

Mr. No 3676
Govt. of [1882] Madras.
MILITARY.

To
THE ADJUTANT-GENERAL,
Secy, Secy, Secy

No 1523 W d/19th June 1882
B

Communicated to
the Supr Engr 5 Circle

Cy


10.6.82

Att

11/6/82

Dated May, 27th.

Issued

Recd.

50/10
Encl.

G.O., 27th May 1882, No. 2540.

No 1523 W d/29th June 1882

MAY.
Nos. 391-398.

One copy to only

Directing that an 8- pounder B. M. L. gun
be mounted on the flagstaff bedon on the eastern
face of Fort St. George.

Ent Dr R Kippelen
write order

S. E. 5 Circle

19/6
10/6-15/6
11/6-23/6 1882

Chief Engr for Engrs

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
MILITARY DEPARTMENT.

27th May 1882, No. 2540.

Armaments—Fort St. George.

Read the following paper :—

No. 391. *From Brigadier-General GODFREY CLERK, Adjutant-General, to Colonel E. L. HANKIN, Acting Secretary to Government, Military Department; dated Bangalore, 8th February 1881, No. 395.*

In continuation of this office letter, No. 245, of 27th ultimo, enclosing the proceedings of a Board of officers which was assembled to consider the question as to the necessity for additional guns for Fort St. George for the purposes of salutes, &c., I have the honor, by order, to state that it will be observed from these proceedings that the Board report that the flagstaff Redan is not strong enough for the 80-pounder R.M.L. gun allotted to it by the Defence Committee (Proceedings, Madras Government, No. 6854, of 29th October last).

2. The Provincial Commander-in-Chief agrees with the Board on this point, and directs me to refer the matter for instructions.

3. At the same time I am to state that Major-General Payn does not consider that the 80-pounder gun in question should be mounted on the sea face at all, as he concurs with the principle enunciated by Sir Neville Chamberlain, and referred to in the letter from the President, Defence Committee, recorded in the Proceedings of Government above quoted, viz., that "It is an axiom for guns to fire at guns, and the less fire that is drawn upon the fort the better for its buildings and inhabitants."

4. Accordingly the Defence Committee in submitting the scheme of the revised armament allowed Fort St. George to take no part whatever in the "Coast Defence," which was to be entrusted entirely to isolated Coast Batteries, and stated (para. 7 of their letter before alluded to) that the armament of the fort need be only for land defence.

Major-General Payn therefore, as before stated, does not consider that the 80-pounder alluded to is wanted on the sea face anywhere.

5. This question is submitted thus separately with reference to orders of Government, Nos. 650 and 652, of 3rd instant.

No. 392. *To the Government of India, Military Department, dated 12th February 1882, No. 888.*

Chief Clerk for 28/5/82

No. 393. From Captain T. DEANE, Assistant Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department, to Colonel E. L. HANKIN, Acting Secretary to Government, Military Department; dated Simla, 5th August 1881, No. 1100-S.D.

Armaments—Fort St. George.

Referring to your letter, No. 888, dated 12th February 1881, reporting that the sea face ramparts of Fort St. George are not strong enough to bear the 11-pounder R.M.L. gun, I am desired to request that, under the orders of the Governor in Council, the Government of India may be furnished with a report showing whether the works can be relied on to carry the 11-pounder R.M.L. gun.

No. 4345.

Referred, with advertence to the Adjutant-General's letter, No. 395, dated 8th February 1881, to the Provincial Commander-in-Chief for favor of the required report.

(By Order.)

(Signed) E. L. HANKIN, Colonel,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

15th August 1881.

No. 394. From Brigadier-General GODFREY CLERK, Adjutant-General, to Colonel E. L. HANKIN, Acting Secretary to Government, Military Department; dated Fort St. George, 7th February 1882, No. 640.

With reference to Government of India Military letter, No. 1100-S.D., of 5th August last, forwarded under your No. 4345 of 15th idem, requesting that the Government of India might be furnished with a report showing whether the flagstaff Redan, Fort St. George, which was reported not to be strong enough to bear the 11-pounder R.M.L. gun, can be relied on to carry the 11-pounder R.M.L.

gun, I have the honor to inform you that a Committee as per margin was assembled to consider this question, and they have reported as follows:—

Colonel H. McLeod, R.A., President.
Lieut.-Colonel W. H. Burton, R.E., } Members.
Major J. E. Gubbins, R.A., }

"Taking into consideration the present ruinous condition of the salient of the Redan and the fact that a heavy and expensive flagstaff is erected thereon which would, if removed, have to be erected elsewhere, the Committee think that so far the Government of India proposal for the 80-pounder gun on the Redan requires modification, and that the salient of the flagstaff Redan will not carry the 11-pounder either.

2. The Committee at the same time recorded the modifications which they propose, and these will be sent to Sir Frederick Roberts who, as Government are aware, is now on tour in Burmah and who will doubtless forward them to Government in due course with his remarks.

No. 395. Docket to the Government of India, Military Department, dated 13th February 1882, No. 735.

No. 396. From Brigadier-General GODFREY CLERK, Adjutant-General, to Colonel E. L. HANKIN, Acting Secretary to Government, Military Department; dated Ootacamund, 6th April 1882, No. 54-O.

With reference to this office letter, No. 640, of 7th February last, communicating the report of the Committee which was assembled to consider whether the flagstaff Redan, Fort St. George, which was reported not to be strong enough to bear

the 11-pounder R.M.L. gun could be relied upon to carry the 11-pounder R.M.L. gun, I am directed by His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief to subjoin, for the information of Government, the following copy of a letter, dated 13th instant, which the President and one of the Members*

* The other member, Major Gubbins, Royal Artillery, has proceeded to England with his Battery. of the above-mentioned Committee have now addressed to this office on the subject:—

"With reference to the proceedings of a Board held at Fort St. George on the 15th November and subsequent days, and of which we were respectively President and Member, we have the honor to bring to your notice that it has since transpired that the flagstaff is to be removed from the Redan on the eastern face of the fort; under these conditions we have deemed it necessary to address you, in the view that our report, based on the inexpediency of this Redan being adopted then as an emplacement for the 11-pounder gun, may, under the present circumstances of the recent removal of the heavy flagstaff, be modified, as we are of opinion that if the new flagstaff be erected elsewhere as is quite feasible and the Redan modified in section, it will form an excellent site for either the 11-pounder R.M.L. or the 11-pounder R.M.L. which was originally proposed by the Government of India to be mounted thereon. The third Member of our Board having proceeded to England, it has been impossible to procure his signature in concurrence to this our report, but we have every reason to believe that he would have concurred had he been present in this modification of our report.

(Signed) H. McLEOD, Colonel, R.A., President.
(") W. H. BURTON, Lt.-Col., R.E., Member."

2. The Commander-in-Chief considers this report satisfactory, as in his opinion the flagstaff Redan should have a heavy gun mounted thereon, and this will now be carried out.

No. 397. ORDER THEREON, 27th May 1882, No. 2540.

The Right Honorable the Governor in Council approves the proposal of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief to mount a heavy gun on the flagstaff Redan on the eastern face of Fort St. George, and accordingly directs that an 11-pounder R.M.L. be mounted thereon, in accordance with the instructions of the Government of India, recorded in Proceedings of Government, No. 6854, dated 22nd October 1880.

2. These Proceedings will be reported to the Government of India.

(True Extract.)

A. S. Russell. A. Col. R.E.

For Ag. Secretary to Government,
Mily. Dept.

To the Adjutant-General.

" Quartermaster-General.

" Inspector-General of Ordnance.

" Public Works Department.

Encl. E. C. Shunker.