1. Number of pages 8.
2. Date of [illegible] 17.7.37
3. Initials of [illegible]

M.R.O. 1—82,400—23-11-50.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

Govt. 4-8-37

G.O. No. 1487 Press Mis.

Dated 1—8 — 18 37

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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

No. 48. Read the following Extract from the Minutes of Consultation in the Military Department, dated 21st July 1857, No. 2401.

Read the following Extract from the Minutes of Consultation in the Public Works Department.

Referring for consideration the question of transfer to the Town Major's list, and as to what Department of the Military Service the pay proper of an Ordnance Artificer employed in the Public Works Department is to be debited. } (Here enter 14th July 1857, No. 1351.)

Ordered that all Carnatic Ordnance Artificers permanently appointed to the Department of Public Works, be transferred to the Town Major's list..

2. In the event of any individual so transferred being afterwards removed from the D. P. W. he will rejoin the Artificers, as a Private Artificer if removed for misconduct, or if otherwise in whatever grade he may have held when appointed to the D. P. W.

(True Extract.)

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

No. 49. ORDER THEREON, No. 1487; dated 1st August 1857.

Ordered to be communicated to the Chief Engineer.

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

No. 2401.

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

Read the following Extract from the Proceedings of the Inspector General of Ordnance and Magazines, under date 21st May 1857, No. 37.

Read Memo. from the Secretary to Government, Military Department, dated 18th May 1857, communicating Extract Minutes of Consultation, No. 938, dated 15th May 1857, respecting Pay and Allowances of Artificers on entering the Engineering Department.

The Inspector General begs to bring to the notice of Government, that by Minutes of Consultation, No. 1636 of 18th May 1857, the Government, by a resolution in the Revenue Department, No. 938 of 15th May 1857, decides on the employment of Carnatic Ordnance Artificers, and states that their pay according to usage will continue to be drawn by these men whilst employed in the Public Works Department; but the Inspector General submits that there is a most material commission in this Resolution in not prescribing that all Artificers permanently employed in the Department of Public Works shall be transferred to the Town Major's list; a practice invariably followed in this Presidency and in Bengal; and the Inspector General of Ordnance trusts that Government will not relieve the Public Works Department of charges, and cause the outlay to be thrown on the Ordnance Service, already overburthened with expenses.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) G. BALFOUR, Lieut. Colonel,
Inspector General of Ordnance and Magazines.

Referred to the Department of Public Works.

(By Order.)

FORT SAINT GEORGE,
25th May 1857.

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

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation, in the Public Works Department, under date the 14th July 1857, No. 1351.

Read the following letter, from Major J. J. Losh, Military Auditor General; to H. Forbes, Esqr., Acting Secretary to Government, dated 23rd June 1857, C.

Sir,

1. I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Extract from the Minutes of Consultation under date the 11th Instant, No. 1121, and, as therein directed, to report that I have been able to discover only the six cases mentioned in the margin* of the transfer of Carnatic Ordnance Artificers to the Town Major's list.

* G. O. C. C. 18th July 1849—With the sanction of Govt., Artificer William Gage is transferred to the effective Supernumeraries as Private promoted to Serjt. and appointed a Staff Serjt. in the Commissariat Department.
G. O. C. C. 13th August 1855—With the sanction of Govt. Thomas Edmonds of the Ordnance Artificer Company Overseer in the D. P. W. is transferred to the effective Supernumeraries as Private and promoted to Serjt.
G. O. C. C. 1st Novr. 1855.—Serjt. Instructor T. W. Skinner of the Ordnance Artificer Company, is transferred to the effective Supernumeraries as Serjt. and appointed Store Serjt. to the Gun Carriage Manufactory.
G. O. C. C. 9th June 1856—Serjeant Instructors A. Peters and J. Hayes transferred to the effective Supernumeraries and appointed Store Serjeants the Gun Carriage Manufactory.
Extract Minutes of Consultation, 28th February 1857, No. 680.—Artificer W. Hamilton transferred from the Madras to the Bengal Presidency in the grade of Corporal of Infantry.

2. Of these six cases it will be observed that in only one was the Artificer so transferred employed in the Public Works Department of this Presidency. In another the Artificer was permanently removed from the Madras to the Bengal Presidency, and in three others the Artificers transferred continue to be employed in the Gun Carriage Manufactory, and if removed

from their Rank of Store Serjeants, would doubtless be remanded to their former grade of Artificers.

3. Under the above circumstances it can scarcely be admitted that the transfer to the Town Major's list of all Artificers permanently employed in the Department of Public Works is the invariable practice followed in this Presidency. In Bengal and Bombay there are no grades corresponding with the Carnatic Ordnance Artificers.

4. The transfer of Carnatic Ordnance Artificers permanently employed in the Public Works Department, proposed by the Military Board in 1856, was approved† by Government, whose final orders respecting the arrangement, (the objections to which were fully detailed in a report from this Department, dated 11th March 1856, A.) have not, it is believed, yet been issued.

† Extract Minutes of Consultation, P. W. D., 2nd April 1856. No. 2197. Extract Minutes of Consultation, Mily. Dept., 2nd May 1856 No. 1026.

5. The principal objection to the plan seems to be the difficulty of disposing of such Artificers as, though intended to be permanently transferred to the Public Works Department, may be found unfit for such employment from incapacity or misconduct. In the other Presidencies it is believed, and, with the above mentioned exceptions, in this Presidency, effective Supernumeraries are all enlisted and trained Soldiers, who on removal from the Town Major's list revert to the performance of Regimental duty for which they are qualified. Carnatic Ordnance Artificers could not be so disposed of, and must, it is presumed, return to their Company, most probably as Supernumeraries.

On the 15th May last, the Government declared that as a rule, Ordnance Artificers engaged in the Public Works Department, in common with all other Military men similarly employed, should draw Military pay and allowances in addition to their Civil salary. With reference to this order, the Inspector General of Ordnance represented in his Proceedings of the 21st Idem, that Government had made an omission in not prescribing that all Artificers permanently employed in the Public Works Department, were to be transferred to the Town Major's list, a practice, he said, invariably followed in this Presidency and in Bengal; and he hoped that Government would not relieve the Public Works Department of charges and cause the outlay to be thrown on the already overburdened Ordnance Service. This question having been referred for consideration in the Public Works Department, the Military Auditor General was called upon to explain the practice in regard to the Town Major's list, and whether the Ordnance Department could be relieved from any portion of the Military salary of the Ordnance Artificers debitable to the Ordnance Department. The latter question the Military Auditor General has wholly ignored; and in his letter of the 23rd June, recorded above, he confines his reply to the former question, viz., as to the practice in regard to the Town Major's list, simply to the case of men of the Artificer Corps; whereas the object of Government was to elicit an explanation as to the practice in general, its object, and its results as affecting the men and the mode of debiting their salaries. From the report, the Government however learn that it has not been the practice in Madras, to transfer to the Town Major's list, Artificers employed in the Public Works Department, or even elsewhere.

2. There are only two points on this subject which call for notice or orders in the Public Works Department. The one is, that as under the orders of the Government of India, it has been decided that all Military persons employed in the Public Works Department shall, in addition to Civil salary, draw Military pay and allowances, the Government in their recent Extract Minutes of Consultation of the 15th May, rightly declared that Ordnance Artificers obtaining employment in the Public Works Department are equally with other Military men, entitled to draw Military allowances in addition to their Civil remuneration. The other point is, that Rule 3, of the Public Works Notification of the 27th January last, provides that the Military pay and allowances of a Military man employed in the Public Works Department, shall be debited to the Public Works accounts of this Presidency, with the exception of his pay proper, which under that provision, it must be concluded, forms a Military charge. This rule must be carried out in its integrity in all cases; and accordingly, the pay proper of an Ordnance Artificer employed in the Engineer Department is to be considered a Military charge, and cannot be debited to the Public Works Department.

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3. The question of transfer to the Town Major's list, and as to what Department of the Military Service the pay proper of an Ordnance Artificer employed in the Public Works Department is to be debited, will be considered in the Military Department, to which the report of the Military Auditor General above recorded will be communicated.

(A True Extract.)

(Signed) H. FORBES,

Acting Secretary to Government.

Ordered that all Carnatic Ordnance Artificers permanently appointed to the Department of Public Works—be transferred to the Town Major's list.

2. In the event of any individual so transferred being afterwards removed from the D. P. W. he will rejoin the Artificers—as a Private Artificer if removed for misconduct, or if otherwise in whatever grade he may have held when appointed to the D. P. W.

(True Extract and Copies.)

Secretary to Government.

To the Inspector General of Ordnance.
" Department Public Works. With 2 Spare Copies.
" Town Major.
" Military Auditor General.
" Accountant General.

Exd. R. Spears.

Public Works 1857 Departt.
D.to Consts Augst

No 1514

Extract from the Minutes of
Cons: Military Departt.

D.d 21st } July 1857.
Read 28th }

No 2401.

From the Mily Dept.
10th January 1862 Cer:
52-

Ordering all Commutic Ordnance Artificers permanently appointed to the D.P.W. to be transferred to the Town Majors List, & directing, in the event of any individual so transferred being afterwards removed from the D.P.W. to rejoin the Artificers as a Private Artificer if removed for misconduct, or if otherwise, in whatever Grade he may have held when appointed to the D.P.W. With an Order dated 22nd

No 1487.

Ordered to be com
municated to the Chief Eng
-neer-

From Saint George
1st August 1857

A Copies to the Chief Engr. Civil Dept.

No 48 & 49.