M.R.O. 1—10,006—28-2-50

(1) Number of pages _____

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(3) Initials of the Referencer _____

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

Government of Madras

public works DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	3217.	Press
~~B.P. No.~~ 221-22		~~Mis.~~
Dated	13.11.1876 ~~1895~~.	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 13th November 1874.

No. 221. Read the following endorsement of the Secretary to Government, Military Department, dated Ootacamund, 26th October 1874 :—

From Lieutenant-Colonel N. G. CAMPBELL, R.A., Officiating Inspector-General of Ordnance and Magazines, to Colonel A. C. SILVER, Secretary to Government, Military Department, dated Fort St. George, 17th October 1874, No. G/239.

THE time having arrived when I am required to submit, through the Controller Military Accounts, for the information of the Finance Department, Calcutta, the usual annual statement of work proposed for the manufacturing factories, etc., of the Madras Ordnance Department during the year 1875-76, it became necessary for me to ascertain by what probable date the District Engineer will have completed the buildings, the erection of which at the Gun-powder Factory is being carried on under his supervision, as until they are completed no work can be resumed at that establishment.

2. In reply to inquiries on this point, made by the Acting Superintendent of the Factory, Lieutenant-Colonel Goddard, the District Engineer, writes in two letters,* as follows :—

* Nos. 3,995 and 3,998, both dated 8th October 1874.

"I regret to say I am unable to fix a date * * * * *; repeated applications for bricks of superior character, made to the Consulting Architect, have not as yet produced a supply of bricks for the work. The late wet weather has interfered with brick-making. Only yesterday my last reminder was sent to him.

"2. If you see no necessity for awaiting the supply of superior bricks, I can proceed with the work with an inferior article."

3. Since sanction was accorded in Proceedings* of Government for the erection of the buildings referred to, and Rupees 20,000 provided by transfer for the work, its progress has been marked by more than ordinary, though perhaps unavoidable, tardiness, and as no probable date for its completion can be assigned by the District Engineer, I find it difficult to estimate the proposed outturn from the factory during 1875-76, which it is necessary I should do for the preparation of the annual return I have now to draw out and submit to the Finance Department, Calcutta.

* No. 2,289, dated 18th August 1874.

4. The demand for different kinds of gun-powder from the Madras Factory are likely to be greater than usual during the coming year. Large requisitions from Bombay and Calcutta for R. F. G. powder have been met as far as possible, and some necessarily refused; more will however be probably made as in both the sister Presidencies the call for R. F. G. powder will be for some time excessive, and far beyond the producing capacities of their respective powder factories.

5. In the Madras Presidency, in consequence of the latest largely increased reserves of powder directed to be maintained as laid down in letter,* we are about 800,000 lbs. short of one allotment of R. L. G. or L. G., whichever nature of powder it may ultimately be decided to manufacture.

* No. 503, dated 16th October 1873, from Secretary to Government of India, Military Department, to Secretary to Government, Military Department, Madras, recorded in Proceedings of Madras Government, No. 3,587, dated 30th October 1873.

6. Under these circumstances, as great delay in the completion of the buildings in the course of erection at the Gun-powder Factory might, under unforeseen circumstances, be fraught with serious consequences, I deem it my duty to represent the present state of things for the information of Government.

TRANSFERRED to the Public Works Department, with reference to previous correspondence.

(Signed) A. C. SILVER, Colonel,
Secretary to Government, M.D.

No. 222. ORDER THEREON, 13th November 1874, No. 3,217.

MILITARY WORKS, No. 7.

COMMUNICATED to the Consulting Architect, who will supply the Presidency District Engineer with the requisite number of kiln-made bricks, with as little delay as possible, no matter what other buildings are consequently delayed. He must be prepared to meet all departmental requisitions to the utmost, within Madras limits. At the same time Colonel Goddard will be so good as to explain how it was that in letter recorded with Military Department Order, No. 1,705, of 29th May, he reported that he had materials ready, as a reason why he should be allowed to commence the improvements to the Gun-powder Factory at once. He has thereby rendered himself answerable for the stoppage of the manufacture of gun-powder, originally limited to a period of two months, being extended indefinitely.

2. It will be intimated to the Military Department that it is undesirable that action should be taken immediately on such calls as that recorded with endorsement of the 15th April. It is better to provide for them in the ordinary way by provision in the annual Budgets. Heads of Military Departments should be enjoined to ascertain and report their urgent wants for the information of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, through the Quarter Master General, in proper time.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the Consulting Architect.
,, District Engineer, Presidency.
,, Military Department.

Exd. S. T. Austin.

Spare Copies

Ordnance Department.

ORDNANCE OFFICE:
Fort Saint George
17 Oct. 1874.

No. 239

From,

Lieut. Col. N. G. Campbell R.A.
Offg Inspector General of Ordnance and Magazines

To

The Secretary to Government
Military Department

Sir

The time having arrived when I am required to submit through the Controller Military Accounts for the information of the Finance Department Calcutta the usual annual statement of work proposed for the manufacturing Factories &c. of the Madras Ordnance Department during the year 1875/76 it became necessary for me to ascertain by what probable date the District Engineer will have completed the buildings the erection of which at the Gun Powder Factory is being carried on under his supervision as until they are completed no work can be resumed at that Establishment.

2.— In reply to enquiries on this point made by the Acting Superintendent of the Factory Lieut. Col. Goddard the District Engineer writes in two letters (a) as follows:—

"I regret to say I am unable to fix a date

"Repeated applications for bricks of superior character made to

(a) Nos 3995 and 3998 both dated 8th October 1874.

"to the Consulting Architect, have not as yet produced a supply
"of bricks for the work. The late wet weather has interfered
"with brick making. Only yesterday my last Reminder was
"sent to him".

2.- "If you see no necessity for awaiting the supply of sun-
"felid bricks, I can proceed with the work with any unfelid
article".

3.- Since sanction was accorded, in Proceedings of Govern- (b) No 2289 dated 18th Augt 1874.
ment, for the erection of the buildings referred to, and Rs
20000 provided by transfer for the work, its progress has been
marked by more than ordinary strength, perhaps marvid-
able steadiness, and as no probable date for its completion
can be assigned by the District Engineer, I find it difficult
to estimate the proposed outturn from the Factory during
1875/76 which it is necessary I should do for the preparation
of the annual returns I have now to draw out and submit
to the Finance Department, Calcutta.

4.- The demand for different kinds of Gun powder from
the Madras Factory are likely to be greater than usual
during the coming year. Large Requisitions from Bombay
and Calcutta for R.F.G. powder have been met as far as
possible, and some necessarily refused, more will however
be probably made, as in both the Sister Presidencies the
call for R.F.G. powder will be for some time excessive and
far beyond the producing capacities of their respective Pow-
der Factories.

5.- In the Madras Presidency in consequence of
the lately largely increased reserves of powder, directed to
be maintained as laid down in letter (c) we are about
2,000 tons short of our allotment of R.L.G. or L.G. which
proportion of Powder it may ultimately be decided to
manufacture.

(c) No 503 dated 6th Octr 1873 from Secretary to Govt of India M.D. to Govt of Madras M.D. Marginal Recorded in Proceedings of Madras Government No 3587 dated 30th Octr 1873.

6.- Under these circumstances as great delay in
the completion of the buildings in the course of erection
at the Gun Powder Factory might, under unforeseen cir-
cumstances, be fraught with serious consequences, I deem
it my duty to represent the present state of things for the
information of Government.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

Captn Campbell Lieut. Col. R.A.
Offg. Inspr. Genl. of Ords and Mags.

Ex. Ind.

Military 1874 Department

No 4910.

From

The Offg Inspector General
of Ordnance Magazines.

To

The Secretary to Government
Military Department.

Dated 17 } October 1874.
Rec'd 19 }

No C
239

Forwards certain explanations as to why the Annual Statement of Work proposed by the manufacturing factories of the Ord: Depôt for 1875/76 cannot be submitted on its due date

Transferred

Memo. Dr. Lieut. 74 No 233/348
-- 1 Lieut -- -- 502/74
-- 30 Oct. 73 -- 474/73
-- 28 July 74 -- 479/74
-- 22 March 73 -- 464/5

Transferred to the Public Works department with reference to previous correspondence

Military Secretary to Govt.

3217 5 Mil Dept

Proceedings of the Madras Govt

Read the following:-

From the offg: Supt Genl of Ordnance and Magazines thro' the Mily: Depart[t] } (M. E. No 239 dated 17th Octr 1874)

Communicated to the Consulting Architect, who will bear no time in supplying the Presidency District Engineer with the requisite number of Kiln-made Bricks with as little delay as possible, no matter what other buildings are consequently delayed. He must be prepared to meet all Departmental requisitions to the utmost.

30/10 2.11.74.

I think however that cases such as that herein treated of will have ordinarily to be officially treated like Cordite and Guns & the more to blame than the departure from system

Sd

Mil Dept

Letter from Offg: Supt Genl of Ordnance & Magazines

No. 239 dated 17th Octr 1874

From

The Secretary to Govt

Military Dept

Dated 26th October } 1874

Received 6th Nov } 1874

Transferring a letter from the Offg: Supt Genl of Ordnance & Magazines relating, in part, to the delay in the construction of the new buildings required at the Gun Powder Factory -

Ordered

El. No: 3217. 13-11-74.

written Address limited
at the same time Col
Pudsland will be so
good as to explain
how it was that no
letter recorded with
Military Department
Order No 1705 of 29th
May, has been reported
that he had materials
ready, as a reason
why he should be
allowed to commence
the Improvements
of the Gun Powder
Factory at once - He
has thereby rendered
himself answerable
for the stoppage of the
manufacture of Gun-
-powder, originally

limited to a period of
2 months being extended
indefinitely -

It will be at the same
time intimated to the
Military Department
that it is undesirable
that action should be
taken immediately
on such calls as
that recorded with
endorsement of the
15th April - It is better
to provide for them
in the ordinary way
by provision in the
annual Budget to
Heads of Military De-
-partments should
be enjoined to as-
-certain and report

their urgent wants for the information of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief through the 2nd Mr. Gen'l in proper time.

Genl

9-7-08

☆

To

Paris upon 7th Inst.

Dated

Rec'd. 7 6961 Encl.

G. O., 12 Nov 1874, No. 217

Nos. 221-222.

Gun Powder Factory

Passing orders on an Endorsement from the Military Department transferring a letter from the Offg Inspector Genl. of Ordnance & Magazines relating, in part to the delay in the construction of the new buildings required at the Factory—

Genl Architect &c
D. Ex. Presidency
Military Depot &c.
L. Copies despd 19/11/74.

221-222.

Rec'd 29/10/74 Read 2/11/74