M.R.O. 14—13,000—27-9-24.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 2637 — Press Mis.

268. 269

Dated 19—12—1862

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 19th December 1862.

No. 268. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Military Department, dated 11th December 1862, No. 4,261 :—

Overruling the objections of the Municipal Commissioners and Commissioner of Police to the ground on the west of Cochrane's Canal being used as a site for Butts for the Volunteer Guards, and on His Excellency the Commander-in Chief approving the site orders to be issued for taking the private lands under the Act as suggested by the Collector.

(Vide Military Proceedings, 11th December 1862, Nos. 231—237.)

No. 269. ORDER THEREON, 19th December 1862, No. 2,637.

Collector of Madras.
Commissioner of Police.
Municipal Commissioners.

Ordered that paragraphs 7 to 10 of this Order be communicated to the Board of Revenue and the Officers noted in the margin for their information.

(Signed) C. G. MASTER,
Deputy Secretary to Government.

MILITARY DEPARTMENT.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following papers :—

From the Officer Commanding Madras Volunteer Guards.	
Stating that no portion of the Funds allotted for the support of the Guards, can be appropriated for the remuneration of the Officer Commanding the Regiment, without affecting the efficiency of the Corps.	Here enter 9th July 1862.
From the Inspector General of Ordnance and Magazines.	
Forwarding Indent by the Officer Commanding Madras Volunteer Guards for 120 Carbines Sappers, Rifled, with observations.	Here enter 4th August 1862, No. 56.
From the Officer Commanding Madras Volunteer Guards.	
Returning, with observations thereon, the letter of the Principal Inspector General of Ordnance, regarding the issue of Enfield Rifles to the Guards, and submitting Plan of the ground in the neighbourhood of the Infantry Butts at Veysarpaudy.	Here enter —— September 1862, No. 87.
From the Adjutant General of the Army.	
Regarding the issue of Enfield Rifles to the Volunteer Guards.	Here enter 8th October 1862, No. 633.
Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department.	
Referring to this Department certain papers regarding the site proposed for the Rifle range of the Madras Volunteer Guards.	Here enter 6th & 14th November 1862, Nos. 2368 & 2408.

ORDER, No. 4261, 11*th December* 1862.

These papers relate to the Madras Volunteer Guards.

2. The Government of India having disallowed the grant of full Batta to the Officer Commanding the Corps, Colonel Drury was requested, in Proceedings No. 1464, dated 23rd April 1862, to report whether, by any modification of the existing circumstances of the Corps, a sufficient sum could be assigned to the Commandant from the Government grant of Rupees 24,000 per annum, without detriment to the efficiency and well-being of the Regiment.

3. In the first of the foregoing papers, that Officer replies that he is unable to recommend that any fixed sum should be set apart from the Government allowance as a remuneration to the Officer Commanding, or to suggest any change in the organization of the Corps, whereby such an extra expense might be met without a sacrifice of efficiency.

4. The other letters above recorded have arisen out of a demand on the Ordnance Department for 120 Sapper Carbines (short Enfield Rifles) for issue to the Volunteers, to a compliance with which, objection has been taken on the grounds—first, that no Instructor of Musketry is attached to the Corps, and second, that the Enfield Rifle is a weapon that requires much care and attention to be kept in a serviceable state.

5. Colonel Drury replies to these objections in his letter of —— September 1862. The appointment of an Instructor of Musketry has been under his consideration for some time past. He indeed refers to the subject in his previous letter of 9th July last. In addition to what Colonel Drury urges in reply to the second objection, it may be remarked that the Rifle is the weapon in use with the Volunteers at Home, and, it is believed, with every Volunteer Corps in India but the Madras Regiment. In this country Government invariably supplies Arms, and there seems no good reason why only the Madras Volunteers should be armed with an inferior weapon, nor why that Corps should not be able to take due care of Rifles, if supplied with them. The Commandant it is observed is responsible to Government for the Arms and other Government property in use with the Volunteers.

6. The Governor in Council considers it desirable that the Madras Corps should be gradually armed with the Rifle, and accordingly sanctions the Indent for 120 Sapper Carbines, submitted with the Inspector General's letter No. 56, dated 4th August, and authorises Colonel Simpson to hold at the disposal of Colonel Drury a further supply of 580 Carbines, issuable in such numbers and at such times as that Officer may, under the authority of His Excellency the Colonel-in-Chief, indent for them.

7. A suitable Rifle Range is as yet a desideratum. Colonel Drury suggests the strip of waste land north of the Railway embankment and skirted on the east by Cochrane's Canal. This appears a very eligible site: but the Municipal Commissioners report that its application to the purpose of a Rifle Range would interfere with their Scavenging Contractor's arrangements; the Collector estimates the cost of acquiring such portions of the land as are not public property, at about Rupees 7,000; and the Commissioner of Police thinks that it would be necessary during practice, to close, at some inconvenience to the public, the thoroughfare on the other side of Cotton's Canal, which is upwards of 1,300 yards beyond the site proposed for the Butts.

8. The Municipal Contractor's boats begin to ply at 7 A.M., by which hour or very little later, the practice of the Guards would be over for the day; and as Cotton's Canal is 1,330 yards beyond the proposed Butts, and upwards of 2,080 yards from the Railway embankment, the huts for the Contractor's Coolies would, by being erected a few hundred yards north of the Canal, instead of immediately on its bank, be at a safe distance. His Excellency in Council does not, therefore, consider that the objections of the Municipal Commissioners are of sufficient weight to justify the abandonment of the project of converting the land in question into a Rifle Practice Ground.

9. The proposed range would also be available for the practice of the European Regiment in the Fort, which has now to be sent all the way to Palaveram for that purpose. Should, therefore, His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief approve the site, the Governor in Council will be prepared to authorise such portions of the private lands as may be absolutely necessary, being taken under Act VI of 1857, as suggested by the Collector.

10. The temporary closing of the thoroughfare referred to by the Commissioner of Police would be unavoidable. Government observe that the site on the South Beach is closed whenever the Corps in Garrison and the Volunteer Guards fire Ball there.

11. With reference to the remuneration of the Commandant, the Governor in Council observes that the State already makes liberal provision for the maintenance of the Corps, and as, in the opinion of Government, it is necessary that the Officer exercising Command of the Corps should be specially remunerated for that duty, the only way of providing for the charge, as also for the allowance of an Instructor of Musketry, is to modify existing arrangements, so as that both these items shall be found out of the existing assignment.

12. Colonel Drury proposes to dispense with the Quarter Master, but as the substitution of the short Enfield Rifle in lieu of the smooth bore Piece now in use, would render the services of such an Officer more necessary than heretofore, the efficiency of the Corps would, His Excellency in Council thinks, be better secured by retaining them. The late Quarter Master was allowed* the use of a Government Horse (which is not now available) and, consequently, did not draw Horse Allowance. His salary under the original sanction was Rupees 100; but as he paid the Quarter Master Serjeant, his actual allowance was Rupees 70, as given in Colonel Drury's letter of —— September 1862. This sum is now sanctioned for the future. Should the Quarter Master be required to mount himself, a sufficient allowance for the keep of a Horse will have to be assigned to him by the Commandant out of the Contingent allowance.

*Proceedings No. 2047, dated 10th June 1859.

13. It is understood that there are at present more than five Instructors, but as the Corps has been in existence upwards of five years, one Instructor to two Companies should, in the opinion of Government, suffice under proper arrangements.

14. The Officers and other well-to-do members of the Corps clothe themselves. The allowance originally granted for the former, may therefore be now otherwise appropriated, and taking the latter at one-seventh of the maximum sanctioned strength in Rank and File of the Corps, the Equipment and Full Dress allowances of 100 men are available for other purposes.

15. The following re-distribution of the Government grant of Rupees 24,000 is accordingly sanctioned, with effect from the 1st January 1863.

Commanding Officer's allowance... 150 Do. do. Horse do. ... 30		180×12 =	2,160
Adjutant's Staff allowance... ... .. 150 Do. Horse do. ... 30		180×12 =	2,160
Musketry Instructor's Staff allowance 70 Do. Horse do. 30		100×12 =	1,200
Quarter Master's Staff allowance		70×12 =	840
Band allowance.....		100×12 =	1,200
Quarter Master Serjeant..... ... ... 30 Five Instructors at an average of Rs. 10 50 Contingencies monthly average 69		149×12 =	1,788
Armourer Maistry.....		21×12 =	252
600 Volunteers' annual allowance at Rupees		20 =	12,000
600 do. triennial do. at (12÷3=)		4 =	2,400
	Rupees...		24,000

16. It is not intended, by the reduction in the number of Volunteers for whom allowances are now sanctioned, to reduce the strength of the Regiment; but should this prove to be the practical effect of the measure, the Volunteers would, it is observed, be even then as strong as Regiments of Native Infantry. The average attendance at Regimental Drill is† reported to be 20 Files (40 men,) and on extraordinary occasions, 24 Files (48 men,) so that at 60, instead of 70, men per Company, a sufficiently wide margin for absentees would be left.

† *Pro. No.* 1903, *dated 26th May* 1862.

17. The principle laid down in the Order of 15th February 1861, No. 618, of making the annual and triennial allowances to the men dependent upon the strength of the Corps, will continue to be maintained. These in the new distribution amount to Rupees 14,400 per annum, and the fixed charges to Rupees 800 per mensem, or Rupees 9,600 per annum.

18. The Commandant's allowance having been withheld from the 1st May last, His Excellency in Council authorises Colonel Drury to draw, at the rate sanctioned in this Order, the arrears due to him, as also the charge for the current month, from the funds to the credit of the Regiment in the Madras Bank.

Pro. No. 1464, *dated 23rd April* 1862.

(True Extract.)

Secretary to Government.

To the Officer Commanding Infantry Volunteer Guards..
,, Revenue Department.
,, Inspector General of Ordnance, with the Indent.
,, Adjutant General.
,, Depy. Adjt. Genl. H. M.'s British Forces.
,, Quarter Master General.
,, Controller of Military Finance.
,, Military Accountant.
,, Examiner of Ordnance Accounts.

Exd. A. A. DeMonte.

Pro: 1 Oct. 62 Nos 5-6
6 Nov. " - " — 77-78
14 — " — " — 157-158-

Revenue 1862 Oct 14th
Pro: of Govt for December
No 3448

Proceedings of the Madras
Govt in the Judiciary
Dept.

Dated 11th Decr 62
Recd 15th Decr 62

No. 4261.

Overruling the objections
of the Municipal Commissioners
and Commissioner of Police to
the ground on the west of Cochrane
Canal being used as a site for
Butts for the Valuntary Guards
and on this Govt the Commander
in Chief approving the site ordered
to be issued for taking the
Inundated lands under the Act
as suggested by the Collector -

No 2637. 19 Decr

William Order

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No 2637

Ordered that paras
7 to 10 of this order be com-
municated to the Board
of Revenue and the Officers
noted in the
margin for their
information -

Judl Dept
19th Decr 62

11 Copies To the Bd of Revenue Dept 20th
1 Collr of Madras 19
1 Commr of Police 20
1 Municipal Commr

No 2684 & 269.