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(2) Date of repair _____

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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 3452	Press Mis.
15-4-6	
Dated 4 — 11 — 1868.	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

12

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
4th November 1868.*

No. 45. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Military Department:—

Passing orders on the report of the Remount Committee assembled at Oosoor in June last, and directing the issue of the necessary orders for proceeding with the extensions of the stabling at the Remount Depôt. (Here enter 13th October 1868, No. 4,023.)

No. 46. ORDER THEREON, 4th November 1868, No. 3,452.

MILITARY WORKS, No. 3.

1. Communicated to the Superintending Engineer of the 5th Division, who will take immediate steps for completing the extension of the stabling at the Remount Depôt at Oosoor on the estimate of Rs. 14,720 approved in Proceedings No. 1,021 of the 28th March 1866

2. To meet the current year's outlay, the Government resolve to sanction the transfer of a sum of Rupees 12,390 from Item No. 19 of the current year's Budget in anticipation of the approval of the Government of India.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Superintending Engineers, 4th and 5th Divisions.

- " Accountant General
- " Controller of Public Works Accounts
- " Military Department.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

Govt. of 1868 Orders.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To

THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEERS,

4TH AND 5TH DIVISIONS

&c, &c, &c

Dated November, 4th.

Recd.

Encd

G. O., 4th November 1868, No. 3,452.

NOVEMBER.

Nos. 45-46

Stabling — The Superintending Engineer of the 5th Division requested to take immediate steps for completing the extension of the — at the Remount Depot at Oosoor, Salem District

MILITARY DEPARTMENT.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following papers. —

From the Agent for Remounts Here enter 30th July 1868, No. 139
" Adjutant General " 24th August 1868, No 193
From the Agent for Remounts, Remount Depot, Oosoor, 30th July 1868, No 139, to the Secretary to Government, Military Department, Fort Saint George.

In forwarding the accompanying Proceedings of a Remount Committee, held on the 25th June and following days, I have the honor to report, for the information of Government, that the horses referred to in paragraphs 2, 3 and 6 of the remarks of the Committee, were only suffering from temporary ailments, and as the number of horses produced (102), was fourteen in excess of the requirements of the service (eighty-eight), in order to allow for such a contingency, in consequence of their recent castration and other causes, it was not necessary to have made any remarks upon them in this report, but merely to have ordered them back to be shewn at the annual Committee in October, as they were considered at present unfit to be sent to the service.

2. Adverting to paragraph 1, I beg to say that the horses referred to were passed by the Veterinary Surgeon of the Depot, and purchased by me, with the knowledge that the trifling defects alluded to in this report did exist; but for the same reasons, as stated by the Committee, I considered it would be prejudicial to the interest of Government, and unfair to the dealers, to reject them; and I feel sure, when the Veterinary Surgeon in attendance on this Committee has had more experience of Indian troop horses, he will not consider it necessary to remark upon such trifling matters. Had these full aged horses been three year old colts, the case would have been different; but if the English standard of soundness were adhered to in the examination of Indian troop horses, bred and reared under such different conditions, so many would be rejected, that the Army could not be horsed, even did the dealers not cease to bring their usual supplies, which I am disposed to think they soon would do from the loss that must accrue to them.

3. Of the four horses rejected in paragraph 4 No. 486 has become broken-winded from the effects of a violent catarrh, which, although most actively treated, has eventuated as stated.

No. 171 must have become injured through some accident at his picket that can't be accounted for, nor is any person aware of the time the injury occurred; he had never been in hospital.

No. 230 has cataracts, but not worse than other horses in the service that have worked long and well, and would have made a good trooper.

No. 478 has peculiar action, but nothing more. Theoretically, the opinion may be held that she should not be safe to ride, but as the mare is in all respects perfectly sound, strong, good-looking and well-bred, and is six years old, and must therefore have been ridden for three years, without the very slightest mark of ever having brushed on either of her fore fetlocks, I consider she should have been sent to the Cavalry, and that she would have made a first rate trooper.

4. In conclusion, I would beg to bring to the notice of Government the 11th* paragraph of G. O. G. dated Simla, 16th October 1866, copied in the margin for easy reference, the re-publication of which would, I think, be of great advantage to Government, as Committees

of late have, I feel satisfied, rejected horses at this Depôt that should have been sent to the service, as well as cast horses from Regiments, that should have worked on for years after they were cast; or perhaps it would be more effective still, if the President of each Committee were furnished by the Adjutant General with a copy of the paragraph referred to, on his being nominated to the duty, as it would keep the intention of Government as to the horses to be rejected, or cast by his Committee, fresh on his memory.

PROCEEDINGS of a Remount Committee assembled at Oosoor on the 25th June 1868.

PRESIDENT

Colonel W. T. DICKSON, 16th Lancers.

MEMBERS.

Lieutenant-Colonel A. V. FALLS, Royal Artillery

Lieutenant-Colonel H. E. DYNELEY, of Madras Light Cavalry.

Veterinary Surgeon T. J. RICHARDSON, 16th Lancers, in attendance.

The Committee having assembled pursuant to orders, proceed to examine 102 horses produced by Colonel Thomas Thompson, Agent for Remounts, which, after careful examination, have been found as follows —

- 20 Passed for and sent to Lancers to complete
- 1 Passed for Lancers when required.
- 68 Passed for and sent to Light Cavalry
- 8 Remanded for treatment.
- 1 To be brought to the notice of next Committee.
- 4 Rejected.

102

Remarks of the Committee

1. Of the eighty-nine horses passed into the service, six (Nos. 557, 426, 473, 507, 454, 365) of the age of six years and over, have each a cataract in one eye, and are passed into the service, only because from their age they are less likely than if younger to go wrong in the other eye.

Nos. 452, 80 and 112 passed for Light Cavalry do not appear likely to stand a very great deal of hard work, but the Committee don't feel they would be justified in rejecting them.

2. The eight horses (Nos. 415, 425, 114, 494, 424, 530, 251, 329) remanded for treatment are not fit to go to the service at present, but as there is a possibility of their unfitness being only cases being brought to the notice of the annual Remount Committee in October next.

3. The one horse (No. 433) to be brought to the notice of the next Committee has a cataract in the off eye, and as the near eye seems not unlikely to become similarly affected, and as only a few months will elapse before the assembling of the regular annual Committee, it has been decided to let him stand over rather than reject him altogether now.

4 The four horses rejected are as follows —

No. 230 Cataract both eyes.

„ 486 Incurably broken winded.

„ 478 Crosses fore legs.

„ 171 Thickened ligaments both fore legs.

5. With the foregoing exceptions, the Committee consider that the horses brought up are a good useful lot, even in size, and adapted to the branches of the service to which they have been sent.

6. In remanding the nine horses specified in paragraphs 2 and 3, the Committee have taken into consideration the short period that will elapse between now and the assembling of the annual Remount Committee, but would not have considered themselves justified in remanding doubtful horses for a whole year, which is the usual interval between the sitting of Remount Committees.

Referred to the Commander-in-Chief (Adjutant General's Department) for remark.

4th August 1868.

From the Adjutant General, Head Quarters, Ootacamund, 24th August 1868, No. 193; to the Secretary to Government, Military Department, Fort Saint George.

I have had the honor to submit to the Commander-in-Chief letter No. 139, dated 30th July 1868, from the Agent for Remounts, to your address, with Proceedings of a Committee assembled at Oosoor on the 25th June last, transmitted under your docket dated 4th instant, and am directed to reply as follows:—

2. Colonel Thompson, the Remount Agent, in furnishing Government with information regarding the remanded and rejected horses, suggests that paragraph 11* of G. O. G., dated Simla, 16th October 1866, might be advantageously

re-published and furnished to Presidents of Committees, they having of late, as Colonel Thompson considers, rejected horses that should have been sent to the service.

3. With reference to the above, the Commander-in-Chief is of opinion that Colonel Thompson misapprehends the application of the order in question, which refers to Casting Committees in Regiments and Batteries.

4. The Special Committee assembles for the inspection of horses, and with the view of selecting those best calculated for the separate branches of the service, the duty is one of great importance and responsibility.

5. The Casting Committees are Regimental, and the General Order quoted has reference to their proceedings, not to those of the Special Committee of selection, which the Commander-in-Chief apprehends should be accepted in their integrity and as perfectly impartial, composed as the Committee is, invariably of Officers of great experience, and well known professional ability, their object being to guard against horses being sent to Corps, which might be cast as unfit for reception at Head Quarters of Batteries and Regiments, thereby causing unnecessary expense to Government.

6. The Special Committee which assembled at Oosoor on the 25th June, had 102 horses before them for inspection, and it is presumed were guided simply by a sense of duty in reporting fully on the above number. Further, the Commander-in-Chief considers that the Officers composing that Committee would have

laid themselves open to a charge of negligence had they failed to state their reasons for rejecting horses which they thought unfit for the service of the present year, or permanently so.

7. From the annexed extracts from a report on the Depôt, recently received

1st	The number of horses on the strength of the Depôt on the 27th instant was 657 of kinds as per margin,* all of good useful stamp and well suited for the various branches of the service for which they have been purchased. The Northern and Persian breeds are (I think) superior to any brought of late years.
*CASTE AND NUMAER OF HORSES.	
Australians	148
Capes	33
Arabs	6
Persians and other breeds	470
	657

2 The stable management throughout the stud is all that can be desired. Horses are well supplied with stable gear, and well groomed; the food is also of excellent quality; but I observed that many of the horses were still picketed outside. All horses that have undergone the operation of castration or (as with Australian and Capes) have been recently on boardship, require shelter until their condition is thoroughly re-established, exposure to sun and wet being likely to throw them back, and prevent their being fit for the service as soon as they otherwise would. I think all the horses in the Depôt should have cover.

from Inspecting Veterinary Surgeon Dawson, it will be observed that this Officer's opinion, together with that of the Special Committee, accords with the favorable report on the horses made by Lieutenant-General McCleverty on his visiting the establishment in February last, as intimated to Government in letter from this Department of 19th March 1868, No. 221.

8. His Excellency entertains no doubt, that as noted by Inspecting Veterinary Surgeon Dawson, a saving would accrue to Government if stables for the average number of horses were built, so as to avoid picketing them, and the exposure consequent thereon, more especially when recovering from the effects of castration, and considers the completion of more stables desirable as noted in his Minute dated 14th March 1868.

ORDER, No. 4023, 13th October 1868.

The Governor in Council considers the report of the Remount Committee, assembled at Oossoor on the 25th June last, generally satisfactory and creditable to the Agent.

2. Referring to Colonel Thompson's covering letter, forwarding the Proceedings above adverted to, the Government are not prepared to decide between him and the Committee on the controverted points of soundness or suitableness for the Public service of the rejected remounts, but referring to the Agent's expressed opinion in the concluding clause of paragraph 2 of his letter, that if such horses be rejected, "the Army could not be horsed, even did the dealers not cease to bring their usual supplies, * * * from the loss that must accrue to them" from the rejection of unfits, the Government are clearly of opinion that so long as the dealers find a market at the Depôt for blemished horses, so long they will be at no pains to exclude them from their investments; but, on the contrary, when they find that no horse which may be materially blemished will be accepted, the dealers will become more careful in their purchases, and cease to offer such horses to the Depôt.

3. As regards paragraph 4 of the Agent's letter, Government concur in opinion with the Commander-in-Chief as expressed in the Adjutant General's letter above recorded, copy of which will be furnished to Colonel Thompson for information.

4. The extract report from the Inspecting Veterinary Surgeon on the Depôt is satisfactory.

5. With reference to the concluding paragraph of the letter from the Adjutant General above recorded, the Government recognize the importance of increasing the stabling at the Remount Depôt without loss of time. Orders will be issued in the Public Works Department for proceeding, as soon as the necessary funds can be made available, with the range of stabling, of which the foundations have already been laid, and for which, it is understood, that materials were collected some time ago.

(True Extract.)

Lieut.-Colonel,

Offg. Deputy Secretary to Government.

To the Remount Agent, Oossoor

Adjutant General.

Public Works Department, with copy of the Honorable Mr. Arbuthnot's note.

Controller of Military Accounts.

720 copies.

Ed. A. W. Cooke.

File by the Honble S. J. Sebastian

I understand that the
Superintending Engineer of the 5th
Division, can provide the necessary
funds, if orders are at once given to
him to proceed with this range.
It ought, if possible, be completed
before the next season, so as to bring
the drainage to completion.

1871
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The London
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Dec 13 1933

The action on
 the report of the Remount
 Committee assembled
 at Dover in June last
 and deciding the value
 of the necessary orders
 for proceeding with the
 extension of the sliding
 all the Remount Field

245

Q-218517/68DR-295

Ms. B.1.5.2.4.11.9.2.1868

Met. Works
 Public Works Department
 No 3452
 Proceedings of the Madras Government
 Under date the 1st Decr 1868

Read the following

Pro. M. Govt. Military Dept. H.E. 1: 4023 dated 13th Oct/68/

N?
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A/T

Communicated to
 the Superintending Engineer
 of the 5th Div, who will
 take immediate steps
 for completing the exterior
 of the Stabling at the
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 on the estimate of Rs. 14,720
 approved in Proceedings
 No. 1021 of the 28th March
 1866.

To meet the Current
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 No. 19 of the Current
 year's Budget in anticipa-
 tion of the approval of
 the Govt. of India -

S. Eng. 4th & 5th Div.
 Works Land
 Contd. M.
 M. Dept.
 Recd 25/11/68

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Cort. of 1868 Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To *The Superintending Engineer*
1st & 5th Divisions

do. do. do.

Dated

th

Recd

By

G O. 1st Nov. 1868 No 3152

Nos 45-46

Stating The Engg. Corps of this
is requested to take immediate
steps for completing the salu-
-tion of the — at the Remount
Depot at Oorah, Salem &c.