

to figures in General Borgard's map of Woolwich Warren (1781) as a building on the south side of the "Old Carriage Yard." Not storage only, but workmanship also, appears to have been at that time found for gun-carriages at Woolwich, for in 1683 the storekeeper "broke up eighty-nine condemned carriages, and took out all their iron work."

The laboratory establishment appears to have

been previously submitted to, and approved by, Sir Bernard de Gomme.

In Lyson's "Environs of London" (1796), the Woolwich Warren is thus described:—"The gunwharf at Woolwich is of very ancient date. It formerly occupied what is now the site of the market-place. When removed to the Warren, where it now is, it acquired thence the name by which it is now called. The Warren at Woolwich



ADMIRAL-SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE, 1869.

been removed hither from Greenwich in 1695, for on the 3rd of December of that year a warrant was issued "to William Edge to fetch gravell, and raise and level the ground at the new Labouratory att Woolwich, taking the Surveyor's direction therein to be according to agreement made with him by Mr. Boulter." Saltpetre stores are mentioned in the Ordnance "Journall Bookes" as existing at Woolwich in 1680, when they were in charge of a "storekeeper of saltpetre." In 1681 Sir William Warren was invited "to contract for the making of two butts at Woolwich for the tryall of a fire shott preparing of Capt. Leake, Master Gunner of England," the estimates for which butts had

is the grand depôt of the ordnance belonging to the navy. Within this warren is a foundry for brass cannon, a laboratory (under the direction of a comptroller, a chief fire-master, and other officers) for making fireworks for the use of the army and navy, and a repository for military machines, both for the land and sea service, in which are also various models of bridges, fortifications, &c. All ordnance for the use of Government, as well as the iron cannon made by contractors at various places, as the brass cannon cast at the foundry here, must be proved in Woolwich Warren." A writer in the *Gentleman's Magazine* of August, 1798, rapturously describes the Warren as "an immense repository