M.R.O. 1—50,000—15-10-56.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 783 Press
41-2 Mlm.

Dated 6th June 1957

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 41. Read the following letter from Colonel G. BALFOUR, Inspector General of Ordnance and Magazines; to the Secretary to Government, Military Department, dated 4th June 1859, No. 62.

With reference to the Proceedings of Government as per margin, I have the honor to state that, immediately on the receipt of former order, I applied to the Principal Commissary of Ordnance for any suggestions towards providing for the repair of the Arms of the Andaman Settlement.

2 The best provision appears to be, the attaching of an Armourer Artificer to the Corps, supplied with the requisite tools from the Arsenal. The Principal Commissary of Ordnance's reference to procure a stock of the class, as well as the uncertainty as regards the description of Arms to be supplied, has caused the delay in submitting this report, and I regret to add that, notwithstanding every exertion made by the Principal Commissary of Ordnance, he cannot obtain the services of an Artificer to proceed to such a station as the Andamans.

3 The Superintendent Gun Carriage Manufactory considers the appointment of a Native Artificer Armourer preferable to that of an Ordnance Artificer, as the Ordnance Artificer Corps is already very much subdivided. The prospect of a pension will prove a sufficient inducement for a Native to proceed to any distant station beyond the sea, and if Government are disposed to consider the privilege, I think with the Superintendent Gun Carriage Manufactory, that the services of a Native Artificer may be secured, but better effected through the Officer Commanding the Corps.

4 As regards the appointment of an East Indian, the exclusion would fall hard upon him, and I should be glad if any arrangement could be made so as to obviate the necessity of such an appointment. If Government however should order it otherwise, I beg to recommend that the Carriage Ordnance Artificer to be appointed, receive the Pay and Batta allowances laid down in the scale fixed in Military Consultation No. 1201 of 5th April 1859, with the Staff allowance of the lowest or 3rd class Foreman, viz. (15) fifteen Rupees, with permission to obtain Rations from the Commissariat, in quantities equal to the extent forming the Rations of the European Soldier, but only paying for the articles obtained at rates which would equal Annas 3-6 three and Pies four per full Ration as fixed in Audit Regulations, Section 16, Head Rations, para. 21 and as the values of the several quantities have not been laid down, I suggest that the Commissary General affix a value to the several articles composing the European Soldier's Rations, amounting in the total Annas (3) three and one third.

5 This arrangement will enable the Carnatic Ordnance Artificer to draw such articles as he requires.

6 But I again recommend that the Officer Commanding the Corps entertain a Military as a Native subaltern, as I cannot part with a Carnatic Ordnance Artificer.

No. 42. Office letter, 6th June 1859, No. 783.

Under the circumstances represented by the Inspector General of Ordnance and Magazines, Government regard that the Commandant of the Andaman Settlement will engage a Native Artificer to accompany the Corps in the capacity of Armourer and Artificer. Government desire to be informed by Col. Fraser the scale of salary and pension which will be a sufficient inducement for a competent Native to join the service.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

Rate of Exchange

Under the circumstances, represented by the Inspector-General of Ordnance & Magazines, Genl. Commanding the Ordnance Establishment of this Province to recommend to the Board the expediency of appointing Sub Conductors Genl. Commissaries Deputies Genl. desire to be informed by Mr Bruce the scale of salary upon which will be appointed to act as Sub Conductors to give his decision

[illegible]

The Commanding Officer of the Ordnance Establishment at Montreal will be directed to [illegible]