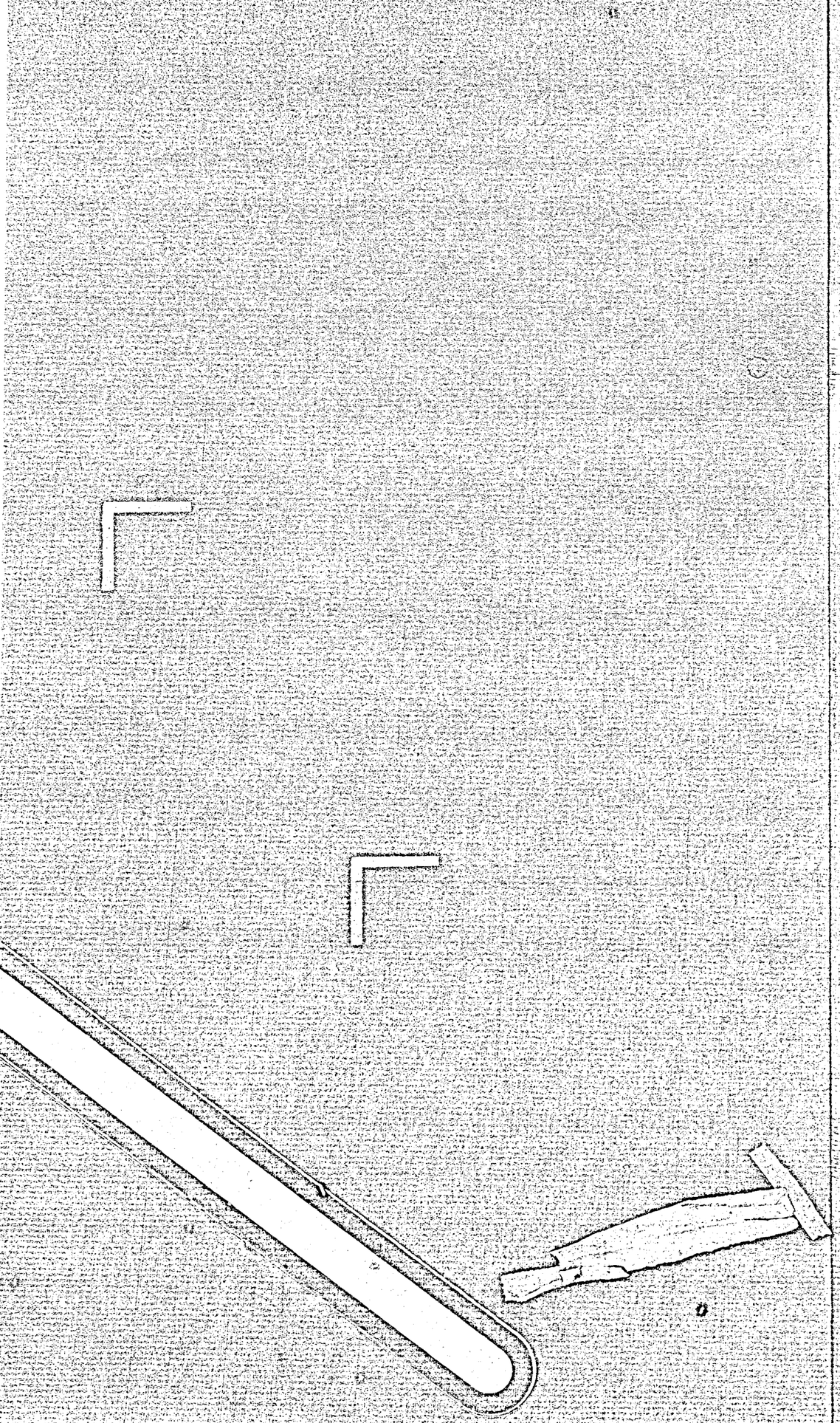


M.R.O. 1—77,00 37.

(1) Number of pages 18

(2) Date of repair 10.6.11

(3) Initials of the Referencer

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Financial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 928 Press Mis.

279-280.

Dated 30 : 5 — 1876.

10/11

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 279. Read the following letter from Surgeon-General E. G. BALFOUR, Surgeon-General, Indian Medical Department, to the Honourable D. F. CARMICHAEL, Acting Chief Secretary to Government, Fort. St. George, dated Fort St. George, 9th April 1874, No. 156 :—

With reference to the concluding part of paragraph 4 of G.O., No. 298, of 23rd February 1874, I have the honour to report to the Right Honourable the Governor in Council that I requested the Civil Surgeon, Tellicherry, to submit any explanation he might wish to offer with regard to the diminished attendance at the Dispensary during 1872-73, and I enclose the letter which he has sent.

2. In noticing the diminished attendance, Surgeon Hyde observes that the figures given by the Vice-President are not strictly accurate, and I append the correct numbers for the latter years of the series as given by the Civil Surgeon :—

Years.	In-patients.	Out-patients.	
1869-70	174	3,141.	Dr. Trimnell.
1870-71	190	2,819.	Dr. McAllum.
1871-72	152	2,279.	Dr. McAllum.
1872-73	145	2,125.	Dr. Hyde.
1873-74 up to date. ...	166	2,315.	Dr. Hyde.

3. During the first complete year of Surgeon Hyde's incumbency, viz., 1872-73, there was undoubtedly a slight falling off in numbers, but he thinks this is quite accounted for by the fact that small-pox patients were treated in the Dispensary. In support of this view, he adds, that when in 1873 small-pox cases were received in a distinct building, the "admissions both among in and out patients rose again." I may here add that, in my opnion, the frequent changes of medical officers at Tellicherry have also had the effect of reducing the attendance of patients. These changes were all rendered necessary by various exigencies, but their effects are none the less to be regretted.

4. The Vice-President also submits a list of subscriptions and donations to the Dispensary for a series of years, with the object, apparently, of showing that these have declined during Surgeon Hyde's incumbency. It appears to me, however, that the decrease may be explained by the fact that some may have ceased to subscribe on the ground of their being now taxed for the support of the institution. At all events, as the Municipality are now alone responsible for the financial administration of the Dispensary and the collection of subscriptions, it does not seem reasonable to attribute the decline to the medical officer.

5. It will be observed from the figures in paragraph 2 that the number of patients has increased somewhat in 1873-74, and I am of opinion that, on the whole, Surgeon Hyde has given a satisfactory explanation. He is naturally, however, disturbed on account of his management of the Dispensary having been so unfavourably brought to the notice of Government, and, with the view of satisfying His Excellency in Council as to the present condition of the institution, he solicits that a Committee of the Life Governors of the institution be appointed to report on its working. This seems to me a reasonable request, and as it is likely to place the entire subject before Government in a manner to be desired, I have the honour to recommend that such a Committee be appointed.

From Surgeon H. HYDE, Zillah Surgeon, Tellicherry, to Deputy Surgeon-General W. JOHNSTON, M.D., Deputy Surgeon-General, Indian Medical Service, Southern District, Malabar and Canara, dated Tellicherry, 10th March 1874, No. 17.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of a copy of the Proceedings of Government, Financial Department, dated 23rd February 1874, together with memorandum, No. 1251, from the Surgeon-General, Indian Medical Service, requesting me to furnish him with any explanation I might wish to offer with reference to the alleged growing unpopularity of the Civil Dispensary here among the people. That the Dispensary is unpopular with the people in Tellicherry I will not for a moment admit, but on the contrary shall endeavour to prove that as a local institution it is increasing in popularity.

2. The Vice-President in paragraph 44 of his report appends, in support of his assertion, a table of the admissions since 1865 and a list of the donations and subscriptions collected during the same period with apparently the object of showing that I am responsible both for the falling off in the number of applicants for medical treatment and for the diminution in the amount of subscriptions.

3. With reference to the latter I need scarcely point out that, from the time the Dispensary was handed over to the Municipality in 1871, and all the accounts were deposited in the Municipal office, the medical officer ceased to have anything to do with the funds of the institution, and if the subscriptions have not been collected with the same energy as when the medical officer was Secretary, the responsibility cannot rest with me. So little did the Vice-President apparently consider I had to do with the funds, that last year it was with the greatest difficulty that I could get him to furnish me with a Financial Statement for transmission to yourself as you will remember, and on requesting him to furnish me with the usual statement at the beginning of the present year when called upon for it by you, the blank printed form which accompanied my letter to the Vice-President was, as I had the honour to inform you in my letter of the 19th ultimo, returned to me with a copy of the following resolution passed by the Commissioners, viz. :—

"Resolved that, in reply, the Zillah Surgeon be informed that, if the Deputy Surgeon-General wants any statement from the Commissioners, the Commissioners think that that gentleman should write to them directly."

4. The Dispensary was taken over by the Municipality in the time of my predecessor Dr. McAlium, and except as a Municipal Commissioner I have had nothing to do with the accounts. In my latter capacity I have more than once suggested to the Vice-President that the Subscription-book should be sent round regularly every month to the subscribers, but my suggestion was not acted upon. I at the same time explained to him that people did not mind paying 8 or 9 Rupees a-month, but when called upon for Rupees 100 all at once they would think twice about parting forth so large a sum, and that this cause has been in operation I know of my own knowledge and can prove by giving the names of some of the subscribers, if necessary.

5. That the subscriptions, however, should fall off is not surprising, as I have heard several gentlemen, both Europeans and Natives, state that they did not intend to subscribe any longer now that the Dispensary had become a Municipal institution, and was bound to be supported from Municipal Funds. I may mention while on this subject that one of the original contributors and former Treasurer, Mr. Edward Baudry, who used to take a great interest in the Dispensary, has often complained to me that, though gazetted a Life Governor, he has now no longer any voice in its management, and he also is, I believe, thinking of withdrawing his subscription.

6. The figures given by the Vice-President in his table of admissions are not strictly accurate. The following statement shows the actual admissions into hospital, and the number of out-patients during the period from 1865 up to date, together with the names of the medical officers who were severally in charge. I have given the admissions both for the calendar and for the official year.

7. The Vice-President has taken the figures for the calendar year up to 1869, and then for the official year from that date.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department,
30th May 1874.

FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR.

Years.	In-patients.	Out-patients.	Names of Medical Officers.
1865	163	3,625.	Dr. Wither to 3rd April ; Dr. Thompson to 31st December.
1866	132	3,743.	Dr. Thompson to 24th September ; Dr. Bauloo Moodelliar to 31st December.
1867	148	4,423.	Dr. Bauloo Moodelliar to 7th September ; Dr. Bateman to 31st December.
1868	74	2,538.	Drs. Bateman and Dickinson.
1869	156	3,098.	Drs. Dickinson and Trimnell.
1870	192	2,473	Dr. McAllum.
1871	156	2,133	
1872	124	2,084	Dr. Hyde.
1873 ...	189	2,479	

FOR THE OFFICIAL YEAR.

Years.	In-patients.	Out-patients.	Names of Medical Officers.
1865-66	148	3,499.	Dr. Thompson.
1866-67	159	4,010.	Dr. Bauloo Moodelliar.
1867-68	123	3,921.	Drs. Bauloo Moodelliar and Bateman.
1868-69	76	2,529.	Dr. Dickinson.
1869-70	174	3,141.	Dr. Trimnell.
1870-71	190	2,187.	Dr. McAllum.
1871-72	152	2,279.	Dr. McAllum.
1872-73	145	2,125	Dr. Hyde.
1873 to date ...	166	2,315	

8. It will be seen from the above statement, that during the first year that I was in charge of the Dispensary, the number fell off slightly from those of the preceding year, which I think is quite accounted for by the fact that small-pox cases were under treatment in the building for sometime. In the remarks on the Sanitary report it is admitted that the disease spread to "one or two in-patients" and a few others in one or two houses in the "immediate neighbourhood." "But," it goes on to say, "it was all over in few days." I need not point out to you that cases of small-pox do not get well in a few days.

9. The proof that my explanation is the right one is that in the following year, viz, 1873 when a shed was erected for the reception of cases of infectious disease, the admissions both among the in and out patients rose again to a trifle more than they had been in any year since 1869. The figures, moreover, show that the great falling off in the number of patients took place during the time my predecessor Dr. McAllum was in charge, and in the year 1868 when Doctors Bateman and Dickinson were here.

10. I do not for a moment wish to draw any comparison between myself and any former medical officer my object is merely to show that the apparent decline in the popularity of the institution must have sprung from some cause or causes which were in operation long before I had anything to do with the Dispensary.

11. These causes, as I shall presently show, arose from circumstances over which neither the medical officer nor the Municipality had any control. All this I could have explained to the Commissioners if they had given me the opportunity of doing so, but this is the first intimation I have received that they considered that the Dispensary was unpopular merely because the number of patients declined.

12. It will be seen by the table that the admissions last year among the out-patients were within fifty-nine, the same as those in 1868, while the number of in-patients was more than double. In that year the admissions suddenly fell from 4,423 to 2,538 ; we are, therefore, principally concerned with the three preceding years to account for this sudden decrease in the number of

applicants. Now, on referring to the Dispensary records for 1865, 1866, and 1867, I find that the admissions from ague alone—a disease not common in Tellicherry itself or in its immediate neighbourhood—were 1,387, 1,692, and 1472, respectively, or more than a third of the total admissions, while in the following year (1868) there are only 485 cases of the same disease recorded, or a fifth, and in 1873 but 203 or about one-twelfth of the total admissions. Now, as the idea cannot for a moment be entertained that the Dispensary has grown unpopular among the people as far as regards one disease only, we are driven to seek for some other explanation, and, on carefully looking through the Nominal Register of out-patients, one can come to no other conclusion but that these large numbers of fever cases found their way hither from Wynaad where ague used to be and still is very prevalent. Unfortunately the records do not actually show this, as the addresses of the out-patients were not entered in those days as they are at present, but it is obvious that they must have come from that part because nearly all the cases of ague that still come for treatment to the Dispensary originate in that locality.

13. That the Dispensary should be made less use of now by the people in Wynaad than formerly is easily explained:—First, there is now and has been for the last two years or so a dispensary at Manantody; second, the planters are more careful in keeping a supply of medicines on the estates for the coolies; third, the district itself is far more healthy from so much of the jungle having been cleared away; and 4th, during the years 1865, 1866, 1867, and the Public Works Department was opening roads, &c., in Wynaad, upon which large numbers of coolies were employed and who when sick would be sent here for treatment, and of course ague would not be the only disease from which they suffered.

14. At the present time but few cases come from Wynaad, and the register for last year proves that seven-eighths of the out-patients are residents within municipal limits, and that two-thirds of the in-patients are residents either in Kotvan or the adjoining taluq Kurumbernad.

15. I would also point out that the number of in-patients, which are of course the more serious cases, was scarcely ever larger than it was last year, and that of the 189 cases treated, thirty-seven dieted themselves, and were then of very little expense to the institution.

16. So far, then, the above facts tend to prove that, in reality, as a local institution, the Dispensary so far from decreasing is really increasing in popularity; for if the difference in the admissions for the one disease, ague only is added to those of last year, it will be found that the numbers are slightly in excess of those for 1865 and 1866, and less only than those in 1867, in which year the people generally seem to have been seized with an unaccountable desire for taking opening medicine, as under the head "Obstipatio" in the return for that year no fewer than 1,591 cases are recorded, whereas in the preceding year there were only 699, and in the following year they again suddenly decreased to 617. I have confined myself strictly to the subject upon which I have been called upon for an explanation, though there are other parts of the Vice-President's report upon which I should have liked to have made some observations. I need only point out to paragraph 18 of his report and to his remarks upon my sanitary report particularly to the note "None survived" which is moreover incorrect, to show the evident animus with which he is influenced as regards myself.

17. In conclusion I have the honour to suggest that, if the above explanation is not deemed satisfactory, that a Committee of the Life Governors of the Dispensary be appointed to investigate the matter and report upon the working of the institution.

18. I have the honour to return the Proceedings of Government, as requested.

No. 1012.

Submitted with reference to memorandum, No. 1215, of 27th ultimo, on Proceedings of Government, Financial Department, No. 298, of 23rd February 1874.

TRICHINOPOLY,
16*th March* 1874.

(Signed) J. E. DICKINSON, Surgeon-Major,
for *Depy. Surg.-Genl, In. Medl. Dept.,*
So. Dist., Malabar and Canara.

55

No. 280. ORDER THEREON, 30th May 1874, No. 928.

The attention of the Medical Officer and the Commissioners having been specially drawn to the state of the Tellicherry Dispensary, the Governor in Council looks for better results in future, and will watch the progress of the institution with interest.

2. With reference to the concluding portion of Dr. Balfour's letter, the Government observe that the gentlemen in question were gazetted as "Governors," and not as "Life Governors." These appointments lapsed when the Municipal Commissioners undertook the management of the Dispensary, and the institution was formally transferred to their trusteeship under the provisions of Section 15 of the Towns Improvement Act.

(True Extract.)

Acting Chief Secretary.

To the President of the Municipal Commission, Tellicherry.
" Surgeon-General, Indian Medical Department.

Exd. J. Wright.

Govt. of 1874 Madras.

FINANCIAL.

To

THE PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSION,
Tellicherry,
&c., &c.

Dated May 30th

Read

G.O., 30th May 1874, No. 928.

MAY.
Nos. 279-280.

Tellicherry Dispensary.—With reference to the explanation furnished regarding the working of this Dispensary, the Surgeon-General, Indian Medical Department, informed that the attention of the Medical Officer and the Commissioners having been specially drawn to the state of the Dispensary, Government look for better results in future, and will watch the progress of the institution with interest. Dr. Balfour also informed that the appointment of "Governors" lapsed when the Municipal Commissioners undertook the management of the Dispensary.

No. 156

1-75

Surgeon
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR-GENERAL, I. M. D.,
Fort Saint George, 9th April 1874.

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,

With reference to the concluding part of para 4 of G.O. No. 298 of 23d February 1874, I have the honor to report to the Right Honorable the Governor in Council that I requested the Civil Surgeon, Tellicherry to submit any explanation he might wish to offer with regard to the diminished attendance at the Dispensary during 1872-73, and I enclose the letter which he has sent.

2- In noticing the diminished attendance, Surgeon Hyde observes that the figures given by the Vice President are not strictly accurate, and I append the correct numbers for the latter years of the series, as given by the Civil Surgeon:

Years.	In-patients	Out-patients	
1869-70.	174.	3141.	Dr. Grimmell.
1870-71.	190.	2187.	Dr. McAllum
1871-72.	152.	2279.	Dr. McAllum.
1872-73.	145.	2125.	Dr. Hyde.
1873-74 up to date.	166.	2315.	Dr. Hyde.

During the first complete year of Surgeon Hyde's incumbency viz: 1872-73, there was undoubtedly a slight falling off in numbers, but he thinks this is quite accounted for by the fact, that small-pox patients were treated in the Dispensary. In support of this view he adds that when in 1873 small pox cases were received in a distinct building, the "admissions, both among in and out patients rose again" I may here add that, in my opinion, the frequent changes of Medical Officers at Tellicherry have also had the effect of reducing the attendance of patients. These changes were all rendered necessary by various exigencies, but their effects are none the less to be regretted.

3. The Vice President also submits a list of subscriptions and donations to the Dispensary for a series of years, with the object apparently of showing that these have declined during Surgeon Hyde's incumbency. It appears to me, however, that the decrease may be explained by the fact that some may have ceased to subscribe on the ground of their being now taxed for the support of the institution. At all events, as the Municipality are now alone responsible for the financial administration of the Dispensary and the collection of subscriptions, it does not seem reasonable to attribute the decline to the medical

Almost entirely of Mussulmans & natives

4. It will be observed from the figures in para 2, that the number of patients has increased somewhat in 1873-74, and I am of opinion that, on the whole, Surgeon Hyde has given a satisfactory explanation. He is naturally, however, disturbed on account of his management of the Dispensary having been so unfavorably brought to the notice of Government, and, with the view of satisfying His Excellency in Council as to the present condition of the institution, he solicits that a Committee of the Life Governors of the institution be appointed to report on its working. This seems to me a reasonable request, and as it is likely to place the future subject before Government, in a more favorable manner to be desired I have the honor to recommend that such a Committee be appointed.

There are no Life Governors of the Tellicherry Dispensary because a Municipal institution

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient Servant,
Edwd. Balfour Surgeon Genl.

Surgeon General
with the Medical Dept.

928

115

Institution with interest.

22/6

[illegible]

Ootacamund 30 May 1874 No 928.

Order

The attention of the Medical Officer and the Commissioners having been specially drawn to the state of the Tellicherry Dispensary the Governor-in-Council looks for better results in future and will watch the progress of the Institution with interest.

With reference to the concluding portion of Dr Balfour's letter the

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G.O. 23rd Feby/74 – No. 298.
G.O. 20th Sepr/71 – No. 483
Pub. Proc. 22 March/65 – 99–100.
Notification 9/18 Dec/66.

Fin'l 1874 Department
Pro. 30th May/74.

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

To

The Chief Secretary to Government,
Financial Dept.
Fort St. George.

Dated 9th April
Despatched 11th do.
Received 13th do.
No. 156 No 830

Subject.

Submits Explanations from the Civil Surgeon, Tellicherry, regarding the working of the Dispensary at Tellicherry.

For Orders [illegible]

No. 279.

No. 979

Financial Department,

No. 830.

From The Surgeon General, Ind. Med. Dept.

Dated 9th April 1874.

FOR ORDERS.

The facts disclosed by the Statement given in Para of Dr. Hyde's Explanation show that the Dispensary at Tellicherry is much less resorted to than formerly by "out-patients" and that the number of in-patients is more or less stationary. Taking the Calendar Year they

Average of 3 years: In-Patients — Out-patients as per margin.

1865-67 — 147 — 3930

1871-73 — 156 — 2,232

The Vice President evidently attributes this to shortcomings on the part of the Medical Officer in charge. Dr. Hyde attributes

For orders with order

God observe that the Gentlemen in question were gazetted as "Governors" and not as "Life Governors" their appointments lapsed when the Municipal Commissioners undertook the management of the Dispensary and the institution was formally transferred to their trustees by virtue of Section 15 of the Town Improvement Act.

29/5

The P. M. O. Tellicherry
Surg. Genl. Med. Dept. } accepts 1/6

C 12/5

No 919

attributes the unsatisfactory state of things in the main to the falling off of patients from Wynaad - new buildings provided for in that District - to other causes to what less value can be attached

I do not think that the Explanation is altogether Satisfactory and Dr Hyde does not shew that his personal attention to his duties is manifested by any fact which he advances. I am much inclined to attach great weight to the judgment of that Sterling, truthful, Native Servant of the State - the Vice President - in a matter of this kind. But I would be satisfied for the present with merely remarking that the attention of the Medical Officer and Commissioners having been specially drawn to the matter, the Governor in Council looks for better results in future and will watch the progress of the Institution

Orig Miscellaneous
Order dispatched
15

Fort Saint George Gazette
Notification
Pub. Departt.

Fort Saint George. December 18th 1866.

The Governor in Council is pleased to appoint Mr William Logan and Captain Edward Baudry to be Governors of the Civil Dispensary at Tellicherry, and to be Members of the Committee of Management for that Institution, vice Messrs G. R. Sharpe and J. H. Garstin.

Ex Mis Con 928 -
28 Dec 74 - Financial

Govt. of {1874} Madras.

Financial

To
The Presidt. Munl. Commrs.
Tellicherry.

Sir

Ought sent to Govt.
15-6-74

G.O. May. 30, 1874. No. 928.

Nos. 279-280.

Tellicherry Dispensary. With
ref. to the Explanation furnished
regarding the working of this
Dispensary, the Surg. Genl. I.
M. Depl. informed that the
attention of the Medl. Officer
& the Commrs. having been
specially drawn to the
State of the Dispensary, Govt.
look for better results in
future & will watch the progress
of the institution with interest. Dr. Balfour also informed

that the appointment of
"Governors" lapsed when
the Munl. Commrs. under-
took the management of
the Dispensary.