1. Number of pages. 10
2. Date of repair. 9-8-37
3. Initials of Reference

M.R.O. 1—82 400—23-11-30

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

Con. 22-9-57

G.O. No. 1773 Press Mis.

3233

Dated 17-9-1857

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 32. Read the following Extract from the Proceedings of the Chief Engineer, dated 1st September 1857, No. 3323.

Read the following letter from Major E. LAWFORD, Superintending Engineer, Southern Circle; to Colonel C. E. FABER, Chief Engineer, dated 31st August 1857, No. 213.

SIR,

There are two orders recently promulgated on which as affecting the Proceedings of Superintending Engineers when on tours of inspection I desire to offer some observations for your own consideration and that of Government.

2. The first I refer to is Extract Minutes Consultation No. 781, 4th August 1857, in which the use of public bungalows by Officers of the Department of Public Works is prohibited, and I am anxious to point out that as the Superintending Engineers must generally move too rapidly to allow of their encamping at every halt, I imagine that those Officers may be fairly classed as bonâ fide travellers by whom the bungalows are to be used but as the order now stands they may be excluded by Collectors.

3. The second order referred to is Extract Minutes Consultation No. 1610, dated 19th August 18.., in para. 1 of which batta to Peons proceeding from the Central office on Circuit is declared inadmissible and in para. 3, the scale of batta to writers is fixed for the future at that laid down by the Government of India or 3-10th of the net salary.

4. With regard to the Peons I would remark that analogy between those belonging to the Central office and Collectorate Peons does not exist. The former live at the Presidency where they leave their families liable to very heavy expenses, and are themselves employed in travelling over a vast range of country often (as on the Hills and in Malabar) under great additional charges for food and clothing and with fatigues and privations to undergo.

5. The Collectorate Peons travel in a limited District, are generally with the Collector's Camp for a month at a time in one village, and certainly have hitherto been at small additional expense for food. Indeed I know that in many if not most Districts the Peons receive food free of cost from the Talook servants or the ryots, or such at least was formerly the practice.

6. Of the Peons who accompanied me the other day one receives 7 and the other 6 Rupees a month. They were absent for six months and suffered severely from sickness and fatigue and I cannot think the extra batta I allowed them Rupees 3-8 per month was undeserved, as it barely supported them alone while their family expenses were scarcely lessened by their absence.

7. The writer I took with me was a Native on 20 Rupees a month and I paid him 25 Rupees travelling batta. This may seem high but I applied for an inclusive salary of 60 Rupees, and I do not think that pay excessive, but if the Bengal scale were applied he would only have received 6 Rupees as batta from which he would have had to pay for a bandy.

8. To afford a high rate of batta a higher order of Clerk must be employed, but those are Chiefly East Indians, who cannot accommodate themselves to the difficulties of travel like Natives. My writer very seldom sat on a Chair through the whole tour, whereas if I had taken my head Clerk on 80 Rupees with batta amounting to 25 Rupees the pay would not do more than keep him in horse, Tent Cart hire and servants, and the work done would have been less.

9. It therefore appears to me very evident that the Bengal rules though applicable to the District Engineer's establishments are not so to those servants who accompany the Superintending Engineer from the Central office, and that the batta allowed should not depend on the amount of salary but on the value of service to be rendered.

10. In order to avoid the necessity of future reference, I would take this opportunity of suggesting that the order passed in regard to my drawing advances from the Collectors when on my recent tour should be extended to all Superintending Engineers under similar circumstances, it being impossible to move with any certainty without the regular and punctual receipt of so much of the salary as is necessary to meet current expenses. The mode also of payment to the public servants accompanying a Superintending Engineer requires regulation.

Resolved, that the foregoing letter No. 213, dated the 31st August 1857, from the Superintending Engineer Southern Circle of Public Works be forwarded by the Chief Engineer for the favorable consideration of the Right Honorable the Governor-in-Council.

(Signed) C. E. FABER, Colonel,
Chief Engineer.

No. 33.

ORDER THEREON, No. 1773; dated 17th September 1857.

The Chief Engineer submits for favorable consideration a letter from Major Lawford, Superintending Engineer Southern Circle, offering observations on two orders recently issued by Government, which he considers will affect the proceedings of Superintending Engineers when on tours of inspection.

2. The first order to which reference is made, is that contained in Extract from the Minutes of Consultation of the 4th August last No. 781, prohibiting the use by Officers in the Public Works Department, of the public Bungalows along the line of road on which they are employed. Major Lawford represents that, as Superintending Engineers generally travel too rapidly to admit of their encamping at every halt, they should be considered as bonâ fide travellers, and be allowed the use of public bungalows. The Governor in Council will not object to exempt Superintending Engineers from the operation of the order of the 4th August last, in cases where they may really be proceeding with such rapidity, as will not allow of their encamping; but he is of opinion that, in all other cases, they should provide their own accommodation, equally with the other Members of the Department, out of the travelling allowance which is expressly granted for the purpose.

3. The second order noticed by Major Lawford is that of the 19th August 1857 No. 1610, in which batta to Peons, accompanying Superintending Engineers on their tours of inspection, is considered inadmissible; and in which also it is ruled that batta to Writers, similarly proceeding to the Provinces, shall be granted according to the scale laid down by the Government of India, viz. three-tenths of the salary of each servant.

4. With regard to that part of the order, disallowing batta to the Peons of the Central Office, Major Lawford represents that a comparison cannot fairly be instituted between them and the Collectorate Peons. The former, he says, "live at the Presidency, where they leave "their families liable to very heavy expenses, and are themselves employed in travelling over a "vast range of country, often (as on the Hills and in Malabar) under great additional charges "for food and clothing, and with fatigues and privations to undergo;" whereas the Collector's Peons, he continues, "travel in a limited District, are generally with the Collector's Camp for a "month at a time in one village, and certainly have hitherto been at small additional expense "for food." He also adds that the two Peons, who accompanied him on his late tour, were absent for six months, and suffered severely from sickness and fatigue; and he states that the batta of Rupees 3-8 per mensem, which he allowed them, was barely sufficient for their support, while their family expenses were scarcely lessened by their absence.

5. Major Lawford's representation in behalf of the Peons of the Central Office, appears to the Governor in Council to be entitled to favorable consideration, on the ground that they have to travel over a greater area than the Collector's Peons; and he is accordingly pleased to direct that batta, at the rate of three-tenths of their salary, be granted to Peons of the Central Office when accompanying Superintending Engineers on their tours of inspection.

6. With respect to the Writers of the Central Office, proceeding to the Provinces with Superintending Engineers, the Governor in Council observes that the scale of travelling allowance laid down by the Government of India, has not reference solely to the establishments of Executive Engineers, but also to those of other Public Works Officers when absent on duty from their fixed stations; and His Lordship in Council sees no sufficient reason for giving Writers of the Central Office, accompanying Superintending Engineers to the Provinces, a higher rate of travelling batta than that already fixed by the Government of India.

7. With reference to the suggestion in the last para. of Major Lawford's letter, the Governor in Council is unwilling to pass a general order for the grant of advances to Superintending Engineers when proceeding on tours of inspection; but he will be prepared to take into consideration any application for such advances that may be submitted by those Officers, on behalf of themselves and of their establishments, when occasion may arise.

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

№ 3328

Extract from the Proceedings of the Chief Engineer under date the 1st September 1857.

Read the following letter from the Superintending Engineer Southern Circle of Public Works.

/Here enter August 31/57 № 213/

Resolved that the foregoing letter № 213. dated the 31st August 1857 from the Superintending Engineer Southern Circle of Public Works be forwarded by the Chief Engineer for the favorable consideration of the Right Honorable the Governor in Council

Recd Letter from Supt Engr Letter.

/True Extract/
Wd Faber Colonel
Chief Engineer

To The Secretary to Government
D.P.W.

from

P.W.D.

N:1773

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation

Under date the 17th September, 1857.

Read the following

Extract from the Proceedings

of the Chief Engineer.

/Here enter 1st Sept.r 1857 N:3328/

The Chief Engineer

submits for favourable consi=

=deration a letter from Major

Lawford, Superintending Engineer

Southern Circle, offering obser=

=tions on two orders recently

issued by Government, which

he considers will affect the

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Engineers when on tours of

inspection.

2. The first order

to which reference is made,

is that contained in Extract

from

Rec.d 4th Sept.r 1857 Reg.d 4th Sept.r 1857 Public Works Dep.t 25th Sept.r 1857 Rec.d 22nd Sept.r 1857 No 1735

No 32.

Cop.y of Sp.D: 814.

from the Minutes of Consultations of the 4th August last No. 781 prohibiting the use by officers in the Public Works Department, of the public bungalows along the line of road on which they are employed.

Major Lawford represents that, as Superintending Engineers generally travel too rapidly to admit of their encamping at every halt, they should be considered as bonâ fide travellers, and be allowed the use of public bungalows. The Governor in Council will not object to exempt Superintending Engineers from the operation of the order of the 4th August last, in cases where they may really be proceeding with such rapidity as will not allow of their encamping;

encamping; but he is of opinion that, in all other cases, they should provide their own accommodation, equally with the other Members of the Department, out of the travelling allowance which is expressly granted for the purpose.

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of

of India, Viz^t three-tenths of the Salary of each Servant.

With regard to that part of the order, disallowing batta to the Peons of the Central Office, Major Lawford represents that a comparison cannot fairly be instituted between them and the Collectorate peons. The former, he says, "live at the Presidency, where "they leave their families "liable to very heavy expenses, "and are themselves employed "in travelling over a vast range "of Country, often (as on the "Hills and in Malabar) under "great additional charges for "food and clothing, and "with fatigues and privations "to undergo"; whereas the Collectors Peons, he continues, "travel in a limited District, are

"are generally with the Collectors Camp for a Month "at a time in one Village, "and certainly have hitherto "been at small additional "expense for food." He also adds that the two Peons, who accompanied him on his late tour, were absent for six Months, and suffered severely from Sickness and fatigue; and he states that the batta of Rupees 3-8 per mensem, which he allowed them, was barely sufficient for their support, while their family expenses were scarcely lessened by their absence.

5. Major Lawford's representation, in behalf of the Peons of the Central Office, appears to the Governor in Council to be entitled to favorable

favorable consideration, on the ground that they have to travel over a greater area than the Collectors' Peons, and he is accordingly pleased to direct that batta at the rate of three-tenths of their salary, be granted to Peons of the Central Office when accompanying Superintending Engineers on their tours of inspection.

With respect to the Writers of the Central office, proceeding to the Provinces with Superintending Engineers, the Governor in Council observes that the Scale of travelling allowance laid down by the Government of India, has not reference solely to the Establishments of Executive Engineers, but also to those of other Public Works Officers when absent on duty from their fixed stations, and His Lordship in Council sees no sufficient reason for giving Writers of the Central Office, accompanying Superintending Engineers to the Provinces, a higher rate of travelling batta than that already fixed by the Government of India.

With reference to the suggestion in the last para of Major Lamford's letter, the Governor in Council is unwilling to pass a general order for the grant of advances to Superintending Engineers when proceeding on tours of inspection; but he will be prepared to take into consideration any application for such advances

advances that may be
submitted by those officers,
on behalf of themselves
and of their establishments.
Such allocation may
vary.

1 Copies to the Chief Engr
2 Bd of Ord & Fort
Asst Genl
Chief Clerk
Civil Auditor

R. Cons: 4th Augt 57 No 40.
PW — 25th Augt — — 10,411.

Public Works 1857 Dept
No 4 to Cons: 22d Septr

No 1773.

Extract Mins: of Cons:
Dated 17th Septr 57.
From the Acting Civil Auditor 26th March
1796 N 729 in Cons: 12th April p. 83 Vol 1

5

Declining to pass a Final
Order for the Grant of advances to Superin-
:ding Engineers when proceeding on tour of
inspection but Observing that the Govt
will be prepared to take into Consideration
any application for such advances that
may be submitted by those Officers on
behalf of themselves and of their esta-
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No 32 & 33.

C 9th Sep: 814