

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No.	666	Press Mis.
Dated	4-7-	1866

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,

4th July 1866.

No. 17. Read the following Proceedings of Government in the Military Department, dated 25th June 1866, No. 2153.

Ordering the discontinuance of the further issue of Surgical Instruments to Administrative Officers of the Medical Department. (Vide Proceedings, Military Department, dated 25th June 1866, Nos. 578 & 579.)

No. 18. ORDER THEREON, 4th July 1866, No. 666.

To be recorded.

(Signed) J. D. SIM,

Acting Chief Secretary.

Ed. J. Tulloch.

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MILITARY DEPARTMENT.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following papers:—

From the Controller of Military Accounts, Fort Saint George, 12th June 1866, E;
to the Secretary to Government, Military Department.

I have the honor to submit, for the orders of Government, a letter from the Examiner of Medical Accounts, dated 8th June 1866, No. 162, bringing to notice an infringement of the rule in paragraph 41, Section V, page 59 of the Medical Code, in the issue to Deputy Inspector General of Hospitals E. Balfour of a case of instruments from the public stores.

2. I should have instructed the Examiner to issue a retrenchment, had not the Principal Inspector General Medical Department, expressed an opinion that the rule referred to does not preclude the issue.

3. It is only in an extreme case that an Administrative Officer could be called upon to afford professional assistance, and it is to be observed that the ground upon which the Principal Inspector General bases his opinion is not one which is recognized by the rule.

4. The rule obviously refers to officers who, in the execution of their proper functions, may require the instruments, not to those who might possibly, under a remote contingency, be called upon to use them.

5. The issue is, as far as I am aware, unprecedented.

From the Examiner of Accounts, Medical Department, Madras, 8th June 1866, No. 162; to the Controller of Military Accounts, Fort Saint George.

The rule at present in force, recorded in paragraph 41, Section V, page 59 of the Medical Code, prescribes to every Surgeon and Assistant Surgeon of the local service, holding a separate charge, a case of instruments from the public stores.

2. Observing, in a return recently made to this office by the Deputy Medical Store-keeper, Ceded Districts, that a departure from this rule had been permitted in the case of Deputy Inspector General of Hospitals Balfour, who had, on his indent, been supplied with a case of instruments from the public stores, an explanation was sought for in a communication which passed through your office to the Officiating Principal Inspector General Medical Department.

3. The view taken by the Officiating head of this Department is recorded in the accompanying letter* in original from his

** Requested to be returned.*

"Every Surgeon and Assistant Surgeon of the Company's service, holding a separate charge, whether in the Military or Civil Department, or who has been reported for the general duties of the Army, will be supplied from the public stores, with the surgical instruments comprehended in the following list; and will be held responsible for their proper preservation. These instruments are to be considered as attached to the Officer and not to the charge which he holds, and consequently when an Officer is removed, or proceeding on sick certificate within the limits of the Presidency, he will carry his instruments along with him; a cooly being supplied for their conveyance by the Commissariat, on indent countersigned by the Superintending Surgeon, in cases in which no other public carriage is supplied to the same Officer."

ing letter* in original from his Secretary, but as it is one which, as it appears to me, involves an infringement on the rule above quoted, and which is given in extenso in the margin, it does not belong to me to suspend action on the interpretation thus applied to it; and I therefore beg to state that this office will cause the necessary retrenchment to be made to recover the cost of the instruments thus supplied to Deputy Inspector General of Hospitals Balfour, unless this procedure should be contra-indicated by your instructions.

From the Secretary Principal Inspector General Medical Department, Fort Saint George, 5th June 1866, No. 2396; to the Examiner of Accounts, Medical Department, Madras, (through the Controller of Military Accounts, 6th June 1866, No. XXI.)

Referring to your letter as per margin, I have the honor, by desire of the Officiating Principal

No. 125 of date 29th May 1866.

Inspector General Medical Department, to observe that the rule you quote from the Medical Code does not in his opinion preclude an Admin-

istrative Medical Officer from being supplied with instruments from the public stores.

2. It is obvious that an Administrative, equally with an Executive Officer, may in this country be suddenly called upon to afford professional assistance, and it seems advisable that he should have a sufficient equipment of instruments at hand, and that in this respect he should be placed on the same footing as any other Medical Officer.

ORDER, No. 2153, 25th June 1866.

A case of Surgical Instruments having been already issued to Mr. Balfour, Deputy Inspector General of Hospitals, the Governor in Council will not interfere with the arrangement; but Government having recently ruled that they consider it inadvisable as a general rule

Proceedings of Government, No. 2006, dated 13th June 1866, paragraph 4.

that Administrative Officers of the Medical Department, should undertake Executive functions, the further issue of Surgical Instruments to these Officers will be discontinued.

(True Extract.)

St Marshall Major General.

~~Secretary to Government~~

To the Controller of Military Accounts, with two enclosures.

- Principal Inspector General Medical Department.
- Military Accountant.
- Examiner Pay Department.
- Examiner of Medical Accounts.
- Adjutant General, } for information.
- Public Department, }

2nd & 3rd copies

17-18.

Sent 10 July

14 July 1866
Received
J. E. Cashart

Ordering the disbursement of the further issue of Surgical Instruments to Administrative Medical Officers of the Governor's Hospital

No 281

2153
2153

For: Govt. Medical Dept.
2153

Public 2153
2153