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13-9-37

M.R.O. 1—39,000—16-10-29.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Political (Secret) DEPARTMENT.

Cons 1.12.57

G.O. No. 2285 Press / Mis.

1831

Dated 1-12 — 1937

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 130. Read the following Extract from the Minutes of Consultation, in the Military Department, dated 7th November 1857, No. 3941.

Read letter, from the Quarter Master General of the Army, 7th November 1857, No. 494; to the Secretary to Government, Military Department.

By order of the Commander-in-Chief I do myself the honor to forward a letter from the Brigadier Commanding the Mount, which His Excellency requests you will be good enough to submit to the Right Honorable the Governor in Council—it contains observations on Lieutenant Moberly's letter explanatory of the delay what took place in putting in order the North Artillery Barracks at the Mount, and the Chief Engineer's remarks as to the inaccuracy of the Brigadier's statements and his statement that by the Notification of 9th July 1855, the Commandant of Artillery could have applied to him *directly* &c.

Dated 31st October 1857, No. 583.

Sir Patrick Grant desires me to enclose a copy of Lieutenant Moberly's letter to the Brigadier of date 3rd October 1857, by which it will appear that there is no inaccuracy in regard to dates in the Brigadier's statement, and a copy of Extract Proceedings of the Chief Engineer dated 8th December 1856, in which it is shewn that the Chief Engineer interdicted direct applications to himself.

Sir Patrick Grant desires me to add that Lieutenant Moberly may be able to justify his dilatory proceedings, but that the Brigadier has only done his duty in bringing them to notice.

From the Officer Commanding the Mount, 31st October 1857, No. 583; to the Quarter Master General of the Army, Fort Saint George.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 2752 of the 29th instant, and to state for the information of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, with reference to the 2nd para. of Lieutenant Moberly's letter to the address of the Chief Engineer, representing that I had mentioned "wrong dates" though not "intentionally," I now beg leave to enclose his original* letter dated 3rd October in reply to mine dated 26th September, by which you will perceive that the dates mentioned in that letter by himself correspond precisely with those quoted in my correspondence and stated by him to be incorrect.

* To be returned.

With reference to para. 4 of Lieutenant Moberly's letter, I beg to observe that there are two Prison rooms the doors of both which were broken by the same man a refractory prisoner, one of these has been repaired the other remains in the same broken state, however I am prepared to make allowance for Mr. Moberly here, he might not have been aware that the doors of both Prison rooms were broken and thought when he had repaired one he had done all that was required, more particularly as the second place of confinement is outside the Barrack Square and is seldom used and was only used on this occasion on account of the prisoner having broken the first Prison room door.

Adverting to your letter under reply, I most respectfully beg leave to state for His Excellency's information that had I not received a communication from the Chief Engineer (copy of which I beg to forward) I should have certainly solicited him to place the North Artillery Barracks under repair, especially to prevent delay.

In conclusion, I beg respectfully to state that I very much regret His Excellency should be troubled with the several letters reporting the delay of the repairs &c., ordered to be done to the Barracks.

On my part I could not avoid bringing under notice the department on which the blame of delay rested.

The enclosure which accompanied your letter is herewith returned as requested.

Fort Saint George, Public Works Consultation of 1st December 1857.

From the District Engineer of Chingleput, Camp Guindy, 3rd October 1857, No. 1102; to the Brigadier Commanding the Mount.

In reply to your letter No. 184 of the 29th ultimo, I have the honor to request you will inform me what apparatus you require—as requested in your letter No. 502 of the 26th ulimo, I have prepared and forwarded to the Chief Engineer an Estimate for clearing out the Well in the North Foot Artillery Barracks—an earlier reply would have been sent but for my absence, I having only returned last night.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Chief Engineer in the Department Public Works, Fort Saint George, under date the 8th December 1856, No. 8689.

Read the following letter from the Officer Commanding Mount.

Requests to be informed whether any steps have been taken regarding being furnished with the opinion of a professional person relative to the safety or otherwise of the stair case leading to the Library on top of the Barracks. } (Here enter No. 297, dated 29th Novr. 1856.)

Resolved that Brigadier Shirreff be informed with reference to his letter No. 845, that the District Engineer of Chingleput under whom the Military buildings at Saint Thomas' Mount are placed* (and not the Chief Engineer) should be applied to with reference to the dilapidated steps referred to in the letter under reply.

* See Extract Minutes Consultation No. 1153, 11th July 1856.

Communicated to the Departuent of Public Works.

(True Extract and Copies.)

(Signed) C. A. BROWNE, Colonel,
Secretary to Government.

No. 131. ORDER THEREON, No. 2235; dated 1st December 1857.

Ordered that the foregoing Extract be recorded.

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

MILITARY DEPARTMENT.

No. 3941.

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Extract from the Proceedings of the Chief Engineer in the Department Public Works, Fort Saint George, under date the 8th December 1856, No. 8689.

Read the following letter from the Officer Commanding Mount.

Requests to be informed whether any steps have been taken regarding being furnished with the opinion of a professional person relative to the safety or otherwise of the stair case leading to the Library on top of the Barracks.

Here enter No. 297, dated 28th Novr. 1856.

Resolved that Brigadier Shirreff be informed with reference to his letter No. 845, that the District Engineer of Chingleput under whom the Military Buildings at Saint Thomas' Mount are placed* (and not the Chief Engineer) should be applied to with reference to the dilapidated steps referred to in the letter under reply.

* *See Extract Minutes Consultation No. 1153, 11th July 1856.*

Communicated to the Department of Public Works.

(True Extract and Copies.)

Secretary to Government.

To the Department Public Works. With 2 Spare Copies.

Exd. R. Spears.

Cons: 15th July 57 N°444 & 45

Public Works 1857 Misc.
Cons 1st Dept.

N° 2291.

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

Dated 7th
Recd 19th } Nov.r 1857

N° 3941.

Communicating correspondence
on the subject of the delay
that took place in putting
in order the North Field
Barracks at the Transmt.

Job Recorded
N° 2235.
Front St. George
14th Dec.r 1857

N° 1304 & 31

C 21 Nov.r 21 Dec.r