

*Despatch respecting the payment of a Roman Catholic Chaplain for the
Gaol and Civil Hospital.*

*Presented to the Legislative Council by Command of
His Excellency the Governor.*

Governor Sir George F. Bowen, G.C.M.G., to Earl of Derby, K.G.

No. 297.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,
HONGKONG, 25th August, 1884.

MY LORD,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Your Lordship's despatch No. 150 of the 4th July ultimo, respecting the application of Bishop RAIMONDI for payment for the Roman Catholic Chaplain attending the Gaol and Civil Hospital.

2. The contents of this despatch have been communicated to Bishop RAIMONDI.

3. Your Lordship approves of my proposal that the Roman Catholic Clergy in common with the Anglican Clergy, should receive some remuneration for their ministrations in the Gaol and Civil Hospital, the amount to be determined on the principle suggested by me in paragraph 12 of my despatch No. 138 of the 26th of April ultimo, that is, upon the principle adopted by the Military Authorities in the payment of the Roman Catholic Chaplains to the Troops. That principle is a capitation rate, which gives at present a salary of about sixty dollars (\$60) a month for an average of two hundred (200) Roman Catholic Soldiers now in Garrison at Hongkong. I find that the same member is about the average of the Roman Catholics in the Gaol and Civil Hospital. Accordingly, with the advice of the Executive Council, I proposed to Bishop RAIMONDI a salary of sixty dollars (\$60) a month—to be readjusted every two years, for the services of the Roman Catholic Civil Chaplain; and the Bishop has officially signified his acceptance. So, unless I should hear from Your Lordship to the contrary before the next Session of the Colonial Legislature, I will then propose an annual vote of seven hundred and twenty dollars (\$720), (equivalent at the present rate of exchange to about £130), for the remuneration of the Roman Catholic Civil Chaplain.

4. It is understood that, on the occurrence of a vacancy in the present Colonial Chaplaincy, a similar principle of payment will be adopted in the case of the Anglican Church, and of any other Christian communion, which may have a just claim to similar remuneration.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) G. F. BOWEN.

The Right Honourable

THE EARL OF DERBY, K.G.,

&c.,

&c.,

&c.

Extract from Minutes of Executive Council held on the 20th August, 1884.

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Read a Despatch from the Secretary of State, No. 150 of 1884, acknowledging the receipt of the Governor's despatch, No. 138 of the 26th April, in which was forwarded a letter addressed to the EARL OF DERBY by Bishop RAIMONDI, preferring on behalf of the Roman Catholic Church a claim for aid from the Colonial Revenue together with a memorandum by the Colonial Treasurer. In this Despatch the Secretary of State approves of the Roman Catholic Chaplain receiving pay for attendance on the Roman Catholics in the Prison and in the Civil Hospital on a scale similar to that adopted for the Military Roman Catholic Chaplain, and directs that a proposal may be made on this principle.

Read also a memorandum by the Assistant Military Secretary (Col. BARTON), showing the principle adopted by the Military Authorities for the payment of the Salary of the Roman Catholic Chaplain to the troops in Hongkong. It appears that there is now an average of two hundred (200) Roman Catholics in the Garrison, and a similar average in the Gaol and Civil Hospital, and that the capitation rate gives the Roman Catholic Military Chaplain about \$60 a month.

Bishop RAIMONDI having been communicated with, and having expressed officially his willingness to accept an arrangement based on a principle resembling that adopted for the payment of the salary of the Roman Catholic Chaplain, viz., a rate calculated on a capitation basis, the Council advise that a vote of \$60 a month, subject to readjustment at the end of two years, should be proposed to the Legislative Council as payment for the services of a Roman Catholic Chaplain in the Gaol and Civil Hospital. It is understood in accordance with the directions of the Secretary of State in Despatch No. 150 of 1884 that on the occurrence of a vacancy in the Colonial Chaplaincy a similar principle of payment will be adopted in the case of the Church of England, or of any other Christian Communion, which may hereafter have a just claim to similar remuneration.

*The Right Honourable The Earl of Derby, K.G., to Governor
Sir George F. Bowen, G.C.M.G.*

*Hongkong.
No. 244.*

DOWNING STREET,
23rd October, 1884.

SIR,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No. 297 of the 25th of August, and to approve the arrangement which you propose for the payment of a Roman Catholic Chaplain for attending the Gaol and Civil Hospital.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) DERBY.

Governor

Sir G. F. BOWEN, G.C.M.G.,

&c., &c., &c.