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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial (Jails) DEPARTMENT.

Encl. 11-8-57

G.O. No. 1572 Press Mis.

Dated 8 - 8 - 18 30

Not to be folded or roughly handled

17/87

No. 55. Read the following Extract from the Minutes of Consultation, in the Military Department, dated 21st July 1857, No. 2429.

Read the following letter from Lieutenant Colonel F. A. REID, Quarter Master General of the Army ; to Colonel C. A. BROWNE, Secretary to Government, Military Department, dated 16th July 1857, No. 266.

SIR,

I have the honor by order of the Provincial Commander-in-Chief, to annex for the information of Government copy of a letter from the Officer Commanding Artillery in the Southern Division, on the subject of constructing out of materials at hand a Reserve Magazine capable of holding an ample supply of Gun and Musket Ammunition in the vicinity of the European Barracks at Trichinopoly, the main supply at present being drawn from the Fort a position highly inconvenient and might be hazardous also.

2. All local authorities support the suggestion, and General Beresford recommends it for early adoption.

3. Captain Cadell's views cannot be better represented than by giving his letter in extenso.

Letter from Captain A. T. CADELL, Commanding Artillery, Southern Divison, Trichinopoly ; to the Fort Adjutant, at Trichinopoly, dated 9th July 1857, No. 262.

SIR,

I have the honor to bring to the notice of the Brigadier Commanding the Station that as a great want exists in there being no Reserve or other Magazine in the neighbourhood of the European Barracks (excepting the very small one in the compound of the Fort Artillery Barracks) and as the place in the Barrack square used as a Magazine by the Troop of Horse Artillery is a very imperfect Building for such a purpose, and moreover as the Station has the great disadvantage of having the main Magazine isolated and in the Fort, it would be advisable I think as a comparatively temporary measure (for I trust the inexpediency of retaining the Arsenal and main Magazine in the Fort and at a distance from the European Barracks will, be recognised and amended by their removal to a judiciously selected position) that a Field Magazine such as are constructed in permanent Field works, and Batteries, should be constructed in the immediate vicinity of the small Magazine of the Foot Artillery.

2. In this a good stock of spare powder for the use of the Artillery, and of Musket ammunition, if the European Barracks were occupied by Infantry, would be kept at hand and in security, which the present stock of Powder cannot be said to be in, under the charge of a small Native Gaurd ; and if a fire broke out in the crowded neighbourhood of the Magazine, it would be very critically situated.

3. The Timber which is lying massed near the Batteries, would afford material I think for constructing the Magazine, and if the beams were thoroughly coated with tar, and a layer of Tarpaulins was laid over them under the earth-work, the building would resist the attacks of white-ants for some years by which time it may be hoped the regular Magazine which it was in contemplation to build outside the Town will be constructed—and if the flooring is composed to the depth of 9 or 12 inches of river sand and broken charcoal the contents of the Magazine might be preserved with moderate care, from white-ants.

4. A Magazine capable of containing 100 or 150—90 lbs. Barrels would be sufficient for preserving a good allowance of Powder clear of the Town in security—if two small Magazines could be more easily constructed and at a less expense than a larger one they might be substituted for the one which I have taken the liberty of proposing.

No. 2429.

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation, 21st July 1857.

ad the following letter, from Lieut. Col. F. A. Reid, Quarter Master General of the Army, 16th July 1857, *No.* 266; *to the Secretary to Government, Military Department.*

Sir,

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2. All local authorities support the suggestion and General Beresford recommends it for rly adoption.

3. Captain Cadell's views cannot be better represented than by giving his letter in extenso.

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om Captain A. T. Cadell, Commanding Artillery Southern Division, Trichinopoly 9th July 1857, *No. 262; to the Fort Adjutant, Trichinopoly.*

Sir,

I have the honor to bring to the notice of the Brigadier Commanding the Station that as a eat want exists in there, being no Reserve or other Magazine in the neighbourhood of the ropean Barracks (excepting the very small one in the Compound of the Foot Artillery Bar- ks) and as the place in the Barrack square used as a Magazine by the Troop of Horse Ar- lery is a very imperfect Building for such a purpose, and moreover as the Station has the eat disadvantage of having the main Magazine isolated and in the Fort, it would be advisable think as a comparatively temporary measure (for I trust the inexpediency of retaining the rsenal and main Magazine in the Fort and at a distance from the European Barracks will, be cognised and amended by their removal to a judiciously selected position) that a Field Maga- ie such as are constructed in permanent Field works, and Batteries, should be constructed the immediate vicinity of the small Magazine of the Foot Artillery.

2. In this a good stock of spare powder for the use of the Artillery, and of Musket ammu- ion, if the European Barracks were occupied by Infantry, would be kept at hand and in urity, which the present stock of Powder cannot be said to be in, under the charge of a small tive Guard; and if a fire broke out in the crowded neighbourhood of the Magazine, it would very critically situated.

3. The Timber which is lying massed near the Batteries, would afford material I think for nstructing the Magazine, and if the beams were thoroughly coated with tar, and a layer of rpaulins was laid over them under the Earth-work, the building would resist the attacks of ite ants for some years by which time it may be hoped the regular Magazine which it was in ntemplation to build out side the Town will be constructed—and if the flooring is composed to depth of 9 or 12 inches of river sand and broken charcoal the contents of the Magazine might preserved with moderate care, from white ants.

4. A Magazine capable of containing 100 or 150—90 lbs. Barrels would be sufficient for serving a good allowance of Powder clear of the Town in security—if two small Magazines uld be more easily constructed and at a less expense than a larger one they might be substi- ed for the one which I have taken the liberty of proposing.

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m Lieut. Col. G. Balfour, Inspector General of Ordnance and Magazines, 17th July 1857, *No.* 166; *to the Secretary to Government, Military Department.*

Sir,

I beg to represent to Government that the Commissary of Ordnance Trichinopoly brought to my notice in lettter as per margin the views of the Officer 88 *dated 6th July* 1857. Commanding the Division on the subject of Flint Lock arms and the position of the Arsenal at Trichinopoly.

2. I expressed a readiness to look up the Flint Lock arms, and pointed out, in letter as per margin, my memorandum at the foot of the Annexure;—

No. 1221 *dated* 16th July 1857. I also applied to the Adjutant General for information as

No. 1241 *dated* 16th July 1857. to the intention as per letter in margin of the Commander-in-Chief in retaining the Flint Lock arms in use with the

No. 3270, *dated* 11th July 1857. Veterans, and to the Commander-in-Chief for leave to keep some Flint Lock pieces to meet demands as per letter from Adjutant General noted in the margin.

The Officer Commanding Southern Division has, in reply to my communication, intimated to me as set forth in the margin, that he has applied for permission to construct a temporary

If the request be complied with, I have [illegible] and the premises adjacent as a temporary [illegible] in the neighbourhood of the Fort [illegible] Barracks at the Station.

Sanctioned as proposed—and to be carried into effect without delay.

As security against accidents by fire &c. a mud wall should be erected round the platform if practicable.

(True Extract and Copies)

Actg. Dy. Secretary to Government.

To the Quarter Master General.
" Inspector General of Ordnance.
" Department Public Works.

Ex L. B. Spears.

Public Works 1855 Dec 10
Towns 11 Sept

No 1570

Extract from the Minutes of Executive Council

21st } Read and
29th } Ordered

Communicate the above Minutes of Executive Council to the Commissioner of Public Works and to the Commissioner of Crown Lands.

1855-56

Certified Extract
S Bingham Clerk

No 1542

Ordered to be communicated to the Board of Works with a request that he will direct the Architect Engineer of Fortifications to report to the Board as to the works proposed to be executed during the ensuing year at Point au Plomb, or elsewhere on the Island of Montreal for the purposes of Government.

Certified Extract
S Bingham Clerk

Noted on Minutes
of 15th & 29th August

of Copies to the Chief Engineer