

- (1) பக்கங்களின் எண்ணிக்கை 18-3
(2) புதுக்கித் திருப்பிய நாள்
(3) ஆதாரக் குறிப்பவர் சுருக்கொப்பம்

தமிழ்நாடு ஆவணக் காப்பகம்.

தமிழ்நாடு அரசு

பெருது தலை

அரசாணை எண். 129 மு. நேய்புத் தாள் எண்.	அச்சகம் பலவகை
நாள் : 19. 2 - 1890.	1890.

மடிக்கவோ துண்டிப்படி கையாளவோ கூடாது.

ஆவண. கர. 1-18,006-6-9-90.

ORDINARY, MS.

Public DEPARTMENT.
G.O., DATED 19 Feb '90
No. 129.

When given for copying

[Despatch Abstract.]

According to papers relating
to the provision of accommodation
for British Infantry in the
Banqueting Hall at Fort
Saint George.

$\frac{1}{20/2}$

$\frac{221}{29-2-88}$

454

$\frac{454}{80-4-88}$

BACK PAPER, No.

OF 188

GP. 13-2. 90: 111 min.

FURTHER PAPER, No.

3499

OF 188

READ AGAIN ORDER OF GOVERNMENT, DATED
188, No. , MISCELLANEOUS.

ENCLOSURES.

CURRENT No.

1569

2455

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

PAPERS NOT FILED UP, BRING HEREIN FOR DISPATCH
IN ORIGINAL (not pagged).

with info from
this note

N.B.—

A = Copy in full.
B = Not to be copied.
P = Copy abstract only.
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1. July 1968 - N 3235 - by 18 days
2. July 1968 - W - 23 July

make copy
copy 97/2

Public

C. No. 1569/89.
2455

Order: - 2/19/2/10, No. 129

Note.

Instructions have been given to the P. W. Dept. to make a decision about the roof in order. The records will be moved back as much as possible as is feasible & the Ag. C. has and the suggestion made by the Hon. Mr. Storer to use the hall for Court transcripts is understood to have been abandoned.

The suggestion was only made as an alternative in the hypothesis that the military were to be let in at a

W1

Was Recorded with reference to the decision to replace records in the Banqueting hall.

JG 10/2

The Hall should be refilled with records and as much space as possible cleared in the Govt. Offices building proper.

Was 12/20

W1 7/2

Mily. dept. (with copy of ~~the~~ note recorded by Lt. the in C. & Hall's)

RECORDED

19 FEB 90

IN M.B.

Copy 19/2

with Public f.O.

The best way of using the Hall is to
move back a portion of the records. x x x

(Sd) H. E. S.

20 Dec

If the Commander-in-Chief does not want
the place for a military recreation room some records
had better be moved back there.

(Sd) J. H. E.
agree

Not wanted for a recreation room. It will
be best to move back portion of records.

(Sd) C. G. A.

8. 1. 90.

22ND JULY 1889, No. 1968 W., PUBLIC WORKS.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Buildings and Roads.
Military Works.

EAD—the following papers :—

From Colonel E. COLLEN, Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department, to the Secretary to the Government of Madras, Public Works Department, dated Fort William, 20th February 1889, No. 319 M.W.

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 2613 W., dated 24th August 1888, forwarding certain Proceedings of the Government of Madras relating to the improvement of the accommodation of the British Infantry at Fort St. George, and requesting the allotment of the sum of Rs. 13,925 for providing additional accommodation for 113 men.

2. The Government of India have not been able, with the information before them, to fully understand the proposals of the Military authorities of the Madras residency in this case.

3. A letter of the Quartermaster-General, Madras Army, No. 345 A, dated 28th January 1886 (para. 4) states that the existing barracks in Fort St. George affords accommodation for 577 men; of this number there is room for 342 men in the upper storey of the King's barrack, and consequently it would appear that the lower storey is hitherto been reckoned as affording space for $(577 - 342 =) 235$ men. But the committee recently assembled recommend that only 24 men should be accommodated in the lower storey. With regard to this point, I am to say that the Government of India could not acquiesce in such a reduction of the number of men to be accommodated in the barrack, with the corresponding responsibility for providing additional barracks for the men displaced without conclusive medical evidence of the necessity thereof.

4. In 1886-87 an estimate was sanctioned for providing accommodation for 60 additional men in Fort St. George as follows :—

	RS.
Conversion of "A" block into single men's barracks	13,400
Repairs to "A" block	2,477
Conversion of Royal Artillery Sergeants' mess and adjacent godowns into latrine and lavatory	3,820
Conversion of the old Adjutant-General's office into barracks	5,400
Total	25,097

This work has been partly carried out and the following sums have been allotted to the work :—

	RS.
In 1886-87	5,955
In 1887-88	{ 7,445 } 13,462
	{ 6,017 }
Total	19,417

The balance of the estimate, Rs. 5,680, was applied for as a special grant in Madras O., dated 6th January 1888, No. 31 W., Public Works (submitting the preliminary military works budget estimate for 1888-89). But the sum was too small to be

dealt with specially and no extra grant was made, and the completion of the work has remained in abeyance.

5. From the correspondence noted in the margin, it is inferred that the works detailed in the preceding paragraph provided additional accommodation for the Garrison Battery as well as for 60 men of British Infantry, and that the works for the Artillery only have been completed.

Madras Government No. 614 W., dated 21st February 1888, and enclosures.
Madras Government No. 2613 W., dated 24th August 1888, and enclosures.

6. The old Adjutant-General's office has been occupied of late by the following officers:—

Surgeon-General with the Government of Madras.
Surgeon-General, Her Majesty's Forces.
Deputy Surgeon-General, Eastern District.
Executive Commissariat officer.
Transport officer.

It is proposed to remove these. The first three are to be accommodated in Nos. 4 and 5, Field officers' quarters, and No. 3, Captains' quarters, which it is assumed are not required now for officers, and have been already appropriated as proposed. It is not stated where the offices of the Executive Commissariat officer and Transport officer are to be accommodated. But the Government of India consider it important that they should be within the Fort; and their removal from the old Adjutant-General's quarters should be contingent on this being practicable. With this condition the conversion of the old Adjutant-General's office into barracks for single men is approved.

7. With regard to the proposal to convert the block containing the main guard with the adjoining Captains' and Ordnance officers' quarters into single men's quarters, I am to offer the following remarks.

It is not clear whether the suitability of the building for the accommodation of single men is dependent on the adjacent officers' quarters being given up, nor whether the two officers' quarters could be still used as such if the main guard is converted into a barrack; nor is it stated what number of men the main guard building will hold.

The provision of quarters for the Captain and Ordnance officer displaced from the quarters near the main guard appears dependent on the reduction of the British Infantry garrison of Fort St. George to a wing by the construction of barracks at St. Thomas' Mount for the other wing of the battalion stationed at the Presidency.

8. With regard to this last point, I am to state that without very clear proof that the measure is absolutely necessary, the Government of India cannot entertain the project for erecting new barracks at St. Thomas' Mount; and it is improbable in any case that funds could be made available at an early date. No work should therefore be undertaken which would directly or indirectly tend to commit the Government of India to the construction of new barracks for any part of the present garrison of Fort St. George. If the conversion of the block containing the main guard with the two adjoining officers' quarters into single men's barracks will not tend to commit the Government to further building, the work may be carried out, funds being provided in 1889-90.

9. The Government of India are aware that the troops in Fort St. George are very crowded; but it is believed that the Fort is not unhealthy. But the plan of removing the Accounts offices from the Fort into the old High Court buildings as soon as the new courts are finished has been suggested—*vide* telegram from Secretary to Government of Madras in the Military Department, No. 18, dated 5th January 1885. The Government of India venture to hope that this means of relieving the pressure for proper accommodation for troops in the Fort may be carried out in consideration of the permission granted to erect the new High Court buildings on the Fort Esplanade. I am to inquire if there is any prospect of this.

10. I am to express the regret of the Government of India at the delay which has occurred in dealing with this case.

From Brigadier-General M. PROTHEROE, C.B., C.S.I., Quartermaster-General, to the Secretary to Government, Military Department, dated Ootacamund, 4th May 1889, No. 1579 A.

With reference to Military Department No. 1864 of 16th March 1889, and in continuation of this office letter No. 1186 A of the 19th idem, I am desired to offer the following remarks on the subject of providing additional accommodation in Fort St. George for British troops.

2. The requirements of the Garrison Battery in Fort St. George in the matter of accommodation having been fully met by the conversion * of A block family quarters into barracks for single men, and of the Royal Artillery Sergeants' † mess and adjacent godowns into latrine and lavatory, it only remains to consider the requirements of the British Infantry in the Fort.

* G.O., No. 427 W., dated 10th February 1887 (M.D. No. 1054, dated 22nd idem).

† G.O., No. 2685 W., dated 12th October 1887 (M.D. No. 6520, dated 24th idem).

3. The proposal at present before Government is to provide accommodation in the Fort for a wing of British Infantry, the other wing of the battalion being stationed at St. Thomas' Mount, where it has been suggested that barracks should be constructed for its accommodation. Under this proposal therefore accommodation has to be found in Fort St. George for 479 single men. The ground floor and the upper storey of the King's barracks will provide accommodation for 342 men, so that to provide for a wing of British Infantry, accommodation will have to be found for 479 — 342 = 137 single men. In the previous proposals submitted by this office to Government,

it was assumed that the King's barracks would accommodate 577 ‡ men, but as pointed out in this office letter No. 2374 A of 29th June 1888, a committee which, under the Commander-in-Chief's orders, assembled to consider how many men ought permanently to be located on the ground floor of the barracks, decided that not more than 24 men should be thus accommodated, and in this view His Excellency entirely concurs. The upper storey of the King's barracks provides accommodation for 318 and not for 342 men as erroneously stated in para. 5 of this office letter above quoted, and therefore, under the arrangements contemplated, these barracks will contain in all 342 and not 366 men as previously stated.

4. In regard to the concluding part of para. 3 of the Government of India letter No. 319 M.W., dated 20th February 1889, I am desired to submit the accompanying communication § (in original) from the Surgeon-General, Her Majesty's Forces, from which it will be seen that that officer

agrees with the committee in their opinion that not more than 24 men should be permanently accommodated in the lower storey of the barracks. In the face of decided medical opinion therefore, and after a personal inspection of the barracks, His Excellency finds himself unable to recommend that a larger number of men than that proposed by the committee should be accommodated on the ground floor.

5. As pointed out above, to provide for the requirements of a wing of British Infantry in the Fort, accommodation will be required for 137 additional men. The extra accommodation required, the Commander-in-Chief proposed to find by utilizing the old Adjutant-General's office block and by converting the block containing the main guard, No. 6, Captains' quarters, and Ordnance officers' quarters into barracks for single men. By carrying out the proposed alterations to these buildings, accommodation would be found for —

	Men.
Adjutant-General's block	60
Main guard, &c.	70
Total ...	130

leaving 7 more men to be provided for; but this small number His Excellency would propose not to take into consideration in the present calculations, as it is expected that a few men will invariably be absent at Wellington or elsewhere, and will therefore not require accommodation in Fort St. George.

6. With reference to para. 6 of the Government of India letter under reply, I am desired to invite attention to para. 6 of this office letter No. 2374 A of 29th June 1888, where it was stated that the offices displaced by the above arrangements would be provided for as suggested in this office letter No. 2807 A of 10th August 1887. The suggestions made in the latter were as follows:—

- (a) The offices of the Executive Commissariat and Transport officers to be accommodated in a portion of the old Quartermaster-General's office block, with the District Staff officer, Barrackmaster and Superintendent, Family Payments and Pensions.
- (b) The offices of the Surgeon-General, Her Majesty's Forces, and Deputy Surgeon-General, Madras District, in the block containing Nos. 4 and 5, Field officers' quarters, and No. 3, Captains' quarters.
- (c) Surgeon-General with the Government of Madras to be provided with office accommodation outside the Fort, not within the Fort as is apparently the impression of the Government of India.

7. As, however, under the present system of combined District Staff offices it will be necessary to place the office establishments of both the District Staff offices in one building, it will not be possible to locate the District Commissariat offices in the building above proposed; but I am to mention that arrangements are now in progress for providing accommodation for the latter offices in a building in the Fort which can be made available and which His Excellency trusts will be found suitable for the purpose.

8. With reference to para. 7 of the Government of India letter under notice, I am to invite attention to paras. 8 and 9 of this office letter No. 2807 A of 10th August 1887, which give information on the points referred to, and in this connection I am to mention that the abolition of the Presidency Pay office will leave clear that building for the use of the Ordnance officer, who will be displaced from his present quarters on their being converted, with the adjoining Captains' quarters and main guard block, into barracks for single men—*vide* also this office letter No. 1517 A of 26th April 1889.

9. It will thus be noted that by the above proposals being carried out, accommodation can be found in Fort St. George for a wing only of British Infantry, so that when a full regiment is again located at Madras, it will either be necessary to provide accommodation at St. Thomas' Mount for the other wing, or else to accommodate a portion of them in the buildings now in occupation by the Accounts Department, which however will only accommodate 210 men, so that additional accommodation will necessarily have to be provided outside the Fort for either a wing of British Infantry or a portion thereof.

10. In para. 9 of their letter, the Government of India allude to the possibility of the Accounts offices in the Fort being moved into the present High Court buildings as soon as the new courts are finished, but from a recent reference to this office from Government in the Marine Department, in connection with accommodation within harbour limits for the Military departments, these buildings have apparently been offered for sale, and so it is presumed they will not be available for the Accounts Department.

11. In conclusion, Sir Charles Arbuthnot desires me to express the hope that it may be found practicable to provide the additional accommodation now required in Fort St. George as early as possible.

ENCLOSURE.

From Sir J. A. HANBURY, M.B., K.C.B., Surgeon-General, Her Majesty's Forces, to the Quartermaster-General, dated Ootacamund, 17th April 1889, No. 1114.

In reply to your letter No. 1232 A (Accommodation for Troops—European), dated 23rd ultimo, I have the honor to state that, after consulting the Deputy Surgeon-General, Madras

District, I am of opinion that it is not desirable to locate permanently any men in the lower storey or ground floor of the King's barracks in Fort St. George, or, if any are permanently located, that the number should not exceed 24 as recommended by the committee. I would suggest, what appears to be the most suitable arrangement, that the lower storey be allotted for the use of men passing through, or temporarily detained in Madras, for whom suitable accommodation has long been urgently required.

2. The enclosures of your letter under reply are herewith returned.

From Brigadier-General M. PROTHEROE, C.B., C.S.I., Quartermaster-General, to the Secretary to Government, Military Department, dated Ootacamund, 9th May 1889, No. 1617 A.

In continuation of my letter No. 1579 A of the 4th instant, I am desired to report, for the information of Government, that as by the conversion of the main guard block into quarters for single men other accommodation will have to be found in Fort St. George for a court-martial room and for a room for His Excellency the Governor's Band to practice in, the upper storey of the building being at present utilized for the above purposes, His Excellency proposes to provide this accommodation in the following manner:—

- (a) Court-martial room.—In a portion of the premises which will shortly be vacated by the clerks of the office of the District Staff officer, 2nd class—*vide* para. 7 of this office letter above quoted.
- (b) Practising room for His Excellency the Governor's Band.—It has been suggested by the General Officer Commanding Madras District that the building in the Fort known as the "old Banqueting Hall" may be used for this purpose. This building is not a military one, but as there is no other available for the purpose, and as it is understood that it is not now in use, His Excellency trusts that the band may be permitted to hold their practices in it.

No. 3893, Military.

The foregoing letters from the Quartermaster-General transferred to the Public Works Department with reference to its endorsement No. 1031 C, dated 1st March 1889.

(By order.)

OOTACAMUND,
14th June 1889.

(Signed) A. KENNEY-HERBERT, Brigdr.-Genl.,
Secretary to Government.

ORDER—dated 22nd July 1889, No. 1968 W., Public Works.

In the first of his letters above recorded, the Quartermaster-General discusses the various questions raised by the Government of India in its letter No. 319 M.W., dated 20th February 1889, regarding the provision of additional accommodation for British Infantry at Fort St. George.

2. The following estimates for affording additional accommodation for British troops in Fort St. George have been sanctioned, of which the first three provide the requirements of the Garrison Battery and the last two those of the British Infantry:—

- | | |
|---|--------|
| (1) Converting A block family quarters, Fort St. George, into Royal Artillery single men's barracks, and providing a cook-house— <i>vide</i> G.O., No. 427 W., dated 10th February 1887 | 13,400 |
| (2) Repairing and white and color washing the A block family quarters— <i>vide</i> G.O., No. 2081 W., dated 4th August 1887 | 2,477 |
| (3) Converting the Royal Artillery Sergeants' mess and adjacent godowns at Fort St. George into a latrine and lavatory for single men's barracks— <i>vide</i> G.O., No. 2685 W., dated 12th October 1887 | 3,820 |
| (4) Converting the old Adjutant-General's office into barracks for 60 single men— <i>vide</i> G.O., No. 3000 W., dated 9th November 1887 | 5,400 |
| (5) Converting the block of buildings containing the main guard, No. 6, Captains' quarters, and Ordnance officers' quarters into barracks for single men— <i>vide</i> G.O., No. 2612 W., dated 24th August 1888 | 5,785 |

3. Items (1) and (2) of the above have already been completed, and item (3) is approaching completion. As regards the conversion of the old Adjutant-General's office into barracks for 60 single men, the Government of India approves the proposal on the condition that the offices of the Executive Commissariat officer and Transport officer which are at present located in the old Adjutant-General's office are accommodated within the Fort. As the Quartermaster-General reports that arrangements are now in progress to provide accommodation for these offices in a building in the Fort which can be made available, the conversion of the old Adjutant-General's office, for which Rs. 5,400, the amount of the sanctioned estimate, have been provided in the current year's budget, may be proceeded with. The Superintending Engineer, V Circle, will make the necessary arrangements to have the work carried out as early as practicable.

4. With regard to the proposal for converting the block containing the main guard with the adjoining Captain's and Ordnance officer's quarters into barracks for single men, the Government of India remarks that "it is not clear whether the suitability of the building for the accommodation of single men is dependent on the adjacent officers' quarters being given up, nor whether the two officers' quarters could be still used as such if the main guard is converted into a barrack, nor is it stated what number of men the main guard will hold." With reference to these remarks, the Quartermaster-General invites attention to paras. 8 and 9 of his letter No. 2807 A, dated 10th August 1887, in which it is stated that the main guard building has airy and spacious rooms on its upper floor which would answer well for barracks, and, while they are thus occupied, it would be obviously impossible that officers could be quartered in the adjoining rooms which, moreover, are wanted to make up the full accommodation required for single men. The Government of India also remarks that the conversion of the main guard with the two adjoining officers' quarters may be carried out if the proposal will not tend to commit Government to further building. In reply to this remark the Quartermaster-General states that the abolition of the Presidency Pay office will leave clear that building for the use of the Ordnance officer, who will be displaced from his present quarters on their being converted into barracks for single men. As regards the Captain's quarters, which are also proposed to be converted into barracks for single men, it is observed from para. 9 of the Quartermaster-General's letter No. 2807 A, dated 10th August 1887, that they cannot be replaced in any way. As, however, His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief desires that the additional accommodation now required in Fort St. George should be provided as early as practicable, the Government of India will be requested to communicate its sanction to the conversion of the main guard with the adjoining officers' quarters being carried out from the grant of Rs. 5,785 provided for the purpose in the current year's Military Works budget.

5. In para. 3 of its letter the Government of India remarks that it is observed from para. 4 of the Quartermaster-General's letter No. 345 A, dated 28th January 1886, that the existing barracks in Fort St. George provide accommodation for 577 men, and that of this number 235 should be accommodated in the lower storey of the King's barracks, there being room for 342 men in the upper storey. The Quartermaster-General, however, now explains in paras. 3 and 4 of his letter No. 1579 A, dated 4th May 1889, that the upper storey provides accommodation for 318 men, not for 342 men as previously stated, and the ground floor for 259 men, and on consideration of the report made by the committee assembled to consider how many men ought to be permanently located on the ground floor of the barracks, is unable to recommend that a larger number than 24 should be accommodated in the lower storey. As desired by the Government of India in the concluding part of para. 3 of its letter under reference, the Quartermaster-General further submits a letter from the Surgeon-General, Her Majesty's Forces, No. 1114, dated 17th April 1889, in which that officer reports that it is not desirable to locate permanently any men in the lower storey of the King's barracks, or that if any are permanently located the number should not exceed 24 as recommended by the committee.

6. As regards the provision of accommodation for 137 men for whom quarters are to be found, His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief proposes to provide for 130

men as shown below, and does not consider it necessary to provide quarters for the remaining 7, as a few men will invariably be absent at Wellington or elsewhere.

	Men.
Adjutant-General's office block	60
Main guard with Captain's and Ordnance officer's quarters	70
Total	130

7. The eventual necessity for the construction of barracks for a wing of British Infantry at St Thomas' Mount, or for a portion thereof outside the Fort, the other portion being accommodated in the buildings occupied by the Accounts departments, is explained by the Quartermaster-General in para. 9 of his letter No. 1579 A above recorded.

8. With regard to para. 10 of the Government of India letter, the Government observes that it is not likely that the High Court buildings will hereafter be available for occupation by the Accounts departments, as they will probably be required for other purposes.

9. With reference to the Quartermaster-General's letter No. 1617 A, dated 9th May 1889, the Superintending Engineer, V Circle, will arrange for the preparation of an estimate to provide a court-martial room in the portion of the premises which will shortly be vacated by the clerks of the office of the District Staff officer.

10. The proposals of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief to utilise the old Banqueting Hall as a practice room for His Excellency the Governor's Band are under consideration in the Public Department.

11. Ordered that a copy of these Proceedings, together with a copy of the Quartermaster-General's letter No. 2807 A, dated 10th August 1887, be forwarded to the Government of India with reference to its letter No. 319 M.W., dated 20th February 1889, and with the request that the sanction asked for in para. 4 may be communicated at an early date.

(Here enter No. 1969 W., dated 22nd July 1889.)

(True Extract.)

W. B. Addis

Captain, R.E.,
Under-Secy. to Govt., P.W.D.

To the Superintending Engineer, V Circle.
" Military Department, { with copies of notes by the Chief Secretary
" Public " and the Hon. Mr. Stokes, C.S.I.
" Financial Department.

Exd. J. Henricus.
Spare Copies

BUILDINGS AND ROADS.
MILITARY WORKS.

Govt. of {1889} Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

Dated July, 22nd.

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 22nd July 1889, No. 1968 W.

JULY.

Additional accommodation for
British Infantry at Fort
St. George

Orders on correspondence relating to the
provision of —.

the offices of the Surgeon-General, Her Majesty's Forces, and Deputy Surgeon-General, District, can be suitably accommodated in the block now known as containing and 5, Field officers' quarters, and No 3, Captains' quarters. This block was for years the offices of the Presidency Paymaster and Surgeon-General with the Government (then Surgeon-General of Hospitals, Indian Medical Department), and though recently used as quarters, because the rooms were deficient in ventilation, consequent on certain &c., having been built up to divide the block suitably for use as quarters, they will be well adapted for use as offices if placed in the same state as they were originally when used for the purpose.

It was hoped that circumstances would have admitted of the office of the Surgeon-General and the Government of Madras also being accommodated in this block, but in view of the fact that the rooms on the west side are exposed to the full power of the afternoon sun and cannot be protected by a verandah, because space will not admit of one being added on that side, the Under-in-Chief considers that it is impossible to provide suitably in this building for the offices and large establishment of the office of the Surgeon-General with the Government of Madras, and His Excellency must therefore ask that the Government will provide the accommodation required for this office outside the Fort as in the interval between 1882 and 1884. The main guard building has airy and spacious rooms on its upper floor, which would be well for barracks; and while they were thus occupied, it would be obviously impossible for officers could be quartered in the adjoining rooms, which, moreover, are wanted to make up all accommodation required for single men.

The Captains' quarters thus absorbed unfortunately cannot be replaced in any way, but the quarters in the Fort be essential for an Ordnance officer, they could be provided in those rooms as a Presidency Pay office, which office under the present proposals would be moved to the Fort with the Military Accounts offices.

It need only be pointed out, in conclusion, that unless the offices of the Accountant-General and Military Account Department are removed from the Fort, it will be necessary to provide barracks for 210 British soldiers elsewhere, and Sir Charles Arbuthnot feels sure that the Government of Madras will concur with him in thinking that, while there are many and sound reasons in favor of the concentration of the troops within Fort St. George, where the buildings in question afford suitable accommodation for them, the offices now in those buildings could without any detriment to the public service or convenience be provided for outside its limits.

Go. Pub. 129077-270

Annexure to G.O., dated 22nd July 1889, Nos. 1968-69 W.

From Brigadier-General E. FAUNCE, Quartermaster-General, to the Secretary to Government, Military Department, dated Ootacamund, 10th August 1887, No. 2807 A.

In anticipation of the return to India of one of the British Infantry regiments of this Presidency now employed in Upper Burma, I am desired to bring under the consideration of Government the imperative necessity of definitely settling, without further delay, the question which has been pending now for some years in connection with the provision of accommodation for the British troops forming the garrison of Fort St. George.

2. When Government was last addressed* on this subject, the total strength of single men for whom accommodation was required was placed at 884 men,† the small number of men of British Infantry mentioned being accounted for by the fact that, at that time, in order to relieve the pressure in accommodation in Fort St. George, the regiment garrisoning it furnished the detachment to Malapuram.

* Quartermaster-General's No. 103 T., dated 4th March 1886—P.G., No. 1804, dated 20th March 1886.

	Men.
† British Infantry	780
Garrison Battery	104
Total	884

3. Meanwhile, however, a redistribution of the British troops in the Southern district has been made,‡ and the Commander-in-Chief would not wish to make any change in this distribution by again requiring the regiment in Fort St. George to furnish the detachment at Malapuram, because this measure would necessitate the retention at Cannanore or Calicut of a larger number of men than it is desirable to retain in such a climate, for there is no spare accommodation at Wellington which could be allotted to them; moreover, under the latest orders, the percentage of married men in British regiments for whom accommodation has to be provided has been considerably reduced (the actual percentage now is even below that fixed), and the strength of single men to be provided with accommodation has therefore been proportionately increased; thus accommodation is wanted at Madras now for 1,021§ single men, and the whole of this must be provided in Fort St. George, as the old north and south barracks at St. Thomas' Mount have now been condemned for permanent occupation—vide Proceedings of Government, No. 4146, dated 13th July 1887.

‡ P.G., No. 7124, dated 15th November 1886.

§ The requirements of the Garrison Battery have been fully provided for by the recent conversion into single men's barracks of the old A block family quarters in Fort St. George; it therefore only remains to consider the requirements of the British Infantry. The King's (British Infantry) barracks in Fort St. George will accommodate 577 men, so that 340 men remain to be provided for.

	Men.
§ British Infantry	917
Garrison Battery	104
Total	1,021

Having given the matter his careful consideration, the Commander-in-Chief is forced to the conclusion that the only method of providing accommodation to the extent required is by the conversion of the different buildings below noted in Fort St. George into barracks, thus—

Building.	Number to be accommodated.
I. Old Adjutant-General's office block now offices of Surgeon-General with Government of Madras and Her Majesty's Forces, Deputy Surgeon-General, Eastern District, Commissariat offices and Transport offices	60
II. Upper storey, main guard block and adjoining Captain's and Ordnance officer's quarters	70
III. Military Accounts office	105
IV. Accountant-General's office	105
Total	340

The offices of the Executive Commissariat officer and of the Transport officer can be accommodated in a portion of the old Quartermaster-General's office block, with the Deputy Assistant Quartermaster-General, Barrackmaster and Superintendent of Family Payments and Pensions, some of their clerks being allowed to remain in the rooms at the south end of the basement storey of the old Adjutant-General's office block, which would not be suitable for occupation by British soldiers and will not be wanted for subsidiary purposes.

Note by the Chief Secretary to Govt.

I have counterinitiated the draft, but para 10 is apparently unnecessary as the matter to which it refers is already before the Public Department and has been noted upon by the members of Govt. The final decision of the matter has by general consent (including Mr. Mc Carthy) been deferred until the return of Govt. to Madras.



Note by the Honble Mr. H. Chakrabarti C.I.

There is no harm in letting the hands stand. If the military are to be put into the Govt. Office at all, would it not be better to make the Banqueting Hall into a Council chamber room and send the House of the building proposed to be devoted to that purpose??

(Enclosure)

Mr. Chakrabarti

Head Clerk

Mr. Chakrabarti.

in this and be a great nuisance.

of the old Press premises. I do not
say that they have yet been arranged
as compactly as is possible but this
is as far as possible, and the
the Board and ultimately absolutely
convinced as to the necessity of
space here to be provided. There
will involve both time and money
and cannot be done all at once. I
beginning in that direction. I have
made it clear I would prefer that not
much should be done while I
am on the hills as I take a great interest
in the matter and wish to look
after the work myself and have the
job really well done.

I do not think that the records
can possibly be satisfactorily ar-
ranged in less than considerably
more than one half of the old Press
building. I may be wrong but it
is impossible for the present to form
any definite opinion.

In addition to the records the following
have been transferred to the present
place.

I. The reference books of the
Chief & Revenue Department and
the copyists

II. The Stationary

III. The Receipts

This has been necessary as the clerks
upstairs were packed together in
a most undesirable way and there
was no room for them to work con-
veniently.

He has taken up nearly the whole
of the available space at present
available.

Some more room he found where
the records are properly arranged.

There will take considerable
time and space must be allowed

occupy half of not more than 2/3

for the increase of records.
It is possible that some may
be found for the library
which I had originally intended
should be placed with the records
but I am sure the Green who
has had to do with the work
which has been going on there
has said.

As regards our being able to
accommodate both the Surg. Genl
and the Surg. Genl's I am afraid
that this is out of the question.
If the high seat is moved in, the
records will have to go with him
and there I am told are many
volunteers. Including over 100
Glas. and I think that it will
be difficult to find further rooms
for four different offices.

The portion of his office for which
the M.G. wishes to find rooms
is the Pension Dept. This includes
the registers the old Bangalore
Hall which is separate from the
main building and has a separate
entrance would be an intolerable
inconvenience as well as a waste of space
would be a crowd of persons
keeping about and passing up
& down the main stair case and
people would on their days be
always going in and out.

If the M.G. has the Bangalore
Hall made over to him the library
will as far as I can tell have
to be placed in the upstairs room
from which records have been
moved and there will be but
little space left for officers.
The Surg. Genl's may in this

then the Hall is now
wanted for the library.

MCS
19 July.

This had better
stand over until
my Hall - colleagues
have an opportunity of
seeing the Hall -
I think there is
much to be said on
both sides - and
I do not apprehend
all the dangers which
are pointed out by
my colleagues Mr Stokes
C

case he got in but the high seat.
The objections raised by the
Honble Mr Stokes to the
occupation of the Bangalore
Hall as a theatre for the
troops of that barracks
could seriously interfere with
the work in the adjoining offices
appear to me to be valid.

C.G.C.

10.7.89

M. L. L. to see the Hall if
giving an opinion. The first
point I entering be a
question of it placed in
the Hall when 11.4.7.89.
At least if it remains from 7
to 9 PM. - as to whether
they might not be a
disadvantage if the evening
work plan during office hours
was hampered in the evening
office. It is likely for
lighting to be somewhat by
the day making in the Hall.
Then I. L. L. to see the Hall.
for me a further one night.
under electric light and
it is not to be put in
the Hall. - I think

11/7/89

This might stand over until
you go down to Madras -
13.7.89 M.C.S.
19 July

FOR ORDERS.

who is now in a stable building and for a portion of the mounted General's Office. I cannot understand how the work of the vast space gained by the removal of the Press has been taken up; and consider that the three offices above named could be accommodated under good arrangements.

Dec 29 June

Referring to the Bundle of Papers containing Unsettled I would submit that the records before they were moved occupied a space equal to quite one half of the room made available by the removal of the Press.

They were there as anyone who saw them will be able to admit for too long packed together for either proper preservation or reference. There was further a mass of papers & maps which no attempt had ever been made, and these were scattered about on the floors, in holes and corners of the second rooms and heaped on the tops of cupboards. Added to this 6 years records - as they were - have been sent in from each Regiment. These had to remain upstairs hindering the Officers going to their being no space in the old second rooms for them.

The records have now been arranged so that they are well labelled and are easy of access. There occupies half of not more than 1/3

to as there and for a great measure to those working in the Genl. Offices. I should most strongly object to the Genl. being practising there between 4 till 7 P.M. or to the necessity of being out-going on those between those hours. The Arch. State it should be mentioned recently applied for the rooms vacated by the Army & Air Dept. on the ground that he was very much cramped for room in the Army & Air Dept. His request met with refusal on the score that the accommodation was required for the troops in the Fort. He might possibly find the old Buckingham Hall suitable to his wants.

X
28 June

The Hon. Mr. Stokes C.S.D.

~~By J. H. H.~~

Public DEPARTMENT.

No.

C. No. 1569/90

From

Dated

188 .

FOR ORDERS.

I am entirely opposed to this proposal for two reasons, first that I consider that the Govt. office buildings should be reserved for civil uses, and there are plenty to which it can be turned including the relief of the Accountant General's Office, and secondly and chiefly, because the use of the old banqueting hall for theatricals & other soldiers' entertainments would be a source of great danger to the Govt. office. We removed the Govt. Press from the Govt. office premises ^{in part} ~~wholly~~ because of the danger from fire owing to the ~~inconspicuous~~ ^{inconspicuous} presence of the foundry & the want of so large a number of hands to the building. This danger would be a trifling compound to that arising from a host of smoking and lighting furnaces. The nuisance caused by rehearsals and the peacocking of the Govt. band would be intolerable. I think the Library should be placed in the Hall and that the space thus made available should be used for the large general store which is now badly accommodated elsewhere in the Fort, by the Sanitary Committee.

This paper has been detained as 1889
The Govt. promised to see the work on his return from Japan. He was however not well enough to do so. The work which has been cleared up records is no doubt very well suited to the purpose to which the Military authorities propose to put it. It was my intention to make use of it hereafter as a general library for the Secretariat, for which it is as regards the present record room very conveniently situated. If however Govt. sees fit to comply with the request of the M.L.A. authorities the Library could be located in the room on the first floor which have been cleared of records. This however would put the moving of the Press of the Govt. Comm. or Suppl. Sub. as to the Govt. Office out of the question as there would not be as far as I can see so much more space available on the 1st floor than would be required for the Library.
The old Record Room (Banqueting Hall) can easily be shut off from the main building.
The chief objection to allowing the Hall to be turned into a theatre and concert room is that rehearsals would be

Military (1889) Department.

No. 3233.

From

THE QUARTER MASTER GENERAL,

To

THE SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,

MILITARY DEPARTMENT.

No. 1634.

Dated 17 } May 1889.
Received 17 }

By 18 -

Go 129 0719-290 2nd

ENCLOSURE. 1.

Requesting sanction of Govt. that the building known as the Banqueting Hall in Fort St. George may be made over to the Military authorities for use as a Theatre.

Forwarded

Potnamund
18th May 1889

2 3235.

REQUESTED TO BE
RETURNED WITH REPL

Forwarded to
the Public Department
for fair of opinion

(By Order)

Herbert, 3rd Genl.
Secretary to Govt
M.L.A. Dept.

(inside)
With note

of Madras from 1786
to 1752.

3. It was suggested that
all to fill it up once
more with Govt. records
hiding the historic pillars & raising its appearance
& little better to place
clerks in it, when more
convenient rooms are
available for them
on the second flight.

4. The Hall is well suited
for theatricals, and
it is submitted that
subject to the condition
that that it shall be
restored to the Civil
Dept. in case of real
necessity, it may be
placed in the hands
of the General.

10.8.
24/6

Circulated

The Chief Secy.
having inspected the
sect. buildings when
at Madras is of
opinion that the
alternative to joining
up the Banqueting
Hall to the Military
dept. for use as a
theatre is to place
part of the library
in it. There are strong
objections, which need
not be here stated,
to this course, & the
Chief Secretary would
therefore strongly
recommend compliance
with the request made
by the Officer Commanding
the Madras District.

1. The Hall is a Memorial
of much interest;
it is well proportioned,
and possesses side
galleries; the pillars
in it are believed to
have been placed there
(at least there is has
been a legend, to which
general credence has
been given, & that
effect) by Duplex,
during the late French
occupation.

Buildings

DISTRICT STAFF OFFICE,

MADRAS DISTRICT,

Fort St. George, 11th May 1889.

No. G. 292

From Colonel J. D. Richmond
~~Brigadier General G. J. Smart, R.A.,~~

COMMANDING MADRAS DISTRICT,

To

THE Quartermaster General

Madras Army

As per memo.

SIR,

I have the honor to request
you will be so good as to lay this letter
before His Excellency the Commander-in-
-in-Chief with a view, should he see
fit, to Government being moved to
make over to the Military Department
the old Banqueting Hall attached to
the Secretariat buildings in Fort
Saint George as a Garrison Theatre.
The former building was, until
recently, used as a record room but
is now vacant and, as far as I
can ascertain, not required for any
purpose.

purpose in connection with the
Government Offices. —

2. — The so called Theatre in
Fort Sanit George is, as you are aware,
a wretched affair situated in a room
on the ground floor of the Kings
Barracks and which, on account
of its unhealthiness, had to be abandoned
as a Barrack Room; it is narrow,
ill ventilated, shut out from the breeze
by the ramparts and other buildings
close to it, and on a ~~hot~~ evening
when filled with people the atmosphere
is not only very oppressive but much, in
my opinion, be positively injurious; it
is so much in disfavor with the men
that they will not use it and no
performance has taken place for a
long time past. —

3. — A suitable building where
theatricals, concerts and other entertain-
ments can be held is, I presume,
universally admitted to be a great
acquisition to troops, the performance
and preparation for the same —
breaking the monotony of Barrack
life and keeping the men or at least
some of them from frequenting the
canteen and liquor shops to the
same extent ^{as} they otherwise
would do. —

4. — There is no building in
the Fort save the old Banqueting
available for a theatre nor any
so suitable, nor is there any site
available where such a building
could be erected and even if there
was the present ~~of~~ financial
difficulties would probably preclude
its construction

5. — The old Banqueting Hall is, in every way, adapted for a Theatre being large, lofty, well ventilated and having side verandahs, a portion of which could easily be converted into dressing rooms &c. I should however, must be graciously pleased to grant the request now made they will be beholding a great boon on the men, who, I have ascertained ~~greatly~~ ^{would} greatly appreciate it and are anxious to get up entertainments but do not care to do so in the uncomfortable

depressing room in the Barracks.

6. — If the Military Department are fortunate enough to become possessed of the building herein applied for and the acquisition of

which, I trust, under the circumstances above set forth His Excellency will be pleased to urge, it would, of course, be available for performances and entertainments given by others than the troops in Garrison, such for instance as those of the Dramatic and Philharmonic Societies of Theatrical or other companies performing at Madras and for concerts &c. Changes being made, a small one for the use of rooms and the actual cost of lighting. Such entertainments for the reasons before given would be of inestimable advantage to the men as the building being so close to their Barracks they would probably attend

attend all in large numbers. —

7. — The management of the building, should it be made over to the Military Department, would be undertaken by the District Staff Officer, assisted by a Committee, who would collect subscription for the erection of a stage, sloping floor, lights and other fittings and also fix amounts to be charged for use of the building, draw up any rules that might be required and generally superintend all arrangements in connection therewith. —

8. — I might add that the building would also be available for His Excellency the Governor's Band to practice in. —

I have the honor to be,

Yours obedient servant,

#

J. Richmond Colonel
Commanding Madras District

1889.

From

THE GENERAL OFFICER COMMANDING.

MADRAS DISTRICT,

To

THE *Quartermaster*

Madras Army
Colaromund

No. G. *2.72.*

Dated *11th*

Despatched *11th*

Received

Subject.

Requests that under the
circumstances within
mentioned the sanction
of Govt. may be obtained
for the old Barrack
Hall in Fort St George
being handed over
to the military department.

HEADING

*Building
Appropriation*

QUARTER MASTER GENERAL'S OFFICE,

Ootacamund,

17 May 1889.No. *1654 A.*

From

BRIGADIER-GENERAL M. PROTHEROE, C.B., C.S.I.,

QUARTER MASTER GENERAL,

To

THE SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,

MILITARY DEPARTMENT.

SIR,

I am desired by the Commander-in-Chief to forward for the favorable consideration of Government, the accompanying letter from the General Officer Commanding Madras District, with His Excellency's recommendation that if possible, the building in Fort Saint George, known as the old Banqueting Hall, may be made over to the Military Authorities for use as a garrison theatre, no other suitable building being available for the purpose.

2. I am to add however that the proposal contained in para 6 of the letter above referred to, appears to be of doubtful expediency, seeing that it would bring the Hall in question into competition with the Town Hall at Madras, and possibly other buildings adapted for public entertainments.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

M. Protheroe

Brigadier General

Q. M. General

It is requested that the heading, number, and date of this communication may be quoted in any subsequent correspondence on this subject.

** M. G. 292 of 11 May 1889.*