

1. Name of the Officer
2. Date of Receipt
3. Initials of Reference

M.R.O. 1-22 400-22-11-80

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	<i>1047</i>	Press Mis.
Dated	<i>13-10-1866.</i>	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,
13th October 1866.

No. 116. Read the following letter from the Collector of Malabar, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Palghat, 7th September 1866, No. 122.

I have the honor to forward, for the favorable consideration of Government, the enclosed letter from the President of the Committee of Management, Goodaloor Civil Hospital and Dispensary, South East Wynaad.

Dated 2nd September 1866.

2. The annual private subscriptions amount to between Rupees 1400 and 1500 per annum, almost all of which is contributed by the European Planters of the neighbourhood.

3. Mr. Minchin points out that this expenditure on the part of the Planters is purely charitable, and, although some indirect benefit is derived from the great advantage that the Hospital is to the neighbourhood, his statement is quite correct. It may be remembered that when the Hospital was being started, some of the Planters held aloof, and little or no aid was given by the Native Residents; yet the originators and supporters of the scheme liberally and properly decided that *all* the needy should be received, as far as funds admitted, without reference to whether they came from subscribing estates or no. The subscriptions have, I think, been as liberal as could be expected under the circumstances of the neighbourhood; and the great benefit that the Hospital has proved is acknowledged by all.

4. It was admitted that it was absolutely necessary to make the increased allowance of Rupees 50 per month to the Medical Subordinate in charge of the Dispensary; but Government* ruled

* Vide G. O., dated 2nd March 1866, No. 231.

that this should be met from the private subscriptions.

This has been done. Mr. Wade, the Medical Officer, has given universal satisfaction, and there is no question about the allowance being as necessary as it is well earned.

But Mr. Minchin, in the name of the Committee, requests that this allowance may now be made by Government, thus fixing the Rupees 50 for general purposes, and I would beg most strongly to support the request. I venture to believe that, if this is allowed, the private support will in no way fall off, but rather be increased, and I am sure the money could not be better spent, as far as the interests of the public are concerned.

5. I respectfully solicit early orders, and I beg again to request attention to my letters† noted, regarding the establishment of a Civil Hospital and Dispensary at Vythery.

* Dated 1st June 1866, No. 72, and 1st August 1866, No. 105.

From J. W. MINCHIN, Esq., President of the Committee of Management, Goodaloor Dispensary, to the Collector of Malabar: dated Goodaloor, 2nd September 1866.

I have the honor to draw your attention to the financial position of the Goodaloor Dispensary. The Committee of Management, after struggling through their difficulties for 15 months, trusting that the amount of their annual subscriptions would increase sufficiently to cover the expenses of the Institution, find that, although the subscriptions have been very much increased, the necessary expenses have been more than proportionately increased also, as the benefits to be derived from it

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have become more generally understood; and it is now found to be impossible to carry on the charity to the end of the official year with the funds available.

2. From the establishment of this Dispensary in March 1865, to the 31st July 1866, 5386 out-patients have been treated, and 305 patients have been taken into the Hospital, and fed and cared for from the funds subscribed. During the first twelve months, 460 Rupees were spent, in food alone, for the in-patients, and during the last three months, the cost of food has averaged *Rupees 61 per month*—not that this sum by any means represents the necessities of the poor of the place (most of the out-patients treated stand as much in need of food and nourishment as of physic), but the lack of funds prevents further help being given.

3. The annual subscriptions towards the up-keep of this Dispensary now amount to Rupees 1500. Of this, Rupees 75 a year is granted by the Police Department; all the rest is given by Planters in the neighbourhood.

4. I would here wish to point out that the money subscribed by the Planters can be looked on solely as a charity on their part.

5. No direct benefit can accrue to any of them from the advantage of obtaining Medical assistance for their coolies, as the estates are all situated at too great a distance for the Institution to be used, except in most serious cases. It will be found that almost all the cases treated have been travellers through the village of Goodaloor, and the villagers themselves. Not ten cases can be counted where the patients have been sent direct from the estates.

6. The expenses of the Dispensary amount to about Rupees 150 a month, with sundry extra charges, for the repair of the buildings, purchase of bedding cloths, &c. Last year, the expenditure exceeded the subscriptions by about Rupees 300, but; as the subscriptions of this year were increased by nearly Rupees 500, it was hoped that sufficient money to get through the year might be available; but the heavy cost of food for the in-patients, a charge of Rupees 97-8-0 for repairing the Hospital, and the much increased demand for the benefits of the Institution, has completely upset our hopes, so that, without relief from Government, the Dispensary must be closed, as there are now only about 600 Rupees in hand, to meet all expenses to end of April 1867.

7. I would, therefore, urge on Government the necessity of relieving the funds of the Hospital of the Rupees 50 per mensem given to Mr. Wade, the Medical Officer in charge, as extra allowance for the expenses attending a residence in Wynaad.

8. The Medical Officer attached to the Company of Sappers stationed at Lackady receives from Government the Wynaad allowance, made to all Members of the Department Public Works here, of fifty per centem increase on his pay. The necessity for this increased pay was fully allowed by Dr. Cole, in his report, when the Goodaloor Dispensary was originally established; and when the Government Order, refusing this extra allowance, was passed, the Committee of Management, recognizing the necessity for it, endeavoured to undertake the expense from the funds of the Institution. But it is now evident that it is more than they can bear.

9. It is hopeless to expect further assistance from the Planters of the District. The want of rain, which has this year caused such scarcity of grain, has, while thus increasing the cost of working their estates, also greatly reduced the crops they will gather.

10. That Goodaloor calls for exceptional assistance from the Government must be acknowledged, from its notorious unhealthiness; and it would be indeed sad that a public charity, now fairly established, and the benefits of which are being daily more appreciated, should be allowed to fall to the ground.

11. Trusting that the necessities of this Institution may meet with your early and favorable consideration, I have the honor to be, &c.

No. 117. ORDER THEREON, 13th October 1866, No. 1047.

In their Order of the 24th January 1865, No. 93, Government sanctioned a contribution of Rupees 385 towards the construction of a temporary Hospital and Dispensary at Goodaloor, and directed the Principal Inspector General to place an

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Assistant Apothecary, or 1st Class Dresser, in charge of the Institution, and to supply it with medicines free of charge. All other expenses connected with the Institution were to be defrayed from local subscriptions.

2. In their Order of the 31st, they sanctioned the appropriation of the unfinished Travellers' Bungalow at Goodaloor, as a residence for the Apothecary and a store for the medicines, &c.

3. It now appears from the letter of the President of the Committee of Management, Mr. Minchin, that, although the annual subscriptions are nearly 1500 per annum, or nearly thrice as much as was expected, the expenses of the Institution have proved very heavy. Between March 1865 and July 1866, the number of patients treated was 5691, of whom 305 were admitted into the Hospital. Under these circumstances, Mr. Minchin requests that the extra allowance of Rupees 50 per mensem, which is paid to the Apothecary by the subscribers, may henceforth be paid by Government. To this arrangement, the Governor in Council resolves to accede. This Order supersedes that Order of the 2nd March 1865, No. 231, and will take effect from the commencement of the current official year.

4. Mr. Ballard will convey the thanks of Government to Mr. Minchin and the Committee of Management, for their services in keeping up this useful Institution.

(True Extract).

Chief Secretary.

To the Collector of Malabar.

„ Principal Inspector General, Medical Department.

„ Accountant General.

Exd. J. H. Burns.

From ~~the~~ Collr of Malabar - 7 Sep
1866-1872.

Order thereon 13 (Revised 1866) 1872

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