

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO.

No. 17.—1893.

17th April.

AN ORDINANCE to regulate the Medical Service of the Colony.

WHEREAS it is expedient to repeal Ordinances No. 5 of 1870, No. 15 of 1870 and No. 17 of 1872, and to make better provision for the Medical Service of the Colony: Be it enacted by the Governor of Trinidad and Tobago with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council thereof as follows:—

1. The said Ordinances No. 5 of 1870, No. 15 of 1870 Repeal. and No. 17 of 1872 shall be and are hereby repealed.

2. In this Ordinance,

Definition.

The expression "Medical Practitioner" shall mean any person qualified by the Laws of Great Britain and of this Colony to practice Medicine and Surgery.

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Governor to
appoint a quali-
fied Medical
Practitioner to
be Surgeon-
General.

3. It shall be lawful for the Governor from time to time to appoint such person as he may think fit, being a duly qualified Medical Practitioner, to be Surgeon-General for the Colony of Trinidad and Tobago, and every such person so appointed shall hold office during the pleasure of the Governor.

Surgeon-
General *ex*
officio to be a
member of the
Medical Board,
&c.

4. The Surgeon-General shall *ex officio* be a member of the Medical Board and shall have the general superintendence and direction of the public Medical Service of the Colony and of the several Hospitals and Medical establishments supported by the Government, and shall at least once in every year make a report in writing to the Governor as to the state and condition of such Hospitals and Medical establishments, and all requisitions for medicines, instruments, stores and supplies of all kinds required for the use of any such Hospital or Medical establishment shall be submitted to the Surgeon-General, and no expenditure shall be incurred without his knowledge and sanction.

Surgeon-
General to be
senior Consult-
ing Surgeon of
all Colonial
Hospitals, &c.

5. The Surgeon-General shall be the senior Consulting Surgeon of all Colonial Hospitals and Medical establishments supported by the Government, and shall hereby be authorised to visit and inspect at all times, all Hospitals, Infirmaries, Asylums, Alms-houses, Prisons, Reformatories or Industrial Schools and all other medical institutions which shall in any way receive public aid, pecuniary or otherwise, also all Immigrant and Estate Hospitals established under the Immigration Laws of this Colony.

Surgeon-Gen-
eral authorised
to investigate
all complaints
against officers
of the Medical
Service, &c.

6. The Surgeon-General shall be authorised and required to investigate all complaints against any officer of the Medical Service or reflecting upon the order,

discipline or management of any Hospital or Medical establishment supported by the Government and to enquire into and investigate all complaints of ill-treatment received by any inmate or inmates within any such institution, also to enquire into all breaches of the rules and regulations made and sanctioned from time to time for the management and government of any such institution.

7. The Surgeon-General shall *ex officio* be a member of the General Board of Health and chief Medical Officer of Health for the Colony, and in this capacity shall superintend the work and duties of all Health Officers and Sanitary Inspectors and shall perform such other duties as may be required of him by the Public Health Ordinances, except that of Secretary of the General Board of Health, from which duty he is hereby relieved.

Surgeon-General *ex officio* to be member of the General Board of Health and Chief Medical Officer of Health, &c.

8. Any person who shall obstruct the Surgeon-General in the discharge of any duty imposed upon him by this Ordinance shall be liable on summary conviction before any Stipendiary Justice of the Peace to a penalty not exceeding Five Pounds.

Penalty for obstructing Surgeon-General.

9. It shall be lawful for the Governor to appoint from time to time such persons as he may think fit, being duly registered or licensed Medical Practitioners, to be Government Medical Officers of the Colony, and to assign to each of them such salary, not being less than £250 per annum with an increment of £50 after each period of five years' service together with such allowances for house rent, horse hire or special service, as the Governor and Legislative Council may from time to time provide, and such Govern-

Appointment of Government Medical Officers.

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ment Medical Officers shall hold office during the Governor's pleasure.

Appointment of
Supernumerary
Medical Officers.

10. It shall be lawful in like manner to appoint Supernumerary Medical Officers, being duly registered or licensed Medical Practitioners, in the proportion of at least one Supernumerary to every six Government Medical Officers and to assign to each such Supernumerary Medical Officer such salary, not being less than £250 per annum, as the Governor and Legislative Council may from time to time provide, and each Supernumerary Medical Officer shall be appointed on probation for a period of not less than two years, and it shall be lawful for the Governor at any time during the period of probation to dispense with the services of any such Supernumerary Medical Officer.

Duty of Govern-
ment and
Supernumerary
Medical Officers.

11. It shall be the duty of Government and Supernumerary Medical Officers to give without further remuneration medical attendance and aid at Public Hospitals, Infirmaries and Asylums and to the Police, Prisoners, Paupers and Indentured Immigrants in accordance with such regulations or instructions as the Governor may from time to time approve, and to act as District and Port Health Officers, and to perform such other Medical Services as the Governor may from time to time direct.

Government
and Supernu-
merary Medical
Officers to be
Public Vacina-
tors, &c., &c.

12. Government and Supernumerary Medical Officers shall be Public Vacinators under the Vaccination Ordinance, shall be Medical Visitors under the Immigration Ordinances, shall view, examine and make *post mortem* examinations and reports under the Coroners

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Ordinance, shall examine and certify Lunatics under the Lunatics Ordinance, shall certify under the Registration Ordinance as to the deaths of persons dying without medical attendance, and shall give professional evidence in all cases of felony and misdemeanour in all Courts of the Colony whenever required so to do, and for these services shall be allowed such fees, if any, as may from time to time be authorised by Ordinance or by Regulations approved by the Governor in Executive Council.

13. It shall be lawful for the Governor to divide such portions of the Colony as he may see fit into Medical Districts and from time to time to abolish and reconstitute such Districts and to alter or change the boundaries thereof.

Governor to divide portions of the Colony into Medical Districts.

14. It shall be lawful for the Governor from time to time to assign to any Government or Supernumerary Medical Officer the performance of any special duties authorised by this Ordinance or the performance of the duties of any public medical appointment or of any Medical District constituted under this Ordinance, and to relieve him from the performance of any of the aforesaid duties or to remove any such Officer from one medical appointment or district to another when in the interests of the public service he may see fit.

Governor may assign to Government or Supernumerary Medical Officer special duties.

15. Government and Supernumerary Medical Officers attached to Public Hospitals and Asylums solely for duties connected therewith shall reside at their respective Institutions and shall not engage in private practice or in any occupation or undertaking that can in any way interfere with their public duties, without the

Government and Supernumerary Medical Officers attached to Public Hospitals and Asylums, to reside at their respective Institutions, &c.

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special authority in writing of the Governor. Any Officer offending against the provisions of this Section shall be liable to removal from the public service.

Government or
Supernumerary
Medical Officers
in charge of
Medical
Districts to
reside within
the limits of
their respective
Districts.

16. Government or Supernumerary Medical Officers while in charge of Medical Districts shall reside within the limits of their respective districts at such places as the Governor may approve, and shall be allowed private practice, provided it does not interfere with the due performance of their public duties, and may be required by regulation or official instruction to render professional aid to all sick persons within their respective districts and in emergencies beyond the limits of their respective districts, and for such professional services shall be entitled to receive or to recover such fees as may be authorised for the time being by any Regulation or Tariff made under the authority of this Ordinance.

Governor to
make Regula-
tions and frame
Tariff of fees.

17. It shall be lawful for the Governor from time to time to make, alter, amend or annul any Regulations required by this Ordinance or that may seem advisable for regulating the duties of Medical Officers or for the benefit of the public Medical Service, and it shall in like manner be lawful for the Governor to frame a tariff of fees for any special professional services required by this Ordinance or by any Regulations made under the authority of this Ordinance, and from time to time to alter, amend or annul such tariff. All Regulations and Tariffs made or framed under the authority of this Ordinance shall be laid before the Legislative Council for approval and when approved shall be published in the *Royal Gazette*.

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Production of a copy of the *Royal Gazette* containing Regulations and Tariffs purporting to have been made under the provisions of this Ordinance shall be received in all Courts of Justice as *prima facie* evidence of the validity of such Regulations and Tariffs.

Passed in Council this Seventeenth day of April, in the year of Our Lord one thousand eight hundred and ninety-three.

Clerk of the Council.
