

(1) Number of pages 10
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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

100 to 10000 DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 110	Press Mis.
225-26	
Dated 14 . 1	1867 .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
14th January 1869.*

No. 225 Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the
Military Department.—

Communicating to the Public Works Department,
a letter from the Quarter Master General, sub-
mitting the Commander-in-Chief's observations
on the site selected for the Gun Powder Manu-
factory at Saint Thomas' Mount (Here enter 17th December 1868, No 4,911)

No 226 ORDER THEREON, 14th January 1869, No. 110.

MILITARY WORKS, No. 13.

Communicated to the Superintend-
ing Engineer of the 4th Division.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R. E.,
Secretary to Government.

Govt. of 1869 Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

1.

THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER,

4th Division

Dated January, 11th

Recd

Encl

G. O., 11th January 1869, No 110

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Military Department,
17th December 1868.

Read the following papers —

No. 500. From the Superintending Engineer 4th Division, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, Fort Saint George, dated Madras, 2nd September 1868, No 2724.

Adverting to paragraph 1 of G. O Public Works Department No. 781, dated 9th March 1868, I have the honor to state that I am confident that Colonel Simpson is under a misapprehension in

thinking that the site marked A, was not that originally selected by the Committee appointed to fix the sites for the new Ordnance buildings. It was so entered by the Executive Engineer, Captain Rogers, Royal Engineers, who was no doubt in attendance, and on my questioning that Officer afterwards as to the circumstances under which the bed of a tank and the paddy cultivation under it were selected for a Powder Factory, I was informed that it was considered advantageous, because the drainage water which had hitherto filled the tank would serve to fill the various channels which it is always considered advisable to have circuiting, and intersecting Powder Factories.

2. On a later occasion the Inspector General of Ordnance and Magazines (Colonel Simpson), the Quarter Master General (Colonel Scott) and myself sat, under the orders of Government in Committee to remodel the sites, and then I heard for the first time from Colonel Simpson that he objected to the site for the Powder Factory marked A, because of its propinquity to the Heavy Gun Practice Battery, as the concussions from the heavy guns would probably shake the masonry of the lofty chimneys attached to the Factory.

3. It was determined to place the Factory on the plain somewhere near the Mahratta ditch.

4. The sites of the buildings have never been recast by me, and I respectfully await the orders of Government as to whether further action is to be taken, and the time and labour of this Department expended on a scheme of Sir Charles Wood's, which will probably never be carried out.

Transferred to the Military Department, with reference to the orders in that Department No 885 of the 3rd March 1868.

(Signed) G. A. ORR, Colonel, R. E,
4th Sept. 1868 Secy. to Govt, P. W. D

Referred to the Commander-in-Chief (Quarter Master General's Department), with advertence to paragraph 2 of Proceedings of Government, No. 885, dated 3rd March 1868.

22nd September 1868

No 501. From the Quarter Master General, to the Secretary to Government, Military Department, dated Fort Saint George, 11th December 1868, No. 8523.

I have the honor, by order, to acknowledge the referred communication No 2724, from the Superintending Engineer, 4th Division, received with your docket dated 22nd September last.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Military Department.
17th December 1868

2. The Commander-in-Chief instructs me to say that he accompanied Sir Hope Grant, on the occasion of his going to the Mount in 1864 or early in 1865, to fix on the sites for the several Ordnance buildings proposed to be erected there, and His Excellency perfectly recollects that it was then decided that the Gun Powder Factory should be on the site "A" mentioned by Colonel Boileau

3 The sketch plan shewing the proposed sites for the building called for in paragraph 2 of the order of Government, dated 11th January 1865, No. 104, was forwarded with letter from this office, dated 19th January 1865, No. 698.

4 I have endeavoured to ascertain whether there is anything on record in this Department in regard to the exception which Colonel Simpson is said to have subsequently taken to the site proposed for the Gun Powder Factory, but no correspondence can be traced in this office to show that the objection of the Inspector General of Ordnance was ever brought specially to the notice of Army Head Quarters. Colonel Simpson might have pointed out, in his letter to the Superintending Engineer, dated 7th December 1867, the site which was selected by the two Committees convened under the orders of former Commanders-in-Chief.

5. With regard to the proximity of the site "A" to the Heavy Gun Practice Battery, His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief is of opinion that this need not prevent that position from being finally determined upon. for in a short time it will be desirable to have all the practice from the Heavy Rifled Ordnance carried on from the Ramparts of Fort Saint George, or from the Beach towards the sea

No. 502

ORDLR THEREON, 17th December 1868, No. 4911.

Ordered that the foregoing letter from the Quarter Master General, be communicated to the Public Works Department

(True Extract)

W. H. Dainton

Lieut-Colonel,

Deputy Secretary to Government.

To the Public Works Department
,, Quarter Master General
,, Inspector General of Ordnance

With 20 spare copies.

Exd J. E. Cashart.

2. De 4. 5. ✓
De 15. 17. 18.

Cue 20
Govt. of 1869, 20th Mar.

PUBLIC WORKS

To The Superintendent Engr.
4th Division

Dated

Perd

G O 16th Jan 1869, No 115

Nos. 225-226

Selected for the Gun
Powder Manufactory
at St Thomas' Mount,
Madras St. - Cord to
the Off concerned

Gun Powder Manufactory at
St Thomas' Mount. For
only Dept Communicating
Letter from the Dr. Master
and containing the ob-
servations of the Commas.
-Dr. - on the site
selected

Ed.