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Public Relations DEPARTMENT.

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Fort Saint George, Public Works Consultation of 29th April 1859.

No. 64. Read the following Extract from the Minutes of Consultation in the Military Department dated 8th April 1859, No. 1369.

Approving the measures proposed for building Theatres for the recreation of the men of H. M.'s 66th Regt. of Foot at Cannanore & 3rd Battalion 60th Rifles at Jackatalla, on the terms stated, and requesting to ascertain whether the Executive Engineer at Jackatalla, can comply with the requisition for the building materials in question, without detriment to the P. W. now in progress at that Station. (Vide Military Consultation, 12th April 1859, Nos. 86 @ 88.)

No. 65. ORDER THEREON, No. 961 ; dated 21st April 1859.

Referred to the Chief Engineer for Report.

(Signed) J. D. BOURDILLON,
Secretary to Government.

No. 1369.

*Extract from the Minutes of Consultation, 8th April 1859.**Read letter from the Quarter Master General of the Army, 30th March 1859, No. 151; to the Secretary to Government, Military Department.*

I am directed by the Commander-in-Chief to request, you will be good enough to lay the following before Government.

2. The 66th Regiment stationed at Cannanore, are desirous of building a Theatre—a room in Barracks hitherto used as such have of necessity been taken up for quartering the men—Brigadier Fitzgerald has permitted them to commence the work, on *certain conditions as to the tenure and ultimate disposal of the buildings on a spot of ground not interfering with other buildings, on the economy of the Cantonment, His Excellency is much in favor of the measure, providing as it does, a source of amusement for the Soldiers, and quite approves of Brigadier Fitzgerald's proceedings, and the conditions on which he has granted permission to build—Sir P. Grant indulges the hope, that Government will give its sanction to the measure.

Extract of a letter from Major J. Keating Fort Adjutant, to the Officer Commanding Her M's. 66th Regiment Cannanore, No. 258, dated Cannanore, 18th March 1859.

4. "The Brigadier wishes it to be clearly understood, that the building about to be erected on the spot now allotted, is to be considered in every way Regimental, and liable to be removed without any charge to Government should the ground be required for public purposes, which considering the locality, is a contingency not likely though possible to occur.

5. "In the event of Her Majesty's 66th leaving Cannanore, no objection will be made to the Corps, making it over by sale or otherwise to the Corps that relieves it, which Corps again in making the purchase, will be subject to the above conditions.

6. "At no time can the building be permitted to be sold to any individual or individuals, except for the purpose of the materials being removed, when the ground will again revert to Government.

7. "The Brigadier is necessitated to insist on these conditions, for should none be attached, and the building and ground be purchased by any private parties, they would in time have as it were, a right to the property, from which it would be difficult to eject them when the ground is required for any Regimental or Government purpose."

From the Quarter Master General of the Army, Fort St. George, 31st March 1859, No. 153; to the Secretary to Government, Military Department, Fort Saint George.

I am desired by the Commander-in-Chief to request, you will be so good as to obtain the sanction of Government to the Executive Engineer at Jackatalla issuing building materials as per enclosed list, on payment, to the Officer Commanding 3rd Battalion 60th Rifles, for the purpose of erecting a Theatre. Colonel Bedford, in his letter of 27th instant says, that he has been informed, that such issue could not be authorised except under the special sanction of Government—he goes on to observe, that he considers the building of this proposed Theatre, is a measure deserving much encouragement. It will find occupation for many men during a period when there is a lack of other rational amusement, and when finished, it will under proper control, involve a good deal of reading, and help to convey much useful information in a very attractive manner. He further believes, that much money which would otherwise be spent in drink, would flow into the funds of the Theatre, if built.

His Excellency would therefore, strongly recommend that Colonel Bedford's request be granted, and that Captain Campbell be authorised to issue on payment, all materials required for the Theatre, which he may have in his possession, provided that by doing so, he does not delay the public works.

Sir P. Grant is of opinion, that the same conditions should attach to this Theatre in regard to its proprietary right, as those recommended for the Theatre at Cannanore under erection by Her Majesty's 66th Regiment.

3rd Battalion 60th Rifles.

Requisition on Captain Campbell for the following articles, to erect a Theatre for the use of the above Corps,

100,000 Bricks.
 Jungle { 14 pieces of 4 in : quartering 24 feet long.
 { 10 Do. do. 18 "
 { 2 Do. do. 12 "
 { 2 Do. do. 9 "
 { 200 feet 4 in : quartering.
 Teak. { 8 pieces 3 in : quartering 6 feet long.
 { 8 Do. do. 4 "
 { 15 pieces 12 feet long, 5 in : broad, 1 1/2 thick.
 { 120 feet flooring.

JACKATALLA,
 26th March 1859. }

(Signed) W. F. BEDFORD, Colonel.
 Commanding 3rd Battalion 60th Rifles.

The Governor in Council sees no objection to the measures proposed, for building Theatres for the recreation of the men of the 66th Regiment of Foot at Cannanore, and 3rd Battalion 60th Rifles at Jackatalla, on the terms submitted, and on the distinct understanding, that the buildings are liable to removal, and the ground resumed whenever Government may see fit.

2. Reference will be made to the Department Public Works, with the view of ascertaining, whether the Executive Engineer at Jackatalla, can comply with the requisition for the building materials in question, without detriment to the Public Works now in progress at that station.

(True Extract and Copies.)

Wm. Millett
 Acting Dy. Secretary to Government.

To the Quarter Master General.

„ Department Public Works.

„ Military Auditor General.

„ Accountant General.

With 20 spare copies

Exd. J. Davis.

