M.R.O. 1—77,003—8-6-31.

(1) Number of pages 10

(2) Date of repair 20-10-42

(3) Initials of the Referencer

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Financial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	1618	Press / Mis.
40-41.		40-41
Dated	7—8—	1875.

6/7

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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Medical.

No. 40. Read the following letter from Surgeon-General E. G. BALFOUR, Surgeon-General, Indian Medical Department, to the Honorable D. F. CARMICHAEL, Officiating Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated Fort St. George, 7th June 1875, No. 317:—

His Excellency the Governor in Council has received my letter, No. 282, dated the 21st of May 1875, furnishing a scheme for giving effect to the wishes of Government to have apprentices bound by articles to the Civil Dispensaries of the country. The scheme in that letter was drafted with much care and underwent a final examination at a conference between the Principal of the Medical College, Deputy Surgeon-General vanSomeren, and myself. It seems to me impossible to foretell how far Local Fund Boards and Municipalities may be disposed to take advantage of any permissive act to add, in the manner proposed, to the number of medical men practising in the country, but there was not even one response to the letter, No. 1850, that I sent on the 18th of March 1873, to every Municipality, telling them the amount (Rupees 528) for which they could educate a medical man with the Hospital-Assistant qualifications at the Madras College, and inviting them to send scholarship-students there. Further, the scheme submitted on the 21st ultimo to Government is undoubtedly costly, perhaps more so than a college education would be, and the outturn would certainly not be of better, perhaps of considerably inferior, quality to that from the Medical College.

2. It is not, however, the doubts as to the action that the Municipal and Local Fund Boards may take, nor the costliness of the proposed form of education at Dispensaries, nor the outturn being possibly of inferior quality to what the college could send forth; it is none of all those points that I regard as of importance sufficient to require the consideration of any other scheme by Government. But it is, and I think His Excellency the Governor in Council will concur with me, when I mention that the scheme will not, as regards quantity, produce results of that large character which the requirements of the country demand, and is still only one other scheme in which the people, instead of paying for their medical education, are to have scholarships to induce them to study.

3. I am satisfied that there are in Madras city and in the Madras Provinces persons who would gladly, if permitted, enter on their own resources on the study of medicine at the Madras Medical College, some to follow the curriculum which is allotted for the Second Department, others that ordered for the Junior Department, provided merely that a College Diploma or Degree were guaranteed on examination at its close, and I ask His Excellency the Governor in Council to throw the Madras Medical College open in that manner. I have, in former communications, brought to the notice of Government that in the 1873-74 Session the Calcutta Medical College, with only one Professor and four Assistants more than now in the Madras College, had 1,394 students; that the Bombay College, with Professors and Assistant Professors identical in number with those possessed by Madras, had 303 students in the bygone session, while Madras had only ninety-four students, and 115 was then stated by the Principal to be the maximum number that the present staff could teach.

No. 150 of 1st April 1874.
,, 178 of 18th ,, ,,

4. His Excellency the Governor in Council will recognise that the numbers to whom a lecturer can address himself are only limited by the power of the human voice and the lecture-room accommodation, and modifications in the mode of clinical teaching long (and as I think, erroneously) followed in Madras, would greatly add to that form of teaching-power. But whether as regards lecturing or as hospital teaching, His Excellency the Governor in Council knows that where fees are received no professor or lecturer or hospital ever refused a student on the plea that he could not lecture or teach him, and why should there be refusals here. I have several times dwelt on the huge amount of teaching-power wasted or not utilized in the Madras institution. It is to the utilization of the existing educational means there that I would point as the first step to be taken in considering how to provide a large number of medical practitioners, and I think Government might commence such a comprehensive scheme by admitting to the lectures, for the present, free of charge, all who can pass the present Departmental Examination Tests.

No. 41. ORDER THEREON, 7th August 1875, No. 1618.

Referred to the Acting Director of Public Instruction, who will report on the subject in communication with the Principal of the Madras Medical College.

(True Extract.)

for Officiating Chief Secretary.

To the Acting Director of Public Instruction.

—a— Surgeon General Ld^e Inc^d^e Dep^t^.

Exd. J. Wright.

Govt. of {1875} Madras.

FINANCIAL.

To

THE ACTING DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION.

Dated August, 7th.

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 7th August 1875, No. 1618.

AUGUST.

Nos. 4041.

Medical.—Letter from the Surgeon-General suggesting that the Medical College be thrown open, free of charge, to all who pass the Departmental Examination, a College Diploma being eventually guaranteed to those who are qualified, referred to the Director of Public Instruction for report in communication with the College Principal.

59

No. 317.

OFFICE OF SURGEON-GENERAL, I. M. D.,
Fort Saint George, 7th June 1875.

From

SURGEON-GENERAL EDWARD BALFOUR,
Surgeon-General,
Indian Medical Department,
Fort Saint George.

To

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

SIR,

His Excellency the Governor in Council has remitted my letter No. 282 dated 21st May 1875, furnishing a scheme for giving effect to the wishes of Government to have Apprentices bound by Articles to the Civil Dispensaries of the Country. The scheme in that letter was drafted with much care and underwent a final examination at a Conference between the Principal of the Medical College, Deputy Surgeon General vandomeren and myself. It seems to me impossible to foretel how far Local Fund Boards and Municipalities may be disposed to take advantage of any permissive Act to add, in the manner proposed, to the number of medical men practising in the country, but there was not even one response to the letter, No. 1850 that I sent on the 8th March 1873, to every Municipality, telling them the amount (Rs 528) for which they could educate a medical man with the Hospital Assistant Qualifications at the Madras College, and inviting them to send scholarship students

there. Further, the scheme submitted on the 21st Ultimo to Government, is undoubtedly costly, perhaps more so than a College education would be, and the out-turn would certainly not be of better, perhaps of considerably inferior, quality to that from the Medical College.

2. It is not, however, the doubts as to the action that the Municipal and Local Fund Boards may take, nor the costliness of the proposed form of education at Dispensaries nor the out-turn being possibly of inferior quality to what the College could send forth, - it is none of all these points that I regard as of importance sufficient to require the consideration of any other scheme by Government. But it is, and I think, His Excellency the Governor in Council will concur with me, when I mention, that the scheme will not, as regards quantity, produce results of that large character which the requirements of the Country demand, and is still only one other scheme in which the people, instead of paying for their medical education, are to have scholarships to induce them to study.

3. I am satisfied that there are in Madras city, and in the Madras provinces persons who would gladly, if permitted, enter on their own resources on the study of medicine at the Madras Medical College, some to follow the curriculum which is allotted for the second Department, others that ordered for the Junior Department, provided merely that a College Diploma or Degree were guaranteed on examination at its close, and I ask His Excellency the Governor in Council to throw the Madras Medical College open in that manner. I have, in former communications, brought to the notice of Government that in the 1873-74 Session, the Calcutta Medical College, with only one Professor and four Assistants more than now in the Madras College, had 1394 students; that the Bombay College with Professors and Assistant Professors identical in number with those possessed by Madras had 303 students in the byegone Session, while Madras had only 94 students, and it was then stated by the Principal, to be the maximum number that the present staff could teach.

4. His Excellency the Governor in Council will recognise that the numbers to whom a lecturer can address himself are only limited by the power of the human voice and the lecture room accommodation, and modifications in the mode of clinical teaching long (and as I think, erroneously) followed in Madras would greatly add to that form of teaching power. But whether as regards lecturing or as hospital teaching, His Excellency the Governor in Council knows that where fees are received, no professor or lecturer or hospital ever refused a student on the plea that he could not lecture or teach him, and why should there be refusals here. I have several times dwelt on the huge amount of teaching power, wasted or not utilized in the Madras Institution. It is to the utilization of the existing educational means there, that I would point as the first step to be taken in considering how to provide a large number of Medical practitioners, and I think, Government might commence such a comprehensive scheme by admitting to the lectures, for the present free of charge, all who can pass the present departmental examination tests.

I have the honor to be
Sir,
Your most obedient Servant,
Edward Balfour Surgeon General
Surgeon General
Indian Medical Dept.

CB

When it was proposed in the Faculty of the Madras Univ. that the Medical College should be a Department for a Degree, it was stated that only 4 would present themselves

Rc 150 of 1st April 74.
" 178 of 18 April 74.

The Medical College would be glad to admit any number for lectures, but the Surgeon thinks the limit of 94 is the most that could be properly superintended

Ord. 7th August 1875. No 1618.

Referred to the Director of Public Instruction who will report on the subject in communication with the Principal of the Madras Medical College.

C M

To The Director of Public Instruction
Surgeon Genl I. M. Dept

Desp'd 17/8

From

Surgeon-General E. Balfour,
Surgeon-General,
Indian Medical Department,
Fort Saint George,

To

The Chief Secretary to Government,
Fort St. George.

Dated 7th June
Despatched 11th "
Received 14th "

No. 317

Subject.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith a letter from Mr. Assistant Surgeon [illegible] stating that all the students of the Madras Medical College have refused to attend the lectures of the Professor of Surgery, and requesting that the Professor may be directed to attend to his duties.

2. I have the honour to request that you will be pleased to move the Government to direct that the Professor of Surgery do attend to his duties as Professor, and that the students be informed that if they do not attend to their duties they will be punished.

I have &c.
(Signed)
Surgeon-General

are qualified, re
ferred to the Director
of Public Instruction
for report in comm
unication with the
College Principal.

Govt. of {1875} Madras.

Financial

No. 7 August 1875, No. 1618

Nos. 40-1

Medical. Letter from
the Surgeon General
suggesting that the
Medical College be
thrown open, free of
charge, to all who
pass the Departmen
tal Examination,
a College Diploma
being eventually gua-
ranteed to those who