1. Number of pages. 8
2. Date of receipt 13-8-37
3. Number of References

M.R.O. 1—82,400—28-11-30.

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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

Cons. 20 to 57

G.O. No. 1952 Press Mis.

52 53

Dated 14 to 18 57

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 52. Read the following Extract from the Proceedings of the Chief Engineer, dated 9th October 1857, No. 4340.

Read the following letter from Lieutenant Colonel R. HENDERSON, Chief Engineer of Hydrabad; to Colonel C. E. FABER, Chief Engineer, dated Bolarum, 3rd October 1857, No. $\frac{281}{346}$.

SIR,

I have the honor to enclose copy of a letter No. 655 dated 30th September 1857, addressed to me by the Assistant Quarter Master General H. S. Force by order of Major General Coffin and my reply thereto, and beg that you will inform the Government, that I have now been compelled to suspend the erection of all the auxiliary buildings at the Trimulgherry Barracks regarding which I telegraphed to Madras for orders on first receiving Major General Coffin's directions to stop the work, pending an answer to my message I had considered it my duty to continue work at one of the buildings to a certain extent, but this I have now felt myself obliged to suspend in consequence of the peremptory orders of General Coffin, notwithstanding the loss of time and money the Government must suffer.

2. I now beg to submit for the decision of Government whether the Officer Commanding the H. S. Force is at liberty summarily to put a stop to work which has been sanctioned and ordered to be carried out with the greatest possible despatch both by the Government of Fort Saint George and the Government of India, and to overthrow arrangements which have been made at the expense of considerable time, money and labor without affording me the slightest explanation or reason for so doing, and merely as far as I can gather from his 1st letter on the subject No. 615, dated 17th September 1857, (copy of which is attached) because he disapproves of Estimates which have been approved of and sanctioned by the Governments of India and Fort St. George; the buildings being essential for the accommodation of a Regiment of European Infantry.

Letter from Captain T. PEYTON, Assistant Quarter Master General H. S. Force; to Lieutenant Colonel R. HENDERSON, C. B., Chief Engineer of Hydrabad, in charge of Trimulgherry Barracks, dated Secunderabad, 17th September 1857, No. 615.

SIR,

I am directed by the Major General Commanding the Force to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 860 of the 11th Instant, and to request that the further progress of the Buildings noted in the margin may be suspended for the present. The Major General has submitted for the consideration of the Commander in Chief how far it is desirable under existing circumstances, to erect these buildings at their present estimates.

Coffee room and Library.
Staff Serjeants' Quarters.
Serjeants' Mess.
Guard Room and
Officers do.
Tailors shop and Quarter Master's store room.
Rear Guard and orderly Room &c.
Ten Water Rooms.

Letter from Captain T. PEYTON, Assistant Quarter Master General H. S. Force; to Lieutenant Colonel R. HENDERSON, C. B., in charge Trimulgherry Barracks, dated Secunderabad, 30th September 1857, No. 655.

SIR,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 945, of yesterday's date.

In my letter to your address of 17th Instant, you received Major General Coffin's orders to suspend the progress of certain buildings at the Trimulgherry Barracks, of which the Serjeants' Mess was one.

It subsequently became known to the Major General that this building was still in progress, but he naturally concluded it was so under some misapprehension, and therefore I was directed to write my letter of the 23rd Instant, to ascertain under what circumstances the building was continued.

Coffin

Your letter now received shows to Major General Coffin that you have wilfully disobeyed his orders, and it will be for Government to decide whether you are justified in doing so.

In the mean time you are hereby directed to suspend the work at the Serjeants' Mess and, report to the Major General your having done so.

Letter from Lieutenant Colonel R. HENDERSON, C. B. Chief Engineer of Hydrabad; to Major General COFFIN, Commanding Hydrabad Subsidiary Force, Secunderabad, dated Bolarum, 2nd October 1857, No. 977.

SIR,

In reply to the letter of your Assistant Quarter Master General No. 655, dated 30th Ultimo, conveying your peremptory order to discontinue the construction of the Serjeants' Mess room at Trimulgherry, I beg to inform you that I have now stopped the work.

2. On the 17th September a letter was addressed to me by your Quarter Master General requesting me to suspend the progress of certain buildings which I had been ordered to complete with the greatest possible despatch by the Government of India and the Government of Fort Saint George. In this letter you gave me no reasons to justify me in going counter to the above mentioned orders of superior authority, and therefore after submitting your letter to the Resident I pointed out in my communication No. $\frac{208}{490}$ dated 19th September 1857, the loss of time and money that would be entailed by the stoppage. In the same letter I also laid before you by the Resident's order his opinion that the work should be completed without delay as he had recommended to Government the extensive re-inforcement of European Troops at this station.

3. To this letter you made no reply, and I then addressed you again in my letter No. $\frac{211}{493}$ dated 21st September informing you that I had discharged a number of workmen, reiterating what I had said regarding the loss of time and money to Government, and requesting to know whether you still wished the buildings to be suspended as you were now aware of the wishes of Government that no delay should take place in their completion.

4. Your orders to suspend them then became more peremptory and although I considered it my duty to continue the work at one of the buildings, viz. the Serjeants' Mess pending a reference I had made to Madras, rather than summarily discharge the work men employed upon it, I have now in consequence of the receipt of your letter under reply ordered its discontinuance.

5. It will be for the Government however to decide whether or not you are authorized to give me orders in direct contravention of those already given by the Government itself. But as my services are placed at the disposal of the Supreme Government, it is my opinion that any such orders should be issued to me by the Resident as my immediate superior, especially when connected with such an important undertaking as the one in question. I am aware however that you have the power of ejecting my work people by force from the Cantonment, and therefore I have stopped the work to prevent the undesirable consequences of such a proceeding, and I am the more led to act in this manner as in an interview with you on the occasion of an Officer of my Department, Lieutenant Smith having been prevented from obeying your orders to attend at your quarters, you told me that you were at one time on the point of sending an armed party under Captain Peyton to bring him to your presence, although you yourself had issued an order only a short time previously placing this Officer's services at the absolute disposal of the Resident.

6. In conclusion I have the honor to inform you that it is my intention to forward a protest to the Resident for submission to higher authority against the present most unusual interruption in the arrangements made by me for carrying out the orders of the Supreme and Madras Governments.

Resolved that a copy of the foregoing despatch No. $\frac{211}{493}$ of the 3rd October 1857, together with the original enclosures be immediately brought to the notice of Government for the early orders of the Right Honorable the Governor in Council.

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

No. 53. ORDER THEREON, No. 1952; dated 16th October 1857.

Ordered to be referred to the Military Department.

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

Coffin

No 4340

Extract from the Proceedings of the Chief Engineer
in the Department of Public Works
Under date the 9th October 1857

Read the following letter

No $\frac{981}{546}$

To

The Chief Engineer Dett
Fort Saint George

Sir

I have the honor to enclose copy of a letter No 655 dated 30th September 1857 addressed to me by the Assistant Quarter Master General H. S. Fane by order of Major General Coffin and my reply thereto, and beg that you will inform the Govt. that I have now been compelled to suspend the erection of all the Auxiliary buildings at the Trimulgherry Barracks regarding which I telegraphed to Madras for orders on first receiving Major General

Coffin

Coffins directions to stop the work. Pending an answer to my message I had considered it my duty to continue work at one of the buildings to a certain extent, but this I have now felt myself obliged to suspend in consequence of the peremptory orders of General Coffin, notwithstanding the loss of time and money the Govt must suffer.

2 I now beg to submit for the decision of Government whether the Officer Commanding the H.S. Force is at liberty summarily to put a stop to work which has been sanctioned and ordered to be carried out with the greatest possible despatch both by the Govt of Fort Saint George and the Govt of India, and to overthrow arrangements which have been made at the expense of considerable time, money and labor without affording me the slightest explanation or reason for so doing - and merely as far as I can gather from his Pt letter on the subject No 615 dated 17 September 1857 (copy of which is attached) because he disapproves of Estimates which have been approved of and sanctioned by the Governments of India & Fort St George, the buildings being essential for the accommodation of a Regiment of European Infantry.

(Signed) R Henderson Lt Col
Chief Engr of Hyderabad

D. Camm
3d October 1857

7-8

Resolved that a copy of the foregoing despatch No 951/526 of the 3d Octr 1857 together with the original enclosures be immediately brought to the notice of Government for the early orders of the Right Honorable the Govr in Council

A.R. Taber Colonel
Chief Engineer

To
The Secretary to Government
Public Works Department

D.W. Montan

No. 1952

Ordered to be referred to the Military Department

Genl Hd Qrs
16th Octr. 57

PW

PW — 1857 Department
Genl Corps 20th October.
No 2017

Extract from the Proceedings of the Chief Engineer

To the Secretary to Govt &c.

Dated 9th October 1857

Received 9th October 1857

Encls: Rect. 11/11/57 No 4340

Forwards for the orders of Govt Copy of a letter from the Ch Engr Hyderabad stating that he has been compelled by pressure of the times to suspend all Auxiliary Buildings at Trimulgherry in consequence of an order issued by the Officer Comdg H.S. Force.

3 Copies to the Mily Depr. Circ. 17

No 52-453

Wm Mackenzie
No 1952 16th Octr