M.R.O. 1—77,006—8-6-37.

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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Financial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	2300	Press Mis.
209-210.		209-210
Dated	26-11-	1875.

8/9

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Municipal—Sanitary.

No. 209. 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, 8th November 1875, No. 562:—

On receipt of the Orders of Government, No. 1883, dated 24th September 1875, regarding the sanitary condition of Chedumbram and its Medical Officer, I forwarded copy of the Proceedings for the observations of the Deputy Surgeon-General of the Circle and of the Civil Surgeon, Cuddalore, and I now attach the communications in reply received on the subject.

2. The Acting Sanitary Commissioner, in his notes printed in the Proceedings of that date, notices that European medicine is making little progress at Chedumbram and he does not see any prospect of advantage from erecting an hospital there seeing that a dispensary has failed; he notices the insanitary condition of the town and recommends that Native Surgeon Parasurama Naik, now in medical charge of the Cuddalore Branch Dispensary, be posted to Chedumbram, that the Civil Surgeon take medical charge of the Branch Dispensary from the Native Surgeon.

3. To this the Civil Surgeon assents if a Hospital Assistant be appointed to it, and he has every reason to believe that if the Native Surgeon have the charge of a good hospital at Chedumbram with its 17,000 of population it would very soon become a most useful institution.

4. The Deputy Surgeon-General's remarks are of a similar tenor to the above: he notices the defective conservancy of the roads, streets, and tanks of Chedumbram, the non-appearance of its conservancy establishment, the wretched condition of the dispensary building, the apparent want of energy on the part of its Medical Officer and little progress made by him, and he recommends that he be relieved by Assistant Surgeon Parasurama Naik, and that an hospital be built.

5. It is quite within the power of the Chedumbram Municipality to keep their roads, streets, and tanks clean, but the monthly pay of their Hospital Assistant is Rupees 60 and that of Assistant Surgeon Parasurama Naik is Rupees 150, and he will need to have a compounder on about Rupees 10 under him. I think that this question of employing him may advantageously be referred to the Chedumbram Municipality for an expression of their wishes, and in the meantime I will relieve the Hospital Assistant now there by another on whose exertions more may be depended.

From Surgeon-Major L. W. STEWART, Deputy Surgeon-General, Indian Medical Department, Southern District, to Surgeon-Major G. BIDIE, M.D., Secretary to the Surgeon-General, Indian Medical Department, dated Cuddalore, 30th October 1875.

With reference to docket, No. 8114, dated 14th instant, of the Surgeon-General on Proceedings of Government, No. 163 (Municipal—Sanitary), calling for the opinions of Surgeon-Major Robertson and myself in connexion with the Acting Sanitary Commissioner's report on the town and dispensary of Chellumbrum, I have the honor to state that I inspected these places on the morning of the 25th instant and the following are my conclusions:—

The conservancy of the town is defective in not having properly-constructed drains, and dirt, refuse from houses, lying about in all directions. Most of the streets were raised, which allowed

the storm-water to run off towards the sides, where it either lodged or proceeded onwards according to the amount of incline.

I was informed that twenty scavengers and ten carts are employed to sweep the town and remove the rubbish, &c., but during my progress through the town I did not see one.

The streets are as clean as those of most other towns.

The dispensary is a wretched building, situated in the dirtiest part of the town and surrounded by petty bazaars; it is damp and dark at all times, but more particularly so in cloudy and wet weather.

The conservancy of the immediate neighborhood was extremely bad, which I think reflects some blame on the part of the Medical Subordinate in charge, as he is supposed to exert his influence with the Civil authorities in enforcing cleanliness.

There are, I understood, eighteen tanks of various sizes throughout the town, and in most of them the people bathe their bodies and wash their foul clothes besides using the water for drinking purposes. Many of these tanks are fed from channels coming from the Coleroon.

Out of the above number of tanks I was told that four, situated in four corners of the town, are strictly reserved for drinking purposes, and that guards are stationed to watch against contamination.

The principal diseases during the current year have been conjunctivitis (1312), abscess (265), cholera (252), ulcer (189), boil (129), febricula (10), ague (34), and itch (41). During the seven or eight years that Hospital Assistant Ragava Row has been in charge he has not performed one surgical operation, such as amputation of a lower or upper extremity, or removal of any tumors, &c. I expressed my surprise at this, when he said that if he only held up a lancet the people would run away from fear. I remarked that such was not the case at other dispensaries. There appeared to me to be a want of energy in this Medical Subordinate, though his figures show a large attendance at the hospital.

Last year there were 3594 admissions, and this year up to September there were 3966.

He has not, in my opinion, made that progress in inducing the people to attend to cleanliness and sanitation generally, neither has he been sought after in cases of midwifery as other men in like position have. Taking everything into consideration, I am of opinion that it is advisable to remove this subordinate to the Cuddalore Branch Dispensary and to replace him by Assistant Surgeon Parasurama Naik. As the population of Chellumbrum is about 17,000 including some small villages within municipal limits, I am of opinion that a hospital for in-patients as as well as out is very desirable.

It will be seen from Hospital Assistant Ragava Row's monthly returns of sick that in his classification of castes the Brahmins are more numerous than other castes who apply for medical aid, and there must be in such a large population cases in which admission into hospital is absolutely necessary. There should be a ward specially for high-caste Brahmins, as well as a ward for mixed castes, and one for the lowest and poorest of the native sick. The town of Chellumbrum seems to require a little more European supervision to make it equal to other Municipalities. Surgeon-Major Robertson, Civil Surgeon, Cuddalore, has kindly consented to superintend the Branch Dispensary at this station although his duties are already, in my opinion, very onerous.

From Surgeon-Major C. ROBERTSON, M.D., Officiating Zillah Surgeon, Cuddalore, to Surgeon-Major L. W. STEWART, Deputy Surgeon-General, Indian Medical Department, Southern District, dated Cuddalore, 28th October 1875, No. 98.

With reference to G.O., dated 24th September, and memorandum, No. 8114, from the Surgeon-General, Indian Medical Department, I have the honor to state, with reference to paragraph 22 of letter from the Acting Sanitary Commissioner, that I could superintend the Branch Dispensary in the event of the present Assistant Surgeon being removed and a Hospital Assistant being appointed in his place.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department,
26th November 1875.

2. With reference to paragraph 21 of the same letter, I hope that in so large and important a town as Chedumbram a hospital equal in size and efficiency to those now being established at Vilapuram and Trickalore will shortly be erected, and I have every reason to believe that were Assistant Surgeon Parasurama Naik appointed to the medical charge it would very soon become a most useful institution.

Forwarded for submission to the Surgeon-General, Indian Medical Department, with reference to his docket, No. 8114, dated 14th October 1875.

(Signed) L. W. STEWART,
Deputy Surgeon-General, I.M.D.

No. 210. ORDER THEREON, 26th November 1875, No. 2300.

Referred for report to the President of the Chedumbram Municipality. The Surgeon-General will act as suggested by him in paragraph 5.

(True Extract.)

Chief Secretary.

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

Exd. A. S. Rodgers.

Cuddalore
October 30th 1875.

From The Deputy Surgeon General
Indian Medical Department
Southern Districts

To The Secretary Surgeon General
Indian Medical Department
Madras.

Sir, With reference to Direct. No. 8114 dated 14th instant of the Surgeon General on proceedings of Govt. No. 163. Municipal Sanitary, calling for the opinions of Surgeon Major Robertson and myself, in connection with the Sanitary Commissions report on the Town and Dispensary of Chellumbram; I have the honor to state that I inspected these places on the Morng. of the 25th inst. and the following are my conclusions.

The conservancy of the Town is defective in not having properly constructed drains; and dirt, refuse from houses lying about in all directions. Most of the streets were raised which allowed the storm water to run off towards the sides, where it either lodged or proceeded onwards according to the amount of incline—

I was informed that twenty Scavengers and ten carts are employed to sweep the Town and remove the rubbish etc, but during my progress thro' the town I did not see one.

The streets are as clean as those of most other towns.

Govt. of {1875} Madras.

FINANCIAL.

To

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
INDIAN MEDICAL DEPARTMENT, &c.
&c., &c.

Dated November, 26th.

Issued

Recd. Encl.

G.O., 26th November 1875, No. 2300.

NOVEMBER.
Nos. 209-210.

Municipal—Sanitary.—A report respecting the insanitary state of Chedumbram referred to the President for report.

The Dispensary is a wretched building, situated in the dirtiest part of the town, and surrounded by petty bazaars; it is damp and dark at all times, but more particularly so en cloudy and wet weather.

The conservancy of the immediate neighbourhood was extremely bad, which I think reflects some blame on the part of the Medical Subordinate in charge, as he is supposed to exert his influence with the Civil Authorities in enforcing cleanliness.

There are, I understood, eighteen tanks of various sizes throughout the Town, and in most of them, the people bathe their bodies, and wash their foul clothes, besides using the water for drinking purposes. Many of these tanks are fed from channels coming from the Colroon.

Out of the above number of Tanks I was told that four, situated in four corners of the town, are strictly reserved for drinking purposes, and that guards are stationed to watch against contamination.

The principal diseases during the current year have been Conjunctivitis (1312) Abscess (265) Cholera (252) Ulcer (187) Boil (129) Febricula (10) Ague (34) and Itch (41) During the Seven or eight years that Hosp^{l}. Asst^{t}. Ragava Row has been in charge he has not performed one Surgical Operation, such as amputation of a lower or upper extremity, or removal of any tumours etc. - I expressed my Surprise at this, when he said that if he only held up a lancet the people would run away from fear. I remarked that such was not the case at other Dispensaries. There appeared to me to be a want of energy in this Medical Subordinate, though his figures shew a large attendance at the Hospitals.

Last year there were 3594 admissions, and this year up to the September there were 3966

He has not in my opinion made that progress in inducing the people to attend to cleanliness, and sanitation generally i neither has he been sought after in cases of Midwifery, as other men in like position have - Taking every thing into consideration, I am of opinion that it is advisable to remove this Subordinate to the Cuddalore Branch Dispensary, and to replace him by Assist. Surgeon Parasurama Naick. - As the population of Chellumbrum is about 17000, including some small villages within Municipal limits, I am of opinion that a Hospital for Inpatients as well as Out very desirable.

It will be seen from Hospital Assistant Ragava Row's Monthly Returns of Sick, that in his classification of Castes, the Brahamins are more numerous than other Castes, who apply for Medical aid - and there must be in such a large population, cases in which admission into Hospital is absolutely necessary - There should be a ward specially for high cast Brahmins, as well as a ward for mixed castes, and one for the lowest and poorest of the native Sick. - The town of Chellumbrum seems to require a little more European supervision to make it equal to other Municipalities Surgeon Major Robertson, Civil Surgeon Cuddalore has kindly consented to superintend the Branch

Dispensary at this Station, although his duties are already in my opinion very onerous. ~~His duties~~ ~~ability is beyond question~~

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

L. N. Stewart
Sg. Surgeon General
Indian Medl. Depart.
Southern Districts.

From The Deputy Surgeon General
Indian Medical Department
Southern Districts.

To The Secretary to Government
Fort St. George
Madras.

Dated Octr 30th 1875

No 8250

Surgeon
Chicacole
Transmitting the Sanitary Commissioner's
Remarks with reference
to Govt. No 8114 dated
14th inst. from the Deputy
General S. M. D.

L. N. 26/12
30/10/75

90157

No 98.

Cuddalore
October 28th 1875.

From Surgeon Major C. Robertson M. D.
Offg. Zillah Surgeon.

To Deputy Surgeon General
Indian Medical Department
Southern Districts.

Sir, With reference to G. O. dated 24th Sept.
and Memo No 8114 from the Surgeon
General. I. M. D. I have the honor to state
with reference to Para 22 of letter from
Actg. Sanitary Commissioner, that I
could superintend the Branch Dispensary
in the event of the present Assistant
Surgeon being removed, and a Hospital
Assistant being appointed in his place.

2. With reference to Para 21 of the
same letter I hope that in so large and
important a town as Chiclambrum,
a hospital equal in size and efficiency
to those now being established at
Vilapuram and Trichalore, will
shortly be erected; and I have every reason
to believe that were Asst. Surgeon Parasurama
Naiko appointed to the Medical Charge, it
would very soon become a most useful
institution.

I have the honor to be Sir,
Your most obedt. servant

C. Robertson
Surgeon Major
Offg Zillah Surgeon

No. 562

OFFICE OF SURGEON-GENERAL, I. M. D.,
Fort Saint George, 8th November 1875.

From

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

To

The Chief Secretary to Government
Financial Department
Fort Saint George.

SIR,

On receipt of the Orders of Government No 1883 dated 24th September 1875, regarding the sanitary condition of Chedumbaram and its Medical Officer, I forwarded copy of the Proceedings for the observations of the Deputy Surgeon General of the Circle and of the Civil Surgeon, Cuddalore, and I now attach the communications in reply, received on the subject.

2. The Acting Sanitary Commissioner, in his Notes printed in the Proceedings of that date, notices that European Medicine is making little progress at Chedumbaram, and he does not see any prospect of advantage from erecting an Hospital there, seeing that a Dispensary has failed; he notices the unsanitary condition of the town and recommends that Native Surgeon Parasurama Naik now in Medical charge of the Cuddalore Branch Dispensary, be posted to Chedumbaram that the Civil Surgeon take Medical charge of the Branch Dispensary from the Native Surgeon.

3. To this, the Civil Surgeon assents, if a Hospital Assistant be appointed to it, and he has every reason to believe that if the Native Surgeon have the charge of a good Hospital at Chedumbaram, with its 17,000 of population, it would very soon become a most useful Institution.

No 8251 A

From The Officg. Civil Surgeon Cuddalore

To The Deputy Surgeon General Southern Division

Dated Oct 21st 1875

Rec'd Oct 23rd 1875

No 1098.

Submitted

Reply and opinion with reference to Dr Cole's No 8114 dated 14th Oct 1875 under the Surgeon General's D.O. No 2694 dated 20th Oct 1875

Forwarded for submission to Government

The Surgeon General

Madras

No 8114, dated 14th Oct 1875

[illegible]
Offg Surgeon, Gen
Madras

4. The Deputy Surgeon General's remarks are of a similar tenor to the above: he notices the defective conservancy of the roads, streets and tanks of Chedumbaram, the non-appearance of its conservancy establishment, the wretched condition of the Dispensary building, the apparent want of energy on the part of its Medical Officer and little progress made by him, and he recommends that he be relieved by Assistant Surgeon Parasurama Naik, and that an hospital be built.

5. It is quite within the power of the Chedumbaram Municipality to keep their roads, streets and tanks clean, but the monthly pay of their Hospital Assistant is Rs. 60 and that of Assistant Surgeon Parasurama Naik is Rs. 150, and he will need to have a Compounder, on about Rs. 10, under him. I think that this question of employing him may advantageously be referred to the Chedumbaram Municipality for an expression of their wishes, and in the meantime, I will relieve the Hospital Assistant now there by another on whose exertions more may be depended.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedient servant
Edw. Balfour
Surgeon General
Surgeon General Indian Medical Dept.

Financial 1875. Deposit.
From Surgeon-General E. BALFOUR,
Surgeon-General,
Indian Medical Department,
Fort Saint George.
To The Chief Secy. to Govt.
Fin'l Dept.
Fort St. George.
Dated 8 Nov.
Despatched
Received 10
No. 562
Subject.
Submits, with remarks, communications received from Dy. Surgeon Genl. Sowth. Dist. & Civil Surgn. Cuddalore, as to the sanitary state of Chedumbaram.

Municipal. Sanitary 26 Nov. 75 No. 2300

Referred for report to the President of the Chedumbaram Municipality. The Surgeon-General will act as suggested by him in paragraph 5.

24th Sept. 75, Nos. 163–164
C. No. 257

To the Surgeon Genl. I.M. Dept.
" Presdt. Chedumbaram Muny.

Govt. of {187} Madras.

G.O., 26 Nov., 1875, No. 2300.

Nos. 209–10.

Munpl. Sanitary A report respecting the Insanitary state of the dwellings referred to the President for report.