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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.**Government of Madras.***Public Works* **DEPARTMENT.**G.O. No. 636

Press

~~Mix~~295-296Dated 12-6- 1949.Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
12th April 1864.*

No. 295. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Military Department :—

Referring for report the question raised by the Government of India as to the Department by which the supply of Iron racers for Gun platforms and wooden platforms for Shot and Shell rests. (Here enter 4th April 1864, No. 1,110.)

No. 296. ORDER THEREON, 12th April 1864, No. 1,036.

1. Communicated to the Superintending Engineer, 4th Division, with a request that he will report by which Department "Iron racers" are supplied at the Presidency.

2. Colonel Boileau will also be good enough to submit his opinion as to the Department by which work of this nature may be most conveniently performed.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) CHARLES A. ORR, Colonel, R. E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the Superintending Engineer, 4th Division.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

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MILITARY DEPARTMENT.
PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following papers: —

From the Assistant Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department, Fort William, 1st March 1864, No. 18; to the Secretary to Government, Military Department, Fort Saint George.

In transmitting copies of the correspondence marginally noted, I am directed to request that you will move His Excellency the Governor in Council, to favor the Government of India with an intimation as to the Department with which, under the rules of the Madras Presidency, the supply of Iron racers for Gun platforms and wooden platforms for Shot and Shell rests; as, in the absence of any distinct rule on the subject, the order referred to by Major O'Connell is apparently inapplicable, unless the work is generally executed by the Public Works Department.

From the Assistant Quarter Master General, Pegu Division, Rangoon, 16th November 1863, No. 738; to the Executive Engineer, Pegu Division.

With reference to your letter No. 304C, dated 11th instant, I have the honor to inform you that a reference was made to Madras, about the racers to the wooden kerbs of the Gun platforms at Monkey Point Battery. The reply was as quoted in my letter, No. 731 of the 11th instant, that "the matter of the wooden kerbs and iron racers is one respecting which the Department Public Works should be addressed."

2. General Order by the President in Council, No. 33, dated Fort William, 11th January 1859, published at page 33 of the Supplement to Public Works Code, appears fully to meet this case; and as the ruling of the Madras Presidency is, that these racers should be provided by the Department Public Works, I am directed by the Brigadier General Commanding the Division, again to request you will be so good as to have them put on, as soon as possible, as they are much required.

From the Secretary to the Chief Commissioner, Public Works Department, British Burmah, Rangoon, 5th January 1864, No. 189A; to the Officiating Secretary to the Government of India, Public Works Department.

I have the honor by direction of the Chief Commissioner British Burmah and Agent to the Governor General, to forward

1. No. 64, dated 30th May 1863, from Executive Engineer, Rangoon, to Assistant Quarter Master General, Pegu Division.
 2. No. 731, dated 11th November 1863, from Assistant Quarter Master General, to Executive Engineer.
 3. Executive Engineer's reply, No. 304, dated 11th November 1863.
 4. No. 738, dated 16th November 1863, from Assistant Quarter Master, to Executive Engineer.
 5. Executive Engineer's No. 260, dated 9th December 1863, to Chief Engineer.
- correspondence as per margin, which has been carried on with reference to the supply of iron racers for the Gun platforms, and wooden platforms for the shot and shell at Monkey Point Battery.

The Chief Commissioner is clearly of opinion, that the completion of the Platforms, lies with the Ordnance Department which originally constructed them, and omitted to furnish the requisites now applied for; further that it is a question of armament and not of construction, and therefore entirely unconnected with the Department of Public Works.

The General Order by the President in Council, No. 39, dated 11th January 1859, is constantly cited by the Military Authorities, and in this, as in many other cases, the Chief Commissioner considers, erroneously, as warranting a requisition upon the Public Works Department,

for such requirements of original construction, repairs or supplies, as other Departments, whose primary duty it is, declare themselves unable to meet. In this instance, it is clearly more advisable that the Ordnance Department should execute its own work, and incur the charges debitable to it, and it is no where shown why the necessary arrangements could not be as easily effected by that Department as by the Department of Public Works.

Early orders are solicited upon this subject, as a guide in all future cases of a similar nature which may occur.

Office Memorandum from the Officiating Secretary to the Government of India, Public Works Department, Fort William, 26th January 1864, No. 420; to the Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department.

The Officiating Secretary to the Government of India, in the Public Works Department, has the honor to forward to the Secretary to the Government of India, in the Military Department, for consideration and orders as to the application *No. 189A, dated the 5th January 1864. of the General Order quoted, the accompanying letter* from the Secretary to the Chief Commissioner British Burmah, in the Public Works Department, with the correspondence therein referred to, on the subject of the supply of Iron racers for the Gun platforms, and wooden platforms for the shot and shell, at Monkey Point Battery, Rangoon.

2. If the Ordnance Department at Rangoon, is unable to execute the work, which seems to the Officiating Secretary to the Government of India, Public Works Department, to fall properly upon it, the Public Works Department, will of course do it; but in accordance with its rules, viz., on the requisition of the Officer Commanding, in which case, should the estimate exceed that Officer's limit, the authority of the Local Administration will be essential, and the Department which executes the work must bear the charge.

3. It is desirable to know clearly whether the work should be done by the Ordnance Department, irrespective of the question raised by it, of insufficiency of establishment. For, should such cases frequently occur, in which the Public Works Department is called on to do that which the Ordnance Department should perform, it would be evident that the establishment of the latter was insufficient.

Referred to the Inspector General of Ordnance for report.

19th March 1864.

From the Inspector General of Ordnance and Magazines, Fort Saint George, 18th March 1864, No. 264; to the Secretary to Government, Military Department.

I have the honor to report for the information of Government, that the Officer Commanding the Pegu Division has brought to notice the delay which has occurred in carrying on the Artillery Practice, in consequence of the want of Iron racers to the Gun platforms forming the armament of Monkey Point Battery.

2. The employment of Iron racers requires the masonry work of the Battery to be adapted for their use; a work which necessarily falls for execution by the Department Public Works: but the Chief Engineer in Burmah has declined to undertake it, without special sanction, for which he has applied to the Government of India.

3. As however considerable time will be lost by such reference, the Officer Commanding Pegu Division has deemed it necessary that the work should be undertaken by the Ordnance

4 Carpenters.

3 Smiths with Hammer.

Department, and has sanctioned the employment of the extra Establishment specified in the margin.

4. There is no objection to this, under the circumstances of the case, which is of an emergent character, as His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief is most desirous that the Practice from Monkey Point Battery should not be omitted during the present Practice season, and I beg to request the sanction of Government to the expenditure, which will be adjusted by monthly Contingent Bills from the Ordnance Officer, Rangoon.

With Report from the Controller of Military Finance, 21st March 1864, E.

ORDER, No. 1110, 4th April 1864.

The Governor in Council approves of the measures reported in the foregoing letter from the Inspector General of Ordnance for the execution of certain work connected with the Battery, at Monkey Point, Rangoon.

2. The question raised by the Government of India as to the Department on which work of the nature referred to properly devolves, not being disposed of in the correspondence, the papers will be forwarded to the Department Public Works in view to a Report being furnished on this point for communication to the Government of India, through the Military Department.

(True Extract.)

Manivellu Hoop
Deputy Secretary to Government.

To the Inspr. General of Ordnance.

„ Controller of Military Finance.

„ Military Accountant.

„ Examiner of Ordnance Accounts.

„ Public Works Department. *With 10 spare copies*

„ Quarter Master General.

„ Adjutant General.

Exd. W. Regel.

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see 1036.

Communicated to the Superintendent
Engineers 4th Division, with a request that
he will report by which Operations
"Iron Races" are suggested at the
Presidency. Q. to be reviewed

Colonel Boileau will also
be good enough to submit his opinion
as to the Opportunities by which work
of this nature may be most con-
veniently performed.

To the Superintendent Engineers 4th Div
Cheerwell
12th April/64
X 87.
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Prof Geo. J. Smith
J. H. Smith
No. of the 4th Div
in the Div: 4th Div

See 4th Div
No. 1st Div
No. 1st Div

Referring for
Report the Operations
carried by the Force
of work in the 1st
Operations with
the help of them
being for them
Washington Smith
Washington Smith
Cheerwell
see 1036-12th April/64
X 87. in Order

See 295-296