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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	9512	Press Mis.
Dated	2-2-77	1863.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
5th September 1863.*

No. 92. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Public
Department :—

Sanctioning the grant of Rupees 300 made by the Collector
from the Local Funds in aid of the Branch Dispensary
and Hospital at Old Town Cuddalore, South Arcot District. } (Here enter 29th August 1863, No. 978)

No. 93. ORDER THEREON, 5th September 1863, No. 2,562.
Communicated to the Superintending Engineer, 5th Division.
(True Extract.)

(Signed) C. A. ORR, Colonel, R. E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the Superintending Engineer, 5th Division.
,, Controller and Auditor of Public Works Accounts.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.
PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following letter from C. W. READE, Esq., Collector of South Arcot; to the Honorable A. J. ARBUTHNOT, Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated Cuddalore, 17th July 1863, No. 36.

I have the honor to solicit the sanction of Government for the disbursement of Rupees 300 which I recently gave from the "Local Fund" in aid of the Branch Dispensary and Hospital at Old Town, Cuddalore, now in course of erection.

2. The Dispensary was opened in 1860, and has ever since been maintained from contributions by the English residents and by the general community, the latter of whom have besides given a donation to the amount of 500 Rupees towards the extension of the original accommodation.

3. The building hitherto used was a public one, and was formerly occupied for the Arms stand of the Veteran Company stationed here.

4. So long as the institution was a mere Dispensary, the building was ample; but lately it was considered necessary, owing to the numerous applicants for relief, to add an Hospital with a small ward for lying in females, and with this object the people came forward and contributed the amount I have just mentioned.

5. The cost of this extended accommodation has exceeded the estimate, and from the causes detailed in the accompanying copy of a communication addressed to me by the Native Surgeon in charge, Rajandrum, nothing further is to be expected from the public, I have therefore made the above grant from the Local Fund in order to complete the building at once, and I solicit the approval of Government.

6. The institution is much prized by the people as evidenced by their originating it and contributing towards it, while its usefulness is shown by the numbers who resort to it for treatment and relief as exhibited in the statement subjoined to paragraph 12 of the Native Surgeon's letter, and considering that the State is put to no additional cost save for the drugs and Medical superintendence, and thus that the institution is strictly self-supporting, I have felt justified under the urgent circumstances represented to me to render the pecuniary aid I have done, in the full assurance that it would meet with the Government sanction, and I the less hesitated as I found that such grant was not without precedent; for in 1861, in Tanjore, Rupees 600 was given from the Local Funds of that District in aid of a kindred institution at Negapatam (vide printed report on the Civil Dispensaries for 1861), and I venture the opinion that this occasional appropriation of the local means available to heads of Districts is quite legitimate and falls in with the principle of the grant-in-aid system now in operation.

Awaiting the orders of Government.

From J. RAJANDRUM, Native Surgeon, Superintendent of Old Town Dispensary Works, to C. W. READE, Esq., Collector and Magistrate of South Arcot, Cuddalore, dated Old Town, Cuddalore, 20th June 1863, No. 19.

Feeling it my duty to bring to your early notice, I do myself the honor to state, with due respect, that as the monsoon is now approaching it is to be apprehended that, if the chunam plaster and other immediately necessary works are not done in time to protect the walls and the terraced flat roof, &c. of the building of Old Town Dispensary, which is now being erected under your auspices, much damage or injury would in all probability accrue to them during that season from the rains.

2. Lately in my personal interview I had the honor of reporting to you cursorily how far the works were executed and what were the things yet required to be done, (viz., the doors,

windows, out-houses, walls around the compound, plaster and some more brick works to the main body of the building, &c.), before the institution can be opened for the benefit of the public and the poor in and about the city.

3. Since from the materials which remained on hand a quantity of slacked lime I had bought for the purpose as well as by the help received through the kindness of G. Ellis, Esq., I was able to get part, only a part, of the terrace roof paved rainproof, and the compound of the building levelled.

4. I am now placing a gate and wall to match in the front and on the sides, commencing foundations for two wards, one on either side of the main body, intended to accommodate parturient and ophthalmic cases respectively. The long rooms in the central edifice being one for general cases and paupers, and the other for special ones and better classes; whilst the small room on the left is for stores and the front verandah for receiving visits from the out-door patients seeking advice at the Dispensary.

5. Apart from these, kitchen, privy houses for males and females, purveyor's godown, bath rooms, back verandah, &c., are yet required. For these an estimate of Rupees 500 is made by the Bricklayer Maistry; but who in conversation leads me to fear that they will take in much more than that sum to complete. Moreso as his former estimate of Rupees 350 for the central building, which is now completed so far, has up to this date cost Rupees 632 and thus had far exceeded his calculation.

6. But I have not a Pie in hand, nor got materials enough to finish what I said above I commenced. In all it is likely to take at least 3 or 400 Rupees more than the Maistry's estimate.

7. The inhabitants have already contributed Rupees 500 towards the erection of the building, and now on my further appealing to them for aid they express regret for their present inability to pay more; for, as besides giving their mite for the pauper patients and other local expenses connected with the establishment of the Old Town Dispensary now held in a rented building, they say they have also to pay donations and subscriptions for the sanitary purposes of the town.

8. Yet it will be a thousand pities to leave this fine structure contingent to the mercy of the elements during the wet weather. But if timely provision were made to avert the results dreaded, I deferentially beg to submit that the measure will save double labor, time or money.

9. The people apprise me that they have memorialized the Government through you for some help or grant-in-aid equal to the amount contributed by them; but this I believe will be a matter of time, though in due course their petition will meet the required sanction backed by your recommendation.

10. Under these circumstances, and as the building is yet likely to cost more than the Maistry's estimate of Rupees 500, I am constrained to apply to you for aid in behalf of this charity, and earnestly beseech you kindly to allow Rupees 300 from the "Local Fund" to enable me to do the most needful works at once before the rainy season. More than this sum, viz., Rupees 900 was given to an institution of this kind under similar condition in Tanjore by Cadell, Esq., the Collector of that District, vide Government report for 1861 on the Civil Dispensaries in the Provinces.

11. The value of the institution and of the appreciation in which it is held by the people, I hope their own Memorial above alluded to will show.

12. But to give you an insight into the working of the Old Town Dispensary, I beg to subjoin a table exhibiting the result of its operation ever since it was established in 1860.

Years	1860			1861.			1862.			Grand Total.		
Description	Admitted.	Cured or relieved.	Died.	Admitted.	Cured or relieved.	Died.	Admitted.	Cured or relieved.	Died.	Admitted	Cured or relieved.	Died
In Patients	..	..	..	34	28		83	81		117	109	
Out Patients	4,780	4,739	8	8,454	8,412	31	8,575	8,541	19	21,809	20,692	58

13. The above statistical data comprise cases of diseases of almost of all description; but the most prevailing ones have been those of Miasmatic and Euthetic diseases, diseases of the Digestive and Integumentary systems, Constitutional and Local diseases, Accidents and Injuries, Parturient and child bed cases.

14. Trusting that this request will meet your favorable consideration. I beg to enclose a Bill for the amount.

(True Copy).

(Signed) CHARLES W. READE,
Collector and Magistrate.

ORDER THEREON, 29th August 1863, No. 978.

The Governor in Council sanctions the grant of Rupees 300 made by the Collector from the Local Funds in aid of the Branch Dispensary and Hospital at Old Town Cuddalore.

(True Extract.)

Chief Secretary.

To the Collector of South Arcot.
Public Works Department.
Principal Inspector General Medical Department.
Accountant General.

Exd. T. McMootry.

