M.E.O. 1—77,000—8-6-38.

(1) Number of pages.....

(2) Date of repair.....

(3) Initials of the Reference.....

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Finance DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 676. Press
175-177 Mis.

Dated 16-5- 1873.

9/10

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Read the following papers :—

No. 175. From A. WEDDERBURN, Esq., Collector of Coimbatore, to the Hon. W. HUDLESTON, Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated Coimbatore, 5th May 1873, No. 15.

I have the honour to suggest, for the orders of Government, that some provision should be made (perhaps at the Presidency) for the proper upkeep of surgical instruments issued to dispensaries, and that these instruments should be made the subject of more frequent report by the Deputy Inspector-General to the Head of the Medical Department.

2. Having heard a bad account of them from the Civil Surgeon I examined the case of amputating instruments kept in the Coimbatore Dispensary when I found the largest knife both blunt and with a notch in its edge, the second knife without a point, and none, in fact, in perfect order. I was relieved to hear that these instruments were not now used in operations but that the Central Jail case was sent for.

3. These instruments had been in use, I believe, for a great number of years, and they might yet serve for a great many more if they were properly ground ("set," I believe, is the term) and cleaned. They are exceedingly expensive and, therefore, some hesitation may occur to a Municipality to incur the expense of a new case.

4. This may appear an interference with a strictly professional subject, but when I find voluminous remarks in the Visitors' Book on other points of hospital accommodation, and no remark at all by the ex-Office Inspector, on a subject which to a Surgeon and the patients is one of vital importance, I think it is proper to draw the attention of Government thereto with the view of better provision being made in future for the timely repair of these instruments.

Referred to the Inspector-General, Indian Medical Department, for his remarks.

OOTACAMUND,
7th May 1873.

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Chief Secretary.

No. 176. From Inspector-General E. G. BALFOUR, Inspector-General of Hospitals, Indian Medical Department, to the Hon. W. HUDLESTON, Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated Fort St. George, 10th May 1873, No. 173.

With reference to the memorandum, dated the 7th May 1873, referring for my remarks the marginally-noted document, I have the honour to submit the following for the consideration of the Right Honourable the Governor in Council.

From the Collector of Coimbatore, No. 15, dated 5th May 1873.

2. On the 11th March last the Civil Dispensary of Coimbatore was inspected by Deputy Inspector-General Johnston, M.D., who in his inspection report duly notices the defective state of the capital case of surgical instruments and orders it

"to be returned to the Presidency Stores" for "resetting." That this should not have been done, even in the absence of such an order, by an officer of Civil-Surgeon Rogers' rank and experience, and that with twenty-four years' service he should need to have his work cared for by any one, is wholly unexpected, and he has now been ordered to submit any remarks he may have to offer regarding the neglect of a duty at once obvious and imperative.

3. With reference to Mr. Wedderburn's further observations I have the honour to mention that it is the duty of Deputy Inspectors-General when on their tours of inspection to report on all hospital supplies of medicines and instruments, and this part of their work is most scrupulously carried out, defective instruments being either sent to the Store Depôt for repair or condemned and new articles supplied. Although this inspection, however, only takes place once a year Medical Officers may at any time of their own accord take measures to have their instruments put in order, and I am not aware that any complaint of their having neglected to carry out this part of their duty has ever before reached this office. The resetting of instruments at the depôt is done free of all charge.

4. It is with extreme regret, therefore, that I have perused the communication of the Collector of Coimbatore and discovered that there were good grounds for his representation. Copy of his letter will be sent to Surgeon-Major Rogers for any observations he may wish to offer, and any further representations needed will be made.

No. 177. ORDER THEREON, 16th May 1873, No. 676.

The Inspector-General's letter will be communicated to the Collector of Coimbatore.

2. The Inspector-General is requested to issue circular instructions to all Medical Officers in charge of dispensaries to prevent similar neglect.

(True Extract.)

Acting Under Secretary,
for *Chief Secretary.*

To the Inspector-General, Indian Medical Department.
,, Collector of Coimbatore.

Exd. A. S. Rodgers.

Govt. of India Madras.

FINANCIAL.

To

THE INSPECTOR-GENERAL,
INDIAN MEDICAL DEPARTMENT,
&c., &c., &c.

Dated May, 1873.

Read,

Recd. 8 C., 16th May 1873, No. 66.

MAY.
Nos. 175–177.

Requesting the Inspector-General to issue Orders for the Examination of all Medical Officers in charge of Establishments who have not passed the Departmental Examinations during the past year.

No. 15

Coimbatore Collectorate,
Office, 5th May 1873.

Sir,

A. Frederick Esquire,
Collector of Coimbatore.

To,

The Honorable R. Sandeman,
Chief Secretary to Government,
Ootacamund.

Sir,

I have the honor to suggest for the orders of Government, that some provision should be made (perhaps on the Precedency) for the proper upkeep of Surgical instruments, ordered at Dispensaries, and that these instruments should be made the subject of more frequent report by the Deputy Inspector General, to the Head of the Medical Department.

2nd Having heard a bad account of them from the Civil Surgeon, I examined the case of amputating

instruments kept in the Coimbatore Dispensary, (when I found the largest knife both blunt and quite a notch in its edge, the 2nd knife without a point, and none in fact in perfect order. I was informed to hear that these instruments were not now used in operations but that the Central Jail case was sent for-

3— These instruments had been in use for years, I believe, for a great number of years, and they might yet serve for a great many more, if they were properly ground ("set" I believe is the term) and cleaned. They are exceedingly expensive, and therefore some hesitation may occur to a Municipality, to incur the expense of a new case-

4— This may appear an interference with strictly professional subject, but when I find valuable remarks in the various books on other points of Hospital accommodation, and no remarks at all by the Inspector, or a Surgeon, and the patients is one of vital importance, I think it is proper to draw the attention of Government thereto, with the view of better provision being made in future for the cleaning & repair of these instruments.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant-

Meadowcroft

Collector-

No. 173.

Office of Inspector General IMS
Fort Saint George 10th May 1873.

From

Inspector General C. A. Balfour
Inspector General of Hospitals IMS
Fort Saint George

To

The Chief Secretary to Government
Public Department
Fort Saint George

Sir,

With reference to the memorandum dated the 7th May 1873, referring for my remarks the marginally noted document, I have the honor to submit the following for the consideration of the Right Honorable the Governor in Council.

From the Collector of Coimbatore No. 15 dated 5th May 1873.

2. On the 11th March last the Civil Dispensary of Coimbatore was inspected by Deputy Inspector General Johnston IMS, who in his inspection report duly notices the defective

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April 1873. Dept. P.P.
No. 401.
From
The Collector
of Coimbatore
To
The Chief Secretary
to Government
S.O. No. 676
with accompaniment
Gol 16th May/73 No. 175
Dated 5th May 1873.
Recd 7th May 1873.
Regd. —
15.
No. 828
Regarding the periodical repair of surgical instruments.
Referred

Approved for the Insp. Genl. IMS
for his remarks.
(signed) J. D. Bourdillon
Chief Secretary

Memorandum 7th May 1873.

defective state of the surgical case of surgical instruments, and orders it to be returned to the Presidency "Store" for "receiving". That this should not have been done, and in the absence of such an order, by an Officer of Civil Surgeon Rogers rank and experience, and that, with 24 years service he should need to have his work cared for by any one, is wholly unexpected, and he has now been ordered to submit any remarks he may have to offer regarding the neglect of a duty of these obvious and imperative kind.

3. With reference to Mr Wedderburn's further observations about the Doctor to mention, that it is the duty of Deputy Inspector General when and their turns of inspection to report on all Hospital supplies of Medicines and Instruments, and that part of their work is never carried out, defective instruments being given sent to the Store Depot for repair, or condemned and new articles supplied. Although this inspection, however, only takes place once a year, Medical Officers may, at any time, of their own accord, take measures to have their instruments put in order, and have not aware that any complaint of their having neglected to carry out this part of their duty has ever before reached this Office. The resetting of instruments at the Depot is done free of all charge.

4. It is with extreme regret therefore that I have received the communication of the Collector of Coimbatore, and discovered that there were good grounds for his representation. Copy of his letter will be sent to Surgeon Major Rogers for any observations he may wish to

to offer, and any further repre-
-sentations needed will be made.

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your most Obed.t Serv.t

[signature]

In a/g.t Surg.n Gen.l

Inspector General of Hospitals

Indian Medical Department

Acknowledged
16 May 1873. No 676

Incl. 1870. Dept.

From
The Inspector General
Jun Depts

To The Chief Secy. to Govt.
Public Departts.
1 2 etc

No. 173 No 873

Dated 10th May
Recd 12th "

Intimates that it is usually the practice with all Medical Officers of Dispensaries to send to the Medical Store Depot all Instruments for repair free of charge.

With notes.

Govt. of [1873] Madras

Financial

To

The Sub.st Govt. Accts. Revs. Dept.

Dated May. 16.

Read. Rec.

G. O. 16 May. 1873. No. 646

Nos. 175. 177.

Requesting the Subst. Govt. to issue Circular instructions to all Head of Offices in charge of Establishments on the Subject of keeping the Service Registers belonging thereto, in proper order.