

N^o 112.

Fort St. George
13th April 1887.

From

The Assistant Engineer
Military Works.

To

The Superintending Engineer
5th Circle.

Sir

I have the honor to report
that in accordance with the
instructions in your Memo of 29th
of 2nd April 1887, I attended the
practice by the Royal Artillery
from the 9" M. L. R. Guns mount-
ed in the Napier, Light House
and Olive's Batteries on the 4th,
5th and 6th April 1887.

3 Rounds were fired from each gun
(except from N^o 2 Gun Napier's
Battery from which only 1 round
was fired on this occasion
2 of the allotted rounds having
been fired previously) with the
service charge at ranges vary-
ing from 1150 to 1900 yards.

With reference to General
Order N^o 101 dated 11th

December

December 1884.

1. The arrangement for the service of the ammunition, working of lifts were quite satisfactory, except

(a) owing to there being no loading stage (except for No. 2 Gun Light House Battery) there is much inconvenience and risk of accident to the men who place the charge in the box ^{here}. The loading stage attached to the platform of No. 2 Gun Light House Battery serves its purpose very well and is I think a much more convenient arrangement than the usual pattern of stage running on rails in the loading way.

way.

(b) To ram home the charge it is necessary for 2 men to get on the parapet where they are much exposed, nor is there any convenient way for them to get there; if it is necessary for them to go there, I think steps or a iron ladder should be fixed near the gun for them to mount the parapet. But I would suggest that if a moveable horizontal bar were fitted to uprights attached to the loading stage, over which would run hell ropes attached to the rammer stake (as over the bar in the port hole of a casemate Battery) the charge would be rammed home with the assistance of men hauling

hauling on the ropes, as
it is done in the case
of a gun in a casemate,
and it would not be
necessary to have men
on the parapet.

2. The only effect no-
ticeable from the blast
of the gun was that the
plaster on the top of the
parapet near the muzzle
of the gun was in every
case blown up after 3 rounds,
but the damage was of little
importance as the concrete
beneath the plaster was
uninjured. At No 2
Gun Napier Battery, Simi-
lar previous damage has
been repaired by bricks set
on end in asphalt, but
as only 1 round was fired
from

from this gun, the work
was subject to no ade-
-quate test.

3. No damage was done
to doors, glasses &c by con-
-cussion.

4. There are no speaking
tubes nor do they seem to be
required.

I have the honor to
| Sd W. D. Lindley Sept 19th
Assistant Engineer
Military Works.

No 348.

Forwarded to the Deputy
Assistant Quarter Master General
East Dist with recommend-
-ation

Recommendation that the
5 special loading stages
be provided and fitted
to the 5 guns still requiring
them similar to that al-
ready provided for No. 1

Gun Light House Battery -
also that all these loading
stages have a moveable
horizontal loading bar
attached to them - and
the rammers & sponges
be on ropes whereby the men
ramming home the powder
charge & projectile need
never go on to the parapet
& be much less exposed
than now in the load-
ing stage.

Encl.
1 Plan.
No. 1
P.W. 3087/87

Chapman }
21st April 1887 }
Sgt. W. H. Burton Lieut. R.C.
Superior & Engr. 5th Div.

OP

No. 344

To the Chief Engineer
P. W. Department.

Encl.
1 Plan.

2. A Plan of loading
stage as already fixed to
No. 1 Gun Light House Bat-
tery is attached: which
also shows the loading bar
as suggested by Captain
Lindley R.C.

Washington.

Shepauk
21st April
1887

Coll. R.C.
Superior & Engr.
5th Div.

Q. 6. 2126 W. 11-9. 83
" 1877 W. 14. 8. 83
Q. No 1545 W. 2-7. 83

B. No 1191 Wd/ 2nd May 1887

Ordered that a
copy of the foregoing
with the plan,
be furnished to
H. E. the Comdr. in-
-Chief, through the
Military Dept, in
continuation of Q. &
No. 1545 W. dated
2nd July 1885.

MEMO
25. 4. 87

File
27/4/87.

A copy has gone to the D.A.
Q. M. G. & will no doubt be
sent to H. E. but the Military
Dept. & also see the report
& H. E. the plan.

Military Dept
with plan
2/5/87

Q. 25. 4. 87. R. 29. 4. 87.
27/5/87

P.W.C. No 3087

No 344. (4)

From

The Superintendent
5th Circle

To

The Chief Engineer
R. H. Dept.

B. No. 1191 Wd/ 2nd May 1887

Dated 21st April
Recd. 23 April
1887

Encl. 2

(+ 1 plan)

9" M. L. R. Gun on
Waper, Light House
& Blives Batteries.

Forwards copies
of correspondence
relative to the prac-
-tice by Royal Art.
-illery from

SW