MRO 1—77,006—8-6-57.

(1) Number of pages 11

(2) Date of repair 1 11 1

(3) Initials of the Referencer

KS-A

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public works **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 137 Press Mis.

263-64

Dated 12 · 1 1870.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No 263. Read the following Endorsement of the Officiating Deputy Secretary to Government in the Military Department —

Read the following letter from the Officiating Deputy Secretary to Government, in the Military Department, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department, dated Fort Saint George, 17th December 1869, No. 4,314.

ADVERTING to the correspondence marginally cited, I am directed to forward, for submission to the Government of India, the annexed copies of letters* from the Inspector-General of Ordnance and Magazines, and of a report† by the Controller of Military Accounts, on the subject of the erection of additional buildings for the more extensive manufacture of gun-powder at Madras

Letter from Government of India, No 314, 12th Nov 1869
Telegram to do 30th idem
* No. 256, dated 18th November 1869
,, 262, ,, 24th ,, ,,
,, 268, ,, 30th ,, ,,
,, 271, ,, 4th December ,,
† D dated 14th Dec 1869

2 The demands from Bengal and Bombay are so large, and the difference of expense between Madras made and Europe powder so great, that it appears certain that a large eventual saving may be effected by an immediate outlay on the buildings required for the duplicate machinery now lying idle at the Powder Mills

3 I am to state that there are no funds whatever at the disposal of this Government for this purpose, but if any can be specially provided by the Government of India the machinery can be utilized.

4 The plans of the required buildings have been received, but no detailed estimates have been prepared—the Executive Engineer however roughly estimates the cost at 60,000 rupees for masonry, carpentry, and painting—the iron work and fittings being provided by the Ordnance Department.

From the Acting Inspector General of Ordnance and Magazines, to the Officiating Secretary to Government, Military Department, dated Fort Saint George, 30th November 1869, No. $\frac{G}{268}$.

IN continuation of my letters No. $\frac{G}{256}$, dated 18th, and No. $\frac{G}{262}$, dated 24th November 1869, I have the honour to forward, for the information of Government, a copy* of a letter received yesterday from the Inspector-General of Ordnance Bombay, inquiring if 1,000 barrels, (lbs.1,00,000) of R. L G powder could be supplied to Bombay in addition to the 1,05,000 lbs. of the same description of powder, which, in my letter above referred to, I reported was under supply to Bombay.

* Letter No 5,508, dated 25th November 1869

2 These great demands from the Presidencies of Bengal and Bombay render the erection of some of the duplicate machinery in store here, which I had the

honour strongly to recommend to Government in my letters above quoted—a matter of great importance and urgency. Since forwarding those letters, I have received the remainder of the plans, as per margin, which have been received from England for buildings for the machinery referred to

G Plan of the dusting and glazing houses
H Plan and section of the glazing-house
I Plan and elevation of the final dusting-house
J Plan of 12 horse-power engine and boiler-house
K Plan of driving motion for glazing and dusting-house

3 On further consideration of this matter, and on seeing the plans now submitted, I am of opinion that if Government would sanction the erection of the buildings for the dusting and glazing machines, and engine and boiler-house for the engine to work the same, as shown in the plans marked from G to K, the capabilities of the manufactory would be greatly increased, and its most pressing requirements, to enable the continued strain and pressure of extra work being kept up, would be best met; and I would specially solicit therefore that sanction for the erection of the buildings noted in the plans *now forwarded* may be first granted, leaving the erection of the other buildings to a future period

---

A.

From the Inspector General of Ordnance and Magazines, Bombay, to the Inspector-General of Ordnance and Magazines, Madras, dated Poona, 25th November 1869, No 5,508

WITH reference to your letter, No 4,101, dated 6th instant, and previous correspondence, I have the honour to request that you will have the goodness to inform me whether 1,00,000lbs of powder Armstrong L G can be supplied in addition to the quantity now due.

From the Acting Inspector-General of Ordnance and Magazines, to the Officiating Secretary to Government, Military Department, dated Fort Saint George, 4th December 1869, No $\frac{G}{271}$

THE subject of the erection or non-erection of the necessary buildings for the reception of the duplicate machinery at the Powder Mills, is one of such great importance that I trust Government will not consider me troublesome in again so soon addressing them regarding it

2 After despatching my report, No 268, dated 30th November 1869, and on re perusing the papers containing the demands for gun-powder from Bengal and Bombay, I was led to the conclusion that the inquiries from those Presidencies had been made, with the view of ascertaining *how far their demands on England* could be limited

3. Considering therefore that a refusal to supply from hence must necessarily compel the other Governments to obtain their supplies from England, I deemed it advisable to ascertain the financial effect of such a transaction, and now give the results, for the information of Government, in support of my recommendation for early sanction to the prosecution of the work at the Gun-powder Manufactory.

4. The total extra demands for gun-powders from the Madras Mills, exclusive of the wants of this Presidency, amount to 5,80,000lbs sub-divided as per margin, and I find, from the invoiced prices for the latest supplies of gun-powder received from England, that this large quantity would cost Government, at English rates, if landed at *Madras*, four and-a-half lacs of rupees, whereas a similar quantity could be made at the Madras Mills for something less than two lacs of rupees, and freight charges to Bombay and Bengal, for the quantities required there, would only amount to about 60,000 rupees, so that by the powder being manufactured in India, a saving of 1,90,000 rupees would be effected, provided the price of England gun-powder has not fallen much from what it was in 1862-63, and even supposing the present establishment at the Powder Mills are able to meet one-half of the demand with a small extra assistance for extra work, the other one-half being obtained from England, would cause a loss of Rupees 95,000, or probably much more than would pay for the erection of the buildings.

	lbs
Calcutta	2,50,000
Bombay .	2,30,000
Godavery works	50,000
Travancore Government and Department Public Works	50,000
Total	5,80,000

5 The cost of the Madras powder is *materially reduced* when the establishment is allowed to work extra hours, but this could only be done if security was afforded by having the duplicate machinery put up, which I have recommended.

From the Controller of Military Accounts, to the Officiating Secretary to Government, Military Department, dated Fort Saint George, 10th December 1869, D.

I HAVE the honour to forward letter from the Inspector-General of Ordnance and Magazines, No. $\frac{G}{271}$, of 4th December current, bringing to notice the great importance of the erection of certain buildings for the reception of machinery for the manufacture of gun-powder

3. The Inspector-General anticipates a very large saving to the Indian Revenues by supplying Calcutta and Bombay wholly with gun-powder from Madras, making those Presidencies independent of supplies from England.

3 The former report* of the Inspector General, to which the letter now forwarded seems supplementary, was not transmitted through this department, which has, therefore, no means of judging how far the contemplated saving could be acted upon by the erection of new buildings or the entertainment of additional establishments

* No 268, dated 30th November 1869.

4. I do not infer from the Inspector-General's letter that any decision of the Bengal or Bombay Government has been notified to draw the whole of their supply in future from Madras, should the Gun-powder Manufactory here be put upon a footing to manufacture the quantity required by all three Presidencies

---

FORWARDED to the Public Works Department for information, with five plans, with reference to Proceedings of Government, No. 4,034, dated 24th November 1869

(Signed) J MICHAEL, Major,
Offg Depy Secy. to Government

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 12th January 1870.

No 264. ORDER THEREON, 12th January 1870, No 137.

MILITARY WORKS, No 6

COMMUNICATED to the Superintending Engineer of the 4th Division in continuation of G O, No 3,842, of the 6th December 1869

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

To the Superintending Engineers, ~~2nd and~~ 4th Divisions, with 5 Plans
,, Military Department

Exd D C Shunker

Sp 13

Communicated to the Superintending Engineer of the 4th Division in Continuation of S.O No 3842 of the 6th Dec 69.

Fort St George
12 January 1870

To the Supt Engr 4th Div — with 5 plans — Military Dept — Dispd 13/1/70.

× with 2 copies of the bill & Rec.

Enc 5345

Govt. of 1870; Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To

The Superintending
Engr. 4th
Division

Dated

Recd.

G.O. 12th January 1870. No 137

Nos. 263-264

Buildings Environment from
the Secty Govt forwarding corr.
pondence on the subject of the
erection of additional Buildings
for the more extensive Manufac
ture of Gun Powder at Madras
and Letter Offre answered