Revenue (1897) Department.

PRESS SERIES.

G.O., Nos 851-852

Dated 6th October

[Despatch Abstract.]

Revising the report on the sale of quinine powders by revenue officials & postmasters in the several districts of the Madras Presidency for the year ending 31st March 1897.

PAGE PAPER.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

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Revenue (1897) Department.

CURRENT No.

ABSTRACT OF PROCEEDINGS
11 SEP 97
MADRAS

Order

From W. M. Standen Esqr.
Director
Govt Cinchona Plantations
Nilgiris

No. 57

Dated 31st August 1897

Received

Registered

Enclosures Five

Spare copies

SUBJECT.

Quinine Powders

Submitting Report on the sale of — by Revenue officials and Post Masters in the Several Districts of the Madras Presidency for the year ending 31st March 1897

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

No 57

DIRECTOR'S OFFICE, 10

OOTACAMUND, 31st August 1897.

From

W. M. STANDEN, ESQ.,

DIRECTOR OF THE GOVERNMENT

CINCHONA PLANTATIONS,

Nilgiris.

To

The Secretary to Government
Revenue Department
Ootacamund.

SIR,

With reference to para 2 of G.O. No. 224 Revenue, dated the 7th March 1893, and para 8 of G.O. No. 578, Revenue, dated the 17th July 1897, I have the honor to submit the following report on the Sale of Quinine powders by Revenue Officials and Postmasters in the several Districts of the Madras Presidency for the year ending 31st March 1897.

2. The year under review witnessed the extension of the Scheme for the Sale of Quinine powders by Postmasters to all the Districts in the Madras Presidency, with the exception of Madras and Chingleput, which were especially exempted by Government under G.O. No. 79, Revenue, dated the 15th February 1896.

Sales

3. **A. Sales by Revenue Officials.**

During the year under review 1385 packets each containing 100 five grains powders of Quinine were issued on Indents received from the Collectors of Anantapur, South Canara, Malabar, Tinnevelly and Trichinopoly, and 54 were sold by this office to the Public, making a total of 1439 packets. The number of packets issued to Collectors, viz 1385, Shows a Considerable falling off Compared with the Corresponding total of the previous year, when 2399 packets were Sent out. The Sales effected by Collectors during the past year, viz 1493 packets, Compared with the Sales in the previous year, viz 1642, Show a decrease of 149. That better results were not obtained during the year, is doubtless due to the fact that during this period the Post office Agency was also at work Selling Quinine, as mentioned in the Annual Report on the Government Cinchona Plantations, for 1896-97. Of the two Agencies now at work for the distribution of Quinine, the Post office has proved the more Successful; as may be instanced by the case of Vizagapatam —

a District Specially Selected by the Board of Revenue as one of the first in which a trial of the Scheme Should be made, on account of its being one of the most unhealthy Districts in the Presidency. In this District, while the Postal Agency Sold 450 Packets each year, or 45900-5 grain powders, the Revenue officials disposed of 1½ packets, or 150 powders only.

4. The following table gives the result of the Scheme Since its first introduction in October 1890.

Particulars	1890-91	1891-92	1892-93	1893-94	1894-95	1895-96	1896-97
Quinine Packets Issued	750	370	1704	2950	1650	2399	1385
—Do— Sold	744		964	1523	1667	1642	1493

The above table does not include the packets Sold from this office to the Public, as the Subject matter of this Report refers to Sales by Collectors and Postmasters only.

5. From Statement No. I appended to this Report, it will be Seen that Tinnevelly and Cuddapah again head the list as having Sold the most packets. In regard to the Tinnevelly District, the results are to Some extent discounted by the fact, that Local Fund and Municipal Dispensaries in that District obtained their Quinine in the Shape of packets of Quinine powders

powders through the Collector, instead of Indenting on this office, through the District Medical and Sanitary Officer, as prescribed by Government in G.O. No. 2382 Local and Municipal, dated the 17th November 1894. This irregularity was pointed out to the Collector, with the result that the difference in value between the rate prescribed for the Sale to Medical Institutions, and that at which it was obtained in packets, amounting to Rs 4/- per th. was recovered and credited to Government; and the Quinine is now being obtained by the Institutions in the prescribed way.

6. The greatest improvement in Sales has taken place in the Anantapur District, where the Revenue officials have evidently been more Successful than the Postmasters for the Sales by the latter have been Nil. The Sales in the Kistna, Tinnevelly, Godavari and Malabar Districts also Show an improvement over those of the previous year. On the other hand, the falling off in the Sales has been most marked in the Cuddapah District, while Bellary, Kurnool and Ganjam have also sold less than in the previous year. The Collector of Nellore attributes the paucity of Sales in his District to their being Sold at three pies per Powder, while the Postoffices retail them at two pies each. The Collector was called upon to give his authority for this, as Government, at the request of the Government of India (vide G.O. No. 311, Revenue, of 30th March 1872) Specially reduced the original rates of Re 1-8-0 per packet and 3 pies per powder to Re 1 and 2 pies, respectively,

7. With reference to para 6 of G.O. No. 523 dated 12th October 1896, it should be stated that the Collector of Chingleput at the instance of this office returned the bottles of old Quinine. The Collector of Godavary had in the previous year returned Some, as it was reported that the people of his District considered it inferior in appearance to the Quinine in packets, and it was, therefore, represented to the Collector of Chingleput that it might be advisable on the Same grounds to stop its Sale, and return the Quinine, which he did.

8. In accordance with para 4 of G.O. No. 523 of 12th October 1896, information is given in the Statement No. I appended to this Report Showing the population of each District, the fever rate

rate of mortality, and the Consumption of Quinine per 1000 of population. It will be seen that Vizagapatam with the highest fever rate of mortality, viz 18·2, shows the lowest figure for Consumption of Quinine; and that Kistna with a much smaller fever rate, viz 6·8, shows a larger Consumption of Quinine, viz ·069. Cuddapah with the high mortality rate of 16·0 has also a comparatively large Consumption of Quinine, viz ·157 packets.

9. No definite Conclusions can be drawn from the above figures, as the fever rate of mortality is taken from the last Report of the Sanitary Commissioner, which deals with the year 1895, while the figures for Quinine Consumption refer to 1896-97.

10. B. Sales by Postmasters.

During the year under review, 4450 packets each containing 102 fine grain powders were sent out; 4320 Packets as the Permanent Advances to the 864 Post offices in the eleven Districts, enumerated in G.O. No 79, Revenue, of 15th February 1896, which had not been Supplied with Quinine before; and 130 Packets as the Permanent Advances to 26 newly opened Post offices in the Cuddapah Ganjam Godavary, Kurnool, Malabar and Nellore Districts, making in all 890 Post offices Supplied with 4450 Packets as Permanent Advances. In addition to the above, 3783 Packets or including Coorg 4126 Packets, were indented for by Postmasters, as against 664 in the previous year. In the Administration Report for 1896-97 the number of packets indented for by Postmasters is given as 4180. This total includes the 54 packets sold by this office to the Public: The correct total is 4126 packets as above.

Of these, by far the greater portion were sold to the Postmasters in the Tinnevelly District; and the Post offices in the Malabar, Vizagapatam and Madura Districts, indented for a large number. The Post offices in the Anantapur District sold no packets at all during the year, and those in the North and South Arcot Districts did very little better.

11. A Statement is appended showing the Sales, the Sum realized, the number of Post offices, the average number of packets Sold, the fever rate of mortality, and the population in each District. It will be seen from the Statement No 5. appended, that the highest

average

average Sale at each Post office viz 8.74 Packets was reached by the Tinnevelly District, a District which has the Small fever rate of mortality of 4.6. On the other hand Kurnool with the high fever rate of mortality of 15.1 Shows the Small average Sale per Post office of 3.29.

12. Turning to Sales at individual post offices, Manamtoddy Sold 88 Packets and Vaitri 71, the highest results for the Presidency. The Post office of Tiruppukotai in the Madura District Sold 68 packets and Cuddapah Sold 61. The other Post offices which did well are:—

Tinnevelly	—	Nazareth. 54
		Sramanganeri. 35.
Coorg	—	Virarajenapet. 45
		Bydalpuram. 44
		Mercara. 43.
Madura	—	Kanivadi — 45
		Tirumangalam. 39.
Ganjam	—	Berhampore 44
		Parlakimidi — 28
		Gopalpur — 27.
Tanjore	—	Vallam — 36.
Nellore	—	Sreeharikota. 29.
Vizagapatam	—	Bobbili — 33
		Salur — 22
Kurnool	—	Cumbum. 27
		Nandial. 27.

13. The Sales of packets from this office to the Public were discontinued from June 1896, as Government has authorised the Sale of Quinine to the Public from this office at Rs 18/- per ℔, while the cost of the Quinine in packets is Rs 14/- per ℔. The lower rate was fixed only for Sales through Revenue Officials and Postmasters with the object of bringing Quinine within the reach of the poorest Classes.

14. The Sales made before June to the Public were 54 as against 239 packets during the whole of the previous year.

15. The Steady expansion in the Sales by Post offices may be considered Satisfactory, and there is little doubt that as it becomes more generally known that Quinine can be obtained at all Post Offices, the consumption will increase largely. At present, it is probable that a large proportion of the people in most districts are in ignorance of the fact that Quinine can be bought at the Post offices, and it is Suggested that the Village Postmen might carry with them a few Quinine powders when making their rounds with letters. If this were done, the remedy for fever might be brought to the door of many a fever-Stricken patient, who would not, even if

if he were able, take the trouble to procure it himself.

16. It is also suggested that notices in English and the Vernacular might with advantage be published in all District Gazettes informing the public that Quinine can be purchased in 5 grain powders from Revenue Officials and at all Post offices.

17. The following table Shows the transactions of the past two years:—

Issues.	1895-96.	1896-97.
Collectors	2399	1385
Private Parties	239	54
Post offices including 110 to Post offices in Coorg.	4079	8576.
	6717	10015
Sales:		
Collectors	1642	1492
Private Parties	239	54
Post Offices	664	4126.
	2545	5672

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your Most Obedient Servant,

Wm Standen
Director

D.A

Statement No 1

Statement showing the Sales of Quinine powders in the several Districts in 1896-97 and 1895-96 arranged in order of Actual Sales.

Districts	Sales. 1896-97	Sales. 1895-96	Difference. Increase	Difference. Decrease	Mean rate of mortality per 1000 of population.	Population	Consumption of packets per 1000 of population.
Tinnevelly	394.14	343.86	50.28	—	4.6	1915702	.205
Cuddapah.	200.55	309.73	—	109.18	16.0	1271721	.157.
Kristna	129.19	78.42	50.77	—	6.8	1855024	.069
Anantapur	125.80	52.72	73.08	—	2.8	727319	.172
Trichinopoly	97.14	112.64	—	15.50	5.2	1371726	.07.
South Canara.	87.82	80.15	7.67	—	8.2	1052002	.083
Godavari	87.00	44.11	42.89	—	9.6	2077858	.041
Salem.	65.49	71.04	—	5.55	8.0	1961784	.033
Bellary.	62.44	139.54	—	77.10	8.1	890485	.07
Ganjam	51.66	108.32	—	56.66	10.4	1896400	.027
Coimbatore	50.82	64.14	—	13.32	7.1	2003911	.025
Kurnool.	37.10	110.99	—	73.89	15.1	817660	.042
Malabar.	32.62	18.34	14.28	—	8.1	2636674	.012
Nilgiris	24.34	32.47	—	8.13	19.2	96765	.251
South Arcot.	21.76	20.94	.82	—	7.3	2162336	.01
Madura.	8.90	10.91	—	2.01	6.2	1573318	.005
North Arcot.	5.21	.58	4.63	—	7.1	2113585	.002
Tanjore	4.94	4.32	.62	—	2.3	2227081	.002
Nellore.	2.55	0.00	2.55	—	8.8	1463357	.001
Chingleput.	1.93	10.44	—	8.51	6.5	1199901	.001
Vizagapatam	1.50	27.99	—	26.49	18.2	1814858	.0008.
	1492.90	1641.65	247.59	396.34	—	—	—

13
Ootacamund
31 August. 1897.

Wm Standen
Director

D.A

Statement No. 1.

Enclosure to letter No. 57 dated 31st August 1897 from the Director of Govt. Cinchona Plantations Nilgiris.

Statement No. 2.

Report by Collectors

North Arcot.— Quinine packets do not meet with ready sale as people generally resort to Dispensaries, where they get medicine gratis.

South Arcot.— Previous to the year 1896-97, the quinine powders were issued for sale only to the Tahsildars of the feverish tracts of the District. Subsequently these powders were issued to the other Tahsildars also for sale. Hence the increase in the sale

Chingleput.— The sales are not large as this is not a feverish District.

South Canara.— There has been an increase of 7.64 packets over the sales in the preceding year.

Nellore.— These powders are offered for sale at the old rate of 3 pies each, whereas Post Masters sell them at 2 pies. Hence the paucity of sales.

Tanjore.— There has been an increase of 62 powders in the sale of this medicine as compared with the previous year, which is due to the popularity, which this medicine is gradully gaining

Madura

Madura.— Medicines being supplied gratis in local Fund and Municipal Dispensaries, Quinine packets supplied by Government are reported not to meet with a ready sale though wide publicity is given of its use.

Ootacamund
31 August 1897.

Director

Statement. No. 3. by Collectors.

Results of Sales of Quinine powders in the several Districts of the Madras Presidency in 1896-97.

Districts	Balance on 1st April 1896.	Received 1896-97.	Total	Sales 1896-97	Balance on 31st March 1897.
1. Anantapur	127-18	600	727-18	125-80	601-38
2. Arcot North.	61-21	"	61-21	5-21	56-00
3. Arcot South.	186-89	"	186-89	21-76	165-13
4. Bellary.	175-75	"	175-75	62-44	113-31
5. Chingleput	39-56	"	39-56	1-93	37-63
6. Canara South	123-65	75	198-65	87-82	110-83
7. Coimbatore	95-00	"	95-00	50-82	44-18 (a)
8. Cuddapah	643-26	"	643-26	200-55	442-71 (c)
9. Ganjam.	782-03	"	782-03	51-66	730-37 (b)
10. Godavery.	262-93	"	262-93	87-00	175-93
11. Kistna.	132-12	"	132-12	129-19	2-93 (d)
12. Kurnool	164-18	"	164-18	37-10	127-08
13. Malabar	15-30	110	125-30	32-62	92-68
14. Nellore.	16-30	"	16-30	2-55	13-75
15. Nilgiris	222-32	"	222-32	24-34	197-98
16. Salem	287-66	"	287-66	65-49	222-17
17. Tanjore.	40-03	"	40-03	4-94	35-09
18. Tinnevelly.	52-03	450	502-03	394-14	107-89
19. Trichinopoly	55-48	150	205-48	97-14	108-34
20. Madura	28-27	"	28-27	8-90	19-37
21. Vizagapatam.	107-31	"	107-31	1-50	105-81
	3618-46	1385	5003-46	1492-90	3510-56

(a) The difference in the opening Balance here compared with the closing Balance in last year's return is due to some packets found in the Mettupolium office being brought into stock.
(b)(c)(d). The difference here is due to errors in previous years being rectified by the Collectors concerned.

Ootacamund.
31st August 1897

Director.

Statement No. 3.

Enclosure to letter No. 57 dated 31st August 1897 from the Director, of Govt. Cinchona Plantations - Nilgiris.

Statement No. 4.

Sales in Postal Districts

	Districts	Balance packets on hand on 1st April 1896	Issued during 1896-97	Total	Packets Sold	Amount realised		Balance in Stock
1.	Anantapur	150	.	150	.	.	.	150
2.	Arcot North	.	511	511	6	5	12 .	505
3.	Arcot South	.	464	464	19	18	4 .	445
4.	Ballary	.	278	278	68	65	10 .	210
5.	Chenglepet	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
6.	Canara	.	239	239	44	42	12 .	195
7.	Coimbatore	.	414	414	59	57	4 .	355
8.	Cuddapah	265	222	487	177	170	8 .	310
9.	Ganjam	285	274	559	264	253	2 .	295
10.	Godavery	630	62	692	52	51	2 .	640
11.	Kistna	475	37	512	37	35	12 .	475
12.	Kurnool	200	165	365	145	135	6 .	220
13	Malabar	455	676	1131	646	625	8 .	485
14	Nellore	415	108	523	93	87	7 .	430
15	Nilgiris	.	242	242	137	132	6 .	105
16	Salem	.	469	469	29	27	14 .	440
17.	Tanjore	.	767	767	147	141	. .	620
18.	Tinnevelly	.	1428	1428	893	851	12 .	535
19	Trichinopoly	.	394	394	69	72	8 .	325
20	Madura	.	1033	1033	448	432	6 .	585
21	Vizagapatam	430	450	880	450	439	12 .	430
		3,305	8,233	11,538	3,783	3,646	1 .	7,755
	Coorg	110	343	453	343	329	6 .	110
		3,415	8,576	11,991	4,126	3,975	7 .	7,865

Ootacamund
31 August 1897

Director

Statement No 4

Enclosure to letter No. 57 dated 31st August 1897 from the Director of Govt Cinchona Plantations Nilgiris.

Statement No 5-

Statement showing the Sales at Post offices in order of Actual Sales. &c.

Districts	number of Packets sold.	amount realized	number of Post offices	average no of packets sold per Post office	Annual rate of mortality per 1000 of population	Population
Tinnevelly.	893	851 12 "	107	8.74	4.6	1915702
Malabar.	646	625 8 "	97	6.66	8.1	2636674
Vizagapatam.	450	439 12 "	86	5.23	18.2	1814858.
Madura.	448	432 6 "	117	3.83	6.2	1573318
Ganjam.	264	253 2 "	59	4.47	10.4	1896400
Cuddapah	177	170 8 "	62	2.85	16.0	1271721
Tanjore	147	141 " "	124	1.18	2.3	2227081
Kurnool.	145	135 6 "	44	3.29	15.1	817660
Nilgiris	137	132 6 "	21	6.52	19.2	96765
Nellore	93	87 7 "	86	1.08	8.8	1463357
Trichinopoly	69	72 8 "	65	1.06	5.2	1371726
Bellary	68	65 10 "	42	1.62	8.1	890485
Coimbatore	59	57 4 "	71	0.83	7.1	2003911
Godavari	52	51 2 "	128	0.40	9.6	2077858
Canara. South	44	42 12 "	39	1.12	8.2	1052002
Kistna	37	35 12 "	95	0.39	6.8	1855024
Salem	29	27 14 "	88	0.33	8.0	1961784
South Arcot.	19	18 4 "	89	0.21	7.3	2162336
North Arcot	6	5 12 "	100	0.06	7.1	2113585
Anantapur	-	" " "	30	-	2.8	727319
	3783	3646 1 "	1550	2.44		
Coorg	343	329 6 "	22	15.59		
	4126	3975 7 "	1572	2.62		

Ootacamund
31 August 1897. } DA

Standen
Director

Statement No. 5

Enclosure to letter No. 59 dated 31st August 1897 from the Director of Govt. Cinchona Plantations Nilgiris

P.S. Please see his orders 6/10/97 JG

2/10/97

The Hon. the Govt. C. 2.9.

Read your note 30/9/97

Read G.O. No. 7671 of 97

1/10

Order No. 851 dy 6th Oct. 1897.

The Govt has read with interest the ~~forg~~ ~~going clear and exhaustive~~ report submitted by Mr Standen on the distribution and sale of quinine packets in the Madras Presy, including Coorg, during the year 1896-97

2 The total number of packets sold during the year (5672) showed an increase of 3127 over the corresponding figure for 1895-96 and the comparatively large sales effected by the Postal agency seem to conclusively prove that the extension of the system of the sale of the drug by Postmasters to all parts of the Presy sanctioned in G.O. No. 79 Rev: dy 15th Feby 1896 was not decided on too early. For the number of packets sold by Revenue Officers, however there was a slight decrease of 550 as compared with the previous year's figure but this

Note:- Each packet contains 102 powders of 5 grs

Mr Standen has given information in all possible forms rendering a detailed review of the report, ~~necessary~~. superfluous.

MLL

it is submitted, ~~assa-~~

+ Submitted that each packet contains 102 powders of 5 grs each. Vide 1st para of G.O. marked X. Submitted therefore that this addition in brackets may be omitted and a note made as below. MLL 30/9/97

X Yes JG

X I don't see how this figure is got. The sales were -

Pt. I. Collectors 1493

Postal

Nil Pors 3783 — 5276

Coorg 843

5619

JG

X With reference to the above it is submitted that the Hon member has omitted to add 54 packets sold to private parties straight from Nedivattam

Please see at end of Mr Standen's report. This would give a total of 5672 packets or omitting fractions 5672 pkts 1896

The total sales for 95-96 were 2545 pkts.

The difference is 3127 pkts. MLL 30.9.97

X The average no of packets sold at each Post Office in the 5 districts first selected for trial was, in 95-96, 2.11. In the 1550 Post Offices of the Nedivattam during in 96-97 it was 2.44

In the Coorg Post offices it was: 15.59 + this shows that

as indicated in para 8 of G.O. B
no 578 Rev: dy 16th July 1897 must, in general,
be considered to be ~~the direct~~ con-
sequence of the expansion of
the system above mentioned.

3 On the whole, the
Govt has no hesitation in de-
claring that the results of the
year's sales have been very satis-
factory and as pointed out by
Mr Bourdon there is very little
doubt that when it becomes
more generally known that cheap
genuine can be obtained at all
Post Offices the consumption of
the drug among the fever stricken
population of the Pres will
~~is likely~~ to increase largely.

4. Mr Bourdon's
suggestion that village postmen
should be requested to carry with
them for sale a few genuine pow-
ders when making their rounds
with letters will be referred for
the remarks of the Postmaster
General, Madras. His proposal
to advertise in English and in
the vernaculars in ~~the~~ District
Gazettes that the drug can be
purchased

A further extension of sales may be expected

The Government is not, however satisfied with the very small sale effected by the Rev authorities in Vizagapatam. The attention of the Board will be drawn to the matter.

The no of packets sold by Rev officers in this District for the past 3 years has been as follows:-

1894-95	4·92
95-96	27·99
96-97	1·50

whereas the number sold in the post offices last year was 450.

1071

purchased in fine grain powders from Revenue Officials and Post-masters has the approval of Govt, and the Board will be requested to issue the necessary instructions to all the Collectors concerned.

5 The report asked for from the Collector of Nellore as to the circumstances under which the powders were being sold in this district at the rate of 3 pies instead of 2 ~~should~~ on receipt be submitted for the information of Govt.

23/8/97

Sub. 29.10.97

To ~~all the addressees~~ The Dir of Govt Cinchona Plantations
Bisoprie (Ooty)
Surgeon-General
Fort Madras
~~marked in the~~

~~&~~ to

From the Secy to the
To _____

No 852
6-10-97

Sir, In continuation of my letter No 579 dy 16th July 1897, I am directed to forward for the information of Govt a copy of the memorandum noted Progs of this Govt ~~embodying~~ on the report of the distribution and sale of Quinine packets in the Madras Pres including Coorg, during the year 1896-97.

23/8/97

Sub. 29-10-97

and with covering letter to the following addresses

The Govt of India Rev & Agl Dept
" " of Bengal Jud Dept
" " of Bombay Rev: Dept
" " of Burma, Rev Dept
Chief Commr of Coorg

No 852 6-10-97

22.IX.97

1897.

From

The Government of Fort St. George.

Recd. } 1897. *Enclosures*

Regd. } 1897. *Spare copies*

Letter, No. 852, 6th October 1897.

OCTOBER.

FORWARDING a copy of the Proceedings of this Government embodying the report on the distribution and sale of quinine packets in the Madras Presidency, including Coorg, during the year 1896-97.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

From

The Hon'ble Mr. G. STOKES, I.C.S.,
Acting Secretary to the Government of Madras,

To

Dated Ootacamund, 6th October 1897.

Sir,

In continuation of my letter, No. 579, dated 16th July 1897, I am directed to forward, for ~~the information of~~ your information, a copy of the marginally-noted Proceedings of this Government embodying the report on the distribution and sale of quinine packets in the Madras Presidency, including Coorg, during the year 1896-97.

Miscellaneous.

G.O., No. 851, Revenue, dated 6th October 1897.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

(Signed) G. STOKES,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

Exd. Shaik Karim.

30 Copies.

Government {1897} of Madras.

REVENUE.

Recd. } 1897. *Enclosures*

Regd. } *Spare copies*

G.O., No. 851, 6th October 1897.

OCTOBER.

Report on the sale of Quinine powders.

Reviewing the — by revenue officials and postmasters in the several districts of the Madras Presidency for the year ending 31st March 1897.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following letter from W. M. STANDEN, Esq., Director of the Government Cinchona Plantations, Nilgiris, to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, dated Ootacamund, 31st August 1897, No. 57:—

With reference to paragraph 2 of G.O., No. 224, Revenue, dated the 7th March 1893, and paragraph 8 of G.O., No. 578, Revenue, dated the 17th July 1897, I have the honour to submit the following report on the sale of quinine powders by Revenue officials and Postmasters in the several districts of the Madras Presidency for the year ending 31st March 1897.

2. The year under review witnessed the extension of the scheme for the sale of quinine powders by Postmasters to all the districts in the Madras Presidency, with the exception of Madras and Chingleput, which were especially exempted by Government under G.O., No. 79, Revenue, dated the 15th February 1896.

3. *A. Sales by Revenue officials.*—During the year under review 1,385 packets, each containing 100 five-grain powders of quinine, were issued on indents received from the Collectors of Anantapur, South Canara, Malabar, Tinnevelly and Trichinopoly, and 54 were sold by this office to the public, making a total of 1,439 packets. The number of packets issued to Collectors, viz., 1,385, shows a considerable falling off compared with the corresponding total of the previous year, when 2,399 packets were sent out. The sales effected by Collectors during the past year, viz., 1,493 packets, compared with the sales in the previous year, viz., 1,642, show a decrease of 149. That better results were not obtained during the year is doubtless due to the fact that during this period the Post office agency was also at work selling quinine, as mentioned in the annual report on the Government Cinchona Plantations for 1896–97. Of the two agencies now at work for the distribution of quinine, the Post office has proved the more successful, as may be instanced by the case of Vizagapatam—a district specially selected by the Board of Revenue as one of the first in which a trial of the scheme should be made, on account of its being one of the most unhealthy districts in the Presidency. In this district, while the Postal agency sold 450 packets last year, or 45,900 five-grain powders, the Revenue officials disposed of 1½ packets, or 150 powders only.

4. The following table gives the result of the scheme since its first introduction in October 1890:—

Particulars.	1890–91.	1891–92.	1892–93.	1893–94.	1894–95.	1895–96.	1896–97.
Quinine packets issued	750	370	1,704	2,950	1,650	2,399	1,385
Do. .. sold	744		964	1,523	1,667	1,642	1,493

The above table does not include the packets sold from this office to the public, as the subject matter of this report refers to sales by Collectors and Postmasters only.

5. From statement No. 1 appended to this report, it will be seen that Tinnevelly and Cuddapah again lead the list as having sold the most packets. In regard to the Tinnevelly district, the results are to some extent discounted by the fact that Local Fund and Municipal dispensaries in that district obtained their quinine in the shape of packets of quinine powders through the Collector, instead of indenting on this office, through the District Medical and Sanitary officer, as prescribed by Government in G.O., No. 2382, Local and Municipal, dated the 17th November 1894. This irregularity was pointed out to the Collector, with the result that the difference in value between the rate prescribed for the sale to medical institutions, and that at which it was obtained in packets, amounting to Rs. 4 per lb. was recovered and credited to Government; and the quinine is now being obtained by these institutions in the prescribed way.

6. The greatest improvement in sales has taken place in the Anantapur district where the Revenue officials have evidently been more successful than the Postmasters; for the sales by the latter have been *nil*. The sales in the Kistna, Tinnevelly, Gódávari and Malabar districts also show an improvement over those of the previous year. On the other hand, the falling off in the sales has been most marked in the Cuddapah district, while Bellary, Kurnool and Ganjám have also sold less than in the previous year. The Collector of Nellore attributes the paucity of sales in his district to their being sold at 3 pies per powder, while the Post offices retail them at 2 pies each. The Collector was called upon to give his authority for this, as Government, at the request of the Government of India (*vide* G.O., No. 311, Revenue, of 30th March 1892), specially reduced the original rates of *Rs. 1–8–0* per packet and 3 pies per powder to Re. 1 and 2 pies, respectively.

7. With reference to paragraph 6 of G.O., No. 523, dated 12th October 1896, it should be stated that the Collector of Chingleput, at the instance of this office, returned the bottles of old quinine. The Collector of Gódávari had in the previous year returned some, as it was reported that the people of his district considered it inferior in appearance to the quinine in packets; and it was, therefore, represented to the Collector of Chingleput that it might be advisable on the same grounds to stop its sale, and return the quinine, which he did.

8. In accordance with paragraph 4 of G.O., No. 523 of 12th October 1896, information is given in the statement No. 1 appended to this report showing the population of each district, the fever rate of mortality, and the consumption of quinine per 1,000 of population. It will be seen that Vizagapatam with the highest fever rate of mortality, viz., 18·2, shows the lowest figure for consumption of quinine; and that Kistna with a much smaller fever rate, viz., 6·8, shows a larger consumption of quinine, viz., ·069. Cuddapah with the high mortality rate of 16·0 has also a comparatively large consumption of quinine, viz., ·157 packets.

9. No definite conclusions can be drawn from the above figures, as the fever rate of mortality is taken from the last report of the Sanitary Commissioner, which deals with the year 1895, while the figures for quinine consumption refer to 1896–97.

10. *B. Sales by Postmasters.*—During the year under review 4,450 packets, each containing 102 five-grain powders, were sent out—4,320 packets as the permanent advances to the 864 Post offices in the eleven districts, enumerated in G.O., No. 79, Revenue, of 15th February 1896, which had not been supplied with quinine before; and 130 packets as the permanent advances to 26 newly-opened Post offices in the Cuddapah, Ganjám, Gódávari, Kurnool, Malabar and Nellore districts, making in all 890 Post offices supplied with 4,450 packets, as permanent advances. In addition to the above 3,783 packets, or including Coorg 4,126 packets, were indented for by Postmasters, as against 664 in the previous year. In the administration report for 1896–97, the number of packets indented for by Postmasters is given as 4,180. This total includes the 54 packets sold by this office to the public. The correct total is

4,126 packets as above. Of these, by far the greater portion were sold to the Postmasters in the Tinnevelly district; and the Post offices in the Malabar, Vizagapatam and Madura districts indented for a large number. The Post offices in the Anantapur district sold no packets at all during the year, and those in the North and South Arcot districts did very little better.

11. A statement is appended showing the sales, the sum realized, the number of Post offices, the average number of packets sold, the fever rate of mortality and the population in each district. It will be seen from the statement No. 5 appended that the highest average sale at each Post office, viz., 8·74 packets, was reached by the Tinnevelly district—a district which has the small fever rate of mortality of 4·6. On the other hand, Kurnool with the high fever rate of mortality of 15·1 shows the small average sale per Post office of 3·29.

12. Turning to sales at individual Post offices, Manantoddy sold 88 packets and Vayittiri 71—the highest results for the Presidency. The Post office of Aruppukóttai in the Madura district sold 68 packets, and Cuddapah sold 61. The other Post offices which did well are—

Tinnevelly ...	Nazareth ...	54	Ganjám	Berhampur ...	44
	Arumuganeri ...	35		Parlákimedi .	28
Coorg ...	Veiraranjerapet.	45		Gopalpur ...	27
	Sydapuram ...	44	Tanjore	Vallam ...	36
	Mercara ...	43	Nellore	Sríharikóta...	29
Madura ...	Kanivadi ...	45	Vizagapatam ...	Bobbili ...	33
	Tirumangalam...	39		Sálúru ...	22
			Kurnool	Cumbum ...	27
				Nandyal ...	27

13. The sales of packets from this office to the public were discontinued from June 1896, as Government has authorized the sale of quinine to the public from this office at Rs. 18 per lb., while the cost of the quinine in packets is Rs. 14 per lb. The lower rate was fixed only for sales through Revenue officials and Postmasters, with the object of bringing quinine within the reach of the poorest classes.

14. The sales made before June to the public were 54 as against 239 packets during the whole of the previous year.

15. The steady expansion in the sales by Post offices may be considered satisfactory, and there is little doubt that as it becomes more generally known that quinine can be obtained at all Post offices, the consumption will increase largely. At present, it is probable that a large proportion of the people in most districts are in ignorance of the fact that quinine can be bought at the Post offices; and it is suggested that village postmen might carry with them a few quinine powders when making their rounds with letters. If this were done, the remedy for fever might be brought to the door of many a fever-stricken patient, who would not, even if he were able, take the trouble to procure it himself.

16. It is also suggested that notices in English and the Vernacular might with advantage be published in all District Gazettes informing the public that quinine can be purchased in five-grain powders from Revenue officials and at all Post offices.

17. The following table shows the transactions of the past two years:—

Issues.	1895-96.	1896-97.
Collectors	2,399	1,385
Private parties	239	54
Post offices, including 110 to Post offices in Coorg ...	4,079	8,576
Total ...	6,717	10,015

Sales.	1895-96.	1896-97.
Collectors	1,642	1,492
Private parties	239	54
Post offices	664	4,126
Total ...	2,545	5,672

Enclosures.

Statement No. 1.—Statement showing the sales of quinine powders by Collectors in the several districts in 1896–97 and 1895–96 arranged in order of actual sales.

Districts.	Sales.		Difference.		Fever rate of mortality per 1,000 of population.	Population.	Consumption of packets of quinine per 1,000 of population.
	1896-97.	1895-96.	Increase.	Decrease.			
Tinnevelly	394·14	343·86	50·28	..	4·6	1,915,702	·205
Cuddapah	200·55	309·73	..	109 18	16·0	1,271,721	·157
Kistna	129·19	78·42	50·77	..	6·8	1,855,024	·069
Anantapur	125·80	52·72	73·08	..	2·8	727,319	·172
Trichinopoly	97·14	112·64	..	15·50	5·2	1,371,726	·07
South Canara	87·82	80·15	7·67	..	8·2	1,052,002	·083
Gódávari	87·00	44·11	42·89	..	9·6	2,077,858	·041
Salem	65·49	71·04	..	5·55	8·0	1,961,784	·033
Bellary	62·44	139 54	..	77·10	8·1	890,485	·07
Ganjám	51 66	108 32	..	56·66	10·4	1,896,400	·027
Coimbatore	50·82	64·14	..	13·32	7·1	2,003,911	·025
Kurnool	37·10	110·99	..	73·89	15·1	817,660	·042
Malabar	32·62	18·34	14·28	..	8·1	2,636,674	·012
Nilgiris	24·34	32·47	..	8·13	19·2	96,765	·251
South Arcot	21·76	20·94	·82	..	7·3	2,162,336	·01
Madura	8·90	10·91	..	2·01	6·2	1,573,318	·005
North Arcot	5·21	·58	4·63	..	7·1	2,113,585	·002
Tanjore	4·94	4·32	·62	..	2 3	2,227,081	·002
Nellore	2·55	0·00	2·55	..	8·8	1,463,357	·001
Chingleput	1·93	10·44	..	8·51	6·5	1,199,901	·001
Vizagapatam	1·50	27·99	..	26·49	18·2	1,814,858	·0008
Total ..	1,492·90	1,641·65	247·59	396·34	..	..	..

Statement No. 2.—Report by Collectors.

North Arcot.—Quinine packets do not meet with ready sale, as people generally resort to dispensaries, where they get medicine gratis.

South Arcot.—Previous to the year 1896–97, the quinine powders were issued for sale only to the Tahsildars of the feverish tracts of the district. Subsequently, these powders were issued to the other Tahsildars also for sale. Hence the increase in the sale.

Chingleput.—The sales are not large as this is not a feverish district.

South Canara.—There has been an increase of 7·67 packets over the sales in the preceding year.

Nellore.—These powders are offered for sale at the old rate of 3 pies each, whereas Postmasters sell them at 2 pies. Hence the paucity of sales.

Tanjore.—There has been an increase of 62 powders in the sale of this medicine as compared with the previous year, which is due to the popularity which this medicine is gradually gaining.

Madura.—Medicines being supplied gratis in Local Fund and Municipal dispensaries, quinine packets supplied by Government are reported not to meet with a ready sale, though wide publicity is given of its use.

Statement No. 3.—Results of sales of quinine powders in the several districts of the Madras Presidency in 1896-

Districts.	Balance on 1st April 1896.	Received 1896-97.	Total.	Sales, 1896-97.	Balance on 31st March 1897.
1. Anantapur	127·18	600	727·18	125·80	601·38
2. Arcot, North	61·21	..	61 21	5 21	56·00
3. Arcot, South	186·89	..	186·89	21·76	165·13
4. Bellary	175·75	..	175·75	62·44	113·31
5. Chingleput	39·56	..	39·56	1·93	37·63
6. Canara, South	123·65	75	198·65	87·82	110·83
7. Coimbatore	95·00	..	95·00	50·82	* 44·18
8. Cuddapah	643·26	..	643·26	200·55	† 442·71
9. Ganjám	782·03	..	782·03	51·66	† 730·37
10. Gódávari	262·93	..	262·93	87·00	175·93
11. Kistna	132·12	..	132 12	129·19	† 2·93
12. Kurnool	164·18	..	164·18	37·10	127·08
13. Malabar	15·30	110	125·30	32·62	92·68
14. Nellore	16·30	..	16·30	2·55	13·75
15. Nilgiris	222·32	..	222·32	24·34	197·98
16. Salem	287·66	..	287·66	65·49	222·17
17. Tanjore	40·03	..	40 03	4·94	35·09
18. Tinnevelly	52·03	450	502·03	394·14	107·89
19. Trichinopoly	55·48	150	205·48	97·14	108·34
20. Madura	28·27	..	28·27	8·90	19·37
21. Vizagapatam	107·31	..	107·31	1·50	105·81
Total ..	3,618·46	1,385	5,003·46	1,492·90	3,510·56

* The difference in the opening balance here, compared with the closing balance in last year's return, is due to some packets found in the Méttupálaiyam office being brought into stock.

† The difference here is due to errors in previous years being rectified by the Collectors concerned.

Statement No. 4.—Sales in Postal Districts.

Districts.	Balance packets on hand on 1st April 1896.	Issued during 1896-97.	Total.	Packets sold.	Amount realised.	Balance in stock.
					Rs. A. P.	
1. Anantapur	150	..	150	..	..	150
2. Arcot, North	..	511	511	6	5 12 0	505
3. Arcot, South	..	464	464	19	18 4 0	445
4. Bellary	..	278	278	68	65 10 0	210
5. Chingleput	..	..	..	..	..	..
6. Canara	..	239	239	44	42 12 0	195
7. Coimbatore	..	414	414	59	57 4 0	355
8. Cuddapah	265	222	487	177	170 8 0	310
9. Ganjám	285	274	559	264	253 2 0	295
10. Gódávari	630	62	692	52	51 2 0	640
11. Kistna	475	37	512	37	35 12 0	475
12. Kurnool	200	165	365	145	135 6 0	220
13. Malabar	455	676	1,131	646	625 8 0	485
14. Nellore	415	108	523	93	87 7 0	430
15. Nilgiris	..	242	242	137	132 6 0	105
16. Salem	..	469	469	29	27 14 0	440
17. Tanjore	..	767	767	147	141 0 0	620
18. Tinnevelly	..	1,428	1,428	893	851 12 0	535
19. Trichinopoly	..	394	394	69	72 8 0	325
20. Madura	..	1,033	1,033	448	432 6 0	585
21. Vizagapatam	430	450	880	450	439 12 0	430
	3,305	8,233	11,538	3,783	3,646 1 0	7,755
Coorg	110	343	453	343	329 6 0	110
Total ..	3,415	8,576	11,991	4,126	3,975 7 0	7,865

Statement No. 5.—Statement showing the sales at Post offices in order of actual sales, &c.

Districts.	Number of packets sold.	Amount realised.	Number of Post offices.	Average number of packets, sold per Post office.	Fever rate of mortality per 1,000 of population.	Population.
		Rs. A. P.				
1. Tinnevelly	893	851 12 0	107	8·74	4·6	1,915,702
2. Malabar	646	625 8 0	97	6·66	8·1	2,636,674
3. Vizagapatam	450	439 12 0	86	5·23	18·2	1,814,858
4. Madura	448	432 6 0	117	3·83	6·2	1,573,318
5. Ganjám	264	253 2 0	59	4·47	10·4	1,896,400
6. Cuddapah	177	170 8 0	62	2·85	16·0	1,271,721
7. Tanjore	147	141 0 0	124	1·18	2·3	2,227,081
8. Kurnool	145	135 6 0	44	3·29	15·1	817,660
9. Nilgiris	137	132 6 0	21	6·52	19·2	96,765
10. Nellore	93	87 7 0	86	1·08	8·8	1,463,357
11. Trichinopoly	69	72 8 0	65	1·06	5·2	1,371,726
12. Bellary	68	65 10 0	42	1·62	8·1	890,485
13. Coimbatore	59	57 4 0	71	0·83	7·1	2,003,911
14. Gódávari	52	51 2 0	128	0·40	9·6	2,077,858
15. South Canara	44	42 12 0	39	1·12	8·2	1,052,002
16. Kistna	37	35 12 0	95	0·39	6·8	1,855,024
17. Salem	29	27 14 0	88	0·33	8·0	1,961,784
18. South Arcot	19	18 4 0	88	0 21	7·3	2,162,336
19. North Arcot	6	5 12 0	100	0·06	7·1	2,113,585
20. Anantapur	..	..	30	..	2·8	727,319
	3,783	3,646 1 0	1,550	2·44	..	..
Coorg	343	329 6 0	22	15·59	..	..
Total ..	4,126	3,975 7 0	1,572	2·62	..	..

ORDER—No. 851, Revenue, dated 6th October 1897.

Miscellaneous.

The Government has read with interest the report submitted by Mr. Standen on the distribution and sale of quinine packets in the Madras Presidency, including Coorg, during the year 1896-97.

2. The total number of packets * sold during the year (5,672) showed an increase of 3,127 over the corresponding figure for 1895-96 and the comparatively large sales effected by the postal agency seem to conclusively prove that the extension of the system of the sale of the drug by post-masters to all parts of the Presidency sanctioned in G.O., No. 79, Revenue, dated 15th February 1896, was not decided on too early. The average number of packets sold at each post office in the five districts first selected for trial was, in 1895-96, 2·10. In the 1,550 post offices of the Presidency in 1896-97 it was 2·44. In the Coorg post offices it was 15·59, and this shows that a further extension of sales may be expected.

* *Note.*—Each packet contains 102 powders of 5 grains each.

In the number of packets sold by revenue officers, however, there was a slight decrease of 150 as compared with the previous year's figure, but this, as indicated in paragraph 8 of G.O., No. 578, Revenue, dated 16th July 1897, must, in general, be considered to be the consequence of the expansion of the sales by Postal agency. The Government is not, however, satisfied with the very small sales effected by the revenue authorities in Vizagapatam. The attention of the Collector will be drawn to the matter. The number of packets sold by revenue officers in this district for the past three years has been as follows:—

1894-95	74·92
1895-96	27·99
1896-97	1·50

whereas the number sold in the post offices last year was 450.

3. On the whole, the Government has no hesitation in declaring that the results of the year's sales have been very satisfactory and, as pointed out by Mr. Standen, there is very little doubt that when it becomes more generally known that cheap quinine can be obtained at all post offices the consumption of the drug among the fever-stricken population of the Presidency will increase largely.

4. Mr. Standen's suggestion that village postmen should be required to carry with them for sale a few quinine powders when making their rounds with letters will be referred for the remarks of the Postmaster-General, Madras. His proposal to advertize in English and in the vernaculars in District Gazettes that the drug can be purchased in five-grain powders from revenue officials and postmasters has the approval of Government and the Board will be requested to issue the necessary instructions to all the Collectors concerned.

5. The report asked for from the Collector of Nellore as to the circumstances under which the powders were being sold in his district at the rate of 3 pies instead of 2 pies should on receipt be submitted for the information of Government.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) G. STOKES,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Director of Government Cinchona Plantations.
,, the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue).
,, the Surgeon-General with the Government of Madras.
,, the Postmaster-General.

Exd. Shaik Karim.

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