

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Police DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	688	Press Min.
Dated	6-6-2	19/8/8

Not to be folded or roughly handled

4-11-36

N^o 278 High Court House Madras
9th May 1862.

From

H. J. Brockman
Government Solicitor Madras

To

Surgeon W. H. Harris M. D.
Supt of the Lying in Hospital
Madras

Sir,

I have the honor to report the
result of the proceedings before the Vepery Police
Court in the prosecution of Sadras Ramakrishna
Moodelly, formerly the Steward of the Lying in
Hospital, at which I, in accordance with
your instructions, appeared on behalf of the
Government.

2 The Prisoner was sent up by the
Commissioner of Police to the Magistrate, charged
with criminal misappropriation, criminal
breach of trust and Cheating. The case
came on for hearing on the 22nd April last
before Captain Blomfield, the late Acting
Magistrate of the Vepery Police Court, who,
after having partly heard the case, adjourned
it to the 23rd April last, and, after having
further

but the party heard the case on the last month,
and date, adjourned it to the 25th of the last,
when his successor, Captain Benedetti, took
the case up and proceeded with it till its con-
clusion on the 7th of the instant, when he took
time to consider his sentence, and yesterday
convicted the Prisoner and sentenced him to
2 months simple imprisonment and payment
of a fine of Rs 100.

3 The principal witnesses in the
Case on behalf of the prosecution consisted in
several of the Native Patients who had been
confined in the European Hospital during the
month of January last, the Hospital nurses
who attended them, and the ~~son of the~~
Hospital. Owing to the adjournment of the
Case at its commencement from the 22nd
to the 25th of April last by the Civil Acting
Magistrate, Captain Blomfield contrary to
my wishes and against my request, it
became necessary to adopt some means for
securing the attendance of the Native Patients
who had not been examined. Under my
 advice, their attendance was secured for
the subsequent hearings by paying them
daily Batta. This evidence was absolutely
necessary for the prosecution, and without
it the case would have broken down. The

payment

payment of Batta to them, therefore under the
circumstances, was and is, in my opinion, a proper
payment, and as necessary as it was proper,
there being no regular provision that I am
aware of for defraying the expenses of witnesses
at the Police Courts here. The evidence of
the European and East Indian Nurses and
the Hospital Matron was also indispensable.

4 The Case against the Prisoner
was a clear one. He appears for some time
previous to his arrest, to have been in the habit
of making false entries in a Book kept by
him called the "Batta Account Book" of the
bates upon which Hospital Patients, who were
entitled to receive Batta from the Government
either entered the Hospital, were confined
~~there, or were discharged therefrom, the result~~
of such false entries in all the Cases being
that he drew more Batta money from the
Government than he paid. Considering the
nature of the Offence, the punishment awarded
appears a lenient one. The Magistrate
however, may have been influenced in award-
ing sentence by the smallness of the sum,
which on the trial was proved to have been
fraudulently obtained by the Prisoner,
namely a sum of Rs 6-10-0 or thereabouts
during the month of January last.

5 With reference to the Bond
executed by Kuthum Mootosam my brother-in-law
dated the 11th March 1867 as security for the
Prisoner,

Prisoner, I have the honor to advise that you should, with as little delay as possible, ascertain as well as you can the full amount of money of which the Government has been defrauded by the Prisoner, since the date of the Bond. You should then in a letter or notice addressed to Mr. Mortonsan my brother and either delivered to him personally or left at his house, inform him what is the amount and call upon him to pay it to you. If he fails to comply with such demand within 15 days after the notice has been served upon him, you will be good enough to communicate with me. To enable you to send him the notice as above advised I have the honor herewith to return the Security Bond which you left with me some days ago.

~~It is further advised that you are~~
able to apply to the Police Magistrate for payment to you on behalf of the Government of any portion of the fine inflicted on the Prisoner when it is paid into Court by him.

I have the honor to be

Your Obedient Servant
Signed / H. S. Brocton

True Copy

M. H. Smith
Capt. Insp. in Hospital

1824

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M. Rogers

Should the Prisoner be
brought out of the
Prison and taken
- removed to the
- improved debt as
it shows them the

Recd. 10/10/26
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history of a man
connected with the
Commissariat of Supply
Prison

Govt Lying-in Hospital
20th May 1864.

Mr. B. B. B.

From:
The Superintendent
Lying-in Hospital
The Deputy Inspector General
of Hospitals
Presq. Division, Northern Dist.
Sir,

I have the honor to forward, for the information of the Inspector General of Hospitals Indian Medical Dept^t and submission for the orders of Govt, the accompanying letter from the Govt Solicitor in reference to the Prosecution, Conviction and Sentence of Sadras Ramakrishna Booddy, late Steward and Writer of the Lying-in Hospital.

The above mentioned individual was entertained by me in March 1863 on a salary of Rs 20. He had formerly been employed as a Surveyor in the Commisariat Dept^t for about 14 years, and possessed good testimonials from his Superior Officers in that Dept^t, and he furthermore furnished a personal security for Rs 500 as a guarantee of the faithful discharge of his duties, which are responsible from the amount of money passing through his hands every month and the ~~the~~ ^{being} also under his charge.

Not long after I had resumed charge of the Hospital in January last, I had occasion to examine the Accounts of the preceding and previous years, and in doing so my suspicion of the Steward's dishonesty became aroused. Sometime afterwards on discovering an error in the

the date of discharge of a patient in the *Chandra*
Balla Account Book, the suspicion was con-
firmed by the manner in which he attempted
to explain away the "mistake". When I searched
went through the *Balla* book and found, on
comparing it with the pupil nurses' case books,
that he had been pursuing, for a considerable
period, a system of cheating by entering the
date of discharge of patients from 2 to 5 days
later than the actual day of discharge, by
which he was enabled, in admitting the
bill for money allowance in lieu of diet for
native patients, at the end of the month, to
include a corresponding sum in excess of the
real expenditure on this account.

The sum thus debanded, during
the 12 months *Ramkistum* *Bhargava* was employed
as steward of the Hospital, amounts to no more
as I can calculate to about Rs 210/- but in
order to prove this sum against him from 800
to 900 witnesses would have been necessary, most
of whom could not have been found. One
month only was therefore taken for same
and the sum of Rs 210/- referred to in the
Solicitor's letter was proved by 11 out of the
8 Pupil Nurses then in Hospital, and such
patients themselves whose names
could be discovered.

Considering the class of patients whose
evidence was required in support of the testimony
of the Pupil Nurses and the time that had
elapsed since their discharge from Hospital,
it will be understood how great was the

difficulty

difficulty of getting up the case.

I beg to submit a *Memorandum* of expenditure
which have been incurred ^{in the prosecution} and to request
that the sanction of Government to their
disbursement may be requested.

The Pupil Nurses, who had to attend
at the Office of Deputy Commissioner of Police
and at the Police Court on so many days,
were mostly Europeans who could not be ex-
pected to walk to and fro in the middle
of the day, and as their stay is only 12
per mensem they cannot afford to defray
cost of Carriage hire from their own small
means.

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your most obedient servant

J. H. Harris Esq.

Superintendent Hospital

J. H. Harris Esq.

Deputy Inspector General
Indian Medical Department
Presidency Division

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Submitted to the Court
for the purpose of the
in the Court

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