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GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following papers :—

G.O., dated 20th June 1889, No. 3838, Revenue.

Read—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Separate Revenue), dated 1st May 1889, Mis. No. 1465 :—

Read—the following papers :—

From O. A. LUXA, Esq., Inspector of Salt and Abkari Revenue, Cumbum Circle, to the Assistant Commissioner of Salt and Abkari Revenue, Nellore Division, dated Udayagiri, 8th November 1888.

I have the honor to forward herewith the travelling allowance bill of T. Venkata Subba Row, head clerk, with a letter in original (to be returned) from the Acting District Surgeon, Kurnool, stating that he cannot countersign the bill, as the journey to Kurnool was, in his opinion, not absolutely necessary, since there was a medical officer at Cumbum.

2. As section 143 (b) of the Civil Leave Code directs that certificates, in the case of a superior officer, must be submitted from the chief medical officer of the station or district, and as the officer of the Local Fund hospital at Cumbum at present belongs to the civil apothecary grade and very often an officer of the hospital assistant class is also in charge of this hospital, I therefore beg to be informed if the sections in the Travelling Allowance and Civil Leave Codes refer to this grade of medical officers as "chief medical officer of the station," and whether a certificate granted to an officer in superior service by the medical officer at Cumbum would be accepted by the Board of Revenue.

3. I make this reference, as officers would be saved the trouble and expense of proceeding hundreds of miles to a District Surgeon, if it is only known that a certificate from an officer of the apothecary grade, or any other officer in charge of the nearest hospital, would be accepted.

No. 2821.

True copy submitted to the Deputy Commissioner of Salt and Abkari Revenue, Central Division, for orders.

NELLORE DIVISION,
10th December 1888.

(Signed) S. CALDER,
Ag. Asst. Commissioner.

Copy submitted to the Secretary to the Commissioner of Salt, Abkari and Separate Revenue for orders.

2. The Deputy Commissioner is of opinion that a certificate from the chief medical officer of the station should be accepted, and the certificate forwarded to the District Surgeon for countersignature.

CENTRAL DIVISION,
1st January 1889.

(Signed) T. A. PACZENSKY,
for Deputy Commissioner.

Reference Order, dated 25th January 1889.

The Deputy Commissioner is requested to ascertain and report under whose authority the clerk referred to proceeded to Kurnool to obtain a medical certificate, and whether he appeared before the chief medical officer of Cumbum in the first instance, and, if so, with what result.

(Signed) HERBERT BRADLEY,
Secretary.

To the Dy. Commissioner of Salt and Abkari Revenue, Central Division.

From J. A. P. SNEYD, Esq., Deputy Commissioner of Salt and Abkari Revenue, Central Division, to the Secretary to the Commissioner of Salt, Abkari and Separate Revenue, dated Kandukur, 21st March 1889, No. 1058.

With reference to Board's reference on General Register No. 223 of 1889, dated 25th January 1889, I have the honor to state the circumstances under which T. Venkata Subba Row, clerk, Cumbum Circle, had to proceed to Kurnool to obtain a medical certificate.

2. The Inspector reports that, while on circuit in the Kanigiri taluk, the clerk fell ill, and as Nellore was only 80 miles from Kanigiri and Kurnool 140 miles, the clerk was directed to proceed to Nellore, the nearest station, where there was a civil medical officer, in accordance with section 47 of the Civil Travelling Allowance Code. The District Surgeon, in his letter, dated 28th May 1888, No. 380 (copy enclosed), having declined to grant the clerk a certificate for the reason stated in his letter, the Assistant Commissioner directed that the clerk should be sent to Kurnool for the certificate.

3. As to the question whether the clerk appeared before the chief medical officer at Cumbum in the first instance, I would point out that, under instructions conveyed in Commissioner's Proceedings, No. 9991, dated 9th August 1883, paragraph 2, medical certificates granted by officers of the description stated therein are not recognized by the department, and as the chief medical officer of Cumbum is always of the apothecary grade, it was thought that a certificate granted by such an officer would not be valid.

4. In connection with this subject, I would request to be informed as to whether superior officers may in future present themselves before medical officers of the grade referred to in paragraph 3, and if certificates granted by them and countersigned by the chief medical officer of the district, i.e., the Zillah Surgeon, may be accepted by the Assistant and Deputy Commissioners.

Resolution—dated 1st May 1889, Mis. No. 1465.

There is no objection, under recent rulings of Government, to the *ad interim* acceptance of a certificate granted by a chief medical officer of the apothecary grade in the case of a superior officer, but before any definite action in the way of grant of leave can be taken on such a certificate, it is necessary that it be countersigned by the District Surgeon, who is entitled to require the attendance of the officer to whom the certificate has been granted.

2. In the present instance, the Cumbum Circle head clerk fell ill in the Kanigiri taluk (80 miles from Nellore and 140 from Kurnool) and was directed to proceed to the Nellore District Surgeon to obtain a certificate. That officer refused even to examine the clerk, and directed that he should go to the Kurnool District Surgeon. He went accordingly. His journey to Kurnool to obtain a medical certificate was, however, unnecessary in view of the fact that there was a civil medical officer at Cumbum, his own head-quarters, and the Kurnool Acting District Surgeon (N. Mahomed Osman) has therefore refused the certificate required under rule 2, section 47, of the Civil Travelling Allowance Code (new provisional edition) to enable the clerk to draw travelling allowance.

3. Under the special circumstances of the case, and with reference to the fact that by a departmental order of 1883 (copy enclosed), medical certificates granted by hospital assistants and other subordinate medical officers were not to be recognized, the Board request Government to sanction the disbursement of the clerk's travelling allowance as a special case. He, at all events, is not to blame for what happened, and it would be hard on him if he were to lose his travelling allowance in addition to being sent long distances unnecessarily in the manner described.

4. The Board also request the orders of Government on the Nellore District Surgeon's refusal to examine the man. They are not aware of the nature of the "recent orders" referred to by the District Surgeon in his letter, of which a copy is enclosed, but venture to suggest that, if there are any orders in existence such as to prevent the examination of, and if necessary the grant of a certificate to, a sick man by the nearest District Surgeon, in a case where a refusal of examination necessitates a march of some 150 miles or more, those orders should be reconsidered.

ENCLOSURE.

From Surgeon-Major W. PRICE, District Surgeon, Nellore, to the Inspector of Salt and Abkari Revenue, Cumbum Circle, dated Nellore, 28th May 1888, No. 380.

With reference to your letter, No. 236, dated 20th May 1888, I have the honor to state that as T. Venkata Subba Row's head-quarters are in Cumbum, Kurnool district, I cannot under recent orders examine him. He must go to the District Surgeon of Kurnool.

Order—dated 20th June 1889, No. 3838, Revenue.

Sanction is accorded for the disbursement of the clerk's travelling allowance as a special case.

2. The question raised in paragraph 4 of the Board's Proceedings will be referred to the Public Department for disposal. It is observed that the case in question is an exceptional one, seeing that the Cumbum Circle is partly in the Nellore, and partly in the Kurnool, district.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) C. A. GALTON,
Secretary to Government.

To the Commissioner of Separate Revenue.

" Accountant-General.

" Public Department.

From G. BIDIE, Esq., M.B., C.I.E., Surgeon-General with the Government of Madras, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Ootacamund, 7th August 1889, No. O-484.

In returning the papers referred under your docket memorandum, dated 11th July 1889, I have the honor to submit the following remarks on the two questions involved, viz., (a) the action of the Civil Surgeon, Nellore, in refusing to examine for a sick certificate a clerk of the Salt Department serving in Cumbum, (b) the question as to where the clerk should have gone to get medical advice and a certificate.

2. On the clerk, T. Venkata Subba Row, presenting himself to Dr. Price at Nellore, the Inspector of Salt and Abkari under whom the man was serving was informed that, as the clerk's head-quarters were at Cumbum in the Kurnool district, he must go to the District Surgeon of Kurnool. This was in accordance with the import of Article 904 (a), Civil Service Regulations, but should not have prevented the Inspector from sending the clerk to the medical man at Cumbum, which would have been the correct course in the first instance.

3. The "recent orders" which the District Surgeon mentions as his authority for refusing to examine the clerk was a communication from my office. In a letter, No. 756, of 28th September 1887, Dr. Price asked a general question whether clerks,

peons, &c., belonging to the Salt Department, Nellore Division, but actually residing in the Karnool and Kistna districts, should be granted sick certificates at Nellore? To this the reply was, "They should go to the District Surgeons in whose jurisdiction they live," the object being to avoid unnecessary travelling and other complications consequent on men leaving the districts in which they were posted. In my opinion, therefore, Dr. Price was technically right in so far as the Civil service and departmental regulations are concerned, but in a case of this kind, in which a mistake had obviously been committed in sending the clerk to Nellore, the proper course would, I think, have been for the medical officer there to grant the man the required certificate and point out the error to his departmental superior who sent him to Nellore. The general rules with reference to the grant of medical certificates have been embodied in G.O., No. 389, of 15th April 1889.

ORDERS—dated 5th September 1889, No. 747, Public.

An officer must be held to reside in any part of the circle or area of jurisdiction in which he is, and when such area falls within more than one Revenue district, as is often the case with Salt circles, he may be sent to the chief medical officer of any of such districts as may be departmentally convenient. When a departmental superior sends one of his subordinates with the usual official credentials to any District Surgeon within his range, the latter should examine the man without question; and the Surgeon-General should alter his circular instructions accordingly.

(True Extract.)

Redmond

Chief Secretary.

To the Surgeon-General with the Government of Madras.

- " Revenue Department.
- " Public Works Department.
- " Marine Department.

Ed. A. Raitt.

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Gobt. of {1889} Madras.
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G.O., 5th September 1889, No. 747.

SEPTEMBER.

Medical Certificates.

Pointing out that when a departmental superior sends one of his subordinates with the usual official credentials to any District Surgeon within his range, the latter should examine the man without question, and desiring that the Surgeon-General with Government should accordingly alter his circular instructions on the subject.

12 2676W at Sept 25. 1889

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refer to G.O. no 1395W
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W. H. Horder

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