

# Public (1896) Department.

ORDINARY MS.

G.O., No. 204

Dated 8<sup>th</sup> Feb. 1896.

INDEXED.

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[Despatch Abstract.]

GENERAL HOSPITAL, MADRAS.

Approving and transferring to the Public Works Department, for execution with the least possible delay, estimates for providing temporary accommodation for the newly appointed Assistant Matron Superintendent of the General Hospital and also the estimates for altering certain rooms ~~at~~ into quarters for native paying patients.

# BACK PAPERS.

| G.O. | No. | Department. | Date. | G.O. | No. | Department. |
|------|-----|-------------|-------|------|-----|-------------|
|      |     |             |       |      |     |             |

# FURTHER PAPERS.

| G.O. | No.  | Department. | Date.   | G.O. | No. | Department. |
|------|------|-------------|---------|------|-----|-------------|
| fo   | 264  |             | 20-2-96 |      |     |             |
| c    | 2581 |             | 1896    |      |     |             |
| c    | 2992 |             | 1896    |      |     |             |
| fo   | 1028 |             | 22-9-96 |      |     |             |
| fo   | 868  | 23-7-97     |         |      |     |             |

(1895) DEPARTMENT.

From

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

SURGEON-GENERAL WITH THE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS,

Madras,

To

The Honble the Chief  
Secy to Govt.  
Department

No. 555

ENCLOSURES. 7 1/2 received

Dated 12/3

Received 14/12

189

No.



Submitting rough plans and  
approximate estimates regarding  
the provision of accommodation  
for Nurses in the General Hospital  
and for special wards for female  
patients.

Re.

When an thorough plans  
Estimates please.

19 S.G.-430-12-4-98.

Wm

No. 5555  
Encl.  
From

2  
OFFICE OF SURGEON-GENERAL  
WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS,  
Madras, 12<sup>th</sup> December 1895.

SURGEON-MAJOR-GENERAL C. SIBTHORPE, F.R.C.P.J.,  
SURGEON-GENERAL WITH THE  
GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS,

To  
THE HONOURABLE THE CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,  
Public DEPARTMENT.

SIR,

With reference to paragraphs 6(3), 11, 16, 17 & 18 of G.O. No 437, Public, dated the 31<sup>st</sup> May 1895 ~ regarding the provision of accommodation for Nurses in the General Hospital and for special wards for female paying patients, I now submit rough plans and approximate estimates prepared after many consultations between the Senior Medical Officer, the Consulting Architect to Government, the Matron Superintendent and myself.

2. It has been found necessary to submit these under three heads. The first proposal is to deal with the accommodation required until the Women and Children can be moved into the portion of the building now used as the Military Station Hospital. Proposal 2 deals with the accommodation required after the Station Hospital is made available.

Proposal 3 deals with the new Special accommodation required for caste Native patients.

3. Proposal I - Vide rough sketch plan attached marked A in red ink and estimate and plan marked B attached for Purposes 705. The numbers in red ink refer to similar numbers in the sketch plan A.

Matron Superintendent - As at present No. 1 requires a special kitchen.

Assistant Matron Superintendent - Long dormitory to east to Newlock & Lansdowne Wards No. 10. This is at present occupied by the Midwifery Nurses. Will require to be divided by a partition. Wants a bath room, Ward kitchen No. 11 can be given as a temporary measure.

Two Head Nurses - One Cubicle each in Native Officers' Quarters No. 15 & No. 16.

Two Assistant Head Nurses - One Cubicle in Native Officers' Quarters No. 20.

- |     |   |                                               |                                                                           |
|-----|---|-----------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 6.  | { | 2.                                            | 1 <sup>st</sup> Grade Nurses - Small Cubicle in Native Offrs' Qrs. No. 17 |
|     |   | 3.                                            | - do - Large - do - do - No. 17                                           |
|     |   | 1.                                            | - do - Large - do - do - No. 18                                           |
| 10. | { | 2.                                            | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade Nurses - Large - do - do - No. 14                   |
|     |   | 3.                                            | - do - Large - do - do - No. 14                                           |
|     |   | 5.                                            | - do - Two rooms in Nurses Quarters No. 8 & No. 7                         |
| 10. | { | 3.                                            | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade Nurses - Three rooms - do - No. 2, No. 3 & No. 6    |
|     |   | Probationers - Two rooms - do - No. 4 & No. 5 |                                                                           |
- The

The Nurses dine in the large verandah situate between the Matron Superintendent Quarters on the East the Nurses Quarters on North and long dormitory on West No. 9.

This, with two rooms (of two beds each) for paying female patients takes up all available space on the third story. It is impossible to give over to Cubicles to paying patients until more quarters have been built or the Women and Children have been moved into the Station Hospital.

XX To accommodate the Nursing Institute it will be necessary to give up, for the present, two rooms of the Officers' Quarters on the second floor.

If Midwifery probationers are sent here they must be accommodated in same way.

X Until the Women and Children are moved into the Station Hospital it will be impossible to accommodate any Lady, Special or Local Fund probationers without extra buildings.

These proposals will necessitate the building of one kitchen, a temporary bath room and a partition - Vide estimate marked B.

4- The housing of Nurses on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, even as a temporary measure, is in many ways objectionable. As an alternative I would suggest that the Hospital buildings should be continued on the Station Hospital roof

where marked x x x x in red ink on Sketch plan A. This would allow for four large wards and a Matron Superintendent kitchen.

When finished the Women and Children could be moved into these four wards leaving their present wards to be altered as recommended and used for Nurses.

When the remainder of the Station Hospital is given up these wards would still be of use, as they would enable one complete Nursing Block to be left vacant for thorough cleansing and whitewashing as contemplated in paragraph 6(2) of G.O. No. 439, Public, dated 31<sup>st</sup> May 1895 and thus do away with the present unsatisfactory makeshift arrangements.

The eight wards now used by the military contain a total of 128 beds. We have at present 110 beds (excluding the 4 for paying patients) on the third story to be accommodated in these wards. It is evident that unless the extra wards above suggested are built there will be no room for the periodical emptying of a Nursing Block.

5. Proposal 2 dealing with the accommodation of the Nursing Establishment &c. after the Women and Children have been moved into the Station Hospital.

The numbers in red ink refer to similar numbers

6  
numbers in the rough sketch plan attached marked C. — Sketch marked D and estimate marked E for Rupees 3,137.

Matron Superintendent. As at present No. Assistant Matron Superintendent. In the matron's old quarters Nos. 2, 3, 8, 7 used by Nurses in N.I. proposals. The ward kitchens Nos. 11 and No. 12 may be given, one to the Assistant Matron Superintendent and one to the Lady and Special Probationers.

Paying patients four rooms at South end of Native Officers quarters Nos. 17, 18, 19 & 20

Present linen room will then be used as a box room for Nurses.

2. Head Nurses. As at present No. 15 & No. 16

2. Assistant Head Nurses. One room next above No. 15

6 { 2. 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Nurses — do — No. 17  
2. — do — Same space in Hobart No. 21  
2. — do — — do — No. 22

10 { 3. 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Nurses — do — No. 23  
3. — do — — do — No. 24  
4. — do — Same space in Argyle No. 27

10 { 4. 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Nurses — do — No. 28  
4. — do — — do — No. 29

6 { 2. — do —  
(2 - Probationers) — do — No. 30

6 { 4. — do —  
6. Midwifery Probationers } In old Nurses quarters  
6. Local Fund — do — Nos. 31, 32 & 33

b. Nursing Institute } In twelve Cubicles in  
b. Special & Lady Probationers } Dufferin Ward Nos 1 to 12.  
Long dormitory as sitting room for Lady & Special  
Probationers N.

Wenlock as dining hall for Nurses N.  
Lansdowne as sitting & Library for Nurses N.  
This will necessitate dividing Hobart and  
Argyle wards into four Cubicles each, and  
Dufferin Ward into twelve Cubicles.

b. Proposal 3 is for the Special Accommo-  
-dation of Native Caste paying patients. Vide  
plan marked F, and Estimate marked G, for  
Rupees 5,335.

As proposals Nos 1 & 2 utilize the Special  
Cubicles that were constructed on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Storey  
for the Accommodation of Native Caste pay-  
-ing patients, it is proposed that the isolated  
room to the North of the Sheds should be  
improved and utilized for this purpose. This  
room is at present divided into 3 cubicles,  
is separated from the other wards by covered  
passages - is well raised from the ground  
on a solid basement and with some  
alterations will make good comfortable  
cubicles. Two of these are at present used  
as linen rooms and one as a store room  
but they will be vacated as soon as the  
alterations in the large linen room have  
been finished.

The present  
cubicles are  
good.

Proposal - That the present verandah on the  
South Side be continued round the other  
three sides - that an upper storey be added -  
that the present windows in the three lower  
rooms be enlarged - that latrines and bath-  
-rooms be built in the upper and lower  
west verandahs common to each flat -  
that stairs be built in the east verandah.  
No provision is made for a separate cook-  
-room, as it has been found, from past  
experience, that caste patients will not use  
it, as they prefer to get any cooked victuals  
from outside though they use the milk -  
supplied by the hospital freely.

7. The Consulting Architect's rough  
estimate for these proposals is as follows:-  
Rupees.

- (1) Proposal I Matron's kitchen,  
bath-room, & tank partition 705
- (2) Constructing a third Storey  
over the present Station Hos-  
-pital to be similar to that  
erected on the West Side in  
1891. 85,000
- (3) Proposal 2. dividing the  
Hobart and Argyle Wards  
into 4 Cubicles each and  
the Dufferin Ward into 12  
cubicles 3,137

Proposed

14

Rupres.

Public Current 2200

(4) Proposal 3. altering linen room of isolation block into special quarters for Caste Native paying patients

5,335

8. If Government will sanction the completion of the upper storey as in proposal I which I strongly urge on the Sanitary grounds alluded to in paragraph 4 of this letter instead of placing the Nurses in Hobart, Argyle, Dufferin Wards and the Special Native quarters, the Special accommodation for them in proposal 2 could be made at once in the new buildings and as soon as they were completed we could take up in a satisfactory manner all the work proposed in the training school and in the Lady Wenlock Nursing Institute.

9. It would be better in any case to carry out the changes in proposal 3 as it would not be advisable to treat Native male Caste patients on the third floor which would then be wholly utilized for the Nursing establishment and for Women and children.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

C. S. S. S.

Surgeon-Major

General

with the Govt of Madras

Visited the Genl Hosp. this morn-  
ing went through the papers with the S. J. D. P. H. C.

Estimate B for Rs 705 must be carried out at once so that there may be some place for Miss Dault's living while more permanent arrangements are being made - The way has been pointed in a week or two, I have got out orders about this since without waiting for orders to be made on the other points dealt with in the papers.

Estimate C providing further alterations shown in plan 7 is also urgent should be carried out without delay - I have found necessary, in order to provide accommodation for patients, to take up ~~some of the~~ <sup>the</sup> Native Officers' quarters, & fresh quarters must be provided for them as soon as possible.

\* also called Native Caste paying patients

When orders on the above points have been sent, the papers should be sent to the S. J. D. P. H. C. that the expensive proposal to spend Rs 85000 on building a new ward on the second floor may be considered by my colleagues. It seems to me certain that this expensive addition to the Hospital is not necessary in view of the fact that it may be worked with at least as much efficiency as 999 out of every 1000 hospitals existing in all parts of the world. The S. J. D. P. H. C. tells me that no when, so far as he knows, any arrangements made by which a whole block of a hospital can be vacated, left vacant, periodically for a month or more for thorough airing & cleansing, but that there can be no doubt that such a measure would have the most beneficial effect on the health conditions of the hospital as being almost

For Orders

The Surgn. Genl submits proposals for providing accommodation at the General Hosp for the increased staff of Nurses.

The proposals are under three heads -

1st Temporary - until the whole of the Station Hosp. is available for the women and children.

2nd Permanent - after the Station Hosp. is available.

3rd Special accommodation for Caste Native patients.

It is submitted that it would be unsafe to sanction any considerable expenditure until India has <sup>dealt with</sup> approved the proposed increases of the Wenlock Nursing Institute, as well as of the entertainment of lady & special probationers.

The proposals as set out in the plans submitted could be better considered on the spot, for it is possible

that

that more preferable arrangements might suggest themselves on personal inspection. It is submitted that it is very unadvisable that the officers' quarters on the second floor should be curtailed even temporarily. There is a constant demand for these rooms & it is believed that deserving cases frequently fail to obtain admission owing to want of accommodation.

In regard to Midwifery probationers, it has been recommended (in separate file) that they should receive the whole of their training at the Lying-in Hospital.

With reference to the proposal to provide accommodation for Native Caste paying patients by putting an upper storey to the isolated room lying to the north of the sheds in the Hospital Compound, it is submitted that every effort should be made to remove

a certain guarantee against the prevalence of septicaemia. This I can well believe and I confess I am sorely tempted to spend the Rs 85000 to make a really good job of it - make it, perhaps, one of the best, if not the best, hospital in the world. But it is a large sum of money to spend, & the question is whether we are justified in spending it for the provision of what must almost be considered a luxury, seeing that other hospitals get on without it, & that we have many urgent calls on our funds - I am afraid we are not, & that the Hospital authorities must

This proposal has been approved so that room need not be found for the Midwifery pupils in the Gen. Hosp. On the other hand, in his paper 3 the Sg. provides for no pupils to be taken into training for the Gen. Hosp. of local ladies, and in his paper 5 provides for only 6 such pupils & 6 midwifery pupils, total 12 in addition to the staff of the Gen. Hosp. itself. Fully this accommodation should be made even though there are no midwifery pupils, so that no reduction will be feasible in the total accommodation proposed.

It will be left to manage to keep them clean in the more or less unsatisfactory manner in which they have managed hitherto, and in which other hospitals manage, that is, by restricting the number of patients & by vacating a ward at a time.

I should perhaps here explain that, as appears by other papers, the Hospital is being divided for nursing purposes into 8 blocks, containing differing numbers of wards and of patients according

X I think that the doctors are the best judges of what will be harmful to the health of our and what not.

as the structural conditions and the arrangements of the wards with reference to one another make it more or less easy further to move in change to see what is going on; and that the desire of the medical officers is to be able to vacate whole block at a time, their opinion being that the vacation for airing & sunbathing of a single ward at a time could be by no means so effective a measure, while it would disturb the use of wards.

If it is agreed that the expenditure of Rs 85000 on new wards cannot be afforded, and I am afraid it cannot be, Estimate E for dividing the Hobart Hospital & Dufferin wards into cubicles for the accommodation of the nurses will have to be sanctioned presently when the rest of the of the Station Hospital is vacated and the patients can be moved out of those wards. It cannot be carried out until then. If, on the other hand, it is determined to spend this Rs 85000, it won't be necessary to divide up the Hobart & Dufferin wards as provided in the estimate, for it will be simpler to leave those wards as they are & to form the required cubicles in constructing the new buildings.

Under the circumstances I do not think we should be justified in spending the Rs 85,000.

I am quite in accord with what is said as to the refusal to lay out Rs 85,000.

Existing obstructions to light & air rather than to increase them. Some of the principal Native male wards of the General Hospital are on the ground floor & the many buildings & sheds which already exist around the main building must seriously affect the ventilation of these wards.

It is suggested that it might be feasible to construct the accommodation for Native paying patients on a portion of the site lying across the road to the north of the Hospital on which the quarters for the Steward Hospital Assistants are eventually to be built.

The whole thing comes to Rs 94,000 a pretty stiff sum. It is submitted that all these matters may well stand over until the decision of the

This only of 200 I am nursing Institute is about 6 cubicles known - of these 6 cubicles are not required for the nurses of the Nursing Institute, the doctors are confident that they will be wanted for female paying patients, a large no. of whom are expected to make use of the wards set apart for them as soon as they are ready & the fact of their being ready becomes generally known.

all over

the as proposed. When we can afford to do  
that, we must indeed be very hard up  
for a job. I have just been told by Dr.  
Clyburn that this Hospital is in excellent  
order. It is doing very good work - and  
modern appliances and chemicals are  
surely to be trusted under proper supervision  
to keep septicemia out of the building - as  
it is in other hospitals, in the rest of the  
world.

to  
12 Feb-

## Accommodation for Nurses at the General Hospital

Hon W. H. W. Bliss CBE

to Secy

Resubmitted to M. M. with  
ref. to Ch. 4323 within

Public Current 4200

G.O. No. 204 of 8 Feb '96

As the appointment of  
Assistant Matron Supdt,  
recently sanctioned by the  
Rt. Honble the Secretary of  
State, has been filled up,  
and the lady <sup>selected</sup> may be  
expected shortly, it is  
necessary that the works  
provided for in Estimate  
B. for Rs 705 should be  
carried out ~~with~~ the least  
possible delay in view  
to providing her with  
accommodation pending  
more permanent arrange-  
ments. That Estimate is  
<sup>reimbursed</sup> approved and will be  
transferred to the Public  
Works Dept for favour  
of very early action.

2. In point of  
urgency the next work  
to be taken in hand  
is that of altering the  
linen room into quarters  
for native paying patients  
as <sup>it has been necessary to utilise</sup> the existing space  
allotted

allotted to them to be used to provide accommodation for the nurses & the paying female patients, who, it has been decided, shall all be located on the third storey of the Hospital. The estimate amounting to Rs 5,335 is approved & will be transferred to the Public Works Dept. for the early issue of the requisite orders.

3. The ~~Orders~~ other matters submitted by the Surgeon General will be disposed of hereafter.

from Orders

7/2/96

75B.  
7.2.96

Accommodation for Nurses  
at the Genl Hospital

from Orders

H.C.

after issue of this  
G.O. the file is to be circd.

75B.  
7/2/96

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The Surgeon Genl  
Public Works Dept.  
with Encls B, F, G &  
also Encl A, C, D & E (Vice)  
8/2/96  
7.2.96