

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
MILITARY DEPARTMENT.

22nd November 1883, No. 6331.

Quarters—Mess Houses.

Read the following papers:—

No. 461. *From Brigadier-General R. C. STEWART, Quarter Master General, to Colonel E. L. HANKIN, Secretary to Government, Military Department; dated Ootacamund, 4th September 1883, No. 751.*

In continuation of this office letter, No. 312, dated 4th June last, soliciting the support of Government in the submission to the Government of India of an appeal by certain officers against the high rent charged for public quarters at Secunderabad, I am desired to forward correspondence as per margin relative to the high rate charged for rent of the mess house of the British infantry barracks, which Sir Frederick Roberts trusts Government will likewise be pleased to submit for the consideration of the Government of India.

From Major-General Sir C. KEYES, K.C.B., Commanding the Hyderabad Subsidiary Force, to the Adjutant-General, Fort St. George; dated Secunderabad, 3rd August 1883, No. 284-G.

No. 1065-D., dated 31st July 1883, from Officer Commanding 2nd Battalion, South Wales Borderers, to Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 1013-D., dated 10th July 1883, from Officer Commanding 2nd Battalion, South Wales Borderers, to Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 1657, dated 14th July 1883, from Executive Engineer, Secunderabad Division, to Assistant Quarter Master General.

No. 1027-D., dated 18th July 1883, from Officer Commanding 2nd Battalion, South Wales Borderers, to Assistant Quarter Master General.

No. 2545-M.W., of 1883, dated 25th July 1883, from Superintending Engineer, Hyderabad Public Works Department, to Executive Engineer, Secunderabad Division.

In continuation of the remark made by me in para. 3 of my letter, No. 64-C., of 20th ultimo, to your address, in which I brought to notice the high rate charged by Government for the officers' mess house at present in the possession of the 2nd Battalion, South Wales Borderers, I have now the honor to forward the correspondence as per margin on this subject, and would hope that His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief may deem fit to represent the matter to Government with a view to some abatement of the rent being sanctioned.

From Lieutenant-Colonel J. CALDWELL, Commanding 2nd Battalion, South Wales Borderers, to the Assistant Adjutant-General, Hyderabad Subsidiary Force; dated Secunderabad, 10th July 1883, No. 1013-D.

With reference to Horse Guards General Order, 175 of 1882, republished in S.G. order, No. 47 of 14th June 1883, page 116, I have the honor to request that you will lay this application before the Major-General Commanding Hyderabad Subsidiary Force for his most favorable consideration and support.

2. On arrival in this station, in September 1880, a monthly rental of H. S. Rs. 100 was charged for the officers' mess house; this rent was charged until May 1881, when, without any warning or explanation, it was raised to Rs. 120, and the difference, viz., Rs. 20 a month since our arrival in this station, was also charged.

The sum of Rs. 150 per month is allowed to a regiment in India to pay for a mess house, and from what I can learn Rs. 100 a month is quite the outside price paid by regiments in India, where the mess house is not Government property; in fact it is recognized generally in

regiments that there will always be a credit made of some Rs. 50 out of the mess house allowance, which will compensate to a certain extent for the loss of the "Queen's allowance" in this country.

3. As the warrant referred to above has been made applicable to India, where no "Queen's allowance" is granted, and where the expenses of the maintenance of the mess are so much higher than elsewhere owing to the numerous servants necessary, carriage of goods from England, &c., I beg to express a hope that a reduction may be made from the present rent charged for the officers' mess house of the battalion under my command.

No. 462. *With report from Controller of Military Accounts; 4th Oct. 1883, B.*

No. 463. *To the Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department; dated 10th October 1883, No. 5488.*

No. 464. *From Colonel G. CHESNEY, Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department, to Colonel E. L. HANKIN, Secretary to the Government of Madras, Military Department; dated Simla, 9th November 1883, No. 1152-M.W.*

Quarters.

In reply to your endorsement, No. 5488, dated 10th October 1883 (enclosures returned), I am directed to state, for the information of the Governor in Council, that the Government of India regret that they are unable to accede to the proposal to reduce the rent to be charged for the mess house of the British infantry at Secunderabad.

No. 465. ORDER THEREON, 22nd November 1883, No. 6331.

Ordered that the reply of the Government of India be communicated to His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief.

(True Extract.)

H. Hankin Colonel,
Secretary to Government.

To the Quarter Master General.

„ Controller of Military Accounts.
„ Public Works Department, } for information.
„ Adjutant-General,

Exd. E. C. Shunker.

Fr. Cr. 10414

Gobt. of {1883} Madras.

MILITARY.

To
THE QUARTER MASTER GENERAL,
&c., &c., &c.

No 3373 Way 26th Nov 83

Recorded.

W. C.
23.11.83.

Dated November, 22nd.

Issued

Recd. 23/11/83 Encl.

G.O., 22nd November 1883, No. 6331.

No 3373 Way 26-11-83

NOVEMBER.
Nos. 461-465.

Quarters—Mess Houses.

Secunderabad.—Application for a reduction
in the rent charged for the mess house of the
2nd Battalion, South Wales Borderers, at —,
negatived by the Government of India.

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