

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Tenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1704

Press

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209. 210

Dated

17-9-1918

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
17th September 1863.*

No. 209. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Military
Department :—

Approving the proposal of the Controller of Military }
Finance to maintain in the Clothing Department two } (Here enter 5th September 1863, No. 2,863.)
years' clothing stores for the Army in future.

No. 210. ORDER THEREON, 17th September 1863, No. 1,704.
Communicated to the Board of Revenue for information.
(True Extract.)

Deputy Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue, with Proceedings Military Department, No. 2,863.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

MILITARY DEPARTMENT.
PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following papers :—

From the Controller of Military Finance.
Forwards a letter from the Superintendent and Agent for Army Clothing, together with a Return of the Stock of the Department on the 30th April 1863, distinguishing the Clothing materials of the European and Native Troops. } Here enter 1st August 1863, A.

From the Superintendent and Agent for Army Clothing, Madras, 1st June 1863, No. 548; to the Controller of Military Finance, Fort Saint George.

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter, No. 121 of date the 22nd May 1863, and to reply as follows :

2. With regard to the Stock that it is advisable to maintain of Clothing Stores to meet all possible demands, there should be, in my opinion, one year's full supply of all Clothing Stores, requisite for the Army, independent of the year's Stock that is being worked up for issue to the Troops.

3. It has been the practice hitherto to maintain a three years' supply, but with the facilities for communication with England that now exist, I consider one year's supply in the Godowns here, exclusive of the year's Clothing in course of preparation for the Troops, would prove sufficient.

4. I would not suggest that any of the Cloths now in Store should be offered in the local market for sale, but rather that I be allowed gradually to reduce the quantities in Store to a proper limit, by liberally meeting Indents on payment for Cloths that can be spared.

5. Government would thus realise the full value of the Cloths, but to effect this it would be necessary temporarily to relax the existing restrictions as to supplies on payment.

6. Of the other articles in Stock of which large quantities have accumulated, I would suggest the sale of

	Retaining.	Remarks.
Gold Royal Cord.....1,200 yards.	541	Obsolete for European Artillery, but can be used for Native Artillery and Native Sappers and Miners.
White Metal four-hole Buttons... 3,500 grs.	1,474	This can be used up as strings to Flannels made up for Troops.
White Cotton Tape of various worms..... 801,588 yds.	2,000	
Black Silk Tape, Rifle Corps... 300 „	290	
Yellow Worsted Horse Shoes... No. 200	60	
Yellow Worsted Lace... 60,000 yards.	12,244	Only used for Good Conduct Badges.

7. Of various colored Silk Threads you will observe very large quantities. These threads would realise very little if thrown into the market, and they rapidly deteriorate from keeping.

8. I would suggest, in regard to them, that I be allowed to use them in making up the Clothing of the Native Army.

9. Hitherto the Tailors have been compelled to supply thread at their own expense to make up Sepoys' Clothing, and very often it is inferior in quality.

10. If this thread is used, a small deduction might be made from the cooly paid to the Tailors; but I would not recommend it, as the rates now paid are as low as they can well be.

11. There is likewise 20 years' supply of black Buttons, four-holes, these I think might be issued for Native Trowsers as well as for Europeans.

12. At present the Natives receive a white bone Button, covered with thick cloth, which is next to useless.

13. There is likewise a large quantity of gilt and brass Hooks and Eyes, but I would not suggest that they be sold, as many Corps making up their own white Clothing, may Indent for them on payment.

14. The statements exhibit the entire Stock on hand; but it should be borne in mind that these allotments have reference solely to the present strength of the Army, and its bonâ fide requirements.

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