MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	Press Mis.
Dated	18

Not to be folded or roughly handled.

Fort Saint George, Public Works Consultation of 14th December 1858.

No. 31. Read the following Extract from the Minutes of Consultation in the Military Department, dated 8th November 1858, No. 3987.

It being impossible to complete the building of the Foundry at the Gun Carriage Manufactory before the Monsoon, consider it advisable to postpone the execution of the work until a revised Plan and Estimate, now considered necessary, can be prepared for the work.

(Vide Military Consultation, 9th November 1858, Nos. 31-32.)

No. 32. ORDER THEREON, No. 2669; dated 9th December 1858.

Ordered to be communicated to the Officiating Chief Engineer with reference to his letter, dated 6th October 1858, No. 4260.

(Signed) W. H. BAYLEY,
Acting Secretary to Government.

MILITARY DEPARTMENT.

No. 3987.

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation, 8th November 1858.

Read Extract from the Minutes of Consultation, Public Works Department, under date the 22nd October 1858, *No.* 2225.

Read the following letter from the Officiating Chief Engineer, 6th October 1858, *No.* 4260; *to the Secretary to Government.*

Copy of Memo. from Garrison Engineer.

Referring to Extract Minutes Consultation, No. 2042, dated 4th October 1858, I have the honor to submit the following explanation relative to the Foundry at the Gun Carriage Manufactory, but in doing so, I must solicit the attention of Government to the tone of Colonel Balfour's letter which in para. 2 conveys an uncalled for reflection on myself.

Vide budget 1858-59, *para.* 9, *No.* 4, *para.* 31.

2. The original amount for the Foundry was roughly estimated by Captain Rawlins at 6,000 Rupees, but he had then no data to guide him in regard to dimensions, and when the Machinery was received from England, I not only communicated frequently with Lieutenant Colonel Maitland on the subject, but directed the Acting Garrison Engineer to conform entirely to the requirements of that Officer and the Mechanical Engineer attached to the works by whom the plan was sketched out.

3. Captain Prendergast was careful to do as I had pointed out, and when his estimate was finished, he found it amounted to nearly 14,000 instead of 6,000 Rupees, while the Mechanical Engineer informed him that certain subsidiary arrangements connected with the storage of Coke, Crucibles &c, were insufficiently provided for, owing to the want of space on the south side of the building which adjoins the road.

* *No.* 1678, *dated* 20*th August* 1858.

4. When therefore the Government in Extract* Minutes Consultation, directed the immediate commencement of the building on the supposition that it would cost only 6,000 Rupees, it was incumbent on me to report the true state of the case, instead of making a future demand for increased expenditure as has been done at the Bullet Factory. A copy of my letter to Government was forwarded to the Inspector General of Ordnance and Magazines, who appears to have expected an immediate commencement of the work, which was not compatible with my duty, as I was aware that Government did not anticipate the large expenditure required.

No. 4367, 18*th August* 1858.

5. Originally the Coal for the Foundry was proposed to be kept in an enclosed but unroofed space at the back of the present buildings, but the Inspector General has subsequently called for and received an estimate for a Coal Shed to contain 300 tons, which after deducting 350 Rupees for the first plan, adds Rupees 2,420 to the estimate, making the cost of Foundry and Coal Shed altogether Rupees 15,570.

6. The original estimate for all the Gun Carriage buildings as entered in the Budget was Rupees 98,100, and the present amount of the Foundry &c. will add Rupees 15,570 making the total cost Rupees 1,13,670, and it is not to be overlooked that the Committee on Fort Saint George have recommended the removal of the Factory to another site.

7. I am not aware what led the Inspector General to suppose it was intended to make the Foundry large enough for casting 10 tons of metal, as 5 tons was the out-turn of the Cupola, stated by the Superintendent in his letter of the 10th June 1858, No. 447.

8. In conclusion, I would beg to observe that in this and other cases, Colonel Balfour has mistaken the power of the Chief Engineer in supposing that Officer to be enabled to order the commencement of any new work without the distinct authority of Government conveyed in the established channel. Works are sometimes sanctioned in the Military Department, of which I do not receive intimation from Government for many days, and as the same view as to the matter of finance has not always been taken in the Department Public Works, I cannot incur the risk of acting on the information conveyed to the Ordnance Department.

9. As an instance of what is here alluded to, I beg to observe that the improvements of the Poonamallee Barracks was sanctioned by Government, in the Military Department, on the 1st June 1858, but the estimates were referred by the Department Public Works, for the orders of the Government of India before authority was given for the execution of the works.

No. 1951.
E. M. C., P. W. D., No. 1235, *30th June* 1858.

MEMORANDUM.

With reference to the letter addressed by the Superintendent Gun Carriage Manufactory to the Inspector General of Ordnance, I beg to remark that I could never have made any objection to the size or site of the proposed Iron Foundry, my duty being merely to make plans according to the desire of the Superintendent.

Mr. Tipping* came to my Office to talk over the rough plan he had made and in portioning out the area allotted for its different requirements, I undoubtedly understood that the space was limited and must be economized to admit of sheds for coals, sand, crucibles &c. I now remember that the same individual remarked that there should be two Stores, a large and a small one; but as there was room only for one, it was necessary to have the large one. An Iron Tramway at first proposed to be brought into the Foundry was omitted and no definite spot marked for the storing of Iron &c. which was to be kept whereever it would be most out of the way. I had therefore the strongest grounds for remarking to the Chief Engineer that all the requirements for the Foundry were not fully met, the present plan being made (with the sanction of the Superintendent) to meet what was absolutely necessary.

* *Sic.*

4th October 1858. (Signed) H. L. PRENDERGAST, Captain,
Acting Garrison Engineer.

Communicated to the Military Department, with reference to an Extract from the Minutes of Consultation in that Department, dated 24th September 1858, No. 3437.

(A true Extract.)
(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

It being impossible now to complete the building of the Foundry at the Gun Carriage Manufactory before the monsoon, and all the requirements of the Foundry apparently not being fully met by the existing plan and estimate, the Governor in Council considers it advisable to postpone the execution of the work, until a revised plan and estimate can be prepared, on which the whole of the requirements of the Foundry are fully provided for—when final orders will be passed in regard to them.

(True Extract & Copy.)

S. Marshall Colonel
Deputy Secretary to Government.

To the Department Public Works. With 20 Spare Copies
„ Inspector General of Ordnance.

Exd. A. A. DeMonte.

Cons: 5th October/58 No. 51-52
" 24th Augt — " — 47@49
" 2d July — " — 99@101.

Pub. Works 1858 Departt
to Cons/4th December
No: 2796

Ex. Mins. Cons. in the
Milily Departt

Dated 8th Octor/58
Received 20th Octor/58
No. 3987

Having impossible
to complete the building of
the Foundry at the Gun
Carriage Manufactory
before the Winter Con-
sider it advisable to
postpone the prosecution
of the work until a
revised Plan and
Estimate can be con-
sidered & if approved can be pre-
pared for the work.

With an order.
No. 2669. 9th December 1858

No 31 & 32.

No. 2669

2669

Ordered to be communicated
to the Officiating Chief Engineer with
reference to his letter dated 6th October 1858
No. 4260.

W R B

Fort St. George
9th December/58

10 Copies to the Offg Chief Engr
Dated 10th
with E. In. C. R: 3987.