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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Financial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 201 Press / Mis.

16-17 16-17

Dated 2-2- 18 75.

6/7

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Local Funds—Medical.

No. 16. Read the following letter from Surgeon-General E. G. BALFOUR, Surgeon-General, Indian Medical Department, to the Honorable D. F. CARMICHAEL, Acting Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated Fort St. George, 26th January 1875, No. 49:—

I have the honor to subjoin copy of a communication which I recently addressed to Mr. Whiteside, Collector of North Arcot, the perusal of which will place the circumstances of the case before Government.

2. On receiving any representation regarding a member of the Military Medical Department, it is my duty, in the ordinary course of business, to investigate the circumstances, and on that, from Mr. Whiteside coming to hand representing that 1st-class Hospital Assistant Madanasawmy had been absent without leave, I sent it on, as usual, to the Hospital Assistant for such remarks as he might wish to offer. On weighing the evidence in Hospital Assistant Madanasawmy's reply and in Mr. Whiteside's representation, I communicated, as my decision, to Mr. Whiteside that the Hospital Assistant, in visiting the Tripatty Railway Station, was not exceeding the liberty allowed to Medical Officers. But Mr. Whiteside has since first re-argued the matter, and subsequently called for all the papers, and I have not felt able to receive his argument nor to supply the papers.

3. I could not accept his argument, both because Mr. Whiteside had no personal knowledge of the matter, and did not advance any new point, but because the subject had been submitted to me for my disposal, and had been disposed of by me.

4. On mentioning my inability to re-open the question, Mr. Whiteside put forward the fresh request that I would send him all the documents of the case; and on my explaining that such could not be done, and requesting him, if he wanted to write more, to address the Revenue Board, he reiterates his request for all the documents, and does not even allude to the suggestion which I made that, if he could not let the matter rest on my decision, he would apply to the Board. Under these circumstances, I submit to the Right Honorable the Governor in Council that, as the head of the Medical Department, my decision on such a trivial point as was advanced and replied to should have been accepted as disposed of; but putting that wholly aside, it is not for Mr. Whiteside, who knows nothing personally of the matter, but merely forwards a complaint to seek possession of documents, with the evident view of re-opening a case decided in the defendant's favor. But the ruling of Government does not permit Military Medical Officers to be subjected to the inquiries of the Civil Officers of Government, and on this ground, also, I do not feel justified in placing in Mr. Whiteside's possession the means of further agitating the unimportant subject of a representation already disposed of; and I put aside altogether the fact that it is highly unadvisable, in the interests of the institution, that the Collector of the great district of North Arcot should continue to agitate a matter that occurred in October 1873. It would be very preferable to remove the Medical Officer or to close the hospital.

5. But I submit to Government that Mr. Whiteside has nothing whatever to do with Hospital Assistant Madanasawmy, nor with the Devasthanam dispensary.

Along with Mr. James Robinson, I called on the Sri Mohant Dharma Das Ji, of Tripatty, and all the words that passed were—

Surgeon-General.—I wish you to found an hospital here.
Sri Mohant.—Very good.
Surgeon-General-—It will cost Rupees 300 monthly.
Sri Mohant.—Very good.
Surgeon-General.—The accounts will be rendered to you.
Sri Mohant.—They will be well with you.

And I submit to Government that not only have Mr. Whiteside and the Local Fund Board nothing whatever to do with the Devasthanam dispensary and its Medical Officer, but their interference has been a very grievous hindrance to the development of which a large income of Rupees 300 monthly was capable; and, if Mr. Whiteside and the Local Fund Board will only leave it alone, I will make the Devasthanam dispensary worthy of the liberality of its founder.

6. The matter of the representation made by Mr. Whiteside is very insignificant and quite unworthy of occupying the time of any one; but as Mr. Whiteside has not accepted my suggestion of addressing the Board, I beg the favor of your submitting to the Right Honorable the Governor in Council all the documents,* and to ask the favor of Government suggesting to Mr. Whiteside to let this most trivial matter rest.

* To be kindly returned when no longer required.

From Surgeon-General E. G. BALFOUR, Surgeon-General, Indian Medical Department, to W. S. WHITESIDE, Esq., President of the Local Fund Board, North Arcot, dated Fort St. George, 5th November 1874, No. 7225.

On the 20th May 1874 you reported what you considered to be wrong in the conduct of 1st-class Hospital Assistant P. Madanasawmy Naidu, in medical charge of the Devasthanam dispensary at Tripatty, and on the 27th May I informed you, in reply, that I would investigate the subject.

2. I did so, and in my letter to your address, No. 3658, of 12th June, I communicated the result of my inquiry.

3. But 2½ months afterwards, in your letter of 20th August 1874, you requested me to reconsider the question as to the conduct of Hospital Assistant Madanasawmy, and in my letter, in reply, No. 5587, of 31st August 1874, I informed you that "I had before me, at the time of disposing of the subject, in my letter, No. 3658, dated 12th June 1874, all the information available, on which my opinion, as communicated to you, was formed, and your present communication does not place before me any fresh evidence."

4. In your present letter, No. 119, of 12th October 1874, in which you now acknowledge my August letter, you request me to favor you with copy of any explanation I may have received from 1st-class Hospital Assistant Madanasawmy Naidu, and I beg to mention, as my opinion, that the case having been referred to me by you, and, I having disposed of it, it should there be allowed to rest.

5. If you are not able to concur in this view, and wish to write more on this subject, I have the honor to suggest that you communicate your wishes to the Board of Revenue, to whom, if this letter, when it is sent on to the Board, be not conclusive as to the propriety of my closing this correspondence, and I be again referred to, I will, I hope, be able to show why I suggested to you that you permit it to be now closed.

No. 17. ORDER THEREON, 2nd February 1875, No. 201.

The decision of the Surgeon-General on the alleged irregularity committed by the Hospital Assistant of the Tripatty Temple is, of course, conclusive and final. The Collector was right in reporting the matter, but his request to be furnished with all the papers on which the Surgeon-General's order was based is clearly inadmissible.

2. The Government desire to be informed whether the Local Fund Board claims any jurisdiction over the Temple Hospital, and on what grounds.

(True Extract.)

Acting Chief Secretary.

To the Surgeon-General, Indian Medical Department, with Enclosures returned.
,, Collector of North Arcot.
,, Board of Revenue.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

concur nor be done and rejecting him, if he wanted to write more,

Govt. of {1875} Madras.

FINANCIAL.

To

THE SURGEON-GENERAL, INDIAN MEDICAL DEPARTMENT,

&c., &c., &c.

Dated February, 2nd.

Recd.

G.O., 2nd February 1875, No. 201.

FEBRUARY.

Nos. 16-17.

North Arcot Local Fund.—The President informed that the Surgeon-General's decision on the alleged irregularity committed by the Hospital Assistant of the Tripatty Temple is conclusive and final, and that his request for all the papers connected with the case is inadmissible.

No. 49.

OFFICE OF SURGEON-GENERAL, I. M. D.,
Fort Saint George, 26 *Jany* 1875.

From

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

To

The Chief Secretary to Government
Public Department
Fort Saint George.

SIR,

I have the honor to subjoin copy of a communication which I recently addressed to Mr. Whiteside, Collector of North Arcot, the perusal of which will place the circumstances of the case before Government.

2. On receiving any representation regarding a member of the Military Medical Department, it is my duty, in the ordinary course of business, to investigate the circumstances, and on that from Mr. Whiteside coming to hand representing that 1st Class Hospital Assistant Madanasawmy had been absent without leave, I sent it on, as usual, to the Hospital Assistant, for such remarks as he might wish to offer. On weighing the evidence in Hospital Assistant Madanasawmy's reply, and in Mr. Whiteside's representation, I communicated, as my decision, to Mr. Whiteside that the Hospital Assistant in visiting the Tripatty Railway Station, was not exceeding the liberty allowed to Medical Officers. But Mr. Whiteside has since first re-argued the matter and subsequently called for all the papers, and I have not felt able to receive his argument nor to supply the papers.

3. I could not accept his argument, both because Mr. Whiteside had no personal knowledge of the matter, and did not advance any new point, but because the subject had been submitted to me for my disposal, and had been disposed of by me.

4. In mentioning my inability to re-open the question, Mr. Whiteside put forward the fresh request that I would send him all the documents of the case, and on my explaining that such could not be done and requesting him, if he wanted to write more,

to address the Revenue Board, he peiterates his request for all the documents, and does not even allude to the suggestion which I made, that, if he could not let the matter rest on my decision, he would apply to the Board. Under these circumstances, I submit to the Right Honorable the Governor in Council, that, as the Head of the Medical Department, my decision on such a trivial point as was advanced and replied to, should have been accepted as disposed of; but putting that wholly aside, it is not for Mr. Whiteside, who knows nothing personally of the matter, but merely forwards a complaint to seek possession of documents, with the evident view of re-opening a case decided in the defendant's favor. But the ruling of Government does not permit Military Medical Officers to be subjected to the inquiries of the Civil Officers of Government and on this ground also, I do not feel justified in placing in Mr. Whiteside's possession the means of further agitating the unimportant subject of a representation already disposed of, and I put aside altogether the fact that it is highly inadvisable in the interests of the Institution that the Collector of the great district of Salem should continue to agitate a matter that occurred in October 1873. It would be very preferable to remove the Medical Officer or to close the Hospital.

5. But I submit to Government that Mr. Whiteside has nothing whatever to do with Hospital Assistant Madanasawmy nor with the Devasthanam Dispensary. Along with Mr. James Robinson, I called on the Sri Mohant Dharma Das ji of Sripati; and all the words that passed were:

Surgeon General :- I wish you to found an hospital here.
Sri Mohant :- Very good.
Surgeon General :- It will cost Rs 300 monthly.
Sri Mohant :- Very good.
Surgeon General :- The Account will be rendered to you.
Sri Mohant :- Then will be well with you.

And I submit to Government that not only have Mr. Whiteside and the Local Fund Board nothing whatever to do with the Devasthanam Dispensary and its Medical Officer; but their interference has been a very grevious hindrance to the development of which a large income of Rs. 300 monthly was capable; and if Mr. Whiteside and the Local Fund Board will only leave it alone, I will make the Devasthanam Dispensary worthy of the liberality of its founder.

6. The matter of the representation made by Mr. Whiteside is very insignificant, and quite unworthy of occupying the time of any one, but as Mr. Whiteside has not accepted my suggestion of addressing the Board, I beg the favor of your submitting to the Right Honorable the Governor in Council, all the documents, and to ask the favor of Government suggesting to Mr. Whiteside to let this most trivial matter rest.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedient Servant

Edward Balfour Surgeon
Surgeon General
Indian Medical Dept.

x To be kindly returned when no longer required.

Office of Surgeon General &c &c
Fort Saint George, 5th November 1874.

No 7225.

From Surgeon General Edward Balfour
Surgeon General &c &c.

To W S Whiteside Esq.
President Local Fund Board
North Arcot.

Sir, On the 20th May 1874, you reported what you considered to be wrong in the conduct of 1st Class Hospital Assistant V. Madanasawmy Naidu, in medical charge of the Devasthanam Dispensary at Tripati, and on the 27th May, I informed you, in reply, that I would investigate the subject.

2. I did so, and in my letter to your address No 3658 of 12th June, I communicated the result of my inquiry.

3. But 2½ months afterwards, in your letter of 20th August 1874, you requested me to re-consider the question as to the conduct of Hospital Assistant Madanasawmy, and in my letter, in reply, No 5587 of 31st August 1874, I informed you that "I had before me at the time of disposing of the subject in my letter, No 3658 dated 12 June 1874, all the information available, on which my opinion as communicated to you was formed and your present communication does not place before me any fresh evidence."

4. In your present letter, No 119 of 12th October 1874, in which you now acknowledge my August letter, you request me to favor you with copy of any explanation I may have received from 1st Class Hospital Assistant Madanasawmy Naidu, and I beg to mention, as my opinion, that the case having been referred to me by you and I having disposed of it, it should there be allowed to rest.

5. If you are not able to concur in this view, and wish to write more on this subject, I have the honor to suggest that you communicate your wishes to the Board of Revenue, to whom, if this letter, when it is sent on to the Board, be not conclusive as to the propriety of my closing this correspondence, and I be again referred to, I will, I hope, be able to show why I suggested to you that you permit it to be now closed.

I have &c.
Sd/ Edward Balfour Surgeon
Surgeon General
Indian Medical Dept.

True Copy

Edward Balfour Surgeon General
Surgeon General
Indian Medical Dept

CW

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

To The Chief Secretary to Govt. Fort St. George

Dated 28 January 1875
Despatched
Received 27 " "
No. 47.

Subject.

Forwards correspondence with Surgeon-General Balfour, Indian Medical Department, relative to the Chief Secretary's letter, Para 3rd, 2718, R. Acct. regarding Hospital Accountants' Office Establishment, and requesting Orders thereon.

Read 1875. 11 February

2d Feby 75-No 201

The decision of the Surgeon Genl on the alleged irregularity committed by the Hospital Apothecary Temple Hospital is of course conclusive & final. The Collr was right in reporting the matter, but this report to be furnished with all the papers on which the Surgeon G's order was based, is clearly inadmissible.

2. The Govt desire to be informed whether the Local Fund Md claims any jurisdiction over the Temple Hospital, & on

Surgeon Genl Indn. Dept. with Enclosure ret'd
Collr of N. Arcot. " } Md claims any jurisdiction over the Temple Hospital, & on
Board of Revenue " } report forwarded Despd 9-2-75

Dy 28/1-5 40/- Lawrence 40

Govt. of {187} Madras.

Jud

G. O., 27 Feby, 1875 No. 201.

Nos. 16 – 17

R. Asst L.F. the Govt informed that the Surg Genl's decision on the alleged irregularity committed by the Hospl Asst. of the Infantry Brigade, is conclusive & final & that his request for all the papers connected with the case, is inadmissible