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P.W.C. 10385

Codt. of (1882) Madras.
MILITARY.

To THE QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL,
Co., Co., Co.

B

Communicated
to the Subt. Supr.
5th Circle.

Cy

16.6.82

Dated May, 25th

Issued

Recd. 16.6.82

25th May 1882, No. 2470

10.5.82

To 1564/102/2/82

MAY.
Nos. 330-332.

one copy to only

Forwarding to the Government of India with
remark correspondence relating to the construc-
tion of the emplacements for the six 9' 12-ton
guns to be mounted on the shore batteries at
Madras.

Ent & in R.R. Kypchik
with order

S. 6.5th circle

22/5/82

Oct. 38/-

only 15/6 Re 19/6

20/30/

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

MILITARY DEPARTMENT.

25th May 1882, No. 2473.

Defences—Coast.

Read the following papers :—

No. 330. From Colonel G. CHESNEY, Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department, to Colonel E. L. HANKIN, Acting Secretary to Government, Military Department, Madras; dated Fort William, 3rd March 1882, No. 223-M.W.

Fortifications.

I am directed to forward for consideration copy of a letter, No. 16, dated 24th January 1882, from the Secretary, Defence Committee, suggesting that the construction of the emplacements for the six 9" 12-ton guns to be mounted in the shore batteries at Madras should be deferred until the decision of the Home Authorities in regard to the best mode of loading and working heavy guns mounted *en barbette* has been communicated.

2. I am also to inquire what is the present state of the works in question.

From Captain G. HILDEBRAND, R.E., Secretary, Defence Committee, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department, Calcutta; dated Simla, 24th January 1882, No. 16.

As experiments are now being made in England by the Special Committee on the working of heavy guns to decide the question of the best mode of loading and working heavy guns mounted *en barbette*, I am desired by His Excellency the President to suggest that the construction of the emplacements for the six 9" 12-ton guns to be mounted in the shore batteries at Madras should be deferred until the decision of the Home Authorities have been communicated, as there is no doubt, from the

Report by the Special Committee on the working of heavy guns, No. 12, dated 30th March 1881.

tenor of the latest report of the above Committee, a modification of the Defence Committee type for such emplacements will be required.

2. I am also desired to ask that, if possible, a copy of the above-noted report and of any subsequent ones on this and any kindred subjects, when issued from the press, may be obtained and supplied to the Defence Committee.

No. 1210.

Referred to His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief for favor of opinion on the question in para. 1 of the letter from the Government of India, and to the Public Works Department for the information called for in para. 2.

(By Order.)

FORT ST. GEORGE,
14th March 1882.

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

To the Quartermaster-General.

No. 331. *From Lieutenant-Colonel J. EWING, Officiating Quartermaster-General, to Colonel E. L. HANKIN, Acting Secretary to Government, Military Department; dated Ootacamund, 15th May 1882, No. 215.*

In returning, as requested, papers received with Reference Order, No. 1210, dated 14th March 1882, relative to the construction of the emplacements for the six 9" 12-ton guns to be mounted on the shore batteries at Madras being

1. Letter, No. 68, dated 8th April 1882, from Colonel Burton, with copy of No. 17, dated Simla, 24th January 1882, from the Secretary to the Defence Committee, and statement showing the present condition of the coast batteries at Madras.
2. Letter, No. 322, dated 26th April 1882, from Colonel Burton, with an extract from the Indian Ordnance Regulations, a statement of actual and required expenditure, and four plans.

deferred until the decision of the Home Authorities in regard to the best mode of loading and working heavy guns mounted *en barbette* has been received, I have the honor, by order of the Commander-in-Chief, to whom the papers have been submitted, to forward the correspondence as per margin from Colonel Burton, R.E., Officiating Superintending Engineer, Fifth Circle, on the subject, and to inform you that His Excellency strongly urges the completion of the three shore batteries proposed for the defence of Madras. A great deal of money has been spent upon them already, and it is very desirable that they should be finished without further delay.

2. His Excellency desires me also to state that the question of guns and defences is yearly, almost daily, involved in change, but unless we accept something and carry that out, we shall go on, as we have done for years past, always striving at perfection, but having nothing ready.

3. His Excellency admits that a heavier armament is desirable, but, rather than delay longer, he would prefer seeing 12" guns mounted, and hopes Government will sanction this being done.

No. 332.

No. 2473.

Copy of the Quartermaster-General's letter, with its original enclosures, forwarded to the Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department, for the information of the Most Honorable the Governor-General in Council.

2. This Government concurs in opinion with His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief and recommend that the emplacements for the six 9" 12-ton guns to be mounted on the shore batteries at Madras be completed without delay.

(By Order.)

Silvery Laffan

For Ag. Secretary to Government,
Mily. Dept.

OOTACAMUND,
25th May 1882.

To the Quartermaster-General.
" Inspector-General of Ordnance.
" Public Works Department.
" Adjutant-General, for information.

Exd. E. C. Shunker.