

Public (1898) Department.

ORDINARY PRINTED.

G.O., No. 734-35

Dated 6-6-98

INDEXED.

[Despatch Abstract.]

Closing of lunatic asylum at
Vizagapatam & increase in the pay of
the supdt of the asylum at Madras.

Informing the Secy I that this Govt is not in favour of the proposal to close the lunatic asylum at Vizagapatam and prefers to have the pay of the supdt of the Madras asylum fixed at Rs 700 rising by annual increments of Rs 50 to Rs 1200. Abstract of letter.

stating that this Govt is

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

G.O.	No.	Department	Date
CNO-2590/(2859)			27/5/42
CNO-3309/(9864)			27/5/42

Government {1898} of Madras.
PUBLIC.

<i>Recd.</i>	}	1898.	<i>Enclosures</i>
<i>Regd.</i>			<i>Spare copies</i>

Letter, No. 735, 6th June 1898.

JUNE.

**Closing of the Lunatic Asylum at Vizagapatam and increase
in the pay of the Superintendent of the Asylum at Madras.**

Stating that this Government is not in favour of the proposal to close the lunatic asylum at Vizagapatam, and prefers to have the pay of the Superintendent of the Madras Asylum fixed at Rs. 700 rising by annual increments of Rs. 50 to Rs. 1,200.

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT

Letter—from

THE CHIEF SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF
PORT ST. GEORGE,

To

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,
HOME DEPARTMENT.

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 490, dated 18th May 1897, regarding the closing of the lunatic asylum at Vizagapatam, and the transfer in the pay of the Superintendent of the Asylum at Madras.

2. In reply I am to say that His Excellency the Governor in Council desires strongly to deprecate the proposal of the Government of India that the asylum at Vizagapatam should be closed. The views of this Government on the subject have been set forth in paragraph 5 of Mr. Price's letter, No. 1218, Judicial, dated 23rd July 1896. The objections there raised to the abolition of the smaller asylums have been considered, and their validity is in part admitted by the Government of India in the letter under reply, but these objections are held to be outweighed in the case of the Vizagapatam asylum by the advantage which patients would derive from treatment by a specialist in mental diseases. I am, however, to point out that the main ground on which the Government of India appears to have based its decision, namely, that in language and climate there is little difference between Madras and Vizagapatam, is founded upon a misapprehension. The Vizagapatam asylum is almost entirely used for the reception of Telugu and Uriya patients. Telugu, though it is like Tamil derived from the Dravidian stock, is so unlike the latter language that a person acquainted only with the one is unable to understand, or to make himself understood, in a country where the other language alone is spoken. As far as Telugu is concerned it might be possible to arrange at a considerable increase of expense for the formation in the Madras asylum of a Telugu section, where the attendants would all be acquainted with that language. There would, however, remain for disposal the Uriya patients, and it would be quite impossible to bring to Madras attendants with a knowledge of Uriya. As regards climate, that of Waltair, where the asylum is situated, is considerably cooler than that of Madras, and the rainfall at the former place is more equally distributed. The asylum, moreover, is intended for the reception of lunatics from the whole of the northern districts of the Presidency, and patients from Ganjam, who would feel in some degree the change to Vizagapatam, would likely to be affected to a more serious extent by removal to Madras.

3. But it is not alone on the differences in language, temperature and rainfall that the decision of this question must rest. The causes which contribute to nostalgia are more numerous and more indefinite. There can be little doubt that persons who, when in health, are strongly averse to leaving their own districts, are likely to be seriously affected, if, as lunatics, they are moved to a distant place where they have no opportunity of seeing their friends, and where all their surroundings are strange.

These considerations apply with the greatest force in the case of persons who are but slightly insane, and whose greater chances of recovery, it is desirable, in no way to diminish. This view has been so completely accepted by the Government of India, in another * instance, that it is proposed

* Mr. Hewett's letter No. 285, dated 15th March 1898.

to impose on this Government the cost of maintaining natives of this Presidency who have become insane in Burma.

His Excellency the Governor in Council would urge that reasons which are considered of sufficient weight to justify that proposal must completely outbalance any advantage which patients might derive from the care of a specialist.

4. In these circumstances I am to ask for a reconsideration of the decision at which the Government of India has arrived. The lunatic asylum at Vizagapatam has been for some years a particularly healthy and well-managed institution. The distance of the northern districts from Madras by rail is such that it will be impossible to transfer acute cases until the most favourable time for treatment is passed; in the meanwhile temporary confinement in a jail will be necessary. Finally, this Government has now in contemplation the establishment of a medical school at Vizagapatam, and it is desirable that there should be at that place opportunities for practical instruction in mental diseases.

5. With regard to the pay of the Superintendent of the Madras Asylum His Excellency the Governor in Council prefers the first of the alternatives suggested by the Government of India, namely, pay at the rate of Rs. 700 rising to Rs. 1,200. I am to enclose the necessary proposition statement and to solicit the sanction of the Government of India to the introduction of the new scale with effect from the beginning of the current official year.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

A. T. ARUNDEL,

Chief Secretary.

OOTACAMUND,

6th June 1898.

End. Shaik Karim

No. 490

FROM

J. P. HEWETT, Esq., C.I.E.,
Secretary to the Government of India,

To

THE CHIEF SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF
MADRAS.

Home Department.
Medical.

Simla, the 18th May 1897.

SIR,

I AM directed to refer to the correspondence ending with your letter No. 74, dated the 23rd January 1897, on the subject of the administration of Lunatic Asylums in the Madras Presidency.

2. I am to say that the Government of India have considered with close attention the arguments stated in your letter No. 1218 (Judicial), dated the 23rd July 1896, against the amalgamation of the Calicut and Vizagapatam Asylums with the Asylum at Madras. It appears to the Government of India that the question of the amalgamation of Lunatic Asylums has to be determined upon important considerations which to some extent tend in opposite directions. On the one hand since this is, in their opinion, the expedient most likely to ensure good management and a careful and sympathetic treatment of the patients, they adhere to the view that it is of great importance in the interests of good administration that each Asylum should be large enough to receive the undivided attention of a duly qualified Medical Officer. On the other hand, the Governor General in Council is in agreement with the Government of Madras in thinking that it is not desirable to confine together very large numbers of lunatics, and that the patients are likely to be happier and to have a better chance of recovery if they are confined in a portion of the country, the customs and vernacular of which resemble those of their own homes.

3. After considering the case of the Madras Asylums in the light of these principles, the Government of India have arrived at the conclusion that the advantages of amalgamating the Asylum at Vizagapatam with that at Madras outweigh the objections to the amalgamation. The Vizagapatam Asylum is a very small one. The patients appear to average about 50. In language and climate there is little difference between Madras and Vizagapatam. The addition to the Madras Asylum would not be material, and in Madras the Vizagapatam patients would have the advantage, under the arrangements I am presently to mention, of being under the care of the most accomplished specialist in mental

Que. No. 8

✓ Rem. de. 1897
No. 74, d. 23/1/96
H. J. H.

I

5. In conclusion, I am to request that proposition statements may be prepared showing the financial effect of the proposals dealt with in this letter and that they may be forwarded to the Government of India with the reply to this letter.

SIR,

J. P. HEWETT,

Secretary to the Government of India.

G. C. Press, Simla. — No. 420 H. D-17-5-97-41

CURRENT No. 570

Soon

19 FEB 1950
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
WASHINGTON, D.C.

Surgeon-Major-General
C. S. Sillitoe C.B. F.R.C.S.

Surgeon-General
with the Govt. of Madras.
No. 136

Dated the 7th February

Received } 10th Feb 98
Registered }
Enclosures 3. Recd in Regs 5-15 Pm

Spare copies

SUBJECT.

Forwarding a copy of letter
No 53, of 18-8-97, regarding
the proposed amalgamation
the Lunatic Asylum, Vizagapatam
with the Madras Institutions, with
the request that early orders may
be passed on the question of the
Madras Superintendent's pay.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Enclosure No. / to Letter No. 130 7-2-98.

Copy of a letter from the Surgeon-General with the Govt. of Madras, to the Hon'ble the Chief Secretary to Government Public Department, through the Accountant-General, No. T-3/8, dated the 18th August 1897.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of G.O. No. 856, Public, dated 2nd July 1897 communicating for report a letter from the Government of India on the subject of the maintenance of Lunatic Asylums in this Presidency.

2. With reference to para 2 of the G.O., I am of opinion that the first alternative proposal by the Government of India regarding the pay of the Superintendent of the Madras Lunatic Asylum, viz.: that it should be fixed at the rate of Rs. 700, rising by annual increments of Rs. 50 to Rs. 1200 per mensem is much preferable and in accordance with the recommendation of the Madras Government made in its letter No. 1218, Judicial of 23rd July 1896. I may however point out that the maximum salary of Rs. 1200 is not, in my opinion, sufficiently attractive for an officer who is debarred from private practice and is required to make the treatment of Lunatics ~~on a~~ special study.

A proposition statement showing the financial effect of this and the other proposals dealt with in the Government of India letter is herewith forwarded.

3. As regards para 3 of the G.O., I regret I cannot see the advantage of the proposal to amalgamate the Vizagapatam Asylum with the Madras institution. The Vizagapatam Asylum was built to accommodate the insanes of the Northern Circars for which purpose it is well and centrally situated and has the following advantages:-

(1) Its present size renders it possible for the Resident Medical Subordinate to have a complete grasp of all details and in future as the Districts from which the patients are admitted become better opened up and more civilized, there is every prospect of more accommodation being required.

(2) It is situated on sloping ground and consequently has good natural drainage. It is within three-quarter of a mile

mile from the sea and is remarkably healthy.

(5) The ground is sufficiently extensive to provide the best of all occupations for the inmates, viz., farming and gardening. There is also ground available which can be taken up at any time, should it be desirable to extend the bounds. In all these respects the Madras Asylum cannot compare with the Vizagapatam Asylum.

The chief objections to the closure of the Vizagapatam Asylum are:-

(a) The distance from Vizagapatam to Madras. From Ganjam and Vizagapatam it is a continuous rail journey of three days and two days, respectively. This will render it impossible to transfer acute cases until the most favourable time for treatment has passed. It is in such cases that violence and refusal of food are frequently met with, and a two or three days rail journey will be out of the question. The only alternative will be to confine such patients in a cell in a jail, until their mental state has changed and an ignorant guard can be trusted to convey them, without injury to Madras.

(b) The languages spoken in Vizagapatam are Telugu and Ooriya and there are at present 4 Ooriya patients at the Asylum who do not speak Telugu. It will be most difficult to arrange for securing the services of Ooriya speaking servants in Madras to attend to such patients.

(c) In the event of the Vizagapatam patients being transferred to Madras their relatives will not be able to visit them. Although Messrs. Fraser and Harrison do not attach much importance to this question, yet all medical officers who have any practical experience in this direction know full well that one of the greatest objections that natives have to allow their relations to enter hospitals is that they cannot remain in attendance on them.

(d) Should a medical school be started in Vizagapatam, as now contemplated, there will be no opportunity for practical instruction in lunacy.

(e) Climate - Vizagapatam is cooler than Madras and has a more equally distributed rainfall. It will be seen from the

Manual of the District of Vizagapatam by Mr. Carmichael that "along the sea coast the air is soft and relaxing. The variations in temperature are very slight, particularly in the hot weather: the thermometer does not often rise above 90°, and never falls below 60° in the cool season". Waltair where the Asylum is located is considerably cooler than Vizagapatam and therefore better adapted for the patients who come from the Ganjam and Vizagapatam Districts.

5. Under the above circumstances I am strongly of opinion that it will be a mistake to abolish the Vizagapatam Asylum and to transfer the inmates to Madras where they will be subjected to various disadvantages as pointed out in the preceding paras.

(True Copy.)

Madras,

9th February 1898.

Surgeon-Captain,

Secretary, Surgeon-General

with the Government of Madras.

No. 136.

570 OFFICE OF SURGEON-GENERAL

WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS,

Madras, 7th February

From

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

SURGEON-GENERAL WITH THE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS,

To

THE HON'BLE THE CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,

Public DEPARTMENT.

SIR,

With reference to Public Department
Memorandum No. 238, dated the 28th January
1898, I have the honor to forward a copy of
my letter No. Low 3₈, dated 18th August 1897,
regarding the proposed amalgamation of
the Lunatic Asylum Vizagapatam with
the Madras Institution

2. I request the favour of early order
being passed on the question of the Madras
Superintendent's pay.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

C. Sibthorpe
Surgeon-Major-Genl.

Surgeon-General

with the Govt. of Madras.

[Signature]

Public (1898) Department.

CURRENT No. 447



From

The Sanitary Commission
for Madras.

No. $\frac{212}{5}$

Dated 1st February 1898.

Received } 2nd Feb 98
Registered }

Enclosures one

Spare copies

SUBJECT.

Forwarding a copy of his letter
No 2006/s dated 5. 10. 1897
with reference to Memorandum
of Govt No 239 Public
dated 28th January 1898.

Order

Us for perusal
2006/s dated 5/10/97
sent. lit 15/2/98
Kk 6/4/98

No.

2006
5

OFFICE OF SANITARY COMMISSIONER,

Fort St. George, 5th October 1897

From

SURGEON-LIEUT.-COL. W. G. KING, M.B., C.M., D.P.H.,

SANITARY COMMISSIONER FOR MADRAS,

To

THE

Chief Secretary
to Government
Public Department.

Enclosure.

SIR,

at T

With reference to G.O. No. 856
dated 2nd July 1897. Public I have
the honor to state that I am of
opinion that the difference of
climate between Madras and
Vizagapatam is not of such a
nature that it need be taken
into consideration in regard
to its influence upon lunatics
shifted from one place to the
other. In the case of the
Vizagapatam Lunatic Asylum,
many of the patients have already
by being brought to the Coast
from the adjacent hills under-
gone a far more marked con-
-trast than is possible by re-
-moving them from Vizagapatam
to Madras.

2. There can be no doubt of the
language

language difficulty suggested
by Government and unless
the patients were specially
maintained in a Telugu
section in the Madras Asylum,
their transfer would add
considerably to their discom-
fort - if not militate against
their chances of recovery by
offering distinct impediments to
the conduct of medical treatment.

3. I may add that the inmates
in the Vizagapatnam Asylum
are not alone drawn from the
Telugu population. There are
scarcely inmates who under-
stand nothing but Ooria
and Sooria [Saura]. Thus, to com-
municate with a Sooria [Saura]
patient, I have had to use the
service of an Ooria who, in turn,
was interpreted by a Telugu.

Ooria is so much used that
at least subordinates, cannot
fulfil their duties without a
knowledge of it.

4. My personal belief, how-
ever, is that if a Telugu sec-
tion were made in the
Asylum.

Asylum, no difficulty would
be experienced.

I have &c
S. J. G. King Esq. M. A.
Sanitary Commissioner
for Madras

True Copy

W. H. King

Sanitary Commissioner

for Madras

is the original
apparently the
word Sooria
used instead
Saura - the cor-
rect word.

W. H. King

11/2/92

No.

212
8

447 OFFICE OF SANITARY COMMISSIONER,
Fort St. George, 1 Feb 1898.

From

SURGEON-LIEUT.-COL. W. G. KING, M.B., C.M., D.P.H.,
SANITARY COMMISSIONER FOR MADRAS,

To

THE

Chief Secretary
to Government
Public Department

Enclosure.

SIR,

With reference to your
Memorandum N^o 239 Public,
dated 28th January 1898, I have
the honor to forward herewith a
copy of my letter N^o 2006 dated
5 October 1897.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedt servant,
W. G. King
Sanitary Commissioner
for Madras.

Pub
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447

124/6.6.
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22.02.16

1

Home Department

(Medical)

Calcutta, the 10th March 1898.

CHIEF SECRETARY
16 MAR 1898
DEPARTMENT OF MADRAS

Recd 3/16
Rejo

Subject:

Administration of Curative Asylums
in the Madras Presidency.

To

The Chief Secy. to the Govt. of India

No 490, dated. 10th May 1897
Reminder
No dated

SIR,

I AM directed to invite attention to
the communication marginally noted, and
to request the favour of an early reply
thereto.

I have the honour to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient Servant

Methan

Under Secy to the Govt. of India.

DEPARTMENT.

[G.]
1,000-82-11-97

C. 24-3-98
P. 14-4-98

C. No. 570

SUBJECT.

(2) HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.

(1) THE HON'BLE SIR HENRY BLISS, K.C.I.E.

THE HON'BLE MR. GROSE, C.I.E.

Pay of the Supt. of the
Madras Lunatic Asylum.

FOR ORDERS.

In the correspondence in G.O.
1217 dated 23/7/96 the
question of reorganising the
lunatic asylums was discussed.

In letter no 1218 of the same
date this Govt. in replying to
the Govt. of India on various
points which had been raised,
urged that the pay of the
Supt. of the Madras Asylum
should be increased to

Rs 700 - 50 - 1400 p.m.

(vide para 6 of the letter of D
for the statement of the reasons
for the recommendation)

In its letter of 18th May last
India replied. Whereupon it
decided that the Vijayapattinam
asylum should be closed, and
it suggested that the pay

of the Dept. of the Interior System
has been fixed at 700 - 800 - 1200,
or the should be the same
pay + a substantial with
delay. The Gov. of India
recommends the necessity for
raising the pay.

Then the Bill from the
Gov. of India was received it
was circulated for orders.
The one recorded on the
subject of the abolition of
the Vijayachitra System.
Orders were subsequently
made to the S.G. and the
Secretary Commr. on the
subject. The replies were
received - but from the
Secretary Commr. at the
beginning of October. The
file however is shown as having
been attached to the Hon. Mr.
Henry Dhillon on 21/2/17, &
having returned on the
same day. Since then it
has been missing. Every
effort to find it has so far
failed. But orders were
passed on 21/2/18, & they the

the (i.e. the clerk
whose business it
would have been to
know the subject matter
of the file)

If not, the file shd. be made
available by aid of the copies
obtained from the office &
be re-circulated
H.S.

1
The Bill from the
Gov. of India was received it
was circulated for orders.
The one recorded on the
subject of the abolition of
the Vijayachitra System.
Orders were subsequently
made to the S.G. and the
Secretary Commr. on the
subject. The replies were
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been attached to the Hon. Mr.
Henry Dhillon on 21/2/17, &
having returned on the
same day. Since then it
has been missing. Every
effort to find it has so far
failed. But orders were
passed on 21/2/18, & they the

The question of the Dept's
pay may however, it is
submitted, be decided
separately. A copy of the
S.G.'s letter has been obtained
(which is missing)
and is being
forwarded to the
Secretary Commr. on the
subject.

Certainly - Long Capt. Park would
rise to the roof for 10 years - The
Sole of that day may be left to
consider whether to should get more.
I think is ultimately should & for
the present let us be content with
penck on 4/2/20.

* What we have got. This is not
 an illiberal disposal of the question,
 all things considered.

13/4/98

Further correspondence
 with India merely to
 get the maximum
 raised with involve much
 loss of time & probably
 to no purpose. as H.B.
 says we had better accept
 India's proposal & leave to the
 future any additional raising
 of the maximum. H.B.

Asylum

F O R O R D E R S

In the note for orders, below, submitted in Madras, it was mentioned that the papers connected with the above current (letter from the G. of I. d/18-5-97) were missing, and that further search would be made during the move to the hills. It is regretted that all efforts to find the file have so far proved unavailing. Copies of the letters of the S.G. and the Sany. Commr. on the subject have been obtained and the question is now submitted for orders. Orders have been passed regarding the pay of the Supt. of the Madras Lunatic Asylum, but no letter has yet gone to India as, it is submitted, the whole matter ^{with} may now be dealt/in one communication.

On receipt of India's letter the S.G. and the Sany. Commr. were consulted with special reference to the statement of India in para 3 that "in language and climate there is little difference between Madras and Vizagapatam". The Sany. Commr. considers, as far as climate is concerned, that this is substantially correct, or at any rate that the difference need not affect the lunatics, while the language difficulty could, he suggests, be got over by the establishment of a Telugu section in the

4
India insists on the removal to Madras
of several lunatics, natives of this
(a hyacinth)
Presy. who are now confined in the
Mangoon Asylum. It is necessary here
to go into the history of this question
but it is sufficient to say that this
Govt. while admitting that it was advisable
that lunatics should be confined near
their homes, did not consider that it was
justified in imposing on Madras revenues
a charge which should properly be borne
by Burma vide letter No. 1477, d/12th Nov.

1897 flagged I. The Govt. of India
now ~~states~~ ^{express} with ~~the~~ approval of this
Govt's view, in letter No. 1218 Judl., d/
23rd July 1896, that lunatics removed
from their own country and from their
friends and relations ^{might} suffer in bodily
health or in spirits and so be hindered
in their recovery, and on this ground
bases its orders for the transfer of
these lunatics from Burma. If the Govt.
of India considers this argument of
such strength as to justify its imposing
on this Presy. what appears to be an
unfair charge, it is submitted that
this Govt. may well urge that the ad-
vantage of confining lunatics in the
neighbourhood of their own homes altogether
outweighs the benefits which they would
receive from treatment under a specialist.

The S.G. in his letter further
mentions that the distance from Vizagapatam
to Madras will render it impossible to
transfer acute cases until the most
favourable

This will have to be considered
in financial. If India
wishes to impose charges
outside the Provincial control
it should provide the funds.
Certainly this is
the argument in the letter.

Presumably, that same argument
applies against closing the
Vizag or the Calicut asylums.
The Vindras in particular
is likely to suffer from
astalgia.

28th Nov

favourable time for treatment has
passed, that the lunatic asylum in
Vizagapatam is ^{healthy &} well managed, and that
~~it would be a waste of money~~ if a medical school
is started at Vizagapatam as is now
contemplated. It will be necessary
that there should be some opportunity
for practical instruction in lunacy.

The Educational Dept
has now under consideration
a proposal to make the
Dept. of the Madras Asylum
lecture on mental diseases
& give clinical instruction
at the Asylum. This
extra work imposed upon
him will, it is submitted,
be an additional reason
for not enlarging the
Asylum by the addition
of the patients from
Vizagapatam.

I should most strongly oppose
the closing of the Vizag Asylum

BS 29/4/98
JG 3/5/98

My opinion has always been against the closing of the
Vizagapatam Asylum, and that opinion was
strengthened by the instructions issued on
Feb. last.

BS 5.5.98

MS
26/4/98

MS
27.4.98

C. 17.5.98
Rd. 19.5.98

Public

DEPARTMENT.

Papers to be read in proceedings :--

Again G.O., No.	, dated	189 .
Again G.O., No.	, dated	189 .
Current No. 1947	of 1897, dated	, from
" " 570	" 1898, "	" "
" " 447	" 1898, "	" "

38

*Closing of the Lunatic Asylum at
Vizagapatnam + increase in the
pay of the Supt. of the Asylum, Madras*

H.E. Mr. Governor

*Letter to the Govt. of
India*

ORDER. No. 734.96th June 1898.

The Government of India will be
addressed.

AK
14/7/98
AK

ORDER. No. 735.96th June 1898.

The Secretary to the Government of
India, Home Department.

SIR,

I am directed to acknowledge the
receipt of your letter No. 490 dated 10th
May 1897 regarding the closing of the
lunatic asylum at Vizagapatnam, and the
increase in the pay of the Supt. of the
Asylum at Madras.

In reply I am to say that His
Excellency the Governor in Council
strongly deprecated the proposal of
the Government of India that the
asylum at Vizagapatnam should be closed.
The views of this Govt. on the sub-
ject have been set forth in

para 1 of Mr. Pringle's letter of 1891.
Judicial dated 20th July 1891. The
objections there raised to the abolition
of the smaller asylums have been considered,
and ^{here} validity is in part admitted by the
Govt. of India in the letter under re-
ply, but these objections are held to
be outweighed in the case of the Vizagapa-
tam asylum ^{by} the advantage which
patients ^{would} derive from treatment by
a specialist in mental diseases. It is
however to point out that the main ground
on which the Govt. of India appears to
have based its decision, namely, that
in language and climate there is little
difference between Madras and Vizagapa-
tam, is founded upon a false impression.
The Vizagapatnam asylum is almost entire-
ly used for the reception of Telugu and
Uriya ~~patients~~ patients. ^{namely} it is, like Tamil, derived from the Dravi-
dian stock, is so unlike the latter language
that a person acquainted only with the
one is unable to understand, or to make
himself understood, in a country where
the other language alone is spoken. As
far as Telugu is concerned it is not
possible to arrange ^{at a considerable increase of expense} for the reception in
the Madras Asylum of a Telugu section,
where the attendants would all be ac-
quainted with that language. ^{however} There
would remain for disposal the Telugu
patients, ^{it} would be quite impossible
to bring to Madras attendants with a
knowledge of Telugu. As regards climate,
that of Waltair, where the asylum is
situated, is considerably cooler than
that

that of Madras, and the rainfall is
more equally distributed. The asylum,
moreover, is intended for the reception
of lunatics from all the whole of the
northern districts of the Presidency,
and patients from Ganjam, who would feel
in some degree the change to Vizagapatnam.
It ^{likely to} would be effected to a ^{more} serious extent
by the ^{removal} move to Madras.

3. But it is not alone on the dif-
ferences in language & temperature and
rainfall that the decision of this
question must rest. The causes which
contribute to ^{nostalgia} are far more nu-
merous and more indefinite. ^{but} There
can be little doubt that persons who,
when in health, are strongly averse to
leaving their own districts, are likely
to be seriously affected, if, as lunatics,
they are moved to a distant place
where they have no opportunity of seeing
their friends, and where all their sur-
roundings are strange. These considera-
tions apply with the greatest force
in ^{the} case of persons who are but slightly
insane, and whose ^{freely} chance of recovery,
it is desirable in no way to diminish.
This view has been so completely ac-
cepted by the Govt. of India, in another
instance, ^{that} it is proposed to impose
on this Govt. the cost of maintaining
natives of this Presidency who have
become insane in Burmah. H.E. the Gover-
nor in Council would urge that a reason
which ^{are} is considered of sufficient
weight to justify that proposal must
completely

† Mr. Hewitt's letter 1895
d. 15/7/95

^{and}
NOTE FOR THE ~~CHIEF~~ SECRETARY.

Submitted for order with
all the currents and the
Proposition Statements should
be ~~filled~~ printed in full in
this case.

199
23/5/98.

20

~~Handwritten~~

Print for 1947
197

by no small
price paper
not to be
not to be
not to be

for 14.6.
199

...outbalance any advantage
patients might derive from the
of a specialist. In these circum-
stances I am to ask for reconsideration
the decision at which the Govt. of
India has arrived. The Lunatic Asylum
Vizagapatam has been for some years
particularly healthy and well-managed
institution. The distance of the northern
districts from Madras by rail is such
that it will be impossible to transfer
such cases until the most favourable
time for treatment is passed; ^{in the meanwhile} ~~temporary~~ confinement in a jail ^{will} ~~will~~
there be necessary. Finally this Govt.
has now in contemplation the establish-
ment of a medical school at Vizagapatam,
and it is desirable that there should
be at that place opportunities for
practical instruction in mental diseases.

With regard to the pay of the
Capt. of the Madras Asylum His Excellency
the Governor in Council ~~proposes~~ the first
of the alternatives suggested by the
Govt. of India, namely pay at the rate
of Rs. 700, rising to Rs. 1000. I am to
enclose the necessary proposition state-
ment and to solicit the sanction of the
Govt. of India to the introduction of the
new scale with effect from the beginning
of the current official year.

} For orders.

12
14/5/98

12/5.5.98