

there is to be one man, duly qualified, to have no other employment than cooking for the emigrants. In sailing from the Thames, this muster is to take place before the ship finally leaves the river; and at the outports before she puts to sea.

EMBARKATION.

Division of duties between the surgeon superintendent and selecting officer.

16. On reaching the place of embarkation the surgeon superintendent will immediately put himself in communication with the selecting officer, and he will of course render his best co-operation to that officer in any way in which he can contribute to the advancement of the service; but it is to be distinctly understood that the whole power and responsibility, previously to the emigrants being on board, rests with the selecting officer, or officer acting for him on shore, and the whole power and responsibility afterwards with the surgeon superintendent.

Same subject.

17. No person, however, is to be set on shore by the surgeon superintendent for misconduct, sudden illness or discontent, without taking the opinion of the selecting officer, if he be still on the spot.*

Co-operation of the resident agent for emigrants.

18. The resident Government agent for emigrants, at those ports where there is such an appointment, is to succeed to the charge of the emigrants up to the time of embarkation, in case the officer by whom they have been selected is obliged to quit the place before they can be put on board. And as the advice and assistance of the agent for emigrants (who is always an officer of the Royal Navy) must, at any rate, be of much value on various points of the service, he has instructions to afford any co-operation in his power in the case of all Government emigrant ships which receive their passengers at his station; and it will be the duty of the surgeon superintendent to enter into communication with the resident agent immediately on calling at any port where there is such an officer.

Berthing list.

19. It is an instruction to the selecting officer that a list of the berths, with the names of the parties by whom they are to be occupied, is to be prepared beforehand, so that each emigrant on coming on board can be directed at once to the number of his own berth. The people ought to be berthed according to their natural connexions, and so as to place in the neighbourhood of one another those whose relative circumstances and habits render it most likely that they will agree. On this subject a Report in the Appendix (No. 16.) shows more particularly the practice observed in such Government ships as sail from the Thames.

Lists of the messes.

20. Lists of the messes are also to be settled before the emigrants embark, and in the same manner.

But although the selecting officer, as having the best means of knowing the people beforehand, is made more immediately responsible for the preparation of these two kinds of lists, he is not precluded from requesting any aid he may find himself in want of from the agent for emigrants, where there is one; and the surgeon superintendent will also understand the present to be amongst the objects in which, as stated in article 16, he ought to be ready to offer every assistance in his power previously to the emigrants coming directly under his own charge.

The list of each mess should contain the names and ages of all the persons in it, and at the bottom should appear the number of male and of female rations to which the mess is daily entitled. Care should be taken that children less than 10 years of age are not represented as above that age, and thus victualled as adults, improperly.

Size of messes.

21. Owing to the various sizes of families, and the mixture of children of different ages, it is impossible to fix the same number for every mess in an emigrant ship; it can only be said, in general terms, that no mess ought, if possible, to consist of persons less than equal to six adults, nor of more than equal to 12.

Manner in which the messes should be constituted.

22. The order of the messes ought to follow that of the berths, so that each mess may consist of a certain number of contiguous berths.

Serving out and marking of the mess utensils.

23. As soon as possible after the people are on board, their mess utensils should be served out to them according to the Schedule in the Appendix (No. 7.), and they should be instructed to mark them with the number of their respective messes. It has already been remarked that no fixed number can be established for each mess; but the surgeon superintendent must serve out the articles, rateably, according to the best of his judgment, observing that the quantity in the Schedule is calculated for from six to eight adults, and that double of it may be allowed to a mess of 12, and that he must settle the wants of intermediate numbers according to experience and his own opinion of what is reasonable. The supply on board consists of three dozens of each of the principal articles, which, assuming that no ordinary ships

* It may be observed here, in reference to the relative duties of the officers, that in Ireland it is the practice to take deposits of the persons accepted as emigrants, to be forfeited in case they do not embark, or if they misconduct themselves on the passage, but otherwise to be returned to them on their arrival in the colony. The joint amount of the deposits of all the persons who embark, with a list of the parties to whom they are returnable, is to be handed to the surgeon superintendent by the selecting officer, and the surgeon superintendent will give him a stamped receipt for the same. He will take the directions of the governor, on arrival, as to the manner in which to make the repayments, so as to prevent complaint or question, and also as to the disposal of the deposits forfeited for misconduct, if any such forfeitures be found indispensable.