

Marine (1898) Department.

G.O., No. 734 Marine

DATED 31st August 1898.

[Despatch Abstract.]
Dr. H. Allison, Port Health Officer, Madras

Observing that Capt. Hill adheres to
the Censure passed on _____ and remarking
on the Conduct of Dr. Lee, in not ^{having} allowed "healthy"
Vessels to work Cargo under suitable precautions.

Dr

Indexed. 3/9/98

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
	1479	Ma.	13.6.98				

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
	50.51	Ma.	16.1.99				

B. Dr. Allison, Port Health Marine DEPARTMENT.
 Office, Madras.
 Papers to be read in Proceedings:—

Again G.O., dated

189 , No.

Again G.O., dated

189 , No.

Current No. 1030 of 1898, dated 15th August, from the Public Dept. on letter from the Surgeon-General, No. 6/36, dated 3rd August 1898.
 " " 1044 " 1898, " 19th August, " do " No. 2/22 of 14th Aug 98.
 " " " 189 , "

The Hon Sir Henry Bliss, K.C.S.I. ORDER. 734 dated 23rd August 1898

(3) The Public Department for favours of Counter initials) His Excellency the Governor in Council observes that there is nothing in the Surgeon General's letters or accompaniments which affects the grounds on which Dr. Allison was blamed, viz,
 (1) for leaving Madras at all when the declaring of Calcutta as "infected" was imminent, &
 (2) for not returning at once on becoming aware that quarantine against Calcutta had been ordered.

BS
 29/8/98

2. His Excellency in Council is also of opinion that it would have been better if Dr. Lee had used the discretion given him by the second sentence of Regulation 17 printed with G.O.

Isme LKS
 21.2.98
 W/ 30 Aug 98

45, Marine, dated 23rd August 1897, and had allowed "healthy" vessels to work cargo under suitable precautions, instead of detaining them in strict quarantine, as he did. If he had any doubt, he could have asked for orders by telegram. This he omitted to do, and his reluctance to use this

Discretionary power is doubtless, attributable to his acting pro tem. The inconvenience arising therefrom may therefore be fairly charged to Dr. Allison's absence from Madras and his inactivity in Council is therefore not prepared to withdraw the Censure already pronounced.

Used
M. S. S.

17/8/97.

I don't think I wd say this. The grounds of complaint agst Dr. A. are stated in para 1 - Suppon Dr. A. had been there & had acted as Dr. L. did - we should have disapproved with him as to the way in which he exercised the discretion vested in him, but we should not have censured him for doing his best according to his lights, however though we should have thought his lights to be - we wd not attribute blame to him because his substitute acted unwise & caused a lot of worry in consequence - The charge against Dr. A. is that he (1) did not stick to his post & (2) that he did not return to it & thereby showed himself wanting in a proper sense of duty, not that he exercised his discretion unwise.

The Public Department.

C. No. 1030 of 1898.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.
THE HON'BLE SIR HENRY BLISS, K.C.I.E.
THE HON'BLE MR. GROSE, C.I.E.

SUBJECT.

Request for withdrawal of Censure passed on Dr. Allison.

FOR ORDERS.

Please put up with the quarantine Regs (S.O. 1134 of 23.8.97) as they stood at the beginning of May.

As
17/8/98

Submitted - Flag

APK
18.8.98.
D.W.

Yps. vide
Perfor. Indorse
Printed with
S.O. 367 Marine
12/11/98

The Surgeon General submits, with reference to G.O. 479 Marine date 13th June 1898, copy of the communication from Dr. Lee explaining the arrangements Dr. Allison had made with him for performance of the duties of the latter during his absence at Ootacamund on casual leave.

2. The Surgeon General trusts that, under the explanation afforded, the Government will be pleased to withdraw the Censure passed on Dr. Allison.

3. The Surgeon General is of opinion that the arrangements made by Dr. Allison were all that could have been made by a careful medical officer.

Dr. Allison the latter says that had he himself been in Madras at the time, he would have acted exactly in the same manner as Dr. Lee did. The Surgeon General adds that he himself would, in the circumstances, have acted similarly.

4. A reference to G.O. 479 Marine, dated 13th June, 1898 will show that

what

It would have been better if Dr. Lee had used the discretion given him by the second sentence of Reg 17 ~~and~~ had allowed healthy vessels to work cargo under suitable precautions, instead of detaining them in strict quarantine, as he did [See this is correct] - 7 times, as he did. He could have asked for orders by telegram, and did not do so.

11.8.98 R. 18.8.98 Again 18.8.98 R. 20.8.98

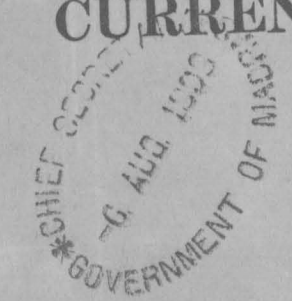
what Dr. Allison was censured for was
(1) leaving Madras at all when the de-
claring of Calcutta as infected was
imminent, and
(2) for not returning at once on be-
coming aware that quarantine against
Calcutta had been ordered.

AKR
16.8.98.
D.W.

Just so. Nothing in the H.
letter affects these points
BS
19/8/98

Confidential 800 379
Marine
Public (1898) Department.

CURRENT No. 2455
1030



CS

Encl no 1684 dated 11 August 1898
Order

Transferred to the
Marine Department
H. Knapp.
Ag Under Secretary

When
9/8/98

11/8/98.

From
Surgeon Major General C. Silthorpe, C.B., F.R.S.
Surgeon General
With the Govt. of Madras

No. C/36.

Dated 32nd August 1898.
Received 6
Registered 15
Enclosures 1
Spare copies

SUBJECT.

Forwarding copy of a Communique
from Surgeon Lt. Col. Laid explaining
arrangements Surgeon Lt. Col. Allison
had made with him regarding the
performance of his duties during
his absence on casual leave.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

[18]

Copy of a letter from the Surgeon Lieutt. Colonel
H. A. Lee, Surgeon 1st District to the Secretary to the
Surgeon General with the Government of Madras
No. C/3, dated 16th July 1898.
Shro' Surgeon Lt. Col. A. Allison, Port Health Officer.

My arrangement with Surgeon Lieutt.
Colonel Allison was that during the period
I was to act for him, Assistant Surgeon
Wexton would perform the routine duties and
would communicate with me whenever my
services were specially required.

2. Accordingly I went to the office
on the 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th and 11th May, and
disposed of the correspondence in connection
with the enforcement of the Quarantine Rules
copies of which I have asked Surgeon Lieutt.
Colonel Allison to record with this minute.

3. I also received reports from
Assistant Surgeon Wexton regarding his inspection
of all the steamers, their air number, that arrived
here from Calcutta in the same period viz.
the Jupiter on the 5th May, the Navab on the 7th,
and the Pongola on the 9th idem, and received
verbal directions to him in respect to the
application of the Rules.

4. I may add that I did not see my
way to yield to pressure by authorizing any
relaxation of the Quarantine Rules without
the sanction of superior authority, because I

Dr. Allison left
Madras on the 30th
April, and returned
at 10 on the
15 May

B 2, 367 May
11th May 1898
pages 2 & 3.

*No intimation
was received
in the office
about the
vessel

I felt that had any untoward result followed such a step on my part the consequences would have been visited on me alone.

(True Copy)

Honour

Surgeon-Captain

Surgeon-General

with the Govt. of Madras.

Encl. case
bPub. no 2485 of 98

Confidential C. No. 379

No. C/36

From

SURGEON-MAJOR-GENERAL G. SIBTHORPE, C.B., F.R.C.P.I.,

SURGEON-GENERAL WITH THE

To

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS,

THE HON'BLE THE CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,

SIR,

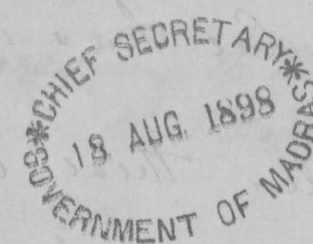
Public DEPARTMENT.

With reference to G. O. No. 781 Public dated 21st June 1898 communicating G. O. No. 479 Marine dated 13th June 1898, I have the honor to forward for the information of Government copy of a communication from Surgeon Lieutenant Colonel Lee explaining the arrangements Surgeon Lieut. Col. Allison had made with him regarding the performance of his (Dr. Allison's) duties during his absence on casual leave.

2. The arrangements seem to me to be all that could have been made by a careful medical officer. I particularly wish to draw the attention of Government to para 4 of Dr. Lee's letter. Dr. Allison says that if he had been in Madras at the time he would have been in exactly the same position and would have acted in the same manner as it was according to the Regulations then in force.

Public (1898) Department.

CURRENT No. *1044*



From Surgeon-Maj. Genl. C. S. S. P. S.
Surgeon-Genl. with the Govt of Madras

Order
Encl. No. 1747 of 18-8-98

Transferred to the Marine
Department.

No. *2*
22

Admnapp.

Ag. Secy.

The Hon. Sir Henry Bliss K.C.S.E.

Dated 14th August 1898.

Received

Registered

Enclosures

Spare copies

Submitted in
continuation of the file
on the same subject.
Circulated to the Hon.
Members this morning.

A.S.

APK

I have noted on *19.8.98*
the other file I have nothing to
add - *AS*
19/8/98

SUBJECT.

Forward representation from
Surgeon-Lieut. Col. Allison regarding
the Censure passed on him in G.O.
No. 479 Marine of 13 June 1898
and request that under the cir-
cumstances explained it may be
withdrawn.

H. In. 19.8.98 R. 19.8.98

I have myself had the appointment of
Marine Surgeon for some years and would
under the circumstances have acted in
exactly as Dr. Lee has done.

Under these circumstances
I trust that Government will be pleased
to withdraw the censure passed on him
and which he does not seem to merit.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

C. S. S. P. S.

Surgeon-Maj. General.

Surgeon-General

with the Govt. of Madras.

Copy sent up to Mr. Innes
12/8/98

Papers

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Confidential

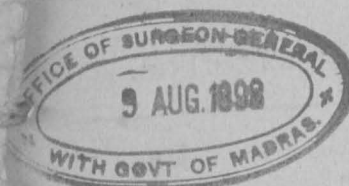
Enclosure

From 9-22 of 14/8/98

Madras, 8th August 1898

Surgeon Lt. Col. H. Allison, M.D.
Port Health Officer
Madras

To The Secretary to the Surgeon General
With the Govt. of Madras
Madras.



Sir,
With reference to G.O., No. 479,
Maine, dated 13th June 1898, received
with your No. 928 of 28th June 1898,
I have the honor to submit the following
for the information of the Government of
Madras with a request for a re-
consideration of the order.

2. In the order above quoted it is
stated "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 Cal-
cutta to be infected with plague
was in all probability only a matter
of days if not hours." This declaration
of plague depended on the opinion
of Professor Haffkine. Against the
expectation of plague being declared
we have the opinion also in the daily
newspapers telegraphed from Calcutta
about 28th April "That in the opinion

of the Medical Authorities plague does not exist in Calcutta." Also against it is the season of the year, 1st May the hottest time of the year in Calcutta. The experience of every other place being that plague does not first appear during the hot season, and if it has been present it decreases or disappears altogether at that season. This has been the experience in Bombay and North of India during the past two years. I do not therefore think there was such a certainty of plague being declared.

3. As regards returning to duty the Order and Notification issued by Government, declaring quarantine against Calcutta, were very simple and no modification or exceptions were attached to the Order and I do not see that any other procedure could have been adopted than to place the vessels in quarantine. This action has been upheld by Government in G.O., No. 348/A, Marine, dated 6th May 1898.

2327 + 3289
12 May 98

x printed
minutes 36 pms
11 May 98

13-6-98
Hos W
4. In para 2 of above Order Government states that inconvenience was experienced by the mercantile community and goes on to state that Dr. Lee who was placed in charge did not do any executive duty I am therefore responsible. Surgeon Lt. Colonel Lee promised to act for me during my absence and the attached copy of letter shows that he did so and that he was present every day from 6th May to date of my return on 11th May taking full responsibility for all that was done. Inconvenience was no doubt experienced by the steamers being placed in quarantine but I do not see how quarantine of any sort is to be carried out without inconvenience. These were not the first steamers placed in quarantine as during last November three steamers from Bombay were so dealt with to complete their ten days from that port. In G.O., No. 348/A, Marine, dated 6th May 1898, it is stated in the end of para 2 "The action of the Port Health Officer in putting the vessels in quarantine is thus in accordance with the authorised Sanitary regulations." Therefore as the action

8 Hos W

(4)

of my substitute was in strict
accordance with the sanitary
regulations and was exactly
the same as would have been
taken had I been present I fail
to see where there has been any
neglect of public duty and I
feel that a great hardship has
been inflicted on me by the order
of censure I therefore request
that the matter be referred to
Government for favourable con-
sideration.

I have the honor to be
Sir

Your most obedt. servant
A. Allison Esq

Surgeon Lt. Colonel
Port Health Officer

Encl 1 to Put Mar
C No 2573 of 1898
10/11/98

Confidential
No 2 to letter No 2573 of 14/8/98
Office of Surgeon General with the
Govt. of Madras, Madras 13th July 1898
From Surgeon Capt. R. H. Elliott
Secy. to the Surgeon General
with the Govt. of Madras
To Surgeon Lt. Colonel W. A. Lee
Surgeon 1st District
Madras

Sir, In Confidential G.O., No 281, Public, dated
21st June 1898, the following remarks is made - "It is
stated that Dr. Lee was placed in charge of Dr.
Allison's work during his absence (Port and Marine
duties while he was absent on casual leave in May)
but it would appear that he carried out more of the
executive duties thereof."

2. I am directed by the Surgeon General to ask you to
state exactly what occurred and how far you
complied with your promise to act for Surgeon Lt. Col.
Allison during his absence.

3. Your reply should be submitted through Surgeon
Lt. Colonel Allison if it in any way affects him
or his Assistant in order that he may have an
opportunity of submitting his remarks for the in-
formation of the Surgeon General.

I have the honor to be

Sir
Your most obedt. servant
18th R. H. Elliott
Surgeon Captain
Secy. to Surgeon General with the
Govt. of Madras.

11

Madras
16th July 1898

To The Secretary to the Surgeon General
with the Govt. of Madras
Madras

Through Surgeon Lt. Col. Allison

My arrangement with Surgeon Lt. Col. Allison
was that during the period I was to act for him
Assistant Surgeon Weston would perform the
routine duties and would communicate with me
whenever my services were specially required.

2. Accordingly I went to the Office on the 6th, 7th, 8th,
9th, 10th & 11th day and disposed of the correspondence

in connection with the enforcement of the quarantine
rules. Copies of which I have asked Surgeon
Lt. Col. Allison to record with this minute.

I also received reports from Assist. Surgeon
Weston regarding his inspection of all the
steamers, three in number, that arrived from
Calcutta in the same period, namely, the
"Jupiter" on the 5th May, the "Kamab" on the 7th
and the "Pongolai" on the 8th idem and issued
verbal directions to him in respect to the applica-
tion of the rules.

4. I may add that I did not see my way to
yield to pressure by authorizing any relax-
ation of the Quarantine rules, without the
sanction of Superior Authority, because I
felt that had any untoward result followed
such a step on my part the consequences
would have been visited on me alone.

18/11/98. A. Lee
Surgeon Lt. Colonel.

(True Copy)

A. Allison
Surgeon Lt. Colonel

Min No 2 5044
Not Pubd no 2593
of 98.

Confidential

Pub No 2593

OFFICE OF SURGEON-GENERAL

WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS,

No. 12/22 Camp Bezvada 11th Aug 1898.

From

SURGEON-MAJOR-GENERAL C. SITHORPE, C.B., F.R.C.P.I.,

SURGEON-GENERAL WITH THE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS,

To

THE HON'BLE THE CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,

Public DEPARTMENT.

SIR,

In continuation of my letter 9th Sept Confidential
dated 3rd August 1898, I have the honor to forward
herewith a representation from Surgeon-Lieut. Colonel
M. Allison which fully meets all the points raised
by Government and trust that under the circum-
stances Government will be pleased to withdraw
the censure passed on him as he has very clearly
shown that he is not in any way to blame in
the matter.

I have the honor to be
Sir

Your Most Obedt. Servant.

C. Sithorpe.
Surgeon-Major-General.
Surgeon-General with the Govt of Madras.