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(1) Number of pages 6
(2) Date of repair 24-11-86
(3) Initials of the Referencer lona

TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Public DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	539	Press.
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	16-4-1881	197

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CURRENT No. 726

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

MILITARY DEPARTMENT.

2nd April 1881, No. 1906.

Medical Department.

Read the following paper:—

No. 7. *Memorandum from Brigadier-General GODFREY CLERK, Officiating Adjutant-General, to Colonel E. J. HANKIN, Acting Secretary to Government, Military Department; dated Bangalore, 18th March 1881, No. 162-T.*

Submitted

From Surgeon-General W. R. CORNISH, F.R.C.S., C.E., Surgeon-General with the Government of Madras, to the Adjutant-General; dated Fort St. George, 8th March 1881, No. 92.

I have the honor to submit, for the information of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief and Government, a brief review of changes in the personnel of the Madras Medical Department during the year 1880.

2. I am not aware that it has been customary to submit reports of this nature in past years, but it has seemed to me a matter of public convenience to place before Government in a simple form the changes which take place from year to year, and especially now that important changes are in progress, in the reduction of the military establishment and with corresponding increase of medical officers for civil duties.

3. *Commissioned Medical Officers.*—The number of commissioned medical officers on the Madras Establishment on 1st January 1880 was 12. The number of Surgeons joining the department during the year was fifteen. During the year, one officer died and seven retired on pension, leaving the strength of the department on 31st December at 179.

4. Some important changes took place in regard to the commissioned officers of the Medical Department during the year. The unification of the administrative ranks of the British and Indian Medical Services was carried into effect, with the result of the loss of two appointments of the grade of Deputy Surgeon-General to the Indian Medical Department. The Surgeon-General with the Government of Madras, while regulating all matters connected with the recruiting and maintenance of the Medical Department as a whole, has, under the new organization, only the administrative duties of the civil department under his control.

5. In December 1880 was published a new Royal Warrant applicable to the Indian Medical Department, regulating and assimilating the rank of Indian medical officers with that of the British Medical Service, and making provision for the establishment of an intermediate grade between that of Surgeon-Major and Deputy Surgeon-General.

6. Instructions have been received in accordance with the terms of the new warrant for the promotion by selection, for ability and merit, of seven officers to the new grade of Brigade-Surgeon; but with the sanction of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, the names of officers selected are withheld, pending more detailed information from the Government of India in regard to the advantages or disabilities attaching to the new grade. By special clause of the Royal Warrant, all permanent promotions to the new grade when made will take effect from 27th November 1879.

7. On the 1st January 1880, the number absentees of the commissioned ranks was twenty-two, or 12.79 per cent. of the strength. At this time furlough restrictions were in full force, and an unusually large proportion of the members were present for duty. On the 31st December, the absentees were twenty-six in number, and average 14.52 per cent. of the establishment.

8. The continuance of war beyond the frontier during the year had the effect of keeping a large proportion of the establishment on duty, and on more than one occasion we were put to inconvenience in assisting other Governments with medical aid. The timely arrival of ten Surgeons sent out expeditiously by the Secretary of State in September 1880 soon relieved the pressure. Fortunately, public health throughout Southern India was unusually good during 1880, so as to admit of our reserve being employed beyond the frontier. The only casualty in the department was that of a young officer employed on service in the malarious jungles of the Rumpa country.

9. The services of the officers permitted to retire were as follows:—

Thirty years and upward	4
From 20 to 30	2
Below 20	1
	7

10. *Subordinate Medical Establishment.*—The Subordinate Medical Establishment, as regards the military branch, is divided into the Apothecary and Hospital Assistant grades.

11. *Apothecaries.*—There were sixty-seven Apothecaries in the commencement of the year, classed as per margin. One promotion was made from the Assistant Apothecary grade, one officer died and one was pensioned, leaving the establishment at sixty-six. In this class there are thirty-five supernumeraries as regards

military requirements; two officers at this date were admitted to local and honorary rank of Surgeon.

12. *Assistant Apothecaries.*—The number of Assistant Apothecaries at the commencement of the year was 116, and three Passed Hospital Apprentices were promoted to the grade of 2nd Class Assistant Apothecary. The statement was as follows:—

Promotion	1
Dismissed	2
Died	3
Resigned	1

leaving 112 at the end of the year. The establishment of Assistant Apothecaries required for military service is fifty-nine, so that thirty-three supernumeraries for whom appointments have to be found in the Civil Administration.

13. In Resolution of Government of India, No. 12-530-36, of 30th October 1880 (Madras G.O., No. 1670, of 18th November 1880) it has been decided that the military subordinate establishment shall in future be under the administration of the Surgeon-General, Her Majesty's Forces. Before applying this to the Madras Subordinate Medical Establishment, I have, in letter as per margin, recommended that to the extent of the supernumeraries in each class of the Apothecary grade volunteering to be permitted to the Civil Apothecary's grade on the terms sanctioned in G.O. No. 1001, of 7th May 1875.

14. It should be explained here that until within the last few years every medical subordinate of the Apothecary and Hospital Assistant grades was enlisted for, and brought on to the military establishment, and that the Madras Government was required to find hands for the Central Provinces, British Burma, Mysore, Straits Settlements, and other contiguous administrations, and that in this way the establishment has largely out-grown the numbers required in connection with the Madras Army.

15. Before the military establishment was handed over to the Surgeon-General, Her Majesty's Forces, it seems desirable to reduce it, in so far as possible, to normal strength by the transference of volunteers to the Civil Medical Department. The Government of India have directed this to be done as regards Hospital Assistants, and I have solicited the sanction of Government to the introduction of a similar rule in regard to the Apothecary grade, the members of which are now suffering from great stagnation in promotion.

16. *Passed Hospital Apprentices.* The numbers on 1st January were nineteen. Five have been added to the establishment and three have been promoted in the year, leaving twenty-one present at the end of the year.

17. *Hospital Assistant Grade (Military).*—The numbers on the establishment on 1st January 1880 were 883. No additions have been made to the establishment during the year, as the numbers are still largely in excess of military requirements.

18. Under the conditions of Resolution of Government of India, No. 16, dated 9th January 1878, 260 of these Hospital Assistants of the military establishment have signified their desire to be permanently transferred to the civil medical establishment, and the arrange-

ments for the selection of a proportionate number of each class for such transfer are in progress.

19. Fourteen Military Hospital Assistants died during the year, one was dismissed and eight were pensioned. The duties in connection with medical aid to the troops and police in the disturbed districts of Rumpa and Jeypore told very heavily on this class of subordinates, several casualties and much inefficiency from loss of health having resulted.

20. *Medical Pupils.*—There were no Medical Pupils of the Hospital Assistant grade, as for some years past, efforts have been made to bring the military establishment down to the strength required for military duties; consequently, the recruiting has been for the civil subordinate medical establishment.

21. *Civil Subordinate Medical Establishment.*—This establishment, originated in G.O., No. 1001, of 7th May 1875, is intended to meet the growing requirements for medical subordinates by Local Fund Boards, Municipalities and the general civil administration of the country.

22. *Assistant Surgeons.*—There were ten Assistant Surgeons employed at the beginning of the year, and no increase has been made to the number. I have in letter as per margin requested Government to sanction additions to this establishment, to enable me to meet the changed circumstances resulting from the withdrawal of the control of Deputy Surgeon-General of the Military Department over civil hospitals. As long ago as 1847, the Court of Directors of the East India Company sanctioned the employment of one officer of this class in each revenue district. In Madras, the establishment thus sanctioned was never completed, while in the civil administration of Bengal, Bombay, Punjab, &c., some hundreds of medical men of this class, who have received the highest medical education the country can afford, are employed in the public service.

23. It is a matter of great importance to me that the Civil Surgeons of districts, when absent on tours of inspection of minor hospitals, should be able to have a qualified medical officer to perform the duties at the head-quarters, and for this reason I have asked that one Assistant Surgeon may be allowed, as sanctioned years ago by the Home Government for each revenue district.

24. *Civil Apothecary.*—Fifteen officers of this grade were employed at the beginning of 1880, and thirty young men passed out of the Medical College during the year, making a total of forty-five. They are employed almost entirely in charge of Local Fund Board or Municipal Hospitals, and so far are fulfilling very fully the duties for which they were entertained. One officer of this class was dismissed, and one resigned, paying to Government the forfeit expressed in his bond, or rather a portion thereof as sanctioned by Government on my recommendation. Civil Apothecaries are not so advantageously placed as Military Apothecaries in regard to pay, allowances, pension, &c., but their emoluments rise steadily with length of service, and they are not subjected to the inconveniences and disadvantages of military life. The grade moreover is open to natives, and is a direct encouragement to them to cultivate the medical profession. The preliminary test required is the Matriculation Examination of the University. At the recent examination, there were forty-seven competitors who had passed the matriculation test for fifteen vacancies. The pay and allowances in the Civil Apothecary grade rise by periodical increments, and, though less than the military pay, it is thought that many of the Military Apothecaries who desire a settled life would prefer to end their services in the civil grade.

25. *Civil Hospital Assistants.*—The number of this grade on 1st January 1880 was eighty-six, and fifty-one were admitted during the year. One died, leaving 136 at the end of the year. There has been a great demand for this class of subordinate, to take charge of new dispensaries which are being opened all over the country through the agency of Local Fund Boards, but it has been pointed out that the slight education afforded to this class does not fit them for independent practice, that they require years of experience in their own duties as Hospital Assistants, before they can be entrusted to practise on their own account. By reason of the great demand for medical aid, many of these young men have had to be put into independent positions. The Madras Government has already ruled that for independent practice, the higher grade of Civil Apothecary is to be more largely employed in future. It is satisfactory to note that in regard to the demands for admission to the Hospital Assistant grade, the last advertisement for twenty-five vacancies as Medical Pupil called forth 208 candidates, a large number of whom appeared to be very fairly educated. There can be no doubt that the Civil Apothecary and Civil Hospital Assistant grades will be popular with the native community, and it will be possible to improve the quality of the preliminary and professional educational tests of both grades, and ultimately to supply men of superior qualification for professional practice.

26. *Pupils in Medical Colleges.*—Numbers have been kept up so as to supply candidates for the several grades. The details will be found in the annexed tabular statement.

Statement showing the Condition of the Medical Department during the Year 1880.

	Military.							Civil.				
	Commissioned Officers.	Apothecaries.	Assistant Surgeons.	Passed Hospital Apprentices.	Hospital Apprentices.	Hospital Assistants.	Medical Pupils.	Native Surgeon.	Apothecary.	Hospital Assistant.	Hospital Apprentices.	Medical Pupils.
Present on 1st January 1880 ...	173	67	115	19	...	383	...	10	15	86	...	...
Accessions during 1880 ...	15	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	30	51	...	...
Decrement { Resigned in 1880 ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Dismissed in 1880 ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...
Died in 1880 ...	1	1	...	...	...	14	...	...	...	1	...	...
Pensioned in 1880 ...	7	1	...	...	...	8	...	...	...	...	...	...
In College on 1st January 1880 ...	...	...	...	...	29	...	...	...	...	...	66	104
Admitted to College in 1880 ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13	24
Students { Under Hospital training on 1st January 1880 ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	24
Entertained in 1880 ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	23	25
No. of competitors in 1880 ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	47	203

* Passed out in 1880 ... 51
 To pass in 1881 ... 5
 Do. 1882 ... 1
 † Passed out in 1880 ... 51
 Failed in 1880 ... 5
 Absconded in 1880 ... 1
 To pass in 1883 College ... 24
 Do. Auxiliary School ... 23
 104

No. 8. ORDER THEREON, 2nd April 1881, No. 1906.

The Government are obliged to Surgeon-General Cornish for his report, and request that similar reports may, in future, be furnished at the end of each official year.

(The Extract.)

 -Colonel,
 Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Surgeon-General with the Government of Madras.
 " Adjutant-General.
 " Surgeon-General, Her Majesty's Press, Madras.
 " Public Department.

End. A. Raiff.

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1906.

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Letter 1001 / Dept
Medical

U.S. DEPT. OF THE ARMY

MILITARY

(3)

DISPATCH
No. 539

To THE SUPERINTENDENT
GOVERNMENT HOSPITAL
WASHINGTON, D.C.

R.D.
CAPL EI

Write General
for his wife. When
Maynard writes report
should be for 1/2
of his mission
should be listed
and 1/2

Dated April, 2nd.

Assn'd

Recd. — B

Printed at the Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C., 1908

CURRENT No. 720

APRIL
Nos 7-8.

Ordering that the Government be referred
to the Surgeon General for his report of the
status of the medical service of the Marine Corps
in the Philippines, and that the Surgeon General
report to the Secretary of War at the end of
each official year.

Order No. April 1908
No. 539

Recd. 1/2
1/2
1/2