

INSTRUMENT No. 8
Date of issue 6/3/37
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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	1092	Press
		Mis.
Dated	30-8	1937

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,
30th August 1870.

No. 148. Read the following letter from the Collector of Tinnevely, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated Tinnevely, 5th August 1870, No. 402 :—

I have the honour to forward copy of a communication from the Head Assistant Collector in his capacity as Vice-President of the Tuticorin Municipality, in which he applies for medical attendance and medicines for the Dispensary newly opened at Tuticorin.

2. Under the circumstances detailed in Mr. Grigg's letter some such help as that solicited might, I think, be afforded to the Dispensary ; but as I am aware that difficulty exists as to providing a medical attendant, I am not prepared to support Mr. Grigg so fully as I would otherwise have done. If the Head Assistant's Dresser could be transferred to the Dispensary, and a second-class Hospital Assistant appointed to his office on the terms proposed, I shall be only too glad of the arrangement, but, under any circumstances, I beg that Government will be pleased to extend to the Dispensary the usual boon of a supply of medicines free of cost.

From H. B. GRIGG, Esq., Vice-President of the Municipal Commission, Tuticorin, to the Collector of Tinnevely, dated Tuticorin, 25th July 1870, No. 112.

I have the honour to bring to your notice that, in pursuance of the resolution of the Commissioners of this Municipality, the Dispensary or Langerkhana was opened on the 1st instant.

2. It is located in a large and commodious building, adjoining the Head Assistant Collector's Cutcherry, which J. Pereira Mooraise has generously placed at the disposal of the Commissioners for the purpose for one year, free of all rent, on condition of our undertaking the necessary alterations and repairs. This we have done at a cost of about Rupees 70.

3. Should the Commissioners wish to retain the building as a Dispensary, it has been agreed that, after the lapse of one year, a fair rental shall be paid.

4. The building is well-adapted for the purpose ; but at a future time, when the funds at the disposal of the Commissioners admit, it will be advisable to erect a building away from the neighbourhood of houses.

5. The Dispensary, as you are aware, has been placed temporarily under the charge of the first-class Hospital Assistant attached to my office, Velayutham Pillay. The Commissioners are most anxious to secure the services of this Dresser for the Dispensary, who, by a long residence in Tuticorin, and intelligent devotion to his duties, has, as the success already attained will show, secured, as he merits, the confidence of the people, which is a favourable condition for the success of the institution.

6. In the present state of the finances, it is perhaps too much to expect that Government should sanction a first-class Dresser on a salary of Rupees 60 ; but should the Government be unable so far to meet the wishes of the Commissioners—a wish which, I am assured, is shared very generally by the most intelligent and influential among the inhabitants—the Commissioners are prepared to provide a sufficient salary to secure the services of a first-class pensioned Dresser or Apothecary, though they are not able to undertake to pay so large a salary as that drawn by my Dresser, as their income is hardly sufficient to meet the present emergent demand for new roads and other works.

7. I would, however, suggest, if it be feasible, that a second-class Hospital Assistant should be appointed for the Head Assistant Collector's office, and Velayutham Pillay placed in charge of the Dispensary, the Commissioners undertaking to contribute towards his salary a portion equal to the stipends of the Assistant for the office. Thus they would secure their object, and the cost to Government remains the same. To such a course the Commissioners would gladly assent.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,
30th August 1870.*

8. The services of an Assistant, on Rupees 10 per mensem, have been secured. He is able to compound medicines, knows English, and writes a good hand. A totty sweeper, on Rupees 3-8-0 per mensem has also been entertained.

9. It is unnecessary for me to enlarge on the necessity of a Dispensary in a port of the size and importance of Tuticorin, with a fixed population of upwards of 10,000 souls, and to which, during several months of the year, gangs of coolies and emigrants, traders, and bandy drivers resort. The number of the last class can be little less than 50,000 annually, the carts actually coming to the town numbering between 30,000 and 40,000; last year about 30,000 bandies must have entered the town with cotton alone, the export being upwards of 90,000 bales. The customary cart loads three bales.

10. The actual deaths in the town from 1st April 1869 to 31st March 1870 number 262, a high percentage. Of these—

77 died of Fever.
9 „ of Consumption.
27 „ of Dysentery.
5 „ of Small-pox.
1 „ of Cholera.

11. Although the Dispensary has only been open twenty-two days, no less than 246 persons have sought relief; the number of visits is 469, and the attendance is daily increasing. This is exclusive of wealthier persons, who have simply purchased medicines. From the latter, Rupees 42-14-0 have been received for medicines supplied, at the low rate of two annas a mixture, and one anna a pill; all who apply in person receive, as is usual, medicines gratis.

12. The present stock of medicines has been taken over from Velayutham Pillay at cost price. The accounts rendered by him are now being checked by a European and a Native Commissioner. The total cost will be about Rupees 650.

13. The Commissioners, however, trust that should the Government be unable to grant them material aid in the services of a Dresser, they will at least grant them a supply of medicines for one year, as has been so recently done in the case of the Rev. Dr. Strachan's Dispensary at Nazareth.

14. The Commissioners further desire that Government will be pleased to permit the Dispensary to be under the general supervision of the Civil Surgeon at Palamcottah. The Government in 1869, in their Proceedings, No. 1018, met the wishes of the people in this respect. I do not refer to the reasons which induce them to make this request, as, I believe, they are already known to Government.

15. In conclusion, I hope that the course I have pursued, in placing the Dresser attached to my office in charge, may not meet with the disapprobation of Government; whilst cholera was threatening, and to a certain extent prevailing, as it even now is, his services were constantly required, and then, too, the need of a Dispensary was especially felt. But by so using him, I have been unable to send him to parts of the division where cholera has been far more fatal than in Tuticorin; but I held the health of this town, for evident reasons, of such paramount importance, that I did not venture, except at the first outbreak of cholera in the Pumperburam valley, to send him out. This, however, is much to be deplored, and I shall be glad to have again the services of a Dresser at my disposal.

16. I should have mentioned that the Commissioners have appointed a Sub-Committee of their members, consisting of two Europeans and two Natives, to have the special charge of the Dispensary. The members of the Committee will be changed every quarter.

No. 149. ORDER THEREON, 30th August 1870, No. 1092.

The Government sanction the supply of medicines to the newly-established Dispensary at Tuticorin.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,
30th August 1870.*

2. The correspondence above recorded will be sent to the Inspector-General of the Indian Medical Department for report as to the arrangements which, in his opinion, should be made for the medical charge of this institution.

(True Extract.)

Under Secy. to Govt.

To the Collector of Tinnevely.

„ Inspector-General of the Indian Medical Department.
„ Accountant-General.
„ Examiner of Medical Accounts.

Exd. J. Wright.

Sanctioning a supply of medicines to the new dispensary opened by the Commissioners of the Western Municipality and calling for a report from the Inspector-General of the Indian Medical Department regarding the charge of the Dispensary.

AUGUST.
Nos. 148-149.

G. O. 300th August 1870, No. 1092.

Dated August, 30th.

THE COLLECTOR OF TIRUNELVELLY.

PUBLIC.

Govt. of 1870: 30th

1870 Public 30th
From The President of the
To The Chief Secretary
to Government
at Lucknow
Dated 5th August 1870
Rees 11th
Enclosure 1.
No. 1263.
Forwarding Copy of a
Letter from the Vice
President of the Eastern
Municipality applying
for Medical attendance
& medicines for the new
Dispensary at Tuticorin
With an order.

Order. As recommended 30th August 1870. No. 1092.
The Government sanction the supply of medicines to the newly established Dispensary at Tuticorin.
The correspondence above recorded will be sent to the Inspector-General, Indian Medical Department for report as to the arrangements which in his opinion should be made for the medical charge of this institution. W. P. M.
[It is observed that the medical requirements of Tuticorin are already met by the employment under Govt of Dr. Reed. The Inspector-General will state whether in his opinion there is any valid objection to Dr. Reed being in charge of the Dispensary.]

omit
I would the least have
not a attempt to force Dr. Reed
on the people. According to Mr. Puckler's report in
1868, they do trust his skill - & this is a valid
objection. The scheme will collapse, if we force Dr. R.
on the community. L. S.

Gort. of {1870} Madras.

Public

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The Collector of Tuticorin
for

Dated Aug. 31.

Recd.

Encl.

G. O. 30 Aug. 1870, No. 102.

Nos. 128, 149

20/10/89

Sanctioning a supply of buds.
in view to the new dispensary
opened by the Government of the
Tuticorin Municipality and
calling for a report from the
Supt. of the bud. and 1 bud. b. pt. re.
sanctioning the change of the Disp.