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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.*11.5.37*

G.O. No.	8487	Press
		~~Mis~~
67-68		
Dated	11-5-37	18-5-37

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Fort Saint George, Public Works Consultation of 12th April 1859.

No. 67. Read the following Extract Minutes Consultation in the Military Department, dated 15th March 1859, No. 1007.

Communicating to the D. P. W. letter from the Quarter Master General of the Army in view to the subject of building Stables for the Horses of Mounted European Corps at Bangalore, being recommended to the Government of India for re-consideration. (Vide Military Consultation 15th March 1859, Nos. 123-124.)

No. 68. Ordered in consequence that the following letter be dispatched.

From J. D. BOURDILLON, Esq., Secretary to Government of Fort Saint George; to Lieut. Colonel H. YULE, Secretary to the Government of India, dated 11th April 1859, No. 848.

SIR,

With reference to Major Strachey's letter dated 23rd September 1858, I have now the honor under the orders of the Honorable the Governor in Council to forward copy of a letter* from the Quarter Master General of the Army, conveying an explanation from His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief on the subject of providing covered Stables for the Dragoons and European Horse Artillery at Bangalore. The Estimate† for these buildings amounting to Rupees 1,56,240 was included in the Budget for 1858-59; but the Government of India in withholding their sanction to the undertaking on the ground that there was no urgent necessity for it, remarked also that the "plan of Stabling Horses at Bangalore was abandoned several years ago, and the present plan of leaving them in the open air substituted as an improvement." They also called for a report on the subject, together with a return of the mortality among the Horses for any number of years under the two systems. It will be seen from the papers now transmitted that there have never been Stables for the Mounted Corps at Bangalore.

*Dated 3rd March 1859, No. 96, recorded in E. M. C., Milly. Dept., dated 15th Idem, No. 1007.

†Item No. 6, in Statement No. 1.

10. Estimate for the year

MILITARY DEPARTMENT.

No. 1007.

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation, 15th March 1859.

Read letter from the Quarter Master General of the Army, 3rd March 1859, No. 96; to the Secretary to Government, Military Department.

I am desired by the Commander-in-Chief, to offer the following remarks on the orders of the Supreme Government regarding the proposal to build stables for the horses of mounted European Corps at Bangalore, contained in the budget of 1858-59—Para. 6 of the remarks of the Government of India, contained in Extract Minutes of Consultation 21st October 1858, No. 2214, sets out by withholding authority to the work and goes on to state that the President in Council is under the impression, that the plan of stabling horses at Bangalore was *abandoned* several years ago, and the present plan of leaving them in the open air substituted as an improvement; and requires a return shewing the mortality of the horses since the abolition of the Stables &c.

His Excellency would beg to observe, that the President in Council labors under a wrong impression as to there ever having been Stables for mounted Corps at Bangalore. The Horse Lines of the Dragoons (by lines, as Government is aware, is meant on this side of India, open pickets not stabling) were at first situated between the Barrack and the Ulsoor Tank, but in consequence of repeated out-breaks of sickness among the horses, of a most unmanageable kind, first shewing itself in 1826, the lines were moved to the south end of the Great Parade, or in other words to the opposite side of the Barracks—this occurred in 1840, and in this situation they remained till 1854, when they were again removed to the space between the Barracks and Tank, this being but a temporary measure however, pending the completion of the new Dragoon Barracks on the Race Course, and it is on this site it was proposed that Stables should be erected.—Since the last removal of the horses, no sickness more than usual has occurred. It is not therefore possible, under these circumstances, to give tables of the relative amount of sickness among the horses in and out of Stables, it remains however to shew, why the building of Stables was recommended.

On the 13th April 1857, General Beresford, Commanding the Mysore division, addressed a letter to me on the subject, which he entered into and treated most fully.—His recommendation was based on three points, which were briefly these.

1st. The great advantage of having the horses at all times under shelter and kept protected from the influence of cold, rain, high winds, dust and the worry of Insects of all kinds.

2nd. The reduction of the feed of horses, capable of being made through their being thus stabled, whereby it is clearly shewn, that a saving of Rupees 11,493 per annum, would accrue on a Regiment of British Dragoons at it's full strength.

3rd. The advantage, a most important one, of enabling the soldier to groom his horse under shelter, this can hardly be estimated too highly.

The letter from which the above was taken, was moreover laid before Government with the strongly urged recommendation of Sir P. Grant, for giving the experiment a full trial, feeling satisfied in his own mind, that it would result in a saving to the Government, and be beneficial to the health of the soldiers.

Communicated to the Department Public Works, with reference to Minutes of Consultation marginally noted, for report to the Government of India, with the recommendation of this Government, that the subject of the Stables referred to, may be re-considered.

(True Extract and Copy.)

To the Department Public Works.
„ Quarter Master General.

Exd. J. Davis.

M. M. M. M. M.
Ag. Dy. Secretary to Government.

With 20 spare copies

Estimate for execution

Office of the
13th

Public Works Dept.
N^o 848

To
Lieutenant Colonel H. Yule
Offg. Secretary to the Govt of India

Sir,

With reference to
Major Strachey's letter
dated 23rd September 1858,
I have now the honor
under the orders of the
Hon^{ble} the Governor
in Council to forward
a copy of a letter from the
Quarter Master General
of the Army, conveying an
explanation from His
Excellency the Commander
in Chief on the subject
of providing covered stables
for the Dragoons and
European Horse Artillery
at Bangalore. The
Estimate for these build-
ings

W M

* dated 3rd March 1859 N^o 96
recorded in G.M.C. Mil. Dep^t
dated 15th Idem N^o 1007

* Item N^o 6 in Statement N^o 1.

Com: 29th Dec 58/59 N^o 29-30
3rd Jan 59/60 12-14
12th May 59/60 37-38
23rd June 59/60 17-18

10th Nov 1859 D^{ist} of
206 and 12th April
N^o 670.

Carriage & Drains: Bonds
in the Building Office

Dated 15th March 59
Revised 22nd March 59

N^o 848-11 April 59

Communicating to
the S. & M. letter from the
2nd Div. Genl of the Army
in view to the subject of
building stables for the
horses of mounted European
Cavalry at Bangalore, being
recommended to the Govt
of India for consideration.

29 March 59 April

buildings amounting to
Rupees 156240 was in-
cluded in the Budget
for 1858/59, but the Govt.
of India in withholding
their sanction to the
undertaking on the ground
that there was no ur-
gent necessity for it,
remarked also that the
"plan of stabling horses
at Bangalore was
abandoned several years
ago, and the present
"plan of leaving them
in the open air sub-
stituted as an improvement. They
~~and~~ ^{also} called for a report
on the subject, together
with a return of the
mortality among the horses
for any number of years
under the two systems.
It

the papers now transmitted
that there ~~was~~ ^{have never been} stable
for the mounted Corps
at Bangalore, ~~any~~
time. — *AM*

Fort St. George
11th April 1859

Public Works 1859 Sept 12.
Detention: 12. April

18648.

To the ~~Office~~ Secretary to the
Govt of India.
11th & 12th April 1859.

From the ~~Office~~ Secy. 27/25.
Ced. 1/39 & 1/3 2942. in Can.

Forwarding copies
of sentence on the subject
of providing Council. Sta.
bles for the Dragoons
and European Horse
existing at Bangalore.

No 6748.

8

29th March 1859 April