M.R.O. 1—39,000—16-10-29.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 469 Press ~~Mis.~~

Dated 27-7-~~10~~1858

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 19. From Captain E. T. FASKEN, for Lieutenant Colonel G. BALFOUR, Inspector General of Ordnance and Magazines; to the Secretary to Government, Military Department, Fort Saint George, dated 16th June 1858, No. 170.

SIR,

The existence of old and unserviceable Ordnance in the Forts of Satghur and generally about the Country has already been brought to the notice of Government in my letter, No. 416, dated 21st October 1857; I have now before me a report from the Officer Commanding Southern Division on a similar subject, furnishing a List of old Ordnance, Shot and Shell lying at some of the Out-posts and Stations in the Southern Division, a copy of which is herewith forwarded for the information of Government.

2. Unlike the character of the Pieces referred to in my former communication, some of those now discovered and others lying in the Fort of Sankerydroog and Ahtore in the Salem District, (not included in the List) might, it is surmised, be turned to account in case of a disturbance and thus be employed for mischievous purposes.

3. Most of the Guns enumerated in the list have been condemned as unserviceable, but this enquiry into their condition has been confined to places where there happen to be Corps and Detachments under a European Officer.

4. Major General Budd recommends however that measures should be adopted for ascertaining what Ordnance of the description in question may yet be discovered and that all such Guns should be destroyed or removed to places of security.

5. To save the trouble and expense attendant upon the removal of such Pieces of Ordnance, I beg to suggest that instructions be issued for the the Guns being destroyed in the localities where they may be found, the disposal of the Shot will however occasion difficulty.

List of old Ordnance, &c., at Stations and Out-posts in the Southern Division.

At what Stations.	No.	Description of Ordnance.	Condition.	Remarks.
Dindigul.....	4	18 Pounder Iron Gun.	Serviceable.	
	8	12 „ „ „	do.	
	2	24 „ „ „	Unserviceable.	
	3	18 „ „ „	do.	
	7	12 „ „ „	do.	
	6	9 „ „ „	do.	
	6	6 „ „ „	do.	
	3	3 „ „ „	do.	
	150	Shells 13 Inch.	Not known.	
	300	„ 8 „	do.	
	400	„ 5 „	do.	
	4,000	Shot 12 and 18 Pounder.	do.	
	5,500	Shells of sizes.	do.	
	80,0000	Shot of sizes.	do.	
Paulghaut.....	2	24 Pounder Iron Gun.	About half appear to be capable of being made serviceable.	
	9	18 „ „ „		
	12	12 „ „ „		
	22	9 „ „ „		
	3	3 „ „ „		
	126	Shells.....	Unserviceable.	
	4,267	Shot.....	do.	
	4,443	„	do.	
	469	„	do.	

List of Ordnance, (Continued.)

At what Stations.	No.	Description of Ordnance.	Condition.	Remarks.
Ramnad.....	3,300	Shot of 12 Pounder.	Unserviceable.	
	980	" 6 "	do.	
	958	" 3 "	do.	
Palamcottah.....	11	Iron Guns..... And a large number shot, various dimensions.....	Unserviceable. do.	
Trichinopoly.....	2	18 Pounder Iron Gun.	Unserviceable.	
	3	9 " "	do.	
	1	6 " "	do.	
	1	12 " "	do.	
	9	of sorts "	do.	
Tranquebar.....		4 Mortars.....	Not known.....	
		9 Iron Guns.....	do.	
	14	" "	Set up as Posts ..	

TRICHINOPOLY, *9th July* 1858.

(Signed) R. BUDD, Major General.
Commanding Southern Division.

No. 20.

ORDER THEREON, No. 469; dated 27th July 1858.

1. The letter of the 21st October last, adverted to in the foregoing communication, had reference to certain Ordnance in the Fort of Satghar, the existence of which was brought to notice by the Government Agent at Chepauk; but as the Ordnance was said "to have been rendered unfit for any Service," it was not thought necessary to issue any orders on the subject.

2. In his present letter the Inspector General represents that it seems from the report of the Officer Commanding the Southern Division that in some of the Out-posts and Stations there are Pieces of Ordnance which are not wholly unserviceable, but might, it is surmised, be turned to account in case of a disturbance and be employed for mischievous purposes.

3. To save the trouble and expense attendant on the removal of such Pieces, Colonel Balfour suggests that instructions be issued for the Guns being destroyed in the localities where they may be found.

4. The Governor in Council sees no objection to this being done, not only in the Southern Division, but in all the Districts of the Madras Presidency, and the Inspector General will be instructed, through the Military Department, to take measures accordingly.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

Exd. J. A. Wilson.

Political Department

No 469

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation

Under date 27th July 1858

Read the following

Letter from the Inspector

General of Ordnance and

Magazines-

(Dated 16th July 1858 No 170)

The letter of the 21st

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been rendered unfit for any

service, it was not thought

necessary to issue any orders

on the subject-

In

2. In his present letter the Inspector General represents that it seems from the report of the Officer Commanding the Southern Division - that in some of the outports and stations there are pieces of ordnance which are not wholly unserviceable, but might, it is surmised, be turned to account in case of a disturbance and be employed for mischievous purposes.

3. To save the trouble and expense attendant on the removal of such pieces, Colo. Balfour suggests that instructions be issued for the guns being destroyed in the localities where they may be found.

4 The Governor in Council sees no objection to this being done, not only in the Southern Division

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Division but in all the Districts of the Madras Presidency, and the Inspector General will be instructed through the Military Department to take measures accordingly.

To the Military Department
Inspector General
of Ordnance and Magazines
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No. 169

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