1. [illegible]
2. Date [illegible]. 20 19-9-37
3. Initials

M.R.O. 1—82 409—23-11-60

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

Cons 24 11 57

G.O. No. 2423 Press / Mis.

Dated 18 [illegible] 18 57

Not to be folded or roughly handled



No. 10. Read the following Extract from the Minutes of Consultation in the Military Department, dated 5th November 1857, No. 3889.

Read the following letter from Colonel F. A. REID, Quarter Master General of the Army ; to Colonel C. A. BROWNE, Secretary to Government, Military Department, dated 23rd October 1857, No. 460.

SIR,

In enclosing for the information of Government copy of a letter from the Officer Commanding Southern Division on the subject of accommodation for the Regiment of Her Majesty's Infantry, which it was contemplated to send to Trichinopoly, I am desired by his Excellency the Commander in Chief to say, that it will be perceived arrangements cannot at present be made at that station for the accommodation of more than a Wing of European Infantry even temporarily, and then, only by withdrawing the Troop of European Horse Artillery now there, Government is aware that so far back as 1854, it was determined to build a new Barrack at Trichinopoly capable of containing a Wing of a European Regiment, but the plan was abandoned in consequence of the building of new Barracks at Jackatalla, and the detachment at Trichinopoly (on the completion of these Barracks) being ordered to be reduced to 2 Companies. The Jackatalla Barracks will now be required for another Corps, and Trichinopoly itself requires a stronger party of Europeans than 2 Companies.

Under all these circumstances, His Excellency is of opinion that a new Barrack for an entire Regiment should be commenced on with as little delay as possible. It is the Commander in Chief's intention to send only a Wing of a European Regiment to Trichinopoly for the present, and the other Wing may be accommodated either at Poonamallee or Arcot until new Barracks are completed.

Should Government coincide with His Excellency in this measure, a mixed Committee of Military and Medical Officers will be ordered to report on the best site for new Barracks.

Letter from Major General R. BUDD, Commanding Southern Division ; to Colonel F. A. REID, Quarter Master General of the Army, dated Trichinopoly, 18th October 1857, No. 830.

SIR,

No. 2601.
Intimates the expected arrival at Negapatam of one of Her Majesty's Regiments, directs that the Officer Commanding Southern Division, may make arrangements for all requirements of the Regiment as was done on former occasions and requests an answer to para. 4 of letter regarding accommodation available for the Regiment.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 13th Instant, No. and subject as per margin.

I have delayed replying to para. 4 of your letter until to-day in consequence of the absence in his District of the District Engineer, who returned to Trichinopoly yesterday, and whose professional opinion is embodied with my own views, in this letter.

I see no means whatever of retaining the Horse Artillery at Trichinopoly except in Tents ; there is no building, Public or private at all capable of containing them, if they are removed from their present locality.

The Foot Artillery Barracks are insufficient for the increase of strength of the Company, which is about to take place in consequence of the Horse Battery being raised, a detailed plan for the additions required to the Foot Artillery Barracks, is now being prepared, and will, shortly be submitted.

The European Infantry Barracks, tiled and bombproof, can, if the Troop of Horse Artillery be removed, contain a wing of a Regiment without inconvenience ; under the old system of packing men closely, they would contain many more.

No building, especially of a temporary nature i. e. with mud walls, can be commenced at this season. Bricks and tiles are not procurable, and cannot be prepared before January, and the

temporary Barracks cannot be erected and made ready for the reception of the Troops until the end of February, or perhaps March. The District Engineer strongly recommends tiles to be used in the roofs of the temporary Barracks if erected, in which recommendation I most fully concur no delay in the construction of the buildings will ensue by the substitution of tiles for grass. Thatched roofs are most objectionable; the last temporary Barracks were destroyed by fire, probably the act of an incendiary.

Hiring of houses, a very unsatisfactory proceeding in itself, would add very much to the difficulty already experienced by Officers in getting houses at reasonable rents. Rents were raised generally, 30 per cent. on the arrival of the Cavalry; and when from 30 to 40 Officers shall have joined the force, a further exorbitant demand on the part of house owners may be expected.

It is therefore, I submit evident that no farther Barracks accommodation than at present available for European Troops, can be provided at Trichinopoly for some months yet to come.

I beg to propose that, if the occasions of Government will admit of my suggestions being carried out. The Troop of Horse Artillery be removed from Trichinopoly, that a Wing of H. M.'s Regiment of Foot, now expected at Negapatam, may be marched up, at all events for a time, to Jackatallah and that the other Wing, less 50 men for Tanjore, may be located in the Infantry Barracks at Trichinopoly. Thus no additional buildings, except for the Horse Battery, will be required at Trichinopoly, until orders, which I submit must eventually be given shall have been received for the erection of a suitable range of Barracks for European Infantry.

It is, I think, necessary to observe that the entire removal and improvement to the roof of the tiled portion of the Barrack Square has been sanctioned, and that this work will, probably, be commenced in March, and continue until the end of August 1858. The vacation of, perhaps, one quarter of the tiled Barracks at a time will be necessary during the progress of these renewals and improvements.

The pegs and saddle stands, lately put up in the Barracks for the Troop of Horse Artillery, will be available for the Horse Battery in the Foot Artillery Barracks the early removal of the Troop is very desirable.

I have directed the immediate vacation of the Public Military buildings in the Barracks occupied as a Pay office and Post office; also of the Main Guard buildings at the Fort Gate, occupied by the District Moonsiff, and as a Post office, Receiving House. The Main Guard will be occupied as such on arrival of the new Regiment, and the Pay office will be located in its former position opposite the Main Guard.

I have also warned the Horse Artillery to be ready to move into Tents at the shortest notice.

I have directed the immediate removal of the Medical Stores and Garrison Hospital to its former position in the Fort.

The timely despatch of Camp Equipage from Madras to Negapatam will prevent the necessity of engaging any houses there for the Troops. I have written to the Collector of Tanjore, however, to enquire if house accommodation is available, and shall inform you when advised by him.

All other measures necessary for the comfort and progress of the Regiment shall be attended to as required.

The Governor in Council approves of the arrangements proposed in the foregoing letter by His Excellency the Commander in Chief with regard to the disposal of the European Regiment intended for Trichinopoly, sufficient accommodation for a Wing only being available at that station.

Fort Saint George, Public Works Consultation of 24th November 1857.

2. The Governor in Council sees no objection to the proposal in the concluding para. of the same letter regarding a site for new Barracks at the above station, subsequent and final orders being reserved.

3. It is noticed in the letter attached from the Officer Commanding the Southern Division of the Army, that the repairs already sanctioned to the Barracks at Trichinopoly cannot be taken in hand till the month of March next. His Lordship in Council is disposed to look upon this as unreasonable delay. Accommodation is urgently required and in a case of such emergency extraordinary measures must be taken, and the work should be commenced forthwith. Any temporary buildings required should also be run up as the weather will permit, extra precautions being taken if the season be unpropitious, delay cannot be permitted.

4. Temporary accommodation if absolutely required for any portion of the European Force must be provided by renting any suitable private houses. The temporary inconvenience to which Officers may be put by this arrangement cannot under present circumstances be avoided.

5. His Excellency the Commander in Chief will be good enough to submit his proposed views regarding the removal of the Horse Artillery from the Southern Division of the Army.

No. 11. ORDER THEREON, No. 2123; dated 18th November 1857.

Ordered to be communicated to the Chief Engineer.

(Signed) H. FORBES,
Acting Secretary to Government.

Quarter Master General's Office

No. 460

From The Quarter Master General
of the army.

To
The Secretary to Government
Military Department.

Sir,

In enclosing for the information of Government Copy of a letter from the Officer Commanding Southern Division on the subject of accommodation for the Regiment of Her Majesty's Infantry, which it was contemplated to send to Trichinopoly I am desired by His Excellency the Commander in Chief to say that it will be perceived arrangements cannot at present be made at that station for the accommodation of more than a Wing of European Infantry even temporarily and then, only by withdrawing the Troops of

European

European Force artillery now there, Government is aware that so far back as 1854, it was determined to build a new Barrack at Fricknopoly capable of containing a wing of a European Regiment, but the plan was abandoned in consequence of the building of new Barracks at Fort Cantallon, and the detachment at Fricknopoly (on the completion of these Barracks) being ordered to be reduced to 2 Companies. The Fort Cantallon Barracks will now be required for another corps, and Fricknopoly itself requires a stronger party of Europeans than 2 companies.

Under all these circumstances His Excellency is of opinion that a new Barrack for an entire Regiment should be commenced on with as little delay as possible. It is the Commander in Chief's intention to send only a wing of

of a European Regiment to Fricknopoly for the present, and the other Wing may be accommodated either at Coonamallee or Christmutti, new Barracks are completed.

Should Government coincide with His Excellency in this measure, a mixed Committee of Military and Medical Officers will be Ordered to report on the best Site for new Barracks.

Fort St George
25th October 1857.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedient
humble Servant
Signed F. A. Reid.
Quarter Master Genl

No 830.

To The Quarter Master General
of the Army.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 13th Instant, No. and Subject as per Margin.

I have delayed replying to

No 2601.
Intimates the expected arrival at Negapatam of one of Her Majesty's Regiments, directs that the officer commanding Southern Division may make arrangements for all requirements of the Regiment as was done on former occasions and requests an answer to para 4 of letter regarding accommodation available for the Regiments.

to para 4 of your letter until to day in consequence of the absence on duty in this district of the District Engineer, who returned to Trichinopoly yesterday, and whose professional opinion is embodied, with my own views, in this letter.

I see no means whatever of forming the Horse artillery at Trichinopoly except in Tents; there is no building, Public or private, at all capable of containing them, if they are removed from their present locality.

The Foot artillery Barracks are insufficient for the increase of strength of the Company; which is about to take place in consequence of the Horse Battery being raised, a detailed plan for the additions required to

to the Foot artillery Barracks, is now being prepared, and will shortly be submitted.

The European Infantry Barracks, tiled and bombproof, can, if the Troops of Horse artillery be removed, contain a Wing of a Regiment without inconvenience; under the old system of packing men closely, they would contain many more.

No building, especially of a temporary nature in mud walls, can be commenced at this season. Bricks & tiles are not procurable, and cannot be prepared before January, and the temporary Barracks cannot be erected and made ready for the reception of the Troops until the end of February, or perhaps March. The District Engineer strongly recommends tiles to be used in the roofs of the temporary Barracks if erected, in which recommendation I most fully concur. No delay in the construction of the buildings will ensue by the substitution of tiles for grass.

graft. Thatched roofs are most objection-
-able; the last temporary Barracks were
destroyed by fire, probably the act of an
Incendiary.

Hiring of Houses, a very unsatis-
-factory proceeding in itself, would add
very much to the difficulty already experienced
by Officers in getting houses at reasonable
rents. Rents were raised generally, 30 per cent,
on the arrival of the Cavalry and when
from 30 to 40 Officers shall have joined the
force, a further exorbitant demand on the
part of house owners may be expected.

It is therefore, submitted as
evident that no further Barrack accom-
-modation than at present available for
European Troops, can be provided at Trichino-
-poly for some Months yet to come.

I beg to propose that, if the occasion
of

of Government will admit of my sugges-
-tions being carried out. The Troop of
Horse Artillery be removed from Trichino
-poly, that a Wing of the 4th Regiment of Foot
now expected at Negapatam, may be
marched up, at all events for a time,
to Jackatalla and that the other Wing,
left 50 men for Tongine, may be located
in the Infantry Barracks at Trichinopoly.
Thus no additional buildings, except for
the Horse Battery, will be required
at Trichinopoly, until orders, which I
submit must eventually be given shall
have been received for the erection of a
suitable range of Barracks for European
Infantry.

It is, I think, necessary to observe
that the entire removal and improve-
-ment to the roof of the tiled portion
of

if the Barrack Square has been sanctioned, and that this work will, probably, be commenced in March, and continue until the end of August 1858. The evacuation of, perhaps, one quarter of the tiled Barracks at a time will be necessary during the progress of these renewals and improvements.

The frame and Sudder Sheds, lately put up in the Barracks for the Troop of Horse Artillery, will be available for the Horse Battery in the Foot Artillery Barrack the early removal of the Troop is very desirable

I have directed the immediate evacuation of the Public Military Buildings in the Barracks occupied as a Pay Office and Post office, also of the main

main Guard buildings at the Fort Gate, occupied by the District Moonsiff, and as a Post Office, receiving House. The main Guard will be occupied as such on arrival of the new Regiment, and the Pay Office will be located in its former position opposite the main Guard.

I have also warned the Horse Artillery to be ready to move into Lines at the shortest notice

I have directed the immediate removal of the Medical Stores and Garrison Hospital to its former position in the Fort.

The timely despatch of Camp Equipage from Madras to Negapatam will prevent the necessity of engaging any houses there for the Troops. I have written to the Collector of Tanjore, however,

however, to enquire if house accommo-
dation is available, and shall inform
you when advised by him.

All other measures necessary
for the Comfort and progress of the
Regiment shall be attended to as
required.

H.Q. 2d Southern Div.
Trichinopoly
18th October 1857.

Signed R. Bradd Major 6th
Commanding Southern Div.

True Copy

Signed W. T. Money.
Lt. Adjt. 2d Bn. 1st Brigade of the Army

No. 3889.

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation
5th November 1857.

Read the following Papers

From the Dy. Mr. General.

(Were Entd 23d. October 1857.
No. 460)

The Governor in Council —

of Draw of the arrangements proposed
in the foregoing letter by His Excellency
the Commander in Chief with regard to
the disposal of the European Regiment
intended for Trichinopoly, sufficient
accommodation for a Wing only being
available at that station. —

2. The Governor in Council sees
no objection to the proposal in the con-
cluding Para of the same letter regard-
ing a site for new Barracks at the —
above

above station - subsequent and final orders being reserved.

3. His Excellency in the letter attached from the Officer Commanding the Southern Division of the Army that the repairs already sanctioned to the Barracks at Inchinopoly — cannot be taken in hand till the month of March next. His Lordship in Council is disposed to look upon this as unreasonable delay - accommodation is urgently required and in a case of such emergency extraordinary measures must be taken - and the work should be commenced forthwith. any temporary buildings required should also be run up as the weather will permit, extra precautions being taken if the season be unpropitious - delay cannot be permitted.

4. Temporary accommodation if absolutely required for any portion of

of the European Force must be provided by renting any suitable private Houses - The temporary inconvenience to which Officers may be put by this arrangement cannot under present Circumstances be avoided.

5. His Excellency the Commander in Chief will be good enough to submit his proposed views regarding the removal of the Horse Artillery from the Southern Division of the Army.

(Signed) R. Hamilton Maj.
Ag. Dy. Secy. to Govt.

To
The Quarter Mr General.
" Depart. Pub. Works.
" Military Audr General.
" Accountant General.

5/4
Edward Smith
5

P. W. Cons: 29th Sept 1857 No 62-63.
" " 13 Oct 1857 " 44-45

Extract from the Minutes of Cons: in the Military Despatch.

Dated 5th } Nov 1857
Received 7th }

Extract from the Minutes of Cons: in the Military Despatch dated 10th Dec 1857 No 2432

No 10+11.

P. Works 1857 Dept
Do Cons 24th Nov
No 2203.

No 2223

Ordered to be communicated to the Chief Engineer.

Fort St George
18th Nov 1857

No 3889

Extract from the Chief Engr's Letter of 24 Nov 1857 No 2543 with Enclosures. Rec'd 1st Dec

Approving of the arrangements proposed in respect to the disposal of the European Regt intended for Trichinopoly as well as of the proposal regarding a Site for New Barracks at that Station; Noticing with displeasure the delay in the execution of repairs to the Barracks at Trichinopoly which were already sanctioned, & directing their commencement forthwith

No 2123. 18th Nov

With an order

Copies to the Chief Engr Circ No 19