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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

(Public Works) DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 3356 Press Mis.

470-47

Dated 20-10- 1866.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
20th October 1866.

No. 490. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Public Department :—

Passing orders on a letter from the Collector of Malabar, relative to the establishment of a Civil Hospital and Dispensary at Vythery. } (Here enter 15th October 1866, No. 1,048.)

No. 491. ORDER THEREON, 20th October 1866, No. 3,356.

CIVIL WORKS, No. 94.

Communicated to the Superintending Engineer of the 7th Division.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R. E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the Superintending Engineer, 7th Division.
„ Controller of Public Works Accounts.

Exd. J. Tulloch.

No. 118. Read the following letter from G. A. BALLARD, Esq., Collector of Malabar, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Calicut, 4th June 1866, No. 72.

In January 1865, I reported that the Planters of South Wynaad proposed to establish a Private Hospital for East Indians and coolies employed on their estates, in preference to taking their share with the Government in the establishment of a General Dispensary and Hospital for the District.

A small shed was erected on the Estate of Dr. Hester, a Private Practitioner, then in South Wynaad, but, as I am informed, the relief afforded was on a very limited scale. Even that has ceased. Dr. Hester left India some months ago, and for the last half-year the District has been destitute of medical advice.

The Planters have been endeavouring, by advertisement and otherwise, to engage a Doctor. They have not completed any arrangements, but have heard of a gentleman likely to settle in the District, if sufficient inducement is held out.

2. From conversation with the Secretary, South Wynaad Planters' Association, I understand that the Planters would now be happy to contribute their quota to the erection of a Hospital building, and generally take such share of the ordinary current expenses as usually fall on the residents in other places, if Government is pleased to give a moiety of the cost of the building, pay Rupees 50 per mensem towards the pay of a Dresser,* or Apothecary, to be in immediate charge of the Dispensary and Hospital, and allow a salary of Rupees 150 to 200 per mensem to a qualified Medical† man settling in the District, who would have general superintendence of the Hospital. All the arrangements would, of course, be open to such general Medical superintendence as Government might prescribe.

* The residents would make up Rupees 20 or 25 per mensem more, so as to secure a good man.

† He would, of course, have his private practice mainly to look to; but a fixed sum payable by Government would be a great inducement to a man to settle permanently.

3. I earnestly hope that Government will be pleased to view this proposition favorably. I have just received (and, I must be allowed respectfully to add, with much regret) the decision of Government‡ against legislating on the labor question, and exercising supervision of labor in the Planting Districts. I fear, therefore, there is no hope at present of the re-organization of the Wynaad Establishments§ proposed by me being carried out. My scheme embraced an allowance to a Medical man in each of the proposed divisions of Wynaad. At present, an allowance of Rupees 150 per mensem is made to Doctor Cream at Manantoddy, and a Government building is given up as a Civil Hospital and Dispensary.

‡ Vide Proceedings of Government, Public Department, dated 30th May 1866, No. 542.

§ Vide Collector, to Chief Secretary to Government, dated 23rd August 1865, No. 111.

4. Government have allowed moiety of the cost of a Civil Hospital at Goodaloor, and pay of an Assistant Apothecary. Goodaloor is so near Ooty, that superior Medical attendance is within comparatively easy reach. South Wynaad has, as yet, none of these advantages, and, indeed, however the details may be arranged, and whoever has to bear the cost, I am respectfully of opinion it is the bounden duty

Vide Government Order, dated 24th January 1865, No. 93.

of Government to see that this important District is not longer left destitute of Medical advice, assistance, and accommodation.

5. There is an excellent site for a Civil Hospital on the ground appropriated for Government buildings, close to the Sub-Magistrate's Office and Post Office now under construction, and the rising station of new Vythery.

6. The Dispensary building will probably cost about Rupees 5000.

7. I solicit early consideration of this matter.

No. 119. ORDER THEREON, 15th October 1866, No. 1048.

In October 1864, the Collector of Malabar forwarded a Memorial from certain Planters in South Wynaad, seeking assistance from Government, in establishing and maintaining a Hospital at Vythery.

Govt. Pros., 26th October 1864, Nos. 149 & 150.

2. The Memorialists sought a grant of 2000 Rupees towards the construction of the necessary buildings, the services of a "Dresser," and a supply of medicines. The Government were to make "suitable arrangements" for securing Medical attendance for their own employés.

3. The Collector suggested certain modifications, and the Government offered to grant a moiety of the expense of building the Hospital, provided the plan, estimate, and site met with their approval, and also to place the services of an Assistant Apothecary at the disposal of the subscribers, and grant Rupees 50 monthly in aid of his salary, on condition of the Hospital being open to such inspection as they might prescribe, and being satisfactorily managed.

4. On the 6th January 1865, the Collector reported that he had been informed by the Honorary Secretary of the Planters' Association, that the Planters preferred establishing a private Hospital, and had, therefore, "determined respectfully to decline all Government assistance, and to establish a private Hospital for the benefit of all East Indians and Natives employed on their Estates, leaving it to Government to take such steps as they may deem necessary for the provision of Medical attendance to their own servants and that part of the population not employed by the Planters."

5. The Collector now states that, from a conversation he has had with the Secretary of the Association, he understands that the Planters would now be happy to contribute their quota to the erection of a Hospital, and generally take such share of the ordinary current expenses as usually fall on the residents in other places, if Government will

I. Grant a moiety of the cost of the building;

II. Pay 50 Rupees monthly towards the pay of a Dresser or Apothecary (to which the residents would add 20 or 25 Rupees), to be *in immediate charge of the Dispensary and Hospital*; and

III. Allow a salary of Rupees 150 or 200 per mensem to a qualified Medical man, settling in the District, who would have general superintendence of the Hospital.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,
15th October 1866.

6. Mr. Ballard states that the Dispensary building will probably cost about 5000 Rupees, and he earnestly recommends his proposition to the favorable consideration of Government. He alludes also to a recent proposal of his to divide the Wynaad into 3 divisions, each to be placed under a Deputy Collector and Magistrate of the 1st Class on 600 Rupees per month, and, besides a large establishment, to have attached to it a Medical Officer on 200 Rupees per month.

To Government, dated 23rd August 1865, No. 111, in Government Proceedings of 30th May 1866; and Board of Revenue Proceedings of 14th October 1865, No. 6534, in ditto.

7. The latter proposition does not need lengthened discussion here. The entire revenue of the Taluq last year was under 1,40,000 Rupees, of which, however, 30,000 Rupees were the sale proceeds of Government Timber.

The expenditure on Public Works alone during the year exceeded Rupees 1,50,000, thus absorbing the entire revenue.

The Magisterial and Revenue Establishment cost Rupees 22,464 per annum, and the Police Rupees 18,504, so that, including Postal, Medical, and other miscellaneous expenses, the cost of the local administration of this single Taluq amounts to about Rupees 50,000 per annum.

8. It is clear, therefore, that the people of Wynaad are treated with a degree of liberality which the Government cannot display towards the rest of their subjects, and any further material increase to the administrative staff is out of the question, if the expense is to fall on the State.

9. As regards the immediate subject of the Collector's reference, the Government will be prepared to contribute towards a Hospital and Dispensary at Vythery, in the same way as they are aiding the planters and people of Goodaloor. They will contribute a moiety of the cost of erecting a suitable building, on condition of the plan, estimate, and site being approved of by them. They will provide a resident Apothecary, or 1st Class Dresser (defraying the extra allowance given in Wynaad of 50 Rupees per mensem), and they will supply medicines free of charge. The other expenses of the Institution will, as elsewhere, fall on the community.

10. The Government trust that the Planters and residents of the Vythery Division will not be less liberal in the support of so useful an Institution as a Civil Dispensary than their brethren of Goodaloor, and the Native inhabitants of almost every large town in the Provinces.

11. The Collector will ascertain and report whether these proposals are accepted, and what contributions towards the construction of a building, and the annual support of the Institution, will be forthcoming.

(True Extract).

G. J. Grant

Chief Secretary.

To the Collector of Malabar.
" Principal Inspector General, Medical Department.
" Revenue Department.
" Public Works Department.
" Accountant General.

Erd. J. H. Burns.

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Comm d. to the
Supt Engineer of
the T. Du

Fort St George
20th Octr 1866

W.B.

Tos E T Du

& Contractor

Dupl 22d October

Dep.ts
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No 1048.

Passing orders
on a Letter from the
Collector of Malabar
relative to the estab-
-lishment of a Civil
Hospital & Dispensary
at Tellicherry -

No 490 4/21 Rec.d 3356. 20th Oct./46