

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. *749/1004* Press
(142) Mis.

Dated *27-9-* 18*65*.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,
27th September 1865.*

Read the following Report of the Principal Inspector General, Medical Department.
(Here enter, 10th May 1865, No. 149*).

No. 112. ORDER THEREON, 27th September 1865, No. 1004.

The above Report and its appended extracts refer to the operations of the Civil Hospitals and Dispensaries throughout the Presidency for the year 1864, but the statistical information therein contained, as to the number of persons under treatment, is still open to doubt, under the causes which led to the alteration of the heading "treated" to "seen and prescribed for", referred to in the Principal Inspector General's last report, but which only came into effect late in the year. The reports of future years will be free from this defect.

2. The statistics, however, show that there has been very little alteration in the gross number of persons under treatment, an increase of 8732 in the number of out-patients being in some degree counterbalanced by a decrease of 1057 in the number of in-patients, the latter being evidently the result of economical measures rendered necessary by the withdrawal of Government support from Provincial Institutions.

3. The General Hospital, the Government observe, is not expected to be ready for occupation until some time in the year 1866.

4. The Government are glad to find that the duty of providing for the expenses of their own local Dispensaries is being more and more recognised by the Mofussil communities, and that the year has seen so large an increase of the capital of these Institutions, which has risen from Rupees 1,64,806-13-6 to Rupees 2,95,482-10-7; while of this, Rupees 2,34,780-12-4 is bearing interest. The charge to Government on account of the Mofussil Dispensaries has been reduced by Rupees 15,224-5-11 or to Rupees 71,337-4-11.

5. The Government agree with Dr. Cole, in thinking that the time has now come for considering the mode in which these large sums should be invested. They do not forget that these funds are the product of private benevolence, and that they are not directly subject to Government control; but they still consider that, having respect to the fact that the Dispensaries generally receive from Government the services of a Medical Officer and medicines free of cost, they may with propriety insist upon the adoption of a course which will be to the benefit of the Institutions. They, therefore, resolve to instruct Collectors throughout the country to intimate to the various Committees for the Dispensaries, that the Government consider that monied capital accumulated in their hands should not be invested, either with private persons, or with Banks or other Agencies, but that as the accumulations may from time to time amount to more than Rupees 1000 in excess of current requirements, they should be invested in Government Securities.

6. The large collection for the Tinnevelly Dispensary has already been favorably noticed by Government.

7. The Government would be glad to believe that Dr. Cole's anticipations, "that the time is not far distant when every Talook in the Presidency will have a medical charity ministered to by an educated Native Doctor", were not too sanguine; but they have no hesitation in giving it as their opinion that no more likely

step to ensure this result can be taken, than that to which Dr. Cole refers in his 18th paragraph, viz., the training up, in local hospitals, of native youths, inhabitants of the District, in a knowledge of the treatment of disease; and they view with very great approval the advance which has been made in Madura, and one or two other places, towards attaining this object.

8. The probability of ensuring medical aid for themselves and in their own neighbourhood, will most likely be necessary as an incentive before the inhabitants of the remote parts of districts will consent to tax themselves for the benefit of hospitals. The labors of the vaccination establishments, who will, so far as in them lies, without interfering with their legitimate duties, give the benefit of their general medical skill to those among whom their tours may extend, will, the Government doubt not, assist in developing a readiness to accept, and anxiety to obtain, the assistance of qualified medical practitioners.

9. With respect to the different local Institutions, the Government proceed to remark upon those which call for special notice.

10. *Calicut*.—The Government consider that the wealthy district of Malabar should be able to make greater efforts than are apparent from its financial statement. The expenditure has exceeded the income (which includes donations) by a sum almost as large as the balance on hand at the close of the year; so that another year will probably show no balance. The Government will not object to allow an estimate to be prepared in the Department Public Works for the repairs needed to the hospital.

11. *Chicacole*.—The removal of the Police from this Dispensary should be at once effected. A small house should be rented for the purpose, if no other arrangements are possible, and the Government consider that the Police Funds should bear this charge, and that it should not be, as it now is, practically thrown on the private benevolence of the district.

12. *Chittoor*.—The plans of the new hospital at this place are now before Government. The question of making use of the stones alluded to by the Civil Surgeon will be considered in the Department Public Works.

13. *Coimbatore*.—The remarks made in reference to Chicacole, on the subject of Police accommodation, will apply to this Dispensary also. The Government see no objection to the adoption of Dr. Davis' proposal for a Lying-in-Hospital. There can be no additional claim on Government on account of it.

14. *Coonoor*.—The Government do not consider that the circumstances of the Kotagherry station are at present such as to render the building of a Dispensary necessary.

15. *Cuddapah*.—The Government are glad to find that there is a prospect of an endowment for this Dispensary.

16. *Guntoor*.—They will be prepared to sanction the execution of the slight repairs necessary to this Dispensary in the Department Public Works on the receipt of an estimate.

17. *Vepery*.—The establishment of a separate ward as a Lock Hospital seems to have been a judicious step.

18. *The Lying-in-Hospital* continues to extend its sphere of usefulness. The Government notice with pleasure the large increase of cases treated.

19. *Madura*.—The great and spreading desire for European medical aid in this district is cause for much satisfaction. The Government have no objection to the proposed plan for selling European medicines, if the Principal Inspector General, Medical Department, considers it practicable to supply medicines, on payment, in sufficient quantity.

20. *Manargoody*.—The progress of the Lying-in-Hospital at this station, and of the pupils, is satisfactory.

21. *Mangalore*.—The remarks on the treatment of the Police in the hospital, made under Chicacole, apply to this place. Immediate steps should be taken to rent a separate building for a Police sick ward, at the cost of the Police Department.

22. *Masulipatam*.—The Government have already sanctioned the repair, at the public cost, of the Dispensary, which was much damaged by the late Cyclone. The arrangement made for the accommodation of the Police is approved, and should be carried out elsewhere.

23. *Golconda*.—The attention of the Inspector General of Police will be called to Dr. Smith's statement as to the Police clothing, and he will report to Government how the evil complained of may be remedied.

24. *Pulipott Lazaretto*.—It has been resolved to abandon this building, and orders have already been issued for the provision of a proper hospital in a more convenient position.

25. *Rajahmundry*.—The Government trust that the Civil Surgeon's fears for the stability of this Institution are not well grounded, and that the subject of its support will be taken up by the Government officials of the District.

26. *Tranquebar*.—The Government share Dr. Cole's difficulty in understanding why this Dispensary should be so poorly supported, while other Dispensaries in the District have been so generously upheld. The subject is one which may well engage the attention of the Collector.

27. *Vizagapatam*.—The energetic action of the Municipal Association is most satisfactory, and the general recourse to the Dispensary for relief is subject for congratulation.

28. It remains for Government to notice the subject of the expenditure of the Civil Hospitals at the Presidency.

29. The total expenditure on these Institutions was in 1863, Rupees 1,68,113-0-4, from which sum 4500 Rupees were to be deducted on account of Hospital stoppages. In the year 1864, the total amount of stoppages and sale proceeds of old articles was Rupees 5190-1-10; but although the year was a decidedly healthy one, the expenditure reached the amount of Rupees 1,84,285-8-10; or the gross cost of this year shows an excess over that of last year of Rupees 16,172-8-6—a sum nearly the same as the reduction upon the Provincial Dispensaries (Rupees 15-224-5-11), and not much less than one-fourth of the whole expenditure upon the former named Institutions.

30. The collection of private contributions was confined to one Dispensary, Vepery, and amounted to Rupees 108-12-0, the movement having been set on foot shortly before the close of the year; but it is stated that Rupees 60 is being raised monthly, the monthly expenditure of the Dispensary, after deducting the cost of Medical Subordinates and European medicines, being Rupees 664-10-6, or rather more than eleven times the contributions.

31. For convenience of reference, the total expenditure on each of the Presidency Institutions is shown in the margin.

	RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.
General Hospital.....	82,756	2	4			
Native Infirmary.....	16,072	2	8			
				98,828	5	0
Black Town	786	5	11			
Chintadrepattah.....	1,611	7	0			
Tripliana.....	5,265	13	1			
Vepery.....	9,588	15	4			
				17,252	9	4
Eye Infirmary.....	21,802	12	3			
Leper Hospital.....	9,218	4	4			
Lying-in-Hospital.....	20,297	5	2			
				51,318	5	9
				1,67,399	4	1
Male Asylum.....	835	13	11			
Female do.	715	9	9			
Lunatic do.	20,350	12	11			
				21,902	4	7

The Asylums, Male and Female, may be excluded from the account. The expenditure upon them is chargeable as much to the Provinces as to Madras, and the removal of the Asylums to the Neilgherries will remove the charge also. Moreover, the character of the Institutions is essentially different from that of Hospitals. The Lunatic Asylum is also not properly a Presidency Institution. Its location at Madras is accidental, and it receives patients from all parts of the country.

32. The removal of these charges diminishes the cost of Presidency Institutions proper, to Rupees 1,67,399-4-1, of which Rupees 98,828-5-0 is the cost of the General Hospital and Native Infirmary (classed with the General Hospital, as it is proposed to build a Native General Hospital of which this may be taken as the present representative); Rupees 17,252-9-4, of the Dispensaries proper (the Dispensaries attached to the Lying-in-Hospital and General Hospital have been in this statement incorporated with the Institutions themselves, although in the Report they are separated); and Rupees 51,318-5-9, of the Hospitals for special purposes—the Eye and Lying-in-Hospitals, and the Leper Hospital.

33. Four-sevenths of the charge for the Eye Infirmary consists of the salary of the Superintendent, who performs other important duties in the Medical College. The large expenditure of Rupees 4122-0-4 on “other charges” needs explanation. It is greater by Rupees 1300 than the same item in the General Hospital.

34. The expenditure on the Lying-in-Hospital, although there can be no question as to the advantages of such an Institution, is one of which only a small portion is absolutely a necessary charge. Of the whole number (1426) of women delivered, the labor in 1218 cases is stated to have been natural, or presented no difficult features. The Government abstain in this place from commenting on the expenditure of this useful institution, and will reserve their observations for the report furnished by the Principal Inspector General and now under consideration, making the one remark that this is an Institution in which of all others diet fees may properly be charged to patients. The cause of entry to this Hospital is not unforeseen as in the case of ordinary sickness. The patient, is, in all cases, a woman, and is seldom, except in the lowest classes, a bread-winner, and her husband must have supported her out of Hospital had she not been admitted.

35. The Leper Hospital is an Institution from the charge for which the Government cannot hope to relieve themselves. To secure its economical management is all they can expect.

36. The Dispensaries need not be reviewed one by one. When the proposed Native Hospital is complete, the Government will probably be able, in great measure, to relieve themselves from the charge for what will then become mainly local charities. Their retention as Dispensaries, for out-patients only, will probably be advisable; while the provision at them of proper means of transport for patients needing

treatment as in-patients in one of the General Hospitals, will probably secure every needful purpose, while it will also obviate the danger of the General Hospitals becoming confined in their operations to their own immediate neighbourhood as regards pauper patients. At Dispensaries for out-patients the Subordinate Medical Staff will only be small, and the expenditure for other purposes, exclusive of medicines, will be comparatively little; but whatever it may be, the Government will no longer be able to allow its incidence on Imperial revenues.

37. The Native Infirmary will, on the provision of the Native General Hospital, be abandoned; it is therefore unnecessary to refer to it here.

38. The matter referred to at the close of Dr. Cole's report, viz., the report of the Committee appointed by him to examine the expenditure of the General Hospital, and subsequently of the other Civil Hospitals at the Presidency, will be separately disposed of, and need not to be mentioned here.

39. The Government desire to call Dr. Cole's attention to the paging of the report and its appendices. In fact, the so-called appendices are a most material part of the report, and it is unnecessary that the report of 11 pages should alone be paged with Arabic numerals, while the appendices of 105 are paged with Roman numerals. The paging may with advantage be consecutive, and in Arabic numerals.

(True Extract).

Acting Secretary to Government.

To the Principal Inspector General, Medical Department.

„ Public Works Department.
„ Inspector General of Police.
„ Accountant General.
„ Examiner of Claims.
„ Collector of

Edw. J. H. Burns.

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

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of the Principal Inspector General,
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Received under 10th May 1865. N^o 149.

Order thereon. 27th Sept. Public 1865. N^o 1004.

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generally receive from Govt the services of a medical Officer and medicines free of cost, they may with propriety insist upon the adoption of a course which will be to the benefit of the institutions. They therefore resolve to instruct Collectors throughout the Country to intimate to the various committees for the Dispensaries that the Govt consider that) monied capital accumulated in their hands should not be invested, either with private persons, or with Banks or other Agencies, but that as the accumulations may from time to time amount to more than Rs. 1000 in excess of current requirements they should be invested in Govt securities.

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Public Works.

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Chicacole apply to this place. Immediate steps should be taken to
erect a separate building from Police Lick road, at the end of the 4th dist.

22 Masulipatam. ~~The Government~~
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Observations

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To the Lt. Asst. Secy. Genl. Mr. Gole
Public Works Department
Inspector General of Works
Acct. General
Examiner of Claims
Collectors of the several Districts
one copy with report to the Secy. Genl.

1865 Department.

No. 1004.

PROCEEDINGS OF GOVERNMENT.

791212-1330-1502-1580-
309 of 1807-

Dated 27 September 1865

Civil Disobedience
Report for 1864 reviewed