

FIRST
ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
SANITARY COMMISSIONER FOR BENGAL,
FOR 1868.

WITH SELECTED EXTRACTS
FROM FORTY DISTRICT REPORTS; SPECIAL
REMARKS ON THESE; GENERAL OBSERVATIONS REGARDING
SANITATION IN BENGAL; APPENDICES,
&c. &c.



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goree, but information will also be given, as far as it has been gathered, about the new district.

Decidedly healthy—The condition of Julpigoree cannot be said either to have deteriorated or improved; no data exist on which to found a precise answer, but such is the opinion of Colonel Haughton, an experienced officer and shrewd observer, to whom I am greatly indebted for much of what follows:

Abstract from the Dispensary Returns of 1867-68.

	JULPIGOREE.			TITALYAH.			BODA.	GRAND TOTAL.	PER CENTAGE OF TOTALS.	REMARKS.
	1867.	1868.	Total.	1867.	1868.	Total.	1868.			
Fever, Intermittent ...	326	284	610	570	432	1,002	303	1,915	29	The Boda Dispensary was opened on 10th July 1868.
Ditto, Remittent ...	48	60	117	20	17	37	7	161	2	
Diarrhœa ...	19	49	68	28	45	73	13	154	2	
Dysentery ...	15	60	75	39	40	79	27	181	3	
Rheumatism...	33	39	72	60	27	87	48	207	3	
Syphilis, Gonorrhœa ...	96	69	165	40	41	81	36	282	4	
Cholera ...	0	4	4	6	6	12	8	24	4	
Small-pox ...	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	01	
Spleen disease ...	49	81	130	71	63	137	81	348	6	
Bronchocele...	15	8	23	5	7	12	5	40	59	
Bronchitis and Asthma...	50	84	134	26	69	95	29	258	4	
Skin diseases ...	104	46	150	155	149	304	118	572	9	
Ulcers and Abscesses .	60	53	113	41	51	92	31	236	39	
Other causes ...	347	511	858	484	428	912	392	2,162	33	
Total ...	1,162	1,357	2,519	1,549	1,375	2,924	1,098	6,541	100	

“ No diseases are peculiar to this locality. Bronchocele is rather common; cases of leprosy and elephantiasis are met with, but not in any remarkable number. Towards the hills, the natives suffer from the bites of an insect called the *pipsa* which causes small ulcers. The medical officer of the 41st Native Infantry at Buxa, writes me that a considerable number of the sepoys of that regiment have been incapacitated from duty, temporarily, from that cause. I don't know the species of insect. Bites and injuries of tigers,

pigs, rhinoceros, though hardly falling under the head of disease, are very common here.

There has been no exceptional sickness in 1868.

The district participates in the nature of the rest of Lower Bengal in the prevalence of fevers, mainly at the breaking up of the rains; and of bowel complaints and eruptive diseases, during the hot weather. In the cold weather, with a high range of temperature, and cold nights, dysentery is very common. Rheumatic affections are said to be worse during the hot weather. This may be owing to the great range of temperature, amounting frequently to 30°.

I can get no satisfactory account of the health of the Police. They are scattered about the district, and a register only kept of the sick at head quarters, a fraction of the total sick. In 1868 the daily average sick was about 30 in a force of 300, and the Sub-Assistant Surgeon in charge gives only one death for the whole force. The following table illustrates the health of the 6th Bengal Light Infantry in 1867 and 1868, I don't give 1866 because the men carried with them into Julpigoree many relics of the Bhootan campaign, in the form of scurvy, fevers, and, impaired constitutions:—

Statistics of the 6th Bengal Light Infantry for 1867-68, contrasted.

1867.	1868.
Strength (II) present 517 (II) absent 78 (III) Total 595 	(I) 562 (II) 80 (III) 613
Admission 800 	879
Admission, present of strength (II) per annum 154.7... 	156.4
Deaths (I) in hospital 7 (II) elsewhere 6 ...	(II) 6 (II) 3
Deaths per cent. of strength (I) 1,351 (II) 7,692 (III) 2,185. 	(I) 1,067 (II) 3.75 (III) 1,402
Deaths, average sick 25, constant sick per cent 4.8 	32.6 5.8
Average No. of days lost by each 17 ...	21