

Marine (1898) Department.

G.O., No. 479

DATED 13th June 1898

Removal from G.O. 734
3-11-98

[Despatch Abstract.]

Dr. Allison, Port Health Officer, Madras. Orders stating
that — is deserving of censure for having left Madras
on casual leave at the critical time when the decision
of quarantine against Calcutta was certain, and for not
having returned to it after quarantine was established, and
that the censure will be conveyed to that officer through
the Public Dept.

BACK PAPERS.

FURTHER PAPERS.

Mannie DEPARTMENT.

Papers to be read in Proceedings :—

Again G.O., dated

189 , No.

Again G.O., dated

189 , No.

~~44~~ Current No. ~~44~~

of 1898, dated March 10, from William H. Hays

105 " " 657

" 1898, " 15 May, " " the Rock Health Officer" Hanna

It appears that the Surgeon General granted the Madras Port Health officer, Dr. Allison, 10 days casual leave in April. By the 30th of the month, however, when Dr. Allison availed himself of the leave, it was obvious from the daily newspapers that the declaring of Calcutta to be infected with plague was, in all probability, only a matter of days, if not of hours; and, on the 2nd May, quarantine against Calcutta was established by the Madras Government. Under these circumstances Dr. Allison showed himself, in the opinion of His Excellency the Governor in Council, wanting in a proper sense of duty in (1) leaving Madras at all under the critical conditions which

which existed on the 30th April, and
(2) in not returning thereto at once
on becoming aware that quarantine
against Calcutta had been ordered,
an order which he must have known
would throw much extra work and
great additional responsibility on
the Port Health officer.

2. As to the inconvenience caused
by the absence of Dr Allison there
can be no doubt. It is evidenced
by a mass of telegrams and
correspondence from the mercantile
community which reached the
Government on the quarantine
regulations being brought into
force. It is stated that Dr Lee
has placed in charge of
~~promised to do~~ Dr Allison's work
during his absence, but it would
appear that ^{carried up some of the} he did not actually
^{recutype in the paper} do it. That, however, is a matter
for which Dr Allison must be
held responsible. If an officer
takes casual leave it is for him
to arrange for the due discharge
of his duties during his absence.

3. His Excellency the Governor
in Council thus considers that
Dr Allison is deserving of censure
for

for obvious neglect of duty in
a serious public emergency. This
expression of the displeasure
of Government will be com-
municated to Dr Allison
through the Public Depart-
ment which will also consider
the action of the Surgeon
General in the matter.
R.S.

MS. 10.6.98

W. H. L.
P. B. S.

The Public Department
with papers in original.

MS. 10.6.98