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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.
Cons. 4.8.57

G.O. No. 1478

Press
Mis.

Dated

30 — 7 — 18 57

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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Fort Saint George, Public Works Consultation of 4th August 1857.

No. 29. Read the following Extract from the Minutes of Consultation, in the Military Department, dated 3rd July 1857.

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 29th June 1857, No. 233.

SIR,

I have the honor, by order of the Provincial Commander-in-Chief to solicit the attention of Government to the following observations, on the subject of conservancy, in order that, that measure, may be carried to completion, or else that the execution of it should be postponed partially or entirely.

2. After many months of tedious and laborious correspondence, with Conservancy Committees at up country stations, I was enabled to submit to Government the report contained in my letter, dated 13th October last, No. 167. The scheme therein expanded and the system therein proposed, were both in conformity with the measures suggested in my letter to Government, dated 6th December 1855, and with the orders of Government in Extract Minutes Consultation dated 4th February 1856, on the above letter.

3. But the orders passed by Government in the P. W. D., dated 22nd January 1857, No. 158, and in Extract Minutes Consultation in the Military Department, dated 27th Idem No. 302, do in so many ways differ from the orders previously passed, as to make it necessary, that a correspondence on many of the topics connected with conservancy should be re-opened with Committees; these making it more difficult than ever, by undoing much that has been done, or by doing it in a different manner, to arrive at a definite stage on the proceedings.

4. The difficulty thus created would not, however, have been shrunk from, had not another circumstance arisen, which made it expedient to pause before a second effort was made to carry out the orders of Government.

5. The circumstance which induced this delay, was the scheme entertained by the Commander-in-Chief and since sanctioned by Government, for the Concentration of the Army by the abolition of detached posts. The execution of these intentions would have, in many cases materially altered, the Plans and estimates and establishments required by some Cantonments, whose limits would have to be enlarged or altered, according to the altered circumstances of the distribution of the Army.

6. In some cases, it is true that no alteration in the Plans and estimates, would have been needed because no alteration in the boundary of such Cantonments was proposed or ordered, but as the whole of the estimates for every Cantonment would have to be included in the forthcoming Budget, it was deemed needless to proceed with only part.

7. If the Government should decide in postponing the Conservancy scheme, the provincial Commander-in-Chief would suggest that the work of repairs to roads &c. in Cantonments, should be carried on as heretofore, by the P. W. D., in communication with the Staff Officer at each station, and that an establishment of Scavengers or water Carts as may be preferred should be allowed for every Cantonment, Garrisoned by Troops of this Presidency.

Referred to the Department Public Works.

By Order.

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

No. 30. ORDER THEREON, No. 1478; dated 30th July 1857.

The object of the Quarter Master General's letter, referred to this department with the foregoing Extract, is to obtain a re-consideration of the orders of Government, dated 22nd January

Fort Saint George, Public Works Consultation of 4th August 1857.

last, No. 157, prescribing the mode in which Public Works are to be carried out in Military Cantonments, viz. at the suggestion of Conservancy Committees, but under the Executive control of the District Engineers. Colonel Reid submits two points; one, that those instructions are at variance with the earlier orders of the 4th February 1853, passed in the Military Department, thereby causing difficulty and change of practice; the other, that the recently approved plan of concentrating troops will vary the circumstances of many Cantonments, causing perhaps change of plans, limits, &c. It is suggested, that in the event of the Government deciding on the postponement of the Conservancy scheme, the work in Cantonments be carried on as heretofore by the Public Works Department, in communication with the Station Staff Officer.

2. It is hardly necessary to remark that the later orders of the 22nd January last are the result of further consideration; and that the principle on which they are founded must be carried out, to accord with that uniform system on which Public Works are conducted in this Presidency, as well as in order to secure professional supervision. It is not necessary, however, to pass any fresh orders at present, for in para. 9 of Extract Minutes Consultation, 2nd May last, No. 851, the Government called for the opinion of all Officers Commanding Military Cantonments, on an arrangement which had occurred to them, of detaching an intelligent Overseer as the Executive Agent in each Cantonment, in preference to the Station Staff Officer, who cannot be expected in every case to possess that professional knowledge and experience, requisite for the execution of Public Works. Until the replies of Cantonment Commanding Officers are placed before Government, they defer passing orders on the present reference from the Quarter Master General.

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

Military Department
Fort Saint George

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation

Under dated the 23rd July 1857.

Read the following letter

From Mr. General's Office

to 233

Thos. J. A. (P. L.)

The Quarter Master General

of the Army

to Colonel C. A. B. B. B.

The Secretary to Government

Military Department

Sir,

233, June 1857

I have the honor, by order
of the Provincial Commander in
Chief, to solicit the attention of
Government to the following ob-
servations, on the subject of con-
servancy, in order that, that measure,
may

may be carried to completion, or else
that the execution of it should be post-
poned partially or entirely.

2 After many months of
tedious and laborious correspondence,
with Conservancy Committees at up-
country stations, I was enabled to
submit to Government the report con-
tained in my letter, dated 13th October
last. 1857. The scheme Microir expanded
and the system Microir proposed,
were both in conformity with the
measures suggested in my letter
to Government dated 6th December
1855 and with the orders of Government
in strict Alliance Consultation dated
14th January 1856 on the above letter.

3 But the orders passed by
Government in His P. M. O. dated
22nd January 1857 No 183 and in strict
Alliance

43
Alliance Consultation in the Military
Department dated 27th Idem No 302, do
in so many ways differ from the order
previously passed, as to make it
necessary, that a correspondence
on many of the topics connected with
conservancy should be resumed with
Committees, thus making it more
difficult than ever, by undoing much
that has been done, or by doing it
in a different manner, to arrive at
a definite stage on the proceedings.

4 The difficulty thus created
would not, however, have been in-
stanced from, had not another cir-
cumstance arisen, which made
it expedient to pause before a second
effort was made to carry out the
orders of Government.

5 The circumstances which
induced

induced this delay, was the scheme sanctioned by the Commander in Chief and since sanctioned by Government; for the concentration of the Army by the abolition of detached posts. The execution of these intentions would have, in many cases materially ~~in~~ altered, the Plans and Estimates and Establishments required by some Cantonments, whose limits would have to be enlarged or altered, according to the altered circumstances of the distribution of the Army.

In some cases, it is true that no alteration in the Plans and Estimates, would have been needed because no alteration in the boundary of such Cantonments was proposed or ordered, but as the whole of the Estimates for every Cantonment,

Cantonment would have to be included in the forthcoming Budget, it was deemed ^{wise} to proceed with only part.

If the Government should decide in postponing the necessary scheme, the Provincial Commander in Chief would suggest that the work of repairs to Roads &c in Cantonments, should be carried on as heretofore, by the P. W. D. in communication with the Staff Officer at each station, and that an Establishment of scavengers or Water carts as may be preferred should be allowed for every Cantonment, garrisoned by Troops of His Presidency.

Fort George }
29th June 1867 }
Signed J. A. Reid
Lt. Colonel

Referred.

Referred to the Department
of Public Works.

By Order

Signed L. St. Bernard
Secretary to Govt.

To

The Department Public Works

L. St. Bernard

No. 1478.
 Extract from the Minutes of Consultation
 Under date the 30th July, 1857.

Read the following Extract
 from the Minutes of Consultation in
 the Military Department.

/ Minutes 3rd July 1857. /

The object of the Quarter
 Master Jewell's letter, referred to
 this dept with the foregoing Extract,
 is to obtain a con-
 sideration of the orders of Fort
 dated 22nd Jan^y last, No 157, pre-
 scribing the mode in which pub-
 lic works are to be carried out in
 military cantonments, viz at
 the suggestion of Commissary Com-
 mittees, but under the executive
 control of the District Engrs. Col.
 Reid submits two points; one, that
 these instructions are at variance
 with the earlier orders of the 4th
 Feb^y 56, passed in the Military
 dept, thereby causing difficulty
 and change of practice; the other,
 that the recently approved plan
 of concentrating troops will vary

[Handwritten signature/initials]

June 29th July 27. 1857.
 32257.
 41-42-57
 100-102-103

Public Works 1857 204th
 Dist^o 5 June 4th August 19th
 No 1282

Extract from the Minutes
 of Fort in the Military
 Department.

Dated 3rd July 1857
 Comm^o 8th

No. 1478. 30th July
 Referring a letter
 from the Quarter Master
 Jewell relating the
 instructions of Fort to
 certain observations
 on the subject of Com-
 missary.

The circumstances of many cam-
tonments, causing perhaps change
of plans, limits &c. It is suggested,
however, that in the event of the
Govt deciding on the postponement
of the Cantonment scheme, the
work in Cantonments be carried
on, ^{as heretofore} by the Public Works
Dept, in communication with
the Station Staff officer.

It is hardly necessary
to remark that the later orders
of the 22nd Jan^y last are the result
of further consideration; and ^{that the}
principle on which they are founded
must be carried out, to accord with
that uniform system on which
public works are conducted ^{as well as}
elsewhere in this Presidency, ^{and in}
order as well to secure professional
supervision. It is not necessary,
however, to pass any fresh orders
at present, for in ^{the} ^{Min^{rs} Cms^r}
2nd May last, No 857, the Govt called
for the opinion of all officers
commanding military Canton-
ments, ^{with a view to an arrangement which}

13
had
subsequently occurred to them,
of designating an intelligent
overseer as the executive agent
in each Cantonment, in preference
to the station staff officer, who
cannot be expected in every
case to possess that professional
knowledge & experience, requisite
for the execution of public
works duties. Until ^{then} the
officers of Cantonment comman-
ding officers are placed before
Govt, they defer to passing fi-
nal orders on the present
reference from the Quarter-
Master General.

R. G.

3 Copies to the Privy Coun^{cil} 31st

20th April 1881
Dear Mr. [unclear]

My dear Sir

I have the honor to
acknowledge the receipt of your
letter of the 14th inst.

Regarding the [unclear] order
on the [unclear] [unclear] [unclear] [unclear]
the [unclear] [unclear] [unclear] [unclear]
[unclear] or the [unclear] [unclear]
of [unclear] [unclear] [unclear] [unclear]
[unclear] the [unclear] of [unclear]
[unclear] [unclear] [unclear] [unclear]
[unclear] are [unclear].

No 29 & 30.