

(1) Number of pages _____

(2) Date of repair _____

(3) Initials of the Referencer _____

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public works **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 817, 818, 819	489	Press Mis.
Dated	14. 2.	18 73.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
14th February 1873.*

No. 317.

Read the following papers :—

Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Military Department, dated 18th January 1873, No. 219.

From the Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department, to the Officiating Secretary to Government, Military Department, Fort St. George, dated Fort William, 7th January 1873, No. 307.

I AM directed to forward, herewith, for the information of the Government of Madras, copy of a letter from the Quarter Master General, with enclosure, and to request that His Excellency the Governor in Council may be moved to take into his early consideration the possibility of taking some steps to remedy the state of affairs within the Fort of Bangalore.

2. The Public Works Department have already been requested to effect such repairs as may be necessary, and will again be urged to issue the necessary instruction for their completion, without delay, in the present financial year, if possible.

From the Deputy Quarter Master General, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department, Calcutta; dated Camp at Hussan Abdal, 5th December 1872, No. 565-C, *Fortifications.*

I AM desired by the Right Honourable the Commander-in-Chief in India to submit, for the information and consideration of the Supreme Government, the annexed memorandum, dated 26th October 1872, on the present unsatisfactory and unsafe state of the Arsenal at Bangalore, prepared by Major-General P. S. Lumsden, Quarter Master General, on his recent private visit to that station.

MEMORANDUM.

ALTHOUGH my visit to Bangalore is not one of duty, I feel it incumbent on me to bring to the notice of the Commander-in-Chief in India the state of the Arsenal at Bangalore.

2. In company with the Chief Commissioner I went over the Fort of Bangalore this morning, and can safely state that I have never seen any matter in this country more urgently requiring immediate remedy.

3. The present garrison, I am informed, consists of twelve British and thirty-six Native soldiers under a Non-commissioned officer.

4. Within this ruinous Fort are located the remains of a native palace, with huts in its environs. In the midst of these, and of a colony stated to approximate some 1,000 Brahmins, with other squatters, occupying different private houses, all within the work, are scattered stores of every description; magazines containing, I am informed, some fifteen tons of powder; sheds here with some stores, and there with a siege train and its equipment complete; spare carriages; wagons, etc., for the three batteries at Bangalore; and again stores of ammunition collected for the projected camp of exercise, and military stores of all descriptions.

5. Directly on the glacis of the work, and between it and the military cantonment of Bangalore, is situated the native town locally designated "The Pettah," with a population of some 70,000 inhabitants; the latter is distant over a mile from the nearest troops, i. e., the Native Infantry of the cantonment.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
14th February 1873.*

6. As I have been informed that the local authorities have for years striven in vain to get the present state of things rectified, and that respective General Officers, together with Commanders-in-Chief, have successively followed each other in representing the unsafe position of the magazine, it is useless for me to recapitulate the details doubtless already before the Government.

7. In case, however, of disturbance or possible disaster hereafter, I record, for His Excellency's information, my opinion that immediate measures are necessary to remedy the present most unsatisfactory and unsafe state of the military magazine in the present Fort of Bangalore.

BANGALORE,
26th October 1872.

(Signed) P. S. LUMSDEN, Major-General,
Quarter Master General.

COMMUNICATED to the Commander-in-Chief for any suggestions His Excellency may desire to make, with reference to Proceedings of Government No. 3,515, dated 7th November 1872, and previous correspondence.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Chief Secretary to Government.

No. 318. Proceedings of the Right Honourable the Governor-General of India in Council, Public Works Department, dated Fort William, 17th January 1873.

From the Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department.
(Here enter No. 307, dated Fort William, 7th January 1873.)

No. 308.

COPY of the above, and of the enclosures, forwarded to the Secretary to the Government of India, Public Works Department, for information, in continuation of No. 737, dated 22nd October 1872.

The Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council in the Military Department would be glad to have the necessary repairs executed with as little delay as possible.

(By Order.)

(Signed) O. R. NEWMARCH, Captain,
Asstt. Secy. to the Govt. of India.

No. 94 B.M.

COPY of the foregoing, and of its enclosure, forwarded to the Government of Madras, in the Public Works Department, in continuation of this Office No. 1,549-B.M., dated 2nd December 1872, with request that the subject may receive early attention.

(By Order.)

(Signed) J. D. SCOTT,
Asstt. Secy. to the Govt. of India.

No. 319.

ORDER THEREON, 14th February 1873, No. 489.

MILITARY WORKS, No. 17.

of 23rd October 1872, he states that the buildings composing the present Magazine

It is remarked that in letter from the Officer Commanding Mysore Division, recorded with G. O., No. 2,427,

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
14th February 1873.*

are in a very bad state of repair; but that it was time, in his opinion, that steps were taken to provide a new set of buildings.

2. In Memorandum of the Military Department of the Government of India, addressed to the Public Works Department, under date the 22nd October 1872, it was announced that the project for a new Magazine at Bangalore was to be held in abeyance until solution of the question as to the Magazines and Arsenals to be retained throughout India, and that in the meantime the existing Magazine buildings at Bangalore should be placed in such a state of repair as necessary.

3. Docket No. 94 B.M. of 17th January 1873, from the Government of India in the Public Works Department, requests that the subject, *i.e.* the execution of the necessary repairs with as little delay as possible, may receive early attention. The District Engineer will be called on to report what repairs called for by the Military Authorities yet remain unexecuted, and to take active steps for completing the same. And a reference will be made to the Military Department to state what other remedial measures it is proposed to adopt to improve the existing accommodation for Ordnance Stores in the Fort of Bangalore.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R.E.,

Secretary to Government.

To the Military Department.

„ District Engineer, Bangalore.

„ Controller of Public Works Accounts.

Exd. S. T. Austin.

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Military Department,
18th January 1873.*

Ordnance,
Arsenals and Magazines.

Read the following papers :—

No. 261. From the Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department, to the Officiating Secretary to Government, Military Department, Fort Saint George; dated Fort William, 7th January 1873, No. 307.

I am directed to forward, herewith, for the information of the Government of Madras, copy of a letter from the Quarter Master General, with enclosure, and to request that His Excellency the Governor in Council may be moved to take into his early consideration the possibility of taking some steps to remedy the state of affairs within the Fort of Bangalore.

2. The Public Works Department have already been requested to effect such repairs as may be necessary, and will again be urged to issue the necessary instruction for their completion, without delay, in the present financial year, if possible.

From the Deputy Quarter Master General, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department, Calcutta; dated Camp Hussan Abdal, 5th December 1872, No. 565-C, Fortifications.

I am desired by the Right Honorable the Commander-in-Chief in India to submit, for the information and consideration of the Supreme Government, the annexed memorandum, dated 26th October 1872, on the present unsatisfactory and unsafe state of the Arsenal at Bangalore, prepared by Major-General P. S. Lumsden, C.S.I., Quarter Master General, on his recent private visit to that station.

MEMORANDUM.

Although my visit to Bangalore is not one of duty, I feel it incumbent on me to bring to the notice of the Commander-in-Chief in India the state of the Arsenal at Bangalore.

2. In company with the Chief Commissioner, I went over the Fort of Bangalore this morning, and can safely state that I have never seen any matter in this country more urgently requiring immediate remedy.

3. The present garrison, I am informed, consists of twelve British and thirty-six Native soldiers under a non-commissioned officer.

4. Within this ruinous Fort are located the remains of a native palace, with huts in its environs. In the midst of these, and of a colony stated to approximate some 1,000 Brahmins, with other squatters, occupying different private houses, all within the work, are scattered stores of every description; magazines containing, I am informed, some fifteen tons of powder; sheds here with some stores, and there with a siege train and its equipment complete; spare carriages; wagons, &c., for the three batteries at Bangalore; and again stores of ammunition collected for the projected camp of exercise, and military stores of all descriptions.

5. Directly on the glacis of the work, and between it and the military cantonment of Bangalore, is situated the native town locally designated, "The Pettah," with a population of some 70,000 inhabitants; the latter is distant over a mile from the nearest troops, i. e., the Native Infantry of the cantonment.

6. As I have been informed that the local authorities have for years striven in vain to get the present state of things rectified, and that respective General Officers, together with Command-

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Military Department,
18th January 1873.*

ers-in-Chief, have successively followed each other in representing the unsafe position of the magazine, it is useless for me to recapitulate the details doubtless already before the Government.

7. In case, however, of disturbance or possible disaster hereafter, I record, for His Excellency's information, my opinion that immediate measures are necessary to remedy the present most unsatisfactory and unsafe state of the military magazine in the present Fort of Bangalore.

BANGALORE,
26th October 1872.

(Signed) P. S. LUMSDEN, Major-Genl.,
Quarter Master General.

No. 262. ORDER THEREON, 18th January 1873, No. 219.

Communicated to the Commander-in-Chief for any suggestions His Excellency may desire to make, with reference to Proceedings of Government, No. 3515, dated 7th November 1872, and previous correspondence.

(True Extract.)

[Signature]
Chief Secretary to Government.

To the Quarter Master General.

„ Public Works Department. *with 20 spare copies*

Exd. J. E. Cashart

From Lieutenant-Colonel F. S. ROBERTS, v. c., Deputy Quarter Master General, to Colonel H. K. BURNE, Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department, Calcutta,—(No. 565C, *Fortifications*, dated Camp Hussan Abdal, the 5th December 1872.)

I AM desired by the Right Hon'ble the Commander-in-Chief in India to submit, for the information and consideration of the supreme Government, the annexed memorandum, dated 26th October 1872, on the present unsatisfactory and unsafe state of the arsenal at Bangalore, prepared by Major-General P. S. Lumsden, c. s. i., Quarter Master General, on his recent private visit to that station.

MEMORANDUM.

Although my visit to Bangalore is not one of duty, I feel it incumbent on me to bring to the notice of the Commander-in-Chief in India the state of the arsenal at Bangalore.

2. In company with the Chief Commissioner, I went over the fort of Bangalore this morning, and can safely state that I have never seen any matter in this country more urgently requiring immediate remedy.

3. The present garrison, I am informed, consists of 12 British and 36 Native soldiers under a non-commissioned officer.

4. Within this ruinous fort are located the remains of a native palace, with huts in its environs. In the midst of these, and of a colony stated to approximate some 1,000 Brahmins, with other squatters, occupying different private houses, all within the work, are scattered stores of every description; magazines containing, I am informed, some 15 tons of powder; sheds here with some stores, and there with a siege train and its equipment complete; spare carriages; waggons, &c., for the three batteries at Bangalore; and again stores of ammunition collected for the projected camp of exercise, and military stores of all descriptions.

5. Directly on the glacis of the work, and between it and the military cantonment of Bangalore, is situated the native town locally designated "The Pettah," with a population of some 70,000 inhabitants; the latter is distant over a mile from the nearest troops, i. e., the Native Infantry of the cantonment.

6. As I have been informed that the local authorities have for years striven in vain to get the present state of things rectified, and that respective General Officers, together with Commanders-in-Chief, have successively followed each other in representing the unsafe position of the magazine, it is useless for me to recapitulate the details doubtless already before the Government.

7. In case, however, of disturbance or possible disaster hereafter, I record, for His Excellency's information, my opinion that immediate measures are necessary to remedy the present most unsatisfactory and unsafe state of the military magazine in the present fort of Bangalore.

BENGALORE,

The 26th October 1872.

(Signed)

P. S. LUMSDEN, Major-Genl.,

Quarter Master General.

(True copy)

[Signature] J. R. Newmarsh, Captain,
Asst. Secy. to the Govt. of India.

Exd. II. de Silva.

Communicating letter from the Government of India, requesting to take into early consideration the possibility of taking some steps to remedy the state of affairs within the fort of Bangalore.

JANUARY.
Nos. 261-262.

Dated January, 1873.
Recd. ——— 22 —
G. O., 18th January 1873. No. 219.

THE QUARTER MASTER GENERAL.

[Handwritten notes and signatures]
P. M. 1873. *[Signature]*
Govt. of India
Military.

c. 25 Jan 1873.

[Handwritten notes]

[Handwritten notes]

Ordinance.
Arsenals and Magazines.

No. 307.

Government of India,

MILITARY DEPARTMENT.

Fort William, the 7th January 1873.

It is requested that the
above heading, with number
and date of this communica-
tion, may be quoted in any
subsequent correspondence
on this subject.

To

THE SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT, FORT ST. GEORGE,
MILITARY DEPARTMENT.

SIR,

I AM directed to forward herewith for the information of the Government of Madras, copy of a letter from the Quarter Master General, No. 565C, dated 5th December 1872. with enclosure, and to request that His Excellency the Governor in Council may be moved to take into his early consideration the possibility of taking some steps to remedy the state of affairs within the fort of Bangalore.

2. The Public Works Department have already been requested to effect Milly. Dept. No. 738, dated 22nd Octr. 1872. such repairs as may be necessary, and will again be urged to issue the necessary instruction for their completion without delay in the present financial year if possible.

I am, &c.,

(Signed)

H. K. BLUETT, Colonel,
Secy. to the Govt. of India.

No. 308.

Copy of the above, and of the enclosures, forwarded to the Secretary to the Government of India, Public Works Department, for information, in continuation of No. 737, dated 22nd October 1872.

The Right Hon'ble the Governor General in Council in the Military Department would be glad to have the necessary repairs executed with as little delay as possible.

By order,

127 G. R. Newmarch, Captain,
Asst. Secy. to the Govt. of India.

- No. 309. To the Insp. Genl. of Ordnance and Magazines.
No. 310. To the Foreign Department.
No. 311. To the Accountant General, Military Department.

Exd. S. C. Dutt.

Copy

No 94 B.M.

Copy of the foregoing, and of its enclosure forwarded to the Government of Madras in the Public Works Department, in continuation of this office, No 1549 B.M. dated 2nd Decr 1872, with request that the subject may receive early attention.

By order.

H. J. V. M.

Asst. Secretary to the Govt of India

Public Works Department

No 489

Proceedings of the Madras Government

Read the following

From the In Charge of the Military

Department

From The Govt of India

J.A.E. No 2197/18th January 1873

" " " 94 B.M. of 17th January 1873

It is remarked

that in letter from the

Officer Commanding

Mysore Division recorded

with G.O. No 2497 of 23

October 1872, he states

that the buildings con

posing the present

Magazines are in a

very bad state of repair

but that it was time,

in

A communication will be received from the Govt of India this point. The current report from the Govt of India points to the general state of affairs in the Govt of Bengal and the security of the Magazine within its walls. This is a very large building far beyond that of any possible repairs. It has been fully described by European Courts of the Magazine and considered by this Govt from the very point of view now submitted by the Government of India who for many years has been in possession of all the facts now forcibly stated by the Govt of Bengal. Such repairs only could

No 489. 14th Feb 1873.

Dec 1872

c 252 Jan 1873

P. W. 1873 Report
Amphibious
No 435

From
the Govt of India

Noted 17th Jan 1873

Recd 23rd Jan 1873

Forwarding
for early attention
papers regarding
the condition
of the Arsenal
and Govt of
Bengal.

20

in his opinion, that steps were taken to provide a new set of buildings.

In Mem^o of the Military Department of the Government of India, addressed to the Public

Works Department under date the 22^d October 1872, it was announced that the

project for a new Magazine at Bangalore was to be held in abeyance until solution of the question as to the Magazine and Arsenal to be re-

tained throughout India and that in the mean- time the existing Maga- zine buildings at Bangalore should

should be sanctioned for this Magazine as may be found necessary to protect the valuable stores it contains from the weather. The Magazine itself is roughly and unsufficiently constructed, detached from the body of the Fort. The large quantity of powder being stored in a fundraught of its own - large amount of black powder contained in it is stored in a separate building, the proximity of which is not later than the danger is supposed to exist from explosion of these shops of ammunition for it.

The maintenance of the Magazine is the first question for consideration. Then, if necessary, the plan for a new one being that of this modern mode of money.

There is nothing for the D.M. to do at present, as far as I can see. Except to get back the plans for the

fortified arsenal. This may be done by the 10th and when the 10th is completed the 10th will be 10 ft 10 ft. With 200, we can take up the matter. It is not a question of repair - but of reconstruction.

J. S. [Signature]

should be placed in such a state of repair as necessary.

150
Docket No 94
B. M. of 17 January 1873 from the Government of India in the Public Works Department requests that the subject i.e. the execution of the necessary repairs with as little delay as possible

may receive early attention. The District Engineer will be called on to report what repairs called for by the Military authorities yet remain unexecuted and to take active steps.

steps for completing
the same. And a reference
will be made to the
Military Department
to state what other
remedial measures it
is proposed to adopt
to improve the existing
accommodation for
Ordnance stores in the
Fort of Bangalore.

G.M.

~~I would not make any further
delay - but in communication
with the Military Dept. if we
detailed orders for the location
of such temporary repairs as
are necessary for the security
of the magazines at Bangalore
I would then send in the Bill
to the Govt of India as carrying
out their own instructions.
I am afraid if we don't act~~

25th July/72

In this protracted manner
much time will be lost.

M.

The draft of the Bill
for the improvement of the
magazines at Bangalore
is now in the hands of the
Military Dept. and it is
expected that it will be
forwarded to the Govt of India
in the near future.

To
15-Military Dept
2 DE Bangalore
Cantons
Despatch 18/2/73

Oct 2.30 2435



Govt. of 1873 Madras

PUBLIC WORKS.

to the Military Dept.

Dated

Recd.

Encl.

G. O. 14th Feb 1873, No. 489.

No. 317 @ 319

Fort at Bangalore.

The D^r Insp^t directed to
take active steps for
completing all repairs
already called for in
connection with Arsenal
and the Military Dept.
to state the further
remedial measures re-
quired for improving the

existing accommodation
for Ordnance stores in
the Fort of Bangalore.