Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department (Horses—Sanitary), to the Department of Revenue, Agriculture, and Commerce, dated Fort William, 9th February 1877, No. 501.

Quartermaster-General in India, No. 337-B, dated 3rd February 1877, and enclosure.

Transferred for consideration, with the request that a copy of the orders issued in that department may be communicated to the Military Department.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.

From Major-General F. ROBERTS, Quartermaster-General in India (Horses—Sanitary), to the Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department, dated Simla, 14th April 1877, No. 1356-B.

In acknowledging the receipt of Military Department No. 343 (Horses—Sanitary), dated the 6th ultimo, relating to the periodical examination of horses in the possession of merchants travelling about the country, I am directed to state that if there is no authority at present to deal with such cases in a summary manner, His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief would recommend that the necessary power be acquired by legislation in the sense of the "Cattle Disease Act" in England, as it is, in Sir Frederick Haines' opinion, very desirable that some precautionary measures should be adopted for detecting and suppressing the existence of infectious disease amongst such animals.

Endorsed by the Military Department, dated Simla, 17th May 1877, No. 459-S.

Copy of the foregoing forwarded to the Department of Revenue, Agriculture, and Commerce for consideration, with reference to the memorandum thence, No. 5, dated the 19th February 1877.

ENCLOSURE No. 3.

Office Memorandum from C. J. LYALL, Esq., Under-Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Revenue, Agriculture and Commerce, to the Military Department, dated Simla, 30th June 1877, No. 9.

With reference to the endorsement from the Military Department, No. 459-S (Horses—Sanitary), dated the 17th ultimo, forwarding a recommendation from His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief that, in the event of there being no authority at present, the necessary power be acquired by legislation in the sense of the Cattle Disease Act in England to make horse merchants or others travelling about the country with glandered horses in their possession liable to criminal prosecution, the undersigned is directed to state that, in the opinion of this department, Section 268 of the Indian Penal Code meets the requirements of the case, and that it would appear unnecessary to legislate until a prosecution under that section for "nuisance" has been tried and found ineffectual.

ENCLOSURE No. 4.

Office Memorandum from Colonel H. K. BURNE, Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department (Horses—Sanitary), to the Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Revenue, Agriculture, and Commerce, dated Simla, 4th August 1877, No. 92-S.

With reference to the memorandum from the Department of Revenue, Agriculture, and Commerce, No. 9, dated the 30th June 1877, the undersigned is directed to transmit the annexed copy of correspondence as per margin, and to request that the Military Department may be favored with such instructions as may be issued to ensure the co-operation of the civil authorities in preventing the spread of infectious diseases by horses in the possession of travelling horse merchants and others.

Quartermaster-General in India, No. 2945-B, dated the 21st July 1877.
General Superintendent, Horse Breeding Operations, No. 35-M—D, dated the 10th July 1877, and annexures.

2. Further, the Military Department will be glad to be furnished with the opinion of the Department of Revenue, Agriculture, and Commerce on the proposal of the General Superintendent, Horse Breeding Operations, in view to the intervention of civil officers to prevent the spread of infectious diseases among the animals at fairs.

From Major-General F. ROBERTS, Quartermaster-General in India (Epidemics—Sanitary), to the Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department, dated Simla, 21st July 1877, No. 2945-B.

With advertence to Military Department No. 154-S (Horses—Sanitary), dated 9th instant, I am directed to state that the liability of horse merchants to prosecution under Section 268 of the Indian Penal Code will be duly notified to local military authorities; but as the jurisdiction of Commanding Officers is restricted to cantonment limits, it appears to His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief that the co-operation of the civil authorities is essentially necessary in the interests of the general public, and of troops along the line of march, as pointed out in paragraph 2 of this office No. 337-B, dated 3rd February 1877.

2. His Excellency will, therefore, feel obliged by being furnished with a copy of the instructions proposed to be issued to the civil authorities for ensuring proper supervision along the main lines of communication, and forewarning all horse merchants that, if found in possession of horses suffering from diseases of an infectious nature, they will be liable to prosecution.

From J. H. B. HALLEN, Esq., General Superintendent, Horse Breeding Operations (Glanders—Amritsar Fair), to the Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department, dated Simla, 10th July 1877, No. 35-M—D.

No. 420, dated 25th May 1877, from the Principal Veterinary Surgeon, Bengal Army, to the Deputy Adjutant-General, Royal Artillery in India.
No. 1797, dated 25th June 1877, from Secretary to Government, Punjab, Military Department, to the Secretary to Financial Commissioner, Punjab.
No. 1798, dated 25th June 1877, from Secretary to Government, Punjab, Military Department, to General Superintendent, Horse Breeding Operations.
No. 24-P, dated 9th July 1877, from General Superintendent, Horse Breeding Operations, to Secretary to Government, Punjab, Military Department.

I have the honor to submit, for the consideration of the Government of India, copies of correspondence marginally noted bearing upon the important subject referred to.

From the Principal Veterinary Surgeon, Bengal Army, to the Deputy Adjutant-General, Royal Artillery in India, dated 28th May 1871, No. 420.

I have the honor to enclose, for the information of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief in India, the following extract from a letter, No. 51, dated 26th instant, received from Veterinary Surgeon Walker, Veterinary Department, doing duty with A Battery, 8th Brigade, Royal Artillery, at Jullundur:—

"I am sorry to report that two cases of glanders made their appearance on the 23rd instant amongst the grass-cutters' tats. The two ponies suffering were bought by Captain Wintle at the last Amristar Fair."

The foregoing statement tends to the belief that there was an absence of proper veterinary supervision at Amritsar during the fair.

Fairs are known to be a ready medium for disseminating infectious diseases, and an absence of proper sanitary measure at such gatherings produces incalculable mischief.

There is but little doubt, from the very many similar instances to the foregoing that are on record, that glanders is rampant throughout the country, and strong police measures are loudly called for to protect the public and Government from the too frequent inroads of the disease.

Endorsed by the Adjutant-General in India, dated Simla, 6th June 1877, No. 1535.

Copy forwarded for the information of the Punjab Government.

Memorandum from Colonel S. BLACK, Secretary to the Government of Punjab, Military Department, to the Secretary to Financial Commissioner, Punjab, dated Lahore, 25th June 1877, No. 1797.

Forwards, for the consideration of the Financial Commissioner, copy of a communication from the Adjutant-General, No. 1535, dated 6th instant, regarding the supposed spread of glanders from the horses exhibited at the Amritsar Fair, and requests he will have the goodness to state whether glanders are known to have existed among the horses at that fair.

MILITARY.

No. 1798.

Copy of letter from Adjutant-General and above reply forwarded to J. H. B. Hallen, Esq., General Superintendent, Horse Breeding Operations, for opinion.

From J. H. B. HALLEN, Esq., General Superintendent, Horse Breeding Operations, (Glanders—Amritsar Fair), to the Secretary to the Government of Punjab, Military Department, dated Simla, 9th July 1877, No. 24-P.

No. 420, dated 28th May 1877, from the Principal Veterinary-Surgeon, Bengal Army, to the Deputy Adjutant-General, Royal Artillery in India.
No. 1797, dated 25th June 1877, from Secretary to Government, Punjab, Military Department, to the Secretary to Financial Commissioner, Punjab.

In reply to your department's memorandum, No. 1798, dated 25th ultimo, forwarding, for opinion, copies of correspondence marginally noted, I have the honor to state as follows:—

2. Not having attended the Amritsar Horse Fair, I am unable to state whether the disease glanders existed among the horses at the fair.

But with reference to the subject of glanders existing, more or less, throughout India, especially in large cities and towns where horses are stabled in badly-ventilated dwellings, and at the same time very often hard-worked and badly fed, I am quite of opinion that the disease does, at all times, more or less exist, and during the hot and close seasons of the year is prevalent: and under such circumstances probably arises from being generated as often as contracted by contagion.

3. When in Calcutta in the years 1869, 1870, and 1871, I frequently observed glandered horses and ponies at work in the hackney carriages, and deemed it my duty to bring the subject to the notice of the Commissioner of Police, with a hope that measures might be taken to prevent the exposing of horses affected with this contagious disease in the public thoroughfares, and of introducting a law whereby affected animals might be destroyed. I also took an opportunity of speaking to His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal on the subject, but at the same time pointed out that, before such a law could be brought into safe operation, it would be necessary to

have qualified Inspectors available to judge when horses are affected with glanders, and stated that the Veterinary College then about being established in Calcutta would be the means of educating persons who would be fully qualified to act as Inspectors under a Contagious (Animals) Diseases Act.

4. I may note here that not only is the disease glanders contagious as regards other animals of the equine species, but that also man becomes affected with it by contagion or inoculation, and that therefore it is the one of all contagious animal diseases over which strict supervision and, as far as possible, prevention of spread by stamping out should be most rigidly enforced.

5. I therefore take this opportunity of urging the necessity of having a Contagious (Animals) Diseases Act brought into operation as soon as measures have been adopted for the educating of persons to fill the position of Inspectors under the Act, and this can only be done by means of establishing a Veterinary College as

Memorandum, No. 238, dated 27th September 1872, sent to the Financial Department.
Financial Resolution, No. 3498, dated the 14th October 1872.

was decided on by the Government of India in 1872.

6. Meanwhile, fully concurring, as I do, in the opinion recorded by the Principal Veterinary Surgeon in his letter, that "fairs are known to be a ready medium for disseminating infectious diseases, and an absence of proper sanitary measures at such gatherings produces incalculable mischief," precautionary measures against the allowing of glandered horses, ponies, mules, and donkies at fairs for in large towns should be, as far as possible, introduced with reference to the means at present at the disposal of Government, to ensure prevention of spread of disease.

No. 420, dated 28th May 1877, to the Deputy Adjutant-General, Royal Artillery in India.

7. I would, therefore, recommend that a Veterinary Surgeon be deputed to attend at every principal fair, as the Sanitary Veterinary Officer, with instructions to bring to the notice of the Superintending Civil Officer present at the fair every case of contagious disease marginally noted that he may find affecting animals in the once removed from the fair, and be as far as possible isolated, so as to reduce the spread to a minimum.

Glanders and farcy	Equine.
Malignant fever (Loodianah disease)	Equine, bovine, and ovine.
Rinderpest	Bovine and ovine.
Foot and mouth disease	Bovine and ovine.
Pleuro Pneumonia	Bovine.

8. The ground on which affected animals may be found sl
double digging and burying the tainted soil should be carried out, and any forage or bedding belonging to an affected animal should be burnt, and the space left unoccupied; also other sanitary measures that may be deemed expedient should be adopted.

9. I am induced to believe that the measures I have suggested may be brought into operation without infringing upon the rights or feelings of the natives, especially the Hindu portion of the community, as regards their prejudices in connection with the slaughter of animals; and certainly, if such measures are carefully conducted and systematically carried out by Veterinary and Civil Officers, much pecuniary loss will be saved to the public, and in case of glanders and farcy and malignant fever a certain amount of human life will not be sacrificed; for not only, as stated above with reference to glanders, it is known that man becomes also sometimes affected with "malignant pushite," as a result of contracting the contagion of malignant fever (anthrax) in the lower animals.

10. From what I have above advanced, it is hardly necessary to point out how very important is the subject referred to, and I take the opportunity of recording my full concurrence with the opinions noted by the Cattle Plague Commissioners and Special Stud Commissioners in their respective reports of the expediency of Veterinary Colleges being established in India for the purpose of disseminating a sound knowledge of animal diseases, especially those of a contagious nature, whereby the country will secure a comparative indemnity from heavy loss of animal life, which, as now obtains, cannot be estimated.

Page XXVII (General Report), paragraph 43 of Report of the Commissioners appointed to inquire into the origin, nature, &c., of Indian Cattle Plagues, 1871.
Page 29, Final Report of Special Stud Commission, 1876.

11. In conclusion, I may note my intention of forwarding a copy of this letter for the consideration of the Government of India.

Communicated, with the enclosures, to the Board of Revenue for their remarks on the general question. The Government of India have overlooked Act II of 1866 (Madras).

2. The instructions in the latter part of paragraph 2 will be carried out in the Judicial Department.

(True Extract.)

C. G.
C. H. MASTER,
Secretary to Government,

No. 17. ORDER THEREON, 3rd October 1877, No. 2358.

Ordered accordingly that the several Magistrates of Districts be directed to comply with the instructions conveyed in paragraph 2 of the letter from the Government of India recorded in the above Proceedings.

(True Extract.)

Chief Secretary.

To all District Magistrates.
„ the Revenue Department.

Exd. G. Freeman.
S. C. 2

Revenue Department

Govt. of {1877} Madras.

JUDICIAL

To

ALL DISTRICT MAGISTRATES,

&c., &c., &c.

Dated October, 3rd.

Issued —"— 12"

Rcd. 12 October Encl.

G.O., 3rd October 1877, No. 2358.

OCTOBER.

Nos. 16-17.

Cattle Disease.—The several Magistrates
Districts to comply with the instructions of t
Government of India relative to the prevention
contagious disease among animals in India, record
in Proceedings of Government, Revenue Depar
ment, dated 15th September 1877, No. 2740.

No. 6115

Comm^r. to the
Board of Revenue

13 Oct^r 77

17 to 20 of Revenue (15-10-77)