M.R.O. 1—77,006—8-4-37.

(1) Number of pages 10

(2) Date of repair 15-5-62

(3) Initials of the Referencer

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 90	Press Mis.
185-186	
Dated 31-1-	18 62.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

87

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 31st January 1862.

No. 185. Read the following Endorsement of the Acting Deputy Chief Engineer, Central Circle, dated Chepauk, 23rd January 1862, No. 9,740.

Read the following letter from Colonel G. W. Y. SIMPSON, Inspector General of Ordnance and Magazines, to Lieutenant-Colonel W. H. HORSLEY, Chief Engineer, dated Fort Saint George, 7th January 1862, No. 6,999:—

SIR,

1. I have the honor to forward letter No. 370, dated 23rd December 1861, from the Superintendent Gun Powder Manufactory with the plans referred to therein, and to request you will be so good as to obtain the early sanction of Government for the erection of the requisite buildings at the Gun Powder Manufactory, for the reception of the Incorporating Mills and Engines, expected from England.

2. It is very desirable, in consideration of the reasons detailed in Colonel Rowlandson's letter, that the work should be proceeded with as early as possible. I beg therefore you will cause arrangements to be made to that effect.

From Lieutenant-Colonel G. ROWLANDSON, Superintendent Gunpowder Manufactory, to Colonel G. W. Y. SIMPSON, Inspector General of Ordnance and Magazines, dated Madras, 23rd December 1861, No. 370.

SIR,

1. The Messrs. Hall's Plans and Elevations (2) of the Mills and Engine and their buildings, for this Manufactory, forwarded with your Memorandum No. 6,057 of 27th November, have been closely examined by the Engineers Messrs. Gregory and Ayne, who consider them sufficient to proceed upon without delay, and they have mounted the drawings on cloth to preserve them.

2. They consider that concrete foundations will be certainly required in this soil and locality. At Waltham Abbey large iron tanks are sunk in the earth to contain the underground gear and machinery.

3. It appears to me most desirable now, that these plans have been received, that immediate measures be taken to get the estimate prepared and sanctioned, the necessary funds provided for, and the work commenced and carried forward with all practicable despatch, so that the foundations may be ready for the erection of the Mills and Engines as soon after their arrival as possible.

4. I am very deeply impressed with the importance of the earliest practicable acquisition of the use of these Mills; until they are in operation, the other valuable improvements previously received, can never remove the primary defect of our present inadequate incorporation, or materially improve the quality of our powder.

5. The demands for the Enfield Rifle Arms in use, and the now arriving Armstrong Guns in India, urgently call for the necessary means to provide proper powder for these arms.

6. The introduction of this machinery at Madras, being looked upon as in a measure experimental by the Secretary of State for India (although in fact as unquestionably necessary for every manufactory in India, as it has been found to be in all the great Government and private factories in England), the other similar factories in Bengal and Bombay, await the result of our operations ere they can obtain similar provision for their own necessities; in addition to which they are asking and expecting present supplies of powder from us for their immediate wants.

7. These considerations furnish additional strong reasons for despatch in getting our Mills set up and at work, and when it is further considered, how urgent would be the necessity for a full supply of the best ammunition obtainable in India, independent of all precarious and insecure supplies from hence, in the event of war in Europe involving British interests, and the uncertainty of how soon that may occur, and the impossibility of very rapid provision of the means of supply under the disadvantages and impediments of this country, I cannot but feel and express strong convictions of the importance of immediate and uninterrupted action in this matter, and trust you will give it your earnest support and recommendation to Government.

8. As mentioned in the closing paragraph of my previous letter No. 265, of 24th October 1861, I apprehend it to be your opinion, that the extensive and important work of setting up these Mills, &c., should be undertaken by the Public Works Department, and I therefore herewith return the plans forwarded by you, which I presume you will require to show to the Chief Engineer, and probably to submit for the information of Government.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) J. CARPENDALE, Lieut.-Colonel,
Acting Deputy Chief Engineer, Central Circle.

Submitted, the foregoing letter together with copy of its enclosure to the Secretary to Government Public Works Department, with an intimation that estimates have been called for from the District Engineer Presidency for the works therein mentioned, but under the urgency of the case as pointed by Colonel Rowlandson, sanction is solicited for the immediate prosecution or at any rate for the collection of the materials at once.

1 Letter from the Inspector General of Ordnance and Magazines, with a copy of letter from the Superintendent Gun Powder Manufactory No. 370, dated 23rd December 1861.

(Signed) J. CARPENDALE, Lieut.-Colonel,
Acting Deputy Chief Engineer, Central Circle.

No. 186. ORDER THEREON, 31st January 1862, No. 94.

Transferred to the Military Department, with reference to the Proceedings of Government in that Department, No. 1,891, dated 31st May 1861, and to the Military Despatch to the Right Honorable the Secretary of State, No. 84, dated 25th April 1860, in paragraph 4 of which and in paragraph 10 of the reply* thereto, the question of the removal of the Gun Powder Manufactory to Saint Thomas' Mount is considered.

* No. 55, dated 30th March 1861.

(Signed) W. H. HORSLEY, Lieut.-Colonel,
Chief Engr. and Secy. to Govt., D.P.W.

Ordnance Department

with 2 Plans

No 6999.

1 Enclosure in Orig.l
to be returned

Inspector General's Office
Fort Saint George
7 January 1862.

From
Colonel G. W. Y. Simpson
Inspector General of Ordnance and Mag.e

To
Lieutenant Col.e W. H. Horsley
Chief Engineer
Department of Public Works

Sir,

I have the honor to forward letter No. 370 dated 23.d December 1861 from the Superintendent Gun Powder Manufactory with the Plans referred to therein, and to request you will be so good as to obtain the early sanction of Government for the erection of the requisite Buildings at the Gun Powder Manufactory for the reception of the Incorporating Mills and Engines, expected from England.

2. It is very desirable, in consideration of the reasons detailed in Coll.o Rowlandson's letter, that the work should be

be proceeded with as early as possible. I beg therefore you will cause arrangements to be made to that effect.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your Obedient Servant

J. Rowlandson Lt Col.
Inspector Genl of Ordce
and Magazines

Dated 7th January 1862
Recd 8th January 1862
Entered
Copied
No 6999
8 3

Regarding certain
the sanction of Government
to the erection of the requisite
Buildings at the G.P. Md.
for the reception of the
Machinery now being
Manufactured by Messrs
Curtis & Harvey
from England

Plans.

No 370.

Gunpowder Manufactory, 5
Madras, 23rd December 1861.

From
Lieutenant Colonel G. Rowlandson
Supt Gunpowder Manufactory,

To
The Inspector General of Ordnance & Mags
Fort Saint George.

Sir,

The Mesrs Halls Plans and Elevations, 12 of the Mills and Engine, and their Buildings, for this Manufactory, forwarded with your Memo 6057, of 27th November, have been closely examined by the Engineers Messrs Gregory and Ayne, who consider them sufficient to proceed upon without delay, and they have mounted the drawings on cloth to preserve them.

2 They consider that concrete foundations will be certainly required in this soil and locality. at Waltham abbey large iron Tanks are sunk in the earth to contain the underground gear and Machinery.

3 It appears to me most desirable, now that these plans have been received, that immediate measures be taken, to get the estimate prepared and sanctioned, the necessary funds provided for, and the work commenced and carried forward with all practicable despatch;

so

so that the foundations may be ready for the erection of the Mills and Engines as soon after their arrival as possible.

4 I am very deeply impressed with the importance of the earliest practicable acquisition of the use of these Mills; until they are in operation, the other valuable improvements previously received, can never remove the primary defect of our present inadequate incorporation, or materially improve the quality of our powder.

5 The demands for the Enfield Rifle Arms in use, and the now arriving Armstrang Guns in India, urgently call for the necessary means to provide proper powder for these Arms.

6 The introduction of this Machinery at Madras, being looked upon as in a measure experimental, by the Secretary of state for India, (although in fact as unquestionably necessary for every Manufactory in India, as it has been found to be in all the great Government and Private factories in England,) the other similar factories in Bengal and Bombay, await the result of our operations ere they can obtain similar provision for their own necessities, in addition to which, they are asking and expecting present supplies of powder from us for their immediate wants.

7 These Considerations furnish additional strong reasons for despatch in getting our Mills set up and at work; and when it is further Considered, how urgent would be the necessity for a full supply of the best ammunition, obtainable in India independent of all precarious and insecure supplies from hence, in the event of war in Europe involving British interests, and the uncertainty of how soon that may occur; and the impossibility of very rapid provision of the means of supply, under the disadvantages and impediments of this Country, I cannot but feel and express strong Convictions of the importance of immediate and uninterrupted action in this Matter; and trust you will give it your earnest support and recommendation to Government.

8 As mentioned in the closing Para of my previous letter N° 265, of 24th October 1861, I apprehend it to be your opinion, that the extensive and important work of setting up these mills &c° should be undertaken by the Public Works Department, and I therefore herewith return the Plans forwarded by you, which I presume you will require to show to the Chief Engineer, and probably to submit for the information of Government.

I have the honor to be &c°
(Signed) G. Rowlandson Lieut° Col°
Supt° Gunpowder Manufactory.

True Copy.
G Rowlandson Lieut° Col°
Off° Chief Engineer C. C.

9Sr

No 9740

Submitted the foregoing letter together with copy of its enclosure to the Secretary to Government Public Works Department with an intimation that Estimates have been called for from the District Engineer Presidency for the works therein mentioned but under the urgency of the case as pointed by Colonel Rowlandson, sanction is solicited for the immediate prosecution or at any rate for the collection of the materials at once.-

Enclosure 2
Letter from the Asst. Genl. of Engrs. Mr. Maysmith
Copy of letter
from the Supt.
Mr. Rowlandson
730 of 23
Received 28

Dy. Chief Engr.s Office 6 6,
Chepauk,
23rd January 1862.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedient servant
Lieut.t Col.
Actg. Deputy Chief Engineer 6 Circle

To

Lieutenant Colonel W. H. Horsley

Chief Engineer and Secretary to Govt.

Public Works Department

Fort Saint George.

Enclosure in the Proceedings of the Dy. Chief Engineer 6 Circle on the 23rd of the Engineer and Secretary to Government No 9740 dated 23 January 1862 No 9740

Copy of a letter from the Asst. Surveyor under the Manufactory, Reservoir & Main Sewer to the Dy. Chief Engineer 6 Circle dated 21st instant received.

14 June/61 № 158 159

From the Dy Chief Engr
D/ 31st January/62
E № 271 in Fo.

№ 185 & 186.

Pub. Works 62 Department.
Pro: of Govt for Janry
№ 171.

From
Lieut. Colo J. Carpendale
M. D. Chief Engineer
C. C,
To
Lieut. Colo W. H. Horsley
Chief Engineer and
Secy to Govt P. W. D.

Dated 28th
Recd 24th } January 1862.
№ 94-31st January
With an Order

Forwards a letter received from the Insp. General of Ords. on the subject of the erection of the requisite buildings in the Gun Powder Manufy for the reception of the Incorporating Mills &c, & requests sanction for immediate prosecution of the works or for the collection of the materials for the same.

Sent

№ 9746

Transferred to the Military Department with reference to the Proceedings of Govt in that Dept. № 1891 dated 31st May 1861 & to the Military Despatch to the Right Honorable the Secretary of State № 84 dated 25th April 1860 in paras 6 of which & in para 10 of the reply thereto the question of the removal of the Gun Powder Manufactory to St. Thomas Mount is considered.

Fort St. George
31st January 1862.

13 Copies
to
The Dy Chief Engr C. Circle Dispt 1st Feb
3 " " Military Department.

X 87