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Gobt. of (1884) Madras.
MILITARY.

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

Dated August, .

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 7th August 1884, No. 3879

B. No. 2009 W. 15-8-84
Commanded to S. S. V.

AUGUST.
Nos. — .

Wgt. sent to H. S. 25/8/84

2288u

Defences—Forts.

Fort St. George.—Orders passed on the
annual inspection report on — for 1884.

* Examiner, P. H. A.
Judd Dehitt

2 copies sent to

with order

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

MILITARY DEPARTMENT.

August 1884, No.

Defences—Forts.

Read the following papers:—

No. . From Brigadier-General R. C. STEWART, Quarter Master General,
to Lieutenant-Colonel A. KENNEY-HERBERT, Officiating Secretary to
Government, Military Department; dated Ootacamund, 19th May 1884,
No. 136-C.

In submitting, by desire of the Commander-in-Chief, the annual inspection report of Fort St. George for 1884, I am desired to express His Excellency's wish that the demolition of the outworks may now be proceeded with, an estimate for which work, amounting to Rs. 33,997, has received his approval and been forwarded with this office letter, No. 147-A., dated 19th instant, to the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department. His Excellency trusts that Government will find it possible to allot funds for this work at an early date.

2. Sir Frederick Roberts further hopes that funds may be found for the works
Military No. 5863, dated 31st Oct. 1883. sanctioned in G.O., No. 2970-W., dated
19th October 1883.

3. The additional works considered by the Committee to be necessary are—

(a) The extension seaward of the culvert built in 1857 for replenishing the
fort ditch.

(b) Demolition of all traverses.

(c) Repair of drawbridges.

(d) Re-arrangement of water-supply.

(e) Repair to palisades.

(f) Blocking up north sea and choultry gates.

4. Of these works, the last is the only one for which estimates have been
Proceedings of Government, No. 978-W., dated prepared and sanctioned, and the
15th April 1884 (Order of Government, Commander-in-Chief would solicit that
Military Department, No. 2060, dated 2nd the Public Works Department may be
May 1884). moved to prepare estimates for the
remainder.

5. I am here to remark that the necessity for the improvement of the water-supply was brought to notice in this office letter, No. 455, dated 28th June 1883, when submitting the inspection report of Fort St. George for 1883, and in G.O., No. 4035, dated 23rd July 1883, the matter was communicated to the Public Works Department for early consideration and action, but nothing as yet would appear to have been done. Sir Frederick Roberts is so very anxious on this point of water-supply that I am to beg that early measures may be taken to remedy the existing defects.

6. The proposals for the better conservancy of Fort St. George have already been submitted to Government, and Proceedings of Government, No. 3112, dated 30th June 1884, referring to para 17 the decision of the Commander-in-Chief regarding the disposal of the head-quarter offices has been communicated in this office letter, No. 141-A., dated 19th instant.

7. As regards para. 18, I am desired to express the Commander-in-Chief's regret that the removal of the obsolete stores from the fort has been put a stop to. I am to ask that His Excellency may be favored with information on this point and to express a hope that the work may shortly be proceeded with.

From Brigadier-General R. C. STEWART, C.B., Commanding Eastern District, to the Quarter Master General; dated Fort St. George, 10th March 1884, No. 155-J.

I have the honor to inform you that, on the 10th March 1884, accompanied by the officers as per margin, I held an inspection of Fort St. George as directed in para. 16, Section V, Madras Army Regulations.

2. The reports submitted by the senior Officer, Royal Artillery, Fort St. George, and by the Executive Engineer, Presidency Division, hereinafter embodied were duly considered on the spot.

3. The authorized armament is as follows:—

- (a) Five 80-pounder R.M.L. converted guns of 5 tons.
- (b) Thirty-seven 24-pounder 50 cwt., S.B.C.I. guns.
- (c) Two Nordenfeldt guns.
- (d) Three 10-inch C.F. mortars.

4. The above armament is, however, very incomplete for the following reasons:—

- (a) There are no emplacements for the 80-pounders.
- (b) Four of the 24-pounders have no platforms, nine have no embrasures, seven are masked by buildings in the ditch; two cannot be placed in position because of the prison wash-house.
- (c) The Nordenfeldt guns have not yet been received.

5. The condition of the guns, carriages, &c., appears to be fairly good, except that—

- (a) The carriages and platforms of the 80-pounders are worn out and unserviceable.
- (b) The guns and carriages on the sea-face do not seem to have been sufficiently lacquered and painted for such an exposed position.
- (c) Two of the 24-pounder carriages are so high in the breast that they do not admit of the guns resting on the trunnion holes.

6. The regulated proportion of ammunition is complete, except that there is no powder for filling shells.

7. The condition of the ammunition appears to be good, though some time has elapsed since any of the powder was under examination. The mortar shells require painting, and garlands should be provided for piling them.

8. The stores for the guns in the Royal and Wallaja Bastions are too far removed from them, owing to want of proper accommodation.

9. A detailed description of every part of the defences is contained in part II, annual report of Fort St. George, published in G.O., 23rd July 1883, No. 4035. It is therefore needless to repeat the description in this report.

10. During the past year a great deal has been done in cleaning up and tidying the fort, rendering with cement the walls of many of the interior buildings and escarp walls, re-sectioning, turfing and cleaning the ramparts, especially on the sea-face, as much in fact as a due regard for other necessary maintenance services of the year would permit.

11. On the Flag Staff Redan, which has been put into a proper state of repair, a new flag staff has been erected by the ordnance department, but with more secure ground fastenings.

12. A commencement has been made to demolish the outworks and remove the gas works, the barracks being now lighted with kerosine oil lamps.

13. For the ensuing official year the Executive Engineer proposes to continue the services necessary for putting the north front into perfect order as—

- (a) Demolition and levelling down of outworks and sale of gas fittings.
- (b) Painting and color washing the escarp wall of the enceinte, joining up the N.E. orillon therewith, re-sectioning and turfing the earth works, ramparts, finishing the work already sanctioned (but awaiting funds) for the N.E. orillon.
- (c) A continuation of cleaning up and decorative work of the interior buildings.
- (d) Completing the demolition and removal of the old gas works.

14. The works on the defences considered necessary are—

- (a) That provided for and sanctioned in Government Order, No. 2990-W., dated 19th October 1883, and awaiting funds, Rs. 42,035.
- (b) Putting the north front into perfect order.
- (c) The rendering bomb-proof and proof against horizontal fire from the sea of the Grand Magazine, St. George's Magazine, and Caldwell's Magazine.

15. There are, however, still many minor additions and repairs needed, which should, in the opinion of the Committee, receive early attention; they are as follow:—

- (a) The extension seaward of the culvert built in 1857 for replenishing the fort ditch; this work should perhaps be required of the Madras Harbour Works, for there is little doubt but that the construction of the harbour has been the cause of the culvert being now cut off from the sea owing to the accretion of sand on the foreshore.
- (b) The demolition of all traverses as they are not considered necessary for the defence of the fort, and, moreover, they cannot be rebuilt or repaired from the usual grant for military purposes.
- (c) Repair to all drawbridges and putting them in thorough working order.
- (d) Re-arrangement of the water-supply so as to permit of water being drawn for daily supply of residents in the fort from the cisterns on the sea-face; this will enable the cisterns being constantly emptied, cleaned, and refilled, and so preserve the purity of the water supplied from the seven wells.
- (e) Repair to the palisades.
- (f) The blocking up of the north sea and choultry gates; estimates have been sanctioned, but no funds have been allowed.
- (g) The early sanction of Government to the proposed arrangement for the proper conservancy of Fort St. George according to a scheme submitted in 1883.

16. Works in progress on the defence.—Nil.

17. Owing to the removal of army head-quarters to Ootacamund, the offices of the head-quarter staff have become vacant, but no order has as yet been received for the removal of the offices of the Accountant-General and the Controller of Military Accounts from the fort; it is hoped that these orders will soon be issued for the vacation of the buildings.

18. The Ordnance department commenced removing all the obsolete stores and guns from their present scattered position, but the work is now stopped. The small quantity removed has made very little or no perceptible difference in assisting to render the fort more tidy; this work should be continued.

19. The purchase of the large mess house occupied as a mess by the European regiment garrisoning the fort has been completed during the last official year, Government having become the purchaser at Rs. 70,000. No steps have been taken to remove the stabling to outside the fort.

No. 2919.

Referred for remarks to the Inspector-General of Ordnance.

(By Order.)

(Signed) A. KENNEY-HERBERT, Lt.-Col.,

18th June 1884.

Offg. Secretary to Government.

No. From Colonel S. CHAMIER, Inspector-General of Ordnance, to Lieut.-Colonel A. KENNEY-HERBERT, Officiating Secretary to Government, Military Department; dated Fort St. George, 25th June 1884, No. 40-G.

In acknowledging the receipt of your No. 2919, dated 18th instant, with enclosures (herewith returned), I have the honor to state, for the information of

the Right Honorable the Governor in Council, with reference to para. 7 of letter from the Quarter Master General to your address expressing His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief's regret that the removal of the obsolete stores from Fort St. George has been put a stop to, that His Excellency has been misinformed on this point by Brigadier-General Stewart, late Commanding the Eastern District.

2. The quantity removed may appear small, but as a matter of fact up to date upwards of two thousand tons of cast iron guns and old shot and shell have been removed, and cart loads of the latter are still daily being removed by the purchasers thereof. The majority of the cast iron guns, however, with a large quantity of shell have to be sent to Calcutta for use in the Cossipore Foundry, and opportunity must, in the interests of the State, be awaited for their removal by Indian Government vessels. The cost of their freight by British India Steam Navigation steamers or private vessels would be enormous. As regards their affecting the tidiness of the fort, I would observe that both guns and projectiles are systematically and neatly arranged in the vicinity of and around ordnance buildings only.

3. With reference to para. 4 of Brigadier-General Stewart's letter, I would observe—

(a) That the making of the emplacements for the 80-pounder R.M.L. guns is a work belonging to the Department of Public Works.

(b) That platforms for four 24-pounders are available in the arsenal, Fort St. George, and have only to be demanded by the officer in charge of the armament of Fort St. George to be supplied. (This department is not responsible for the defects referred to in the remainder of this clause.)

(c) That Nordenfeldt guns have not yet been sanctioned for the fort armament (*vide* Proceedings of Government, No. 3364, dated 15th June 1883).

4. With reference to para. 5 (a), I would observe that the unserviceability of the carriages and platforms of the 80-pounders has not previously been brought to my notice. I have requested the Officer Commanding the Eastern District to permit the Superintendent, Gun Carriage Factory, to make a special examination of them with a view to their condition being thoroughly ascertained. If really unserviceable, they will be replaced.

5. With reference to para. 5 (d), I would observe that lacquer and paint for the guns and carriages on the sea-face has never been refused by this department, and that the Officer Commanding Royal Artillery, Fort St. George, in whose charge the armament of Fort St. George is has only to demand what is necessary for the purpose and it will be supplied.

6. With reference to para. 5 (c), I would observe that it has already been pointed out by me to the Officer Commanding the Eastern District in a letter, dated the 14th March 1884, that if the Officer Commanding Royal Artillery, Fort St. George, would place himself in communication with the Commissary of Ordnance, Fort St. George, and point out to him the two 24-pounder carriages which require adjustment, steps will be taken at once to put them into a proper condition. The Officer Commanding Eastern District has also been informed, with reference to the points to which he draws attention in paras. 6 and 7 of his letter, that a requisition should be put forward by the officer in charge of the armament for powder for filling his shells. The supply is an authorized one, and there is no difficulty whatever in meeting such demands. He has also been informed that there appears "to be no reason why the officer in charge should not himself make an examination of his powder, as respects the condition of the grain and its freedom from dust and foreign matters. If he has reason to doubt the powder being in a satisfactory condition, one or more barrels will be sent, under instructions from this office, to the Superintendent, Gun Powder Factory, for further examination."

7. I consider that, in justice to this department, a copy of my letter to the address of the Officer Commanding Eastern District pointing out that there would "be no difficulty in remedying at once any and all of the deficiencies reported by

the senior Artillery Officer, Fort St. George, to exist in connection with the guns, ammunition, platforms, &c., of his armament," and "that this department is not responsible for these deficiencies," should have been forwarded to the Quarter Master General for the information of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, although my letter may have been received, as I observe by the dates of the two letters it must have been, a few days after General Stewart's letter had been despatched to the Quarter Master General.

8. Para. 7 of the equipment regulations of the army holds officers in charge of fort armaments, equipments or stores to be "directly responsible that the equipments, stores and armaments are in a serviceable condition, in proper working order, and complete in all details," and para. 8 requires them to bring any defects "to the notice of superior authority with a view to their being remedied." It is impossible for this department to know what defects or deficiencies exist in armaments under charge of other officers, unless intimation of such defects or deficiencies be duly made as above directed.

No. ORDER THEREON, August 1884, No.

Ordered that the report on Fort St. George, submitted with the foregoing letter from the Quarter Master General, be forwarded for the information of the Government of India.

2. It is observed that the authorized armament is not correctly given in para. 3. Items (b) and (c) should be as follow:—

(b) Thirty-eight 24-pounder 50
Proc. of Govt., No. 6854, dated 29th Oct. 1880. cwt. S. B. C. I. guns.

(c) Two gatlings.

With reference to (c) it has been proposed to substitute six Nordenfeldt guns for them, but the change has not yet been sanctioned. Meanwhile a one-barrel Gardner machine gun has been provided for trial.

3. With reference to para. 1 of the Quarter Master General's letter, the Government regret that from the want of funds the demolition of the outworks of Fort St. George cannot be immediately proceeded with.

4. Paras. 2 to 5 will be communicated to the Public Works Department for the necessary action. It is observed that Rs. 30,000 have been provided in the Public Works Department Imperial budget estimate for expenditure in the current official year on the works connected with the armament.

5. The scheme for improving the conservancy of the fort referred to in para. 6 will be considered by Government in due course. The appropriation of the building, lately vacated by the Adjutant-General and his office establishment, as offices for other departments was sanctioned in Proceedings of Government, No. 3112, dated 30th June 1884. No proposals have yet been submitted for the utilization of the Quarter Master General's late office.

6. The remarks of the Inspector-General of Ordnance on the point noticed in para. 7 of the Quarter Master General's letter, and on other matters referred to in the report, will be communicated to the Commander-in-Chief, with the remark that it appears to the Right Honorable the Governor in Council that the Ordnance department have carried out the wishes of His Excellency and the Government as

far as possible, and is still giving attention to reduction of the obsolete stores (guns and projectiles) which are stated to be "systematically and neatly arranged in the vicinity of and around ordnance buildings only."

No. To the Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department;
dated August 1884, No.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) A. KENNEY-HERBERT, Lt.-Col.,
Offg. Secretary to Government.

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

B In 2009 W 15-8-84

Communicated to Supg
Engineer 5th circle, who will
report the state of progress
of the works referred to in
paras 3 to 5 of the letter from
Quarter Master General.
Some of which are, it is
understood, being carried
out under local sanction.
G.O. No 978 W of 15-4-84

The armament of
Fort St George referred to
in paragraph 2 has been
entered in the current
year's budget with an
allotment of Rs 30,000
as noted in the Military
Dept.

Supg Engineer V Circle

Govt. of (1884) Madras.

MILITARY.

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

Dated August,

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 7 August 1884, No. 3879

AUGUST.
Nos. —

G.O. No 2009 W of 15-8-84
* Since reduced to Rs 15000
G.O. No 1940 W of 9-8-84

Defences—Forts.

Fort St. George.—Orders passed on the
annual inspection report on — for 1884.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

MILITARY DEPARTMENT.

August 1884, No.

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Read the following papers:—

No. From Brigadier-General R. C. STEWART, Quarter Master General,
to Lieutenant-Colonel A. KENNEY-HERBERT, Officiating Secretary to
Government, Military Department; dated Ootacamund, 19th May 1884,
No. 136-C.

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report of Fort St. George for 1884, I am desired to express His Excellency's wish
that the demolition of the outworks may now be proceeded with, an estimate for
which work, amounting to Rs. 33,997, has received his approval and been forwarded
with this office letter, No. 147-A., dated 19th instant, to the Chief Engineer, Public
Works Department. His Excellency trusts that Government will find it possible
to allot funds for this work at an early date.

2. Sir Frederick Roberts further hopes that funds may be found for the works
sanctioned in G.O., No. 2970-W., dated
Military No. 5863, dated 31st Oct. 1883. 19th October 1883.

3. The additional works considered by the Committee to be necessary are—

- ✓ (a) The extension seaward of the culvert built in 1857 for replenishing the
fort ditch.
- ✓ (b) Demolition of all traverses.
- ✓ (c) Repair of drawbridges.
- ✓ (d) Re-arrangement of water-supply.
- ✓ (e) Repair to palisades.
- ✓ (f) Blocking up north sea and choultry gates.

4. Of these works, the last is the only one for which estimates have been
prepared and sanctioned, and the
Proceedings of Government, No. 978-W., dated 15th April 1884 (Order of Government,
Military Department, No. 2060, dated 2nd
May 1884). Commander-in-Chief would solicit that
the Public Works Department may be
moved to prepare estimates for the
remainder.

5. I am here to remark that the necessity for the improvement of the water-
supply was brought to notice in this office letter, No. 455, dated 28th June 1883,
when submitting the inspection report of Fort St. George for 1883, and in G.O.,
No. 4035, dated 23rd July 1883, the matter was communicated to the Public
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of water-supply that I am to beg that early measures may be taken to remedy the
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6. The proposals for the better conservancy of Fort St. George have already been submitted to Government, and Proceedings of Government, No. 3112, dated 30th June 1884, referring to para 17 the decision of the Commander-in-Chief regarding the disposal of the head-quarter offices has been communicated in this office letter, No. 141-A., dated 19th instant.

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From Brigadier-General R. C. STEWART, c.b., Commanding Eastern District, to the Quarter Master General; dated Fort St. George, 10th March 1884, No. 155-J.

I have the honor to inform you that, on the 10th March 1884, accompanied by the officers as per margin, I held an inspection of Fort St. George as directed in para. 16, Section V, Madras Army Regulations.

Colonel McGrigor, Commanding Royal Artillery, Eastern District.
Colonel Prendergast, R.E.
Major Atkinson, Deputy Assistant Quarter Master General, Eastern District.

2. The reports submitted by the senior Officer, Royal Artillery, Fort St. George, and by the Executive Engineer, Presidency Division, hereinafter embodied were duly considered on the spot.

3. The authorized armament is as follows:—

- (a) Five 80-pounder R.M.L. converted guns of 5 tons.
- (b) Thirty-seven 24-pounder 50 cwt., S.B.C.I. guns.
- (c) Two Nordenfeldt guns.
- (d) Three 10-inch C.F. mortars.

4. The above armament is, however, very incomplete for the following reasons:—

- (a) There are no emplacements for the 80-pounders.
- (b) Four of the 24-pounders have no platforms, nine have no embrasures, seven are masked by buildings in the ditch; two cannot be placed in position because of the prison wash-house.
- (c) The Nordenfeldt guns have not yet been received.

5. The condition of the guns, carriages, &c., appears to be fairly good, except that—

- (a) The carriages and platforms of the 80-pounders are worn out and unserviceable.
- (b) The guns and carriages on the sea-face do not seem to have been sufficiently lacquered and painted for such an exposed position.
- (c) Two of the 24-pounder carriages are so high in the breast that they do not admit of the guns resting on the trunnion holes.

6. The regulated proportion of ammunition is complete, except that there is no powder for filling shells.

7. The condition of the ammunition appears to be good, though some time has elapsed since any of the powder was under examination. The mortar shells require painting, and garlands should be provided for piling them.

8. The stores for the guns in the Royal and Wallaja Bastions are too far removed from them, owing to want of proper accommodation.

9. A detailed description of every part of the defences is contained in part II, annual report of Fort St. George, published in G.O., 23rd July 1883, No. 4035. It is therefore needless to repeat the description in this report.

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11. On the Flag Staff Redan, which has been put into a proper state of repair, a new flag staff has been erected by the ordnance department, but with more secure ground fastenings.

12. A commencement has been made to demolish the outworks and remove the gas works, the barracks being now lighted with kerosine oil lamps.

13. For the ensuing official year the Executive Engineer proposes to continue the services necessary for putting the north front into perfect order as—

- (a) Demolition and levelling down of outworks and sale of gas fittings.
- (b) Painting and color washing the escarp wall of the enceinte, joining up the N.E. orillon therewith, re-sectioning and turfing the earth works, ramparts, finishing the work already sanctioned (but awaiting funds) for the N.E. orillon.
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- (f) The blocking up of the north sea and choultry gates; estimates have been sanctioned, but no funds have been allowed.
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16. Works in progress on the defence.—*Nil*.

17. Owing to the removal of army head-quarters to Ootacamund, the offices of the head-quarter staff have become vacant, but no order has as yet been received for the removal of the offices of the Accountant-General and the Controller of Military Accounts from the fort; it is hoped that these orders will soon be issued for the vacation of the buildings.

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No. 2919.

Referred for remarks to the Inspector-General of Ordnance.

(By Order.)

(Signed) A. KENNEY-HERBERT, Lt.-Col.,

18th June 1884.

Offg. Secretary to Government.

No. From Colonel S. CHAMIER, Inspector-General of Ordnance, to Lieut.-Colonel A. KENNEY-HERBERT, Officiating Secretary to Government, Military Department; dated Fort St. George, 25th June 1884, No. 40-G.

In acknowledging the receipt of your No. 2919, dated 18th instant, with enclosures (herewith returned), I have the honor to state, for the information of

the Right Honorable the Governor in Council, with reference to para. 7 of letter from the Quarter Master General to your address expressing His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief's regret that the removal of the obsolete stores from Fort St. George has been put a stop to, that His Excellency has been misinformed on this point by Brigadier-General Stewart, late Commanding the Eastern District.

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3. With reference to para. 4 of Brigadier-General Stewart's letter, I would observe—

- (a) That the making of the emplacements for the 80-pounder R.M.L. guns is a work belonging to the Department of Public Works.
- (b) That platforms for four 24-pounders are available in the arsenal, Fort St. George, and have only to be demanded by the officer in charge of the armament of Fort St. George to be supplied. (This department is not responsible for the defects referred to in the remainder of this clause.)
- (c) That Nordenfeldt guns have not yet been sanctioned for the fort armament (*vide* Proceedings of Government, No. 3364, dated 15th June 1883).

4. With reference to para. 5 (a), I would observe that the unserviceability of the carriages and platforms of the 80-pounders has not previously been brought to my notice. I have requested the Officer Commanding the Eastern District to permit the Superintendent, Gun Carriage Factory, to make a special examination of them with a view to their condition being thoroughly ascertained. If really unserviceable, they will be replaced.

5. With reference to para. 5 (d), I would observe that lacquer and paint for the guns and carriages on the sea-face has never been refused by this department, and that the Officer Commanding Royal Artillery, Fort St. George, in whose charge the armament of Fort St. George is has only to demand what is necessary for the purpose and it will be supplied.

6. With reference to para. 5 (c), I would observe that it has already been pointed out by me to the Officer Commanding the Eastern District in a letter, dated the 14th March 1884, that if the Officer Commanding Royal Artillery, Fort St. George, would place himself in communication with the Commissary of Ordnance, Fort St. George, and point out to him the two 24-pounder carriages which require adjustment, steps will be taken at once to put them into a proper condition. The Officer Commanding Eastern District has also been informed, with reference to the points to which he draws attention in paras. 6 and 7 of his letter, that a requisition should be put forward by the officer in charge of the armament for powder for filling his shells. The supply is an authorized one, and there is no difficulty whatever in meeting such demands. He has also been informed that there appears "to be no reason why the officer in charge should not himself make an examination of his powder, as respects the condition of the grain and its freedom from dust and foreign matters. If he has reason to doubt the powder being in a satisfactory condition, one or more barrels will be sent, under instructions from this office, to the Superintendent, Gun Powder Factory, for further examination."

7. I consider that, in justice to this department, a copy of my letter to the address of the Officer Commanding Eastern District pointing out that there would "be no difficulty in remedying at once any and all of the deficiencies reported by

the senior Artillery Officer, Fort St. George, to exist in connection with the guns, ammunition, platforms, &c., of his armament," and "that this department is not responsible for these deficiencies," should have been forwarded to the Quarter Master General for the information of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, although my letter may have been received, as I observe by the dates of the two letters it must have been, a few days after General Stewart's letter had been despatched to the Quarter Master General.

8. Para. 7 of the equipment regulations of the army holds officers in charge of fort armaments, equipments or stores to be "directly responsible that the equipments, stores and armaments are in a serviceable condition, in proper working order, and complete in all details," and para. 8 requires them to bring any defects "to the notice of superior authority with a view to their being remedied." It is impossible for this department to know what defects or deficiencies exist in armaments under charge of other officers, unless intimation of such defects or deficiencies be duly made as above directed.

No. ORDER THEREON, August 1884, No.

Ordered that the report on Fort St. George, submitted with the foregoing letter from the Quarter Master General, be forwarded for the information of the Government of India.

2. It is observed that the authorized armament is not correctly given in para. 3. Items (b) and (c) should be as follow:—

(b) Thirty-eight 24-pounder 50
Procs. of Govt., No. 6854, dated 29th Oct. 1880. cwt. S. B. C. I. guns.
(c) Two gatlings.

With reference to (c) it has been proposed to substitute six Nordenfeldt guns for them, but the change has not yet been sanctioned. Meanwhile a one-barrel Gardner machine gun has been provided for trial.

3. With reference to para. 1 of the Quarter Master General's letter, the Government regret that from the want of funds the demolition of the outworks of Fort St. George cannot be immediately proceeded with.

4. Paras. 2 to 5 will be communicated to the Public Works Department for the necessary action. It is observed that Rs. 30,000 have been provided in the Public Works Department Imperial budget estimate for expenditure in the current official year on the works connected with the armament.

5. The scheme for improving the conservancy of the fort referred to in para. 6 will be considered by Government in due course. The appropriation of the building, lately vacated by the Adjutant-General and his office establishment, as offices for other departments was sanctioned in Proceedings of Government, No. 3112, dated 30th June 1884. No proposals have yet been submitted for the utilization of the Quarter Master General's late office.

6. The remarks of the Inspector-General of Ordnance on the point noticed in para. 7 of the Quarter Master General's letter, and on other matters referred to in the report, will be communicated to the Commander-in-Chief, with the remark that it appears to the Right Honorable the Governor in Council that the Ordnance department have carried out the wishes of His Excellency and the Government as

far as possible, and is still giving attention to reduction of the obsolete stores (guns and projectiles) which are stated to be "systematically and neatly arranged in the vicinity of and around ordnance buildings only."

No. *To the Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department;*
dated *August 1884, No.*

(True Extract.)

(Signed) A. KENNEY-HERBERT, Lt.-Col.,
Offg. Secretary to Government.

To the Quarter Master General.

„ Inspector-General of Ordnance.

„ Public Works Department.

„ Adjutant-General, for information.

Gobt. of (1884) Madras.

MILITARY.

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

Dated August,

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 7th August 1884, No. 3879

B. No. 2009 W. 15-A-80
Commanded to S.E. V.

AUGUST.
Nos. —

Wyl. Dec to H. W. 25/10/84

22884

Defences—Forts.

Fort St. George.—Orders passed on the annual inspection report on — for 1884.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

MILITARY DEPARTMENT.

7th August 1884, No. 3879.

Defences—Forts.

Read the following papers:—

No. . From Brigadier-General R. C. STEWART, Quarter Master General, to Lieutenant-Colonel A. KENNEY-HERBERT, Officiating Secretary to Government, Military Department; dated Ootacamund, 19th May 1884, No. 136-C.

In submitting, by desire of the Commander-in-Chief, the annual inspection report of Fort St. George for 1884, I am desired to express His Excellency's wish that the demolition of the outworks may now be proceeded with, an estimate for which work, amounting to Rs. 33,997, has received his approval and been forwarded with this office letter, No. 147-A., dated 19th instant, to the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department. His Excellency trusts that Government will find it possible to allot funds for this work at an early date.

2. Sir Frederick Roberts further hopes that funds may be found for the works sanctioned in G.O., No. 2970-W., dated 19th October 1883. Military No. 5863, dated 31st Oct. 1883.

3. The additional works considered by the Committee to be necessary are—
(a) The extension seaward of the culvert built in 1857 for replenishing the fort ditch.
(b) Demolition of all traverses.
(c) Repair of drawbridges.
(d) Re-arrangement of water-supply.
(e) Repair to palisades.
(f) Blocking up north sea and choultry gates.

4. Of these works, the last is the only one for which estimates have been prepared and sanctioned, and the Commander-in-Chief would solicit that the Public Works Department may be moved to prepare estimates for the remainder. Proceedings of Government, No. 978-W., dated 15th April 1884 (Order of Government, Military Department, No. 2060, dated 2nd May 1884).

5. I am here to remark that the necessity for the improvement of the water-supply was brought to notice in this office letter, No. 455, dated 28th June 1883, when submitting the inspection report of Fort St. George for 1883, and in G.O., No. 4035, dated 23rd July 1883, the matter was communicated to the Public Works Department for early consideration and action, but nothing as yet would appear to have been done. Sir Frederick Roberts is so very anxious on this point of water-supply that I am to beg that early measures may be taken to remedy the existing defects.

6. The proposals for the better conservancy of Fort St. George have already been submitted to Government, and referring to para 17 the decision of the Commander-in-Chief regarding the disposal of the head-quarter offices has been communicated in this office letter, No. 141-A., dated 19th instant.

7. As regards para. 18, I am desired to express the Commander-in-Chief's regret that the removal of the obsolete stores from the fort has been put a stop to. I am to ask that His Excellency may be favored with information on this point and to express a hope that the work may shortly be proceeded with.

From Brigadier-General R. C. STEWART, c.B., Commanding Eastern District, to the Quarter Master General; dated Fort St. George, 10th March 1884, No. 155-J.

I have the honor to inform you that, on the 10th March 1884, accompanied by the officers as per margin, I held an inspection of Fort St. George as directed in para. 16, Section V, Madras Army Regulations.

Colonel McGrigor, Commanding Royal Artillery, Eastern District.
Colonel Prendergast, R.E.
Major Atkinson, Deputy Assistant Quarter Master General, Eastern District.

2. The reports submitted by the senior Officer, Royal Artillery, Fort St. George, and by the Executive Engineer, Presidency Division, hereinafter embodied were duly considered on the spot.

3. The authorized armament is as follows:—

- (a) Five 80-pounder R.M.L. converted guns of 5 tons.
- (b) Thirty-seven 24-pounder 50 cwt., S.B.C.L. guns.
- (c) Two Nordenfeldt guns.
- (d) Three 10-inch C.F. mortars.

4. The above armament is, however, very incomplete for the following reasons:—

- (a) There are no emplacements for the 80-pounders.
- (b) Four of the 24-pounders have no platforms, nine have no embrasures, seven are masked by buildings in the ditch; two cannot be placed in position because of the prison wash-house.
- (c) The Nordenfeldt guns have not yet been received.

5. The condition of the guns, carriages, &c., appears to be fairly good, except that—

- (a) The carriages and platforms of the 80-pounders are worn out and unserviceable.
- (b) The guns and carriages on the sea-face do not seem to have been sufficiently lacquered and painted for such an exposed position.
- (c) Two of the 24-pounder carriages are so high in the breast that they do not admit of the guns resting on the trunnion holes.

6. The regulated proportion of ammunition is complete, except that there is no powder for filling shells.

7. The condition of the ammunition appears to be good, though some time has elapsed since any of the powder was under examination. The mortar shells require painting, and garlands should be provided for piling them.

8. The stores for the guns in the Royal and Wallaja Bastions are too far removed from them, owing to want of proper accommodation.

9. A detailed description of every part of the defences is contained in part II, annual report of Fort St. George, published in G.O., 23rd July 1883, No. 4035. It is therefore needless to repeat the description in this report.

10. During the past year a great deal has been done in cleaning up and tidying the fort, rendering with cement the walls of many of the interior buildings and escarp walls, re-sectioning, turfing and cleaning the ramparts, especially on the sea-face, as much in fact as a due regard for other necessary maintenance services of the year would permit.

11. On the Flag Staff Redan, which has been put into a proper state of repair, a new flag staff has been erected by the ordnance department, but with more secure ground fastenings.

12. A commencement has been made to demolish the outworks and remove the gas works, the barracks being now lighted with kerosine oil lamps.

13. For the ensuing official year the Executive Engineer proposes to continue the services necessary for putting the north front into perfect order as—

- (a) Demolition and levelling down of outworks and sale of gas fittings.
- (b) Painting and color washing the escarp wall of the enceinte, joining up the N.E. orillon therewith, re-sectioning and turfing the earth works, ramparts, finishing the work already sanctioned (but awaiting funds) for the N.E. orillon.
- (c) A continuation of cleaning up and decorative work of the interior buildings.
- (d) Completing the demolition and removal of the old gas works.

14. The works on the defences considered necessary are—

- (a) That provided for and sanctioned in Government Order, No. 2990-W., dated 19th October 1883, and awaiting funds, Rs. 42,035.
- (b) Putting the north front into perfect order.
- (c) The rendering bomb-proof and proof against horizontal fire from the sea of the Grand Magazine, St. George's Magazine, and Caldwell's Magazine.

15. There are, however, still many minor additions and repairs needed, which should, in the opinion of the Committee, receive early attention; they are as follow:—

- (a) The extension seaward of the culvert built in 1857 for replenishing the fort ditch; this work should perhaps be required of the Madras Harbour Works, for there is little doubt but that the construction of the harbour has been the cause of the culvert being now cut off from the sea owing to the accretion of sand on the foreshore.
- (b) The demolition of all traverses as they are not considered necessary for the defence of the fort, and, moreover, they cannot be rebuilt or repaired from the usual grant for military purposes.
- (c) Repair to all drawbridges and putting them in thorough working order.
- (d) Re-arrangement of the water-supply so as to permit of water being drawn for daily supply of residents in the fort from the cisterns on the sea-face; this will enable the cisterns being constantly emptied, cleaned, and refilled, and so preserve the purity of the water supplied from the seven wells.
- (e) Repair to the palisades.
- (f) The blocking up of the north sea and choultry gates; estimates have been sanctioned, but no funds have been allowed.
- (g) The early sanction of Government to the proposed arrangement for the proper conservancy of Fort St. George according to a scheme submitted in 1883.

16. Works in progress on the defence.—Nil.

17. Owing to the removal of army head-quarters to Ootacamund, the offices of the head-quarter staff have become vacant, but no order has as yet been received for the removal of the offices of the Accountant-General and the Controller of Military Accounts from the fort; it is hoped that these orders will soon be issued for the vacation of the buildings.

18. The Ordnance department commenced removing all the obsolete stores and guns from their present scattered position, but the work is now stopped. The small quantity removed has made very little or no perceptible difference in assisting to render the fort more tidy; this work should be continued.

19. The purchase of the large mess house occupied as a mess by the European regiment garrisoning the fort has been completed during the last official year, Government having become the purchaser at Rs. 70,000. No steps have been taken to remove the stabling to outside the fort.

No. 2919.

Referred for remarks to the Inspector-General of Ordnance.

(By Order.)

(Signed) A. KENNEY-HERBERT, Lt.-Col.,
Offg. Secretary to Government.

18th June 1884.

No. . From Colonel S. CHAMIER, Inspector-General of Ordnance, to Lieut.-Colonel A. KENNEY-HERBERT, Officiating Secretary to Government, Military Department; dated Fort St. George, 25th June 1884, No. 40-G.

In acknowledging the receipt of your No. 2919, dated 18th instant, with enclosures (herewith returned), I have the honor to state, for the information of

the Right Honorable the Governor in Council, with reference to para. 7 of letter from the Quarter Master General to your address, expressing His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief's regret that the removal of the obsolete stores from Fort St. George has been put a stop to, that His Excellency has been misinformed on this point by Brigadier-General Stewart, late Commanding the Eastern District.

2. The quantity removed may appear small, but as a matter of fact up to date upwards of two thousand tons of cast iron guns and old shot and shell have been removed, and cart loads of the latter are still daily being removed by the purchasers thereof. The majority of the cast iron guns, however, with a large quantity of shell have to be sent to Calcutta for use in the Cossipore Foundry, and opportunity must, in the interests of the State, be awaited for their removal by Indian Government vessels. The cost of their freight by British India Steam Navigation steamers or private vessels would be enormous. As regards their affecting the tidiness of the fort, I would observe that both guns and projectiles are systematically and neatly arranged in the vicinity of and around ordnance buildings only.

3. With reference to para. 4 of Brigadier-General Stewart's letter, I would observe—

- (a) That the making of the emplacements for the 80-pounder R.M.L. guns is a work belonging to the Department of Public Works.
- (b) That platforms for four 24-pounders are available in the arsenal, Fort St. George, and have only to be demanded by the officer in charge of the armament of Fort St. George to be supplied. (This department is not responsible for the defects referred to in the remainder of this clause.)
- (c) That Nordenfeldt guns have not yet been sanctioned for the fort armament (*vide* Proceedings of Government, No. 3364, dated 15th June 1883).

4. With reference to para. 5 (a), I would observe that the unserviceability of the carriages and platforms of the 80-pounders has not previously been brought to my notice. I have requested the Officer Commanding the Eastern District to permit the Superintendent, Gun Carriage Factory, to make a special examination of them with a view to their condition being thoroughly ascertained. If really unserviceable, they will be replaced.

5. With reference to para. 5 (d), I would observe that lacquer and paint for the guns and carriages on the sea-face has never been refused by this department, and that the Officer Commanding Royal Artillery, Fort St. George, in whose charge the armament of Fort St. George is has only to demand what is necessary for the purpose and it will be supplied.

6. With reference to para. 5 (c), I would observe that it has already been pointed out by me to the Officer Commanding the Eastern District in a letter, dated the 14th March 1884, that if the Officer Commanding Royal Artillery, Fort St. George, would place himself in communication with the Commissary of Ordnance, Fort St. George, and point out to him the two 24-pounder carriages which require adjustment, steps will be taken at once to put them into a proper condition. The Officer Commanding Eastern District has also been informed, with reference to the points to which he draws attention in paras. 6 and 7 of his letter, that a requisition should be put forward by the officer in charge of the armament for powder for filling his shells. The supply is an authorized one, and there is no difficulty whatever in meeting such demands. He has also been informed that there appears "to be no reason why the officer in charge should not himself make an examination of his powder, as respects the condition of the grain and its freedom from dust and foreign matters. If he has reason to doubt the powder being in a satisfactory condition, one or more barrels will be sent, under instructions from this office, to the Superintendent, Gun Powder Factory, for further examination."

7. I consider that, in justice to this department, a copy of my letter to the address of the Officer Commanding Eastern District pointing out that there would "be no difficulty in remedying at once any and all of the deficiencies reported by

the senior Artillery Officer, Fort St. George, to exist in connection with the guns, ammunition, platforms, &c., of his armament," and "that this department is not responsible for these deficiencies," should have been forwarded to the Quarter Master General for the information of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, although my letter may have been received, as I observe by the dates of the two letters it must have been, a few days after General Stewart's letter had been despatched to the Quarter Master General.

8. Para. 7 of the equipment regulations of the army holds officers in charge of fort armaments, equipments or stores to be "directly responsible that the equipments, stores and armaments are in a serviceable condition, in proper working order, and complete in all details," and para. 8 requires them to bring any defects "to the notice of superior authority with a view to their being remedied." It is impossible for this department to know what defects or deficiencies exist in armaments under charge of other officers, unless intimation of such defects or deficiencies be duly made as above directed.

No. ORDER THEREON, 7 August 1884, No. 3819.

Ordered that the report on Fort St. George, submitted with the foregoing letter from the Quarter Master General, be forwarded for the information of the Government of India.

2. It is observed that the authorized armament is not correctly given in para. 3. Items (b) and (c) should be as follow:—

Procs. of Govt., No. 6854, dated 29th Oct. 1880. (b) Thirty-eight 24-pounder 50 cwt. S. B. C. I. guns.
(c) Two gatlings.

With reference to (c) it has been proposed to substitute six Nordenfeldt guns for them, but the change has not yet been sanctioned. Meanwhile a one-barrel Gardner machine gun has been provided for trial.

3. With reference to para. 1 of the Quarter Master General's letter, the Government regret that from the want of funds the demolition of the outworks of Fort St. George cannot be immediately proceeded with.

4. Paras. 2 to 5 will be communicated to the Public Works Department for the necessary action. It is observed that Rs. 30,000 have been provided in the Public Works Department Imperial budget estimate for expenditure in the current official year on the works connected with the armament.

5. The scheme for improving the conservancy of the fort referred to in para. 6 will be considered by Government in due course. The appropriation of the building, lately vacated by the Adjutant-General and his office establishment, as offices for other departments was sanctioned in Proceedings of Government, No. 3112, dated 30th June 1884. No proposals have yet been submitted for the utilization of the Quarter Master General's late office.

6. The remarks of the Inspector-General of Ordnance on the point noticed in para. 7 of the Quarter Master General's letter, and on other matters referred to in the report, will be communicated to the Commander-in-Chief, with the remark that it appears to the Right Honorable the Governor in Council that the Ordnance department have carried out the wishes of His Excellency and the Government as

far as possible, and is still giving attention to reduction of the obsolete stores (guns and projectiles) which are stated to be "systematically and neatly arranged in the vicinity of and around ordnance buildings only."

No. To the Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department;
dated 7 August 1884, No. 3829.
(True Extract.)

A. H. Kennedy Lt.-Col.,
Offg. Secretary to Government.

To the Quarter Master General.
,, Inspector-General of Ordnance.
,, Public Works Department.
,, Adjutant-General, for information.

G.O. No. 1434. W of 14-7-84 -
 " " 978. W of 15-4-84 -
 " " 2970. W of 19-10-83
 " " 1834. W of 18-7-82
 " " 1040. W of 3-3-84 (military)
 No. 319.2 W of 25-6-84
 " 305. E of 20-6-84
 " 81. E of 5-5-84
 " 755. C of 27-3-84
 No. 2154 W of 6-8-83
 No. 1681. W of 5-7-84
 No. 2944 W of 17-10-83
 No. 858. W of 31-3-84
 1585 W of 24-6-84
 1940 W of 9-8-84

PWC no 6717

Govt. of (1884) Madras.
 MILITARY.

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



Dated August,

Issued

Recd. 13-8-84 Encl.

G.O., 7th August 1884, No. 3819.

No. 2009 W of 15th August 1884

AUGUST.
 Nos. —

Defences—Forts.

Fort St. George.—Orders passed on the
 annual inspection report on — for 1884.

Off. 38/8.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

UNDER date the 15th August 1884

Read the following

Proceedings of the Military (H. E. No. 3819 of 7th August 1884)
 Department.

Communicated to the
 Superintending Engineer V Circle,
 who will report the state of
 progress of the works referred to
 in paras: 3 to 5 of the letter
 from the Quarter Master General,
 some of which are, it is under-
 stood, being carried out under
 local sanction—G.O. 978 W of
 15th April 1884.

The armament of
 Fort St George, referred to
 in