

NAVAL AND MILITARY MEDICAL SERVICES.

THE INJUSTICE OF RELATIVE RANK: OPINION OF LORD DALHOUSIE, LATE GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF INDIA.

LORD DALHOUSIE, when holding the appointment of Governor-General of India, gave expression in a minute upon the Medical Service, appended to the Report of the Parliamentary Committee, to the following forcible observations, which have a particular significance at the present time:

"There are several particulars in which the medical service as a body lies under great disadvantages, and which they regard—justly, in my opinion—as grievances, which ought to be removed. I refer to the inequality which now prevails between the position of the medical officer and that of his brother officers in respect of pension,¹ honour, and rank. I respectfully submit that such inequalities are founded on no sound grounds of justice, expediency, or policy; no valid reason ever has been, or can be, alleged for maintaining them. Their effect is to depress the spirit of the medical officers, to depreciate a profession and class of service which ought to be held in the utmost respect, and supported equally from motives of prudence and gratitude.

"But the most galling, the most unmeaning and purposeless regulations, by which a sense of inferiority is imposed upon medical officers, is by the refusal to them of *substantive* rank. The surgeon and assistant-surgeon rank invariably with captain, lieutenant; but the rank is only *nominal*: whenever medical officers and others are brought together on public duty, the former have no rank at all, and the oldest surgeon on the list must, in such case, range himself below the youngest ensign last posted to a corps.

"It is impossible to conceive how such a system as this can have been maintained so long, on the strength of no better argument than that it has been, and therefore ought to be! It is impossible to imagine what serious justification can be offered for a system which, in respect to external position, postpones service to inexperience, cunning to ignorance, age to youth; a system which gives a subaltern who is hardly free from his drill precedence over his elder; a system which treats a member of a learned profession, a man of ability, skill, and experience, as inferior in position to a cornet of cavalry just entering on his study of the pass and audit regulations; a system, in fine, which thrusts down grey-headed veterans below beardless boys."

The following telegram has been received during the past week from the Medical Staff at Allahabad: "Medical Staff of India believe honorary rank absolutely necessary for equality with other departments. Relative rank now worthless."

HONORARY RANK FOR MEDICAL OFFICERS.

"MEDICAL STAFF, BENGAL," writes: The question of rank for officers of the Medical Staff, which is now engaging the attention of the profession at home, is a matter which deeply affects the interests of the department. In 1885, when honorary rank was conferred upon the Commissariat and Transport Staff, and Ordnance Store Department, it was generally felt that the position of the officers of the Army Medical Staff was becoming very anomalous; but when, by the new Royal Warrant, issued in January last, the semblance of rank which we possessed was swept away, the blow was felt as very severe, and one that vitally affected the welfare and status of the officers of the department.

To show the unfairness with which the Medical Staff has been treated, it may be noted that the officers of the departments which have been granted honorary rank are considered so purely unarmy and so little liable to the risks of war, that, according to the Royal Warrant, those of them engaged on duties with an army in the field, although eligible for medals, are excluded from receiving clasps unless "actually exposed to fire under circumstances which may have rendered such exposure a duty," whereas medical officers, all of whom with an army in the field are, in virtue of the same Royal Warrant, entitled to clasps, have been deprived of even the appearance of rank which they formerly possessed, and are relegated to what the authorities are pleased to style "relative precedence."

Such treatment is not only calculated to make the department discontented, but is sufficient to create disgust with the military service. It is well known that position in the army is decided and made evident by recognised military titles; what, therefore, must be the feelings of those who find themselves suddenly deprived of all rank, and given instead an indefinite form of precedence, which may mean anything or nothing according as it may be interpreted, and can convey no idea of rank either to soldier or civilian? If medical officers are to have any rank at all, they must be placed on an equality with the other departments, and given honorary rank. The time is past for relative rank or relative precedence.

The duties of officers of the Medical Staff are more military than ever; on entering the service they receive military training; they command not only the warrant officers, non-commissioned officers, and men of their own corps, but also all men of other corps attached for duty; all patients in hospital, and all connected with the Hospital Establishment. Their duties are entirely with troops, and the wearing of uniform is now compulsory at all stations, both at home and abroad.

It seems almost incredible that the other departments of the army, whose

¹ This has been rectified.

duties are wholly confined to office work and supply, who rarely come in contact with soldiers, and who never see a shot fired in anger, should be given well-defined military rank, whilst it is denied to officers of the Medical Staff, who share not only all the dangers of war, but also, in addition, all the risks of pestilence and disease, as the lists of dead sufficiently testify.

This inequality should not exist. What advantage is it to a medical officer to have relative rank on leaving the service, or to receive a step in promotion in such rank? To whom outside the service is such rank known, or who understands the meaning of such a title as Brigade-Surgeon? The sooner all these anomalies cease the better for the service. If we are to be denied the honorary rank given to the other departments, let us be pure civilians, without any uniform or badges of any description; our position would then be defined, and we could know how to act accordingly. The question of rank or no rank is one that in the interests of the service demands an immediate settlement to allay the prevailing and increasing discontent.

CHANGES OF STATION.

The following changes of station among the officers of the Medical Staff of the Army have been officially notified as having taken place during the past month:—

	From	To
Deputy Surgeon-General J. B. C. Reade..	Bengal	London.
" " W. Cattell ..	Nova Scotia	Cork.
" " J. Tulloch, M.D.	Devonport	Woolwich.
Brigade-Surgeon J. Inkson, M.D.	Bengal	Aldershot.
" J. Paxton, M.D.	Bombay	Colchester.
Surgeon-Major J. R. Murray, M.D.	Gosport	Portsmouth.
" C. S. Close ..	Bombay	Gravesend.
" J. E. Fannin ..	Madras	Dundaik.
" W. Taylor, M.D.	Bombay	Staff of C. in C., E. Indies.
" J. O'Reilly, M.B.	Bengal	Netley.
" W. F. Samuels ..	Bombay	Birr.
" G. Corry ..	Egypt	York.
" J. A. Clery, M.B.	Egypt	Woolwich.
Surgeon A. C. J. R. Lundy, M.B.	Salford	York.
" T. M. Corker, M.D.	Cork	Kilkenny.
" O. Todd, M.B. . . .	Colchester	Harwich.
" M. W. Kerin ..	Madras	Netley.
" J. G. W. Crofts ..	Bengal	York.
" A. J. Struthers, M.B.	Woolwich	Edinburgh.
" S. C. B. Robinson ..	Bengal	Painbrooke Dock.
" R. P. Hetherington ..	Egypt	Netley.
" S. N. Cardozo ..	Egypt	Aldershot.
" H. T. Baylor ..	Madras	Buttevant.
" A. A. Sutton ..	Egypt	Jersey.
" H. N. Kenny, M.B.	Egypt	Netley.
" D. Hennessy, M.D.	Limerick	New Ross.
" D. M. Saunders, M.D.	Aldershot	Salford.
" R. N. Buist, M.B.	Liverpool	Newcastle-on-T.
" W. Dowman ..	Aldershot	Bengal.

The gentlemen who were appointed on February 5th last, have been stationed as follows:—

Surgeon F. J. Morgan ..	Aldershot.
" W. H. Horrocks, M.B. . . .	"
" C. H. Hale ..	"
" H. C. Thurston ..	"
" B. H. Scott ..	"
" W. C. Poole, M.B. . . .	"
" O. R. A. Julian ..	"
" G. Raymond, M.B. . . .	"
" E. A. Burnside ..	"
" T. M'Culloch, M.B. . . .	"
" A. B. Hinde ..	"
" A. Y. Reilly, M.B. . . .	"
" J. W. Cockerill ..	"
" J. Ritchie, M.B. . . .	"
" H. St. G. S. Hore ..	"
" S. Macdonald, M.B. . . .	"
" E. Corcoran ..	"
" A. O. C. Watson, M.B. . . .	"
" E. W. Gray, M.B. . . .	"
" D. Stiell, M.B. . . .	"
" L. E. A. Salmon ..	"
" G. A. Wade, M.B. . . .	"
" J. Minniece, M.D. . . .	"
" R. H. Penton ..	"
" M. P. C. Holt ..	"
" W. L. Gray, M.B. . . .	"
" E. G. Browne ..	"
" J. C. Morgan ..	"
" H. I. Pocock ..	"
" G. Hilliard, M.B. . . .	"
" C. R. Elliott, M.D. . . .	"
" C. A. Young ..	"
" J. W. Bullen, M.D. . . .	"
" J. C. Weir, M.B. . . .	"
" B. J. Inniss ..	"
" R. C. Thacker ..	"
" W. N. Murphy, M.D. . . .	"
" S. F. Clark, M.B. . . .	"
" E. M. Hassard ..	"
Quartermaster T. Warrington	Gibraltar.

A QUESTION OF COSTUME.

In reply to "Surgeon-Major," we may say that we believe the *conversations* to be given to the Association, at the annual meeting in Dublin, would be a very suitable occasion for medical officers of the volunteer forces to appear in uniform.

THE NAVY.

INSPECTOR-GENERAL DUGALD M'EWAN, M.D., has been placed on the retired list. Dr. M'EWAN's promotion to be Inspector-General, with the particulars of his commissions and war services, were so recently given in the columns of the JOURNAL that it seems unnecessary now to repeat them.

Fleet-Surgeon GERALD A. YEO died at Alverstoke, Hampshire, on March 27th. His commissions bore date: Surgeon, March 2nd, 1843; Staff-Surgeon, February 21st, 1850; and Fleet-Surgeon, February 26th, 1867; he retired April 1st, 1870. He was in receipt of the Greenwich Hospital Pension.

Staff-Surgeon R. G. BIRD has been promoted to be Fleet-Surgeon. He entered the service as Surgeon, June 28th, 1836, and became Staff-Surgeon, March 16th, 1878. During the Egyptian war in 1882 he was Staff-Surgeon of the *Carysfort* (medal and Egyptian bronze star), and also during the operations near Suakin in 1884 (clasp).

The following appointments have been made at the Admiralty: J. H. HALPIN to be Surgeon and Agent at Wicklow; WILLIAM HUNTER, to be Surgeon and Agent at Rothesay; THOMAS NUMAN, Surgeon, to the *Wasp*; JAMES SMITH, M.D., to be Surgeon and Agent at Tullapool.

THE MEDICAL STAFF.

SURGEON-MAJOR A. N. HOJEL, Bombay Establishment, is promoted to be Brigade-Surgeon, *vice* H. J. Blanc, retired. Brigade-Surgeon Hojel entered as Assistant-Surgeon July 27th, 1859. During the disturbances in Persia in 1866-71, he was present at the dethronement of two revolutionary sultans of Muscat; at the bombardment, landing, and capture of Bahrin Fort; and at the capture and destruction of Arab war vessels and piratical craft (mentioned in despatches).

Deputy Surgeon-General R. A. CHAPPEL, Surgeon J. B. W. BUCHANAN, and Surgeon R. E. FOOT, M.D., have been brought on the strength of the British troops in the Bombay command from March 9th, the date of their arrival in Bombay.

Brigade-Surgeon W. O'HALLORAN is granted retired pay with the honorary rank of Deputy Surgeon-General; his previous commissions are dated: Assistant-Surgeon, February 18th, 1856; Surgeon, March 8th, 1871; Surgeon-Major, March 1st, 1873; and Brigade-Surgeon, January 30th, 1882. He was present at the capture of Canton in December, 1857 (medal with clasp), and in the operations in the Malay Peninsula in 1876 (medal with clasp).

Brigade-Surgeon W. CHERRY has also gone on retired pay with a step of honorary rank. He entered the service as Assistant-Surgeon, January 19th, 1860; became Surgeon, March 1st, 1873; Surgeon-Major, April 1st, 1875; and Brigade-Surgeon, April 3rd, 1886. He has no war record.

Surgeon-Major D. C. G. BOURNS, who went on half-pay in April of last year, has been reappointed to the full pay establishment, *vice* F. H. Welch, who has been promoted to Brigade-Surgeon.

Surgeon S. H. LINDEMAN, serving in Bengal, has leave of absence for six months on medical certificate; and Surgeon T. R. MORSE, serving in the Madras command, has leave to Australia for six months, also on medical certificate.

Surgeon C. QUARRY, on arrival from England, is directed to do duty at the Station Hospital, Secunderabad, Madras Command.

Surgeon A. ASBURY, on arrival from England, is ordered to do general duty, Eastern District, Madras, and to report himself to the Deputy Surgeon-General, H.M.'s Forces, Madras, for orders.

Surgeon H. J. McLAUGHLIN, M.B., doing duty, Station Hospital, Bangalore, is directed to do general duty, Eastern District, Madras.

Surgeon F. W. H. D. HARRIS, doing duty Station Hospital, Madras, is directed to do duty, Station Hospital, Bangalore.

Deputy Surgeon-General T. TARRANT, M.D., serving in the Madras command, is appointed to officiate as Surgeon-General in the Bangalore Division and Ceded and Belgaum Districts, with temporary rank.

Brigade-Surgeon F. FERGUSON, M.D., Medical Staff, is appointed to officiate on the Administrative Medical Staff of the Madras Army, with the temporary rank of Deputy Surgeon-General, *vice* Dr. Tarrant, during the absence on leave out of India of Surgeon-General J. Irvine, M.D.

THE INDIAN MEDICAL SERVICE.

BRIGADE-SURGEON C. J. F. McDOWALL, Bombay Establishment, has retired from the service, on a pension of £700 per annum payable in England. He joined the service as Assistant-Surgeon August 4th, 1856, and became Brigade-Surgeon September 16th, 1882. He served in the Eastern campaign in 1855-56 with the Turkish Contingent (5th Class of the Medjidie, and Turkish medal); with the Persian Expeditionary Force in 1857, when he was present at the capture of Mohumrah (medal with clasp); in the Indian Mutiny campaign in 1857-59 in the Southern Mahratta country (medal); and in the Abyssinian war in 1867-68, including the storming of Magdala (medal).

The following appointments on the Bombay Establishment have been made from the date of the retirement of Brigade-Surgeon H. J. Blanc, M.D.:—Surgeon-Major A. N. HOJEL, to be Physician to the European General Hospital, *vice* Brigade-Surgeon Blanc. Surgeon-Major G. WATERS, to be Second Physician, Jamssetjee Jejeebhoy Hospital, *vice* Surgeon-Major Hojel. Surgeon R. MANSER, to be Third Physician and Registrar, Jamssetjee Jejeebhoy Hospital, *vice* Surgeon-Major Waters. Surgeon R. J. BAKER, M.B., to be Resident Surgeon, European General Hospital, *vice* Surgeon Manser. These officers held the appointments substantively *pro tem*. from the date of the expiry of the furlough granted to Brigade-Surgeon Blanc up to the date of his retirement. The following appointments are also made consequent on the appointment of Surgeon-Major A. N. Hojel:—Surgeon-Major G. WATERS, to be Professor of Physiology in the Grant Medical College. Surgeon R. MANSER, to be Professor of Pathology, *vice* Surgeon-Major Waters. Surgeon R. J. BAKER, M.B., to be Professor of Materia Medica, *vice* Surgeon Manser. These appointments were held from the date of expiry of the furlough granted to Brigade-Surgeon Blanc to the date of his retirement.

Brigade-Surgeon G. S. SUTHERLAND, M.D., Bengal Establishment, Examiner of Medical and Fund Accounts, Bengal, has leave of absence for 275 days on medical certificate.

Surgeons N. P. SINTRA, C. MACTAGGART, L. J. PISANI, B. K. BASU, J. F. EVANS, W. R. EDWARDS, A. C. DEARE, G. J. H. BELL, W. H. B. ROBINSON, and A. W. DAWSON, M.B., all of the Bengal Establishment, have passed the examination in Hindustani by the lower standard.

Surgeon-Major W. S. FOX, of the Madras Establishment, is promoted to be Brigade-Surgeon from January 4th; he entered the service as Assistant-Surgeon March 31st, 1865, but has no war record.

Surgeon A. SILCOCK, Bengal Establishment, is appointed to the permanent medical charge of the 1st Sikh Infantry, *vice* Surgeon-Major A. P. Holmes, deceased.

Surgeon H. FOOKS, Bengal Establishment, is appointed to the officiating medical charge of the 3rd Sikh Infantry, *vice* Surgeon A. Silcock.

Surgeon W. OWEN, M.B., Bengal Establishment, is appointed Civil Surgeon of Malda, but will continue to act as Civil Surgeon of Pubna.

Surgeon-Major J. F. FITZPATRICK, M.D., Madras Establishment, is appointed to act as Superintendent of the Central Gaol at Coimbatore during the absence of Lieutenant-Colonel Pickance on leave.

Brigade-Surgeon J. KESS, of the Madras Establishment, who retired from the service on January 4th last, was at the same time granted a large Medical Fund annuity.

Surgeon JOHN JACKSON, M.D., late of the Bengal Establishment, died at Brighton on March 31st, at the age of 82.

Surgeon R. MACRAE, M.D., Bengal Establishment, officiating Civil Surgeon of Nuddea, is appointed Civil Surgeon of Mymensingh, but will continue to act in his present appointment.

The appointment of Surgeon-Major H. BOYD, 45th Sikhs, to the medical charge of the Rawul Pindee Lock Hospital is confirmed.

Surgeon G. W. F. DENNY, Bengal Establishment, is appointed Civil Surgeon of Jullundur.

Surgeon M. GAISFORD, Bengal Establishment, Superintendent Rangoon Gaol, whose services have been placed at the disposal of the Government of the North-West Provinces and Oude, is appointed a Deputy Sanitary Commissioner, and is posted to the third circle.

Surgeon S. J. THOMSON, Bengal Establishment, Deputy Sanitary Commissioner of the third circle, on being relieved by Surgeon M. Gaisford, is posted to the second circle.

The Queen has approved the admission of the following gentlemen as Surgeons: *Bengal*.—ROBERT JOSEPH MACNAMARA, M.D., HERBERT WILSON PILGRIM, GEORGE BROOKE FRENCH, FRANCIS WYVILLE THOMSON, EDWIN HAROLD BROWN, CHARLES NORMAN BENSLEY, SELBY HERRIOT HENDERSON, DAVID WILSON SCOTLAND, CHARLES ROBERT MORTIMER GREEN, JAMES HENDERSON SELICK, EDWARD CHRISTIAN HARE, FRANK CECIL CLARKSON, JOHN GREGORY JORDAN, JOHN DIGBY MARSH SWINBURNE, HERBERT MACKINLAY MORRIS, ALLAN RUFERT POSTANCE RUSSELL, JAMES MORWOOD, M.D., EDMUND ALEXANDER WILLIAM HALL, Madras.—GILBERT CAPEL HALL, RICHARD HENDERSON CASTOR, FREDERICK GEORGE MAIDMENT, MARIE JOSEPH TOBY JOINVILLE BLANCARD, IGNATIUS PURCELL DOYLE. *Bombay*.—BLENMAN BUHOT GRAYFOOT, THOMAS EDWARD DYSON.

The following officers, whose admission to the Indian Medical Service (Bengal) was notified in the *London Gazette* of August 20th, 1886, should have been placed in the order here shown: W. G. THOROLD, P. HEHR, L. J. PISANI, B. K. BASU, N. P. SINHA, W. R. EDWARDS, C. MACTAGGART, J. F. EVANS, G. J. H. BELL, J. T. DALY, H. FOOKS, E. HUDSON, A. C. DEARE, A. W. DAWSON, W. H. B. ROBINSON, H. A. SHEPPARD.

The undermentioned gentlemen, all of the Bengal Establishment, have obtained leave of absence for the periods specified: Surgeon-Major G. MASSY, for 91 days on medical certificate; Surgeon-Major T. F. MULLEN, M.D., for one year on medical certificate; Surgeon J. LEWTAS, Queen's Own Corps of Guides, for one year and 186 days on private affairs.

HOSPITAL AND DISPENSARY MANAGEMENT.

WORKSHOP COLLECTIONS FOR HOSPITALS.

MR. S. STRETTON writes: The workpeople of our town are showing a strong desire to establish "Saturday collections" in aid of our infirmary. It is thought that information from other towns adopting a similar course might contribute largely to the general success of the movement, and I am invited to obtain every possible detail. I feel the duty a difficult one, and I must appeal generally to those gentlemen who have knowledge of hospitals where such a system is giving satisfactory results. I shall consider all information I receive on this subject as a personal favour, and the good likely to accrue to our institution will afford extra satisfaction to those who may thus assist in the establishment of good weekly collections from the class who chiefly benefit by hospital admissions and treatment.

* We have referred this letter to Dr. R. Rentoul (78, Hartington Road, Liverpool), who writes: I do not know of any pamphlet or rules to guide one in the matter of hospital collections by the working classes. In this city many workshops fix a box in the shop, and ask the people to drop into it on their pay-days. In many towns Hospital Sunday and Saturday are not kept as separate accounts. In Birmingham, the working men contribute say £20 at one store. They give £15 of this to the hospital, and with the other £5 buy so many tickets from the hospital secretary, so that they may command treatment as their right and due. Mr. Smedley (Secretary Hospital Saturday Fund), 25, Waterloo Street, Birmingham, will supply particulars. The Rev. W. Banister, St. James's Mount, Liverpool, is honorary secretary to the hospital fund here.

A pamphlet written by the late Dr. Ganee, on *Our Medical Charities and the Working Classes*, and published by Cornish Brothers, 37, New Street, Birmingham, contains some hints. *Hospital Management*, by H. C. Burdett, may give a help. So may *Notes taken on a Cruise in the Baltic*, by F. C. Carr-Gomm, Chairman London Hospital. Also a pamphlet by R. Trever, Secretary Hospital Saturday Fund, London, price 2d.; to be had from him. If your correspondent will take a look at my Prize Essay in the December (1886) number of the *Philanthropist* (123, Fulham Road, S.W.), he will get some points. Let me refer him also to H. Fry's *Royal Guide to the London Charities*, 1886, Chatto and Windus, 1s. 6d.; and to Howe's *Classified Directory of the Metropolitan Charities*, 1886; Longman, Green and Co., 1s. The Hospitals Association, Norfolk House, Norfolk Street, London, W.C., may be able to help.

A VERDICT of £20 damages for personal injuries sustained by a bicyclist has been recovered from a defendant who is an inmate of Dartford Asylum.