

(1) Number of pages _____

(2) Date of repair _____

(3) Initials of the Referencer _____

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.**Government of Madras.***Public* **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 1105	331	Press Mis.
Dated	1.2.18	18

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
1st February 1873.*

Read the following papers:—

No. 4. Endorsement of the Public Department, dated Fort St. George,
12th November 1872.

From E. G. BALFOUR, Esq., Inspector-General, Indian Medical Department,
to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated Fort St.
George, 19th October 1872, No. 329:—

THE Honourable the Governor in Council may have observed in the *Madras Standard* newspaper notice of a Railway accident near Triputtty Station, in which charges of inattention and neglect were urged against the Railway Medical Officer stationed at Triputtty. That officer undertook to rebut the charges in a letter, the attached copy of which (marked A) I have cut out from the newspaper; in which it is stated that no instruments are attached to the Triputtty Railway Station, and that he was directed by Mr. Church to go for instruments to Triputtty town, seven miles off, from which he did not return till 5 P.M.

2. The hospital at Triputtty town is that which last year the Sri Mahant Dharma Das Ji at my suggestion established; but I submit, for the favourable consideration of Government, that if the statement in the letter be correct, namely, that instruments are not supplied to Triputtty Station, not only that station, but every station provided with a Railway Medical Officer, should be provided with instruments suitable for probable requirements of such. I beg to subjoin, for favourable consideration, a list (B) of instruments such as should be kept at each Railway Station where there is a Railway Medical Officer. In this instance four of the injured people with fractures were brought to the Madras Native Infirmary, and one of them has had a limb amputated. In Europe every few miles brings a Railway train to a town with skilled medical men; but in India there are long stretches intervening between stations where medical aid can be obtained, and here the Government may step in to protect the people in a way which in Europe would not be needed, and, though restricting myself to the present recommendation, there are other points to which the attention of Government might be directed.

A.

THE LATE RAILWAY ACCIDENT.
To the Editor of the Madras Standard.

SIR,—I beg to contradict a statement made in one of the columns of the *Standard*. I was at the scene of accident, and brought away nine wounded to Triputtty Station.

I asked the Station Master of Triputtty to send for coolies in order to have the wounded conveyed to the Civil Dispensary at Triputtty town. A couple of hours after I left the station he sent word to me that he required a note to the Dresser in charge of the dispensary. This I refused to give.

The cries of the wounded did not reach my ears as I was at the station twice after bringing them in. I purchased liquor for them in order to alleviate their pains, as also arrowroot, etc.

For the want of bandage cloth, there being none in the dispensary, I had to wait till the following morning, when I purchased some and had to pay for the same out of my own pocket. Mr. Church, the Traffic Manager, came up and wished to know how the wounded were. I gave that gentleman to understand that there was only one serious case requiring amputation, which by Dr. vanSomeren's orders was to be sent to Madras.

Mr. Church directed me to go to Triputtty town, about seven miles off, for *instruments* as none are supplied to this station. I was detained on the way as also at the town of Triputtty, and did

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
1st February 1873.*

not return till about 5 P.M. I brought the instruments with me; during the interval the wounded were removed. The writer of the communication speaks of *lances* and *probes*. I would like to see him operate on a man's leg with the abovementioned instruments.

TRIPUTTY,
10th October 1872.

Yours faithfully,
(Signed) J. H. LINCOLN.

B.

List of Surgical Instruments, etc., to be supplied to each Railway Apothecary.

Pocket instruments, Surgeon's case, 1.
Amputating case, portable case, 1.
Catheters, male, German Silver, No. 3, of sizes.
Do. female, do. " 1.
Tourniquets, field, No. 4.
Splints, arm, pairs 3.
Do. leg, " 3.
Do. Liston's, No. 1.
Thread, ligature, oz. 2.
Bandage cloth, yards

FORT ST. GEORGE,
19th October 1872.

(Signed) E. G. BALFOUR,
Inspr.-Genl. of Hospitals, Indian Medl. Dept.

No. 272.

MEMORANDUM.

WITH reference to his letter, dated the 19th October 1872, No. 329, the Inspector-General, Indian Medical Department, is requested to state distinctly whether he recommends that the instruments to which he refers should be supplied by the Government or the Railway Companies.

OOTACAMUND,
28th October 1872.

(Signed) R. S. ELLIS,
Chief Secretary.

From E. G. BALFOUR, Esq., Inspector-General, Indian Medical Department, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated Fort St. George, 31st October 1872, No. 343.

WITH reference to memorandum, No. 272, of the 28th instant, I have the honour to submit to His Excellency the Governor in Council that the surgical instruments should, in my opinion, be supplied by the Railway Company, but that a return should be made to Government of the equipment in each case. I would further recommend that the Railway Physician, after each annual inspection, certify that the requisite articles were all seen by him and found in an efficient condition.

TRANSFERRED to the Public Works Department for disposal.

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Offg. Chief Secretary.

REFERRED to the Consulting Engineer for Railways for an expression of his opinion and that of the Railway Officers on the suggestions of the Inspector-General, Indian Medical Department, and for a report on the arrangements which now obtain.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
16th November 1872.

(Signed) G. W. WALKER, Colonel, R. E.,
Secretary to Government, P.W.D.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
1st February 1873.*

No. 4-A. From the Consulting Engineer for Railways, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Madras, 13th December 1872, No. 690.

In reply to your endorsement, dated the 16th ultimo, upon two letters* address-

* Nos. 329 and 343, 19th and 31st October 1872 (herewith returned).

† No. 907, dated 11th December 1872.

ed to the Chief Secretary to Government by the Inspector-General, Indian Medical Department, I have the honour to submit a letter† from the Agent of the Madras Railway Company, with enclosure from the Consulting Physician, in which it is shown that Inspector-General Balfour's suggestions were based on a misconception.

2. Dr. vanSomeren explains that the principal stations on the Madras Railway are now well provided, at the Company's expense, with surgical instruments, which are inspected and reported upon by him during every half-year. A list of the instruments provided at each station is submitted, and I am not of opinion that any useful purpose would be served by increasing the supply in any instance.

3. In the third paragraph of the Consulting Physician's letter it is stated that "it is not incumbent on any Railway Company to provide special surgical aid and appliances for the travelling public." This may be strictly true; but I do not understand that Inspector-General Balfour contemplated the provision of any special surgical aid for the travelling public, but only that, in the case of passengers being injured by an accident on the Railway, the Company's Medical Staff should be made available for their relief as far as possible. Under the peculiar circumstances of Indian Railways it does not seem to me that this can be termed "a matter of grace" on the part of the Apothecaries in question.

From the Agent and Manager of the Madras Railway Company, to the Consulting Engineer for Railways, dated Madras, 11th December 1872, No. 907.

I HAVE the honour to forward, herewith, for submission to Government, a copy of the Consulting Physician's report* upon the papers which accompanied your letter No. 955, of the 18th ultimo.

* No. 820, dated 29th November 1872.

2. The proposals made by Inspector-General Balfour are (1), that every station provided with a Railway Medical Officer should be provided with instruments suitable for probable requirements; (2), that such instruments should be supplied at the expense of the Railway Company; (3), that a return should be made to Government of the equipments in each case; (4), that the Railway Physician, after each annual inspection, should certify that the requisite articles were all seen by him and found in an efficient condition.

3. With reference to the foregoing proposals Dr. vanSomeren's report shows that the surgical instruments supplied to stations on the Madras Railway are in certain respects more extensive than those recommended by the Inspector-General, and these instruments have, as you know, been supplied at the expense of the Railway Company.

4. Returns of the equipments at all stations where Apothecaries are posted are forwarded herewith, and, as stated by Dr. vanSomeren, it has for many years past been a part of the duty of the Company's Consulting Physician to report to me periodically, for the information of the Board, upon the state of the instruments, drugs, medicine chests, etc., etc., at all such stations. I may add that Dr. vanSomeren's inspections are made half-yearly, and not annually as appears to be the impression of the Inspector-General.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
1st February 1873.*

5. Dr. Balfour's letters to the Government were evidently written under a misapprehension of what Apothecary Lincoln intended to convey by the expression that he had "no instruments." By that he meant that he had no amputating instruments. Dr. Balfour proposes that amputating instruments shall be supplied to all Railway Apothecaries, and this is the only instance in which his proposals are not already in force on this Railway. The Inspector-General will, however, I am sure be the first to admit that before amputating instruments are supplied to stations it is somewhat essential that there shall be some one there who knows how to make a skilful use of them, and, looking at the class and pay of our Apothecaries, the Government will, I trust, consider that the Railway Consulting Physician has exercised a wise discretion in limiting the supply in this respect to two instruments which are "available wherever they may be required, and where there are Apothecaries competent to use them."

6. The original documents which accompanied your letter are returned herewith.

From Dr. W. J. VANSOMEREN, M.D., Consulting Physician, to the Agent and Manager of the Madras Railway Company, dated Royapooram, 29th November 1872, No. 320.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge receipt of your memorandum of the 19th instant on copy of a letter from the Consulting Engineer for Railways to your address, and also of the several accompaniments of the latter.

2. Herewith I forward lists of the instruments at the several principal stations of the Madras Railway. That of the equipment at Tripetty proves how incorrect was the statement that there were no instruments at that station. Some of the others show equipments in certain respects more extensive than that recommended by Inspector-General Balfour, while in all stations the supplies have been regulated by the demand and the equipments have been proved by experience adequate to the requirements of the Company's servants. There are only two amputating instruments on our lines available wherever they may be required, and there are Apothecaries competent to use them. I am not prepared to recommend the purchase of any more.

3. I submit that it is not incumbent on any Railway Company to provide special surgical aid and appliances for the travelling public, and compliance with the proposal to do so may be found inconvenient as well as expensive. As a matter of grace our Apothecaries attend on the platforms of stations when trains arrive, and are prepared to render medical aid to such passengers as require it. This concession, however, can scarcely be deemed a reason for making other and larger demands on the Company's resources.

4. Again, is it expedient or desirable that capital operations should be performed in such a station as Tripetty, where both place and conveniences for the after-treatment of such cases are wanting? Is it not far better that patients seriously injured should be conveyed to the nearest town where they can obtain the benefit both of greater experience in the operator and of the subsequent good nursing and comforts so necessary to the success of operations.

5. For many years past instruments in charge of the Apothecaries have, as you are aware, been periodically inspected and their condition duly reported to you.

6. Permit me to remark that this correspondence with Government has been based on misconception of a sentence in Mr. Lincoln's letter to a newspaper. That Apothecary in stating that there were no instruments doubtless meant that there were no *amputating* instruments, although he has so worded the paragraph in question as to make it tantamount to a misstatement.

7. I am always glad to receive suggestions for the improvement of my Department, and must express regret that Inspector-General Balfour, to whom I have always readily furnished information regarding my Railway work when he has sought it, did not, in the first instance, refer this matter to me, as I was in a position to inform him of the actual equipment of instruments at Tripetty and elsewhere. Such procedure would have early corrected an obvious error and prevented official sanction being given to the misstatement of one of my subordinates in a public newspaper.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
1st February 1873.*

No. 1.

PERAMBORE.

List of Instruments attached to the Dispensary.

	No.		No.
Catheter, silver, male	1	Bistoury, sharp-pointed	1
Lancet, bleeding	1	Catheter, silver, female	1
Tourniquet, field	1	Forceps	1
Tooth forceps	3	Director	1
Clyster, pewter, $\frac{1}{2}$ pint	1	Scalpel	1
Syringe, urethra, pewter	1	Spatula	1
" " glass	1	Probe, silver	1
Pocket case containing—	1	Needles, curved	7
Gum lancet with Tenaculum	1	Splints, common, long, sets	2
Scissors, forceps	1	" " short, "	$\frac{1}{2}$
Scissors	1	" Dessault's	3
Caustic holder, silver	1	" long, straight	2
Tenaculum	1	Thread, ligature	oz. 6
Bistoury, blunt-pointed	1	Bandage cloth, yards	10
		Supplied annually.	

No. 2.

ARCONUM.

List of Instruments in the Railway Dispensary.

	No.		No.
One pocket case containing—	1	Tooth key	1
Scalpel	1	Catheter, silver, male	1
Forceps	1	Splints, common, long, sets	1
Tenaculum	1	" " short, "	$\frac{1}{2}$
Bistoury, probe-pointed	1	Thread, ligature	oz. $\frac{1}{4}$
Director	1	Portable medicine box	1
Probe	1	Bed-pan	1
Lancet, abscess	1	Syringes, clyster, $\frac{1}{2}$ pint	1
" " bleeding	1	" urethra, pewter	1
Gum lancet	1	" " glass	1
Scissors	1	Maw's enema	1
Tourniquet	1	Bandage cloth, yards	10
Tooth forceps	1	Supplied annually.	

No. 3.

VELLORE.

List of Instruments attached to the Dispensary.

	No.		No.
Catheter, silver, male	1	Probe	1
Tourniquet, common	1	Gum lancet	1
Pocket case containing—	1	Splints, common, long, set	1
Forceps	1	" " short, "	1
Scissors	1	Thread, ligature	oz. $\frac{1}{2}$
Scalpel	1	Syringe, pewter, pint	1
Bistoury, sharp-pointed	1	" urethra	1
Director	1	Bandage cloth, yards	10
Lancet, bleeding	1	Supplied annually.	
" " abscess	1		

No. 4.

JOLLARPETT.

List of Instruments attached to the Dispensary.

	No.		No.
Field tourniquet	1	Catheter, female, silver	1
Scalpel, large	1	" " male, metallic	1
Tooth key	1	Pocket case containing—	1
forceps	1	Scalpel	1
Catheter, male, silver	1	Bistoury, probe-pointed	1

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
1st February 1873.*

	No.		No.
Tenaculum ...	1	Thread, ligature ...	oz. 1
Lancet, gum ...	1	Tow, fine ...	lb. 1
„ abscess ...	1	Portable medicine chest (tin) ...	1
„ bleeding ...	1	Bed-pan ...	1
Scissors ...	1	Syringe, clyster, 1 pint ...	1
Dressing forceps ...	1	„ urethra ...	1
Director ...	1	„ vagina ...	10
Needles, curved ...	4	Bandage cloth, yards ...	10
Splints, common, long, set ...	1	Supplied annually.	
„ „ short, „ ...	1		

No. 5.

SALEM.

List of Instruments attached to the Dispensary.

	No.		No.
Pocket case containing—		Catheter, female, silver ...	1
Tenaculum ...	1	Syringe, pewter, pint ...	1
Gum lancet ...	1	„ urethra, pewter ...	1
Bistoury, probe-pointed ...	1	Tooth forceps ...	1
Probe ...	1	„ forcep key ...	1
Scissors ...	1	Bed-pans ...	1
Forceps ...	1	Splints, common, long, set ...	1
Bleeding lancet ...	1	„ short, „ ...	oz. 1
Abscess ...	1	Thread, ligature ...	1
Director ...	1	Tin-box portable medicine chest ...	10
Curved needles ...	12	Bandage cloth, yards ...	10
Catheter, male, silver ...	1	Supplied annually.	

No. 6.

ERODE.

List of Instruments attached to the Dispensary.

	No.		No.
Pocket case of instruments ...	1	Splints, short, sets ...	1
Catheter, silver, male ...	1	Tin-box for medicines ...	1
„ „ female ...	1	Thread, ligature ...	oz. 1
Tooth instruments, set ...	1	Tow, fine ...	lb. 1
Field tourniquet ...	1	Bed-pan ...	1
Syringe, clyster, pewter, pint ...	1	Bandage cloth, yards ...	10
„ urethra, „ ...	1	Supplied annually.	
Splints, long, sets ...	2		

No. 7.

COIMBATORE.

List of Instruments attached to the Dispensary.

	No.		No.
Dresser's pocket case of instruments ...	1	Syringe, urethra, glass, male ...	1
Catheter, male, silver ...	1	„ „ female ...	1
„ female, „ ...	1	Bed-pan ...	2
Tooth key for ops ...	1	Pipes, clyster, pan ...	2
Forceps, tooth ...	1	Splints, common, long, set ...	1
Lancet, abscess ...	1	„ short, „ ...	oz. 1
„ bleeding ...	2	Thread, ligature ...	lb. 1
Scissors, large ...	1	Tow, fine ...	1
Tourniquet, field ...	1	Syringe, vagina, glass ...	1
Maw's enema, complete ...	1	Lint, fine ...	oz. 7 1/2
Syringe, clyster, pewter, 1/2 pint ...	1	Portable medicine chest ...	1
„ urethra, „ male ...	1	Bandage cloth, yards ...	15
		Supplied annually.	

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
1st February 1873.*

No. 8.

PAULGHAUT.

List of Instruments attached to the Dispensary.

	No.		No.
Catheters, silver, male ...	2	Splints, common, long, sets ...	1
Pocket case instruments ...	1	„ short, „ ...	1/2
Tooth forceps ...	1	Thread, ligature ...	oz. 1/2
Tourniquet, field ...	1	Bandage cloth, yards ...	6
Syringe, clyster, pewter, pint ...	1	Supplied annually.	
„ urethra, „ ...	2		

No. 9.

BEYPORE.

List of Instruments attached to the Dispensary.

	No.		No.
Amputating case ...	1	Syringe, clyster, 1/2 pint ...	1
Catheter, male, silver ...	1	„ urethra, male, pewter ...	1
„ female, „ ...	1	„ „ female, „ ...	1
Lancet, abscess ...	1	Thread, ligature ...	oz. 4
„ bleeding ...	1	Tow, fine ...	lb. 1
„ vaccination ...	1	Curved needles ...	6
Pocket case of instruments ...	1	Tourniquet, field ...	1
Splints, common, long ...	1	Portable tin medicine chest (tin) ...	1
„ short ...	1	Bandage cloth, yards ...	10
Syringe, clyster, pint ...	1	Supplied annually.	

No. 10.

BANGALORE.

List of Instruments attached to the Dispensary.

	No.		No.
Pocket case of instruments ...	1	Thread, ligature ...	oz. 1
Scalpel in case ...	1	Portable medicine chest ...	1
Tooth instruments key ...	1	Bed-pan ...	1
„ forceps ...	1	Porringers for blood-letting ...	1
Tourniquet, brass screw ...	1	Syringe, clyster, 1 pint ...	1
Catheters, silver, male ...	1	„ 1/2 „ ...	1
„ female ...	1	„ urethra, pewter ...	1
Splints, common, long, sets ...	1	„ „ glass ...	1
„ short, „ ...	1	Scissor, large ...	1
Lancet, bleeding ...	1	Bandage cloth, yards ...	15
„ abscess ...	1	Supplied annually.	

No. 11.

TRIPUTTY.

List of Instruments attached to the Dispensary.

	No.		No.
Pocket case containing—		Catheter, male ...	1
Bistoury, sharp-pointed ...	1	Tooth forceps ...	1
Gum lancet ...	1	Tourniquet, field ...	1
Forceps ...	1	Bed-pan ...	1
Tenaculum ...	1	Portable tin box for medicines ...	1
Vaccination lancet ...	1	Splints, common, long, set ...	1
Scissors ...	1	„ short, „ ...	1
Director ...	1	Thread, ligature ...	1/2
Abscess lancet ...	1	Bandage cloth, yards ...	10
Scalpel ...	1	Supplied annually.	
Probe ...	1		

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
1st February 1873.

No. 12.

CHEYAUR BRIDGE.

List of Instruments attached to the Dispensary.

	No.		No.
* Bandage cloth, yards	5	Splints, short, set	1
Catheter, silver, male	1	Syringe, pewter, pint	1
Curved needles	12	" urethra	1
Field tourniquet	1	Thread, ligature	oz. 1
Pocket case of instruments	1	Tooth forceps	1
Scissors, large	1	" key and claw	1
Splints, long, set	1		

* Supplied annually.

No. 13.

CUDDAPAH.

List of Instruments attached to the Dispensary.

	No.		No.
Catheter, male, silver	1	Splints, common, long, set	1
Lancet, bleeding	1	" short	1
Pocket case containing—		Syringe, clyster, pint	1
Bistoury	1	" urethra	1
Scalpel	1	Portable medicine chest (tin)	1
Gum lancet	1	Tooth instruments, claw	oz. 1
Pincers	1	Thread, ligature	1
Probe, silver	1	Syringe, clyster, 1/2 pint	1
Abscess lancet	1	Tooth forceps	oz. 1
Tourniquet, field	1	Sponge	lb. 1
Scissors	1	Tow, fine	10
Fomentation tin	1	Bandage cloth, yards	10
Lint	oz. 4		

Supplied annually.

No. 14.

GHOOTY.

List of Instruments attached to the Dispensary.

	No.		No.
Amputating instrument case	1	Syringe, urethra, male	1
Catheter, silver, male	1	Splints, common, long, sets	1
Lancet, abscess	1	" short	2
" bleeding	2	Tooth forceps	2
" gum	1	Tooth key and claw	2
" vaccination	2	Tourniquet, field	oz. 1
Needles, curved	10	Thread, ligature	lb. 1
Pocket case instruments	1	Tow, fine	1
Scissors, large	1	Syringe, glass, male	10
Syringe, clyster, pewter, pint	1	Bandage cloth, yards	10
" female, glass	1		
" " pewter	1		

Supplied annually.

15.

RAICHORE.

List of Instruments attached to the Dispensary.

	No.		No.
Catheter, silver, male	1	Splints, common, short, sets	1
" female	1	Enema syringe, pint	1
Curved needles	12	Syringe, urethra, pewter	1
Field tourniquet	1	Thread, ligature	oz. 3
Lancet, abscess	1	Tooth forceps	1
" bleeding	1	" key	1
Pocket case of instruments	1	Bandage cloth, yards	10
Splints, common, long, sets	1		

Supplied annually.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
1st February 1873.

No. 16.

BELLARY.

List of Instruments attached to the Dispensary.

	No.		No.
Pocket case instruments	1	Thread, ligature	oz. 1
Tooth key	1	Tow, fine	lb. 1
" forceps	1	Syringe, clyster, pint	1
Field tourniquet	2	" " 1/2	1
Lancet, bleeding	1	" " 1/4	1
Catheter, silver, male	2	" urethra	1
" female	1	Bandage cloth, yards	10
Splints, common, long, set	1		
" short	1		

Supplied annually.

No. 17.

NEILGHERRY BRANCH.

List of Instruments attached to the Dispensary.

	No.		No.
Catheter, silver, male	1	Forceps	1
Bistoury, blunt-pointed	1	Scissor, straight	1
Caustic holder, silver	1	Tooth forceps	1
Crooke's scissors	1	" key	1
Curved needles	12	Forceps, dressing	1
Director	1	Bandage cloth, yards (supplied annually)	10
Field tourniquet	1	Syringe, clyster, pint	1
Scalpel, folding	1	" urethra	1
Gum lancet	1	Thread, ligature	oz. 1
Lancet, bleeding	1		
" abscess	1		

No. 5. ORDER THREEON, 1st February 1873, No. 331.

RAILWAY, No. 2.

COMMUNICATED to the Inspector-General, Indian Medical Department, with reference to his letter, No. 343,

dated 31st October 1872, and with an intimation that the Government concur in the views of the Consulting Engineer for Railways.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) G. W. WALKER, Colonel, R.E.,

Secretary to Government.

To the Inspector-General, Indian Medical Department.

" Consulting Engineer for Railways.

Public Dept.

Exd. A. S. Rodgers.

N^o 329

Office of Insp^r General Sta.

Fort Saint George 17th October 1872.

Friend

The Inspector General Sta.

Fort Saint George

To

The Secretary to Government.

Public Department

Sir,

The Hon^{ble} the Commr

in Council may have observed

in the Madras Standard News

- paper notice of a railway ac-

- cident, near Tripur station,

in which charges of inattention

and neglect were urged against

the railway medical officer sta-

- tioned at Tripur. That officer

undertook to rebut the charges

in a letter, the attached copy of

which (marked A) I have cut out

from the Newspaper, in which

it is stated that no instructions

and

are attached to the Tripury railway station and that he was directed by Mr. Church to go for instruments to Tripury town, 7 miles off, from which he did not return till 5 P.M.

2. The hospital at Tripury town is that which, last year, the Sir Mahant Bharna Dasji, at my suggestion, established but I submit for the favorable consideration of Government that, in the statement in the letter he corrects, viz. that instruments are not supplied to Tripury station, not only that station but every station provided with a railway Medical Officer, should be provided with instruments suitable for probable requirements of such. They to signify, for favorable consideration, a list (B) of instruments such as should

should be kept at each railway station where there is a railway Medical Officer: in this instance, four of the injured people with fractures were brought to the Madras Native Infirmary and one of them has had a limb amputated. In Europe, every few miles brings a railway train to a town with skilled medical men, but, in India, there are long stretches intervening between stations where medical aid can be obtained, and here the Government may step in to protect the people, in a way which in Europe would not be needed; and, though restricting myself to the present recommendation there are other points to which the attention of Government might be directed.

I have the honor to be
Your most ^{dear} obed^t serv^t.
Edw. M. Ashour Esq. Genl.
Esq. Genl. of Madras Ind. M. S.

Edw. M. Ashour

57 152

A

A
THE LATE RAILWAY ACCIDENT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE MADRAS STANDARD.
SIR, I beg to repeat a statement made in one of the columns of the Standard. I was at the scene of accident and brought away nine wounded to Tripputty Station.
I asked the Station Master of Tripputty to send for coolies in order to have the wounded conveyed to the Civil Dispensary at Tripputty Town. A couple of hours after I left the station he sent word to me that he required a note to the Dresser in charge of the Dispensary. This I refused to give.
The cries of the wounded did not reach my ears as I was at the station twice after bringing them in. I purchased liquor for them in order to alleviate their pains, as also arrow-root, &c.
For the want of Bandage cloth, there being none in the Dispensary, I had to wait till the following morning when I purchased some and had to pay for the same out of my own pocket. Mr. Church, the Traffic Manager, came up and wished to know, how the wounded were. I gave that gentleman to understand that there was only one serious case, requiring amputation which by Dr. VanSomeren's orders was to be sent to Madras.
Mr. Church directed me to go to Tripputty Town, about 7 miles off for Instruments as none are supplied to this station. I was detained on the way as also at the Town of Tripputty and did not return till about 5 P. M. I brought the Instruments with me, during the interval the wounded were removed. The writer of the communication speaks of lances and probes. I would like to see him operate on a man's leg with the above mentioned instruments.

Yours faithfully,
J. H. LINCOLN.
Tripputty, 10th Oct. 1872.

1872 Oct 10
To the Editor of the Standard
I beg to repeat a statement made in one of the columns of the Standard. I was at the scene of accident and brought away nine wounded to Tripputty Station.
I asked the Station Master of Tripputty to send for coolies in order to have the wounded conveyed to the Civil Dispensary at Tripputty Town. A couple of hours after I left the station he sent word to me that he required a note to the Dresser in charge of the Dispensary. This I refused to give.
The cries of the wounded did not reach my ears as I was at the station twice after bringing them in. I purchased liquor for them in order to alleviate their pains, as also arrow-root, &c.
For the want of Bandage cloth, there being none in the Dispensary, I had to wait till the following morning when I purchased some and had to pay for the same out of my own pocket. Mr. Church, the Traffic Manager, came up and wished to know, how the wounded were. I gave that gentleman to understand that there was only one serious case, requiring amputation which by Dr. VanSomeren's orders was to be sent to Madras.
Mr. Church directed me to go to Tripputty Town, about 7 miles off for Instruments as none are supplied to this station. I was detained on the way as also at the Town of Tripputty and did not return till about 5 P. M. I brought the Instruments with me, during the interval the wounded were removed. The writer of the communication speaks of lances and probes. I would like to see him operate on a man's leg with the above mentioned instruments.

in letter 1533/12

P. M. 55-747/2
6233

Ms 272

Public Dept.

Memorandum

With reference to his letter
dated the 19th October 1892 Ms 329
the Inspector General Medical
Department is requested to state
distinctly whether he recommends
that the Instruments to which
he refers should be supplied by
the Government or the Railway
Companies.

Approved - J. H. Ellis
28th October 1892
Chief Secretary

To
The Inspector General
In Dept.

1872

Public Dept.

Memorandum No. 272

Senior and Junior
Patent 28th Oct 1872

6235
1872

1872

5 Oct 6

Office of Inspector General
Fort Saint George 11th October 1872

Know
The Inspector General
Fort Saint George

To
The Chief Secretary to Government
Public Department

Sir,
With reference to Memorandum
No. 272 of the 28th instant, I have the
honour to submit to His Excellency
the Governor in Council that the
surgical instruments should, in
my opinion, be supplied by the
Railway Company, but that a
return should be made to Govern-
ment of the equipment in each
case. I would further recommend
that the Railway Physician,
after each annual inspection,
certify, that the requisite articles
were all seen by him and found

104

Transferred to the Public Works
Department for disposal.

Fort St. George
12 Nov. 1872

To The Public Works
Department.

Together with letter from the Depy Secy
19 Oct. 1872. No. 329 & 330.

L. H. Stewart
Offy Chief Secy.

Received by the
Depy Secy 12 Nov 72
No. 333

Also the Chief Secy to Govt
Public Works

18 Oct 3rd Dec 72
No. 5 Nov.

Recd of 13 Nov 72.

No. 1535.

No. 343.

Enc. 4.

13 Nov 72
1 Feb 73.

Recommendations that the
Railway Company should
employ a medical officer
- named to the post of
officer, and as the
subordinate to the
management of the
of the equipment.

Re. 1535.

Fort St. George

16 Nov 72

16 Nov 72
Secy to Govt
P.W.D.

Report of the Chief Engineer for
Railways for and expression of his opinion
and that of the Railway officers in the
superintendence of the District General
Medical Superintendent and for
report on the arrangements which are
obtained.

Railway Department.

CONSULTING ENGINEER'S OFFICE,

No. 17.

From

Lieut. Colonel J. H. M. SHAW STEWART, R.E.,
Consulting Engineer for Railways,

To

Colonel G. W. WALKER, R.E.,

Secretary to Government,
Public Works Department,
Fort Saint George.

Sir,

In reply to your
circular dated 11th Nov 72
upon two letters addressed to
the Chief Secretary to Government
by the Inspector General Indian
Medical Department, I have
the honour to submit a letter
from the Agent of the Madras
Rachay Company, with en-
closure from the Consulting
Physician, in which it is
shown

No. 329 & 330.
19 and 20 Oct 72
There with
(enclosed)

No. 904
11 Nov 72

shown that Inspector General
Balfour's suggestions were
based on a misconception.

2 Doctor Vansoren
explains that the principal
stations on the Madras Railway
are now well provided, at
the Company's expense, with
surgical instruments, which
are inspected and reported
upon by him during every
half-year. A list of the
instruments provided at each
station is submitted, and
I am not of opinion that
any useful purpose would
be served by increasing the
supply in any instance.

3 ... In the third paragraph
of the Consulting Physician's
letter it is stated that "it is
"not incumbent on any Railway
"Company to provide special
"surgical aid and appliances
"for the travelling public."
This may be strictly true:
but I do not understand
that Inspector General Balfour
contemplated the provision
of any special surgical aid
for the travelling public,
but only that, in the case of
passengers being injured by
an accident on the railway,
the Company's Medical Staff
should be made available for
their

their relief, as far as possible.
Under the peculiar circumstances
of Indian railways, it does
not seem to me that this
can be termed "a matter of
grace" on the part of the
authorities in question.

Madras 13th Decr 1872
1872
Yours most obedt Servt
Wm. H. Hall
Genl. Engr for Rly

Submitted as
letter from the Agents
of the M. S. Ry. regarding
the proposed station -
Minto Park, 2-6 to
English & Railway
Station.
No. 698
No. 331-1st Decr 1872
Dated 13th Decr 1872
Recd. 14th Decr 1872
To
The Secretary to Government,
P. W. Department,
Fort Saint George.
From
The Consulting Engineer
for Railways,
1872.
No. 6233
P. W. 1872
Railway Department.
P. W. 1872
Railway Department.

Public Works Department
No. 331
Proceedings of the Madras Government
Read the following

From The Inspector Genl. I. M. S. / H. E. No. 3432/31st Octr/72
From The Consult^g Engr for Rys - - - - 6902/13th Decr/72

Communicated
to the Inspector General
Indian Medical De-
partment with reference
to his letter No. 343 dated
31st October 1872, and with
an intimation that the
Government concurs in
the views of the Con-
sulting Engineer for Rail-
ways.

WM

To The Inspector General
Indian Medical Dept
To The Consulting Engineer for Railways
Public Works Department
Resp. 5/2/73

1/12/33 4-5573

Govt. of 1873 Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

The Inspector General
of Public Works
D. O.

Date

Recd.

Recd.

D. O. 1st Feb 1873. No. 331.

No. 1175

Surgical Instruments

Many more in
relation to surgical
instruments proposed
to be kept at railway
stations.