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# MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

**Government of Madras.**

*Public Works* **DEPARTMENT.**

|               |       |
|---------------|-------|
| G.O. No. 1851 | Press |
| 271-272-      | Mis.  |
| Dated 13-6-   | 1866. |

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,  
13th June 1866.*

No. 271. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the  
Military Department :—

Passing orders on certain correspondence relative to the buildings required at Saint Thomas' Mount for machinery to be supplied from England for the Gun Powder Manufactory. (Here enter 6th June 1866, No. 1,330.)\*

No. 272. ORDER THEREON, 13th June 1866, No. 1,851.

MILITARY WORKS, No. 17.

Communicated to the Superintending Engineer of the 4th Division for information and guidance, in continuation of the Proceedings of Government, No. 358, under date the 30th January 1866.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Superintending Engineer, 4th Division, with G. O., Military Department, No. 489 of 1866.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

MILITARY DEPARTMENT.  
PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following papers:—

Extract from a Military Despatch from the Right Honorable the Secretary of State for India, dated 8th December 1865, No. 127.

Para. 5. I herewith transmit copy of a letter from Messrs. J. and E. Hall, dated 5th October, together with a tracing showing the position which they would propose for the new buildings for the dusting and glazing apparatus, &c., for the Gun Powder Factory, and containing suggestions for improving the present mixing machinery, which is objected to by your agent for gunpowder, and for supplying an additional 15 horse-power boiler for the refinery.

6. Your indent for such articles and additional machinery as you may consider necessary for the improvement of the mixing machinery and the refinery will be awaited.

From Messrs. JOHN and EDWARD HALL, Dartford, 5th October 1865; to the Honorable GERALD C. TALBOT, Westminster.

We have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 12th ultimo, with a collection of papers from Madras, also a tracing of the survey of the gunpowder works and explanatory letter from the Superintendent of the Factory, which papers we have carefully perused and return herewith.

*Position of the composition mills.* We observe it is proposed to locate the composition mills on the west side of the quadrangle of the saltpetre refinery and saltpetre and sulphur stores, concerning which we have to state the mixing house which is part of the composition mills, should be separate from the refinery and stores, that in the event of an accident in the mixing house, the store houses and their contents may not be exposed to the danger of a conflagration, and for these reasons we should assign to them in preference another spot near to the disused building shewn on the plan, between the charring room and the coal-shed, as most suitable for those mills.

*Mixing machine.* With reference to the hand mixing machine at Madras, supplied in 1858 of the original construction for mixing the charges when the practice was to melt the refined saltpetre before grinding it, which rendered the composition very dry and more easily sifted than can be done with the damp saltpetre as now obtained from the refineries. These machines always give better results when worked by motive power, and recently by the substitution of a square for a round sieve and driven at a quicker speed by a crank outside, the sifting is well done, the obstruction by the small wheels is obviated and the machine gives very good results.

This alteration can be made in the mixing machine at Madras with little trouble or expense when the composition mills are erected, and it will then be better adapted for mixing charges by its saving of time and labor as well as efficiency than any other machine of the kind in use.

The supply of steam to the refinery for heating the grough pots should be taken from a boiler of a sufficient capacity to accelerate the operation of liquifying the saltpetre and sustaining its ebullition during the refining process, for which a boiler of 15 horse power will be suitable and should be erected for the special service of the refinery which will not be in constant operation.

*Situation for dusting and glazing houses.* Considering the actual positions of the Madras corning house, press house, drying stove and other buildings, the most suitable place for the erection of the new glazing and dusting houses is on the north side of the works. The new dusting house may be placed where the magazine now stands and the glazing house to the west of it, which arrangement occupies all the space available for the isolations of the powder-houses of the Factory.

MILITARY DEPARTMENT.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following letter :—

From the Inspector General of Ordnance and Magazines, Fort Saint George, 16th May 1866, No. 334; to the Secretary to Government, Military Department.

With reference to the Proceedings of Government, Military Department, No. 489, dated 6th

February 1866,

covering a despatch from the Right

Honorable the Secretary of State for India,

No. 127, dated 8th

December 1865, forwarding copy of a

communication from Messrs. J. and E.

Hall on the subject of the new buildings

for the dusting and glazing apparatus,

&c., for the Gunpowder Manufactory,

and improving the present mixing machinery supplied by

them, which was objected to by the

Superintendent of that Manufactory, I

have the honor to annex in the margin,

extract from a letter from the Superintendent Gunpowder

Manufactory, with

reference to the views expressed by Messrs. Hall, in which I generally concur, and I

beg you will be so good as to submit the same for the consideration of Government.

ORDER, No. 1930, 6th June 1866.

Communicated to the Secretary of State for India, with an intimation that the Governor in Council concurs generally in the views of the Superintendent Gunpowder Manufactory, as expressed in his letter received with the communication above recorded.

2. The remarks contained in the concluding paragraph of the Superintendent's letter, regarding the buildings required for certain Machinery to be supplied from England for the Gunpowder Manufactory, will be communicated to the Department Public Works, with reference to paragraph 1 of Proceedings of Government, Military Department, dated 18th January 1866, No. 236.

(True Extract.)

*H. Marshall* Major General,  
Secretary to Government.

To the Inspector General of Ordnance.  
Public Works Department, with Pro. No. 489 of 1866.  
Controller of Military Accounts.

Exd. J. E. Cashart.

Present press house.

As the press house is to be provided with a breaking down machine and press pumps to be worked by steam power, it will be necessary to provide a new press house where it can be put in communication by a line of shafts with the engine of the corning house, which arrangement may be carried out without suspending the regular operations of the Factory.

New press house, drying stove.

The place we have selected for the new press house is near the present drying stove, which it will displace because of its proximity thereunto, therefore a new stove will be required and should be placed between the glazing and dusting houses on the north side.

It will have been observed the above arrangements render it necessary to remove the magazine to a more distant site at the north east corner of the Factory, unless some local objection is raised to its being placed in that direction.

We trust the above arrangement as shewn in the plan we have the honor to submit, will meet with approval.

ORDER, No. 489, 6th February 1866.

Communicated to the Inspector General of Ordnance and Controller of Military Accounts, with reference to Proceedings of Government, 4th July 1865, No. 2489.

(True Extract.)

*H. Marshall* Major General,

Secretary to Government.

To the Inspector General of Ordnance, with two tracings.  
Controller of Military Accounts.

Exd. A. W. Cooke.

30<sup>th</sup> Jan'y 1866 - No 358

P. W. 166 R. M.  
Pro. of Govt. for June

Pro. of the Madras Govt.  
in the Milit. Dept.

7/6" } June 1866  
No 8

No 1930

Encl. Incl.

Referring orders  
on certain correspon-  
-dence relative to  
the buildings re-  
-quired at St. Thomas  
Mount for Machinery  
to be supplied from  
England for the  
Gun Powder Man-  
-factory

No 1857. 13<sup>th</sup> June 1866

No 271

Public Works Department

No 1857 1866

Proceedings of the Madras Government  
under date the 13<sup>th</sup> June 1866.

Read the following.

Proceedings of the Madras Government  
in the Military Department

(No 1930 dated 6<sup>th</sup> June 1866.)

Communicated to the  
Superintending Engineer of the 4<sup>th</sup>  
Division for information and  
guidance in continuation  
of the Proceedings of Government  
No 358 under date the 30<sup>th</sup>  
January 1866 -

The Sup. Engineer  
4<sup>th</sup> Division  
S.O. No 1857  
of 1866

C.B.

16  
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Sept 14<sup>th</sup> June

QW 1866 Dept  
Pro: of Govt for June  
A. 1851  
Pro: of the M<sup>rs</sup> & Govt  
Of 13<sup>th</sup> June 1851

Proceeding Military Dept. for  
ing orders on certain correspondence  
relative to Gen. Porter's factory  
ings required at Fort Thomas  
Elmout for machinery to be suppli  
ed from England, communicated  
to the Secy of Eng. of the 1<sup>st</sup> Dec.