M.R.O. 1—77,000—8-6-31.

(1) Number of pages 20

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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public works **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 3966 Press ~~Mis.~~

461-462

Dated 18—12— 1868.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 18th December 1868.

No. 461. Read the following Endorsement of the Officiating Deputy Secretary to Government, Military Department, dated Fort St. George, 27th November 1868 :—

Read the following letter from the Officer Commanding Mysore Division, to the Quarter Master General, Head-quarters, Fort St. George, dated Bangalore, 20th November 1868, No. 563 :—

1. I have the honor to forward, for the consideration of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, copy of letter No. 950, of 18th instant, from the Executive Engineer, Bangalore.

2. It seems to me very desirable that some definite orders should be passed by Government in regard to the mode to be adopted in handing over works to the Quarter Master General's Department. Captain Wood appears to think that it is unnecessary for him to hand over in person, and that all that has to be done is for the Quarter Master General's Department to assume charge of a building directly it is reported as completed, without the option of making any objection to bad work or fittings.

3. I cannot think it is the intention of Government that buildings should be taken charge of in this way, and that they who become responsible for damages should have no opportunity of objecting to receive indifferent or unsubstantial work.

4. Before Captain Wood's arrival, the plan adopted was for the Executive Engineer, the Deputy Assistant Quarter Master General, the Barrack Master, and the Regimental authorities, to meet, examine the building, and take charge or not, according to the result of the examination. This plan was found to answer well in practice, as it gave the Regimental authorities, who were to assume charge of the building and be responsible for damages, an opportunity of objecting to work which would render them liable to damages unfairly. The Deputy Assistant Quarter Master General and Barrack Master took care that no trivial objections were raised, and the Executive Engineer could satisfy himself whether the work objected to was up to the mark or not.

5. Works when received from the Department Public Works must necessarily be at once handed over to the Regiment for which they are intended, as neither the Deputy Assistant Quarter Master General nor the Barrack Master have any means at their disposal for taking care of them.

From Captain H. W. WOOD, R. E., Executive Engineer, Bangalore, to the Deputy Assistant Quarter Master General, Mysore Division, dated Bangalore, 18th November 1868, No. 950.

1. I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Memorandum, No. 677, dated 18th instant, and in reference thereto, beg you will be good enough to submit this letter for the consideration of the Major General Commanding the Mysore Division.

2. If my duties were not sufficiently onerous already, and if I saw that I served the interests of Government in the slightest way, by being present when a building was being handed over by this Department, I should have raised no difficulty on this head. As it is, I would respectfully submit that to take me away from my more important duty, that of visiting works and examining,

materials, for the purpose of pointing out to the Deputy Assistant Quarter Master General of the Division a Skittle Alley or other building (the existence and location of which he is already aware of) is a lamentable waste of time, and detrimental to the interests of Government.

3. I would, moreover, add that some inconvenience is caused to this Department by the Deputy Assistant Quarter Master General of the Division practically referring the question of whether a building is to be taken over, to the decision of the Regimental authorities, who naturally endeavour (in the case of fixtures for example) to get the most complete building possible for the purposes to which the building is to be put, being ignorant or oblivious of the fact that the Engineer can do no more than his estimate allows.

4. I am not aware that the orders of Government give the Deputy Assistant Quarter Master General (still less the Regimental authorities) any option in the matter of taking over a building, reported to be complete by this Department. But in saying this, I by no means deny the liability of the Engineer to make good any defects or improper workmanship which may be found in the building.

5. Should the Major General, after this my explanation, still consider my presence necessary when a building is handed over by this Department, I will do myself the honor of conforming to his view of the case, unless I receive instructions from the Public Works authorities that my presence is unnecessary.

No. 7,981.

MEMORANDUM.

Forwarded for the orders of Government.

2. It is observed that the Code of Regulations for the Public Works Department under the Government of India, provides that a Regimental building on completion must be formally made over to the Barrack Master by the Public Works Department, with descriptive Returns, &c., &c., *vide* pages 147 and 354.

3. The Commander-in-Chief understands from these rules, that the presence of the Executive Engineer is requisite on the occasion, and in His Excellency's opinion it is certainly desirable that the building should be made over by a Commissioned Officer.

4. Military buildings are not constructed with great rapidity, and, therefore, the making them over to the Military authorities cannot be a matter of very frequent occurrence within a given period; still Captain Wood considers that it would be a lamentable waste of his time, and detrimental to the interests of Government, if he is to perform this duty in person. With regard to this assertion, the Commander-in-Chief observes that he was not aware that Captain Wood's time was so valuable when His Excellency recently gave his assent to that Officer's associating himself with the Volunteer Corps which is about to be formed at Bangalore. The question, however, is not whether the Executive Engineer has or has not the time to give his attendance on the occasions alluded to, but whether it is his duty to be present. If he should be present, he must apparently make the time.

(By order,)

Fort St. George,
24th November 1868.

(Signed) C. COOKE, Colonel,
Quarter Master General.

From the Officer Commanding Mysore Division, to the Quarter Master General, Head Quarters, Fort St. George, dated Bangalore, 22nd November 1868, No. 573.

No 563 of 20th November, on the subject of the mode to be adopted in transferring buildings to the Quarter Master General's Department.

1. I have the honor, in continuation of my letter as per margin, to forward copy of Memorandum No. 955 of 20th instant, from the Executive Engineer.

2. It will be observed that Captain Wood entirely denies the right of the Quarter Master General's Department to take exception to any work which he may think fit to offer them. If this is to be the case, a check which has been very beneficially used will be lost, and there will be no security against bad or insufficiently good work, which may not happen to attract the attention of the Executive Engineer. Captain Wood owns that he is liable to make good defects due to oversight or accident. Who can so well point these out as the people who are about to assume the responsibility of the building? Captain Wood states, that Government do not always pay for substantial work or good material. I am surprised to hear this, for I have understood that Government paid for the best of workmanship and material, and, if I mistake not, the specifications attached to the Executive Engineer's estimates regularly mention this. Whether the railways pay more than Government for similar work I am not in a position to say, nor, I submit, does it affect the question. In the time of Captain Wood's predecessors exceptions were occasionally taken to work offered for the acceptance of the Quarter Master General's Department, and, invariably, the Executive Engineer acknowledged the propriety of the objection, and the work was made good. During Captain Wood's own tenure of office, the Barrack Master has objected to certain work in buildings offered to his Department, and Captain Wood has, I understand, admitted the justice of the exceptions taken. The Bowling Alleys for Artillery at the Race Course were objected to by the Deputy Assistant Quarter Master General in presence of the Superintending Engineer as well as of Captain Wood, and were admitted not to be sufficiently good for the purpose. I should be very sorry if so beneficial a check as the one under dispute were done away with. If the Executive Engineer were always present when buildings were taken over, he could overrule objections taken to work which appeared to him up to the mark of the estimate, and it would then rest with the Barrack Department to make any representation regarding the insufficiency of the work which might seem advisable, and I think the Engineer might so arrange his morning's work, that the time occupied in going over a building would be rather an advantage to Government than otherwise.

Memorandum from the Executive Engineer, Bangalore, to the Deputy Assistant Quarter Master General, Mysore Division, dated Bangalore, 20th November 1868, No. 955.

His No. 680 of 19th instant.

In explanation of what appears to be a misapprehension on the part of the Deputy Assistant Quarter Master General, the undersigned begs to say that the Government do not in all cases pay for substantial work or good material. For instance, if the Deputy Assistant Quarter Master General would compare the rates of the Railway with those considered sufficient by the Government, he would find a very great difference. This, however, is a mere professional matter. The Officers of the Department Public Works have to certify to the authorities appointed by Government for that purpose, that the work they pay for is worth the money paid for it; they alone are responsible for the quality of the work, and are, by virtue of that responsibility, constituted judges of the fitness of the materials or workmanship in a building constructed for Government purposes. The undersigned most respectfully but most distinctly repudiates the doctrine, that the Quarter Master General's Department are the professional judges of the sufficiency and efficiency of the work of the Public Works Department. But, as he said before, he by no means denies his liability to make good defects which may be due to oversight or accident. Nor will he fail to avail himself of every opportunity possible of being personally present when a building is taken over by the Deputy Assistant Quarter Master General.

(Signed) H. W. WOOD, Captain, R. E.,
Executive Engineer, Bangalore.

No. 7,990.

MEMORANDUM.

Submitted for orders, in continuation of Memorandum from this Department, No. 7,981, of this date.

2. The position assumed by Captain Wood, that the Military authorities are not competent to take exception to any work or building proposed to be made over to them by the Department Public Works, seems to be at variance with paragraph 4, page 354, of the Regulations of the Public Works Department in the Bengal Presidency, which is as follows:—

"4. The Barrack Master will give receipts for the building and every fixture "in it, at the time of taking it over. All defects and deficiencies in Barracks taken "over by the Barrack Department will be noted on these receipts, failing which "that Department will be held responsible."

(By order,)
(Signed) C. COOKE, Colonel,
Quarter Master General.

Fort St. George,
24th November 1868.

Transferred, with letter No. 6,011 of 1868, to the Department Public Works, for disposal.

(Signed) C. S. ELLIOT, Lieut.-Colonel,
Offg. Deputy Secretary to Government.

No. 462. Order thereon, 18th December 1868, No. 3,966.

MILITARY WORKS, No. 37.

1. These papers have reference to the question of the liability of the Executive Engineer at Bangalore to give his personal attendance on all occasions in which public buildings are handed over for occupation to the Military authorities.

2. Captain Wood urges that his attendance on these occasions would be a waste of time, and, while admitting the liability of the Engineer to make good any defects or improper workmanship which may be brought to notice by the Quarter Master General's Department in newly completed buildings, urges that to take him away from the more important duty of inspecting public works in progress for the purpose of being present when buildings are handed over to the Military Department, would be detrimental to the interests of Government.

3. His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, however, concurring in the views of the Major General Commanding the Mysore Division, expresses his opinion that it is highly desirable for all purposes that new Military buildings should be made over to the authorities by a Commissioned Officer of the Public Works Department, and, as such buildings are not constructed with such great rapidity as to make the handing of them over to the Military authorities a matter of frequent occurrence, His Excellency believes that the duty of personally making them over to the Quarter Master General's Department would not seriously interfere with the other work devolving upon the Executive Engineer.

4. There is nothing in the Public Works Code of this Government which renders it compulsory on the Executive Officers in charge of Public Works in Military Cantonments to hand over Military buildings in the manner recommended by His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, but, being of opinion that the public interests would be served by the presence on those occasions of the responsible Officer of the Public Works Department, the Government direct that, it be understood that as a rule, all Military buildings which may hereafter be completed shall be made over in person to the Military Department by the Executive Officer in charge.

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

To the Superintending Engineers.
To Captain R. B. Kennedy.
To the Military Department.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

Govt. of 1868 Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To,

THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEERS

&c., &c., &c.

Dated December, 18th.

Recd.

G. O., 18th December 1868. No. 2,968.

DECEMBER.

Nos. 461-462

Military buildings.—Orders issued that all Military buildings which may hereafter be completed shall be made over in person to the Military Department by the Executive Officer in charge.

Head Quarters Mysore Dn.
Bangalore 20th November 1868.
No. 563

From

The Officer Commanding
Mysore Division

To

The Quarter Master General
Head Quarters
Fort Saint George

Sir

I have the honor to forward for the consideration of His Excellency the Commander in Chief copy of letter No 950 of 18th Inst from the Executive Engineer Bangalore.

2. It seems to me very desirable that some definite orders should be passed by Government in regard to the mode to be adopted in handing over works to the Quarter Master Generals Department. Captain Wood appears to think that it is unnecessary for him to hand over in person and that all that have to be done is for the Quarter Master Generals Department to assume charge of a building directly it is reported as complete without the option of making any objection to bad work or fittings.

3. I cannot think it is the intention of Government that buildings should be taken charge of in this way and that they who become responsible for damages should have no opportunity of objecting to receive indifferent or unsubstantial work.

4. Before Captain Wood's arrival

the plan adopted was for the Executive Engineer, the D. Asst. Qr. Master General, the Barrack Master, and the Regimental authorities to meet, examine the building and take charge or not according to the result of the examination. This plan was found to answer well in practice as it gave the Regimental authorities who were to assume charge of the building and be responsible for damages an opportunity of objecting to work which would render them liable to damages unfairly. The D. Asst. Qr. Mr. General and Barrack Master took care that no trivial objections were raised and the Executive Engineer could satisfy himself whether the work objected to was up to the mark or not.

5. Works when received from the D. P. W. must necessarily be at once handed over to the Regiment for which they are intended as neither the D. Asst. Qr. Mr. General nor the Barrack Master have any means at their disposal for taking care of them.

I have the honor &c.
Sir
Your Most Obedt. Servt.
Haines Major General
Commanding Mysore

Head Quarters Mysore Dn.
November 1868

he would find a very great difference. This however is a mere professional matter - The officers of the PWD have to certify to the authorities appointed by Government for that purpose that the work they pay for is worth the money paid for it; they alone are responsible for the quality of the work and are by virtue of that responsibility constituted judges of the fitness of the materials or workmanship in a building constructed for Government purposes.

The undersigned most respectfully but most distinctly repudiates the doctrine that the Quarter Master Generals Department are the professional judges of the sufficiency and efficiency of the work of the P.W. Dept. But as he said before he by no means denies his liability to make good defects which may be due to oversight or accident. Nor will he fail to avail himself of every opportunity possible of being personally present when a building is taken over by the Dy. Asst. Qr Mr General

(Signed) H. W. Wood Captain R.E.
Executive Engineer [illegible]

True Copy
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D. A. Q. M. General M. D.

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Engineer. Captain Wood owns that he is liable to make good defects due to oversight or accident. Who can so well point these out as the people who are about to assume the responsibility of the building? Captain Wood states that Government do no always pay for substantial work

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Quarter Master General's Office
Fort St George 24th Nov 1868.

No 7981.

Memorandum

Forwarded for the Orders of Government.

2. It is observed that the Code of Regulations for the P.W.D. under the Government of India provides that a Regimental Building on Completion must be formally made over to the Barrack Master by the P.W.D. with descriptive Returns &c. & vide pages 147 and 354.

3. The Commander in Chief understands from these Rules that the presence of the Executive Engineer is requisite on the Occasion; and in His Excellency's Opinion it is certainly desirable that the Building should be made over by a Commissioned Officer.

4. Military Buildings are not constructed with great rapidity and therefore the making them over to the Military Authorities cannot be a matter of very frequent occurrence within a given period; still Captain Wood Considers that it would be a lamentable waste of his time and detrimental to the interests of Government if he is to perform this duty in person - with regard to this assertion, the Commander in Chief observes that he was not aware that

that Captain Woods' time was so valuable when His Excellency recently gave his assent to that Officer's association of himself with the Volunteer Corps which is about to be formed at Bangalore. The question however is not whether the Executive Engineer has or has not the time to give his attendance on the occasions alluded to, but whether it is his duty to be present. If he should be present, he must apparently make the time.

(By order)
Colonel
Quarter Master General

To
The Secretary to Government
Military Department

[illegible] 1868. [illegible]
From
The Officer Comg
Mysore Dn
To
The Qr Mr Genl
No 6311 Qr Mr Genl
Ft St George
Memo
Dated 20th
Received } November
D/24
D/25 } Novr
12

No 563
Forwarded for consideration copy of a letter from the Exe: Engr on the subject of handing over Buildings when completed.

P.H. 4674/68

No/1327

Head Quarters Mysore Dn.
Bangalore 22d November 18
No. 573

From
The Officer Commanding
Mysore Division

To.
The Quarter Master General
Head Quarters
Fort Saint George

Sir.

No. 563 of 20th November on the subject of the mode to be adopted in transferring buildings to the Quarter Mr. Genl's Departt.

I have the honor in continuation of my letter as per margin to forward copy of Memo No. 955 of 20th Instan from the Executive Engineer.

2. It will be observed that Captain Wood entirely denies the right of the Quarter Master Generals Departt to take exception to any work which he may think fit to offer them. If this is to be the case a check which has been very beneficially used will be lost and there will be no securit against bad or insufficiently good work which may not happen to attract the attention of the Executi Engineer. Captain Wood owns that he is liable to make good defects due to oversight or accident. Who can so well point these out as the peopl who are about to assume the respon-sibility of the building &c. Captain Wood states that Government do n always pay for substantial work

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Bangalore Executive Engineer's Office

From
The Executive Engineer
Bangalore
To
The Dy Asst Qr Mr Genl
Mysore Division
Dated 20th November 18
Recd.
No. 955
His No 1?? of 19th Instant
In explanation of what appear to be a misapprehension on the part of the Dy Asst Qr Mr Genl the undersigned begs to say that the Government do not in all cases pay for substantial work and material. For instance if the Dy Asst Qr Mr General and compare the rates of the ... way in the three ... sufficient by the Govern
G. O. No 1128

P. W. 4574/6

Quarter Master General's Office
Fort St. George 24th Nov 1868
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vide pages 147 and 354.
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Quarter Master General
To
The Secretary to Government
Military Department

No 1327

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The Secretary to Government
Military Department

or good material. I am surprised to hear this for I have understood that Government paid for the best of workmanship and material and if I mistake not the specifications attached to the Executive Engineer's estimates regularly mention this. Whether the railway pay more than Government for similar work I am not in a position to say, nor I submit does it affect the question. In the time of Captain Wood's predecessors exceptions were occasionally taken to work offered for the acceptance of the Quarter Master General's Department and invariably the Executive Engineer acknowledged the propriety of the objection and the work was made good. During Captain Wood's own tenure of Office the Barrack Master has objected to certain work in buildings offered to his Department and Captain Wood has I understand admitted the justice of the exceptions taken. The bowling Alleys for Artillery at the Race Course were objected to by the Dy. Asst. Quarter Master General in presence of the Superintending Engineer as well as of Captain Wood and were admitted not to be sufficiently good for the purpose. I should be very sorry if so beneficial a check as the one under dispute were done away with. If the Executive

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Engineer were always present when buildings were taken over he could overrule objections taken to work which appeared to him up to the mark of the estimate and it would then rest with the ×Dt. Department to make any representation regarding the insufficiency of the work which might seem advisable and I think the Engineer might so arrange his morning's work that the time occupied in going over a building would be rather an advantage to Government than otherwise

× Barrack.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your Most Obedt. Servt.
Fred. P. Haines Major Genl
Commanding Mysore

Fort Saint George
27th November 18

Transferred, with
No. 1011 of 1868, to the
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Offg. Dy. Secy. to Gov

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Dated 24th November
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Department

No. 11380

Quarter Master General's Office
Fort St. George 24th November 1868.

No. 7990

Memorandum.

Submitted for orders in continuation of Memorandum from this Department No. 7981 of this date.

2. The position assumed by Captain Wood that the Military Authorities are not competent to take exception to any work or Building proposed to be made over to them by the D. P. W. seems to be at variance with para 4 page 354 of the Regulations of the Public Works Department in the Bengal Presidency which, is as follows.

" The Barrack Master will give receipts for the "building and every fixture in it, at the time of taking it "over. All defects and deficiencies in Barracks taken over by "the Barrack Department will be noted on these receipts, "failing which that Department will be held responsible"

(By order)

Colonel
Quarter Master General.

To The Secretary to Government
Military Department.

7774

P. W. 1868 Department
No. [illegible]
No. 4074

From
The Secy. to Govt.
M. O. Deptt.

Dated 27th } of November 68
Received 30th

Enclosures 2
No. 3968 18 Decr. 68

Transferring certain correspondence relative to the manner in which the Military buildings at Bangalore should be taken charge of by the Military Authorities -

No 461

No 930 19

Executive Engineer's Office
Bangalore 18th November 1868

From
The Executive Engineer
Bangalore

To
The Dy. Asst. Qr. Mr. General
Mysore Division

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Memo No. 677 dated 18th instant, and in reference thereto, beg you will be good enough to submit this letter for the consideration of the Major General Commanding the Mysore Division.

If my duties were not sufficiently onerous already, and if I saw that I served the interests of Government in the slightest way, by being present, when a building was being handed over by this Department, I should have raised no difficulty on this head - As it is, I would respectfully submit that to take me away from my more important duty, that of visiting works and examining materials; for the purpose of pointing out to the Dy. Asst. Qr. Mr. General of the Division, a Skittle alley, or other building (the existence and location of which he is already aware of) is a lamentable waste of time, and detrimental to the interests of Government -

I would moreover add that some inconvenience is caused to this Departt.

by

by the Dy. Asst. Qr. Mr. Genl. of the Division, practically referring the question of whether a building is to be taken over, to the decision of the Regimental authorities; who naturally endeavour (in the case of fixtures for example) to get the most complete building possible for the purposes to which the building is to be put - being ignorant or oblivious of the fact that the Engineer can do no more than his estimate allows.

I am not aware that the orders of Government give the Dy. Asst. Qr. Mr. General (still less the Regimental authorities) any option in the matter of taking over a building reported to be complete by this Department. But in saying this, I by no means deny the liability of the Engineer to make good any defects or improper workmanship which may be found in the building.

Should the Major General, after this my explanation, still consider my presence necessary when a building is handed over by this Department, I will do myself the honor of conforming to his view of the case, unless I receive instructions from the Public Works authorities that my presence is unnecessary.

I have the honor to be &c.
(Signed) H. W. Wood Captain R. E.
Executive Engineer Bangalore

True

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Government
Military Department

[redacted]

"True Copy"
W. McLean Captain
Offg. Dy. Qr. Mr. Genl. M. Dn

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Public Works Department

No 3366

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Proceedings of the Madras Government
Under date the 18 December 1868
Read the following

4674

From the Secretary to Government
Military Dept. } M. E. dated 27 Nov 1868

These papers have
reference to the question of
the liability of the Executive
Engineer at Bangalore
give his personal attendan
on all occasions in
which public buildings
are handed over for oc-
cupation to the Military
authorities -

Captain Hood urges
that his attendance o
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to make good any defects or improper workmanship which may be brought to notice by the Quarter Master General's Department in newly completed buildings, urges that to take him away from the more important duty of inspecting public works in progress for the purpose of being present when buildings are handed over to the Military Depts., would be detrimental to the interests of Government -

His Excellency the Commander in Chief, however concurring in the views of the Major General Commanding the Mysore Dn. expresses his Opinion that it is highly desirable for all purposes, that new Military buildings should be made over to the Authorities by a Commissioned Officer of the Public Works Deptt. and as such buildings are not constructed with ~~very~~ such great rapidity as to make the handing of them over to the civil authorities a matter of + frequent recurrence His Excellency believes that the duty of personally making them over to the Quarter Master General's Deptt. would not seriously interfere with the other work devolving upon the Executive Engineer - There

There is nothing in the Public Works Code of this Govt. which renders it compulsory on the Executive Officers in charge of Public Works in Military Cantonments to hand over Military buildings in the manner recommended by His Excellency the Commander in Chief, but being of opinion that the public interests would be served by the presence on those occasions of the responsible Officer of the Pub. Works Deptt., the Govt. direct that, it be understood that as a rule, all Military buildings which may hereafter be completed shall be made over in person to the Military Deptt. by the Executive Officer in charge.

To
The S. Engr. ✓
" Captn. R. B. Kennedy, ✓
" Mily. Deptt. ✓

Despd. 19/12/68

Nov 9/16

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Govt. of 1868 Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To The Superintending Eng

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&c. &c. &c.

Dated th.

Recd. Encl.

G. O. 18 th Decr. 1868, No. 3966

Nos. 461-465.

Military buildings. Orders passed that all Mily build-ings which may hereafter be completed shall be made over in person to the Military Department by the Executive Officer in charge.