

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	1089	Press ~~Mis.~~
Dated	4-9	1867

Not to be folded or roughly handled

SA
28/10/36

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,
4th September 1867.*

Read the following papers :—

No. 39. From Colonel C. A. DENISON, President of the Municipal Commission-Madras, to the Acting Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Madras, 1st August 1867.

In the Proceedings of Government, Public Department, of the 23rd ultimo, and Order thereon, No. 894, there appears a letter from Colonel W. Freese, Commanding 3rd Regiment Light Infantry, to address of the Quarter Master General of the Army.

2. In this letter, Colonel Freese has thought fit to impute motives to the Municipal Commissioners in addressing Government, as they did, on the site for the new Lines at Royapooram, which are entirely opposed to fact, and are, moreover, of so objectionable a nature, that I have considered it not only as due to myself, but also to the Municipal Commissioners, to address him on the subject, and to deny most emphatically the motives he has sought to fix upon us for so acting.

3. I forward copy of my letter to Colonel Freese, and have also addressed the Quarter Master General of the Army on the subject.

From Colonel C. A. DENISON, President of the Municipal Commission, Madras, to Colonel FREESE, Commanding 3rd Regiment Light Infantry, Royapooram; dated Madras, 31st July 1867.

In your letter to the Quarter Master General, dated Royapooram, 5th of July 1867, and which appears in the Proceedings of Government, Public Department, 23rd of July 1867, there are cer-

tain statements (marginally noted), which, as they would tend not only to mislead His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, but Government as well, and, moreover, impute motives to the Municipal Commissioners which have no foundation whatever, it is necessary they should receive a most unqualified contradiction at my hands.

2. I deny most emphatically that the Municipal Commissioners have been urged to this course by petitions from certain Natives as stated by you.

3. Our attention was first called to the matter by a Memorandum from our Civil Engineer, and it was in consequence of this that I inspected twice the site for the new Lines, and wrote my Minute of the 4th of July. I am not aware of a single petition having been received by the Commissioners on the subject—certainly not since I have been President—and, therefore, the sentence “and that these grounds are made the cloak of objections to the erection of these Lines for other and personal reasons” is as incorrect as it is objectionable, and I must request your withdrawal of it.

4. It would have been as well if, before committing yourself to a statement so entirely erroneous as this, you had endeavoured to make yourself acquainted with the true nature of the Municipal Commissioners' motives in addressing Government on this subject.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,
4th September 1867.*

5. I may, however, content myself with repeating my denial as to the Municipal Commissioners having been in the slightest degree swayed by any such reasons as stated by you; but, as Head of that Body, I cannot permit such incorrect assertions, and such offensive imputations as to the correct motive of our proceedings, to go before His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief and Government, without a most emphatic and indignant denial, and I purpose, therefore, addressing the Quarter Master General of the Army and the Acting Chief Secretary to Government on the subject, and shall forward them copies of this letter.

No. 40. From Colonel C. A. DENISON, President of the Municipal Commission, Madras, to the Acting Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Madras, 24th August 1867.

I have the honor to forward, for the consideration and orders of the Right Honorable the Governor in Council, correspondence (as per margin) between Colonel Freese, Commanding 3rd Regiment Native Infantry, the Quarter Master General of the Army, and myself, on the subject of a letter addressed to that Officer by Colonel Freese, in which he imputes motives to the Municipal Commissioners in addressing Government as they did, with reference to the site for the Royapooram Lines, and which are directly opposed to fact. As will be seen by the Quarter Master General's letter of the 7th instant, His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief declines to interfere, as "he considers Colonel Freese will, no doubt, be prepared to afford the Commissioners any explanation that may be necessary."

2. Colonel Freese states "he is precluded replying, pending instructions from superior authority."

3. As, therefore, it appears the Municipal Commissioners are not likely to get any redress at the hands of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, nor from Colonel Freese, I am compelled to bring the matter, in this shape, before His Lordship in Council.

From Colonel C. A. DENISON, President of the Municipal Commission, Madras, to Colonel W. FREESE, Commanding 3rd Regiment, L. I., Royapooram; dated Madras, 31st July 1867.

In your letter to the Quarter Master General, dated Royapooram 5th of July 1867, and which appears in the Proceedings of Government, Public Department, 23rd July 1867, there are

Paragraph 1. "I have the honor to request you will lay before His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief the following report, with a view that (should he consider it necessary) Government may be put in possession of facts which would go far to prove that the Municipal Commissioners, urged to this act by petitions from certain Natives, residents of Royapooram and Black Town, are proceeding on grounds not one of which has any foundation, and that these grounds are made the cloak of objections to the erection of these Lines for other and personal reasons, which I shall have the honor of stating in this report."

2. I deny most emphatically that the Mu-

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Paragraph 5. "The ostensible reason given by the Municipal Body for their objections to this spot being built upon, will be given in their memorial. The real reasons I believe to be as follows, viz:—

The petitions of a large body of the Native community who are induced to this Act, firstly, by the influence possessed over them by the Brahmins resident about this spot, and who, for bathing purposes, have been accustomed at all hours of the day to make use of certain wells now about to be annexed to the Lines; secondly, by the power possessed over the minds of these people by certain Sun-niassies (pseudo holy men) resident in a "mundla" abutting on the new Lines—men whose days are spent in begging and nights in debauchery, and in whose favor, some short time ago, a petition, complaining of the presence of the 3rd Regiment, was sent into Government; thirdly, being urged to this course of proceeding by the dobbies, who, doubtless, will be inconvenienced."

Paragraph 6. "The above, I believe to be the real and only grievances which the Memorial of the Municipal Body gives under another coloring."

nicipal Commissioners have been urged to this course by petitions from certain Natives, as stated by you.

3. Our attention was first called to the matter by a Memorandum from our Civil Engineer, and it was in consequence of this that I inspected twice the site for the new Lines, and wrote my Minute of the 4th of July. I am not aware of a single petition having been received by the Commissioners on the subject—certainly not since I have been President—and, therefore, the sentence "and that these grounds are made the cloak of objections to the erection of these Lines for other and personal reasons" is as

incorrect as it is objectionable, and I must request your withdrawal of it.

4. It would have been as well if, before committing yourself to a statement so entirely erroneous as this, you had endeavoured to make yourself acquainted with the true nature of the Municipal Commissioners' motives in addressing Government on this subject.

5. I may, however, content myself with repeating my denial as to the Municipal Commissioners having been in the slightest degree swayed by any such reasons as stated by you; but, as Head of that Body, I cannot permit such incorrect assertions, and such offensive imputations as to the correct motive of our proceedings, to go before His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief and Government, without a most emphatic and indignant denial, and I purpose, therefore, addressing the Quarter Master General of the Army, and the Acting Chief Secretary to Government on the subject, and shall forward them copies of this letter.

From Colonel C. A. DENISON, President of the Municipal Commission, Madras, to the Quarter Master General, Head Quarters, Ootacamund; dated Madras, 1st August 1867.

I have the honor to forward, for submission to His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, copy of a letter addressed to Colonel W. Freese, Commanding 3rd Regiment Native Infantry, Royapooram.

2. This Officer has thought fit, in his letter to your address, dated the 5th ultimo, to set forth what he considers are the real motives for the action taken by the Municipal Commissioners in addressing Government on the subject of the site for the new Lines at Royapooram, and has imputed to us motives of so offensive and objectionable a nature, presuming to insinuate that the Municipal Commissioners were swayed by "other and personal reasons" in addressing Government as they did, that I am at a loss to understand how an Officer of his position and standing in the Service could have so far forgotten himself as to write in such terms of a body of gentlemen, and how, without making due inquiry, he could have committed himself to such statements, which he might feel very sure would not be allowed to remain unchallenged, and denied in the most emphatic terms.

3. I trust, therefore, His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief will take such notice of this as he may deem expedient. I may add that I have likewise addressed the Acting Chief Secretary to Government on the subject.

From the Quarter Master General, to Colonel C. A. DENISON, President of the Municipal Commission, Madras; dated Ootacamund, 7th August 1867, No. 851.

I have had the honor to submit to the Commander-in-Chief your letter of the 1st instant, with annexure, of the 31st ultimo, to Colonel Freese's address.

2. His Excellency observes that, as you have addressed Colonel Freese with reference to his letter of the 5th July, that Officer will, no doubt, be prepared to afford your Board any explanation that may be necessary.

3. His Excellency does not consider that your communication under reply calls for any further notice at his hands.

From Colonel C. A. DENISON, President of the Municipal Commission, Madras, to the Quarter Master General, Ootacamund; dated Madras, 12th August 1867.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 851, of the 7th instant, in which you state that His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief observes that, as I have addressed Colonel Freese, with reference to his letter of the 5th of July, "that Officer, no doubt, will be prepared to afford the Municipal Board any explanation that may be necessary", and, further, that "His Excellency does not consider that my communication calls for any further notice at his hands." I regret His Excellency so considers the matter. I had hoped that, by placing before His Excellency, through his Quarter Master General, what I could not but consider as a most offensive imputation made by an Officer under his command against the Municipal Commissioners in a body, we should have received some redress, or that Colonel Freese would have been called on for some explanation of his letter.

2. That Officer, by his letter, to my address, of the 10th instant, copy herewith forwarded, it appears, feels himself precluded from replying to my letter of the 31st ultimo, pending instructions from superior authority. Under these circumstances, I am induced, therefore, to hope His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief may see fit to reconsider his decision.

From Colonel W. FREESE, Commandant, 3rd Light Infantry, to Colonel C. A. DENISON, President of the Municipal Commission, Madras; dated Royapoorum, 10th August 1867.

In reply to your letter of the 9th August, I have the honor to inform you that, you having (as per your letter of the 31st July) put yourself in communication with Government and His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief on the subject in dispute, I am precluded replying, pending instructions from superior authority as to whether I am to address you direct concerning a report presented to Government through His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, or to explain to Government, for your information, my reasons for the course I have taken.

From the Quarter Master General, to Colonel C. A. DENISON, President of the Municipal Commission, Madras; dated Ootacamund, 15th August 1867, No 889.

I have the honor, by order, to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 12th instant, with enclosure, which have been duly submitted to the Commander-in-Chief.

No. 41. ORDER THEREON, 4th September 1867, No 1089.

From the correspondence above recorded, it is observed that the President of the Municipal Commission has thought it necessary to address the Military Authorities on the subject of the communication forwarded by Colonel Freese, Commanding 3rd Regiment Native Infantry, to the Quarter Master General of the Army, on the 5th of July 1867, regarding the Lines under construction at Royapooram.

2. The Governor in Council observes that Colonel Freese acted with great propriety in reporting to the Quarter Master General of the Army the insufficiency of the grounds on which exception had been taken by the Municipal Commissioners to the construction of the new Lines on a site carefully and deliberately selected by competent Officers and approved by Government. It may be regretted that Colonel Freese, not satisfied with successfully contending against the arguments advanced by the Municipal Commissioners, considered it necessary to impute to that Body motives of a different and less honorable character, which had not been avowed in their communication to Government. Such a course could scarcely fail to produce irritation and controversy.

3. Colonel Denison was not warranted, on the other hand, in addressing the Quarter Master General and Colonel Freese simultaneously in such vehement and peremptory terms, nor was such the most judicious course for obtaining redress on the part of the Military Authorities, or satisfaction from the Commanding Officer.

4. The Government are convinced that the Municipal Commissioners, in addressing Government on the subject of the new Regimental Lines, were swayed by the motives stated in their communication, and by a sense of public duty, though, in the opinion of Government, the apprehensions of the Municipal Body were altogether groundless, and were adopted without sufficient reflection.

(True Extract.)

Acting Chief Secretary.

To the Municipal Commissioners, Madras.
„ Military Department.

Exd. J. H. Burns.

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following letter
from the President of the
Municipal Commission-
Madras.

(Here entered 1st and 24th Aug. 1867)

Order thereon 14th September 1867 N^o 1084.

From the correspondence
above recorded it is observed
that the President of the
Municipal Commission
has thought it necessary
to address the Military
Authorities on the subject
of the communication for-
warded by Colonel Fraser
Commanding 3rd Regiment
N. I. to the Quarter
Master General of the
Army on the 5th of July
1867 regarding the lines

N.
JP

WOU

under construction at Poya-
poorani.

2 The Governor in
Council observed that
Colonel Freese acted
with great propriety in
reporting to the Quarter-
Master-General of the
Army the insufficiency
of the grounds on which
exception had been taken
by the Municipal Com-
missioners to the con-
struction of the new lines
on a site carefully and
deliberately selected by
competent officers and ap-
proved by Government.

It may be regretted
that Colonel Freese, not
satisfied with successfully
contending against the
arguments advanced by
the Municipal Com-
missioners considered

it necessary to impute to
that body motives of a
different and less honorable
character which had not
been avowed in their com-
munication to Government.
Such a course could
scarcely fail to produce
irritation and controversy.

3 Colonel Denison
was not warranted on
the other hand in ad-
dressing the Quarter-
Master-General and
Colonel Freese simul-
taneously in such vehement
and peremptory terms
nor was such the most
prudent course for obtain-
ing redress on the part
of the Military Authorities
or satisfaction from the
Commanding Officers.

4. The Government are convinced that the Municipal Commissioners in addressing Government on the subject of the new Regimental lines were swayed by the motives stated in their communication and by a sense of public duty though in the opinion of Government the apprehensions of the Municipal body were altogether groundless and were adopted without sufficient reflection.

W

To the Municipal Commissioners
Madras
Military Department

In the name of
peace & silence
I beg to suggest
that the lines
of the Regiment
be prepared
by Mr. M.

N.

forward

Would add the
alterations & omit
the last para of the
with Draft W.D.

From the circumstances above recorded it is observed that the President of the Municipal Council has thought it necessary to address the Military authorities on the subject of the communication addressed by Colonel Bruce commanding the Regt. R. I. to the Quarter Master General of the army on the 5th of July 1867 regarding the lines under construction at Royapuram.

The Government Council observe that Colonel Bruce acted with great propriety in reporting to the Quarter Master General of the army the insufficiency of the ground on which

on which exceptions had
been taken ~~in the~~
~~construction~~ by the
Municipal Commissioners
to the construction of the
new lines on a site
carefully and deliberately
selected by competent
officers and approved
by Government. It may be
regretted that Colonel
Deere was not satisfied
with successfully
contending against the
arguments advanced
by the Municipal Commissioners
considered it necessary
to impute to that body
motives of a different
and less honorable
character which he
has avowed in their
communication to Government.
Such a course could
scarcely fail to produce

Col. Truesdell

irritation and controversy
 and may have betrayed
~~Let these~~ into aspects
 which it would be difficult
 to substantiate and which
 apparently are not
 directly consistent
 with fact.

with fact.
The course taken by
Colonel Denison on the
other hand in address-
ing the Quarter Master
general and Colonel
Greene simultaneously
in terms such as
ad heremptory terms
does not appear to be
taken the most
judicious ~~author~~ ^{corresponding} for
obtaining redress on the
part of the Military
authorities or satisfaction
from the ~~Grand~~ ^{Grand} office.
for ~~Colonel Denison~~

The gov^t are concerned
~~later~~ that the
 Municipal Commission
 is addressing Gov^t
 on the subject of the

new Departmental laws
were suggested by the
motives stated in their
communication and by
a sense of public duty
though in the opinion of
Gov. the appointments
of the Municipal body were
altogether grounds.
and were adopted with
sufficient respect.

The Government Council
see in what has passed
a new character of the
integrity of showing a decided
moderation and containing
content in the conduct
of official correspondence
between different departments, no doubt
which has been equally
concerned for the public
good, and he trusts that
the subject will now
be allowed to drop.

I would like to see
the Council

Memo for orders

The Commander in chief
will not have any thing
to say to Lt. Denison
in his complaint against
Lt. Price for having
stated that the Municipal
Council were misled by
interested persons.

Lt. Price was only
actuated by a desire
to save his men's labor
in building their huts,
having families.

be despatched.

I suppose some answer

must be made to the

President of the Union:

[and] The original

draft order sent up

with this Memo

was ordered to be detained

until the action of

the Military authorities

was known.

I submit it may now

On the

Read letter from the Municipal
Commⁿ Madrid - 1st Aug 1867.

From the correspondence
above recorded it is
assumed that the President
of the Municipal Commission
has thought it necessary
to address the military
authorities on the subject
of the communication ad-
dressed by Lt. Ince
Com^d & Regt N. D. to the
Quar^{ter} Master General
of the army, on the 4th
July 67. regarding the
lines under construction
at Puzosporam.
The Governor in Council
observes that although
Lt Ince may have

that we will better
wait till we hear what the Gov^t decides
in view of the many ways in
which the Gov^t is acting. I think
Col. Ince should ultimately
be told that he is not to go on
at any body in the way of
showing Gov^t may have been
addressed directly & indirectly
the system should be checked
at once - W. H.

been misinformed regarding
the petitions, ^{said to have been} addressed to the Municipality
by portions of the Station
Community who are op-

-posed to the Regimental
lines being located at

Pogapora, that officer
was performing an undoubted
duty in reporting to the Lt
Major General of the Army,
the insufficiency of the grounds

opposed to the Municipality
objected to the site of the

-apora lines, after that site
had been carefully examined
and selected by competent officers
and after a considerable

portion of the fort had been
built by the Sappers of the
Regiment under Lt. Jones's
command

The President of the Municipal
Commission would seem to have
totally misunderstood the object
of Lt. Jones's letter to the Lt. Major General
and in commenting thereon Col
Anderson has made use of expressions
which are entirely unwarranted

are unwarranted in official
correspondence.

to the Municipal Commission
and to the Army.

Article 1864 Department.

No. 1789.

PROCEEDINGS OF GOVERNMENT.

Count

Dated 24 September 1871

~~742/1871~~