

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No.	<i>808</i>	Press Mis.
Dated	<i>14. 8.</i>	19 <i>1868</i>

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,

14th August 1866.

No. 86. Read the following Proceedings of Government in the Military Department, dated 8th August 1866, No. 2779.

Communicating the practice pursued in }
Bengal for the supply, &c., of Medi- } (Vide Proceedings, Military Dept., dated
cal Instruments, in view to its adoption } 8th August 1866, Nos. 179 & 180.)
in this Presidency. }

No. 87. ORDER THEREON, 14th August 1866, No. 808.

To be recorded.

(Signed) A. J. ARBUTHNOT,
Chief Secretary.

MILITARY DEPARTMENT.
PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following papers :—

From the Officiating Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department, Fort William, 17th July 1866, No. 342 ; to the Secretary to Government, Military Department, Fort Saint George.

Your letter, No. 1825, dated 30th May last, and its enclosures, having been laid before the Government of India, I am directed to transmit an extract, paragraphs 5 to 11, from a report by the Controller General of Military Expenditure, explaining the arrangements for the supply, transfer, &c., of Surgical instruments to Military and Civil Hospitals which obtain in this Presidency, and to acquaint you, for the information of the Madras Government, that the Right Honorable the Governor General in Council is of opinion that the system therein described should be followed in all the three Presidencies.

2. It will be for the Government of each Presidency to determine what instruments shall be supplied to any particular Hospital according to its actual requirements.

Extract from a memorandum by the Controller General of Military Expenditure, dated Military Department, Account Branch, the 28th June 1866, No. 210F.

Paragraph 5. The Regulations of the British Medical Service require all Medical Officers to provide themselves with a pocket-case of instruments and lancets. It may be inferred that Medical Officers would be generally provided with these articles so as always to have them at hand ; but it is not understood that it is intended they should be constantly used in the Hospital. The whole general supply for a Military or Civil Hospital may, therefore, be considered as issuable from the public stores, irrespective of what the Medical Officer may be required by regulations to keep up.

6. At Madras the issues of Surgical instruments are made to the Medical Officer individually, who retains them even on change of appointment or duties, and is allowed carriage for them on such occasions.

7. This appears to be an objectionable arrangement, and is represented to be productive of loss and inconvenience.

8. The Bengal system is decidedly preferable in this respect, and the undersigned would recommend its general adoption.

9. Under this arrangement, all stores would be issuable on indent, passed by the administrative Medical Authorities to the Medical Officer in his official capacity as in charge of the Regimental, Garrison, Field, Civil or other Hospital. They should be kept in the Surgery, periodically examined by the Inspecting Medical Officers, and a half-yearly return forwarded to the Medical Examiner. On all occasions of change of duties, the relieved Officer should obtain a receipt, in triplicate, for the nature and condition of the instruments he makes over to his successor,—one copy being forwarded to the Medical Examiner, one lodged in the Hospital records, and one retained as his own voucher. For any deficiencies or injury which cannot be satisfactorily accounted for, he should be held personally responsible.

10. The Bengal Medical Regulations moreover provide for a periodical stock-taking and examination of instruments in common with all other Medical stores.

11. Under such a system properly carried out, there should be no loss or deterioration beyond the ordinary and unavoidable wear and tear.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) B. E. BACON, Lieut.-Colonel,
Offg. Secy. to the Govt. of India.