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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Financial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 243 Press Mis.

142-144.

Dated 20 - 2 - 1873.

32/33

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department,
20th February 1873.

Read the following papers :—

No. 142. From the President of the Municipal Commission, Trichinopoly, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated Trichinopoly, 27th January 1873, No. 34.

Referring to the Proceedings of the Municipal Commissioners for the Town of Trichinopoly at a meeting held on the 4th January 1873, I have the honour to enclose copies of correspondence beween the Commissioners and Dr. A. L. T. Cooke for orders, as requested by him.

EXTRACT from the Proceedings of the Municipal Commissioners for the Town of Trichinopoly at a Meeting held on the 23rd November 1872.

* * * *

Paragraph 16. Resolved that the Sub-Committee of the Civil Dispensary be requested to revise the prices charged for medicines (which are stated to be exorbitant), and to pass all bills sent out in future.

Resolved, also, that they be requested to reconsider the Dispensary Rules, especially that which directs that only the prescriptions of a medical officer shall be made up at the dispensary.

* * * *

(Signed) J. B. PENNINGTON,
President.

From Surgeon-Major A. L. T. COOKE, Garrison-Surgeon, Trichinopoly, to the President of the Municipal Commission, Trichinopoly, dated Trichinopoly, 3rd December 1872, No. 143.

Referring to extract from the Proceedings of the Municipal Commissioners, No. 660, dated 29th November 1872, I beg to state that the subject mentioned in paragraph 1 of the above extract has been referred to on a former occasion by me, and decided upon by Government, viz., "that, except in purely professional matters, such as the treatment of disease, the Commissioners have absolute authority over the administration and regulation of the affairs of the Civil Dispensary which has been made over to them."—*Vide Fort St. George Gazette*, page 1644. This decision of Government, nevertheless, in my opinion, in no way refers to the issue of medicines on the prescription or orders of non-professional persons.

2. Regarding paragraph 2 of extract of the same date, stating that the Sub-Committee "be requested to reconsider the Dispensary Rules, especially that which directs that only the prescriptions of a medical officer shall be made up at the dispensary," I beg to state that, so long as I am responsible, under the existing orders of Government, for the safe custody of medicines, many of which include poisons, I cannot permit their issue without the signature or initials of a professional person. Paragraph 70, page 93, Medical Code, clearly shows that these rules have been advisedly framed by Government, and this, too, in the interests of the public health.

EXTRACT from the Proceedings of the Municipal Commissioners for the Town of Trichinopoly at a Meeting held on the 7th December 1872.

* * * *

Paragraph 10. Read letter from Dr. Cooke stating that the Government Order, published in the Gazette, page 1644, in no way refers to the issue of medicines on the prescription or orders of non-professional persons, and that he cannot permit the issue of medicines without the signature or initials of a professional person.

Resolved that this letter be referred to the Sub-Committee for consideration in connexion with the question under inquiry by them, with the remark that, in the opinion of the Commissioners, the Medical Code is in no way necessarily binding upon them.

(Signed) J. B. PENNINGTON,
President.

Proceedings of the Sub-Committee of the Civil Dispensary at a Meeting held on the 13th of December 1872.

Present :

L. Moore, Esq.
M. R. Ry. T. Appajee Row.
,, ,, P. Striramulu Naidoo.

Read the following extract from the Proceedings of the Municipal Commissioners at a meeting held on the 23rd of November 1872 :—

" Resolved that the Sub-Committee of the Civil Dispensary be requested to revise the prices charged for medicines at that institution, as they are stated to be excessive, and also to pass all bills sent out for the future."

The Sub-Committee cannot consider that the prices supposed to be charged at the Civil Dispensary at present can be held to be excessive. They are as follows for non-subscribers :—1 Anna for each pill or powder, and 2 Annas for each ounce of fluid. If these rates of charges are strictly adhered to, the Sub-Committee do not think that there will be any cause of complaint on the score of exorbitant prices.

With reference to the latter portion of the resolution above recorded, the Sub-Committee request the Commissioners to call on Dr. Cooke to order the 1st Class Hospital Assistant at the Civil Dispensary for the future to bring all bills for signature to the President of the Sub-Committee, Dr. Cox, and in his absence to Mr. Moore, who will check and revise them.

2. Read the following extract from the Proceedings of the Municipal Commissioners at a meeting held on the 23rd November 1872 :—

" Resolved that the Sub-Committee be requested to reconsider the Dispensary Rules, especially that which directs that only the prescriptions of a medical officer shall be made up at the Civil Dispensary."

Read also a letter from Dr. Cooke on the same subject.

The Sub-Committee are decidedly of opinion that the rule, alluded to in the above-mentioned resolution, requires modification. Many persons are at present put to much trouble and expense by being obliged to procure a medical officer's prescription before they can obtain the most simple drug from the dispensary. The Sub-Committee cannot understand why an Hospital Assistant should not be as well-qualified to be entrusted with the responsibility of issuing medicines as an Assistant in a Druggist's shop. They would, therefore, propose that the 1st Class Hospital Assistant, at present attached to the dispensary, should be authorized to give out medicines on application being made to him, and that, in all cases where the advisability of complying with the application appears to him to be doubtful, he should refer to Dr. Cooke, who should have the power of refusing any such application, on giving his reasons for so doing. With reference to the latter portion of Dr. Cooke's letter, they would propose that no poisons should be sold from the dispensary without the sanction of the medical officer in charge.

3. With regard to the other statements made in Dr. Cooke's letter, referred to them for their consideration, the Sub-Committee remark that they cannot agree with that officer in considering that the Order of Government, to the effect that, except in purely professional matters, such as the treatment of diseases, the Commissioners are to have absolute authority over the dispensary, does not authorize them in altering the rule previously alluded to. The duties of the medical officer in charge are limited to the treatment of disease, which cannot be held to include the rules regulating the sale of medicines.

4. With reference to paragraph 2 of Dr. Cooke's letter, the Sub-Committee would remark that they cannot consider that the provisions of the Medical Code are in any way binding on the Commissioners in the management of the dispensary. However, in case the Commissioners have any doubt on this point, or on that alluded to in the previous paragraph, the Sub-Committee would suggest that they should submit the question to Government for decision, as it is very desirable that the differences of opinion that so often arise between the Commissioners and Dr. Cooke should be put a stop to, their frequent recurrence being, for many reasons, much to be regretted.

(Signed) LEWIS MOORE.
(,,) T. APPAJEE ROW.
(,,) P. STRIRAMULU NAIDOO.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Municipal Commissioners for the Town of Trichinopoly at a Meeting held on the 20th December 1872.

* * *

Paragraph 4. Read Proceedings of the Civil Dispensary Sub-Committee at a meeting held on the 13th December 1872.

Resolved that these Proceedings be forwarded to Dr. Cooke for an expression of his opinion, with the remark that the Commissioners are disposed to concur generally in the suggestions of the Sub-Committee.

(Signed) J. B. PENNINGTON,
President.

From Surgeon-Major A. L. T. COOKE, Garrison-Surgeon in charge of Civil Dispensary, Trichinopoly, to the President of the Municipal Commission, Trichinopoly, dated Trichinopoly, 30th December 1872, No. 155.

Referring to the concluding paragraph of the Proceedings of the Sub-Committee of the Civil Dispensary received on the 13th instant, I certainly concur with them that some authoritative decision ought to be made regarding the questions raised in their Proceedings under notice, viz., viz., whether the Government rule enacted by Government clearly for the interests of the public health in paragraph 70, page 93, of the Medical Code shall be set aside ? and whether (having regard to the conditions which obtain in the mofussil stations) these conditions, it may be added, having no analogy to the Druggist's shop as suggested by the Sub-Committee, so necessary to prevent injury (possibly crime) as would sooner or later accrue from the issue of medicines on the prescriptions of ignorant persons, is to be discarded.

2. I do not consider the opinions expressed in paragraph 2 of the Proceedings of the Sub-Committee should be submitted to.

3. The rescinding of this rule would cause other inconveniences, viz., the exhaustion of the stock of such medicines as the following, quinine, calomel, opium, &c., &c., on the demands of natives, who are fully aware of their value. Further, referring to the suggestion of the Sub-Committee, this paragraph, if carried into effect, would impose on the Hospital Assistant a duty of somewhat menial character, which it is proposed to throw upon him, the certain neglect of his legitimate duties which demand his constant presence in the dispensary would surely follow during his absence, of having the bills revised and signed by the Sub-Committee. I, therefore, trust such a suggestion should be withheld. Certainly the question raised in paragraphs 3 and 4 of the Proceedings under notice requires authoritative decision,—Are the rules for the regulation of Civil Dispensaries to be obsolete, &c., &c. ?

4. On the other hand, should the Government Order, whose ruling is recorded at page 1644 of the *Fort St. George Gazette* (amongst other papers placed at the disposal of the public press), be substituted for these rules, now abrogated, the interests of the institution with respect to its internal economy, discipline, and general arrangements must suffer on the almost complete withdrawal from the legitimate control (vested by Government) in the medical officers in charge. I, therefore, beg this correspondence may be submitted in its entirety to the decision of Government.

EXTRACT from the Proceedings of the Municipal Commissioners for the Town of Trichinopoly at a Meeting held on the 4th January 1873.

* * *

Paragraph 5. Read letter from Dr. Cooke referring to the Proceedings of the Sub-Committee relative to the Civil Dispensary.

Resolved, accordingly, that the President be requested to submit the whole correspondence for the orders of Government.

(Signed) J. B. PENNINGTON,
President.

No. 143. From the President of the Municipal Commission, Trichinopoly, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated Trichinopoly, 27th January 1873, No. 35.

In accordance with the Proceedings of the Municipal Commissioners for the town of Trichinopoly at a meeting held on the 20th December last, I have the honour to enclose copies of correspondence that has passed between the Commissioners and Dr. Cooke, and request the Government to define more distinctly the position of Civil Surgeons in charge of Municipal Dispensaries.

2. Dr. Cooke's reluctance to abandon the direct administrative charge of the Dispensary is perhaps only natural, and the Medical Code almost appears to compel him to adopt the course he has; so that it would seem advisable to frame a fresh Code of Instructions for Medical Officers in charge of institutions not directly under Government management.

From Surgeon-Major A. L. T. COOKE, Garrison-Surgeon, Trichinopoly, to the President of the Municipal Commission, Trichinopoly, dated Trichinopoly, 15th November 1872, No. 139.

I have the honour to forward you a copy of remarks made in the Visitors' Book by Mr. J. McDougall on the 13th instant. I beg to state that the book in question is not intended for such remarks, and have, therefore, ordered the erasure of the same :—

13th November. Extract.

J. McDougall called for some quinine.

EXTRACT from the Proceedings of the Municipal Commissioners for the Town of Trichinopoly at a Meeting held on the 16th November 1872.

* * * *

Paragraph 9. Read letter from Dr. Cooke, Garrison-Surgeon, with reference to a remark made in the Dispensary Book by Mr. J. A. McDougall. The remark alluded to being as follows :— "Called for quinine."

Ordered to be recorded, as the Commissioners see nothing objectionable in the remark made in the Dispensary Book.

(Signed) A. SAGE,
Vice-President.

From Surgeon-Major A. L. T. COOKE, Garrison-Surgeon, Trichinopoly, to the President of the Municipal Commission, Trichinopoly, dated Trichinopoly, 3rd December 1872, No. 142.

Referring to extract from the Proceedings of the Municipal Commissioners, No. 665, dated 29th November 1872, I beg to state that the remark made by Mr. McDougall was erased (or rather

blotted out) by me from the Visitors' Book of the Civil Dispensary, for the reasons given in my letter, No. 139, dated 15th ultimo, as I consider the remark objectionable.

From Surgeon-Major A. L. T. COOKE, Garrison-Surgeon, Trichinopoly, to the President of the Municipal Commission, Trichinopoly, dated Trichinopoly, 3rd December 1872, No. 141.

In reply to extract from the Proceedings of the Municipal Commissioners, No. 652, dated 28th November 1872, I beg to state that the "Visitors' Book" is not intended for such remarks as "Called for quinine" made by Mr. McDougall on the 13th November 1872.—See paragraph 29, page 53, volume I., Medical Code.

EXTRACT from the Proceedings of the Municipal Commissioners for the Town of Trichinopoly at a Meeting held on the 7th December 1872.

* * * *

Paragraph 9. Read letter from Dr. Cooke stating that he has erased the remark made by Mr. J. McDougall.

Also read letter from Dr. Cooke stating that the Visitors' Book is not intended for such remark as "Called for quinine."

Resolved that Dr. Cooke be informed that he has no authority to interfere with remarks made in the Visitors' Book, and should merely bring them to the notice of the Commissioners.

(Signed) J. B. PENNINGTON,
President.

From Surgeon-Major A. L. T. COOKE, Garrison-Surgeon, Trichinopoly, to the President of the Municipal Commission, Trichinopoly, dated Trichinopoly, 14th December 1872, No. 147.

The Municipality were informed of the remark made by Mr. McDougall in the Visitors' Book, but they "saw nothing objectionable in it." The remark was erased to prevent any other like entry into the Visitors' Book of the Civil Dispensary, because, if such remarks were allowed to stand, it would be a precedent for other and similar ones, and the Visitors' Book would soon resemble the old Bungalow books, wherein remarks were made quite irrelevant to the purpose for which they were kept. I, therefore, considered myself to be fully justified in erasing the objectionable remark.

2. Government has laid down certain and stringent rules for the proper keeping of the several books in the dispensary, and, until Government rescind these rules, I hold myself entirely responsible to that authority and no other.

EXTRACT from the Proceedings of the Municipal Commissioners for the Town of Trichinopoly at a Meeting held on the 20th December 1872.

* * *

Paragraph 10. Read letter from Dr. Cooke stating that he is responsible for the remarks made in the Visitors' Book, but no other until the Government cancel the rules laid down by them.

Resolved that Government be requested to define more distinctly the position of Civil Surgeons in charge of dispensaries with reference to the Municipal Commissioners.

The Commissioners have no doubt whatever as to the meaning and intent of G. O., No. 1270, dated 25th September 1872, but, unfortunately, Dr. Cooke takes a different view of it, and the consequence is a number of petty discussions between him and the Commissioners which are much to be regretted.

(Signed) J. B. PENNINGTON,
President.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department,
20th February 1873.

No. 144. ORDER THEREON, 20th February 1873, No. 243.

The Governor in Council considers that Dr. Cooke was wrong in erasing from the Dispensary Visitors' Book any remarks although he was at liberty to bring improper ones to the notice of the Commissioners. The remark in question was certainly not such as ought to have been entered in the Visitors' Book, but, otherwise, there is nothing objectionable in it.

2. As the Municipality pay for the medicines the Hospital Assistant might issue all simple medicines and prescriptions—castor-oil, blue-pill, black dose and the like. But he should not issue any in which poisons or dangerous drugs enter, or such as he considers questionable, unless the prescription is signed by a medical man.

3. It is, of course, open to the Commissioners to fix the charges for medicines supplied and pass the bills.

4. The attention of the President is drawn to the standing order against sending up masses of undigested correspondence to Government for orders, and to the waste of paper in the reference, no less than thirty-five out of fifty-six pages being absolutely blank.

(True Extract.)

Chief Secretary.

To the President of the Municipal Commission, Trichinopoly.
,, Inspector-General, Indian Medical Department.

Exd. J. Wright.

Govt. of {1873} Madras.

FINANCIAL.

To

THE PRESIDENT OF THE
MUNICIPAL COMMISSION,
Trichinopoly,

&c., &c., &c.

Dated February, 20th.

Recd. *Encl.*

G. O., 20th February 1873, No. 243.

FEBRUARY.
Nos. 142—144.

Passing orders on the correspondence between the Municipal Commissioners and Dr. Cooke, Garrison-Surgeon in charge of the Civil Dispensary at Trichinopoly.

Trichinopoly Municipal Commrs Office
28th January 1873.

No. 139.

Civil Dispensary Trichinopoly
15th November 1872.

From

Surgeon Major A. L. J. Cooke
Garrison Surgeon
Trichinopoly

To.

The President
Municipal Commission
Trichinopoly

Sir

I have the honor to forward
you, a Copy of remarks made in the Visitors
book by Mr. I. Mc. Dougall, on the 13th
Instant. I beg to state that the book
in question is not intended for such
remarks, and have therefore ordered the
erasure of the Same.

13th November Extract
I. Mc. Dougall - Called
for some Quinine.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedt. Servant
Signed / Arthur L. J. Cooke Surgeon Major
Garrison Surgeon

True Copy
J. B. Pennington
President

Rec'd 1873 Feb 1.
Trichy

To The Secretary
Municipal Commission
Trichinopoly

No 245

The Civil Surgeon
& Ex Officio Civil
Medical Officer
Trichy

Memo 28/1/73

Rec'd

L. O. No. 245-37 28/2/73.

Trichinopoly Munic Commrs office
28th January 1873.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Municipal Commissioners for the Town of Trichinopoly at a meeting held on the 16th November 1872.

Para. 9. Read letter from Doctor Cooke Garrison Surgeon with reference to a remark made in the Dispensary Book by Mr. J. A. McDougall. The remark alluded to being as follows "Called for Guinea" ordered to be recorded, as the Commissioners see nothing objectionable in the remark made in the Dispensary Book.

Signed A. Sage.
Vice President

True Copy

J. B. Cunningham
President

417

Trichinopoly Municpl. Commrs. office
28th January 1893

No. 142. Trichinopoly
3d. December 1892.

From

Surgeon Major A.L.J. Cooke
Garrison Surgeon

To,

The President
Municipal Commission
Trichinopoly

Sir

Referring to Extract from the Proceedings of the Municipal Commissioners No. 665. dated 29th November 1892, I beg to state that the remarks made by Mr. Mc. Dougall was erased (or rather blotted out) by me from the visitors' book of the Civil Dispensary for the reasons given in my letter No. 139 dated 15th Ultimo as I consider the remarks objectionable.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obed. Servant
Signed/ Arthur L.J. Cooke
Surgeon Major
Garrison Surgeon

True Copy

J.W. Pennington
President

Trichinopoly Muni. Commrs Office
28th January 1873.

No 141. Trichinopoly
3d December 1872.

From

Surgeon Major A.L.J. Cooke
Garrison Surgeon

To,

The President
Municipal Commission
Trichinopoly

Sir

In reply to Extract from the Proceedings of the Municipal Commissioners No 652 dated 28th November 1872. I beg to state that the "Visitors Book" is not intended for such remarks as "called for Enquiry" made by Mr. Dr. Dougall on the 13th November 1872. Su para 29, page 53, Volume I Medical Code.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your Most Obedt. Servant
Signed/ Arthur L.J. Cooke
Surgeon Major
Garrison Surgeon

True Copy

J. B. Cunningham
President

Trichinopoly Municpl. Commrs. Office
28th January 1873.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Municipal Commissioners for the Town of Trichinopoly at a Meeting held on the 9th December 1872.

x x x

Para 9.

Read letter from Doctor Cooke stating that he has erased the remarks made by Mr. J. McDougall.

Also read letter from Doctor Cooke stating that the visitors book is not intended for such remarks as "called for quinine."

Resolved that Doctor Cooke be informed that he has no authority to interfere with remarks made in the Visitors Book and should merely bring them to the notice of the Commissioners.—

Signed/ J. P. Pennington
President

True Copy

J. P. Pennington
President

and until Government rescinds these rules I hold myself entirely responsible to that authority and no other.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obed.t Servant
Signed/ Arthur L. T. Cooke
Surgeon Major
Garrison Surgeon

True Copy/

J. S. Pennington
President

Washington D. C. Jan.y

Trichinopoly Munic. Commrs. office
28th January 1893

Extract from the Proceedings of the Municipal Commissioners for the Town of Trichinopoly at a meeting held on the 20th December 1892.

Para 10.

Read letter from Doctor Cooke stating that he is responsible for the remarks made in the visitors Book but no others until the Government Cancel the rules laid down by them.

Resolved that Government be requested to define more distinctly the position of Civil Surgions incharge of Dispensaries with reference to the Municipal Commissioners.

The Commissioners have no doubt whatever to the meaning and intent of G.O. № 1270 dated 25th September 1872, but unfortunately Doctor Cooke takes a different view of it, and the consequence is a number of petty discussions between him and the Commissioners which are much to be regretted.

Signed/ A.D. Pennington
President

True Copy

J. B. Remington

President

No 20 : Feby 5th 1813

Municipal Commission

No 25 Pychinopoly 27th January 1813

1813

From

The President
Municipal Commission
Pychinopoly

To,

The Chief Secretary to Govt
Fort Saint George
Madras.

Sir,

In accordance with the Proceedings of the Municipal Commissioners for the Town of Pychinopoly at a Meeting held on the 20th December last I have the honor to enclose copies of correspondence that has passed between the Commissioners and Doctor Cooke, and request the Government to define more distinctly the position of Civil Surgeons in charge of Municipal Dispensaries.

2. Doctor Cooke's reluctance to abandon the direct administrative charge of the Dispensary is perhaps only

only natural, and the Medical Code
almost appears to compel him to
adopt the course he has; so that
it would seem advisable to frame
a fresh Code of instructions for Medical
Officers in charge of institutions not
directly under Government Manage-
-ment.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most Obdt Servant

J. B. Pennington
President.

Extract from the Proceed-
-ings of the Municipal Commissioners
for the Town of Inchmurlo at a
Meeting held on the 23rd November 1892

* * * *

Para 16. Resolved that the Sub
Committee of the Civil Dispensary
be requested to revise the prices charged
for Medicines (which are stated to be
exorbitant) and to pass all Bills sent
out in future.—

Resolved also that they be
requested to reconsider the Dispensary
rules especially that which directs
that only the prescriptions of a Medical
officer shall be made up at the
Dispensary.—

* * * *

(Signed) L.B. Pennington
President.

(True Extract)

L.B. Pennington
President

Para 16 Nov 23 1892 Extract

To Chas Reynolds
Bank Terrace
Inchmurlo

No 10243

Mr 35

To Chas Chapple Esquire
Town Clerk

Inchmurlo

Dr to Chas Reynolds Chemist & Druggist

Prescription 28th June 1892 £0.1.6

Received 8/5½ 1892

Rec'd 1893

13.

Inchmurlo 28th June 1892

Gentlemen,

Please forward me a
bottle of Mixture as per
enclosed prescription and
oblige

Yours truly
Chas Reynolds

The Duties of Civil Dispensary
Inchmurlo

a/b
R.B.

57

Trichinopoly Municpl. Commrs. Office
28th January 1873.

No. 143

Trichinopoly
3d. December 1872

From.

Surgeon Major A. L. J. Cooke
Garrison Surgeon

To,

The President
Municipal Commissioners
Trichinopoly

Sir

Referring to Extract from the Proceedings of the Municipal Commissioners No. 660 dated 29th November 1872, I beg to state that the subject mentioned in para 1 of the above extract has been referred to on a former occasion by me and decided upon by Government, viz. that except in purely professional "matters, such as the treatment of disease, "the Commissioners have absolute "authority" over the administration and "regulation" of the affairs of the Civil "Dispensary" which has been made over "to them." Vide Fort Saint George Gazette page 1644. This decision of Government, nevertheless in my opinion, in no way refers

= to the issue of Medicines on the prescriptions or orders of non-professional persons.

2. Regarding para 2 of the extract of the same date stating that the Sub-Committee "be requested to reconsider the Dispensary rules especially that which directs that only the prescriptions of a Medical officer shall be made up at the Dispensary." I beg to state that so long as I am responsible, under the existing orders of Government for the safe Custody of Medicines, many of which include poisons, I Cannot permit their issue without the signature or initials of a professional person. Para 70. page 93. Medical Code. clearly shows that these rules have been advisedly framed by Government, and this too in the interests of the Public health.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obed. Servant
Signed Arthur L. J. Cooke Surgeon Major
Garrison Surgeon

True Copy

J. B. Pennington
President

Trichinopoly Municpl. Commrs. office
28th January 1893.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Municipal Commissioners for the Town of Trichinopoly at a meeting held on the 14th December 1892.

x x x

Para 10.

Read letter from Doctor Cooke stating that the Government order published in the Gazettee page 1644 in no way refers to the issue of Medicines on the prescription or orders of non-Professional persons, and that he cannot permit the issue of Medicines without the signature or Initial of a Professional person.

Resolved that this letter be referred to the Sub-Committee for Consideration in Connection with the question under enquiry by them, with the remark that, in the opinion of the Commissioners, the Medical Code is in no way necessarily binding upon them.

Signed J. B. Pennington
President

True Copy

J. B. Pennington
President

Proceedings of the Sub-Committee of the Civil Dispensary at a meeting held on the 13th of December 1892.

Present

L. Moore Esquire
W. R. Ry. J. Appapa Row
" P. Thiruvenkata Naidu

1. Read the following extract from the Proceedings of the Municipal Commissioners at a meeting held on the 23rd of November 1892.

"Resolved that the Sub Committee of the Civil Dispensary be requested to reverse the prices charged for Medicines at that institution, as they are stated to be excessive, and also to pass all Bills sent out for the future."

The sub Committee cannot consider that the prices supposed to be charged at the Civil Dispensary at present can be held to be excessive. They are as follows for non-Subscribers. 1 anna for each Pill or Powder and 2 annas for each ounce of fluid. If these rates of charges are strictly adhered to the Sub-Committee do not think that there will be any cause of complaint on the score of exorbitant prices.

With reference to the latter portion of the resolution above recorded, the

= Sub Committee request the Commissioners to call on Doctor Cooke to order the 1st class Hospital Assistant at the Civil Dispensary for the future to bring all Bills for signature to the President of the Sub-Committee, Doctor Cooke, and in his absence to Mr. Moore; who will Check and revise them.

2. Read the following extract from the Proceedings of the Municipal Commissioners at a meeting held on the 23d November 1872.

"Resolved that the Sub-Committee be requested to reconsider the Dispensary rules, especially that which directs that only the prescriptions of a Medical officer shall be made up at the Civil-Dispensary.

Read also a letter from Doctor Cooke on the same subject.

The Sub-Committee are decidedly of opinion that the rule alluded to in the above mentioned resolution requires modification- Many persons are at present put to much trouble and expense by being obliged to procure a medical officers prescription before they can obtain the most simple drug from the Dispensary. The sub Committee cannot understand why an Hospital Asst. should not be as well qualified to be = entrusted with the responsibility of issuing Medicines as an Assistant in a druggists shop. They would therefore propose that the 1st class Hospital assistant at present attached to the Dispensary should be authorized to give out Medicines on application being made to him and that, in all cases where the advisibility of complying with the application appears to him to be doubtful, he should refer to Doctor Cooke who should have the power of refusing any such application, on giving his reasons for so doing. With reference to the latter portion of Doctor Cookes letter, they would propose that no poisons should be sold from the Dispensary without the sanction of the Medical officer in charge.

3 With regard to the other suggestions made in Doctor Cookes letter, referred to them for their consideration, the Sub-Committee remark that they cannot agree with that officer in considering that the order of Government, to the effect that, except in purely professional matters such as the treatment of diseases, the Commissioners are to have absolute authority over the Dispensary =

does not authorize them in altering the rule previously alluded to. The duties of the Medical officers incharge are limited to the treatment of disease; which cannot be held to include the rules regulating the sale of Medicines.

4. With reference to para 2. of Doctor Cooke's letter, the Sub-Committee would remark that they cannot consider that the provisions of the Medical Code are in any way binding on the Commissioners in the management of the Dispensary. However, in case the Commissioners have any doubts on this point or on that alluded to in the previous para, the sub-Committee would suggest that they should submit the question to Government for decision, as it is very desirable that the differences of opinion, that so often arise between the Commissioners and Doctor Cooke should be put a stop to, their frequent recurrence being, for many reasons, much to be regretted.

True Copy Signed/ Lewis Moore
" " J. Appaji Row.
" " P. Shanmuga Mudaly

True Copy

J. S. Pennington
President

457

Trichinopoly Municipal Commrs. Office
28th January 1893.

Ex. extract from the Proceedings of the Municipal Commissioners for the Town of Trichinopoly at a Meeting held on the 20th December 1892.

x x x

Para 4

Read Proceedings of the Civil-Dispensary Sub-Committee at a Meeting held on the 13th December 1892.

Resolved that these Proceedings be forwarded to Doctor Cooke for an expression of his opinion with the remark that the Commissioners are disposed to concur generally in the suggestions of the sub-Committee.

Signed/ J. S. Pennington
President

True Copy

J. S. Pennington
President

Trichinopoly Munipl Commrs. office
20th January 1873

No 155. Civil Dispensary
Trichinopoly 30th December 1872.

From,
Surgeon Major A. L. I. Cooke
Garrison Surgeon
In charge Dispensary

To,
The President
Municipal Commission
Trichinopoly

Sir

Referring to the concluding para of the Proceedings of the Sub-Committee of the Civil Dispensary received the 13th instant. I certainly concur, with them, that some authoritative decision ought to be made regarding the questions raised in their proceedings under notice, namely whether the Government rule quoted Government clearly for the interests of the public health in para 70 page 93 of the Medical Code shall be set aside and whether (having regard to the Conditions which obtain in the Mofussil Stations) these Conditions it may be added, bewing no analogy to the Druggists shop as suggested by the Sub-Committee, so necessary to prevent injury (possibly Crime) as would sooner or later accrue

= from the issue of Medicines on the prescriptions of ignorant persons is to be discarded.

I do not consider the opinions expressed in Para 2 of the Proceedings of the Sub-Committee should be submitted to.

The rescinding of this rule would cause other inconveniences Viz the exhaustion of the stock of such Medicines as the following Quinine, Calomel, Opium &c &c on the demands of natives, who are fully aware of their value. Further referring to the suggestion of the Sub Committee, this para if carried into effect would impose on the Hospital Assistant a duty of somewhat menial character, which it is proposed to throw upon him, the certain neglect of his legitimate duties which demand his constant presence in the Dispensary would surely follow during his absence, of having the bills revised and signed by the Sub-Committee. I therefore trust such a suggestion should be withheld. Certainly the question raised in paras 3 and 4 of the Proceedings under notice requires authoritative decision are the rules for the regulation of Civil Dispensaries to be absolete &c?

on the other hand should the Government order whose ruling is recorded at page 64 of the Fort Saint George =

Gazette (amongst other papers placed at the disposal of the public press) be substituted for these rules, now abrogated, the interests of the Institution with respect to its internal economy, discipline, and general arrangements must suffer on the almost complete withdrawal from the legitimate Control (vested by Government) in the Medical Officers in Charge. I therefore beg this correspondence may be submitted in its entirety to the decision of Government.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obed.t Servant
Signed/ Arthur L. G. Cooke
Surgeon Major
Garrison Surgeon
In charge Dispensary

True Copy
J. S. Pennington
President

Trichinopoly Municipal Commrs Office
28th January 1873

Extract from the Proceedings of the Municipal Commissioners for the Town of Trichinopoly at a meeting held on the 4th January 1873.

x x x

Para 5.

Read letter from Doctor Goode referring to the Proceedings of the Sub-Committee relative to the Civil Dispensary.

Resolved accordingly that the President be requested to submit the whole correspondence for the orders of Government.

Signed/ A. D. Pennington
President

True Copy.

J. D. Pennington
President

49 55

Financial Department.

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following letters from

The Presdt. Municipal Commission
Trichinopoly dated 28 Jany 73
Nos 34 and 35.

Order thereon 20 Feby 73 No 248.

The Governor
in Council considers that
Dr Cooke was wrong in
erasing from the Dispensary
Visitor's Book any remarks
although he was at liberty
to bring improper ones to
the notice of the Commission-
ers. The remark in question
was certainly not such as
ought to have been entered
in the Visitor's Book, but
otherwise there is nothing
objectionable in it.

As

2. As the Municipality pay for the medicines the Hospital Assistant might issue all simple medicines and prescriptions Castor oil, Blue Pill, Black dose and the like. But he should not issue any in which poisons or dangerous drugs enter, or such as he considers questionable unless the prescription is signed by a Medical man

3. It is of course open to the Commissioners to fix the charges for medicines supplied and pass the bills.

4. The attention of the Presidt. is drawn to the Standing Order against sending up masses of undigested correspondence to Govt. for orders, and to the waste of paper in the reference,

no

the prescriptions is signed by a Medical man

57

Financial Department.

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following letter from

The President Municipal Commission, Erichinopoly dated 28th January 1873 Nos. 34 and 35.

Order thereon.

The Governor in Council considers that Dr Cooke was wrong in erasing from the Dispensary Visitors' book any remarks although he was at liberty to bring improper ones to the notice of the Commissioners. The remark in question was certainly not such as ought to have been entered in the Visitors' Book.

[~~for the Commissioners~~ ~~are endeavouring to check~~ ~~issues of medicines by~~

I would say "but therein there is nothing objectionable in it."

~~some record of applications.~~

2. The Governor in Council considers that Dr Cooke was perfectly right in objecting to leave being given for making up prescriptions in the Dispensary not signed by a Medical man And is surprised that the charge of the Standing rule should have been contemplated.

3. The Dispensary is not a mere Druggists' shop, but there can be no objection to the Medical officer preparing for the sanction of the Commissioners a list of doses of individual medicines which the Dispensary Medical officer might dispense without prescription merely recording the transactions.

If as I believe is the case the Municipality pay for the medicines. I think the Hospital Asst. might issue all simple medicines and prescriptions. Castor oil - Blue Pill - Black Draught & the like - But he should not issue any in which poisons or dangerous drugs enter - or act as he can. Liston Question the

+ pass the bills.

+ and to the most of papers in the reference - no less than 35 out of 56 are being attended by proper Hawk.

It is of course open to the Commissioners to fix the charges for medicines supplied.

4 The attention of the President is drawn to the Standing Order against sending up masses of undigested correspondence to Government for orders. + J

5 It is to be hoped that the time of Government is not to be much longer taken up with offence taken frequently by quacks.

[illegible] 5: It would be well to [illegible] directly from the Hospital Doctor. Cooke is "confined to [illegible]" in clinical [illegible]

To The President, Municipal Commission, Lucknow

Inspector Genl Hospitals Department

Correspondence between the Municipal Commissioners of Inchicore and the Corporation.

Govt. of 187 } Madras.

To _____

Dated
Recd. } 187 , No.

Nos.

Recorded

a/2
12 Ca

20 61

no less than 35 out of 56 pages being absolutely blank.

28 (24 to 10

To
The Secretary Municipal Commissioners Inchicore 63 } dispd 27/2
" Deputy Genl Inspr Medl Department 63

Govt. of {1873} Madras.

Financial

To

The Presdt. Trunl. Commr.
Trichinopoly

Sea

Dated Febr. 20
Recd.

1873, No. 243.

Nos. 142. 144

Passing Orders on the Correspondence between the Trunl. Commrs & Dr. for the Garrison Surgeon in charge of the Civil Dispensary at Trichinopoly.