

Public (1895) Department.

ORDINARY PRINTED

G.O., No. 509

DATED 22nd June 1895

INDEXED.

[Despatch Abstract]

MEDICAL OFFICERS AT COPOACUND AND COONNOOR.

Agreeing with the Surgeon-General as to the desirability of the----entering upon their duties on the 1st October instead of the 1st April; and extending the tenure of Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel Lancaster's appointment of Civil Surgeon, Coonnoor, to the 30th September 1896, and that of Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel Cook of the appointment of District Medical and Sanitary Officer, Nilgiris, to the 30th September 1897.

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
50	306		2-3-96				
Go	409		9-4-97				

Gobi. of {1895} Madras.
PUBLIC.

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 22nd June 1895, No. 509.

JUNE.

Medical Officers at Ootacamund and Coonoor.

Agreeing with the Surgeon-General as to the desirability of the — entering upon their duties on the 1st October instead of the 1st April, and extending the tenure of Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel Lancaster's appointment of Civil Surgeon, Coonoor, to the 30th September 1896, and that of Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel Cook of the appointment of District Medical and Sanitary Officer, Nilgiris, to the 30th September 1897.



22ND JUNE 1895, No. 509, PUBLIC.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

READ—again the following paper :—

G.O., dated 8th March 1895, Mis. No. 167, Public.

Read—the following letter from Surgeon-Major-General C. SIBTHORPE, F.R.C.P.I., Surgeon-General with the Government of Madras, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Madras, 20th February 1895, No. 177 :—

With reference to G.O., Public, No. 106, dated 11th February 1895, I would suggest that the uncovenanted Civil Surgeon—who should, I consider, as a rule be a European or Eurasian—should still be designated the Additional Medical Officer, Ootacamund, and should take the medical charge of Saint Bartholomew's 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 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, Ootacamund, should, I consider, be changed to that of District Medical and Sanitary Officer, Nilgiris, as under G.O., No. 795 L., Mis., dated 3rd 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 paragraph 5 of my letter, No. 541, dated 13th October 1894, regarding Saint Bartholomew's Hospital be approved, he will have a duly-qualified assistant all the year.

3. He is now in charge of the Army Head-quarter staff under G.O., No. 5040, dated 18th 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 sub-charge.

4. If the above proposals are sanctioned, he would be available to attend on all gazetted officers in Ootacamund 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, Ootacamund, 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 13th October 1894.

ENCLOSURE.

From Surgeon-Major G. L. WALKER, M.D., Civil Surgeon, Ootacamund, to the Secretary to Surgeon-General with the Government of Madras, dated 10th December 1894, No. 8-C.

I have the honour to bring to the notice of the Surgeon-General that I have formed the opinion, from my experience as Civil Surgeon of Ootacamund, that the season of the year, i.e., 1st April, at which the new medical officer assumes charge, for the first time, of his appointment

here (as Civil Surgeon of the Sanitarium of Ootacamund, and Medical Officer in charge of Army Head-quarters) is not the most desirable or advantageous season 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 Ootacamund at the time of year most disadvantageous to himself and to his patients, i.e., 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 up in, and to think over, the special conditions connected with medical practice at high elevations, he finds himself, immediately on arrival, in a vortex of work from morning till night (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 Ootacamund 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 Ootacamund 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 Ootacamund at the end instead of the beginning of the busy season. During the interval that ensues until the next influx of visitors, he 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 Ootacamund 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 Government Order, No. 577, dated 7th August 1894.

Permit me to add that the expense to the Civil Surgeon of Ootacamund of setting up in that sanitarium 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, represents 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 medical officers holding appointments in the plains view it in this light. I am convinced that if the Civil Surgeoncy of Ootacamund was made a three years' appointment it would be more sought after.

Order—dated 8th March 1895, Mis. No. 167, Public.

The Government agrees with the Surgeon-General that it would be desirable to post a European or Eurasian uncovenanted medical officer to Ootacamund 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, Nilgiris." The Surgeon-General should select the uncovenanted officer each year and should decide what his duties are to be. His place in the plains should be filled up sub. *pro tem*.

2. The Government has perused Surgeon-Major Walker's letter with interest, but is not prepared at present to pass orders on the various proposals made therein.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. F. PRICE,
Chief Secretary.

To the Surgeon-General.
" Accountant-General.
" Collector of Nilgiris.

READ—also the following paper:—

From Surgeon-Major-General C. SIBTHORPE, F.R.C.P.I., Surgeon-General with the Government of Madras, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Ootacamund, 11th June 1895, No. 264-Tour.

With reference to G.O., No. 577, Public, dated 7th August 1894, I have the honour to forward for the favourable consideration of Government the accompanying copy of letter, No. 6, dated the 23rd May 1895, from Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel J. Lancaster, Civil Surgeon, Coonoor, requesting that the term of his appointment, which expires on the 16th February 1896, may be extended to the end of the season.

2. In this connection I request the attention of Government to paragraph 5 of my letter, No. 177, dated the 20th February 1895, with which I forwarded a copy of the letter from the District Medical and Sanitary Officer, Ootacamund, who strongly brought to notice the importance of carrying out a change in the appointment in October each year instead of in April. The Government, in paragraph 2 of G.O., No. 167, Public, dated the 8th March 1895, remarked that it "perused Surgeon-Major Walker's letter with interest, but is not prepared at present to pass orders on the various proposals made therein."

3. The reasons mentioned by Surgeon-Major Walker in support of his proposal in respect of the Ootacamund appointment apply with equal force to that of Coonoor, and as the question is one of considerable importance both to the visitors of the hill stations and to the medical officers concerned, I trust the matter will receive the early and favourable consideration of Government.

ENCLOSURE.

From Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel J. LANCASTER, M.B., Civil Surgeon, Coonoor, to the Secretary to the Surgeon-General with the Government of Madras, dated Coonoor, 23rd May 1895, No. 6.

As the time is probably approaching when my successor will have to be appointed, I beg to lay this my application for an extension of six months as Civil Surgeon of Coonoor before the Surgeon-General. My term here expires on the 16th February 1896 and I shall be thankful if it can be extended from that date six months or to the end of the season.

My loss by the withdrawal of the compensation allowance and the cost of living having thrown me back and it would be a boon for which I should be grateful if I were allowed this extension before having to make a new home on the plains.

2. I beg also to mention, as is already known, that the end of the season is a more suitable time in many ways both for the incoming and outgoing medical officers. In regard to the preparation of the annual reports the change in the early months of the year is inconvenient.

ORDER—dated 22nd June 1895, No. 509, Public.

The Government agrees with the Surgeon-General that it is desirable that the Medical officers at Ootacamund and Coonoor should enter upon their duties on the 1st October instead of the 1st April as at present.

22ND JUNE 1895, No. 509, PUBLIC.

2. Under the authority conveyed in paragraph 3 of Resolution * of the Government of India in the Home Department (Medical), dated 18th July 1894, No. 3-Medical—412-420, the Governor in Council is pleased to extend the tenure of Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel Lancaster's appointment of Civil Surgeon, Coonoor, to the 30th September 1896, and that of Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel Cook of the appointment of District Medical and Sanitary Officer, Nilgiris, to the 30th September 1897.

(True Extract.)

Chief Secretary.

To the Surgeon-General.
 „ Accountant-General.

Exd. A. Raith.

(189) DEPARTMENT.

From

SURGN. MAJOR-GENL. C. SIBTHORPE, F.R.C.P.I.,

SURGEON-GENERAL WITH THE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS,

Madras,

To



No. *Four*
264

ENCLOSURES.

Dated *11* } *June* 1895.
 Recd *13*
Endor. 1 No.

Subject.

Forwards for favorable consideration of fresh copy of letter from Surgeon Lt. Col. Lancaster Civil Surgeon Coonoor requesting that the term of his appointment may be extended to the end of the season of 1896.

Pub. go. no 167 28-8-3-95 mis
577 28-8-94 de

No. 6.

Coonoor 23rd May 1895

From Surgeon Lt. Col. John Lancaster into
Civil Surgeon Coonoor.

To The Secretary to the Surgeon General
with the Government of Madras
Madras.

Sir, As the time is probably approaching when my
successor will have to be appointed, I beg to lay
my application for an extension of 6 months as
Civil Surgeon of Coonoor before the Surgeon General.
My term here expires on the 11th Feb 1896 and I
be thankful if it can be extended from that date
six months or to the end of the season.

My loss by the withdrawal of the competent
allowance and the cost of living having thrown
me back and it would be a boon for which
I should be grateful if I were allowed this extension
before having to make a new home on the place.

2. I beg also to mention as is already known
that the end of the season is a more suitable time
in many ways both for the incoming and out-
going of the Medical Officers. In regard to the preparation
of the Annual reports the change in the early
of the year is inconvenient.

I have &c

Sd/ John Lancaster

Surgeon Lt. Col.

(True copy) Civil Surgeon Co.

Yours faithfully

Surgeon Major General
Surgeon General with the Govt of Madras

OFFICE OF SURGEON-GENERAL

WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS,

Madras, 11th June 1895

No. *214*
Encl. *2/14*

From

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

SURGEON-GENERAL WITH THE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS,

Madras,

To

THE Honble the Chief Secretary to Government
Public Department.

SIR,

With reference to G.O. No. 577 Public dated 7th August 1894, I have the honor to forward for the favorable consideration of Government the accompanying copy of letter No. 6 dated the 23rd May 1895 from Surgeon-Lt. Col. J. Lancaster, Civil Surgeon Coonoor, requesting that the term of his appointment which expires on the 11th Feb'y 1896 may be extended to the end of the season.

2. In this connection I request the attention of Government to para 5 of my letter No. 177 dated the 20th February 1895 with which I forwarded a copy of the letter from the District Medical and Sanitary Officer Ootacamund who strongly brought to notice the importance of carrying out a change in the appointment in October each year instead of in April. The Government in para 2 of G.O. No. 167 Public dated the 8th March 1895 remarked that it "perused Surg. Major Walker's letter with interest but is not prepared at present to pass orders on the same."

proposals made therein."

The reasons mentioned by Surgeon Major Walker in support of his proposal in respect of the stipend and appointment apply with equal force that of Coonoor, and as the question is one of considerable importance both to the visitors of the all stations and to the Medical Officers concerned, the matter will receive the early and favorable consideration of Government.

I have the honor to be
Sir,

Your Most Obedt. Servant.

C. S. Thompson.

Surgeon Major General.

Surgeon General with the Fort of Madras.

300-28-5-94.

From

No. 1854

Mes. G.

Dated 11 June 95. 189

FOR ORDERS.

Surgeon Major General. Col. Duncan. requests that his tenure of app't: at Coonoor may be extended from 16 Feb. next to the end of the season - 1st Oct. Mes. G. supports the app't: refers to Dr. Walder's letter in G.O. 8.3.95, No. 167, on the subject of the advantage of a hill Surg. assuming charge at the end of the season. The principal object in complying with Dr. D's request wd. be to secure this advantage - a similar concession C^d hardly be refused to Dr. Cook at Ooty - hereafter.

G.O. 577 of 7.8.94. This Govt. objected to the tenure of hill Surgeoncies being extended from two to three years. India gave power to curtail the two years or extend to three. The extension now asked for can be granted as there are good grounds other than personal.

Making the change to

I think we may allow the proposed change of five both Dr. Lancaster & Dr. Cook 2 1/2 years (approximately) instead of 2 years.

JS

15/6/95

I think the time of relief end in the 1st Oct & wd. arrange accordingly JS 17/6

Yes - for both Do. Lancaster & Coonoor - the present incumbents will therefore get 2 1/2 years - and their successors will go back to the two years - but dating from Oct. 1st.

W

20 June

14/6/95.

the end of the season is certainly
a desirable arrangement. It cannot
only two Officers will have to
be given the months later as
the months there

LD
14/6/95

Will and ...

*G.O. 47.8.94, N^o 577.

C. 50, 6/1/96

Public Department
N^o 1854

Read again G.O. 8.3.95, N^o 167
(prints complete)

C. N^o 1854 (prints with enclosure)

Order. dt 22nd June 1895 N^o 509

The Govt agrees with
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and Sanitary Officer, Nilgiris,
the 30th Sept^r 1897.

from orders

To The Surgeon General of India
" Accountant General of India

21/6/95

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PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

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Chief Secretary.

To the Surgeon-General.
" Accountant-General.
" Collector of Nilgiris.

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(True Extract.)

Chief Secretary.

To the Surgeon-General.
,, Accountant-General.

G.O. of {1895} Madras.
PUBLIC.

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First copy sent to Press.

Returned for signature.

Despatched in print.

READ AGAIN G.O., No.
189

DATED

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURE TO C. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

NOT FILED UP, BEING MEANT FOR DESTROY
IN ORIGINAL.

N.B.—

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