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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Financial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 235 Press ~~Mis.~~

95-96.

Dated 11—2— 1896.

13/14

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department,
11th February 1874.

No. 95. Read the following letter from Surgeon-General E. G. BALFOUR, Surgeon-General, Indian Medical Department, to the Honourable W. HUDLESTON, Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated Fort St. George, 18th December 1873, No. 488:—

In paragraph 5 of G.O., No. 1403, of 1st October 1873, the Right Honourable the Governor in Council thus observed:—"The Rev. Mr. Chester's Dispensary maintains its high reputation and appears well deserving of the support given to it by the Municipality; the Government would suggest to the Municipality and Local Fund Board the plan of providing stipends for pupils to be trained for eventual practice in the district, if Mr. Chester is able and willing to adopt the system; his valuable assistance affords a rare opportunity."

2. After receipt of that Government Order, the Rev. Edward Chester, on the 27th November, addressed to me the letter which I beg to attach, in which he mentions that he will carry out the wishes of Government, as to a school of medicine, but needs a direct proposition from my office. He mentions that he has an English school of 150, of whom the highest class is preparing for matriculation; and he adds that he could collect at once thirty to fifty intelligent lads with a fair knowledge of English, who would pledge themselves to remain for three or four years in a medical school, at Dindigul, in connexion with the dispensary, and give themselves wholly to the medical work. As the stipends of these pupils, he proposes Rupees 5 for first year, Rupees 6 for second year, and Rupees 7 for third year, and he suggests that, during their three or four years' course, these pupils shall have two hours daily of instruction in English, and he thinks that three or four years passed as above ought to give such lads a fair knowledge of Materia Medica, Anatomy, Compounding, diagnosing, and prescribing for ordinary cases of disease, as well as ability to perform all ordinary minor operations. He thinks that these pupils, after graduating, should remain under probation for one or two years in a Dindigul Dispensary under his superintendence, and he recommends that a few of the best graduates shall be transferred to the Madras Medical School. He further proposes that ten or twenty boys on Rupees 3 should be selected to form a nursery for the stipendiary pupils, to be two years in an English school, pledged to join the medical class. He proposes that text-books shall be loaned while in school, and sold afterwards to pupils at half rate. He mentions that a Hospital Assistant or an Apothecary should be detailed to him as his Assistant Professor, and that diagrams and furniture should be provided. He further suggests that the stipends allotted in Dindigul to pupils should be the same as in other Provincial Schools.

3. I think that in issuing the G.O., No. 1403, of 1873, I correctly apprehend the object of Government to have been to point to the Rev. Edward Chester's Dispensary, at Dindigul, as an institution that could become one of the Provincial Schools of medicine, the formation of which has been under the consideration of Government ever since the year 1866, and as one from which could be sent out medical men capable of attending to those ailments of the people of the country which imperil life and limb.

4. But it will be observed that the Rev. Mr. Chester's curriculum for his proposed lower class at the Dindigul Dispensary occupies from six to eight years, costs about Rupees 504, and then only turns out men qualified to prescribe for ordinary cases of disease, and to perform all minor surgical operations.

DINDIGUL.

Lower degree.	RS.	*Higher degree.*	RS.
20 Nursery lads for two years, at 3 Rs.	1,440	20 Nursery, &c.	1,440
30 Students for 1st year, at 5 Rs.	1,800	30 Students, 1st year, at 5 Rs.	1,800
30 Students for 2nd year, at 6 Rs.	2,160	30 Students, 2nd year, at 6 Rs.	2,160
30 Students for 3rd year, at 7 Rs.	2,520	30 Students, 3rd year, at 7 Rs.	2,520
Supervision for two years, say at 10 Rs.	7,200	30 Students, 4th year, at 8 Rs.	2,880
		2 years at Medical College, at 9 Rs.	3,240
		2 years at Medical College, at 10 Rs.	3,600
30)	15,120	30)	17,643
Each lad to cost	504	Each lad to cost	588

5. The Rev. Mr. Chester proposes that a few of the best graduates shall be passed into the Madras Medical College, in carrying out which, each lad would cost Rupees 588, and occupy about seven or eight years.

6. From Mr. Chester's lower school, each pupil costing Rupees 504, the lads will be sent out with a knowledge of the medical art, of a little greater amount than is now taught to our two years' precollegiate students, whose cost is Rupees 180; and from his higher school, costing Rupees 588, students will be sent out with an education equal to that now imparted to the Hospital Assistants, which costs Rupees 500.

7. I have the honour to remind the Right Honourable the Governor in Council that the Medical Education Committee of 1869, composed of Surgeons-Major Ranking, G. Smith, and Native-Surgeon Iyasawmy, assembled to report on the curriculum needed for educating medical men for the country, recommended only a three years' curriculum, and my predecessor, in sending on the Committee's report, proposed to reduce one of the subjects which the Committee had recommended, and to make it a two years' curriculum, and I concur in the opinion then expressed by my predecessor, that, in the present state of this country, an education extending through two years is amply sufficient to prepare medical men capable of attending to ailments affecting life and limb; and, in my opinion, this is the point to the attainment of which the efforts of Government in behalf of the country generally should, at the present time, be directed. In highly-civilized countries, where personal comfort is a matter of great importance, medical men, even of the highest fame, are resorted to for every unimportant ordinary disease, and for every minor surgical affection. But Madras, with its 31,000,000 of population, has only about 450 educated medical men of all kinds, and life and limb are constantly being lost, because the uneducated Vydian and uneducated Hakim, the potter, the barber, and barber's wife cannot give sufficient aid. The two years' curriculum, which my predecessor recommended, is amply sufficient for all that is

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department,
11*th February* 1874.

needed in the present state of the country, for which the Committee stated that 4,000 medical men are needed, while my predecessor named 8,000 as the number required.

8. The subject of the Provincial Schools is, at present, before Government, and, when disposed of, the question as to whether the Rev. Edward Chester's Dindigul Dispensary might form one of the schools may then be considered. But, as mentioned in my last letter on this subject, so soon as the Madras Medical College shall have attained its limits, as regards the numbers it can teach, the next best institution in the Madras Presidency, to which pupils should be sent, is undoubtedly the Native Infirmary of the Monegar Choultry.

9. As the Rev. Mr. Chester mentions that he could collect at once thirty to fifty intelligent lads who would be willing to follow medicine as a career, I would mention to the Right Honourable the Governor in Council my conviction that any number of lads, both of European origin and belonging to the Native races, will readily, many of them gratuitously, at once enter on the study of medicine, provided they see their way to a respectable income, when grown to manhood.

No. 96. ORDER THEREON, 11th February 1874, No. 235.

Ordered to be communicated to the Dindigul Municipality and to the Rev. Edward Chester.

2. The G[illegible] in Council will be glad to be favoured with their remarks on the Surgeon-General's letter.

(True Extract.)

Chief Secretary.

To the President of the Municipal Commission, Dindigul.
,, Rev. Edward Chester.
,, Surgeon-General, Indian Medical Department.

Exd. J. Wright.

Govt. of {1874 Madras

FINANCIAL.

To

THE PRESIDENT OF THE MUNICIPAL COMMISSION, Dindigul, &c., &c., &c.

Dated February, 11th.

Recd. Encl.

G.O., 11th February 1874, No. 235.

FEBRUARY.
Nos. 95-96.

Mofussil Medical Schools.—Letter from the Surgeon-General reporting on the proposal to train medical pupils in connexion with the Rev. Mr. Chester's Dispensary at Dindigul, forwarded to that gentleman and to the Dindigul Municipality for their remarks.

677

No. 488

Surgeon
OFFICE OF ~~INSPECTOR~~-GENERAL, I. M. D.,
Fort Saint George, 18th December 1873.

From

Surgeon
~~INSPECTOR~~-GENERAL EDWARD BALFOUR,
Surgeon
~~Inspector~~ General of ~~Hospitals~~,
Indian Medical Department,
Fort Saint George,

To

The Chief Secretary to Government.
Financial Department.
Fort Saint George.

SIR,

In para. 5 of G.O. No. 1403 of 1st October 1873, the Right Honorable the Governor in Council thus observed:- "The Revd. Mr. Chester's Dispensary maintains its high reputation and appears well deserving of the support given to it by the Municipality. "the Government would suggest to the Municipality "and Local Fund Board, the plan of providing "stipends for pupils to be trained for eventual "practice in the district, if Mr. Chester is able and "willing to adopt the system; his valuable assistance affords a rare opportunity."

2. After receipt of that Government Order, the Reverend Edward Chester, on the 27th November addressed to me the letter which I beg to attach,

in

in which he mentions that he will carry out the wishes of Government; as to a school of Medicine, but needs a direct proposition from my Office. He mentions that he has an English school of 150, of whom the highest class is preparing for Matriculation; and he adds that he could collect at once 30 to 50 intelligent lads with a fair Knowledge of English, who would pledge themselves to remain for three or four years in a Medical School, at Dindigul, in connection with the Dispensary and give themselves wholly to the Medical Work. As the stipends of these pupils, he proposes Rs. 5 for first year, Rs. 6 for second year, and Rs. 7 for third year, and he suggests that during their three or four years course, these pupils shall have two hours daily of instruction in English, and he thinks that three or four years passed as above ought to give such lads a fair knowledge of Materia Medica, Anatomy, Compounding, Diagnosing and Prescribing for ordinary cases of disease, as well as ability to perform all ordinary minor operations. He thinks that these pupils, after graduating, should remain under probation for one or two years in a Dindigul Dispensary under his superintendence, and he recommends that a few of the best graduates shall be

be transferred to the Madras Medical School. He further proposes that 10 or 20 boys on Rs. 3 should be selected to form a Nursery for the stipendiary pupils, to be two years in an English school, pledged to join the Medical Class. He proposes that textbooks shall be loaned while in school, and sold afterwards to pupils at half rate. He mentions that a Hospital Assistant or an Apothecary should be detailed to him as his Assistant professor, and that diagrams and furniture should be provided. He further suggests that the stipends allotted in Dindigul to pupils should be the same as in other provincial schools.

3. I think that in issuing the G.O. No. 1403 of 1873, I correctly apprehend the object of Government to have been to point to the Reverend Edward Chesters Dispensary at Dindigul, as an institution that could become one of the Provincial Schools of Medicine, the formation of which has been under the consideration of Government, ever since the year 1866, and as one from which could be sent out Medical men capable of attending to those ailments of the people of the country, which imperil life and limb

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-lation, has only about 450. educated Medical men
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uneducated Hakim, the potter, the barber and
barber's wife, cannot give sufficient aid. The
two years' curriculum, which my predecessor re-
-commended, is amply sufficient for all that
is needed in the present state of the country, for
which the Committee stated that 4,000 medical
men are needed, while my predecessor named
8,000 as the number required.

8- The subject of the provincial schools is
at present, before Government, and when disposed
of, the question as to whether the Reverend Edward
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of the schools may then be considered. But,
as mentioned in my last letter, on this sub-
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the numbers it can teach, the next best
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of lads, both of European origin and belonging
to the Native races, will readily, many of them
gratuitously, at once, enter on the study of Medicine
provided they see their way to a respectable
income, when grown to manhood.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedient Servant,

Edward Balfour Surgeon Genl.
Surgeon General.
Indian Medical Dept.

4. But it will be observed that the Revd.

Mr. Chester's Curriculum for his proposed lower class at the Dindigul Dispensary occupies from 6 to 8 years, costs about Rs. 504, and then only turns out men qualified to prescribe for ordinary cases of disease, and to perform all minor surgical operations.

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Lower Degree.	Rs.	Higher Degree.	
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30 Students for 1st yr. at 5 Rs. =	1,800.	30 Students, 1st year at 5 Rs.	1,800.
" 2d " " 6 " =	2,160.	2d " " 6 Rs.	2,160.
" 3d " " 7 " =	2,520.	3d " " 7 Rs.	2,520
Supervision for 2 yrs. say at 10 " =	7,200.	4th " " 8 Rs.	2,880.
30	15,120	2 yrs. at Medical College at 9 Rs.	3,240.
Each lad to cost:	Rs. 504.	" 10 Rs.	3,600
		30	17,640
		Each lad to cost:	Rs. 588

5. The Revd. Mr. Chester proposes that a few of the best graduates shall be passed into the Madras Medical College, in carrying out which each lad would cost Rs. 588, and occupy about 7 or 8 years.

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G.A. 3

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affection

EDWARD CHESTER.

1341

Dindigul Nov. 27th. 1873

From Rev Edward Chester M.D.

Dindigul Dispensary

To E. Balfour Esq. M.D.

Surgeon General Indian Medical Department

Sir.

I have the honor to call your attention to a single portion of the Proceedings of Government, Financial Department, G.O. 1st. October 1873 No. 1403

2. The portion I refer to is as follows "The Government would suggest to the Municipality and Local Fund Board the plan of providing stipends for pupils to be trained for eventual practice in the district, if Mr Chester is able and willing to adopt the system. His valuable assistance affords a rare opportunity"

3. While I will be most happy to carry out the views and wishes of Government in the matter of a Medical School, in connection with my Dispensary, or in any part of my Dispensary work, I would suggest that neither the Local Fund Board, nor Municipality will be likely to act in this matter, unless some direct proposition or scheme comes from your office for their approval and action

4. It may be well for me to state what

1873 Financial Proceedings

From
Surgeon
Inspector-General F. Balfour,
Inspector-General of Hospitals,
Indian Medical Department,
Fort Saint George.

To
The Chief Secretary to Government
Financial Department.
Fort St George

Dated 18th December.

Despatched 19-dto —— No. 2432

Received 21 No. 488

Subject.

Submits remarks on educating medical pupils at Dindigul Dispensary by Rev. Mr. E. Chester

With an Order

Chief Asst. Surgeon
Fort St George

Rev. Edward Chester
Dindigul

Surgeon Genl. Indian Medical Department

Chief Asst. Surgeon
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Rev. Edward Chester
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Surgeon Genl. Indian Medical Department

1873 Financial Proceedings

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Dindigul

Surgeon Genl. Indian Medical Department

facilities I have for gathering pupils for the proposed Medical School and at what rates of pay

5. I have a very flourishing English school, with an average attendance of 150 high caste lads, of whom about 70 are Brahmins and Mohammedans. In the highest class, in this school, the young men are preparing for the Matriculation examination

6. Young men from this school are now in Government employ in the Taluq and Sub Collector's Cutchery, in the Department of Public Works, and in the Post Office department, as well as in my own Dispensary and schools.

7. I think I could collect, at once, from 30 to 50 intelligent lads, with a fair knowledge of English, who would pledge themselves to remain for three or four years in a Medical School, at Dindigul in connection with the Dispensary, and give themselves wholly to the Medical work

8. I have no doubt that these could be secured for Rs. 5. for the first year; Rs 6 for the second and Rs 7. for the third.

9. I would have these young men continue, through their three or four years course, to give an hour or more, a day, to English studies, in connection with some class in my English school

10. Three or four years ought to give such lads a fair knowledge of Materia Medica, Anatomy, Compounding, Diagnosing and prescribing for ordinary cases of disease, as well as ability to perform all ordinary minor operations.

11. Still I think that these lads, after graduation, should remain under probation or trial, for one or two years, in the Dindigul Dispensary or in either one of the Local Fund Dispensaries of the Dindigul circle, where they would be near enough to be under my constant supervision.

12 I would also strongly recommend that, as a reward for great diligence or proficiency, a few of the lads of each class graduating from this school, be allowed to attend either the Medical School or Medical College, in Madras, for as long a period as was deemed desirable by the Principal of that Institution.

13 I would further recommend that, as a Nurse for this school, from 10 to 20 boys be allowed a sum of Rs 3. a month, and thus enabled to remain for at least two years in my English School, with a special design of improving them in English, securing from them, however, a pledge that they would eventually join the Medical Class.

14. I would suggest that all text books be

4

loaned to the young men, for their use, while in the School, and that they be allowed to purchase them for half price, on graduating.

15. The amount needed to provide me with a suitable Hospital Assistant or Apothecary, to assist me in teaching the young men, in the School, and also to purchase diagrams, furniture &c must be left for you to propose.

16. I ought to say, in conclusion, in justice to the young men, whom I could persuade to join this School, that if larger stipends are paid to the students studying in similar Provincial Medical Schools, established elsewhere, than to those studying here, that the amounts should be made to correspond as nearly as possible, or it would be simply impossible for me to keep up a vigorous School.

17. That these Provincial Medical Schools may be of immense advantage to our District and to the whole Madras Presidency I have not the least doubt

I have the honor to be
" Sir
Your obedient Servant
Edward Chester

1873 Nov 10

Edward Chester Esq. M.D. &c &c &c

Govt. Hosp. Comm. Despatches
Asst. Surgeon Edward Chester
1873

L38-140

19A

EDWARD CHESTER

Dindigul Dec^{r} 1st 1873

My dear Mr Middleton

It has occured to me that you might like to have in your hand a copy of the letter I have sent to Dr Balfour, in regard to the general subject of a Medical School at Dindigul and so I enclose one

Yours sincerely
Edward Chester

I wrote you a private letter, dated Nov. 8th. in regard to my general Dispensary work, the only one I have ever written to you since I gratefully permitted me to write freely to you. I do not ask for any reply if it has come to hand, but if you have not received it kindly let me know and I will send you a copy of it as I particularly wish you to know what I have written

EDWARD CHESTER. (Copy) 1874

Dindigul Nov. 24th 1873.

From Rev Edward Chester M.D.
Dindigul Dispensary.

To E. Balfour Esqr. M.D.
Surgeon General Indian Medical Department

Sir.

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I have the honor to be
Sir
Your obedient Servant
(Signed) Edward Chester

Govt. of {1874} Madras.

Financial

To The Surgeon Genl.
Govt. Med. Dept.
& co

Dated 11th Feby.
Rcd.
Read.

G.O. 11th Feby. 1874. No. 236.

Nos. 95-96.

Proposal Med. Schools.
Letter from the Surgeon Genl. —
requesting on the proposal
to train Med. pupils in
connection with the Revd.
Mr. Chesters Dispensary at
Dindigul, forwarded to that
Gentleman & to the Dindigul
Municipality for
their remarks —