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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public works **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 2956 Press Mis.-

400

Dated 22. 11 1871.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT,
FORT ST. GEORGE, 22*nd November* 1871.

No. 400.

No. 2,956.

To

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

MILITARY WORKS, No. 14.

No. 352-B. M., dated 24th March 1870.

SIR,—Adverting to your endorsement quoted in the margin and to previous correspondence, I am directed by the Right Honourable the Governor in Council to forward, for the consideration of the Government of India, the accompanying copy of Proceedings* in the Military Department requesting that, under the circumstances brought to notice in the letters therein recorded, the Government of India may be moved to provide for an allotment of funds being made in the ensuing year's Budget for the commencement of the project for a fortified arsenal and place of refuge at Bangalore, a definitive decision on which was deferred by the Government of India as intimated in the office memorandum of the Assistant Secretary to that Government in the Military Department, No. 673, dated 14th March 1870.

* No. 3,339, dated 16th October 1871.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Colonel, R.E.,

Secretary to Government.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

Read the following papers:—

No. 289. Memorandum from the Officiating Quarter Master General, to the Officiating Secretary to Government, Military Department; dated Head Quarters, Ootacamund, 21st September 1871, No. 1134.

Forwarded with enclosure for submission to Government, with the recommendation of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, that an immediate reference may be made to the Government of India to obtain an allotment of funds in the budget of 1872-73, for the commencement of the new ordnance buildings required on the race course at Bangalore, with reference to Order of Government, No. 1024, Public Works Department, 13th April 1870—Military Department, No. 1152, 26th idem. The alternative proposals are not recommended.

From the Officer Commanding Mysore Division, to the Quarter Master General, Head Quarters, Ootacamund; dated Head Quarters, Bangalore, 15th September 1871, No. 195.

In forwarding the accompanying copy of letter from the Commissary of Ordnance at this station, relative to the unsatisfactory state of the buildings occupied as the ordnance magazine in the Fort, I would invite reference to the orders of Government marginally noted.

Order of Government, No	3428,	dated	3rd Sep.	1868.
Do. do.	61,	„	6th Jan.	1870.
Do. do.	1024,	„	13th Apr.	„

2. The buildings referred to by the Commissary of Ordnance deteriorate more and more rapidly each successive monsoon, and will probably soon become to a great extent untenable, unless a considerable sum of money is expended in repairing them.

3. The removal of the arsenal from the Fort having been apparently decided upon, I am loath to recommend the conversion of other old builings into temporary store-rooms as proposed by the Commissary of Ordnance, but trust that His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief will see fit to move the Local Government to forward an earnest appeal for the speedy allotment of funds by the Government of India, to carry out the project for a fortified arsenal and place of refuge in the vicinity of the barracks on the race course plateau.

From the Commissary of Ordnance, Bangalore, to the Assistant Quarter Master General, Mysore Division; dated Bangalore, 8th September 1871, No. 509.

By desire of the Major-General Commanding the Division, I have the honor to report the present state of the magazine under my charge.

On my first arrival here, I brought to notice the unsatisfactory condition of the buildings, and the Officer Commanding personally inspected them in company with yourself, and the Executive Engineer.

II. The buildings are nearly all very old and have been only occasionally repaired so as to prevent their actually crumbling to pieces, and these buildings do not afford sufficient accommodation and protection for the stores in the magazine.

III. Store Godown and Armoury.—The store godowns and armoury are very ill ventilated, they all require glazed and barred windows in rear, the roof requires removal as it is much eaten into by insects, dry rot, &c., and leaks badly.

An ordnance store godown is required, ordnance stores are at present most inconveniently separated, and lodged in various parts of the magazine contrary to regulations.

IV. Gun Sheds.—The gun sheds are too limited and the roofs are leaky and eaten by insects. Two new gun sheds are required besides the re-building or thorough repair of the present sheds.

Ordnance carriages are at present necessarially exposed to the weather for the want of accommodation.

The siege train, if ordered out suddenly, could not be moved complete except after much delay.

V. LABORATORY STORES.—The laboratory store room is an old dilapidated building, the roof is much eaten into by insects. The accommodation is very insufficient.

A separate room for filling cartridges, &c., is required.

VI. MAGAZINES.—The magazine is too small and a new magazine is required fitted with racks or horses for powder barrels. From want of space, powder barrels are packed tier upon tier without space for air circulation.

VII. SNIDER AMMUNITION.—A separate building is required in which to store snider ammunition, at present this ammunition is kept in the laboratory, an objectionable position.

VIII. CAMP EQUIPAGE AND TENT GODOWN.—The camp equipage enclosure is generally in good order, but a shed is much required for the tent pegs which are at present piled up in the open air and deteriorate rapidly from constant exposure.

The verandahs of this building are so crowded with stores that a shed for repair of tents is required.

IX. From the above it will be seen that the additions and alterations required are extensive, and it may be considered preferable to build a new magazine in a more ce tral and defensive position in the cantonment. If this proposal be entertained, I would suggest that, as a temporary measure, the old Infantry barracks behind the Government bakery, which is now unoccupied, be fitted for workshops and to receive stores, the camp equipage and powder magazine being left in the Fort until permanent buildings have been erected to receive them.

X. Should it not appear advisable to move the magazine to the cantonment, I request that the building in former years used as a garrison hospital and close to the main guard in the Fort be fitted up to receive ordnance carriages and stores, a portion of this building might also be fitted up for snider ammunition.

XI. In bringing this matter forward for consideration, it is scarcely necessary to note the inconvenience attending the present position of the magazine, which is three miles from the troops, depending on it for supplies, and these supplies have to be brought from the railway a greater distance and through the cantonment for which the stores are intended.

No. 290. ORDER THEREON, 16th October 1871, No. 3339.

Communicated to the Public Works Department, in view to the necessary application being made to the Government of India.

(True Extract.)

Offg. Secretary to Government.

To the Public Works Department. *With 20 spare Copies.*
" Quarter Master General.

Engd. J. E. Cashart.

Public Works 1871 Department

Govt. of {1871} Madras

MILITARY.

To No. 5065

THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

&c, &c., &c.

Dated October, 16th.

Read 25

Encl

G. O., 16th October 1871, No. 3339.

S.

OCTOBER.

Nos. 289-290.

Communicating the recommendation of the Commander-in-Chief, that an immediate reference may be made to the Government of India, to obtain an allotment of funds in the budget of 1872-73, for the commencement of the new ordnance buildings required on the race course at Bangalore.

No. 2955 / No. 2956. 22 Nov/71.

Ordered that the following letter be sent to the Govt of India

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1871

895-899

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Public Works Department

No. 2955.

Proceedings of the Madras Government

Read the following

Copy of the Madras Govt Military Dept

G.O. No. 3339 of 16 October 1871

Ordered that the following letter be sent

To

The Military Department

" Supt Engineer &c &c

No. 2956.

The Secy to the Govt of India P.W.D.

Sir

Adverting to your Endorsement quoted in the margin and to previous correspondence, I am directed by the Right Honorable the Governor in Council to forward, for the consideration

& No. 352 B.In. dated 24 March/70.

consideration of the Govt of India, the accompanying copy of Proceedings in the Military Department requesting that under the circumstances brought to notice in the letters therein recorded, the Govt of India may be moved to prove for an allotment of funds being made in the ensuing years budget for the commencement of the project for a fortified Arsenal and place of refuge at Bangalore, a definitive decision on which was deferred by the Govt of India as intimated in the Office Memorandum of

No 3339 dated 16th Oct 1871.

of the Assistant Secretary to that Government in the Military Department No 673, dated 14th March 1870.

J.F.

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Desp 23/11/71 with Encl 7 f
Govt 3339 of 16-Oct 71 with Desp

5065.

Gobt. of {1871} Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To The Secretary to the Govern-
-ment of India

Dated

Read.

Encl.

G. O., 22 Nov 1871 No. 2955

2956.

Nos. 397 399 400.

Fortified Arsenal and Place of Refuge at Bangalore.

Passing orders on Pro-
ceedings in the Military
Dept. Communicating
recommendations from
the Commander-in-Chief
that a reference be made
to the Govt. of India for an
allotment of funds for
Fortified Arsenal and