



## GRG 149/18

## Papers on defence - B.T. Finniss

Series  
Description

This series consists of miscellaneous papers of Boyle Travers Finniss relating to defence matters and the Volunteer Military Force.

The papers have been bound into one volume and indexed. The index gives paper number, date and subject. Subjects include notes on military work sites, Volunteer regulations, expenditure, measures to be adopted if a war against Russia was declared, and various memos from Finniss.

Series date range

1854 - 1877

Agency  
Responsible

State Records of South Australia

Access  
Determination

Open

Contents

1854 - 1877

The List is arranged numerically.

B.T. FINNISS PAPERS - DEFENCE

CONTENTS

1. Rules to be observed in issuing rifles from the public arsenal for the use of the Volunteer Forces.
2. Names and strength of companies of the Volunteer Military Forces.
3. Article, headed "The Patriotic Society", on the means to be taken to defend S.A. in the event of war.
4. Regulations to ensure the attendance of Volunteers at drill instructions.
5. Notes on the evidence of Captains Douglas, Lipson and Freeling on the sites for batteries.
6. Plans and notes on sites for batteries and other military works.
7. Notes on field artillery and estimates of cost of permanent defence force.
8. Valedictory address from officers and privates of the Adelaide Marksmen to B.T. Finnis.
9. Valedictory address to Col. Blyth.
10. Estimate of cost of training two battalions.
11. Estimated strength of peace establishment of regulars limited to 200 men enrolled for 7 yrs.
12. Annual cost of regiment of militia consisting of 10 companies of 100 privates, with commissioned and non-commissioned officers.
13. Estimate of an available regular force of 800 men after 7 years.
14. Estimate of the annual cost of a force of 1000 artillery and 100 rifles, with officers and staff.
15. Estimated cost for nine years of a permanent artillery force.

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16. 1854-67. Notes of expenditure on V.M.F.
17. May 15, 1854. Memo. by B.T. Finniss for Gov. Young, suggesting that a Commission be appointed to report on the means to be taken to protect Port Adelaide in the event of war, with minute by Gov. Young.
18. July 24, 1854. Minute by B.T. Finniss for Exec. Council suggesting measures to be adopted on receipt of the despatch declaring war with Russia.
19. May 31, 1860. Staff Adjutant of V.M.F. to Lieut. Col., expressing Governor's satisfaction with Review.
20. June 25, 1860. B.T. Finniss to Chief Sec. asking for office accommodation.  
" Same to same, suggesting more staff appointments and improvements in the organization of the V.M.F.  
July 23, 1860. B.T. Finniss to Capt. Biggs, explaining reason for sending incomplete Horse Guards circular and asking for printed copies of extracts from circulars and of Battalion Order enclosed.
21. June 26, 1860. Under Sec. to B.T. Finniss granting his request for office accommodation.
22. July 3, 1860. Gov. MacDonnell to B.T. Finniss re appointment of Capt. Blyth as Colonel of Volunteers (in-complete).
23. July 26, 1860. Estimated cost of a battalion to be drilled by its own officers.
24. Aug. 16, 1860. Under Sec. to B.T. Finniss informing him that the office is ready for him.
25. June 20, 1861. Volunteer Military Forces. - Details of movements.
26. July 1, 1861. Circular from Colonel Blyth to commanding officers of companies thanking them for the efficient manner in which the Review was conducted.
27. Apr. 4, 1862. Draft of letter by B.T. Finniss reporting on a battery for Torrens Island.

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28. Mar. 9, 1862. Col. Blyth to B.T. Finnis asking him to take a Parade for him.
29. Apr. 22, 1863. B.T. Finniss to Chief Sec. applying for command of Volunteer Force on the resignation of Colonel Blyth.
30. May 12, 1863. Under Sec. to B.T. Finniss notifying him of a Review to be held under his command.
31. May 27, 1863. Programme of Volunteer movements.
32. June 11, 1863. Under Sec. to B.T. Finniss, enclosing minute by Governor expressing satisfaction with the Review.
33. June 12, 1863. Circular by B.T. Finniss to Company Commanders enclosing above.
34. Aug. 3, 1863. B.T. Finniss to Treasurer applying for the command of the Volunteer Forces and outlining reforms which he proposes to carry out if appointed.
35. Aug. 22, 1863. J.H. Clark to B.T. Finniss expressing regret at Finniss's resignation from the Adelaide Regiment of Volunteers.
36. Sept. 22, 1863. J.H. Clark to B.T. Finniss enclosing copy of a resolution by the Adelaide Rifles Company expressing regret at the resignation of Lieut. Colonel Finniss.
37. Sept. 27, 1863. B.T. Finniss to J.H. Clark thanking the members of the Adelaide Rifle Company for the above resolution.
38. 1876. Draft report of Defence Commission.
39. " Duplicate of above.
40. " Appendix to Evidence on Colonial Defences, annotated by B.T. Finniss.
41. Jan. 5, 1876. Under Sec. to B.T. Finniss asking whether he is willing to be a member of the Defence Commission.
42. June 24, 1876. Same to same, acknowledging Report and thanking the members of the Defence Commission for their services.

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43. May 1, 1877. Memo. by B.T. Finniss on his military career in S.A.
44. May 19, 1877. J.Z. Sellar to B.T. Finniss asking for a testimonial.