1. Number of Pages
2. Date of repair
3. Initials of Reference

M.R.O. I—32-03—21-12-98

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.		Press Mis.
Dated	19	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Read the following papers.

No. 30. Letter from Colonel W. E. BAKER, Secretary to the Government of India; to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government of Fort St. George, dated Fort William, the 18th September, 1857, No. 4609.

SIR,

In continuation of my letter No. 3981, dated the 7th Ultimo, I am directed to forward for the information of the Right Honorable the Governor in Council of Fort Saint George, Extract (paras. 6, 7 and 12) of a Despatch from the Honorable the Court of Directors No. 14, dated 6th May 1857, regarding the duties and allowances of certain Officers of the Department of Public Works, and of Superintending Engineers in particular. It will be observed that in the 12th para., the Honorable Court desire to be informed of the accurate amount of charge to be incurred by the new establishment in the Madras Presidency.

Extract from a Despatch from the Honorable Court of Directors, addressed to the Government of India in the Public Works Department, No. 14 of 1857, dated 6th May.

Para. 6. Chief Engineers are distributed in three classes, according to the extent and importance of their territorial jurisdiction, the monthly departmental pay assigned to members of each class being respectively Rupees 2,250, Rupees 1,200 and Rupees 1,000. With Chief Engineers of the third class are ranked Superintending Engineers, who also are to receive Rupees 1,000 per month. The Code Committee had proposed only Rupees 800 a month for Superintending Engineers; but the amount was increased by you at the instance of the Madras Government and in consideration of the responsibility of the office, the standing in the service of the Officers likely to hold it, and the superiority of the allowances of Officers of similar rank in the Commissariat Department. Another reason urged by the Madras Government is the greater comparative expense of living at the several presidential capitals, where, it is assumed, that the three Superintending Engineers of each Presidency would reside. Their duties are described as being those of Secretaries to the Chief Engineer, "each for a third part of the Presidency." Their business it is said would be for the most part of a sedentary character, two of them being constantly at their posts in the Chief Engineer's office, though the third might be engaged on occasional tours of inspection.

Letter No. 27, dated 17th June 1856.

7. This is in substance the description given by the Madras Government and accepted by you, of the duties of a Superintending Engineer, but we had formed a very different notion of them. We supposed that Superintending Engineers would be required to reside in the Divisions which they respectively superintended. We neither designed that they should be regarded as "virtual Secretaries," nor did we consider that the Chief Engineer would require the aid of three Secretaries in addition to that of a specially designated "Assistant," nor, if three Secretaries were really required, should we be disposed to allot departmental pay at the rate of Rupees 1,000 per mensem to each, exclusive of full Regimental pay and allowances. This part of the plan must therefore be reconsidered. It is manifest that superintendence of Public Works in the Provinces, in order to be effectual, must be maintained by means of immediate personal inspection, and is incompatible with habitual residence in a Metropolis. We are decidedly of opinion that the salaries should be reduced to Rupees 800 a month as proposed by the Committee, and we desire that this reduction may be made three months after the receipt of the present Despatch. We desire that you will also revert with a similar interval to the Committee's proposal respecting the salaries of Chief Engineers of the 2nd Class and of the Superintendent of Canals in the North Western Provinces. The departmental salary of each of these functionaries (in the case of the post being held by a Military man) was intended by the Committee to have been Rupees 1,000 per mensem, but was raised to Rupees 1,200, when that of Superintending Engineers was raised, in order that the same relative superiority might be preserved.

* * * *

12. The annual charge for the existing Establishments for Bengal, the North West Provinces, the Punjab, Saugor and Pegu, may be stated at $16\frac{3}{4}$ lacs per annum, the additions

NOTE.—It is stated in the Code Committee's letter at 20¾ lacs, but on comparison with the Table appended to the letter, this would seem to be a clerical error.

recommended by the Code Committee would require a further sum stated at Rupees 3,87,048 per annum. This is a large increase to an expenditure already very large, but with the exception of what has been enjoined above, we cannot perceive in what way it can be materially diminished without hazard of a corresponding diminution of efficiency.

We admit the justice of the Committee's remark that the cost of a judiciously increased Establishment for supervising Public Works will always be more than compensated by the greater efficiency and economy of execution. We consider the Committee fairly entitled to the encomium you have passed upon the care, forethought and ability with which they have discharged their functions, and we recognize these qualities not less in the financial than in the other details of their scheme. By far the greatest part of the increased expenditure is proposed to take place in the Subordinate grades of the Department where, as the employees must necessarily be largely trusted, liberal, though not excessive remuneration is especially requisite to ensure integrity and to encourage energy. But we are not aware that in their desire to foster honesty and zeal, the Committee have erred on the side of profusion, and we the more readily sanction your adoption of their recommendations on account of your explicit declaration that in filling up the appointments, merit shall be chiefly regarded, in preference to the claims of mere seniority. We desire to be informed of the accurate amount of charge to be incurred by the new establishments, not only under the Government of India, but in the Presidencies of Madras and Bombay also.

(A true Extract.)

(Signed) W. E. BAKER, Colonel,
Secretary to the Government of India.

No. 30. A. *Minute by the Right Honorable the President.*

Since writing my Minute of the 16th of September, Colonel Baker's letter of 18th Ultimo, has been received and brought to my notice, enclosing an Extract of the Honorable Court's Despatch to the Supreme Government dated 6th May 1857, No. 14.

In this Despatch considerable stress appears to be laid on the term "Virtual Secretaries" which it is assumed, is the view which this Government holds of the position of the Superintending Engineer.

The only authority I find for this is, that the expression is employed by the Chief Engineer in a letter to Government and that it is included in an Extract from that letter in the Despatch to the Government of India of the 27th August 1855.

It is probably difficult to define the distinction that exists, because in some respects the duties of the Superintending Engineer must be similar to those of Secretaries to the Chief Engineers, whilst in other respects as Inspecting Officers of Circles, they are not so, and these similarities and dissimilarities must continue unless the positions of the respective Officers are very much altered and this change can I believe only be effected by enlarged establishments and increased expenditure.

It will be remembered, that the original plan for the Department was to have a grade of Inspecting Officers between the Superintending and the District Engineers.

I declined to sanction the formation of this grade until the necessity for it was proved, which has not been the case as yet, and I believe the District Engineers properly handled and supervised by the Superintending Engineers can well fulfil all the duties of District Inspection.

I must take this opportunity of expressing my full concurrence with the views which my Honorable Colleague Mr. Elliot has so ably expressed respecting the advantages to be derived from the opportunities of consultation, which their residence at the Presidency affords to the Consulting Engineers but I cannot altogether go with him in his opinion respecting the arrangements for the Central office.

If the Superintending Engineers are allowed to correspond with the Chief Engineer I should fear, that there would be the old evils again to contend with, great delay in the transaction of business, and increased expense.

Discussions upon works might be continued between the Chief and a Superintending Engineer for months, while by the present arrangement the opinions of both when they differ will be laid before Government and decided on at once.

I should, at all events, be disposed to give the rules now in force, and which have been lately revised, a fair trial.

I dread delay, and an accumulation of unnecessary correspondence, and even now there is a superabundance of the latter, and too much of the former.

I give this opinion always supposing, the present position of the Chief Engineer to continue and that he is still required to correspond with the Secretary to Government.

Colonel Faber has already impugned that arrangement, and has contended that the Chief Engineer should be the Secretary to Government for the Department of Public Works.

I have given no opinion on that point, and am certainly not prepared at present to recommend such a change.

(Signed) HARRIS.

No. 31. ORDER THEREON, No. 2072; dated 6th November 1857.

Ordered that the following reply be despatched with reference to paras. 6 and 7 of the Honorable Court's Despatch received with the letter from the Government of India, and that the Chief Engineer be called on to supply the information required by the Honorable Court in para. 12.

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

No. 32. Ordered in consequence that the following letter be despatched.

From H. FORBES, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Government of Fort St. George; to Colonel W. E. BAKER, Secretary to the Government of India, D. P. W. dated 6th November 1857, No, 2073.

SIR,

Para. 1. I am directed by the Right Honorable the Governor in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 18th September No. 4609, enclosing an extract from a Despatch from the Honorable Court of Directors to the Supreme Government, dated 6th May 1857, No. 14, regarding the duties and allowances of certain Officers of the Department of Public Works.

2. In paras. 6 and 7 of this Despatch, the Honorable Court appear to lay considerable stress on the term "Virtual Secretaries," as applied in the earlier correspondence of this Government, to the position which the Superintending Engineers occupy, relatively to the Chief Engineer, and assume that this is the view entertained by this Government of the position of those Officers. The Honorable Court appear to have received this impression from the term having been employed by the Chief Engineer in his letter to this Government dated 25th May 1855, of which an extract was given in para. 13 of the communication to your address dated the 27th August following; but the Government did not on that occasion wholly adopt that view, or intend, as they have since explained in their separate letter of the 21st Ultimo No. 1977, that the Superintending Engineers should occupy the position of Secretaries to the Chief Engineer, but rather that of

his advisers and professional Assistants. It is not practicable to define with precision the distinction that now exists, because, in some respects, the duties of the Superintending Engineers are, as they must necessarily be, similar to those of Secretaries to the Chief Engineer, whilst in other respects, as Superintending Officers of Circles, their position is very different; and these similarities and dissimilarities must continue, unless the position of the Superintending Engineers is much altered, by a change which must be followed by enlarged establishments and increased expenditure. The Rules prescribing and regulating the duties of the Superintending Engineers recorded in the Consultations of this Government of the 17th June 1856, a copy of which has been furnished to the Government of India, will better explain the position of these Officers, and I am desired to refer you to them for the information. Some modifications of these rules were made in orders passed on the 10th August and 17th September 1857, Nos. 1556 and 1770, in order to give more personal authority and responsibility to the Superintending Engineers, and more leisure to the Head of the Department. Copies of these orders are now submitted for the information of the Government of India.

3. The Government of India are aware, from Mr. Bourdillon's letter to your address dated 27th August 1855, that in the original plan for the Public Works Department of this Presidency, it was proposed by the Chief Engineer to have a grade of Inspecting Officers between the Superintending and the District Engineers, but that this Government, declined to sanction the arrangement, until a necessity for it had appeared. The Government particularly noticed* that one consequence of their refusal would be that the Superintending Engineers would be more frequently called upon to make tours of inspection than if a grade of Inspecting Officers had been sanctioned. I am desired to remark that the necessity for Inspecting Officers has not yet been apparent, and that, under the Supervision which the Superintending Engineers will exercise under existing arrangements, the Government believe that the District Engineers will be found satisfactorily to fulfil all the requirements of the service as respects District inspection.

* para. 15.

4. The information required in para. 12 of the Honorable Court's Despatch has been called for from the Chief Engineer, and will be furnished as soon as received.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.
Public.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
6th November 1857.

No. 2073.

From

H. FORBES, Esq.,
Acting Secretary to the Government of Fort St. George.

To

COLONEL W. E. BAKER,
Secretary to the Government of India, D. P. W.

SIR,

Para. 1. I am directed by the Right Honorable the Governor in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 18th September No. 4609, enclosing an extract from a Despatch from the Honorable Court of Directors to the Supreme Government, dated 6th May 1857, No. 14, regarding the duties and allowances of certain Officers of the Department of Public Works.

2. In paras. 6 and 7 of this Despatch, the Honorable Court appear to lay considerable stress on the term "virtual Secretaries," as applied in the earlier correspondence of this Government, to the position which the Superintending Engineers occupy, relatively to the Chief Engineer, and assume that this is the view entertained by this Government of the position of those Officers. The Honorable Court appear to have received this impression from the term having been employed by the Chief Engineer in his letter to this Government dated 25th May 1855, of which an extract was given in para. 13 of the communication to your address dated the 27th August following; but the Government did not on that occasion wholly adopt that view, or intend, as they have since explained in their separate letter of the 21st Ult. No. 1977, that the Superintending Engineers should occupy the position of Secretaries to the Chief Engineer, but rather that of his advisers and professional Assistants. It is not practicable to define with precision the distinction that now exists, because, in some respects, the duties of the Superintending Engineers are, as they must necessarily be, similar to those of Secretaries to the Chief Engineer, whilst in other respects, as Superintending Officers of Circles, their position is very different; and these similarities and dissimilarities must continue, unless the position of the Superintending Engineers is much altered, by a change which must be followed by enlarged establishments and increased expenditure. The Rules prescribing and regulating the duties of the Superintending Engineers recorded in the Consultations of this Government of the 17th June 1856, a copy of which has been furnished to the Government of India, will better explain the position of these Officers, and I am desired to refer you to them for the information. Some modifications of these rules were made in orders passed on the 10th August and 17th September 1857, Nos. 1556 and 1770, in order to give more personal authority and responsibility to the Superintending Engineers, and more leisure to the Head of the Department. Copies of these orders are now submitted for the information of the Government of India.

3. The Government of India are aware, from Mr. Bourdillon's letter to your address dated 27th August 1855, that in the original plan for the Public Works Department of this Presidency, it was proposed by the Chief Engineer to have a grade of Inspecting Officers between the Superintending and the District Engineers, but that this Government, declined to sanction the arrangement, until a necessity for it had appeared. The Government particularly noticed* that one consequence of their refusal would be that the Superintending Engineers would be more frequently called upon to make tours of inspection than if a grade of Inspecting Officers had been sanctioned. I am desired to remark that the necessity for Inspecting Officers has not yet been apparent, and that, under the Super-

* para. 15.

vision which the Superintending Engineers will exercise under existing arrangements, the Government believe that the District Engineers will be found satisfactorily to fulfil all the requirements of the service as respects District inspection.

4. The information required in para. 12 of the Honorable Court's Despatch has been called for from the Chief Engineer, and will be furnished as soon as received.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient Servant,

Acting Secretary to Government.

№4609.

(9)

From,

Colonel W. E. Baker,

Secretary to the Govt. of India,

To,

T. Pycroft, Esqre.,

Chief Secretary to Govt. of Fort St. George,

Dated the 18th September, 1857.

Pub: Works Deptt.

Public

Sir,

In continuation of my letter №398 dated the 7th ultimo, I am directed to forward for the information of the Right Honble the Governor in Council of Fort Saint George, extract (paras 6, 7 and 12) of a Despatch from the Honble the Court of Directors №14 dated 6th May 1857, regarding the duties and allowances of certain Officers of the Department of Public Works, and of Superintending Engineers in particular.

It will be observed that in the 12th para: the Honble Court desire to be informed of the accurate amount of charge to be incurred by the new establishment in the Madras Presidency.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedt. Servant,

W. E. Baker Colonel

Secretary to the Govt. of India

Engineers.

Fort William,
The 18th September,
1857.

2 Enc.

Extract from a Despatch from the Hon'ble Court of Directors, addressed to the Govern-ment of India in the Public Works De-partment, No. 14 of 1857, dated 6th May.—

Letter No. 27 Dated 17th June 1856. Para: 6. Chief Engineers are distributed in three classes, according to the extent and importance of their territorial jurisdiction, the monthly departmental pay assigned to members of each class being respectively Rupees 2.250, Rupees 1.200 and Rupees 1.000. With Chief Engineers of the third class are ranked Superintending Engineers, who also are to receive Rupees 1.000 per month. The Code Committee had proposed only Rupees 800 a Month for Superintending En-gineers; but the amount was increased by you at the instance of the Madras Govern-ment and in consideration of the respon-sibility of the Office, the Standing in the Service of the Officers likely to hold it, and the Superiority of the allowances of Offices of similar rank in the Commissariat Department. Another reason urged by the Madras Government is the greater Comparative expense of living at the several presidential Capitals, where it is assumed

Engineers

Public Works Dep't
Fort William, 10th Jan 1862
No. 1952.

From the Secy to the
Govt of India.

To the Secy to the
Govt of Madras.

Dated Fort William, 1857

Received Feb 16 }

No. 1609

Ordered, that a Copy
of the Communication
a Copy of Paragraph 6 of
a Despatch from the
Honble the Court of
Directors No. 14 dated
6th May 1857 regarding
the Salaries and Allow-
ances of certain Officers
of the Public Department
Public Works and
Irrigation Engineers
Roads in Fort William
Madras

Ordered that the Hon'ble Court
be informed of the
arrangements
change to be
by the new Establish-
ment in the Madras
Presidency

Copies sent to Secy
Public Works Dep't
Fort William
Secy Govt Madras
Public Works Dep't

No. 80.

Copies sent to Secy
Govt of India
Public Works Dep't
Secy Govt Madras
Public Works Dep't

assumed, that the three Superintending Engineers, of each Presidency, would reside. Their duties are described as being those of Secretaries to the Chief Engineer, "each for a "third part of the Presidency." Their business it is said, would be for the most part of a sedentary character, two of them being constantly at their posts in the Chief Engineers Office, though the third might be engaged on occasional tours of inspection.

7. — This is in substance the description given by the Madras Government and accepted by us [illegible] duties of a Superintending Engineer, but we had learned a very different notion of them. We supposed that Superintending Engineers would be required to reside in the Divisions which they respectively superintended. We neither designed that they should be regarded as "virtual Secretaries," nor did we consider that the Chief Engineer would require the aid of three Secretaries in addition to that of a specially designated "Assistant," nor, if three Secretaries were really required, should we be disposed to allot departmental

pay

pay at the rate of Rupees 1000 per Mensem to each, exclusive of full regimental pay and allowances. This part of the plan must therefore be reconsidered. It is manifest that superintendence of public works in the Provinces, in order to be effectual, must be maintained by means of immediate personal inspection, and is incompatible with habitual residence in a Metropolis. We are decidedly of opinion that the Salaries should be reduced to Rupees 800 a Month as proposed by the Committee, and we desire that this reduction may be made three months after the receipt of the present Despatch. We desire that you will also revert with a similar interval to the Committees proposal respecting the Salaries of Chief Engineers of the 2nd Class and of the Superintendent of Canals in the North Western Provinces. The departmental Salary of each of these functionaries (in the case of the post being held by a Military Man) was intended by the Committee to have been Rs. 1000 per Mensem, but was raised to Rs. 1200 when that of Superintending

Engineer

Engineers, was raised, in order that the same relative superiority might be preserved.—

12.— × × × × The Annual charge for the existing establishments for Bengal, the N. W. Provinces, the Punjab, Saugor, and Pegu, may be stated at 16 3/4 lacs per Annum. the additions recommended by the Code Committee would require a further sum stated at Rs. 3,87,048 per Annum. This is a large increase to an expenditure already very large, but with the exception of what has been enjoined above, we cannot perceive how it could be materially diminished without hazard of a corresponding diminution of efficiency. We admit the justice of the Committee's remark that the cost of a judiciously increased Establishment for supervising public works will always be more than compensated by the greater efficiency and economy of execution. We consider the Committee fairly entitled to the encomium you have passed upon the care, forethought and ability with which they have discharged their functions, and we recognize these qualities not less in the financial than in the other details of their scheme. By far the greatest part of the increased expenditure is proposed to take place in the Subordinate grades of the Department, where, as the employees must necessarily be largely trusted, liberal, though not excessive remuneration is especially requisite to ensure integrity and to encourage energy. But we are not aware that in their desire to foster honesty and zeal, the Committee have erred on the side of profusion, and we the more readily sanction your adoption of their recommendations, on account of your explicit declaration that in filling up the appointments, merit shall be chiefly regarded, in preference to the claims of mere seniority. We desire to be informed of the accurate amount of charge to be incurred by the new Establishments not only under the Govt. of India, but in the Presidencies of Madras and Bombay also.

(A true Extract.)

H. L. Anderson Colonel
Secretary to the Govt. of India.

(Note) It is stated in the Code Committee's Letter at 20 3/4 lacs, but on comparison with the Table appended to the letter, this would seem to be a clerical error.

A. J. D.

29

No 71 C

19

Since writing my minute of the 15th
[illegible] Lord Granville's letter of the 11th
has been brought to my notice
[illegible] has been removed, enclosing an
Extract of the Hankow Courier dated
Saturday 5th September and dated
6. May 57 No 14.

In this despatch considerable
stress appears to be laid on the
[illegible] - which
[illegible] - which
it is asserted - is the kind which
[illegible]
has lost holds - of the position of

para 12.

Dispy
Sir Rutherford Alcock
with copy of the letter & Encls

the Supd. Engr.

"The only authority I find for this is that the expression is employed by the Chf. Engr. in a letter to Govt. & that it is included in an extract from that letter in the despatch to the Govt. of India of the 27th Augt 1855.

It is probably difficult to define the distinction that exists - because in some respects the duties of the Supdg. Engrs. must be similar to those of Secretary

the Supdt. Engr. & the District Engr.

to the Chf. Engr. whilst in other respects as Inspecting officers of works they are not so. - & these similarities & dissimilarities must continue unless the position of the Inspecting officers are very much altered & this change can - I believe only be effected by ~~an increased~~ enlarged Es-tablishments & increased expenditure

It will be remembered - that the original plan for the Dept. was to have a grade of Inspecting Officers between

the Supt. Engr & the District Engr.
and received the same in the form of the grade. and
the hospitality for it was found. which
has not him the cake as yet. & of which
the District Engr kindly handed a copy
which by the Supt Engr can look helpful
in the duties of the next inspection.

I must take this opportunity
of expressing my full concurrence. with
the views of Colonel Ely Chief Engineer
so ably expressed. respecting the observations
to be derived from the opportunities of travelling

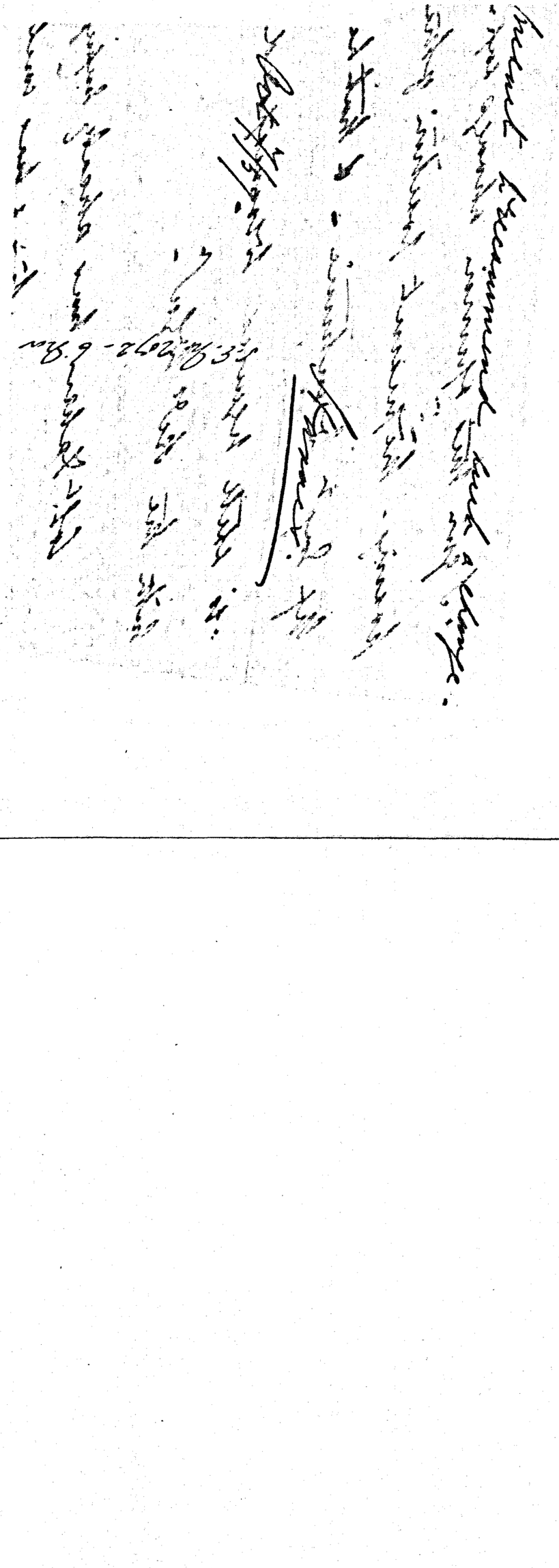
which during residence at the Presidency
affords to the consulting Engr. but
a Standard Gauge Railway
the opinion respecting the arrangements
for the Inland Office.

Copies of the Supt Engr are attached to
correspond with the Engr
Khanda par - that time allowed
to the old Engr agent Mr Chaplin
for - great delay in the transmission
of business - & increased expense -

I give this opinion strongly disapproving the treatment, cruelties of the Chf Engr Department & that he is still required to correspond with the Sec'y of War.

Col. Talcott has already begun that arrangement - & has concluded that the Chf Engr shd be the Sec'y's agent for the Dept of P. W.

I am giving the opinion as to that [illegible] - & am [illegible] prepared at



Public Works 1857 Dep^tt.
D^o to Cons 10^th Nov^r

No 2229.

Minute by the Right
Hon^ble. the Governor.
Dated 7^th October 1857.

Observing with regard to the terms "virtual secretaries" that the expression is employed by the Chief Engineer in a letter to Government and that it is included in an Extract from that letter in the dispatch to the Government of India of the 27^th August 1855, and adding that in some respects the duties of the Superintending Engineers must be similar to those of secretaries to the Chief Engineer whilst in other respects as Inspecting Officers of Works, they are not so, with certain observations and suggestions on the office of Inspectors.-

No 30 A.

27

P. W. D

No 2072.

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation

Under date the 6^th ~~October~~ November 1857.

Read the following Papers

~~Letter~~ from the Secretary to the Government of India.

(Here enter 18^th September 1857. No 609)

Min. by the Rt. Hon. the Gov^r 10^th 7^th Oct^r 57 -

Ordered that the following reply be dispatched with reference to paras 6 and 7 of the Honorable Court's Despatch received with the above letter, and that the Chief Engineer be called on to supply the information required by the Honorable Court in para 12.

9 Copies to the Chief Engr. with Copy of the letter & Encls.

Dis^d 7

S.W.D

No. 2073.

To

Colonel W. E. Baker.

Secretary to the Government of India.

Sir,

I. I am directed by the Right Honorable the Governor in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 18th Sept. ultimo No. 4609, enclosing an Extract from a Despatch from the Honorable Court of Directors to the Supreme Government, dated 6th May 1857 No. 14, regarding the duties and allowances of certain officers of the Department of Public Works.

2. In paras 6 and 7 of this despatch, the Honorable Court appear to lay considerable

Steps

stress on the term "virtual Secretaries," as applied in the earlier correspondence of this Government, to the position which the Superintending Engineers occupy, relatively to the Chief Engineer, and assume that this is the view entertained by this Government of the position of those officers. The Honorable Court appears to have received this impression from the term having been employed by the Chief Engineer in his letter to this Government dated 25th May 1855, of which an extract was given in para. 13 of the Communication to your address dated the 27th August following; but the Government did not on that occasion wholly adopt that view, or intend, as they have since explained in their separate letter of the 9th October 1857, that the Superintending Engineers should occupy the position of Secretaries to the Chief Engineer, but rather that of his advisers and professional assistants. It is not practicable to define with precision the distinctions that now exist, because, in some respects, the duties of the Superintending Engineer are, as they must necessarily be, similar to those of Secretaries to the Chief Engineer, whilst in other respects as Superintending Officers of Circles, their position is very different; and these dissimilarities must continue, unless the position

position of the Superintending Engineers is much altered by a change which must be followed by enlarged establishments and increased expenditure - The Rules prescribing and regulating the duties of the Superintending Engineers recorded in the Consultations of this Govt of the 17th June 1856, a copy of which has been furnished to the Government of India, will better explain the position of these Officers, and I am desired to refer you to them for the information. Some modifications of these rules were made in orders passed on the 10th August and 17th September 1857 Nos 1556 & 1770, in order to give more personal

authority

authority and responsibility to the Superintending Engineers, and more leisure to the Head of the Department. Copies of these orders are now submitted for the information of the Government of India.

3. The Government of India are aware, from Mr Gourdillon's letter to your address dated 29th August 1856, that in the original plan for the Public Works Department of this Presidency, it was proposed by the late Chief Engineer to have a grade of Inspecting officers between the Superintending and the District Engineers, but that this Government, declined to sanction the arrangement, until a necessity for it had appeared. The Government particularly noticed that one consequence of their refusal would

would be that the Superintending Engineers would be more frequently called upon to make tours of inspection than if a grade of Inspecting officers had been sanctioned. I am desired to remark that the necessity for Inspecting officers has not yet been apparent, and that, under the Superintending Engineers will exercise under existing arrangements the Government believe that the District Engineers will be found satisfactorily to fulfil all the requirements of the service as respects District inspection.

4 The information required in para 12 of the Honorable Courts despatch has been called for from the Chief Engineer, and will be furnished as soon as received.

I have &c

Fredk St George
Lt Col

Public Works 1857 Dep.t
Do to Covs: 18th Nov.

No: 2073.

To the Secretary to the Govt. of
India - D. P. Wks.
Dy 6th Nov. 57.

Regarding the duties and
allowances of certain Officers of the
Department of Public Works, and
of Superintending Engineers in
particular.

No 32.