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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

Cons. 22-9-57

G.O. No. 1768 Press Mis.

22.23

Dated 16 — 7 — 1857

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 22. Read the following letter from Colonel C. E. FABER, Chief Engineer; to H. FORBES, Esq., Acting Secretary to Government dated 1st September 1857, No. 3329.

SIR,

1. I have the honor to forward to Government, an original letter No. 50 of the 27th Ultimo from Lieutenant Haig, submitting an application for permission to resign the service of the Honorable East India Company, as soon as the state of public affairs may admit of his doing so with propriety.

2. Fully appreciating the value of the services rendered to the State by Lieutenant Haig, I at the same time see no reason why his application should not be favorably received.

3. The services of an officer are *not* immediately required in the Upper Godavery Division, and to remove Captain Rundall from the scene of his present useful labours, would I consider be a measure of indisputable inexpediency.

4. In prosecuting the works for the improvement of the Godavery Navigation, it is doubtless most desirable that the officer who may be appointed by Government to carry them out should have the benefit of a professional tour such as was to have been undertaken by Lieutenant Haig, and I know no officer in the Corps better qualified from his soundness of judgment, and energy or who I would more readily recommend for the duty than Captain Walker at present in England.

5. It is likely, that Captain Walker will shortly be returning to this country, and probably before any communication from Government could reach him, but in such case, he will have the advantage of personally conferring with Colonel Cotton, and Lieutenant Haig, and by ascertaining their views he will be all the better prepared to enter upon the required investigations and management of the whole navigation question.

6. In closing this letter, I take the opportunity of recording the high sense that is entertained of the energy, zeal, and ability which have invariably marked Lieutenant Haig's comparatively short professional career in the service of the Honorable Company.

Letter from Lieutenant F. T. HAIG, Civil Engineer Upper Godavery; to Colonel C. E. FABER, Chief Engineer, dated 27th August 1857, No. 50.

SIR,

1. I have the honor to request you will be good enough to forward to Government this my application for permission to resign the service of the Honorable East India Company as soon as the state of public affairs may permit.

2. In the present circumstances of the country, when all officers on leave to Europe have been ordered to rejoin their corps immediately, I could have wished to defer this application until peace had been restored, and things had resumed their wonted course throughout India. I cannot however postpone informing the Government of my wishes, for the following reason.

3. The Court of Directors having sanctioned my proposed professional tour in Europe, leave to proceed thither at the public expense has been granted me. Were a year's travel on the Continent and in America all that this permission involves, every consideration as regards health, recreation, and the acquisition of professional knowledge would induce me to act upon it at once. But in fact more than this is involved. The object of the Government in thus sending me to Europe is to avail themselves hereafter of the information I should thus acquire. That information would in truth be their property, and they would be entitled to an adequate return for the capital invested in its purchase. This the Government can only receive by my continuing in the service for several years to come, so as to afford them, whether in the prosecution of the works on the Godavery, or in other ways, the full benefit of my acquirements.

4. It is evident that by proceeding to Europe on these terms, I should virtually bind myself to the service of the Honorable Company for an indefinite period, certainly for another 5 or 6 years. As this is wholly contrary to my wishes; as, in fact, rather than do it, I am pre-

pared to forego all prospective advantages of pay and pension, my only course is to inform the Government of the fact, and to request that another Officer may be nominated in my stead.

5. I feel however that as the proposition regarding my tour in Europe originated with myself, and as special sanction has been obtained for it from the Honorable Court, the Government may perhaps complain of my not having made up my mind as to resigning the service before the proposal was made, or at least of my not having notified my wishes at an earlier period. I would therefore remark, in the first place, that I made the suggestion in the belief that the local Government possessed full power to sanction it, and I accordingly proposed that I should leave India by the very next mail (June 1856), whereas the sanction of the Honorable Court did not arrive for nearly a year after, and in the meantime my views and intentions as to remaining in the service had considerably altered. Secondly, I would observe that whatever inconvenience may result from my now resigning would have been felt in just the same degree had I resigned a year or 15 months ago (before my proposal was made) when I apprehend no objection whatever would have been made to my doing so. There need not however be the slightest delay in the commencement or prosecution of the Godavery works in consequence of my relinquishing charge of them. A competent Officer might at once be appointed in my room, and if he left for Europe in another month, he would still reach this country, at the end of his year's leave, two months before operations on the river could be begun. The plan I would take the liberty to suggest is that Captain Rundall should be appointed to the Upper Godavery, and that, unless a more convenient arrangement could be made, I should proceed at once to relieve him of the charge of the Godavery Division, so as to set him free to go to Europe without delay. I might then either be left in charge of that District until the Government considered me at liberty to leave the service (which I hope would not be more than a few months at most) or at any rate until whoever might be appointed to that District could be conveniently transferred to it.

It would be unbecoming in me to enter upon any discussion of the peculiar merits and qualifications of an Officer who like Captain Rundall is my senior, but I am prepared if required to give reasons for the perfect confidence I feel that under his Superintendence the works of the Upper Godavery would be skilfully and ably carried out.

6. I have had the honor of serving the Honorable Company now for a period of 11 years in India. During 10 years of that time I have been employed on the Godavery. I joined the Rajahmundry Division in 1847, just when the works projected by Colonel Cotton were about to be commenced, and during the next 7½ years I bore my full share of the extraordinary labours, trials, and responsibility which attended their construction; nor has my subsequent employment on the Upper Godavery line been of a less responsible or arduous character. I trust that the Government will feel that I have upon the whole faithfully and zealously served them, and that if the professional experience I have already gained is now to be no longer available for the improvement of the country, my past services have been a full and fair return for all the benefits I have received.

7. My present application is made under the strongest convictions of duty, and will I earnestly hope be favorably received. Should however the Government consider that under the circumstances of my tour in Europe and America having been proposed by myself, and sanctioned by the Honorable Court of Directors with special reference to my qualifications for carrying out the Godavery works, I cannot now fairly and honorably withdraw from the engagement, in spite of the serious end, to me, most unwelcome consequence it involves of a continuance of several more years in the service, I will forego my wish, and submit to their decision.

No. 23. ORDER THEREON, No. 1768; dated 16th September 1857.

Ordered that Lieutenant Haig's resignation of the service of the Honorable East India Company be accepted, and that copy of his letter and that of the Chief Engineer recorded above, be forwarded for the information of the Honorable the Court of Directors and the Government of India, with reference to the communication from the latter, dated 9th April 1857 No. 1676,

conveying the authority of the Honorable Court to Lieutenant Haig proceeding to Europe and America at the public expense, for the purpose of inspecting the principal lines of river navigation in those countries.

2. The Government will reserve for the present the nomination of an Officer to the duty on which Lieutenant Haig was to have proceeded.

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

No. 24. Ordered in consequence that the following letter be despatched.

From H. FORBES, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Government of Fort Saint George; to Lieutenant Colonel W. E. BAKER, Secretary to the Government of India, dated 16th September 1857, No. 1769.

SIR,

With reference to your letter dated 9th April 1857, No. 1676, communicating the sanction of the Honorable the Court of Directors to Lieutenant Haig, of the Madras Engineers, proceeding to Europe and America at the public expense, for the purpose of inspecting the principal lines of river navigation in those countries, I am directed by the Right Honorable the Governor in Council to furnish for the information of the Government of India, copy of a letter from the Chief * Engineer, giving cover to one from Lieutenant Haig, tendering his resignation of the service of the Honorable East India Company, and to report that the Madras Government have accepted the resignation.

* Dated 1st September 1857, No. 3329, with enclosure.

2. The Right Honorable the Governor in Council will hereafter nominate an officer to proceed on the duty which Lieutenant Haig was to have undertaken.

For Orders

Public Works Department No 1737.

From the Chief Engineer 1st September 1857.

Mr Elliot was directed

Lance Enquiry about this

matter.

Considers Mr Hays proposition

as under the circumstances

quite unwarrantable - but

this Govt. must not strictly

hinder an obligation Dewsnap

Mr Squire

Re Mr Hays Mr Eggerton

Rec. 5-30 pm

each 5-55.

Mr Elliot wishes to see the correspondence regarding the refusal of the Govt to sanction the construction of locks at the barrier on the Godavery above Dowlaishwaram by the Raj & the Chief Engr & Examiners on the subject

Also the Rajs request to retain the services of

5/9/57

Public Works Dept

No. 1768

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation

Under date the 16th September 1857.

Read the following

letter from the Chief Engi-

-neer.

Here enter 1st September 1857
No. 3329

Ordered that

Lieutenant Haig's resig-

-nation of the service of

the Honorable East India

Company be accepted,

and that Copy of his

letter and that of the

Chief Engineer recorded

above, be forwarded

for the information of

the Honorable the Court

of

of Directors and the Govt of India, with reference to the communication from the latter, dated 9th April 1857 No. 1676, conveying the authority of the ~~former~~ Govt. to Lieut. Haig proceeding to Europe and America at the public expense, for the purpose of inspecting the principal lines of river navigation in those Countries.

2 The Government will reserve for the present the nomination of an Officer to the duty on which Lieutenant Haig was to have proceeded.

J. D. Y.

9 Copies to the Chief Engr. with an Encl. Dispt. 17
3 — Brily Capts.

Copy in a Letter to E.
dia. Nov.r 1857. No. 18

Public Works 1857 Dep.t
Dd. to Cons: 22.d Sept.r

No. 1768

Extract Mins: of Cons:
Dated 16.th Sept.r 57

Accepting of Lieut.t
Haig's resignation of the Service of the
Hon: East India Company, and
declining for the present, the nomi:
nation of an Officer to the duty
on which Lieutenant Haig was to
have proceeded.

No 22 & 23.

C.11. Sep. 1857