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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Police DEPARTMENT.

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G.O. No.	729	Press
	(111-113)	~~Mis.~~
Dated	20-7-	1866

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,
20th July 1866.

Read the following papers :—

No. 111. From the Principal Inspector General Medical Department, Fort Saint George, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George ; dated 20th April 1866, No. 149.

I have the honor to forward a letter from the Reverend S. D. Scudder, M. D., proposing to re-establish the Dispensary at Arcot, formerly under the charge of his brother and himself, but at the same time requests that the Government Dispensary lately established and supported by the Lungerkhana funds be closed.

2. Dr. Scudder undertakes—

1st.—To perform all public duties now devolving upon the Government Apothecary.

2nd.—To keep open a Dispensary for the use of the whole District, “ to be free to all.”

He proposes—

- a. To ask for no pecuniary assistance from Government, but
- b. If there are Local Funds which must be used, he would add them to his own funds, strictly accounting to Government for the former, or
- c. Dr. Scudder would propose that he be granted Medicines and Instruments as the Government Dispensary is at present.
- d. He asks for no help whatever from Government ; he advances no contribution, save the one that the Government Dispensary now in operation be closed.

3. Dr. Scudder declines to open a Dispensary in any other part of the District, except Arcot.

4. The Government Dispensary, under the Medical charge of Assistant Apothecary H. Boon, appears to be working well, but Arcot is not a field sufficiently large for two Dispensaries. I attach a copy of the last Return.

5. I cannot ascertain from the Proceedings of Government, whether the Lungerkhana funds can only be applied to support Dispensaries at Arcot and Vellore or whether they can be legitimately used for similar Institutions in other towns of the District, Goriatum for example, which is a densely populated place.

6. If the funds cannot be diverted from Vellore and Arcot, it will be impossible to comply with Dr. Scudder's request ; but if his proposal can be entertained, it will give another Dispensary to the District without subjecting Government to expense.

7. The Dispensary was closed consequent upon the withdrawal of funds from America during the war. Dr. Scudder is again well supplied with money, and would, no doubt, work it as successfully as it formerly was.

8. Dr. Scudder is one of the family of that name, who have been so long known and respected in this Presidency as Missionaries, but Dr. Scudder himself is not a Missionary, and he assures me that whatever his Missionary proclivities may be, they will in no way interfere with the well-working of the Dispensary.

From the Reverend S. D. SCUDDER, M. D., to the Inspector General of Hospitals ; dated Arcot, 12th April 1866.

I propose to re-establish at Arcot the Dispensary formerly in operation in that place for a considerable period, but which was temporarily suspended in consequence of embarrassed finances.

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20th July 1866.

2. I desire to bring this matter officially before you, as I am not fully satisfied in carrying on a Dispensary under the present circumstances. I beg, therefore, your kind and most careful attention to the following:—

1st.—The Dispensary I am about to carry on was established many years ago, and conducted for a long period under the most favorable circumstances, the number of daily patients averaging much higher than that of any other Dispensary in this part of the country, the Physician then in charge having been highly complimented also by Government. I have been many times most urgently requested by the inhabitants of the District to re-open the Dispensary, but was unable to do so until now.

2nd.—The station is not large enough to supply material for more than one properly conducted, efficient Dispensary. Two Institutions of this description cannot flourish as they should in the one place, as they must necessarily be in near vicinity to each other. Into the Dispensary that I propose to carry on I shall be able to receive all who may come, of whatever class, be they simply out-patients, or in-patients—none will be refused. There will be no hesitancy whatever in the people of the District attending, as the Dispensary was carried on for many years, and is exceedingly well known, and as I have been urgently requested by very many in the highest position to speedily re-open it.

I therefore propose—

1st.—That the field or District be entirely given over to me; that the Government Dispensary now in operation at Arcot be closed, and the Apothecary in charge removed.

I propose—

2nd.—To undertake to perform ~~all the public duties now devolving upon the Government~~ Apothecary; in fact, all the medical duties of the station; to keep open a Dispensary for the use of the whole District, as well as for any who may have Government claim upon Professional help; to be free to all.

I propose—

3rdly.—To ask for no help *whatever* from Government. If, on account of Local Funds which must be used, a certain sum is to be yearly expended in carrying on a Dispensary in this District, I would humbly propose that I be allowed to spend such sum, strictly accounting to Government for each and every part of that sum, at the same time being allowed to add to it of my own funds, in order that I may carry on as extensive and perfect a Dispensary and Hospital as possible. Or, if this plan is not feasible, I would propose that the yearly grant of Medicines, Instruments, &c., now made by Government to the Arcot Dispensary, be made to me, with the requirement that I strictly account for all delivered into my hands. If, however, there be no such necessity, that I strictly account for all delivered into my hands. If, however, there be no such necessity, viz., Local Funds, requiring a yearly expenditure for Dispensary purposes in this District, then I ask for no help *whatever* from Government; I advance no condition of any kind save the one before mentioned, viz., that the Government Dispensary, now in operation here, be closed, the Apothecary in charge removed, and the District delivered over into my charge. If this one thing be granted, I promise to keep open and properly conduct a Dispensary and Hospital for *all classes*, and conditions, *free to all*, and without cost to Government, to perform all the medical duties of the station, and to devote my *whole time* to the medical work in connection with this one Dispensary and Hospital only. I will undertake, also, to show, in two months' time, a larger average number of both in-patients and daily out-patients than that of any other Medical Institution in this part of the country.

Any assistance which the Government may please to grant me in the way of medicines, instruments, a building, &c., will be most gratefully accepted and acknowledged, although I again repeat that I do not attach this or any other condition to my proposal.

Begging your kind and speedy attention to the above.

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20th July 1866.

1865.

RANIPETT DISPENSARY.
Annual Abstract Return of Out-patients.

Class.	Diseases.	Remained.	Admitted.	Total.	Discharged.	Transferred.	Died.	Remaining.	Average strength.	Average daily sick.
1	1. Intermittent, Remittent and Yellow Fevers.....	...	5	5	3	...	...	2	...	...
	2. Typhoid, Typhus and Continued Fevers.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	3. Eruptive Fevers.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	4. Dysentery.....	...	1	1	...	...	...	1	...	...
	5. Diarrhoea.....	...	3	3	3	...	...	...	...	...
	6. Spasmodic Cholera.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	7. Ophthalmia.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	8. Rheumatism.....	...	8	8	4	...	...	4	...	...
	9. Syphilitic and Gonorrhœal Diseases.....	...	7	9	1	...	...	6	...	...
	10. Other Zymotic Diseases.....	...	5	3	2	...	...	3	...	...
2	1. Phthisis Pulmonalis.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	2. Other constitutional Diseases.....	...	1	1	...	...	...	1	...	...
	1. Bronchitis.....	...	1	1	...	...	...	1	...	...
	2. Hepatic Diseases.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
3	3. Skin Diseases.....	...	23	23	16	...	...	7	...	...
	4. Delirium Tremens.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	5. Other Diseases of the Nervous system.....	...	3	3	1	...	...	2	...	...
	6. Aneurism.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
4	7. Other Diseases of Heart and Blood Vessels.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	8. Other Local Diseases.....	...	14	14	9	...	...	5	...	...
	1. Diseases of Nutrition.....	...	2	2	1	...	...	1	...	...
	1. Wounds and Injuries by Accident.....	...	4	4	1	...	...	3	...	...
obj applica	2. Do. do. by Battle.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	3. Corporal Punishment.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
obj applica	Other Violent Deaths or Diseases.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	2. Total.....	...	77	77	41	...	...	36	...	9½

RANIPETT, 1st January 1866.

(Signed) H. BOON,
Assistant Apothecary in Medl. charge.

(True Copy)

(Signed) W. R. CORNISH, Surgeon,
Secy. Prinl. Inspector General, Med. Dept.

Referred to the Collector of North Arcot for his remarks, which should be submitted by Mr. Robinson on his resuming charge of the District.

FORT SAINT GEORGE,
27th April 1866.

(Signed) A. J. ARBUTHNOT,
Chief Secretary.

No. 112. From the Collector of North Arcot, to the Acting Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Chittoor, 5th July 1866, No. 23.

I have the honor to return with my remarks the papers noted in the margin, which were referred to me by Endorsement from the Chief Secretary's Office, dated 27th April 1866.

Let. r from Principal Inspector General, Medical Department, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated 20th April 1866, No. 142, with 2 enclosures.

2. Mr. Price, whose head quarters are at Ranipett, where the Lungekhana Branch Dispensary has been located, was requested by me to ascertain privately how Dr. Scudder's propositions would, if adopted, be regarded by the local Native community. Mr. Price writes that he does not think the Natives would object to such a re-organization of the establishment as Dr. Scudder proposes on religious grounds. Mr. Price says, as I myself well know, that Dr. Scudder is highly popular, as well on account of his superior professional qualifications as for his urbanity and accessibility to all who may wish to consult him. Mr. Price further remarks that a larger number of caste people go to Dr. Scudder for advice than to the Government Dispensary; that his stock of instruments and medicines is very superior to those in use at the Government Institution, and that if religious subjects are introduced, they are never unduly pressed on any patient who may show a disinclination for such discussions. Thus, on the score of religious prejudice, no objection would probably arise. But there are other considerations which appear to forbid either of the arrangements proposed by Dr. Scudder.

3. Dr. Scudder's proposition is two-fold—

1st.—He asks that the field may be left open to him by the removal of the Government Establishment from the Arcot neighbourhood, and undertakes the gratuitous performance of all the Medical duties of the Station and Dispensary without distinction of creed and condition, or

2ndly.—He proposes that if the Lungekhana allowance must be applied for its present purposes, it may go to supplement the existing establishment of their former Dispensary on a proportionably larger and more perfect organization.

4. Under this latter arrangement, Dr. Scudder undertakes the single-handed management of the Institution, and promises to render periodical account of its monies and Government chattels entrusted to him under such an amalgamation.

5. Such are, as I read his letter, Dr. Scudder's alternative propositions. I have grave doubts as to the propriety of closing with either of these offers. I am not sure that Government would be justified in closing and removing to any other place, an Institution which is auxiliary to a purely local establishment, and I am equally uncertain, whether, in the case of a Dispensary supported by an allowance from a local Native benefaction, such funds could be merged either whole or part in the grant for a Mission Dispensary, however efficiently and indiscriminately administered.

6. Two difficulties thus present themselves in the very threshold; but there are other contingencies which could not be safely overlooked, and to which Mr. Price alludes thus—

1st.—Supposing Dr. Scudder's proposition accepted and the Government Dispensary removed, what security would there be, in the event of Dr. Scudder's removal by sickness or other cause, that the Mission establishment would continue to be conducted on the terms now stipulated for.

2ndly.—What would be the position of Government should any fresh emergency or embarrassment of the Mission finances take place.

3rdly.—If the Dispensary were removed to Gudiatam (where it certainly would not be out of place), would Government be prepared to provide necessary accommodation.

4thly.—If the inhabitants consented to supply the building at their own charges, or with a grant-in-aid of public money, would they not have a right to demur to a re-transfer of the Institution to Arcot, should Dr. Scudder's establishment close; and,

5thly.—Would not in like manner the people of Arcot have a grievance, if Government did not in that event direct such re-transfer.

7. Admitting these difficulties, Mr. Price suggests an amalgamation of the two establishments as they stand, into one large hospital with Dr. Scudder's at its head. The only objection he sees to this arrangement is in the possible unwillingness of the Apothecary to act under the orders of a non-official superior. This is a minor objection, and could be easily over-ruled, but the arrangement might give rise to more serious complications, and does not, I think, commend itself to the adoption of Government.

8. With these observations, I leave the matter in the hands of Government, my own impression being that there are difficulties, immediate and prospective, which render the acceptance of either of Dr. Scudder's propositions a measure of doubtful expediency.

No. 113.

ORDER THEREON, 20th July 1866, No. 729.

The Government consider that Dr. Scudder has a claim to the field of operations which he seeks to re-occupy, and have entire confidence in the singleness of his motives. They attach much importance to the proved appreciations by the Native community of the value of his charitable services, and do not see in the objections suggested by the Collector any sufficient reason for rejecting the application.

2. It will be time enough to consider the difficulties which Mr. Robinson anticipates, when the contingencies on which they depend may occur.

3. The Government accordingly resolve to comply with Dr. Scudder's application, and to direct the closing of the Ranipett Government Dispensary so soon as Dr. Scudder is prepared to open his Institution at Arcot.

4. They will also entrust to him for expenditure on purposes connected with the charity one-half of the annual amount hitherto devoted to the maintenance of the Ranipett Dispensary, on the condition that he shall submit to Government, through the Collector, an annual report on the working of his Arcot Dispensary.

5. The Collector will ascertain and report, whether the Ranipett Dispensary building, if Government property, and any of the Hospital furniture stock, &c., the may remain on hand will be of use to Dr. Scudder for his Institution, which the Government would desire to see started under as favorable auspices as possible. He will also report how and where he would propose to employ the remainder of the grant from which the Ranipett Dispensary has hitherto been maintained.

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20th July 1866.*

6. The Principal Inspector General, Medical Department, will inform Government whether the services of the Apothecary now in charge of the Ranipett Dispensary are required for any other charge, or can still be spared for employment in the District.

(True Extract).

Chief Secretary.

To the Principal Inspector General, Medical Department.
„ Collector of North Arcot.
„ Accountant General.

Exd. J. H. Burns.

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№ 729

Proceedings of Government
20th July 1866.

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