M.R.O. 1—77,065—8-6-31.

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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Financial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	631	Press / Mis.
150-151.		
Dated	20-4-	1874..

5/6

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 150. Read the following letter from W. McQUHAE, Esq., President of the Local Fund Boards, Madura, to the Hon. D. F. CARMICHAEL, Acting Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated Shembaganore, 8th April 1874, No. 126 :—

With reference to the Proceedings of Government in the Financial Department, dated 4th March 1874, No. 360, I have the honour to submit, for the favourable consideration of Government, a petition from the people of Periacolum and the adjoining villages praying that the Hospital Assistant (Saminada Pillay) may not be removed from the dispensary at that place. I also submit copy of a letter from the Vice-President, Dindigul Circle, dated 30th March 1874, No. 44, and I may state that all the members of the Local Fund Board and Government servants acquainted with the working of this institution would regret the removal of Saminada Pillay. He suits the people, and that is the most important qualification for the charge of a rural dispensary.

TRANSLATION of a Mahazirnamah from the Ryots, Tradesmen, and others of Periacolum and the adjoining villages, to H. W. BLISS, Esq., Vice-President of the Local Fund Board, Dindigul Circle.

That the Honourable Government have framed the Local Fund Act (IV. of 1871) to raise funds for opening roads, establishing schools and hospitals, &c., and improving the sanitary condition of the people.

That your Honour and the members of the Local Fund Board have been pleased to consider Periacolum deserving of having a dispensary and established one there, as is done in other places of importance, with an Hospital Assistant to be in charge of the dispensary, distribute medicines to persons, to attend upon the sick and readily administer medicines for their sickness ; that this measure shows the noble intentions of Government and the interest your Honour and the members of the Board have taken in the welfare of the people.

That before the establishment of the dispensary many people in this hilly country were suffering frequently from fever, diarrhœa, venereal, and other diseases and had not the means of proper treatment in the shape of a dispensary or skilful physician, and the consequence was that many underwent great sufferings without relief and many met with premature death ; that ever since the establishment of the dispensary, two years ago, Hospital-Assistant Saminada Pillay has been in charge of it ; that when patients go to the hospital, whether young or old, male or female, he receives them kindly, makes careful inquiry of their cases with forbearance and patience, and applies remedies suitable to effect speedy relief ; that cases of dropsy, jaundice, gout, and venereal diseases, incurable by others, have been easily treated by him with success ; that in certain cases of attempted suicides, which would otherwise have proved fatal, he carefully dressed the wounds and saved life ; moreover, he without pride repairs to the houses of people who are unable to attend the dispensary, kindly makes inquiry of their disease, and administers medicines ; thus by his amiable qualities and professional skill he has earned the praise of the people and has made them to take advantage extensively of the benefits of English medicines. The result of this work for the last two years, and the number and nature of cases treated by him and number of patients that attended the dispensary and received the medicines, would be shown by a reference to statements published in District Gazettes.

That the petitioners are given to understand by general rumour, confirmed by the District Gazette, that Hospital Assistants are considered unfit to be in charge of Local Fund dispensaries and that their places are to be taken up by Passed Apprentices, as has been long talked of ; the petitioners are at a loss to see how greater benefits could be derived by this change.

That Hospital Apprentices who have been recently passed out of College would be new to the work and wanting in experience, and they are to be paid twice the amount of the salary drawn by these Hospital Assistants.

That your Honour and other gentlemen who have visited this place are aware that P. Saminada Pillay, Hospital Assistant at Periacolum, has been successfully treating difficult cases with ability, skill, and discretion.

That the professional opinion recorded by him in certificates with regard to cases of murder, &c., has been found to be sound and concurred in by the Zillah Surgeon.

This assertion would be borne out by the records of Uttamapalayem Ibram Sah Rowten's murder case and many other cases in which he has given his opinion.

That petitioners confidently affirm from their experience that there is nothing wanting in Saminada Pillay to be removed from the hospital charge.

That the petitioners' object in addressing this petition to your Honour is to obtain relief from the sorrow which they have been subjected to since seeing the last issue of the Zillah Gazette containing the news of the approaching removal of Saminada Pillay, who has been a great help to them, and that, therefore, they confidently hope and pray that your Honour and the members will be graciouly pleased to retain the services of Saminada Pillay at the Periacolum Dispensary.

From H. W. BLISS, Esq., Vice-President, to W. McQUHAE, Esq., President of the Local Fund Board, Dindigul Circle, dated Dindigul, 30th March 1874, No. 44.

You will remember that at the meeting of the Local Fund Board held at Madura on the 19th instant a petition from the inhabitants of Periacolum praying for the retention of 2nd-Class Hospital Assistant P. Saminada Pillay, in charge of the dispensary there, came under consideration, and that it was unanimously agreed by the members present that it was for the good of the institution and of the residents of the neighbourhood that Hospital-Assistant P. Saminada Pillay should be retained in charge, or, failing that, that at all events arrangements should be made whereby the officer in charge should always be a native. At the same time I brought to the notice of the Local Fund Board that though it might be anticipated, with reference to their Proceedings, No. 4, 1874, that the more highly qualified officer appointed to immediately succeed Hospital-Assistant P. Saminada Pillay would be a native there could be no security that such would continue to be the case for any length of time because of the existence of an order of the Government of India that in future no natives are to be entertained in the Apothecary class of Medical Subordinates, under the operation of which the native element in that class must infallibly in course of time become extinct and no more highly-instructed natives be available for appointment to such dispensaries as their services may be required in. The petition in question having only reached my hands the day before the meeting I had had no time to look up the order of the Government of India above mentioned. It was, therefore, further agreed that I should draft a resolution after the meeting, and after I had found the order in question and had it before me, embodying the above views, and recommending consequently that Hospital-Assistant P. Saminada Pillay should be retained in his present charge, which should be entered on the Minutes and submitted to Government as the resolution of the Board.

2. This I have unfortunately not yet done as I have not been able to lay hands on the order of the Government of India I refer to though I have obtained information which verifies my recollection of its existence.

3. I should have allowed the matter to stand over for a few days more but for my recei pt to-day of G. O., dated 4th March 1874, No. 360, Financial Department.

4. From this it appears that my apprehensions as to the future short-supply of natives of the Apothecary class of Medical Subordinates are already realized, and that none are even now available for allotment to dispensaries, where their services are specially required in preference to Europeans or East Indians.

5. It also appears that Government are not unwilling, in special cases and upon good cau se shown, to relax the rule recently laid down as to the removal of Hospital Assistants from the

charge of dispensaries. They have actually done so in the cases of the dispensaries at Ponani and Munjeri and would appear not to have done so with reference to our dispensaries at Palni and Periacolum only through oversight or perhaps from the want of an expression of the opinion of the Collector, to which just weight has been allowed in the two former instances.

6. In the meantime a native Passed Hospital Apprentice has already joined the Palni Dispensary. I think this is to be regretted, though, as the arrangement has now been made, it had better perhaps be allowed to stand.

7. There is still, however, time to prevent the removal of Hospital-Assistant P. Saminada Pillay from Periacolum if Government be addressed upon the subject at once. If action is delayed until I have found the order of the Government of India I have referred to above, to do which I must send a Clerk into Madura to search through the *Gazette of India*, it may be too late. I therefore have the honour to send you the petition from the inhabitants of Periacolum as to Hospital-Assistant P. Saminada Pillay's remaining there and to request that you will send the matter up without waiting for the drafting of a formal resolution of the Local Fund Board.

8. You are aware, I have no doubt, that Hospital-Assistant P. Saminada Pillay has been remarkably successful since he joined at Periacolum, nearly two years ago, in winning the confidence of the people, who now habitually invite him to their houses to treat the women of their families, even though of the highest castes. Periacolum being a place swarming with bigoted Brahmins, this is, in my opinion, a great testimony to his merits as a medical practitioner; and for this, as well as for other reasons, I should regard his removal as a serious injury to the progressing establishment among the people of that part of the district of confidence in European methods of medical and surgical treatment.

No. 151. ORDER THEREON, 20th April 1874, No. 631.

Under the circumstances represented the Governor in Council approves the retention of Hospital-Assistant Saminada Pillay at the Periacolum Dispensary.

(True Extract.)

Acting Chief Secretary.

To the Board of Revenue.
,, Surgeon-General, Indian Medical Department.

Exd. A. S. Rodgers.

Govt. of 1874 Madras

FINANCIAL

To

THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

&c.,

&c.,

Dated April, 20th.

Read.

Rule

G. O., 20th April 1874, No. 651.

APRIL.

Nos. 150-151.

Periacolum Dispensary, Madura.—The retention of Hospital-Assistant Saminada Pillay at this dispensary, as prayed for by the inhabitants, approved.

No 126

Madura President's office
(Camp Shumbaganoor
8th April 1874)

From

W. Mc Duhae Esquire
President, Local Fund Board
Madura

To

The Honorable D. F. Carmichael
Ag Chief Secretary to Government
Madras

Sir,

With reference to the Proceedings of Government in the Financial Department dated 4th March 1874 No 360, I have the honor to submit for the favorable consideration of Government a petition from the people of Periacolem & the adjoining villages praying that the Hospital Assistant Saminada Pillay may not be removed from the Dispensary at that place. I also submit copy of a letter from the Vice President Tindigul Circle dated 30th March 1874 to this and I may state that all Members of the Local Fund Board & Government Servants acquainted with the working of this Institution would regret the removal of Saminada Pillay. He suits the people and that is the most important qualification for the charge of a private Dispensary.

I have the honor

Sir

Your Most Obedient Servant

W Mc Duhae

President

Cotac 20 April 1874. No 631

In the circumstances represented the Governor in Council approves the retention of Hospital Apprentice Laminada Pilay at the Cotacachi Dispensary.

By the President of the Executive Council

Secretary

14/4/74

Cotacachi

1874 April 14 No 631

The President
Executive Council
Quito

Sir

I have the honor to transmit herewith a Petition addressed to His Excellency the Governor in Council by Hospital Apprentice Laminada Pilay praying that he may be allowed to remain at the Cotacachi Dispensary.

I am Sir
Your obt. servt.

Govt. of {1874} Madras.

Financial.

To

The Board of Revenue.

Lea.

G.O. April 20, 1874, No. 631.

Nos. 150-151.

Periacolum Dispensary, Madura. The retention of Hospital Assistant Saminada Pillay at this Dispensary, as prayed for by the inhabitants, approved.