1. Number of pages.
2. Date of issue of last G.O.
3. Initials of reference.

M.R.O. 1—49,400—23-11-50.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	Press Mls.
Dated 18	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Read the following papers.

No. 12. Extract from the Minutes of Consultation in the Military Department, dated 29th July 1857. No. 2535.

From Colonel A. T. Cotton, Commandant of Engineers.

(Here enter 17th July 1857, No. 442.)

From the Quarter Master General of the Army.

(Here enter 25th July 1857, No. 284.)

The Governor in Council authorizes the immediate execution under the directions of the Brigadier Commanding the Mount of the works proposed in the Quarter Master General's letter, leaving any further arrangements to be made hereafter.

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

No. 13. Extract from the Minutes of Consultation in the Military Department, dated 8th August 1857, No. 2683.

Read the following letter from Brigadier Æ. SHIRREFF, Commanding the Mount; to Colonel C. A. BROWNE, Secretary to Government, Military Department, Fort St. George, dated 6th August 1857, No. 394.

SIR,

To enable me to commence at once on the Works to fortify the Hill at this station sanctioned by Government, I have the honor to request you will be good enough to obtain me authority to draw from the Treasury Rupees (2,000) two thousand to be adjusted hereafter or as soon as the estimate of the expense is prepared by the local Engineer.

The advance of (2,000) two thousand Rupees applied for is sanctioned.

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

No. 14. Letter from G. L. PRENDERGAST, Esq., Accountant General; to H. FORBES, Esq., Acting Secretary to Government, dated 14th August 1857, No. 119.

SIR,

An Extract from the Minutes of Consultation dated 8th Instant, No. 2683, in the Military Department, sanctioning an advance of Rupees 2,000 applied for by the Brigadier Commanding Saint Thomas' Mount for commencing the work of fortifying the Hill at that station, has been communicated to me from that Department, and Brigadier Shirreff requested me to instruct the Sub Treasurer at Fort Saint George, to pay him the sum in question, on his receipt.

In para. 49 of the Extract Minutes of Consultation dated 12th March 1857, No. 461, the Government observed, in order to avoid confusion in the accounts of the Paying Officers, that it is proper to sanction once for all certain sums for each District computed on some fixed principles: the sum so sanctioned remaining unaltered for the year. My compliance with the Brigadiers' request will, therefore, be contrary to the principles laid down by Government in respect to making advances for the execution of Public Works, because the proper course for that Officer to follow would have been to draw the amount from the District Engineer of Chingleput out of the funds placed at his disposal for meeting the expenses on account of emergent and isolated works, but in the absence of any specific instructions from the Government in the Department of Public Works, and in order to avoid any delay in the commencement of the work, I

have thought it proper to instruct, at once, the District Engineer of Chingleput, to advance the amount required by the Brigadier, I hope this proceeding will meet the approval of Government.

No. 15. ORDER THEREON, No. 1643; dated 26th August 1837.

In the first Extract above recorded, Government authorized the immediate execution of certain works proposed by the Quarter Master General of the Army, for fortifying the Hill at St. Thomas' Mount. In the second Extract, an advance of 2,000 Rupees applied for by the Officer Commanding the Mount was sanctioned, to enable him to carry on the above work.

2. In the third paper above recorded, the Accountant General reports that, on an application from Brigadier Shirreff, requesting that the sum may be paid by the Sub Treasurer, he desired the District Engineer of Chingleput to pay at once the advance required by the Officer Commanding the Mount from the funds placed at his disposal for the execution of Public Works. The Government approve of the course followed by the Accountant General; and direct that the two first Extracts above recorded be communicated to the Chief Engineer, in order that he may be enabled to admit the advance made by the District Engineer of Chingleput at the request of the Accountant General.

3. The Officer Commanding the Mount will furnish the District Engineer of Chingleput with a Bill for the sum that may be expended in the fortification of the Hill, so that he may account to the Chief Engineer for the sum he advanced.

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

39

Commencement of Engineer's Office

No. 1142.

From

Colonel A. T. Cotton

Commandant of Engineers

To

Colonel C. C. Browne

Secretary to Government

in the Military Department

Sir,

I have the honor to enclose a Memorandum on the immediate measures which appear to me advisable to take at the Mount Cantonment, to prevent mischief there by any momentary disturbance that might occur agreeably to the orders I received from the Right Honorable the Governor, & Brigadier Shirreff Honorandeepe Addle Dreant with them, and the Paper I now send is the result of my Consultation.

Fort Saint George
17 July 1837

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedient Servant
(signed) A Cotton Colonel
Commandant of Engineers

Referred

2d Referred to the Provincial
Commander in Chief for his observations
as soon as convenient.

Fort Saint George } (Signed) G.A. Brownrigg Col
22 July 1857 } Secretary to Govt.

5P

Memorandum on the defence of the mountain
Cantonment from any momentary attack

The leading points which
seem first to require attention in this
case are.

1st That the defence magazine is on
the outskirts of the Cantonment
entirely out of the reach of protection
with so small a force as is now
at the Mountain.

2nd The Depôt Commissariat
factory and the Jail Guard
are in a building quite unprotected by any works, though it
is near the Barracks.

To remedy the first is a
most indispensable at once to
provide a magazine, where it
will be covered by the troops.
The spot I would propose is on the
east

With reference to the approaches to the Cantonment, it is to be observed that there are no particular approaches that it would be useful to command, because the whole country is open and practicable, and even the river which flows at a distance of from 1 to 1½ mile from the Mount is fordable at many points.

It would have been highly desirable to have thrown up about four Field works armed with Guns on the outside of the Trees and Houses in the Cantonment, so as to keep the open Country around, but without Infantry or Cavalry, to cover the retreat of the artillery it seems to be dangerous to place Guns where they would be liable to be seized. Such outworks just to cover small Detachments with rifles, who could if necessary retire without any thing to delay them, would be of great use and I would recommend their construction.

I have applied to the Chief Engr for permission for Mr O'Hara to make an enlarged survey of the top of the Hill, and to take the levels of the Spurs referred to, so as to shew their Command. This can be done in a day.

In addition to the above works I think that it would be extremely useful to form a Communication along the East face of the Hill clear of the buildings, by cutting a ledge on its face from the North to the Southern Spur so as to allow of Troops moving, without being entangled among the narrow Streets and Houses that lie between the Hill and the Barracks. This could be formed without much labor. It would also be very desirable to make

For

make a cross road from the Depôt to meet the road.

If 68 pr. could be provided for the Field Batteries they would have the great advantage of ranging 1000 yards to 2000 yards beyond the Contonment and thus sweeping the open country where there is scarcely any cover at all.

If there were time & to allow of further works being executed, I would recommend works being thrown up, connecting the Main Barrack Depôt Commissariat Hospital and Church, which are all in one line and near together, and would then form a very strong position.

Commandant of Engineer Office
Fort St. George
19th July 1857.

Signed J. Cotton Colt
Commandant of Engineers.

1/1/1833

Quarter Master General's Office,
Fort St. George 25th July 1837.

No 284.

From
The Quarter Master General
of the Army.

To
The Secretary to Government
Military Department

Sir,

I am directed by the Commander
in Chief to request you
will be so good as to lay the following
before the Right Honorable the
Governor in Council, being the result
of General Beresford's perusal of
Colonel Cotton's memo on the defence
of the Mount Cantonment from
any momentary disturbances, re
ferred for the Honorable Com-
mander in Chief's observations,
under date 22d Instant.

The Commander in Chief
in the first place, strongly advocates
some

some protection of the mount by
simple works grounded upon
Colonel Cotton's able report and
would suggest the following as
a temporary measure.

As first and chief work, the
excavated magazine. The present
condition of the ammunition
is very insecure. This seems to
require chiefly cooly labour, which
can easily be provided.

Six 68 Pdrs placed upon two
platforms 3 in each, this will
require only levelling of the hill
as explained by Colonel Cotton,
making the level communication
he suggests on the east side, by
cutting into the hill and pro-
-tecting it by a breastwork of
rubbish and stones along its
corner.

The

The Depot square to be
protected by the very simple work
called circular Redans at each
of the four Corners. Here the
Major General desires me to say
he now introduced during the
troubled times in Ireland at
all the Barracks.

They are formed upon
strong beams well embedded at
on the top of the walls with a
sufficient length within to
admit of being firmly propped
up. Upon these cars, in a few
days be constructed the circular
Redans, the floor of wood perfora-
-ted for musketry. The walls
made Bullet proof say four
feet high with outer and inner
casing of boards the space
between to be filled with earth

and

and sands. A Roof to shelter from rain and sun. These would, by their protection, enfilade all the sides of the Square, and be a protection to such parts of the Siege Train as cannot be brought inside. Each Redan should be capable of holding 8 men, and be accessible by a broad Ladder from within.-

On the completion of these, General Bereaford would gladly desire to see the further protection, as given in Colonel Cotton's Report, of a few rifle Traverses of Earth work at the angles of the Station, these might be held by the Artificers of the Depôt without Cannon. The occupants would retreat into the Square, which a sharp fire

fire from them would check a rush of rabble and give time for the European Inhabitants to seek our asylum in the Depot.

If the Brigadier was authorized to prepare them much above. The Provincial Commander in Chief is of opinion that all would be completed in a very few days.

I have the honor to be Sir

Fort St. George,
25. July, 1857.

/ Signed J. C. A. Reid.
Dy. Bve. Genl.

90/123/7

Military Department

No 2535

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation
Under date the 29th July 1857

Read the following Papers

From Colonel H. T. Dyas
Commandt of Engineers

Fleet under 17th July 1857
(No 1642)

From the Quarter Master
Genl of the Army

Fleet under 25th ——— 1857

The Governor in Council
authorizes the immediate execution
under the directions of the Brigadier
Commanding the Mount of the
works proposed in the Quarter
Master General's letter leaving
any further arrangements to be
made hereafter.

Signed C. A. Browne, Clk
Secy to Govt

J.C.

To The Quarter Master Genera[l] &c.

" Commandant of Engineers.

" Adjt. Auditor Genera[l].

" Accountant Genera[l].

" Jour. Major.

" Brigadier Commanding Depart[t]

Inspecter Genera[l] of Ordnance

Dep[t] of Pub. Works.

Military Department

No 2083

Extract from the Minutes of Consultations

Under date the 8th August 1857

Read the following letter

No 394

To

The Secretary to Government Mad.

Fort St. George

Sir,

I am able me to commence at once on the Works to fortify the hill at this Station sanctioned by Government. I have the honor to request you will be good enough to obtain me authority to draw from the Treasury Rupees 2,000/ two thousand to be adjusted hereafter or as soon as the estimate of the expence is

Public Works Dept
Fort St George
Sept 1857

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation in the Military Department

Under 29th July 1857

Rec'd 15th Aug 1857

2 Enclosures

To the Hon'ble A. Bell Esq

Secretary

Fort St George

I am directed to forward herewith for the information of the Right Hon'ble the Governor in Council a Petition addressed to His Lordship by Captain Dixon of the Bengal Engineers, soliciting the favorable consideration of the Government to his application for the grant of a Compass and Theodolite, and to request that you will be pleased to lay the same before the Right Hon'ble the Governor in Council for such orders as may seem meet thereon.

I have &c

(Signed) H. Pelly

Secy to Govt

Military Dept

Fort St George

21 Aug 1857

No 612

To the Right Hon'ble the Governor in Council

Fort St George

My Lord

I have the honor to request your Lordship will be pleased to grant me the loan of a Compass and Theodolite for the purpose of carrying on the Survey of the Nilgiris.

I have &c

(Signed) J. Dixon

Capt Bengal Engrs

Ootacamund

21 Aug 1857

Recd 25th

C21 Key "225"

as prepared by the Local Engineer.

Plymouth

6th August 1857

(Signed) Lieut. Colonel Boxer

Commanding Royal Engineer

The accompanying Plan of

two Alternate Projects attached for

is sanctioned.

(Signed) H. A. Bruce Lieut

Secretary to Govt

To

The Officer Commanding Royal

" Accountant General

" Military Auditor General

" Dept of Pub. Works.

Encl. B.F.C.

Public Works Office

No 1643

Extract from the Minutes of Consideration

Under date the 26th August 1857.

Read the following

papers.

Extract from the Minutes of Comrs

in the Public Dept

Here enter 29th July 1857 No 2338.

Do. Do. Do.

Here enter 8th August 1857

From the Accountant General

Here enter 14th " " 1191

14

1646

In the first

Extract above recorded

Government sanctioning

the expenditure

tion of certain works

proposed by the Board

of

Public Works Office
No 1643
Extract from the Minutes of Consideration
Under date the 26th August 1857
Read the following
papers.

Extract from the Minutes of Comrs
in the Public Dept
Here enter 29th July 1857 No 2338.

Do. Do. Do.

Here enter 8th August 1857

From the Accountant General
Here enter 14th " " 1191

14
1646

In the first
Extract above recorded
Government sanctioning
the expenditure
tion of certain works
proposed by the Board
of

— for fortifying the Hills
at Mt Thos Mount.
In the second Estimate
are estimated at £2000.
Directed a Field for
the Officer Commanding
the Mount to be
constructed to enable
him to carry on the
above works.
2. That the Field
proper estimate received
the 2d. December from
report took on an
application from
Brigadier Clavering
respecting both the
works may be fixed
by the Chief Engineer
he observed the Field
Engineer of Colchester
to stop on with the
advance

337

advance proposed by
the Officer Commanding
the Mount from the
Fresh proceed at the
Estimate for the exe-
cution of Redoubt
Number. The Govern-
ment approve
of the advance
of the Second and
Second Lieut Mount
Estimate above recorded
be communicated
to the Chief Engineer
in order that he
may be enabled
to estimate the advance
made by the Distinct
Engineer of Chelmsford
at the request of the
Lieutenant General

The

3. The Officer
Commanding the
Ordnance with furnish
the District Engineer
of Springfield with
a Bill for the
sums such ordnance
be expended in the
fortification of the
Hill, & as such re-
ports according to
the Chief Engineer
for the sums re
ceived.

Copies to the Chief Engr.
with Copies of the 6. Bn C. Inf Ord Pub. 27
3 " Subsy Dept.
1 " Asst. Genl.

Public Works 1857 Dch Ltr
Dy. to Cons: 1st Copy

No. 1643

Extract Mins. of Cons:
Dated 26th August 57

Extract from the Mins. of Cons:
in the Bd & Dep. Quartermr
Genl dd 11th Sept 1857 C. No. 1811 - 22 - w/ pass
From the Chief Engr dd 7th July 57 C. No.
1779 in Cons

Approving of the Course
followed by the Accountant General
in directing the District Engrs of
Complaint to pay at once the advance
provided by the Officer Commanding
the Mount for fortifying the Hill
at that station, from the Funds
placed at his disposal for the
execution of Public Works.

No. 1205

D. G.