GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

MILITARY DEPARTMENT.

14th June 1884, No. 2812.

Quarters—Officers.

Read the following papers :—

No. . *From D. C. GORDON, Esq., Examiner of Public Works Accounts, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department ; dated Madras, 26th March* 1884, *No.* 1297.

With reference to Code, para. 4, I beg to submit herewith, for information of Government, copy of "Minutes of Consultation," dated 25th July 1857, sanctioning the payment by regimental officers of rent at reduced rates for the occupation of quarters in Fort St. George.

2. From Article 2202 of the Madras Army Regulations, you will observe that the sanction is still recognized by the Military Department, and rent at rates therein laid down continues to be recovered and credited to this department ; but there is nothing in the Public Works Department Code under which this concession of reduced rent is admissible.

3. Your opinion on the point is solicited.

From D. C. GORDON, Esq., Examiner of Public Works Accounts, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department ; dated Madras, 3rd April 1884, No. 7.

Your office note, No. 635-D., dated 31st March 1884.

Para. 1433 of the Public Works Code does not cover the case. The ruling therein laid down is that if inferior quarters are provided for an officer, he shall pay rent according to the accommodation actually provided ; whereas in the case in point, a new scale is established, under which rent is paid according to rank, and not according to the accommodation provided in each case.

2. The difference between the two is clearly illustrated by the following :—

A Lieutenant is provided with Captain's quarters in the fort, because there are no Subaltern's quarters available. The quarters so provided him are equivalent to Lieutenant's quarters elsewhere (judging from the scale of rent laid down for Captain's quarters, viz., Rs. 30), so that he would really be occupying quarters suitable to his rank, and, under Code Rules, he should therefore pay the full rent prescribed for his rank, viz., Rs. 30. Under the scale ordered in the "Minutes of Government" and para. 2202 of Madras Army Regulations, the rent of his rank is Rs. 16, and since he was supplied with Captain's quarters, because Subaltern's were not available and not at his own request, he pays only Rs. 16.

Apart from this, there is another reason why the question requires consideration. The "Minutes" under reference date so far back as 1857, and it is probable that, in the interim, there have been considerable changes in the allotment and improvement of quarters, especially as, since that date, several large offices have been removed from the Fort, and more accommodation has therefore been made available for officers' quarters.

No. 692-D.

Referred to the Military Department for consideration, with remark that para. 2202 of the Madras Army Regulations and para. 1433 of the Public Works Code are not consistent in principle.

(By Order.)

(Signed) C. BOWEN, Major, R.E.,
Under Secretary to Government, P.W.D.

CHEPAUK,
8*th April* 1884.

To the Military Department.

No. 1826.

Referred for favor of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief's remarks, which, it is requested, may be transmitted through the Controller of Military Accounts.

(By Order.)

OOTACAMUND, 18*th April* 1884. (Signed) A. KENNEY-HERBERT, Lt.-Col., *Offg. Secretary to Government.*

To the Quarter Master General.

No. . *From Brigadier-General R. C. STEWART, Quarter Master General, to Lieutenant-Colonel A. KENNEY-HERBERT, Officiating Secretary to Government, Military Department; dated Ootacamund, 17th May* 1884, *No.* 135-*A.*

I am desired by the Commander-in-Chief to return the papers received with your, reference order, No. 1826, dated 18th April 1884, relative to the house-rent now paid by officers quartered in Fort St. George.

2. The reduction in the rent decided by Government in 1857 was originally made in consequence of the inferiority of the quarters; but though, since those days, the accommodation allowed to officers has perhaps been improved, the expense of living in the presidency town has certainly increased, and His Excellency sees no reason for supposing the position of a regimental officer, quartered in Fort St. George, who, it is to be remembered, draws no presidency house-rent, is any better than it was when the above decision was arrived at. Under the circumstances, therefore, I am to express His Excellency's strong opinion that no increase in the house-rent paid by officers quartered in Fort St. George should now be made, and he feels sure that Government will agree with him in this opinion.

No. . *With report from Controller of Military Accounts; 21st May* 1884, *B.*

No. . ORDER THEREON, 14th June 1884, No. 2812.

The Right Honorable the Governor in Council sees no reason to annul or modify the special concession of reduced rates of rent made in 1857 in favor of regimental officers occupying public quarters in the garrison of Fort St. George.

2. Those rates will accordingly continue to govern the Public Works Department in effecting recoveries.

(True Extract.)

A Kenney Herbert Lt.-Col.,
Offg. Secretary to Government.

To the Public Works Department. *under to 1/ copies* ✓
„ Quarter Master General.
„ Controller of Military Accounts.
„ Adjutant-General, for information.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

No: 635 Dd/31-3-84
" 692 Dd/8-4-84

No: 1615 Wd/27th June, 1884

B

Communicated
to the Supdg. Engr. V circle
& the Examiner P. W. Accts.

2. The necessary addition will be made to
Para 1433 of the P. W. Code

CJ.
14.6

21.6.4

V.
Wch 5125

Govt. of {1884} Madras.

MILITARY.

To

THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
&c., &c., &c.

10.S.C

(7) 6.S.C

Dated June,

Issued

Recd. 18/6/84 *Encl.*

G.O., June 1884, No. 2812.

B5

No: 1615 Wd/27th June 1884

JUNE.
Nos. - .

Quarters—Officers.

Fort St. George. — Continuance of the reduced rates of rent fixed in 1857 for regimental officers occupying public quarters in the garrison of —, directed.

2 copies sent to Govt only

W. 1/2/6

S.E. V circle ✓
Exar. P.W. Accts ✓
Exar P.W.

27/6/84

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