

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Insolvent DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	981	Press
		~~Mis.~~
42-43		
Dated	20. 7	19-10-58

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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981

Fort St. George, Judicial Consultation, 20th July 1858.

No. 42. Read the following letter from ANDREW N. MAGRATH, Esq., Director General, Medical Department; to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated 14th July 1858, No. 132.

SIR,

With reference to Extract from Minutes of Consultation, Judicial Department, No. 434, dated 28th April 1856, para. 4, relative to certain observations by the Inspector of Prisons as to the mode in which Medical Officers in charge of Jails record their prescriptions, I have the honor to acquaint you, for the information of Government, that immediately on receipt of the document alluded to, which was embodied in the appendix to his report, dated 2nd October 1857, page 53, I communicated with that officer on the subject, and I now do myself the honor of forwarding his reply, and also a communication from the Zillah Surgeon of Chingleput on the subject, for submission to Government, from which it will be seen that in the instance alluded to by Mr. Rohde, no irregularity could be charged against the Medical Officer; prescriptions are invariably entered in the Journals of the Medical Officers in charge of Jails.

From J. ROHDE, Esq., Inspector of Prisons, Ootacamund; to the Director General, Medical Department, Fort Saint George, dated 16th June 1858, No. 238.

SIR,

In reference to your Secretary's letter of the 3rd Instant, I have the honor to state that the case specially referred to in my Circular* letter occurred at Chingleput, where extraordinary treatment of a patient was excused on the plea that the prescription was ordered by the Surgeon and taken down incorrectly by the Dresser, the exact particulars I kept no record of as the papers were forwarded to Government, but to the best of my recollection emetics and nauseating doses of aloes were administered repeatedly, the Medical Officer stating he ordered a single dose.

2. From the remarks of other Medical Officers, I believe the practice of leaving it to the subordinates to record prescriptions is by no means unusual.

From Assistant Surgeon J. SHORTT, M. D., Zillah Surgeon, Chingleput; to the Superintending Surgeon, Centre Division, St. Thomas' Mount, dated 2nd July 1858, No. 194.

SIR,

With reference to letter No. 996, of the 28th Ultimo, from the Secretary to the Director General, Medical Department, to your address, I have the honor to state that the circumstance alluded to in the above letter, took place some time in February 1856, when Assistant Surgeon Ratton was in Medical charge. It would appear that a prisoner under trial who pretended to be insane effected his escape from the Jail hospital through the neglect of 1st Dresser Chinnatomby not attending to the Surgeon's orders, the Dresser with a view of getting out of the scrape stated in his deposition that he had to give the prisoner nauseating medicine every 3rd hour, consequently he detained the prisoner in hospital. Mr. Ratton states, "what the Dresser says about giving a mixture every 3rd hour, is the result of his own imagination, not my orders." This much I learn from the correspondence that took place on this subject. I beg to state that when medicines are ordered to patients, it is invariably noted in the Journal, and in case of those detained entered in a separate book kept for that purpose by myself.

No. 43.

ORDER THEREON, No. 981; dated 20th July 1858.

To be recorded.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

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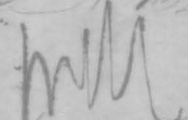
C297 April 11st 1858

In case: 25 July
Judicial / 858

No Depart

The Director
Medical Dept
Fort St George
The Surgeon
to Government
Fort St George

Dated 14 July
Recd 15 -

No 1265. M. N. 1858
2 Encls. 

Submitting information relative
to the mode in which medical
officers in charge of ships record
their prescriptions & forwarding
a copy thereof to the
proper authorities.

To be Recorded
20 July / 58. 