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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 358

Press
Mis.

Dated

5-4-1867.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,

5th April 1867.

No. 15. Read the following letter from J. SHAW, Esq., Principal Inspector General, Medical Department, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Fort Saint George, 28th February 1867, No. 76.

In acknowledging receipt of Proceedings of Government, as per margin, I have the honor to request that the accompanying report of the Civil Dispensary of Coimbatore, made by Inspector General of Hospitals W. Mackenzie, a few days* subsequent to the visit of the Right Honorable the Governor, may, with this letter, be forwarded to the Secretary of State.

2. I make this request on the grounds of fairness and justice to the Officer of the Medical Department whose management of the Institution in question has been so severely commented upon by the Right Honorable the Governor, in his Minute dated 20th September 1866*, and by the Secretary of State, in his Despatch as per margin†. Dr. Mackenzie's report was not sent in to Government, because I understood that, at a subsequent visit paid by Lord Napier to the Coimbatore Dispensary, His Excellency had formed a more favorable opinion of Dr. Robert's management.

* In Proceedings of Government, Public Department, No. 1018, of 5th October 1866.

† No. 46, dated 24th December 1866, printed in Proceedings of Government, Public Department, No. 202, of 25th February 1867.

3. In regard to the general question of the position of the Civil Dispensaries in this Presidency, it is only right that I should point out that the self-supporting system has been so short a time in operation that the people have scarcely understood what it is that has been required of them in the way of help. When these Institutions were first established, Government undertook every responsibility in connection with them. The people were not only physicked, but fed, clothed, and tended gratuitously.

4. In the financial embarrassments following upon the Mutinies, the Medical Department (as all other Departments of the State) was called upon to bear in mind the condition of the Imperial Exchequer, and to scrutinize all charges with the view of reducing expenditure. Amongst other things, it was pointed out by my predecessor, Dr. Pearse, that a large outlay was being incurred in the dieting, &c., of the sick poor of local charities, and it was suggested that charges of this nature might very properly be borne by the people themselves.

5. The suggestion was generally approved of by Government, and efforts have ever since been constantly directed to give effect to it. In the last six years, several lakhs of Rupees have been subscribed by the Native inhabitants of this Presidency for the endowment or maintenance of Civil Hospitals. The mere fact that such large sums of money have been subscribed show that the Institutions are felt by the Native community to be most useful.

6. But although Government has constantly aided and encouraged rich Natives to give of their abundance, it must be added that it took a long time to induce the more intelligent of them to make a beginning in this useful work. They could not readily be brought to acknowledge that it was their duty to assist their own sick poor by providing them with food, shelter, and rament. "The 'Sirkar' had always provided these things before, why should Government expect the rich Natives to supply them now?" was the ready argument in the mouths of those who were asked to

• NOTE.—Lord Napier visited the Dispensary on the 17th September. The date of Inspector General Mackenzie's visit was the 15th October.

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help. It was only by the persevering efforts of Government Officials, Civil and Medical, and especially of the latter, who took a personal interest in the inauguration of a more healthy habit of self-dependence amongst the people, that the present condition of things has been brought about.

7. In remarking unfavorably on the condition of the Civil Dispensaries of this Presidency, I would, with all deference, submit that the Right Honorable the Governor has not, in my opinion, made sufficient allowance for the almost universal distress and famine which prevailed during 1866. In this time, the prices of food, grains, &c., had increased so much that many respectable men, who, in former years, contributed to the funds of the Dispensaries had quite enough to do to keep themselves and immediate relatives in food. If they have had anything to give away, the claims of starving fellow creatures have seemed to be more imperative than those of a medical charity for the relief of low caste paupers (who constitute the chief proportion of in-patients of a Civil Dispensary). There has been a great falling off in subscriptions during the period, and the result is undoubtedly due to the cause named.

8. It is only right to note that the Managers of Civil Dispensaries have had to contend not only against the high prices of food and reduced subscription lists, but that the claimants for charity have been more frequent. Famine and disease during the past year have left their mark in nearly every District; and, in regard to the Civil Dispensary funds, they have been quite unable to meet the demand upon them during the very exceptional season of 1866. It must be added, too, that no grant-in-aid, to meet this unusual pressure on the resources of the local charities, has been made by the Government. The Presidency Hospitals, as Government are aware, have never been left dependent upon the charitable exertions of the people: here everything has been provided at the Government cost; and the working of the Presidency and Mofussil Hospitals cannot, therefore, be properly compared without taking these facts into account.

9. I have mentioned these particulars because I would desire to state my conviction that the condition of affairs alluded to in the Minute of His Excellency the Governor, regarding the poverty of the bedding, clothing, accommodation, and restriction as to the number of patients, is the result mainly of a year of great hardship and trial supervening on a condition of incomplete transition from a total dependence on Government to one of self-help and independence. All progress in this important measure was completely arrested by the year of trial just now ended. I fear that some time must elapse before the condition of the people will be such as to again allow of their maintaining Dispensaries on the liberal scale that seems to be expected of them. With more favorable seasons and good harvests, I make no doubt that the ryots of this Presidency will subscribe with as great or even greater liberality than they have done in the last six years.

10. With reference to the subject of the 5th paragraph of the Secretary of State's Despatch, I am unacquainted with the nature of the reports from this Government which appear to have led the Home Government to question the veracity of the returns furnished by Officers of the Medical Department. In years past, there existed a faulty system of recording the attendance of out-door patients, but it has never been pretended that the figures relating to out-patients were absolutely correct. On the contrary, the difficulty was long since foreseen and provided against by

departmental regulations, enforcing a uniform system of registration of this class of attendants.

11. It does not appear to be known to Government that all the Dispensaries in the Presidency are regularly inspected once at least in the year, by the Administrative Officers of the Medical Department, and that the reports of these Officers include

1. The sanitary condition of the buildings and neighbourhood. Its ventilation, accommodation, water supply, &c.
2. The nature, character, and condition, of bedding and furniture.
3. The diets and arrangements for cooking.
4. Hospital Servants.
5. Medicines and appliances, whether sufficient and well cared for.
6. Surgical Instruments, number and condition of—.
7. Principal diseases. The causes of unusual sickness and measures taken for prevention.
8. The Medical Subordinates' duties and behaviour.
9. Complaints.
10. Condition of Hospital records.
11. How the Dispensary is supported and maintained.
12. Vaccination.
13. Conduct of the Medical Officers in charge.

Besides these inspection reports, all monthly returns of sickness and mortality pass through the Deputy Inspector General of the Division, as do the annual reports of the several Institutions, before they reach my office.

12. The present departmental arrangements, I would submit, are ample to ensure accuracy of returns. The suggestion of the Secretary of State that these documents should be verified by the testimony of unprofessional persons is not only impracticable, but, by implying a doubt as to the truthfulness of Medical Officers in Civil employment, must necessarily tend to make such employment most distasteful to all gentlemen of honorable feeling.

13. In Circular No. 4196, copy of which is appended, I expressly directed that in each Dispensary a "Visitors' Book" should be kept, and that the nature of the remarks made by the

Dated 13th October 1866.

official and other visitors should be noted by the Inspecting Medical Officer in his tour of visitation. I would beg respectfully to represent that if Magistrates and others would freely exercise their privilege of commenting in this way on what they see at their visits, the objects of Government would be fully attained.

14. I cannot believe that it was the intention, either of the Secretary of State or of the Government, to imply that the Medical Officers of this Presidency are less truthful in their official reports than any other class of Her Majesty's servants, though, in my judgment, paragraph 5 of the Despatch and paragraph 3 of the Order thereon allow only of the interpretation that the report of a Medical Officer is untrustworthy, until its correctness has been vouched for by the Collector of the District.

15. If I have correctly interpreted the views of Government, then I would respectfully suggest a modification of the wording of the Order, which, as it stands at present, appears to me to imply an amount of distrust of the Officers of the Medical

Department that must tend to their humiliation, and, I need scarcely add, must react most unfavorably in keeping out of the Department the class of high-minded and educated Medical men whom it is most desirable to secure for the Public Service.

Medical Inspection Report of Civil Dispensary, Coimbatore, by Inspector General of Hospitals, W. MACKENZIE, C. B., M. D., dated 26th October 1866.

1. *General Observations.*—Bearing in mind the recent Minute by the Right Honorable the Governor on this Institution, I have inspected it with more than ordinary care and attention, and I am happy to inform the Principal Inspector General that Dr. Roberts seems to have lost no time in correcting, as far as he could, the faults which His Excellency had cause to animadvert upon at his late visit.

2. But, as the building is very much out of repair, it is beyond his power, with the limited establishment of servants at his command, to preserve it for any time in the cleanly and orderly condition which his Lordship expects, and which would be highly desirable could it be accomplished.

3. I feel constrained to state it as my opinion, from the experience I have had of the Dispensaries within my late range, that, since these establishments have been made self-supporting, their usefulness has greatly depreciated, for which the Medical Officers are certainly not to blame; and unless the wealthier Native Gentlemen and Merchants can be induced to supplement their contributions to the Endowment Funds by regular monthly subscriptions, which at present are entirely withheld, or to add to their former donations, so as to allow of a larger amount of interest being available for current expenses, I despair of seeing these Hospitals in a better condition than they now are.

4. They are undoubtedly, as a general rule, "on a low footing," but I hope I shall be excused for expressing my conviction that no amount of zeal or exertion on the part of the Medical Officers, Executive or Inspectorial, will ever effect any real good until that "livelier interest in the welfare of the Institutions," to which the Right Honorable the Governor invites the attention of the Government Civil Servants of the several Districts, is exhibited by them.

5. In justice to Doctor Roberts, I would beg to append to this report, for the Principal Inspector General's information, copy of a letter which I found in his Letter Book, under date 18th August last, bringing to the notice of the Collector the unsatisfactory state of the funds and the consequent inefficiency of the charity; and when it is borne in mind that Doctor Roberts entered upon the medical duties of Coimbatore only three weeks before, it is, I think, a good proof that he at least was not remiss in endeavouring to have the condition of the Institution improved and its benefits made more extensive.

6. The bedsteads, pillows, coverlets &c., on which his Lordship remarks, are, I have been informed, the remains of a small stock which was supplied years ago to a Detachment of Sepoys, then quartered at Coimbatore; they were brought into the Dispensary, as the funds did not admit of better or newer articles being provided, and, from long use and frequent washing, they have all got beyond repair; and, until more money is placed at the disposal of the Medical Officer, he states that it will be out of his power to have the present condition of these things altered for the better.

7. I may be permitted further to observe that, from the very filthy habits natural to the class of patients who seek admission into these Hospitals (sickly, weak, and helpless), without a larger number of menials to wait upon them, it is a matter of extreme difficulty to keep their persons, or the wards they occupy, in a condition of even ordinary cleanliness.

8. I particularly questioned Doctor Roberts about the woman to whom His Excellency alludes as lying on the floor, and he assured me that it would have been dangerous to have placed her on a cot, as she was suffering from severe fever accompanied with much delirium, and, in her restless tossings, might possibly have come by a serious accident; besides that, Natives, as a rule, prefer, themselves, to lie on the floor.

9. This explanation would, no doubt, have been satisfactory to his Lordship had it been given; and I cannot help saying that it is much to be regretted that this and some other facts connected with the working of this establishment had not been at once brought to His Excellency's knowledge.

10. *Wards.*—The ward on the east side of the building occupied by the Dispensary *in-patients* has been partially whitewashed within the last month. The floor is of the same faulty construction as that noticed by me in my remarks on the Central Jail, and is worn down considerably in some places into holes, which gives it an appearance of uncleanness and untidiness, though I have been assured that it is regularly swept and cleaned every day.

11. *Present state of in-patients.*—There were eight patients occupying the room, orderly arranged on wooden cots, each having its appropriate bed-head ticket on the adjoining wall. The diseases were—one Fever, one Diarrhoea in a bad way, one Anasarca, one Phlegmon, one Ulcus, one Subluxatio, one Syphilis, and one Fracture. I carefully examined this last patient, on whom Lord Napier remarks in paragraph 3 of his Minute, and I can well understand his Lordship having been struck with the apparent filthiness of the man, but the fact is that he is covered with a dark scaly eruption, the result, as much of previous bad living, as from the neglect of daily ablution, which, however, I have reason to fear, was omitted or only partially practised in this case.

12. *Prevailing diseases.*—Since the 1st May last the average daily number of *in-patients* has been 5.2. In September, there were eight new admissions for the month, giving a total of 13 treated, of whom 4 were discharged cured, and 4 died; the deaths being caused—in 1 instance from Anasarca, 2 Diarrhoea, and 1 Convulsions in an old woman, subject to Epileptic Fits, and brought in in a dying state. In the present month of October, up to the 15th instant, there have been 8 admissions, which, with last month's "remaining", gives a total of 13 treated, of whom 1 has been discharged cured, and 4 have died; of the latter 1 was from a severe burn, 1 from Cholera, from which disease there were 3 admissions, and 2 from Diarrhoea, both reported to have come in in almost a moribund state.

13. Of *out-patients* from the 1st May last up to the end of September, the average daily attendance has been 29.3; and for the last 3 months of that time, the number attending has been from 31½ to 31¾ daily. In the past month there have been 359 fresh cases brought on the books, giving a total treated for the month of 413. From the 1st of this month, 165 new cases have been seen and prescribed for, and the daily attendance is reported at about 40.

14. *Books.*—I carefully examined the books, and with pleasure report that they are up to date, and all entries correctly made. On asking Dr. Roberts how it came that the Right Honorable the Governor had found his records not written up, he replied that the Nominal Register had unfortunately been left a month's entries behind hand, because of great pressure of work, and that it was the only book not correctly kept at that time, but that the admissions had been properly entered in a rough book. I looked into this book and found this statement correct, but at the same time requested that, hereafter, the entries be directly and daily made in the proper register. As already stated, it is now up to date, and the instructions of Circular Memorandum No. 1511, of 27th March 1866, have been fully attended to from the date of its receipt. On inquiring of Dr. Robert whether he made an entry in his Case Book of every patient admitted into the Dispensary his answer was—"all, except of persons who are brought in in a dying state." These he has not been in the habit of recording. I have instructed him to make hereafter a short entry of them also.

15. *Medicines.*—The medicines for Dispensary use are orderly and correctly disposed in an almirah in the centre Store-room; those for daily use being placed in neat order on shelves over the compounding table, which I found clean and well arranged; but, as remarked by His Excellency the Governor, the Store-room of the medicines for the Police Force, adjoining the ward set apart for its sick, was in much disorder—several packages of barks and roots, and two or three small baskets, containing jars, were lying on the floor; this, however, arises from want of room for them in the almirah, or on the few shelves in a recess of the wall. I have requested Dr. Roberts to direct the attention of the Committee at once to this, in view to more shelves being put up for the better preservation of Government stores, and for the sake of neatness and regularity.

we have passed

16. *Instruments.*—The instruments are the Surgeon's Capital Case, Eye Instruments, complete set of Silver Catheters in a box, and the Subordinates' Pocket Cases, all well kept and complete, with the exception of 3rd Class Hospital Assistant Sabapathy's, which wants the Caustic-holder and two silver probes. On inquiry, it appears to me that these articles have been lost entirely through neglect; and, therefore, to teach him to take better care of them for the future, I have directed the Medical Officer to have the missing things replaced at once at Sabapathy's expense. There is also a set of Midwifery Instruments in rather indifferent order.

17. *Bedding and Clothing.*—The bedding and clothing, as I have already remarked, are quite worn out and useless. The only articles that hold together are ten pillows stuffed with straw, six palliasses, and one quilt. There are some tattered remains of clothing kept in a Lumber-room, for issue to paupers, who sometimes come to Hospital in a state of perfect nudity.

18. *Vaccination.*—I am informed that no Vaccinator of the reformed Vaccine Establishment has visited the station or its neighbourhood for the last eight months. Vaccination is occasionally practised by the Dressers.

19. *Medical Subordinates.*—1st Dresser, M. Veerasawmy, No. 176, and 3rd Class Hospital Assistant, Sabapathy, No. 691; they are said to be good, hardworking, trustworthy men.

From Assistant Surgeon W. H. ROBERTS, M. D., Civil Surgeon, Coimbatore, to the Deputy Collector in charge of Treasury, Coimbatore; dated Coimbatore, 18th August 1866, No. 105.

I have the honor to enclose a contingent bill for Rupees 65-6-11, for expenses incurred in July for the Civil Dispensary, and, in doing so, take the opportunity of adverting to your letter, No. 813, of the 8th instant. From this, I find that Rupees 70, one-twelfth of the interest received from the Dispensary Fund, and allotted by Mr. Grant for its use, is not, as a rule, adequate to meet the expenses of the Institution, and, in consequence, you have borrowed from the Pollachy Dispensary Fund. But why do so? The Coimbatore Dispensary Fund is quite large and rich enough, existing as it does on the interest only of its invested Fund; but I see that Rupees 1802 are still uncollected. Were this collected and invested, it would add a few more very desirable Rupees for the working of the Institution, and obviate the necessity of borrowing from the Pollachy Charity.

2. It is impossible to limit exactly the expenditure of an Institution like this without, also most materially curtailing the good it might do, and is expected to do, and ought to do; and though it shall be my endeavour to keep down expenditure as much as possible, still, at times (if the Institution is really to perform its duties), my best endeavour may prove futile.

3. I recommend that the sum allowed for the Dispensary be Rupees 100 a month, and, in order to get the increase of Rupees 30, the balance of subscription promised be called in, or the public be called upon to supplement their former subscription by a little, or an allotment be made from the Municipal Fund.

4. I request you will bring this matter to the notice of the Collector, for his consideration and disposal.

CIRCULAR.

From the Secretary, Principal Inspector General, Medical Department, to the Deputy Inspector General of Hospitals,—Division; dated Fort Saint George, 13th October 1866, No. 4196.

In forwarding the accompanying Proceedings of the Madras Government for your information and guidance, I am desired by the Principal Inspector General to make the following observations in regard to the provision of Hospital furniture, clothing, &c., for Civil Dispensaries, and to request that you will call the attention of all Medical Officers and Subordinates in charge of these Institutions to the following points:—

1. *Hospital Cots.*—Should be uniform in size and shape. They are best constructed of iron. Periodical painting of the iron work with *coal tar*, and drying of the same in the sun, is the best mode of preserving these cots free of vermin.

For all ordinary cases amongst Natives, the iron cots should be boarded; but it is advisable that, for special cases, a few cots should be provided with coir mattresses.

2. Hospital bedding and clothing, should ordinarily consist of the articles laid down in paragraph 8, Section 11, Medical Code. The quantities to be kept in store must vary with the average number of sick. Instead of cumblies or country blankets, the Principal Inspector General recommends the use of red blankets of European make, as being both more sightly in appearance and more durable.

3. As a rule, patients' own clothing, on admission, should be taken from them, washed, and ticketed, before being placed in the Store-room, and finally returned to them on leaving Hospital. With caste patients, or persons who object to use hospital clothing, means should be adopted to ensure cleanliness and change of attire as often as may be needed.

4. The scale of diet which has recently been sanctioned for the use of Native and East Indian patients in the Madras General Hospital, might be appropriately introduced in some of the Mofussil Civil Dispensaries, provided that the Committees of Management see no objection on the score of expense. The diet table is appended.

"11. As it will conduce greatly to the regularity, order, and efficiency of these Hospitals to be frequently visited by the chief local authorities,—Judges and Collectors and Magistrates at Civil Stations, and Commanding Officers at Military Cantonments are requested to make occasional inspections, and institute inquiries into the comfort and diet of the patients, attending to any complaints that may be made, and bringing to the notice of the Surgeon any irregularities or inattention which may be observed."

5. The rule laid down in paragraph 11, Section 11., Medical Code, would appear to have become in most instances a dead letter.

You will be so good as to ascertain and note in your Inspection Reports of Civil Dispensaries how far it is carried out. To enable you the better to do this, you will be so good as to

direct the Medical Officer of each Institution within your Circle to open a "Visitors' book," in which Government Officials and other visitors may record their observations. You will note the tenor of these remarks in your Annual Inspection Reports.

TABLE OF DIETS FOR HOSPITALS OF NATIVE SICK.

Articles comprising the different heads of Diets for a day.

AVOIRDUPOIS WEIGHT.

Spoon.	Milk.	Low.	Full.
Sago..... 4 oz.	Bread..... 12 oz.	Mutton in broth. 6 oz.	Mutton for curry. 8 oz.
	or		
Sugar..... 2 „	Rice..... 12 oz.	Bread..... 12 „	Rice*..... 8 „
Milk..... 6 „	Milk..... 2 pts.	Butter..... 1 „	Curry Powder ... ½ „
Rice } For conjee 2 „	Sugar..... 2 oz.	Onions ... 1 „	Country Vegetbls. 4 „
Salt } water... 2 drs.	Rice } For conjee 2 oz.	Barley ... ½ „	Hoppers†..... No. 6
	Salt } water... 2 drs.	Flour..... ½ „	Bread..... 8 oz.
		Salt..... 1 „	Butter..... 1 „
			Salt..... 1 „

BREAKFAST.

Spoon.	Milk.	Low.	Full.
Sago..... 1 oz.	Bread or Rice..... 4 oz.	Bread..... 4 oz.	Hoppers..... No. 6.
Sugar..... ½ „	Sugar..... 1 „	Butter..... ½ „	Butter..... ½ oz.
	Milk..... ½ pt.		

* Or Rice 1 lb. omitting the Bread.

† Hoppers to weigh 2 oz. each when cooked.

DINNER.

Spoon.	Milk.	Low.	Full.
Sago... .. 2 oz.	Bread or Rice... 8 oz.	Mutton in broth. 6 oz.	Mutton for curry 8 oz.
Sugar... .. 1 „	Milk... .. 1 pt.	Bread... .. 4 „	Vegetables... 4 „
Milk... .. 6 „	Sugar... .. 1 oz.		Rice... .. 8 „

SUPPER.

Spoon.	Milk.	Low.	Full.
Sago... .. 1 oz.	Milk... .. ½ pint.	Bread... .. 4 oz.	Bread... .. 8 oz.
Sugar... .. ½ „		Butter... .. ½ „	Butter... .. ½ „

The weight of Meat in the above diets to be exclusive of bones.

In cases in which the Medical Officer considers it necessary, Tea ½ oz., or Coffee 1½ oz., per diem, may be ordered with any of the above diets; when given with Low or Full, Sugar (1½ oz.) and Milk (6 oz.) will also be allowed.

No. 16. ORDER THEREON, 5th April 1867, No. 358.

The Governor in Council directs that copies of the foregoing letter and its enclosures be sent to the Secretary of State.

2. His Excellency in Council admits, in regard to the condition of the Civil Dispensaries of this Presidency, that some allowance may be justly made for the difficulties inseparable from a period of scarcity, such as that which has been experienced in some parts of the country, though this consideration does not extend, by any means, to all the defects which have attracted his Excellency's notice. The Governor in Council has, however, learned with great satisfaction, in regard to the particular Dispensary which prompted his comments, the one at Coimbatore, that, since the time of his visit, effective efforts have been made by the Local Officers, both Civil and Medical, in conjunction with the Native community, to place it on a more efficient footing. His Lordship in Council has great pleasure in recognizing the commendable spirit manifested by Dr. Roberts in giving effect to the instructions of Government on this subject. It is evident, also, from the letter addressed by Dr. Roberts to the Deputy Collector of Coimbatore on the 18th August last, that the insufficiency of the funds of the Institution had attracted that Officer's notice very shortly after his arrival in the District.

3. In regard to the 5th paragraph of the Despatch from the Secretary of State, under date the 24th December last, the Governor in Council requests that the Inspector General will intimate to the Officers of his Department that at no time, and in no form has any imputation of untruthfulness or intentional inaccuracy in the preparation of official reports been made against the Medical Officers of this Presidency, and that the Government are satisfied that the expressions made use of in the paragraph in question were not intended to convey any accusation of this nature. It certainly was very far from being the intention of the Government, when communicating the Despatch for the guidance of the Officers concerned, in any way to impugn

the veracity of the Officers of the Medical Department, which is above suspicion. As, however, by some inadvertence, the wording, both of the Despatch and of the order of this Government, is undoubtedly susceptible of the construction which has been put upon it, the Government resolve to cancel the instructions contained in the 3rd paragraph of their Proceedings of the 25th February last, and, in lieu thereof, to direct that a copy of the annual report submitted by each Medical Officer in charge of a Civil Dispensary shall be sent by him to the Collector of the District, for his information. The Collector will, thereupon, report to Government his opinion on the general state of the Dispensary and its usefulness and acceptability to the Native Community, but not entering upon the question of professional treatment or certifying to the accuracy of the returns, which belong properly to the province of the Officers of the Medical Department. The Medical Officer will append to his report a copy of the remarks entered in the Visitors' Book in the course of the year.

4. The Government are confident that, in carrying out these instructions, the Officers of the Revenue and Medical Departments will co-operate with zeal and cordiality for the benefit and development of Institutions, the importance of which has been so emphatically recognized both by Her Majesty's Government and by the Government of this Presidency.

(True Extract).

A. J. ARBUTHNOT,
Chief Secretary.

To the Inspector General, Medical Department.
„ Collector of

Exd. J. H. Burns.

we have passed

for

Public DEPARTMENT.

No. OF 1867.

To

The Right Honorable

The Secretary of State for India.

Right Honorable Sir,
~~My Lord,~~

In acknowledging the receipt of Lord Cranborne's despatch of the 24th Decr last, conveying his instructions as to the measures which should be taken for ensuring a more efficient management of the Civil Dispensaries in this Presidency, we have the honor to submit for your consideration the annexed copies of a letter from the Principal Inspector General of the Medical Dept and of its enclosures, and of the orders which we have passed thereon

Yours

2. You will observe that the expressions made use of in the 5th para of Lord Cranborne's despatch have been regarded by the Head of the Medical Department as conveying an imputation of want of veracity against the Commissioned Medical Officers in charge of the Civil Dispensaries, of this Presidency. We feel sure that no such accusation was intended by His Lordship, but as the wording of the paragraph in question is undoubtedly susceptible of the construction which has been put upon it, we have deemed it right to convey to the Medical Officers of this Presidency through the head of their Department the assurance that no such imputation

imputation was intended either by the Secretary of State or by the local Govt; and so far to modify the instructions which had been issued on the receipt of the despatch as to relieve the Medical Officers in charge of Dispensaries from having the correctness of their returns certified by the Civil authorities of their Districts.

by A

FORT SAINT GEORGE.

(186 .) DEPARTMENT.

Letter to the Right Honorable
the Secretary of State for India,

Dated

No. of 186 .

No 46

Office of Superintendents
Medical Department
Fort Saint George
28th February 1867

To
The Chief Secretary
to Government
Public Department
Sir,

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accompanying report of the Civil Dispensary
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properly be borne by the people themselves.
5. The suggestion was generally approved
of by Government and efforts have ever since
been constantly directed to give effect to it.
In the last six years several lakhs of Rupees
have been subscribed by the Native Inhabitants
of this Presidency for the endowment or main-
tenance of Civil Hospitals. The mere fact
that such large sums of money have been
subscribed show that the Institutions are
felt by the Native Community to be most
useful.

6. But although Government has
constantly aided and encouraged such
natives to give of their abundance, it must
be added that it took a long time to
induce the more intelligent of them to
make a beginning in this useful work.
They could not readily be brought to ac-
knowledge that it was their duty to assist
their own sick poor by providing them
with food, shelter and treatment. They
"Sirkar" had always provided these things
before, why should Government expect
"the rich natives to supply them now"
was the ready argument in the mouths
of those who were asked to help. It was
only by the persevering efforts of Govern-
ment Officials Civil and Medical and
especially of the latter who took a personal
interest in the inauguration of a more healthy
habit of self-dependence amongst the people,
that

that the present condition of things has
been brought about.

I am very truly, respectfully, as the condition
of the Civil Dispensaries of this Presidency.
I would with all deference submit that
the Most Honorable Mr. Governor has not
in my opinion made sufficient allowance
for the almost universal distress and privation
which prevailed during 1866. In this time
the price of food grains &c. had increased
so much that many respectable men who
in former years contributed to the fund sup-
porting the Dispensaries had quite enough to
do to keep themselves and immediate re-
lations in food. If they have had anything
to give away the claims of charity for them-
selves have seemed to be more imperative
than those of a moderate charity for the help
of the poor and pauper population. The
chief proportion of in-patients of a Civil
Dispensary. There has been a great falling
off in subscriptions during the period, and
the result is undoubtedly due to the cause
named.

It is only right to note that
the Managers of Civil Dispensaries have
had to contend not only against the high
prices of food and reduced subscriptions
but that the demands for charity
have been more frequent. Famine and
disease during the past year have left
their mark on nearly every district, and
in regard to the Civil Dispensary funds
they

they have been quite unable to meet
the demand upon them during the very ex-
ceptional season of 1866. It must be
added too that no grant-in-aid to meet
this unusual pressure on the resources of the
local charities has been made by the
Government. The Presidency Hospitals, as
Government aid has never been left
dependent upon the charitable exertions
of the people, here every thing has been
provided at the Government cost and the
working of the Presidency and Provincial
Hospitals cannot therefore be properly
compared without taking these facts
into account.

I have mentioned these particulars
because I would desire to state my
conviction that the condition of affairs
alluded to in the Minute of His Excellency
the Governor regarding the poverty of the
bedding, clothing, accommodation, and
restriction as to the number of patients,
is the result mainly of a year of great
hardships and trial supervening on a
condition of incomplete transition from
a total dependence on Government to
one of self help and independence. The
progress in this important measure
was completely arrested by the war
of 1866 just now ended. I fear that
some time must elapse before the
condition of the people will be such
as to again allow of the maintaining
Dispensaries.

disposition in the blood and that seems to be expected of them. With more favorable seasons, and good harvests, I make no doubt that the people of this country will subscribe with more liberality than they have done in the last six years.

10 With reference to the subject of the 5th part of the Secretary of State's Report, I am unacquainted with the nature of the reports from this Government which appear. As however, led the Hon. Government to question the veracity of the returns furnished by Officers of the Medical Department. In years past there existed a feeling, existing of wanting the attendance of sick and patients, but it has now been perceived that the figures relating to outpatients were absolutely correct. On the contrary the difficulty was long since perceived and provided against by departmental regulations enforcing a uniform system of registration of this class of attendants.

11 It does not appear to be known to Government that all the Dispensaries in the Presidency are regularly inspected and at least in the year, by the various administrative Officers of the Medical Department and that the reports of these Officers include.

The sanitary condition of the buildings and neighbourhood. The ventilation, accommodation,

accommodation, water supply &c.

2. The nature, character and condition of bedding and furniture.
3. The diets and arrangements for cooking.
4. Hospital Services.
5. Medicines and appliances and whether sufficient and well used for.
6. Surgical Instruments, number and condition of.
7. Principal diseases. The causes of unusual sicknesses and measures taken for prevention.
8. The Medical Subordinates duties and behavior.
9. Complaints.
10. Condition of Hospital Records.
11. How the Dispensary is supported and maintained.
12. Vaccination.
13. Conduct of the Medical Officers in charge.

Besides these inspection reports all monthly returns of sickness and mortality pass through the Deputy Surgeon General of the Division, as do the Annual reports of the several institutions before they reach my Office.

12. The present departmental arrangements I would submit are ample to ensure accuracy of returns.

Y^{rs}

The suggestion of the Secretary of State
that these documents should be verified
by the testimony of unprofessional persons is not only impracticable, but
by implying no doubt as to the truth-
fulness of Medical Officers in their employ-
ment must necessarily tend to make
such employment most distasteful
to all Government officials.

13. In Circular No. 1411 of 1891 which is appended, I expressly directed
that in each dispensary a "visitor book"
should ^{be} kept, and that the nature of the
Remarks made by the official and other
visitors should be noted by the Inspecting
Medical Officer in his book of visitation.
I would beg respectfully to represent
that if Magistrates and others would
freely exercise their privilege of
commenting in this way on what
they see at their visits, the objects
of Government would be fully attained.

14. I cannot believe that it was
the intention either of the Secretary of
State or of the Government to imply
that the Medical Officers of this
Providence are less truthful than
their

their official reports than
any other class of Her Majesty's
servants, though in my judgment
para 5 of the despatch and
para 3 of the order thereon
allow only of the interpretation
that the report of a Medical
officer is untrustworthy until
its correctness has been touched
for by the Collector of the District
15. If I have correctly interpreted
the views of Government, then
I would respectfully suggest
a modification of the wording
of the order, which, as it stands
at present, appears to me to
imply an amount of distrust
of the officers of the Medical
Department, that must tend
to their humiliation, and I
need scarcely add must react
most unfavorably in keeping
out of the department the
class of high minded and
educated medical men whom
it is most desirable to secure
for the public service.

I have the honor to be
Sir

Your most obedt. Servant

W. Shaw
Principal Inspector General
Medical Department

2. But as the building is very much out of repair, it is beyond his power with the limited establishment of servants at his command to preserve it for any time in the cleanly and orderly condition which his Lordship expects and which would be highly desirable could it be accomplished.

11/11/11

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3,

I feel constrained to state it as my opinion from the experience I have had of the Dispensaries within my late range that since these establishments have been made self supporting their usefulness has greatly depreciated, for which the Medical Officers are certainly not to blame; and unless the wealthier native gentlemen and merchants can be induced to supplement their contributions to the endowment funds by regular monthly subscriptions which at present are entirely withheld or to add to their former donations so as to allow of a larger amount of interest being available for running expenses, I despair of seeing these Hospitals in a better condition than they now are.

4 They are undoubtedly as a general rule "on a low footing" but I hope I shall be excused for offering my conviction that no amount of zeal or exertion on the part of the Medical Officers, Executives or Inspectors will ever effect any real good until that livelier interest in the welfare of the

Institutions

Institutions to which the Right Honorable the Governor invites the attention of the Government Civil servants of the several Districts is exhibited by them.

5. In justice to Dr. Roberts I would beg to append to this report for the Principal Inspector General's information a copy of a letter which I found in his letter book under date 18th August last bringing to the notice of the Collector the unsatisfactory state of the funds and the consequent inefficiency of the charity; and when it is borne in mind that Dr. Roberts entered upon the Medical duties of Coimbatore only three weeks before it is I think, a good proof that he at least was not puffed in endeavouring to have the condition of the Institution improved and its benefits made more extensive.

6. The bedsteads, pillows, coverlets on which his Lordship remarks are, I have been informed, the remains of a small stock which was supplied years

ago to a Detachment of Sepoys then
quartered at Secimbatore. They were brought
into the Dispensary as the funds did
not admit of better or newer articles
being provided and from long use and
frequent washing, they have all got
beyond repair; and until more money
is placed at the disposal of the Medical
Officer, he states that it will be out of
his power to have the present condition
of these things altered for the better.

7. I may be permitted further to
observe that from the very filthy habits,
natural to the class of patients who seek
admission into these Hospitals, (sickly weak
and helpless); - without a larger number
of menials to wait upon them, it is a
matter of extreme difficulty to keep their persons
or the wards they occupy in a condition of
even ordinary cleanliness. -

8. I particularly questioned Dr Roberts
about the woman to whom His Excellency
alludes as lying on the floor and he
assured

assured me that it would have been
dangerous to have placed her on a cot as
she was suffering from severe fever accom-
panied with much delirium and in
her mad fits might possibly
have come by a serious accident, besides
that babies, as a rule, prefer themselves
to lie on the floor. -

9. This explanation would no doubt
have been satisfactory to his Lordship
had it been given, and I cannot help
saying that it is much to be regretted
that this and some other facts connected
with the working of this establishment
had not been at once brought to His
Excellency's knowledge. -

Wards

10. The ward on the east side of the building
occupied by the Dispensary in patients
has been partially white washed within
the last month. The floor is of the same
faulty construction as that noticed by
me in my remarks in the Central
hall, and is worn down considerably in
some

some places into holes, which gives it an appearance of uncleanliness and untidiness. though I have been assured that it is regularly swept and cleaned every day.

" There was a patient occupying the room orderly arranged on wooden cots each having its appropriate bed-head bolted on the adjoining wall. The diseases were 1 Fever, 1 Diarrhoea in a bad way, 1 Anasarca, 1 Phlegmon, 1 Ulcer, 1 Subluxation, 1 Syphilis, and 1 Fracture. I carefully examined this last patient, so when Lord Napier remarks in para 3 of his minute and I can well understand his Lordship having been struck with the apparent filthiness of the room but the fact is that he is covered with a dark scaly eruption, the result apparently of pruritus had living as from the report of daily ablution, which however I have reason to fear was omitted or only partially practised in this case.

Since

Prevailing diseases

12. Since the 1st. May last the average daily number of Inpatients has been 5.2. In September there were 8 new admissions for the month giving a total of 12 treated of whom 4 were discharged cured and 4 died the deaths being caused in 1 instance from Anasarca, 2 diarrhoea, and 1 convulsions in an old woman, subject to Epileptic fits and brought in in a dying state. In the present month of October up to the 15th instant there have been 8 admissions which with last month's "remaining" gives a total of 13 treated of whom 1 has been discharged cured and 4 have died. - of the latter 1 was from a severe burn, 1 from Cholera from which disease there were 3 admissions; and 2 from Diarrhoea, both reported to have come in in almost a moribund state.

13. Of outpatients from the 1st May last up to the end of September the average daily attendance has been 29.3 and for the last 3 months of that time the number attending has been from 31 $\frac{1}{4}$ to 31 $\frac{3}{4}$ daily. In the past month there

there have been 359 fresh cases brought on the books giving a total, treated for the month of 413. — From the 1st of this month 165 new cases have been seen and prescribed for and the daily attendance is reported at about 40.

14. I carefully examined the books and with pleasure report that they are up to date and all entries correctly made. On asking Dr. Roberts how it came that the Right Honourable the Governor had found his records not written up, he replied that the Nominal Register had unfortunately been left a month or two behind hand because of great pressure of work and that it was the only book not correctly kept at that time but that the admissions had been properly entered in a rough book. I looked into this book and found this statement correct but at the same time requested that hereafter the entries be directly and daily made in the proper register. — As already stated, it is now up to date and the instructions.

33 12
instructions of Circular Memo of 27th March 1866 have been fully obeyed from the date of its receipt on inquiring of Dr. Roberts whether he made an entry in his case book of every patient admitted into the Dispensary his answer was ~~all except~~ of persons who are brought in in a dying state. ~~that~~ He has not been in the habit of recording I have instructed to make hereafter a ~~short~~ entry of them also.

Medicines

15. The medicines for Dispensary use are orderly and correctly disposed in an almirah in the Centre Store room those for daily use being placed in neat order on shelves over the counter table which I found clean and well arranged, but as remarked by His Excellency the Governor, the Store room of the medicines for the Police force adjoining the ward set apart of its side was in much disorder several packages of bark & roots and two or three small baskets containing jars

jars were lying on floor, this however
arises from want of room for them
in the almirah or on the few shelves
in recess of the wall. I have requested
Mr Roberts to direct the attention of the
Committee at once to this in view to
more shelves being put up for the better preservation
of Government stores and for the
sake of neatness and regularity.

The instruments are the Surgeon's
capital case, eye instruments, complete set of
silver catheters in a box and the Subordinates
Pocket cases all well kept and complete
with the exception of 3d class Hospital
of Assistant Sabapathy's, which wants the
traumatic holder and two silver probes. On
inquiry it appears to me that these
articles have been lost entirely through
neglect and therefore to teach him to
take better care of them for the future
I have directed the Medical Officer to
have the missing things replaced at
once at Sabapathy's expense. There is
also

Instruments

Bedding & Clothing

also a set of Midwifery instruments in
rather indifferent order.

17. The bedding and clothing and
have already remarked are quite worn out
and useless. The only articles that
hold together are ten pillows stuffed
with straw & palliases and 1 quilt.
There are some tattered remains of clothing
kept in a lumber room for issue to paupers who
sometimes come to Hospital in a state of
perfect nudity.

Vaccination

18. I am informed that no Vaccinator
of the reformed Vaccine establishment
has visited the station or its neighbour-
hood for the last 8 months. Vaccination
is occasionally practised by the Prefers.

Medical
Subordinates.

19. 1st Prefers Mr Veraswamy A. 176
and 3d class Hospital Assistant
Sabapathy A. 691: - they are said to be
good, hardworking trustworthy men.

(True copy)

W. M. Formick
Secy. to the Govt. Med. Dept.

Pub. L. to Eng. 57
April 23 of 1867

Pres. April 16y L. 15.
In Public No 291, 67.

in city of 1867

P. L. Department.

Public

N: 291.

From The Principal Inspector General
Ind. Dept. of Feb 1867.

In Orders.

The letter from the 2nd Principal Inspector
found with its enclosure may be
sent to the Secretary of State -

There is no doubt that the first
disposition with Province, can
only be brought on gradually and
by the influence of the Eastern
Governments being brought to bear
upon the latter. The past year
in many parts of the Presidency
has certainly unfavourable for the
development of them as of other

Charitable institutions, -

Although from S of N. D. I have
just received No. 46; somewhat
reluctantly noted its contents, I
am convinced, however, the insti-
-tution of the Secretary of State to
question the veracity of Commission-
-er Medical Officers in charge
of Dispensaries - and it cer-
-tainly is not an intention -

At the same time I do not see any
way out of it, save by explaining
to both Medical & Dispensary authori-
-ties that the certificates to
-be by the latter till annual
Dispensary reports are not to go

the necessity of the Secretary of State
not patients - or of cases admitted
on the list, under such or they
- charged - of which certainly they
can have no right to say
but on the other hand the
dispensary of the Commission-
-er Medical Officers in charge
of Dispensaries - and it cer-
-tainly is not an intention -
of the Secretary of State to
enhabitants

The late P. S. General has taken his time
to consider the minute book. he refers -
to the concluding part of the
No doubt the concluding part of the
despatch from the S of State is a difficult
one to explain & seems so perhaps it is

be as well to send it on without any comment, for I do not see how we can well attempt to decide what the Secretary's meaning may have been. Though I feel sure that the late P. S. J. has misunderstood it, as well as that part of the order of the Govt. to which he specially adverts.

The system under which the Desputaries are worked is faulty. The leading members of the native community are daily becoming more & more independent and what with Municipal and Imperial taxation I doubt whether our principal revenue officers find it an agreeable duty to attempt to influence them for what is ostensibly the benefit of the lower & poorer of the lower pauper classes. Things might be improved by the Govt. supplementing native contributions -

W.R.

41
I think that the order of Government should be recalled and that a new one should be issued explaining that at no time and in no form has any imputation of untruthfulness or inaccuracy in official reports been made against the Medical Officers of the Presidency and that the expressions used in the Paragraph of Lord Cranborne's letter of the 11th were certainly not intended to convey any accusation of this nature. The new order would at the same time contain directions in regard to the manner in which the Medical Officer should exercise his powers.

of visit and inspection in the Civil
Dispensaries. He might make a
~~biennial~~ ^{half yearly} report to Government on the
general state of the Hospital, its
resources, arrangements, furniture &c
without entering upon the question of
hospital treatment or verifying
the returns which belong solely to the
honour of the Medical Officer.
Dr. Mackenzie's report on the State of
the Camborne Dispensary and Dr.
Shaw's letter of the
might be published at the
same time.

I think it far better that measures

63
should be taken at once to remove the
impressions which the circulation of such
pamphlets and the Govt. orders
have created in the Medical Profession.
They have in my opinion been generally
guilty of negligence in the performance
of their duties and my impressions
with regard to the Vaccination
Officers and the Inspectors have
been confirmed by my recent excursions
both on the Western & Eastern Coasts
but a world of veracity has never been
imputed to the Medical Officers. It
is certainly inadvertently conveyed
by the papers referred to and as-
ever having been unwittingly committed

it had better be handy and promptly
corrected. N.

on the 18 August last that the insufficiency of the funds of the Institution had attracted that officer's notice very shortly after his arrival in the District. It is to be regretted that this letter was not shown to His Excellency the Governor on the occasion of his visit.

In regard to the 5 paragraph of the despatch from the Secretary of State under date the 24 December last, the Governor in Council requests that the ~~Principal~~ Inspector General will intimate to the officers of his Department that at no time and in no form has any imputation of untruthfulness or

or intentional inaccuracy in the preparation of official reports been made against the Medical officers of this Presidency, and that the Govt. are satisfied that the expressions made use of in the paragraph in question were not intended to convey any accusation of this nature. It certainly was very far from being the intention of the Govt. when communicating the Despatch for the guidance of the officers concerned in any way to impugn the veracity (or honorable feeling) of the officers of the Medical Department which ^{is} ~~are~~ above suspicion. As however by some inadvertence the wording

wording both of the Des-
patch and of the Order
of this Govt. is undoubtedly
susceptible of the con-
struction which has been
put upon it, the Govt.
resolve to cancel the
instructions contained
in the 3^d para of their
Pros. of the 25 ultimo,
and in lieu thereof to
direct that the Collector
of each District shall
from time to time visit
the Dispensaries in his
District noting in the
visitors' Book the
remarks which he may
think proper, and
shall submit to Govt.
at the close of each
half year a full re-
port on the general
state of the Dispensary,
its management, income,
and

I do not concern in this.
Collection an already com-
-bined with reports &
-have no time for more. Such
reports may be made &
partial in progress, but
they are not on proper
-most points, and if they
did would often lead to
awkward collision between

the Revenue and Medical authorities.
10 p.m. P.S. letter 28 Feb/67 Deputy Inspector, do
how send in annual report on Civil Dispensaries
embracing every possible point connected with
them. Their reports if pro-
-perly looked to will at-
-ford all necessary infor-
-mation and ensure
-sufficient control over the
institution and the local
Medical Officer who has
charge of it.
Reports from non profes-
-sional authorities would
not be well received either
by Civil Surgeon or Deputy
Inspector and would
be regarded as a slur
upon the latter & upon
the duty of examining
and reporting on these
institutions properly
appertaining.
There are difficulties
connected with these Dis-
-pensaries arising from
the apathy of the people. Their
ignorance, poverty, preju-
-dices against English medi-
-cines and practice, and
their proper ill of the
more than of them concern
desired. They can only be
advanced by promoting
a cordial feeling among
all connected with their management.
The measure now proposed would
year trust to be continued.
condition of the furniture
and ^{the} usefulness, and
acceptability to the
native community
embodying in such
report the purport of
the remarks previously
made by him in the
visitors' Book; but not
entering upon the ques-
tion of professional
treatment or attempting
to verify the returns,
which belong solely
to the province of the
officers of the Medical
Department. The half-
yearly reports should
be submitted in the
months of June and
of December, and copies
should be furnished
to the Medical Officer on
charge.
The measure now proposed would
year trust to be continued.

Admiral is usually a Member
of the Disbursing Committee and in that capacity
and with as many members of the Committee in
charge for transmission he can go to accompany
the Deputy Inspector in his visit to the
General with his annual ^{and this includes an} report. The Medical Officer, ^{in charge} ^{with his staff} ^{both are members of} ^{Doctors} ^{in the annual report} ^{to} ^{the Deputy Inspector General} ^{in his own department} ^{will also furnish a} ^{formal communication} ^{copy of that report to} ^{in a way usual in other} ^{cases and a perusal to} ^{the Collector of the District} ^{for his information} ^{all concerned} ^{GP.}

both by Her Majesty's
Govt. and by the
Govt. of this Presidency.

1. The Govt. are con-
fident that in carrying
out these instructions
the Officers of the Revenue
and Medical Departments
will Co-operate with
zeal and cordiality
for the benefit and
development of Insti-
tutions the importance
of which has been
so emphatically recognized
both

V. J. G. Med. Dept.
(Collector of

And Mr. ...

Public Department.

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read letter from the Principal In-
specter General, Medical Deptt.

7/20 Feby 1867. No 76.

Order thereon.

The Governor in Council
directs that copies of the
foregoing letter and its
enclosures be sent to the
Secretary of State.

2. His Excellency in
Council admits that
some allowance may be
justly made for the
difficulties inseparable
from a period of scarcity
from ^{part of that which has} ~~which~~ must have been
experienced in some parts
of the Country (during
the past year) tho' this
consideration

*in regard to the
condition of the last
Dispensaries of the
Presidency*

Dated.

PROCEEDINGS OF GOVERNMENT.

No.

183 . Department.

C. 22 March

consideration does not
extend by any means
to all the defects which
have attracted His Excellency's
notice. The Governor,
in Council, has however
learned with great satis-
faction in regard to the
particular dispensary
which ~~attracted~~ ^{attracted} his
comments, ^{from} that at Coim-
batore, that since the
time of his visit effec-
tive efforts have been
made by the local officers
both Civil and Medical
in conjunction with
the Native Community
to place it on a more
efficient footing. His
Lordship in Council
has great pleasure
in recognizing the com-
mendable

from this
added for the

commendable spirit manifested
by Dr. Roberts in giving
effect to the instructions
of Govt. on this subject.
It is evident also from
the letter addressed by Dr.
Roberts to the Deputy
Collector of Coimbatore
on the 18 August last
that the insufficiency of
the funds of the Institution
had attracted that
officer's notice very ~~shortly~~
after his arrival in the
district. (It is to be
regretted that this letter
was not shown to His
Excellency the Governor
on the occasion of his
visit.)

3. In regard to the 5
paragraph of the despatch
from the Secretary of
State under date the 24th

Decr

December last, the Government
in Council requests that
the Inspector General will
intimate to the officers
of his Department that
at no time and in no
form has any imputa-
tion of untruthfulness
or intentional inaccuracy
in the preparation of
official reports been
made against the Medical
Officers of this Presidency,
and that the Govt. are
satisfied that the ex-
pressions made use of
in the paragraph in
question were not intended
to convey any accusation
of this nature. It certainly
was very far from being
the intention of the Govt.
when communicating
the Despatch for the
guidance

Subject to the confirmation
of Her Majesty's Government.
or with at the word ultimo.
and asked
a further reference will be
made to Her Majesty's
Government with regard
to the extent and manner
in which the attention
on the part of the
Civil authorities

guidance of the officers
concerned in any way
to impugn the veracity
(or honorable feeling) of
the officers of the Medical
Department which is
above suspicion. As
however, by some inad-
vertence the wording both
of the Despatch and of
the Order of this Govt.
is undoubtedly susceptible
of the construction which
has been put upon it,
the Govt. resolve to cancel
the instructions contained
in the 3^d para of their
Procs. of the 25 ultimo and
in lieu thereof to direct
that the Collector of
each District shall from
time to time visit the
dispensaries in his
District noting in the
Visitors

Visitors' Book the re-
marks which he may
think proper, and shall
submit to Govt. at the
close of each half-year
a (full) report on the
general state of the
dispensary, its manage-
ment, ^{its resources} ~~(income and~~
~~expenditure)~~ the condition
of the furniture and the
usefulness and accep-
tability of the Institution
to the Native Community,
^{and} embodying in such
report the purport
of the remarks previously
made by him in the
Visitors' Book, but not
entering upon the ques-
tion of professional
treatment or ~~attempting~~ ^{notifying}
~~overriding~~ the returns,
which

contemplated by the Secretary
of State is to be carried out.

intend further orders.

properly
which belong ~~solely~~ ^{properly} to the
province of the officers of
the Medical Department.
The half yearly reports
should be submitted in the
months of June and of
December. The Medical Officer
in charge will on his part
continue to transmit as at
present an annual report
to the Deputy Inspector General
in his own department.

4. The Govt. are confident
that in carrying out these
instructions the Officers
of the Revenue and Medical
Departments will co-operate
with zeal and cordiality
for the benefit and develop-
ment of Institutions the
importance of which has
been so emphatically recog-
nized both by Her Majesty's
Govt and by the Govt. of
this Presidency.

Inspector General Med Dept
Collector of

Public Department.

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read letter from the
Principal Inspector General, Medical
Department.

Dt 28th February 1867 No 76.

Order thereon 5th April 1867 No 358.

The Governor in Council
directs that copies of the
foregoing letter and its
enclosures be sent to the
Secretary of State.

2. His Excellency in
Council admits in regard
to the condition of the
Civil Dispensaries of this
Presidency, that some
allowance may be justly
made for the difficulties
inseparable from a period
of scarcity such as that
which

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Justice 1867 Department.

No. 558.

PROCEEDINGS OF GOVERNMENT.

Dated.

which has been experienced
in some parts of the
country (during the
past year) tho' this con-
sideration does not ex-
tend by any means to
all the defects which have
attracted His Excellency's
notice. The Governor in
Council has however learned
with great satisfaction
in regard to the particular
Dispensary which prompted
his comments, the one
at Coimbatore, that since
the time of his visit ef-
fective efforts have been
made by the local officers
both Civil and medical
in conjunction with the
Native Community to place
it on a more efficient
footing. His Lordship in
Council has great pleasure
in

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in recognizing the
commendable spirit
manifested by Dr. Roberts
in giving effect to the
instructions of Govt. on
this subject. It is evident
also from the letter ad-
dressed by Dr. Roberts
to the Deputy Collector of
Coimbatore on the 10th
August last that the
insufficiency of the funds
of the Institution had
attracted that officer's
notice very shortly after
his arrival in the District.
3. In regard to the
5th paragraph of the
Despatch from the
Secretary of State under
date the 26th December
last, the Governor in
Council requests that
the Inspector General will
intimate to the officers
of his Department that
at

at no time and in no
form has any imputa-
tion of untruthfulness
or intentional inac-
curacy in the preparation
of official reports been
made against the medical
officers of this Presidency,
and that the Government
are satisfied that the
expressions made use of
in the paragraph in ques-
tion were not intended
to convey any accusation
of this nature. It certainly
was very far from being
the intention of Govt. when
communicating the despatch
for the guidance of the
officers concerned in any
way to impugn the veracity
of the officers of the medical
department which is
above suspicion. As, however,
by some inadvertence the
wording both of the despatch
and

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and of the Order of this
Govt. is undoubtedly sus-
ceptible of the construe-
tion which has been
put upon it, the Govern-
ment resolve to cancel
the instructions contained
in the 3rd para of their No.
of the 25th ^{to 5th} ~~ultimo~~ ^{last}, and
in lieu thereof to direct
that a copy of the annual
report submitted by each
medical officer in charge
of a Civil Dispensary
shall be sent by him
to the Collector of the District
for his information. The
Collector will thereupon
report to Govt. his opinion
on the general state of
the dispensary and its
usefulness and acceptability
to the native community,
but not entering upon
the question of profes-
sional treatment or
noticing

whether the returns which
belong properly to the
province of the officers
of the medical department.
The medical officer will
append to his report a
copy of the remarks en-
tered in the Visitor's Book
in the course of the year.

4. The Govt. are con-
fident that in car-
rying out these insti-
tutions the officers of the
Revenue and Medical
Departments will co-
operate with zeal and
cordiality for the benefit
and development of
Institutions the importance
of which has been so
emphatically recognized
both by Her Majesty's
Govt. and by the Govt.
of this Presidency.

To the Supr Genl Med Deptt
— Collector of the several Distts
dtd 6/11

*Public. L. A. 1834
April 22. 3 of 1867*

*Public. 1834. Department.
No. 358*

PROCEEDINGS OF GOVERNMENT.

Dated. 5. 16. 1867

*15-4-16
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