

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

MILITARY DEPARTMENT.

10th November 1886, No. 7001.

Quarters.

Read the following papers:—

No. 117. *From Major-General G. CHESNEY, Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department, to Lieut.-Colonel A. KENNEY-HERBERT, Officiating Secretary to the Government of Madras, Military Department; dated Simla, 21st August 1885, No. 927-MW.*

Quarters.

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your endorsement No. 4205, dated 3rd August 1885, forwarding, for submission to the Governor in Council and transmission to the Secretary of State, the memorial of Senior Apothecary John Ringrow regarding his right to hire his own quarters and receive compensation at the rate laid down for his rank when not provided with free quarters.

2. With reference to the memorial, I am to point out that the memorialist is under a misapprehension in supposing that he is on the same footing as an Honorary Lieutenant as regards quarters.

3. An Honorary Lieutenant is on the same footing, as regards quarters, as commissioned officers; he is not entitled to free quarters, nor can he claim to be supplied with quarters on the payment of rent, nor is he entitled to any compensation if he is not provided with Government quarters, and he is generally free to make his own arrangements. Yet even this is subject to the rule that Commissioned and First-class Warrant Officers are not at liberty to reject public quarters if these have been provided in any fort or cantonment.

4. Senior Apothecaries under three years' service in 1st grade hold relative rank as Assistant Commissaries with the advantages attaching to the rank of Lieutenant. But they have further the important privilege of a right to free quarters or compensation in lieu thereof. Mr. Ringrow, however, in effect claims the further privilege of a right to dictate the occasions when the State shall provide free quarters or shall grant compensation, according as either alternative may be to his pecuniary advantage. This, I am to say, is not contemplated by the rules, and the Government of India cannot regard it as reasonable.

5. If, therefore, Mr. Ringrow's memorial is transmitted to the Secretary of State, it must be accompanied by an expression of their opinion as to the unreasonableness of the claim, and of the impropriety of Mr. Ringrow in insisting on its being brought before His Lordship.

6. Under these circumstances, Mr. Ringrow may wish to have an opportunity of reconsidering his action, and I am therefore to return his memorial and to request that he be allowed to re-consider it in the light of the explanation here afforded.

No. 4805.

Referred, through the Provincial Commander-in-Chief, to the Surgeon-General, Her Majesty's Forces, Madras, in view to the further necessary action and report.

(By Order.)

(Signed) A. KENNEY-HERBERT, Lt.-Col.,
Offg. Secretary to Government.

31st August 1885.

To the Surgeon-General, Her Majesty's Forces, Madras,
through the Quarter Master General.

No. 118. From J. IRVINE, Esq., M.D., Q.B.D., Surgeon-General, Her Majesty's Forces, Madras, to Lieutenant-Colonel A. KENNEY-HERBERT, Officiating Secretary to Government, Military Department; dated Ootacamund, 14th September 1885, No. 286.

With reference to your No. 4805 of 31st August 1885, herewith returned, with accompaniments, I have the honor to forward a communication from Senior Apothecary J. Ringrow requesting that his petition may be forwarded to the Secretary of State.

From Senior Apothecary J. RINGROW, Station Hospital, Poonamallee, to the Deputy Surgeon-General, Her Majesty's Forces, Eastern District; dated Poonamallee, 10th September 1885.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of letter * No. 927-MW from the Secretary to the Government of India, dated Simla, 21st August 1885, having reference to my petition to the Right Honorable the Secretary of State for India.

* Heading "Quarters."

In reply I most respectfully beg that, notwithstanding the disadvantage at which the adversely expressed opinion of the Government of India will place me, the petition may be forwarded to His Lordship the Secretary of State.

In taking a course, the reverse of that indicated in the letter of the Secretary to Government, it behoves me to state my reasons for doing so.

The explanation contained in that letter confirms the justness of my claim; for if, as stated in para. 3 of the letter from the Secretary to the Government of India, an Honorary Lieutenant is on the same footing as Commissioned Officers, then I, carrying equal advantages, am also on the same footing, inasmuch as my salary, as far as quarters are concerned, is consolidated (*vide* India Army Circular, No. 83-84, para. 17) and does not in effect alter the principle that governs the ruling of public buildings in general.

In para. 4 the Secretary to the Government of India says, that I have "the important privilege of a right to free quarters or compensation in lieu thereof." As that compensation, which is Rs. 50 per month, is understood to represent the accommodation value of the quarters, the question arises, to what class of quarters does the important privilege refer; evidently to a standard plan of Government quarters, and not to a hired building for which the Public Works Department pays Rs. 14-6-0 a month. I further beg respectfully to state that the important privilege sanctioned long ago by Government embraces that of allowing Warrant Medical Officers to build their own quarters when public quarters are not available, the Government offering money assistance on stated conditions, the amount so lent being gradually adjusted from the monthly compensation. In the present case, I did not build, but I hired quarters (the only house available), which quarters, while in occupation, the Public Works Department, I may say, forcibly, but nominally, hired, in order to stop further compensation, which may be seen by original house-rent bill appended.

I regret that a representation of these facts should have been regarded as, in effect, a presumption on my part to dictate to Government the occasions when quarters and when compensation should be allotted, and I can only disclaim having aimed at realizing any privilege unauthorized by the State.

In view of the intention of the Government of India seriously expressed in the 5th para. of the letter, I humbly request that this letter in reply thereto may be attached to the petition, which I only submitted in the belief that it was held fit and proper to present a humble petition in the like cases to the Secretary of State.

ME. RINGROW DR.
To Kanakumall, widow of late T. A. T. Thathacharry Iyengar and mother and guardian to present T. A. T. L. N. Coomara Thathacharry Iyengar.
To the rent of premises at Poonamallee Cantonment for the month
of June 1885 Rs. 14 6 0
(fourteen, annas six only).

E.E. Contents received.

ச. வீராசாமி அய்யங்கார்,
பேரவைத் தலைவர்.

MADRAS,
30th June 1885.

(Signed) S. VEERASAWMY IYENGAR,
General Agent.

No. 236.

Has the honor to forward Senior Apothecary J. Ringrow's communication for further action.

POONAMALLEE,
10th September 1885.

(Signed) F. A. DAVY, Surgn.-Major,
Senior Medical Officer,
Station Hospital, Poonamallee.

To the Deputy Surgeon-General, H. M.'s Forces, E.D.

No. 182.

Submitted, with reference to your No. 2493 of 7th instant, herewith retransmitted.

(Signed) R. A. CHAPPLE,
Dy. Surgn.-Genl., H. M.'s Forces, E.D.
11th September 1885.
To the Secretary, Surgeon-General, H. M.'s Forces, Madras.

No. 3049-A.

Forwarded.

(Signed) D. J. S. McLEOD, Major,
Dy. Quarter Master General.

17th September 1885.

To the Secretary to Government, Military Department.

No. 5245.

No. 119.

Copy of the above, and of its enclosure, forwarded to the Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department, with reference to his letter No. 927-M W, dated 21st August 1885.

(By Order.)

OOTACAMUND,
23rd September 1885.
(Signed) A. KENNEY-HERBERT, Lt.-Col.,
Offg. Secretary to Government.

No. 120. From Colonel O. R. NEWMARCH, Offg. Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department, to Lieut.-Col. A. KENNEY-HERBERT, Secretary to the Government of Madras, Military Department; dated Simla, 30th April 1886, No. 620-MW.

Quarters.

With reference to the correspondence ending with your endorsement No. 5245, dated 23rd September 1885, relative to the claim preferred by Senior Apothecary J. Ringrow to quarters or compensation in lieu, I am directed to forward a copy of the communication marginally noted from the Secretary of State for India on the subject, and to request that, under the orders of the Governor in Council, the Government of India may be furnished with a report on the question therein raised. The report should contain a detailed statement of the area of the rooms in the quarters hired for Mr. Ringrow.

Extract para. 17 of military letter No. 43,
dated 4th March 1886.

Extract of a military letter from the Right Honorable the Secretary of State for India; dated 4th March 1886, No. 43.

Para. 17. Under the provisions of clause 83 of India Army Circular of 1884, and Public Works Code, Chapter XVI, Section VI, Para. 155, Medical Warrant Officers are entitled to free quarters or compensation in lieu thereof. Apparently it is not intended that they should have the right, in any circumstances, to choose between free quarters and compensation. Senior Apothecary Ringrow would appear, therefore, to have been treated in accordance with the letter of the regulations, provided that the quarters with which he was supplied were equal to the scale laid down for his grade in Appendix X of the Public Works Code. But, if provided with inferior quarters, he would be entitled, under Appendix VII, to "the difference between their value and the authorized rates of house rent." It does not appear clearly from the correspondence received that Apothecary Ringrow has no claim to compensation under this latter provision. I should be glad to be furnished with conclusive evidence on this point.

No. 2853.

Referred for favor of early report, with advertence to Proceedings of Government (Military), No. 3338, dated 20th June 1885.

(By Order.)

(Signed) A. KENNEY-HERBERT, Lt.-Col.,
Secretary to Government.

10th May 1886.

To the Public Works Department.

No. 117-D.

Referred, with advertence to G.O., No. 1853-W, dated 11th August 1885, to the Superintending Engineer, V Circle, for favor of early report whether the quarters provided for Apothecary Ringrow are equal to the scale laid down for his grade in para. 1462-D of the Public Works Code, and for submission of a detailed statement of the area of the rooms in the quarters.

OOTACAMUND, (Signed) J. SHAW-STEWART, Col., R.E.,
12th May 1886. Secretary to Govt., P.W.D.

No. 121. From the Superintending Engineer, V Circle, to the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department; dated Chepák, 27th May 1886, No. 846.

In returning your endorsement No. 117-D, dated 12th instant, I have the honor to report that the quarters provided for Apothecary Ringrow are less in area than allowed in the scale

Enclosures three.

laid down for his grade in Code, para. 1462-D, as shown by the annexed statement.

Authorized scale of accommodation for Senior Apothecary, 1st Grade.			Accommodation afforded by the house provided for the Apothecary.		
1 Main room	...	24' x 16'	1 West bath room	...	7½ x 18½
2 Main rooms	...	16 x 16 each.	1 Do. adjoining room	...	7½ x 9
1 Verandah room	...	16 x 10	1 Do. bed room	...	16 x 12
2 Bath or store rooms.	...		2 North and south store rooms	...	16½ x 7½ each.
5 Servants' houses	...	10 x 10 each.	1 Centre room	...	21 x 20
1 Cook house.	...		1 Front verandah	...	20 x 8½
1 Latrine.	...		1 East bed room	...	20½ x 12
1 Stable	...	12 x 8	1 „ bath room	...	12 x 7½
Square feet ... 1,652			Square feet ... 1,560.87		

No. 189-D.

Transferred to the Military Department, with advertence to its endorsement No. 2853, dated 10th May 1886, herewith returned.

OOTACAMUND, (Signed) J. SHAW-STEWART, Col., R.E.,
4th June 1886. Secretary to Govt., P.W.D.

No. 3452.

No. 122.

Copy of the above forwarded to the Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department, in reply to his letter No. 620-W M, dated 30th April 1886, with the remark that, excluding out-offices and servants' houses, the house accommodation provided for Senior Apothecary Ringrow exceeds the authorized scale.

(By Order.)

OOTACAMUND, (Signed) A. KENNEY-HERBERT, Lt.-Col.,
9th June 1886. Secretary to Government.

No. 123. From Major-General O. R. NEWMARCH, Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department, to Lieut.-Colonel A. KENNEY-HERBERT, Secretary to the Government of Madras, Military Department; dated Simla, 29th October 1886, No. 1647-MW.

Quarters.

With reference to the correspondence ending with your endorsement No. 3452, dated 9th June 1886, on the subject of the claim of Senior Apothecary J. Ringrow, Subordinate Medical Department, Madras, to hire his own quarters and draw Subordination at the rate laid down for his rank in place of occupying the quarters provided for him by Government, I am directed to forward, for the information of the Governor in Council, a copy of the communication marginally noted from the Secretary of State for India on the subject.

Extract para. 5 of military letter No. 256,
dated 23rd September 1886.

Extract of a military letter from the Right Honorable the Secretary of State for India; dated 23rd September 1886, No. 256.

Para. 5. It appears from the statement accompanying para. 3 of your military despatch, No. 99, of the 9th July 1886, that the accommodation provided for Apothecary J. Ringrow, irrespective of servants' houses, out-offices and stable, is more than equal to the authorized scale.

With regard to these latter, no information is furnished; but as it is stated in your despatch that a deficiency in these would not constitute a claim for compensation, further inquiry on this point is unnecessary.

Apothecary Ringrow must be informed that I am unable to interfere with the orders of your Government negating his claim to hire his own quarters and receive the regulated amount of compensation in lieu of free quarters.

No. 124. ORDER THEREON, 10th November 1886, No. 7001.

Resolved that Senior Apothecary Ringrow be informed that the Secretary of State has declined to interfere with the orders of the Government of India negating his claim to hire his own quarters and receive the regulated amount of compensation in lieu of free quarters.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) A. KENNEY-HERBERT, Lt.-Col.,
Secretary to Government.

To the Quarter Master General.
" Surgeon-General, Her Majesty's Forces, Madras.
" Public Works Department.

Senior Apothecary J. Ringrow
Returned direct.

Ed. E. C. Shunker.

Govt. of {1886} Madras.

MILITARY.

To
THE QUARTER MASTER GENERAL,
&c., &c., &c.

Dated November, 10th.

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 10th November 1886, No. 7001.

NOVEMBER.

Nos. 117—124.

Quarters.

Ringrow, Senior Apothecary J, Subordinate Medical Department, Madras,—informed that the Secretary of State has declined to interfere with the orders of the Government of India negating his claim to hire his own quarters and receive the regulated amount of compensation in lieu of free quarters.

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MILITARY DEPARTMENT.

10th November 1886, No. 7001.

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- No. 118. From the Surgeon-General, Her Majesty's Forces, Madras; dated 14th September 1885, No. 286.
- No. 119. To the Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department; dated 23rd September 1885, No. 5245.
- No. 120. From the Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department; dated 30th April 1886, No. 620-MW.
- No. 121. From the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department; dated 4th June 1886, No. 189-D.
- No. 122. To the Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department; dated 9th June 1886, No. 3452.
- No. 123. From the Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department; dated 29th October 1886, No. 1647-MW.
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Exd. E. C. Shunker.

Gobt. of (1886) Madras.

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65 Copies for current
16/11/86
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" Public Works Department.

Exd. E. C. Shunker.

N^o 3040 Wd/17.11.86.

Communicated to
the S. & V circle in
Continuation of G. O.
No. 1853 W. dated
11th August 1885.

(sl) J. O. H.
W.

Govt. of (1886) Madras.
MILITARY.

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&c., &c., &c.

Dated November, 10th.

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With order

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Continuation of G.O.

No. 1853 W. d/ 11th August
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(sd) J. C. H.

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Govt. of (1886) Madras.

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&c., &c., &c.

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