(1) Number of pages 4

(2) Date of repair 2-7-25

(3) Initials of the Referencer

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 217 Press Mis.

Dated 19-2- 1880.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

19th February 1880, No. 217.

No. 238. READ THE FOLLOWING PAPER:—

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 15th January 1880, No. 79.

ABSTRACT.—Submitting letter from Collector of South Canara regarding the efficacy of Nílgiri Chinchona Bark in the treatment of fever, and suggesting that his letter be circulated to all Collectors.

No. 239. ORDER THEREON, 19th February 1880, No. 217.

Miscellaneous.

RECORDED.

2. The Board can do as they propose in paragraph 2.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue, with one Enclosure.
„ the Superintendent, Government Central Museum.
„ the Surgeon-General, Indian Medical Department.
„ the Commissioner of the Nílgiris.

Exd. W. H. French.

160 Copies.

Original

Govt. of Madras.

REVENUE.

To

THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

&c., &c., &c.

Dated February 19th.

Received 23rd,

Read,

Encl.

G.O., 19th February 1880, No. 217.

FEBRUARY.

Nos. 233-239.

Nilgiri Cinchona Bark.—Recording, with remarks, Revenue Board's Proceedings submitting letter from Collector of South Canara regarding the efficacy of — in the treatment of fever, and suggesting that his letter be circulated to all Collectors.

No. 79.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 15th January 1880.

Read the following letter from W. H. COMYN, Esq., President of the Local Fund Board, Canara Circle, to C. A. GALTON, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Mangalore, 13th December 1879, No. 2,293:—

I OBSERVE from the last published returns of births and deaths for the whole Presidency, viz., for the month of August last (*Vide Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 2nd December 1879, pp. 1302-3), that the mortality from fever in the several districts still continued very high, being in that month no less than 21,158, or *nearly half* out of a total of 46,121 deaths from all causes.

2. I have no means of knowing whether there has been a decrease in the general mortality from this cause since August, but it has occurred to me that if the Local Fund Boards of other Circles were made aware of the success which has attended the treatment in this district of fever patients with Nilgiri Chinchona bark and powder they might be induced to try the remedy in their Circles and thus contribute to the alleviation of a large amount of human suffering.

3. I have the honor therefore to enclose, for the information of the Board of Revenue, and for disposal in such a way as they may think desirable, copy of a communication I addressed in July last to the Secretary to the Surgeon-General, Indian Medical Department, reporting the results of the treatment in this district of fevers by the medicine in question.

4. The febrifuge is that referred to in G.O., dated 3rd December 1877, F. R., No. 2,993, which authorized its use in famine districts where fever might be prevalent: and it was on a perusal of this Government Order that the idea occurred to me to try the effect of the medicine in the treatment of malarial fever which was then widely prevalent in Canara. I accordingly induced the Local Fund Board to sanction supplies which were obtained through the Board of Revenue.

5. I enclose for the Board's information copy of a notice on the subject I published in the District Gazette, together with instructions for treatment drawn up by the then Civil Surgeon.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From W. H. COMYN, Esq., President of the Local Fund Board, Canara Circle, to Surgeon-Major G. BIDIE, M.B., Secretary to the Surgeon-General, Indian Medical Department, Fort St. George, dated Mangalore, 19th July 1879.

WITH reference to your letter, No. 1,797, of the 13th March 1878, I have the honor to state that the Local Fund Board at my suggestion obtained from the Medical Stores 280 lbs. in all of Chinchona as per particulars noted in the margin, and distributed the same gratuitously through the several Dispensaries in the Circle. The Revenue Officers in the district, viz., Tahsildars and Deputy Tahsildars, were also supplied with a quantity of powder for distribution in the villages, and were instructed to obtain decoction for the same purpose from the Medical Subordinates in charge of the Dispensaries. Printed instructions regarding the use of the medicine were freely circulated.

	LBS.
Fine powder	90
Coarse do.	140
Bark do.	50
Total ...	280

2. From reports received from the Revenue Officers I find that the medicine was administered to a large number of people suffering from fever and proved efficacious in the majority of cases, while from such figures as have been supplied by some of these officers it appears that about two-thirds of number of patients shown in their returns recovered. It is not, however, stated that any of the persons so treated died. The result in many cases was probably not known at the date of report.

3. The Medical Subordinates in charge of the Local Fund Board's Dispensaries and the two Hospital Assistants who were specially employed on the duty of treating fever-stricken people altogether (up to the date of their last reports) had treated 5,959 cases, out of which 5,018

or about 84 per cent. were successful. Of the remainder it is reported by one of the Hospital Assistants that the result in 282 cases was unknown. The other Medical Subordinates merely show successful and unsuccessful cases in their reports: no mortality among the patients was reported except in one case in which death resulted from pneumonia. It is probable that many more fever cases have been treated at the Dispensaries since the reports of the Medical Subordinates in charge were received, but a very good idea of the efficacy of the medicine can be gathered from the figures above recorded.

4. I have been receiving many applications from the taluks for Chinchona powder, so much so that the reserve stock left in the office has been exhausted.

5. From the above it will be seen that the native population seek after and have confidence in the medicine as to the efficacy of which I have heard but one opinion expressed in the course of my frequent tours through different parts of the district. The medicine has in fact proved a great boon to the people during the last year and-a-half when fever was more than usually prevalent and fatal in the district. I am glad to say that the fever is now everywhere abating.

6. I do not regret that I was unable, owing to the late receipt of the necessary information from some quarters, to reply to your letter earlier; for you have now before you the results, so far as they have been ascertained, of an experiment which has extended over a considerable time, and the information I now have the honor to furnish is therefore all the more valuable.

(True Copy.)"

(Signed) W. H. COMYN,
Collector.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.—Notice in Gazette.

SUBMITTED for the information of Government.

2. From G.O., dated 20th November 1879, No. 2,191, it would appear that there is a general consensus of opinion as to the efficacy of the bark. The Government order in question has been communicated to all Collectors; but it might be well to circulate this letter also.

(True Copies and Extract.)

Acting Sub-Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department,
with one original enclosure to be returned.

Copy to the President of the Local Fund Board, South Canara.

Exd. J. Tulloch.

G-03 Decem/79 No 3 Rd Sale
20 November 79 - 164-66

Revenue Dept

No 480.

1880.

Board of Revenue,

MADRAS.

To

THE SECRETARY TO GOVT.,
REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Dated January 15th.

Printed th.

Received 26 Jany.

PROCEEDINGS, 15TH JANUARY 1880, No. 79.

JANUARY.

No. 79.

Nilgiri Chinchona Bark.—Submitting letter from Collector of South Canara regarding the efficacy of — in the treatment of fever, and suggesting that his letter be circulated to all Collectors.

C-31/1/80 R.19/2/80 230-239

1. Recorded.
2. The Board can do nothing