

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	<i>1601</i>	Press Mis.
Dated	<i>18-12-1967</i>	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 164. Read the following letter from the Inspector General, Indian Medical Department, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Fort Saint George, 9th December 1867, No. 478.

I have the honor to submit, for the favorable consideration of Government, the substance of a communication just received from Mr. Paterson, a Medical Missionary connected with the Free Church of Scotland, and I am encouraged to make an appeal on his behalf by the liberality recently shown by Government towards the Reverend Mr. Chester of Dindigul.

2. Having recently visited and carefully inspected Mr. Paterson's Hospital and Dispensary in Tondiarpett, I can, with full confidence, recommend his undertaking, as one eminently worthy of encouragement and help; and I beg to offer, for the information of Government, a brief account of its origin and progress.

3. The Medical Mission under Mr. Paterson's management has been in existence eleven years; and, before beginning the work, he spent six months, with the sanction of the authorities, in attending the Hospitals and Dispensaries in Madras, and making himself familiar with the management of these institutions, and with the diseases of the country.

4. In 1856 he opened a Dispensary in Pedariar Covil Street, Black Town, where, during ten years, more than 40,000 cases have been registered and received medical relief. This institution was visited in the early part of last year by Doctors Shaw and Porteous, both of whom spoke very favorably of its management.

5. About two years ago, in order to provide for the growing requirements of his own establishment, and at the same time to render assistance to up-country districts removed from medical aid, Mr. Paterson opened a Training Institution, with a view of giving a medical education to Native Christian youths, partly through English and partly through Vernacular teaching. For this purpose a large house was secured at a cost of Rupees 13,000, the money being raised entirely by private subscriptions, and there are at present fifteen youths under training. At the end of last session, Dr. George Smith, Principal of the Madras Medical College, examined these students, and reported very favorably of their progress.

6. In the beginning of the current year, an Hospital and a Dispensary were opened in the poor and populous district of Tondiarpett, proper buildings for both having been purchased at a cost of Rupees 4500. These institutions have been in full working order since the 1st of March, during which time 4200 out-patients, and upwards of 60 in-patients, have been treated in them.

7. In the course of the present year, the two Dispensaries in Black Town and Tondiarpett have afforded medical relief to nearly 10,000 persons.

8. Mr. Paterson is a Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons, Edinburgh, and is assisted in carrying on his charitable work by Dr. Carslaw, a graduate of the University of Glasgow, and I may add that the districts to which these gentlemen afford medical aid do not come within the sphere of operations of either the Mon-egar Choultry or the Salay Street Dispensary.

9. In conclusion, I would beg leave to draw the special attention of Government to the very important educational work, adverted to in paragraph 6, now being carried on by this Mission—a work so eminently calculated to aid in diffusing throughout the country the benefits conferred by enlightened Medical Science.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,
18th December 1867.*

10. Under the circumstances above represented, I venture to solicit for Mr. Paterson's undertaking the same aid recently accorded by Government to that of Mr. Chester at Dindigul, namely, the issue on indent of medicines and instruments gratuitously, and on the same condition, namely, that Mr. Paterson shall furnish an annual report of the working of the institutions under his charge.

No. 165. ORDER THEREON, 18th December 1867, No. 1601.

In the letter above recorded, the Inspector General, Indian Medical Department, brings to notice the extensive and very useful work done by Mr. Paterson, connected with the Free Church of Scotland's Mission, in giving medical aid to the sick poor of the districts of Pondiarpett and Black Town, and in imparting medical instruction to Native Christian youths.

2. The Governor in Council has much satisfaction in sanctioning the proposal made by the Inspector General in paragraph 10 of his letter, that medicines and medical instruments should be given by Government in aid of this branch of the Mission.

(True Extract).

Chief Secretary.

To the Inspector General, Medical Department.
„ Accountant General.

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