

Public (1897) Department.

ORDINARY MS.

G.O., No. 1167.

DATED 3.9.97.

INDEXED.

[Despatch Abstract.]

Acquitting Surgeon Lieut. Col. W.A. Lee
of any intention to transgress the
rules of discipline in having left
his station without sanction to
attend on his brother in death bed,
but remarking that he shd. have
reported to the Surgeon General
before leaving the station.

19/97

BACK PAPERS.

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Public (1897) Department.

H.M.
H.R. the Governor

CURRENT No. 3229



From Surgeon Major General C. Sibthorp, C.B.,
F.R.C.P.I.
Surgeon General with Govt. of Madras

No. C/59

The linked file grants privilege
For Orders. One month's leave
has already been granted
to Surgeon Lt Colonel Lee.

Ans.
30/8/97

31/9/97

Dated 24th August /97.

Received

Registered

Enclosures 2

Spare copies

SUBJECT.

Dr. Lee of course made a
mistake in not telegraphing to the
G.O. as he left Tanjore about his
brother's illness. He seems to think
that he did so, but evidently did
not; and in his busy occupation has
undoubtedly forgotten, if he ever knew,
exactly what he did do. Should some
body say that he shd. have reported at
the time - I quite acquit him of
any intention to transgress the rules
of discipline & should say so.

Ans
1/9/97

A.H.
1.9.97

Order W. 1167 of 3rd Sept '97.

In the circumstances brought to
notice H.R. the Governor
in Council, while acquitting
Surgeon

Forwarding with remarks
correspondence received from
Surgeon Lieutenant Colonel W. B. Lee,
affording explanation for his
having left the station - Tanjore.

Surgeon

Lieutenant Colonel W. A. Lee
of any intention to trans-
gress the rules of discipline,
considers that he should
have reported to the Surgeon
General before he left his
station

(From orders)

C.S.
4942

3/9/97

To

The Surgeon General (q. 20)

BACK PAPERS.

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FURTHER PAPERS.

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[13]

COPY of a telegram from the Surgeon Lieut: Col: L.
to the Secretary, Hospital Com.
India, Madras No.
dated 17th August 1897.

Brother dying so remained
represented case private Secretary.

(True Copy)

McEllist
Secretary Captain

Copy of a letter from the Surgeon Lieutenant Colonel
 Dr. A. Lee to the Secretary Surgeon General
 with the Government of Madras No. 21
 dated 20 August 1897.

I have the honor to inform you that I telegraphed a brief reply to your message asking me to report my action and now beg to recapitulate the circumstances under which I left Dajore in anticipation of the sanction of the privilege leave applied for on the 3rd instant.

On that date, as I have already, I believe, reported to you, I received a telegram telling me of my brother's serious illness from dysentery, and, as I knew he had been ailing for more than two weeks previously, I had reason to apprehend the worst; especially, as where he was residing was a most remote place amongst the Western Ghats - often inaccessible at this season of heavy southwest monsoon, and with no one at hand to tend or treat him properly. The nearest telegraph office being 37 miles off, the message posted on the 1st only reached me two days later, so it was needful for me to leave by the earliest opportunity in the hope of being able, God willing, to save his life.

I started on the 4th instant and after 3½ days journey reached his bedside to find him alive indeed but in an alarming condition - prostrate and helpless, emaciated, passing brown liquid motions frequently and involuntarily and unable to pass his urine from atony of the bladder the result of extreme weakness.

severe pain.

It was in this deplorable case, while ministering to him day and night, that I received the order to return forthwith; but I could not abandon my brother to die alone, nor could I indeed have travelled by road as the rains were then even heavier than usual and communications, I believe, interrupted - so in a state of mind which you may well conceive I wrote to Mr. Sims representing the circumstances.

My brother seemed to improve slightly, but the hopeful prospect proved delusive for on the 13th hemorrhage from the bowels which nothing could check set in, and he died on the following day in a state of syncope.

I buried his remains and read the funeral service over them, and, having fulfilled that melancholy duty, I am now awaiting here final orders on my application for leave; I trust that due weight will be allowed for the motives that impelled me to anticipate its formal sanction, - believing that the emergency of the occasion must to some extent have justified my proceeding and be my excuse if I have through ignorance infringed any departmental rules.

If the Surgeon General conceives I have shown any personal disrespect to him I beg respectfully to assure him that nothing of the kind was intended by me and to express my sincere

regret if I have unwittingly offended him.

(True Copy)

W. H. Lister

Surgeon

Captain

CONFIDENTIAL

OFFICE OF SURGEON-GENERAL

WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS,

Madras, *24th August* 1896.No. *C/57*

From

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

SURGEON-GENERAL WITH THE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS,

To

THE HON'BLE THE CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,

Public DEPARTMENT.

SIR,

In continuation of my Confidential
Info R 930 - abstract letter No C/57 dated the 11th instant, I have
24.8.97
flagged - on the honor to forward for the information
 called for from *Ministry of Government* the attached copy of a telegram
 from Surgeon Lieutenant Colonel W. A. Lee,
 in reply to two telegrams from this office
 directing him to return to duty.

2. I need hardly point out that any
 representation he had to make on the
 subject should have been forwarded
 through the Head of his department. I
 have not hitherto been afforded by him
 any opportunity of knowing the gravity
 of the reasons which necessitated his
 leaving Sanjore without previous
 permission - if he had explained the
 reasons to me fully I should have certainly
 been

been glad to help him if possible.

3. As I have since learnt that His Excellency the Governor has been pleased to grant the leave on his direct representation I am submitting his application through the Accountant-General in the ordinary course with a view to the leave being gazetted. but I must point out that his conduct as set forth in my previous letter and in this communication calls for notice by Government.

Since writing the above I have received a letter dated 20 August (Copy attached) from Surgeon Lieutenant Colonel. It shows what anxiety and grief this officer has gone through which more than accounts for his want of regard to discipline.

I have the honor to be,

Your most obedient Servant,

Chibmiser

Surgeon-Major General

in the Army

at the Govt. of Madras.

When given for copying 6

When copied 6

When examined 7

When signed 9

1897

READ AGAIN G.O., No. 189

DATED

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.

B = Not to be copied.

P = Copy abstract only.

Q = Copy heading only.