

Public (1895) Department.

ORDINARY MS.

G.O., No. 167.

DATED 8 March 1895.

INDEXED.

[Despatch Abstract.]

ADDITIONAL MEDICAL OFFICER, COTACAMUN.

Passing orders regarding the appointment of an uncovenanted medical officer for the season every year as---and the change of designation of the Civil Surgeon at that station.

AS

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

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Civil Surgeon's Office
Cotacamund 10 December 1897

To

From

Surgeon-Major G. L. Walker
Civil Surgeon
Cotacamund

The Secretary to Surgeon General
With the Govt. of Madras
Madras

Sir,

I have the honor to bring to
the notice of the Surgeon-General
that I have formed the opinion, from
my experience as Civil Surgeon of
Cotacamund, that the season of the
year i.e. 1st April, at which the
new Medical Officer assumes charge
for the first time, of his appoint-
ment here (as Civil Surgeon of the
Sanitarium of Cotacamund, and
medical Officer in charge of Army
Head Quarters is not the most
desirable or advantageous season

at

at which to do so; and this has often been remarked by residents and visitors; for the following reasons, viz:—

The new medical officer arrives at Coitacamund at the time of year most disadvantageous to himself and to his patients is just when the influx of visitors from all parts of India is pouring in; he comes new and strange to the locality and the residents, practically unacquainted with the peculiarities of Hill affections and the peculiar effects of great elevation on constitutions and on disease; and especially on the circulation and respiration; that such peculiarities exist requiring special management and treatment is undoubted. The new Civil Surgeon arriving in April, has no interval of comparative leisure during which to post himself upon and to think over the special conditions connected with med. practice at high elevations, he finds himself, immediately on arrival in a vortex of work from morning till night—
(and

(and often during the night) and so he commences practice at a disadvantage; moreover it is well known that persons on first arriving at this elevation are very apt to be upset by functional disorders, especially of the liver and bowels and, should the newly arrived Civil Surgeon be placed hors-de-combat at the busiest time of the year, the results are likely to be inconvenient, if not actually serious. I need only refer to the disadvantage at which a medical man is placed in endeavouring to carry on a heavy official and private practice in an unknown, or indifferently known locality; he has to go over much more ground than the man who knows the place, and the houses, with which it takes time to become acquainted. I would also point out the difficulty a new Civil Surgeon, who comes in April finds in securing a suitable house for himself and family; it is necessary for the —
advantageous

performance of his work that his residence should be centrally situated, but if he comes to Kotacamund in April, he finds all the suitable houses (probably all the houses) in a central position taken beforehand; as intending visitors secure their houses six months previous to occupation.

To remedy the disadvantages, I have pointed out and which I personally have experienced, I venture to suggest that the date of assumption of Charge of the Civil Surgeoncy of Kotacamund be altered from 1st April to 1st October; the advantages claimed for the latter date are foreshadowed by the foregoing statements of the disadvantages of the former.

By taking Charge on the 1st October the new Civil Surgeon comes to Kotacamund at the end instead of the beginning of the busy season. During the interval that ensues until the next influx of visitors, he has

has time to become acquainted with the locality, and the numerous permanent residents; so that when the rush of visitors comes next season he is not so apt to be overwhelmed, as when both residents and visitors are strangers to him; he has comparative leisure to study the peculiarities of hill affections and the effects of elevation &c and their management; he can more advantageously secure a suitable domicile and settle himself; and should his own health become temporarily disordered (as is so frequently the case amongst new arrivals at this elevation), he is not pressed by the same constant rush of work as during the busy season.

For the above reasons I venture to suggest that the date of taking Charge of the Civil Surgeoncy of Kotacamund be altered from 1st April to 1st October, and that my two years tenure of the office which will terminate in 1st April 1895 may be extended until 1st October 1895 in accordance with the provisions of G.O.

Permit me to add that the
expense to the Civil Surgeon of
Botacamund of setting up in that
Sanctarium, is Considerable; the
Conveyance up or purchase here,
of the necessary horses or ponies
and Carriages, warm clothing for
family and servants, advanced
and increased wages to the latter
and expense of moving a whole
household for two years, represent
a very Considerable initial outlay,
which takes a long time (probably
a year) to recoup; the usual two
years tenure of the appointment
is really insufficient fairly to
repay the expenditure incurred
in assuming the appointment,
and I believe, many Civil medi-
cal officers holding appointments
in the plains view it in this
light. I am convinced that if
the Civil Surgeoncy of Botacamund
was made a 3 years appointment
it would be more sought after.

(True copy)

I have the honor to be

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedient servant
Sd/ G. L. Walker Esq
Surgeon Major
Civil Surgeon
Botacamund.

(True copy)

Chintanpe
Surgeon Major General
Surgeon General, with Govt of Mad.

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No 177
Encl.

OFFICE OF SURGEON-GENERAL
WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS,
Madras, 25th February 1895.

From

SURGEON MAJOR-GENERAL C. SIBTHORPE, F.R.C.P.S.

SURGEON-GENERAL WITH THE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS,

Madras,

To

THE HONORABLE THE CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,

Public DEPARTMENT.

SIR,

With reference to G.O. Public No 106 dated 11 February 1895. I would suggest that the unconvenanted Civil Surgeon who should I consider as a rule be a European or Eurasian, should still be designated the additional medical Officer Portacammund and should take the medical charge of Saint Bartholomews Hospital under the permanent Officer who should be styled Superintendent and remain all the year round responsible for the administration of the hospital. The additional medical Officer should also be in charge of the police and their hospital, the Sub Jail, and assist the other in attendance on the classes of

G. S. S. S.

Government Servants below the rank of gazetted officers who are entitled to medical attendance at their own houses

2. The designation of the present Civil Surgeon Cotacamund should, I consider, be changed to that of District Medical and Sanitary Officer Neilgris as under G.O. No 7952 mis dated 3 May 1891. he has to perform these duties and will under this arrangement have an Assistant for six months in the year and if the proposal in para 5 of my letter No 541 dated 13th October 1894 regarding Saint Bartholomew's Hospital be approved he will have a 1st by Qualified Assistant all the year

3. He is now in charge of the Army Head Quarter Staff under G.O. No 5040 dated 18 August 1887 Military and should I consider continue Consulting Physician to the Lawrence Asylum as he has only to visit it in case of emergencies or ordinarily only once a week there being always a Military Assistant Surgeon in Subcharge.

4. If the above proposals are sanctioned he would be available to

attend on all gazetted Officers in Cotacamund requiring his medical attendance.

5. I attach a true copy of a letter from Surgeon Major G. L. Walker showing how important it is that the change of the permanent Medical Officer should be carried out in October. I fully concur in his views and hope that Government will fix this date for future guidance

6. I solicit early orders on the above suggestions in order that I may suggest an Officer to act as an uncovenanted Civil Surgeon to fill the appointment of additional Medical Officer Cotacamund from the 1st April as there is no probability of a Surplus Commissioned Medical Officer being available.

7. As regards the utilization of his services for the other six months of the year, I shall address Government when orders are passed on my letter No 541 dated 13 October 1894.

I have the honor to be
Sir

Your most obedient servant
Chas.

Surgeon-major General
Surgeon General, With Govt. of Madras.

Public (1895) DEPARTMENT.

Pub. no. 484 of 95.
.. fo. no. 106 of 11-2-95 mis
.. .. 65 of 28-1-95 origl
.. .. 577 of 7-8-94 1st
L4m. 795 of 3-5-94 mis
Pub. 940 of 7-11-91 mis
.. 893 of 21-10-91 mis
.. 1198 of 24-8-87 ..
Final 313-13A of 9-3-87 1st

From

SURG. MAJOR-GEN. C. SIBTHORPE, F.R.C.S.

SURGEON-GENERAL WITH THE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS,

Madras,

To

No. 177

ENCLOSURES.

Dated 2. 5.
Recd. 2. 5.

February 1895.

No.

Subject.

Submit suggestions
regarding the uncom.
wanted med. Officer
to be appointed to
Ootacamund as
additional med. officer
& how he should be
designated.

This is for the S. G. to decide that
Med. Officer will post to
Ootacamund. No doubt a European
officer would be best. He
may be styled addl. medical
officer, Ootacamund.
The medical officer was there
may be styled Dist. Med. & San.
Officer, Nilgiris.
As for Dr. Walker's proposals
they seem to me good - I don't
say whether they should be carried
out or postponed an extension
of 6 months because I don't
know how far info has been
given to any other officer that
will succeed Dr. W. at the
end of his two years. I have
heard that Dr. Cook has been
promised the appt. - Yes, I
don't see how Dr. A. can get
his addl. 6 months unless
Dr. Cook consents to waive
his claim for the present.

As to para 7 of the S. G.'s
letter, what he has to do is
to fill the place in the plains
of the uncom. med. officer who
is moved up to the Hills by
S. P. C. appt. promotions for
6 months, at the end of which time
all the officers concerned would
work.

JW
4/3/95

X From the linked file since
discovered, I am this is the

For Orders.

It is submitted that good
reasons have been shown for altering the
date on which the change of medical
officers should take place at Ootacamund.
The 1st October is suggested by Mr. Wall
and in this view the Surgeon General
apparently concurs. This would allow of
the medical officer appointed getting
into the work and becoming acquainted
with the place before the busy time begins.
He would also have the opportunity of
providing himself with a house. If this
proposal is approved Mr. Walker's time
on the Hills would have to be extended
or that of the next incumbent cut short.
The Surgeon General says nothing with
regard to Surgeon Major Walker's request
that his time on the Hills should be
extended. Under the Resolution of the
Government of India recorded in G.
577 of 7th August 1894 this Govern-
ment has the power to extend the tenure
of hill station to three years or to
it less than two.

It would certainly be desi-
rable for the additional medical officer
a European or European.

In regard to the suggestion that
the Unconv. Medical Officer should attend
all non-conv. officers, a suggestion is
invited to the rule in paragraph 6 of
H.O. 1st Section 125 to 125. There are
several non-conv. officers in the
Secretariat drawing salaries in excess
of Rs. 250 and might find it possible
to be deprived of the services of the
Civil Surgeon. It has already been point-
ed out that there is a serious shortage
of Government doctors in Government
clinics in receipt of less than Rs. 100 a
month. The proposal to change the designa-
tion of the Civil Surgeon to District
Medical and Sanitary Officer Bilgiris is
for orders. His touring season would be
during the fine weather and could easily
be got through whilst Government is ab-
sent from the Hills.

4/3/55

1. All non-conv. officers.

2. 125/125

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The Hon. Mr. F. W. Bligh, C.I.E.
His Excellency the Governor.

Public Dept.

Current 584.

Order of 8 March 95, No. 167.

The Govt. agrees
with the Surgeon General
that it would be ^{desirable} better
to post a European or
Eurasian Unconv.
Medl. Officer to Cobaca-
mund for the six
months. He may be
styled the "Additional
Medical Officer" and
the designation of the
Civil Surgeon may
be altered to "District
Medical and Sanitary
Officer, Bilgiris". The
Surgeon General shd.
select the Unconv. Offr.
each year and should
decide what his duties
are to be. His place in
the plains should be
filled up ~~and~~ subproten.

2. The Govt. has

alker's letter with
 interest but is not
 prepared at present
 to pass orders on the
 various proposals
 made therein.

To from orders

7/3/95

25/3
 6.3.95

The Act of 1873

clasp 8/5/95

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189.

READ AGAIN G.O., No.
 189

DATE:

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURES TO C. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT A A A A A A A

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

PAPERS NOT FILED UP, BEING MEANT FOR DESPATCH
 IN ORIGINAL.

N.B.—
 A = Copy in full.
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 P = Copy abstract only.
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4-2-07 ✓

28-8-72 ✓ B. H.
26.2.20 ✓

7-8-07 ✓

14/3/04 ✓

2-4-14 ✓

27-5-14 ✓

31-3-10 ✓

6-9-17 ✓

9-1-18 ✓

17-9-37 ✓

21-5-04 ✓

19/5/10 ✓

3-1-05 ✓

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