

Revenue Department

Minutes of consultations

27th May 1859

Book No 68 + 69

Order No 717 of 27th May 1859.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
from 18th to 27th May 1859.*

No. 68. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Military Department, dated 9th May 1859, No. 1672.

Communicated to the Director General Medical Department correspondence respecting Dressers in Civil employ and the supply of medicines for their use, in view to a draft order being prepared and submitted for publication.

(Vide Military Proceedings from 4th to 10th May 1859, Nos. 125 to 128.)

No. 69. ORDER THEREON, 27th May 1859, No. 717.

Ordered that the foregoing Proceedings be recorded.

(Signed) J. D. BOURDILLON,
Secretary to Government.

MILITARY DEPARTMENT.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following papers:—

From the Director General, Medical Department, Fort Saint George, 18th February 1859, No. 31; to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George.

Between Superintending Surgeon Lovell, and Mr. Cherry, Acting Collector Coimbatore.

I have the honor to forward for the information of Government, copies of correspondence as per margin, with reference to the position of Medical Subordinates when employed

under the orders of Civil and Judicial Officers.

2. It appears from the correspondence, that Mr. Cherry Acting Collector of Coimbatore, fined a 1st Dresser employed under his orders named Armoogum, (No. 84) ten Rupees for alleged neglect of duty in the month of July last.

3. The Dresser complained of this act to the Civil Surgeon of Coimbatore, and to the Superintending Surgeon of the Division, and requested that the instance of neglect of duty, for which he was fined might be enquired into.

4. Mr. Cherry informed the Superintending Surgeon and Civil Surgeon, that the Dresser was entirely under his orders, and declined receiving any communication through those Officers on the subject, unless "specific authority" could be shown by them—entitling them to interfere in the matter. Mr. Cherry at the same time desired, that the whole question should be submitted for the decision of Government.

5. There can be no doubt I think, that the Dresser Armoogum a Military man, whose services were temporarily lent to the Civil Department, should have been held amenable to Military discipline for neglect of duty, and that the stoppage of his pay as a punishment was irregular.

6. It is I think very desirable, that the question of control of Medical Subordinates in Civil employ, should be more definitely settled than it is at present.

7. I would propose for the consideration of Government, that all Dressers or Subordinates in Civil employ, be posted to do duty under the Civil Surgeons attached to the various Collectorates, and that they should be under the direct control of the Civil Surgeons—each Dresser should be detached for duty with the Collector and Sub-Collector, in regular order.

The Medicines &c., now supplied for the Civil Department, should be under the control and management of the Civil Surgeon, and the Dressers should at the end of each tour of duty, account for the proper expenditure of the same.

All complaints of neglect of duty &c., on the part of Dressers, should be forwarded in the first instance, to the Civil Surgeon, whose duty it would be to investigate the complaint, and if necessary, transmit his observations on the same through the Superintending Surgeon of the Division, for the information of the Director General, Medical Department.

8. The advantages of this arrangement would be simply these.

A. Dressers now employed under Collectors &c., would have an opportunity in their turn, of performing the duties at Jail Hospitals and Civil Dispensaries, and their professional knowledge would be thus increased, and kept up to the requisite standard.

B. Being directly under the orders of the Civil Surgeon, the Dressers would be regularly examined as to their professional qualifications, and be placed on the same footing as regards professional improvement, as the Dressers now attached to Civil Dispensaries and Jails.

C. The Medicines would be used for the purposes intended, viz., for the sick of the Cutcherry servants, and others employed under the Collector. I have reason to suppose, that in many instances, under the present arrangement, Cutcherry servants are told to apply when sick, at the Civil Dispensaries, and that the Medicines really intended for their use, are expended by Dressers on their private Patients.

9. I trust Government may be pleased to sanction the arrangement proposed in para. 7, in order to improve the efficiency of the Subordinate Medical Department, and to avoid all necessity for further reference on the subject.

Referred to the Commander-in-Chief.

25th February 1859.

From the Adjutant General of the Army, Fort Saint George, 17th March 1859 No. 254; to the Secretary to Government, Military Department.

In acknowledging the receipt of letter from the Director General Medical Department, dated 18th February 1859 No. 31, referred to the Commander-in-Chief under date the 25th idem, I have the honor by order, to state for the information of the Right Honorable the Governor in Council, that His Excellency has no objection whatever, so far as the Military authorities are concerned, to all complaints of neglect of duty &c., on the part of Dressers employed in Collectorates in Zillahs being forwarded in the first instance to the Civil Surgeon; who after investigating the complaint, may if he consider necessary, transmit it with his observations through the Superintending Surgeon of the Division, for the information of the Director General.

2. Lieutenant General Sir P. Grant thinks the suggestion a good one, as he is of opinion that Subordinate Medical servants should always when practicable, be placed under the direct control of a covenanted Medical Officer.

Referred to the Revenue Department for the purpose of ascertaining, whether there is any objection to the Rules proposed in paragraph 7 of the letter from the Director General, respecting Dressers in Civil employ, and Medicines &c. supplied to the Civil Department.

7th April 1859.

Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Revenue Department.

From the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 29th April 1859, No. 1500, to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

Letter of Director General to Government, dated 18th February 1859, No. 31, para. 7, in Extract Minutes Consultation 7th April 1859, Military Department.

With reference to Extract Minutes Consultation 14th instant, Revenue Department No. 538, I am directed to state, that the Board see no objection to carrying out the rules proposed by the Director General of the Medical Department, respecting Dressers employed in the Civil Department, and the supply of Medicines for their use.

The course prescribed for the disposal of complaints against such Dressers is complicated, but the Board presume no simple mode can be adopted, as these Subordinates are declared to be amenable to Military discipline. It should be distinctly declared, that although a Collector has not the power of punishing a Dresser, the latter while actually attached to his establishment, is under his exclusive control and bound to obey his orders.

ORDER THEREON, 4th May 1859, No. 614.

Referred to the Military Department for consideration and orders, with reference to Extract Minutes Consultation in that Department, dated 7th April 1859.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. D. BOURDILLON,

Secretary to Government.

ORDER, No. 1672, 9th May 1859.

Ordered that the foregoing Papers be communicated to the Director General, with a view to a Draft order being prepared in communication with the Adjutant General, and submitted for publication.

(True Copies.)

To the Director General, Medical Department.

„ Adjutant General.

„ Revenue Department. With 20/100 Copies.

Exd. J. Davis.

M. M. M. M. M.
Ag. Depy. Secretary to Government.

Decemr 1839
Nov 27th May

Proceedings of the
 National East in the
 Military Department.

Noted & May 1859
Dec. 18 - 3

Communicating to the
Director Genl Medical Dept
Correspondence respecting
Orders in Civil Practice
The Supply of Medicines
For them who are new to
Draft ordering papers
& submitted for publication

Dec 17/17
Dec 17/17

27 Aug 1859