

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. *1450* **Press**
Mis.

(109-110)

Dated *23-7-* **19-18/1**

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,
23rd September 1871.*

No. 109. Read the following letter from the Acting Inspector-General, Indian Medical Department, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated Fort St. George, 6th September 1871, No. 292 :—

I have the honour to report to the Right Honourable the Governor-in-Council that, on receipt of the Order, No. 737, of 31st May 1871, sanctioning the formation of a class of six pupil nurses, I met Deputy Inspector-General Blacklock, Surgeon-Major Paul, and Surgeon Harris in Committee, and we agreed on the subjects which the pupil nurses should be taught, and at the same time resolved to prepare the Manual, copies of which my letter, No. 283, enclosed.

2. The class was opened with six diploma'd midwives* on the 1st of July, since which date, under Surgeon-Major Paul's care, they have been instructed by Passed Hospital Apprentice Gunther and Apothecary J. O'Keeffe, and have also, since the beginning of August, been on regular day-and-night duty as nurses.

* Mrs. Jane Ford.
" Elizabeth Martin.
" C. Lupprian.
" J. A. Prager.
" Gibbon.
" Robertson.

3. On the 1st instant, the nurse pupils having then been two months under tuition, the Committee met and examined them on the subjects in which they had been taught. We were highly pleased with their progress, and Surgeon Chipperfield, who also was present, mentioned that they had nursed to his entire satisfaction two cases which he had entrusted wholly to their care.

4. This result is due to the careful arrangements made by Surgeon-Major Paul, and, though Dr. Paul expected even more from them, the nurse pupil class, as an experiment, is an entire success, and their instruction may now be directed towards any object which Government may deem desirable to obtain, and I will shortly address Government on this general question.

5. At present, I have the honour to ask permission to entertain five new pupils, viz., three of European origin, each on 15 Rupees, and two natives, each on Rupees 10 of monthly allowance, because it is advisable to have a succession of fresh admissions in order that the new pupils may be guided by the experience of those already in the class, and that they may emulate the state of discipline to which the older pupils have been brought; and I limit my recommendation to five new pupils, because the nurses' apartment will not hold more than that additional number.

6. I have endeavoured to obtain native women as pupils; but as yet only two have appeared whom it seems possible to educate. Ayesha, the midwife whom I sent to the Lying-in Hospital in 1852, declines to enter the pupil nurse class, and it was my cognizance as to the difficulty of obtaining suitable native women that induced me, at the close of paragraph 10 of my letter of the 19th May, to commend that the question of training native women as nurses might, for the present, be deferred.

7. I have the honour to submit that the diploma'd midwives who form the present class of nurse pupils, each on Rupees 35 per mensem, have done all that was needed of them in laying the foundation of a nurse school, and applicants for admission will hereafter be obtained on allowances more assimilating with the Rupees 7 monthly which are granted to each of the midwifery pupils at the Lying-in Hospital. On this point I have made extended inquiries, and 15 Rupees

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monthly for nurse pupils of European origin, and 10 Rupees each for native pupils, are deemed the allowances suitable at the present stage of the school, and I recommend these two rates for the three of European parentage, and for the two natives whom I now propose to be entertained as new nurse pupils.

8. I had the honour to explain in my former letter, No. 191, that there are always nearly thirty applicants for admission to the midwifery pupil class, who have each to wait for about thirty months until their turn to be admitted comes round; and I likewise mentioned that the course of instruction at the Lying-in Hospital lasts, on the average, about ten months. But, after the examination of the pupil nurse class on the 1st instant, the Superintendent, Surgeon Harris, has informed me that, if pupil nurses complete their course of study at the General Hospital and then come to his school, he will be able to reduce to six months the period of the midwifery pupils' instruction, because the nurse pupils after having obtained their nurse diploma, and after having acquired the aptitude for, and habit of, study, would then go to him in order to learn midwifery.

9. With this expression of Surgeon Harris' opinion, I have the honour to recommend the introduction of the curriculum which I indicated in the first part of paragraph 9 of my letter of 19th May last, and that henceforth all applicants for admission into the midwifery school shall primarily enter and pass through the class of pupil nurses into the midwifery school at the Lying-in Hospital, where each will receive Rupees 7 per mensem as heretofore. This routine of study has the approval of Surgeon Harris, Surgeon-Major Paul, and Deputy Inspector-General Blacklock, and the entire period under instruction, viz., six months for the pupil nurse diploma in the General Hospital and six months for that of midwifery in the Lying-in Hospital, will thus be really similar to what is now required for the midwifery instruction alone.

10. In this present letter, there are only two points submitted in any way affecting the Lying-in Hospital, either in its action or as to its pupils, viz., that of making the nurse school the door of entry into the midwifery school; and, according to the belief entertained by Surgeon Harris, the effect of educating women in the nurse school will be that they pass through the midwifery curriculum in six, instead of nine to twelve months as hitherto.

11. Paragraph 4 of G. O. of 31st May noted that the ultimate monthly charge against the sanctioned Rupees 700 would be Rupees 461; of the items of that expenditure, however, Rupees 179, for the additional midwifery pupils, for the Matron, and for the house-rent, have not been incurred, because the owner of the dwelling alluded to immediately occupied his own house; also additional accommodation for the additional pupils has not yet been provided, and a suitable Matron Superintendent has not been found. Another item of Rupees 72, as an honorarium, has not yet been paid, because its issue is contingent on the pupil nurses passing for a diploma on the 31st December 1871. A few articles of furniture have been purchased, but the only item of monthly pay under disbursement is the Rupees 35 to each of the six pupil nurses and Rupees 4 for one servant for them; but the large rate of Rupees 35 monthly ceases from the 31st December 1871, and my present letter proposes a total of Rupees 65 additional as the total monthly pay

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of three European and two Native pupil nurses. The items (a) not incurred, (b) incurred, and (c) proposed, are here shown:—

(a) Not incurred.	(a) Future contingency.	(b) Under payment till 31st December 1871.	(c) Fresh proposal.
RS. Seven additional mid- wifery pupils for Lying- in Hospital, at Rs. 7 each 49 One Matron at General Hospital 100 Rent of Apothecary's House 30 Total... 179	RS. Gratuity for each pupil nurse ... 72	RS. 6 Pupil nurses at Rs. 35 each ... 2.0 1 Toty 4	RS. Three European or Eurasian pupil nurses, at Rs. 15 each. 45 2 Native do. ... 20 65

No. 110. ORDER THEREON, 23rd September 1871, No. 1450.

The Government have received with much satisfaction the report submitted by the Acting Inspector-General, Indian Medical Department, of the results that have already been obtained in the formation of the nurse class at the General Hospital.

2. The proposal to entertain on reduced allowances five new pupils, namely, three of European origin, each on 15 Rupees, and two natives, each on 10 Rupees, monthly, is sanctioned.

3. The Government approve also of the proposal that henceforth all applicants for admission into the midwifery school shall primarily enter and pass through the class of pupil nurses into the midwifery school at the Lying-in Hospital where each will receive Rupees 7 per mensem as heretofore.

(True Extract.)

Captain, R. E.,
Under Secretary, P. W. D.,
for Chief Secretary.

To the Inspector-General, Indian Medical Department.
.. Accountant-General.

Exd. J. Wright.

3
My dear Ellis,

The letter, with the 11 & 12 paras.
added. I believe it cleared up the
doubtful points. Thanks for pointing them
out. The alteration was proposed
was intended from the first: you
will find it in para. 9 of my letter,
in its first sentence, and all of us, here,
recognize it as essential that the
Nurse-school must be made
to feed the Widows & Orphan School.

The success of the future
Nurse-Pupils, will depend
on their now being brought into
Communication with the present
Class & kept in Communication
with them for the remainder of their
months of their Curriculum.

With that aid, viz: with the older pupils present to guide the younger ones, I guarantee success.

You have, in your thoughts, mixed up the Lying in Hospital Med. Nipery-Pupils with the General Hospital Nurse-Pupils, but my letter exclusively relates to the latter: I give answers to your questions.

After this are any pupils to be sent much to remain at the Lying in Hospital?

Yes, just as hitherto, no change.

are they to be struck off?

No, remaining as hitherto, no change.

and, are you to have your pupil-Nurses, 3 Europeans or Eurasians at 15, & 2 Natives at 10 only?

At present 3 or 2, but on passing the present Class, add 3 or 2 more, on 31st Decr 1871. At Rs. 15 & 10.

Will they pass in 6 mos. at the General Hospital & in 6 at the Lying in Hospital?

Yes, it is so estimated by all of us.

Will these be sufficient?

Yes!

Are they to continue the whole Curriculum both at General Hospital & Lying in Hospital to draw the same rate of stipends?

No: the stipend of the Nurse-Pupil is high, & although is Rs. 15 or Rs. 20 for European & Native. The stipend of the Lying in Hospital is Rs. 10 - is not intended to be added to.

I would like to be able to carry out your Nurse Scheme to perfection. I think that you may trust me to do my best to utilizing the available amount.

Believe me, Yr. friend

Wm. J. ...
15th Decr 1871

Cotacumud. 23^d Sept. 1871. No 1450

The Government have received with much satisfaction the report submitted by the Asg. Inspector General Medical Department of the results that have already been obtained in the formation of the Nurse Class at the General Hospitals.

2. The proposal to entertain on reduced allowances five new pupils, namely three of European origin, each on 15 Rs., and two natives, each on 10 Rs., monthly is sanctioned.

3. The Government approve also of the proposal that henceforth all applicants for admission into the Midwifery School shall primarily enter through the Class of Pupils known as the Midwifery School at the Lying-in Hospital where each will receive Pupils 7.75

Museum, as here before.
The proposal for the Nurse Class is approved.
The Government are satisfied.

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11-10
19-3-14
Cent. of 1871 Madras.

Public

The Insp. Gen. and Asst. Insp.

Dated Sept. 23.
Recd

Encl.

G. O. 23 Sept. 1871

Nos. 109. 110.

Passing order on the report
submitted by the Asst. Insp.
Gen. and Asst. Insp. of the
results that have already been
obtained in the formation
of the Nurse Class at the
General Hospital.