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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public DEPARTMENT.

118-119

G.O. No.	732	Press Mis.
Dated	20-7-	1866.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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

No. 118. Read the following Proceedings of Government in the Military Department, dated 11th July 1866, No. 2378.

Referring, for the consideration of the
Secretary of State, papers showing that } (Vide Proceedings, Military Department,
more Medical Officers are needed for } dated 11th July 1866, Nos. 234—236).
this Presidency.

No. 119. ORDER THEREON, 20th July 1866, No. 732.

To be recorded.

(Signed) J. D. SIM,
Acting Chief Secretary.

Exd. T. Cartledge.

MILITARY DEPARTMENT.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following papers:—

Memorandum from the Adjutant General, Head Quarters, Ootacamund, 23rd June 1866, No. 328; to the Secretary to Government, Military Department, Fort Saint George.

The Commander-in-Chief has the honor to submit to Government, two letters*

* 2nd June 1866, No. 198.
14th „ „ „ 216.

from the Principal Inspector General, relative to the crippled state of the Medical Department in regard to Commissioned Officers.

2. On receipt of the first of these communications, Mr. Shaw's attention was directed to his predecessor's letter, dated 27th† January 1865, paragraphs 27 and 29; and explanation was called for with reference to the opposite views of Mr. Cole and Mr. Shaw, in regard to the requirements of the Medical Service.

3. In his second letter Mr. Shaw has, in the Commander-in-Chief's opinion, satisfactorily shown that the present number of Medical Officers is insufficient for the service of this Presidency, and His Excellency therefore submits his representation with his support, and recommends that the subject be brought before the Home Government at an early date, with a view to some additional Assistant Surgeons being sent out as soon as practicable.

4. The Commander-in-Chief does not think that it is necessary at present to move the Home Government, to direct those Medical Officers who are on furlough in Europe, to return to their duty.

From the Officiating Principal Inspector General Medical Department, Fort Saint George, 2nd June 1866, No. 198; to the Adjutant General.

With reference to my demi-official letter of 22nd ultimo, I would beg to bring to the notice of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief and Government, the short-handed state of the Medical Establishment of this Presidency.

2. The Commission which lately sat in Calcutta, considered that 180 Medical Officers were required for the executive duties in the Civil and Military Departments of this Presidency and adjacent provinces. This number includes a proportion for absentees. The present strength of the establishment for executive duties is nearly twenty short of the number fixed upon. Until these vacancies are filled up, the Madras Medical Department will be materially crippled.

3. As His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief is aware, I have already been compelled to withhold my recommendation to an application by a Medical Officer for furlough, to which he was entitled by regulation.

4. I trust that His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief will have the goodness to represent to Government and the Secretary of State for India, that a full complement of Medical Officers is urgently needed for this Presidency, and to urge the expediency of filling up vacant appointments with as little delay as possible.

5. I would venture to suggest also, that Medical Officers now in Europe who may be fit to return to duty, might, in the present emergency, be required to return to India, applying for the balance of leave or furlough on a more favorable opportunity. I make this suggestion as it seems highly probable that the small number of candidates for the service at the last competitive examination, will not allow the Right Honorable the Secretary of State, at present, to meet the necessities of this Presidency in full.

6. I apprehend serious difficulty in meeting the requirements for Medical aid, if steps are not speedily taken to bring the establishment up to its proper strength.

From the Officiating Principal Inspector General Medical Department, Fort Saint George, 14th June 1866, No. 216; to the Adjutant General.

With reference to your letter, No. 214 of date 8th instant, I have the honor to submit, for the information of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, the following explanation regarding the present state of the Medical Department, as well as the circumstances under which the letter as per margin was written.

No. 198 of date 2nd June 1866.

2. On the 1st January 1865, the number of Medical Officers of all ranks was 187—up to the present time 14 of the then Supernumerary Officers have become casualties, either by death or resignation, or retirement, and 9 Assistant Surgeons have joined the establishment.

The changes may be thus stated :—

Strength of establishment 1st January 1865	187
Resigned, retired, or dead	14
	173
Assistant Surgeons joined	9
Present strength of establishment	182

3. Of the present establishment, *thirteen* hold permanent or temporary rank as *Administrative* Officers, whereas according to the calculation given in paragraph 25 of my predecessor's letter, No. 25 of 27th January 1865, provision was made only for *seven* appointments of this nature. This, with the present strength, reduces the proportion of supernumeraries, as calculated in 1865, to eleven instead of 22.

4. But I believe a source of error arose in allowing a margin of only 20 per cent. for absentees on furlough or sick leave. On the first of this month, 41 Officers of the Medical Establishment were absent on furlough or sick, out of a total strength of 182, the actual proportion being 22.5 per cent—I am of opinion that at least 25 per cent. should be allowed extra to the number of appointments, to enable the head of the Department to provide for contingencies of this nature. This proportion of 25 per cent., which I understand has been recommended by Medical salaries Commission reduces the "supernumeraries" to *five* only.

5. Besides the number absent on leave, the Officers as per margin are ineffective, being employed on duties foreign to the Medical profession. This reduces the number of Supernumerary Officers to two further, as none of the nine recently admitted Assistant Surgeons have passed for the

first standard in the Vernacular languages, they are consequently not in a position to hold independent charges, although owing to the paucity of Officers for duty, seven of them are actually so employed, two remain doing duty at the General Hospital.

6. Since the letter of 2nd June 1866 was written, the Government of India has applied for extra Medical Officers for the Jail Department in Mysore and Pegu, and for Civil Medical duties in the Hyderabad Assigned Districts. The services of *three* Assistant Surgeons have been recently given up with this view, and further applications are likely to be received from adjacent Provinces. (an application for an Assistant Surgeon for the Hyderabad Contingent was refused only a few days since, there being no Officers to spare.)

7. Two Medical Officers are temporarily engaged on special duty in testing the Chinchona Alkaloids, and one has proceeded to England on duty.

8. It will be seen from this explanation, that instead of their being any "Supernumerary" Executive Medical Officers, there is at the present moment an actual deficiency.

The following Regiments are without permanent Medical Officers :—

Native Infantry Detachment at Chandah.
12th Detachment at Seetabuldee.

14th Regiment at Mangalore.

26th " at Rangoon.

27th " at Cuddapah.

36th " at Kamptee.

39th " at Palamcottah,

and the following Civil stations have no *Commissioned* Officers in charge.

Ooconada.

Cuddapah.

Berhampore.

Tellicherry.

9. In the event of a general out-break of Cholera, there are no spare Medical Officers available for duty. The service contains at present a large proportion of gentlemen of long standing, who are likely to break down in health, and many of whom are now in fact on sick certificate; of 42 Surgeons Major, 18 or upwards of *forty* per cent. are absent on furlough or sick certificate.

10. The Madras Establishment contains at present 182 members (including *thirteen* employed in administrative duties. I am of opinion that it should be brought up to a strength of 180, *with-* out including the Administrative Officers, or the gentlemen who are engaged in non-Medical duties. Deducting 16 from 182, there remains 166. Fourteen additional Assistant Surgeons are required therefore according to this view, to bring up the establishment to the proposed strength.

11. The subject of substituting Uncovenanted for Commissioned Medical Officers for Civil duties, appears not to have been further reported upon by Mr. Cole. The Board of Revenue objected to the substitution. I consider it preferable that all Medical Officers holding positions of trust and responsibility should, if possible, be members of the Indian Medical Service.

ORDER, No. 2378, 11th July 1866.

Ordered that the foregoing correspondence be submitted for the consideration and orders of the Right Honorable the Secretary of State for India, with an expression of the concurrence of Government in the views of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, as contained in the Adjutant General's memorandum above recorded.

Docket to the Offg. Secy. to the Govt. of India, M. D. | Here enter 11th July 1866, No. 2379.

(True Extract.)

Marshall

Major General,

Secretary to Government.

To the Adjutant General, with an enclosure.

" Principal Inspector General Medical Department.

" Controller of Military Accounts.

" Public Department, for information. *And to the Secy. to the Govt. of India*

Ed. T. Stubbs.

Pro 17 Aug 1865 No. 75476 Public 1866 Sept.

End of 2nd July.

18-6-14 ✓

14-3-16 ✓

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Pro. Capt. Nelly Sept.
No. 2378.

2/11/73 July 1868

12 No 853

Referring for the com.
-5-1 donation of the Secy
of State, papers showing
that more medical
officers are needed
for this Army.

20th July 1866/18732

Recorded