

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	95	Press
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149-150		
Dated	22.1.1864	19

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Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,
22nd January 1864.*

No. 149. Read the following letter from D. F. CARMICHAEL, Esq., Magistrate of Vizagapatam; to the Honorable A. J. ARBUTHNOT, Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated Vizagapatam, 12th November 1863, No. 608.

* Judicial No. 1540, 23rd September 1863.

Referring to the Order* of Government, authorizing the payment of rent on account of a house in the town, for the purposes of a Lunatic Asylum, I have the honor to point out the expediency of a compliance with the express terms of the Act (No. XXXVI of 1858) which directs (Section 2) that the Government shall appoint for every Asylum not less than three visitors, one of whom at least shall be a Medical Officer, over and above the Inspector General of Jails, who is ex-officio a visitor of all Asylums within the Presidency.

2. I adverted prominently to this in paragraphs 2 and 3 of my letter disposed of in the Proceedings of Government marginally† noted; but it was passed over, perhaps on the ground that it was a mere technicality.

† Judicial No. 1723, 21st October 1862.

3. To show its importance, however, I will state what has just occurred here: The Civil Surgeon is out for a few days on a tour amongst his Vaccinators. The Officiating Deputy Inspector General of Hospitals who looks after his duty in his absence, goes down to the Lunatic Asylum, votes four of the inmates perfectly sane, and writes to me begging that I will compel them to leave the town and repair to their respective villages. Of course I have no such powers, and as the patients now declared rational beings were unmistakeably mad when brought before me not long since and as the Civil Surgeon, under whose charge the Asylum has been expressly placed by Government, has not reported their recovery, I informed Dr. Jackson that I should take no steps pending the return of the former official to the station.

4. We all know how Doctors disagree, especially mad Doctors; and doubtless the Legislature had this in view, when it provided that the Doctor in charge of an Asylum should be visited not by another Doctor only, but by two or more laymen besides; and that while a patient should be admitted on the joint certificate of the Magistrate and Asylum Doctor, he might be discharged at any moment (and could only be discharged) by a written order under the hands of three of the official visitors, (Section 9). I beg to recommend that the Judge, Magistrate, Deputy Inspector General of Hospitals, District Moonsiff and Deputy Collector in charge of the Treasury be appointed visitors of this Asylum. As three are required for a *quorum*, five member will not be considered too many. The Moonsiff and Deputy Collector are Native gentlemen.

No. 150. ORDER THEREON, 22nd January 1864, No. 95.

Under the provisions of Section 2 Act XXXVI of 1858, His Excellency the Governor in Council resolves to appoint the undermentioned Officers to be visitors of the Lunatic Asylum at Vizagapatam:—

The Civil and Session Judge of Vizagapatam.
The Magistrate of do.
The Deputy Inspector General of Hospitals, Northern Division.
The District Moonsiff of Vizagapatam.
The Deputy Collector in charge of the Treasury at Vizagapatam.

(Signed) A. J. ARBUTHNOT,
Chief Secretary.

Order 22^d January 1864 N. 95.

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of Section II Act 36
of 1858, ^{H. C. 1858} the Governor
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The Civil & Session Judge of } Vizagapatam
The Magistrate of }
The Deputy Secy General of Hospitals,
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The District Munsiff of Vizagapatam
The Deputy Collector in charge of the
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Gazette. 22/1/64

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