

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. <i>1/93</i>	Press
<i>61-62</i>	3118.
Dated <i>7.4.1957</i>	19 .

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Fort St. George, Judicial Consultation, 12th April 1859

No. 61 Read the following letter from Colonel G. BALFOUR, Inspector General of Ordnance and Magazines, to the Secretary to Government, Judicial Department, dated 26th April 1858, No. 778.

Sir,

With reference to Extract Minutes of Consultation No. 1791, dated 22nd December 1856, concerning reports from the Magistrate of Mauritius, and the Commandant of the Mauritius Artillery Corps, on the bad state of the Muskets issued to that Corps, I have the honor to state that, I personally enquired into the case, visited Mauritius, and ascertained that all the Muskets were issued in a satisfactory state, and in perfectly good and efficient condition, only 34 were in a defective condition in the Arsenal, but were rendered quite efficient before being issued to the Corps.

2. I ascribed myself that the defects complained of were owing to the inexperience of the young men in the use of the Musket, and to defective arrangements in the Corps for keeping the Arms in repair.

3. As large numbers of Arms and accoutrements have been issued to Subordinate and Local Corps, and the demands upon them to increase, it seems to me to be necessary for the protection of the public property, that some measures should be taken to provide for training the men in the use of the Arms, for suspending the Arsenals from preventing any out of the pit of the arms, and to see to the skill and efficiency of the Artificers employed in repairing the Arms, and I therefore recommend Government to enquire what measures have been taken by the Local Corps to prevent the Arms from being injured by the inexperience and carelessness of the men, and for keeping them in repair.

4. I further recommend the damaged Arms of the Mauritius Artillery Corps, to be exchanged and given the number of an efficient Arsenal from the Mauritius Arsenal for the repair of the Arms.

No. 62 *Extract Minutes, No. 661, dated 26th April 1858.*

Resolved that the Officers Commanding Local Troops or Corps be requested through the Magistrate of the Districts to which they belong, to state what measures have been taken to ensure the Arms issued to them from being injured by the inexperience and carelessness of the men, and for keeping them in repair.

(Signed) T. PYCHOTT,
Chief Secretary.

[Faint handwritten notes, mostly illegible due to fading.]