1. Number of pages 8
2. Date of [illegible] 4-8-37
3. Initial

R.R.O. 1—8-39—2,000.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

DEPARTMENT.

Withdrawn

G.O. No.	Press Mk.
Dated	18

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 3. Read the following letter from Colonel C. E. FABER, Chief Engineer; to H. FORBES, Esq., Acting Secretary to Government, dated 11th August 1857, No. 2825.

SIR,

I have had the honor to receive the Extract Minutes of Consultation No. 1529 of the 6th Instant, requiring my immediate opinion, as to the services of Captain T. Greenaway (officiating in the Southern delta of the Godavery as Executive Engineer of the 3rd class) being made available, for the command of the Sappers and Miners.

2. In reply, I must ask permission to observe that the question can only be properly answered by those who have been made acquainted with the exact amount of the exigency, whilst I cannot myself claim to be personally in possession of such information, I am however of opinion that of the two alternatives sketched out for consideration, the temporary appointment of an Adjutant, who has held that post for nearly three years, and who appears to have obtained his first commission on the 9th December 1850, would seem to involve less aberration from custom, and to entail less inconvenience on the public service, than the appointment of an Officer of Infantry, whose recognized merits and capacity, only the more conspicuously define the amount of Sacrifice required from the Department of Public Works of which Captain Greenaway is so promising an ornament.

3. It may further be noticed that Lieutenant Prendergast has had the advantage of being with the Sappers on Foreign service in Burmah and that he has been employed solely in the Military Department since he entered the service, I certainly should have ventured to believe therefore that an Officer engaged in regimental duties for so long a consecutive period and who has not been tempted by the lucrative attractions of Staff employ to forsake the more congenial atmosphere of an exclusively Military life might have urged his claims for favorable consideration on such an occasion as the present, and that if he be prepared to pass the required examination for Staff (as I have been given to understand is the case) it might be expected to have a most discouraging effect not only on the Adjutant of Sappers himself, but on all other Officers of Engineers who may join the corps hereafter, if it be decided that a subaltern of nearly 7 years standing who has been Adjutant for little less than three, and who has never been separated from his men since he landed in India, is so incompetent to temporarily command the few Sappers at Head Quarters, as to compel the Government not only to break through hitherto inviolable custom, but to select for the temporary command an Officer whose services are of the greatest value to the state in another and highly important branch of the administration of Government.

4. Whilst hazarding these candid observations upon the case only as placed before me in the Proceedings of Government, I am not however insensible to other reasons which may be urged in favor of temporarily nominating Captain Greenaway to the command of the Sappers. Not only is he on the spot, but as a zealous, well informed and ingenious Officer, it is impossible to believe otherwise than that he will exercise the command of the corps with great advantage to that body and to the Government. Supposing then that the disparaging representation of the pretensions of the regimental Adjutant are accepted, and that with the almost certainly of experienced Officers of Engineers shortly returning to duty under the operation of the Court's mandate, His Lordship in Council still deems it proper to nominate a line Officer to the Sapper command, I cannot but arrive at the conclusion that the case is one of such exigency as to render the appointment of Captain Greenaway desirable and his temporary withdrawal from the Godavery delta practicable.

No. 4. ORDER THEREON, No. 1638; dated 26th August 1857.

The services of Captain Greenaway being urgently required in the Public Works Department in Rajahmundry, the Government regret their inability to place them at the Commander in Chief's disposal for the command of the Sapper Corps.

2. The above order will be communicated to the Military Department with reference to Extract from the Minutes of Consultation in that Department, dated 1st Instant, No. 2579.

(Signed) H. FORBES,
Acting Secretary to Government.

Central Office of Public Works.
Fort Saint George 11th August 1825

№ 2825

From

The Chief Engineer

To,

The Secretary to Government,
Public Works Department.

Sir,

I have had the honor to receive the Extract Minutes of Consultation № 1529 of the 6th Instant requiring my immediate opinion, as to the services of Captain J. Greenaway officiating in the Southern Delta of the Godavery as Executive Engineer of the 3rd class being made available for the command of the Sappers and Miners.

2. In reply, I must ask permission to observe that the question can only be properly answered by those who have been made acquainted with the exact amount of the exigency, whilst I cannot myself claim to be personally in possession of such information, I am however of opinion that of the two alternatives sketched out for consideration, the temporary appointment of an Adjutant, who has held that post for nearly three years, and who appears to have obtained his first commission on the 9th December

December 1850, would seem to involve less aberration from custom, and to entail less inconvenience on the public service, than the appointment of an Officer of Infantry, whose recognized merits and capacity, only the more conspicuously define the amount of sacrifice required from the Department of Public Works of which Captain Greenaway is so promising an ornament.

3. It may further be noticed that Lieutenant Prendergast has had the advantage of being with the Sappers on Foreign Service in Burmah, and that he has been employed solely in the Military Department since he entered the service, I certainly should have ventured to believe therefore that an Officer engaged in regimental duties for so long a consecutive period and who has not been tempted by the lucrative attractions of Staff employ to forsake the more congenial atmosphere of an exclusively military life might have urged his claims for favorable consideration on such an occasion as the present, and that if he be prepared to pass the required examination for Staff (as I have been given to understand is the case) it might be expected to have a most discouraging effect not only on the Adjutant of Sappers himself, but on all other Officers of Engineers who may join the Corps hereafter, if it be decided that a Subaltern of nearly 7 years standing who has been Adjutant for little less than three, and who has never been separated from his men since he landed in India, is so incompetent to temporarily command the few Sappers at Head Quarters, as to compel the Government not only to break through hitherto inviolable custom, but to select for the temporary Command an Officer whose services are of the greatest value to the state in another and highly important branch of the administration of Government.

4. Whilst hazarding these candid observations upon the case only as placed before me in the Proceedings of Government, I am not however insensible to other reasons which

which may be urged in favor of temporarily nominating Captain Greenaway to the Command of the Sappers. Not only is he on the spot, but as a zealous, well informed and ingenious Officer, it is impossible to believe otherwise than that he will exercise the command of the Corps with great advantage to that body and to the Government. Supposing then that the disparaging representation of the pretensions of the Regimental Adjutant are accepted, and that with the almost certainty of experienced Officers of Engineers shortly returning to duty under the operation of the Court's mandate, His Lordship in Council still deems it proper to nominate a Line Officer to the Sapper Command, I cannot but arrive at the conclusion that the case is one of such exigency as to render the appointment of Captain Greenaway desirable and his temporary withdrawal from the Godavery Delta practicable.

I have the honor to be
Sir,
Your Most Obedient Servant

Central Office of C.W.
Fort Saint George
15th August 1857.

M. Ed. Taber Colonel
Chief Engineer.

Comm. Hd. Aug. 57 - No. 29-30-

Public Works
1857 Dept.
Rec. to Coll. 1st September
No. 1607

From
The Chief Engineer
To
The Secy to Govt Public Works

Dated 11th August 1857
Rec'd 12th
No. 2825

Submits the opinion respecting Capt. Greenaways nomination to the command of the Sappers required in G. M. O. No. 152 of the 5 inst.

No. 1638. 26th Aug.
Ans. the accordingly.

No. 1638.

The Government having reason to believe that Lieut. and Brevet Major of the Sappers and Miners, has returned to this Corps, they consider it unnecessary to pass any orders on the letter from the Adjutant General of the Army, applying for the services of Captain Greenaway of the 46th Regiment N.I. employed in the Department of Public Works.

The above order will be communicated to the Military Department with reference to their letter of Comm. in that Department dated 1st Inst. & No. 2579.

The services of Capt. Greenaway being urgently required in the P.W.D. at Rajahmundry, the Govt. regret their inability to place them at the Chief's disposal for the command of the Sapper Corps.

The above order will be communicated to the Mil. Dept. with reference to Ex. from the Mil. & Com. in Govt. Dept. dated 1st Inst. No. 2579.