1. No. of pages 42
2. Date of repair 18-6-32
3. Initials of Reference

M.R.O. 1—22,400—22-11-30.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

Cons. 7-4-1851

G.O. No. 693 Press Misc.

28

Dated 2-6- 18 51

Not to be folded or roughly handled

E-376

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Public.

Fort St. George,

2nd April 1857.

No. 609.

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, D. P. W.

SIR,

I am directed by the Right Honorable the Governor in Council to reply to your letter of December 19th 1856, No. 5963, forwarding for the information of this Government, a copy of a Resolution of the Government of India in the Financial Department No. 5500 dated 12th December 1856, relative to the establishment proposed for the Public Works Department of this Presidency. In the above mentioned Resolution the Supreme Government expressed agreement in most particulars with the proposals made, but they considered the salaries of the Upper Subordinate Department as too high, and the number of the lower Subordinates too large. They also noticed the Office establishment proposed for the Garrison Engineer as being very large; and were of opinion that the salaries proposed for the District Storekeepers were excessive. I am directed to notice each of these remarks in the order in which they were made.

2. The Governor in Council much regrets the reduction required by the Government of India in the numbers of the higher ranks of the Upper Subordinate Department,—a reduction which will almost wholly annihilate the grade of Sub Engineers, which this Government regards as so valuable. The very large proportion in the lowest grade also is looked upon as open to objection, as greatly reducing the expectation of advancement to the higher posts. And I am directed to observe that inasmuch as the Subordinate Department proposed has been approved of in express terms by the late Governor General, by the Government of India, and by the Honorable Court, this Government were unprepared for the reduction now made; and are of opinion that the Supreme Government must have overlooked the radical ground on which the reform of the Public Works Department was based, and in accordance with which the recommendations of the Commissioners were made. The establishment now objected to was framed exclusively and closely with reference to the actual local demands of the Madras Presidency. The design in view was to organize an agency perfectly fitted to carry into effect the large practical reform of substituting voluntary for forced labour, and transferring the whole of the executive duties to the professional Department. The change is no slight one, and the Chief Engineer remarks in his letter to this Government No. 10005 of 3rd February 1857, that "many of the most able and experienced Revenue Officers in the service regard the alteration as an experiment of doubtful success, and of no dubious danger to the security of the Revenue"; "it were much to have been wished," Colonel Faber goes on to say, "that the agents who are now about to take charge of executive ranges with areas of from 1,000 to 2,000 Square miles each, should not only have been remunerated proportionably to their large pecuniary responsibility and professional ability but that they should also have had the prestige of a Departmental designation which, confirming their own selfrespect, would have ensured the deference and support of all classes of Natives." The great changes to be effected here are the transfer of the Executive to a professional agency, and the substitution of wholly voluntary labor for that which has hitherto been, more or less,

Minute by the M. N. the G. G. 30th June 1854, paras. 37 and 49. Despatch from Honorable Court 20th December 1854, No. 96, para. 20.

Paras. 8, 9, 10.

expressed agreement on

provided by the authority of the Revenue Officers; the success of the former measure depends on the sufficiency of the Departmemt in point of numbers to superintend our almost countless Hydraulic works, and that of the latter, almost wholly, upon the prompt and undiminished payment of the work people, to be secured only by the employment of an agency sufficiently numerous to attend punctually on every work in progress, and sufficiently honest to give confidence that no part of the laborers' wages shall be withheld from its proper recipient.

It is the opinion of this Government that any attempt to symbolize the numbers and salaries of the Department in Madras, with those in other parts of the Indian Empire, (thus ignoring the local peculiarities so eminently existing in this Presidency) by so great a modification as is proposed of a scheme which is the result of years of most careful consideration, will be not only to "voluntarily imperil the success" of the whole experiment, but will cripple the efficiency of the whole staff of the Department, by almost wholly removing the strong guarantees for fidelity and zeal which would be presented by the titles, salaries, and hopes of future promotion, afforded by the scheme proposed by this Government. With these remarks, the Government desire to leave the matter in the hands of the Right Honorable the Governor General in Council.

3. In para. 8 of the letter under reply, information was called for, with reference to the exact duties on which it is intended that the members of the lower Subordinate Department shall be employed. I am directed to append to this letter an Extract from one from the Chief Engineer under date 3rd February 1857, which contains the required details; North Arcot, a second class District being the one which has been selected for scrutiny. Subjoined to the Extract will be found a table shewing the classification of the Districts of the Presidency under the new regime, and the size of each. With reference to this part of the subject, the Governor in Council does not consider it necessary to do more than to state his entire concurrence with the sentiments contained in the last sentence of the Extract from Colonel Faber's letter, viz., that "if the substitution of voluntary for compulsory labour, be a necessity, so also it is a most imperative necessity that the District professional authority shall have ample machinery at command to ensure a prompt and speedy knowledge of the circumstances of all the hydraulic constructions within the limits of the province for which he is responsible."

Paras. 11-12-13.

4. In sending up their revised Establishment list on the 10th October, this Government dwelt on the great extent of the charges entrusted to the District Engineers under this Presidency, as compared with the executive divisions in Bengal. In para. 9 of your letter under reply, it is mentioned that the Executive Divisions of Bengal are rarely confined to one Collectorate, and more often than otherwise range over three or four. The Governor in Council cannot but feel, that in this, as in other instances, this Presidency is placed at a disadvantage in its communications with the Supreme Government, because the same terms signify different things in the Madras territories and in Bengal. A Madras District contains on an average 6,800 Square miles; while in Bengal it contains only 3,222, and in the North West Provinces only 2,322, the former being one half and the latter one third of a Madras District. Some districts in Madras, as Bellary, Cuddapah and Madura contain areas varying from four to five times the size of a Bengal district and the difference in the work to be done, even in proportion to area, is still greater; I am directed to refer you to the following para. of Mr. Secretary Pycroft's letter to the Government of India of 10th of October last; "It has been pointed out on more than one occasion that the Collectorates of this Presidency are far larger in respect both to extent, population and Revenue than those of the N. W. Provinces and are at the same time covered with Government works of irrigation to an extent quite unknown there; thus any inference respecting these districts drawn from a comparison with the requirements of those under the Agra Government would be deceptive. In Bengal Proper, the Collectorates are only half the extent of those of Madras, while in population they are almost equal but they contain no Government works except the main roads and buildings; *here again therefore the comparison would be wholly inapplicable and fallacious.*" The Governor in Council was in hopes that this explanation would have made the matter clear to the Government of India; he much regrets to find that still, because the thing intended is indicated by the word District or Collectorate, the great difference really existing is lost sight of, and that the idea is arrived at that what suffices for a district in Bengal must also suffice and be suitable for a District in Madras. In the passage now under remark, it is admitted indeed that the works under an Executive officer in Bengal are hardly comparable with those under such an officer in these Provinces; still however, the fact above quoted is put forward as negativing the argument urged by this Government.

6. In para. 3 of the Financial Resolution under notice, the Government of India remark that, whereas sanction was given to the present establishment for the Chief Engineer under the idea that he would have to control the expenditure of 76 lacs, that Establishment must be excessive as only 56 lacs were expended during the year with reference to which the estimate was framed. I am directed to submit, that to hold amount of expenditure exclusively as a standard of work involved, is fallacious. Colonel Faber is of opinion that had no restrictions been placed on the execution of the works contained in the Budget of 1856-57, there would have been less correspondence, and less demand on the resources of his office, than was the case under the circumstances that occurred, and this appears to the Governor in Council to be obvious; when a work is sanctioned, and the order for its execution has emanated from the Chief Engineer's office, he has no more to do with it beyond inspecting the Engineers' Diaries and Progress Reports, until he finally audits the Bill, whereas, upon an occasion like that of last year's financial restriction, a very large amount of extra labour was entailed upon the Central office in apportioning the fractional amount on selected works throughout the Presidency; to do this, repeated references to the District Engineers and to Government were necessary. It is further to be observed that the principal part of the labour bestowed in the Central office upon each project, is so bestowed before the submission of the project to Government, so that even if it be held that no additional work was entailed upon the Chief Engineer by the financial check imposed, it must be admitted that, except the auditing the Bills for the unexpended amount (a considerable part of which labour would not have been performed during the year), the office was worked as hard as if the whole of the 76 lacs had been expended.

The true standard, in the opinion of this Government, whereby to judge of the amount of work in an office, is the number of Letters received and despatched, the number of Bills audited, Estimates checked, and Maps and Plans drawn. The prevailing feature of the Public Works of the Madras Presidency is the number of works of irrigation; and a number of small works call into action a much larger amount of office machinery than one large work of the same aggregate cost.

7. In the latter part of para. 5 of the enclosure in your letter under reply, the Establishment of the Garrison Engineer of Fort Saint George, is considered to be excessive. I am directed to point out that the Government of India are under a misconception regarding this point. On the 1st August 1856, the Government of India sanctioned a modified scale of increased Establishment for the Superintending Engineer's office at Madras, amounting to Rs 1,491 per mensem. The Madras Government had recommended a larger increase, but it was directed that the rates sanctioned should be introduced as an experiment, at the same time that the increase was admitted to be indispensable. The sum thus sanctioned has been divided into two equal portions of Rs. 745-8, and the two portions have been assigned respectively to the Garrison Engineer and the Civil Architect. Under these circumstances, I am desired to remark that had an Establishment, similar to that of the Garrison Engineer at Fort William, been applied for, in addition to the above, which was sanctioned for the Superintending Engineer Presidency Division, it would have been in all probability allowed by the Government of India; and it is hoped that this explanation of what is apparently an oversight, will prove satisfactory to the Governor General in Council. The references to the correspondence in the case are given marginally.

Madras Government to Government of India, 12th April 1856, No 545.
Extract Proceedings Governor General, Financial Department 10th August 1856, No. 3645.
Madras Government Extract Minutes Consultation 8th September 1856, No. 1602.

8. The last part of the proposed scale objected to in the Financial Resolution (para. 6) is the rate of salaries of the District Storekeepers. The Chief Engineer, to whom this question was referred for an opinion as to what reduction could best be made, replies that the Engineering plant of which these Storekeepers will have charge, is of a very valuable description; costly machines have been, and are being, supplied by the Honorable Court, and in addition to the custody of these, and the whole of the ordinary District implements, the

accounts of the receipt and issue of all professional instruments will be kept by the Storekeepers. For such duties as these, a man of respectability and integrity is required and the Chief Engineer considers it unlikely that a duly qualified and honest Agent could be obtained for a smaller salary than has been fixed upon. I am further directed to point out that the Storekeepers proposed by this Government are all to hold that situation in relation to an extensive District or a large department; these twenty three servants therefore will be all among the highest of the class of Storekeepers and the lower of the range of salaries given in the Notification of the 17th June will obviously not apply to them. In accordance with para. 23 of that Notification Storekeepers will be appointed to particular works where required, but the only persons of this class whom it is thought necessary to entertain permanently are those above referred to.

Letter October 10th 1856, No. 1842, para. 16.

9. In submitting these observations for the consideration of the Government of India, I am directed to request that you will assure the Governor General in Council that this Government are fully mindful of the Financial position of the country, and are actuated by every desire to meet his Lordship's wishes; but that inasmuch as an anxious consideration of the whole subject has only led to the strongest conviction that it is wholly impossible, consistently with the efficiency of the entire Public Works Department, the safety of the revenue, and the good of the people, to effect any reduction in the scheme as at first proposed, they are unable to take upon themselves the responsibility of recommending any diminution; in submitting therefore the revised Establishment called for by the Government of India they would be understood as acting not on their own convictions, but with a desire to meet the wishes of the Governor General in Council.

10. The executive of some of the Provinces in this Presidency has been already transferred, and it is hoped that the measure will be general at the opening of the next Official year. The Government could not look without anxiety and alarm upon such important interests being left without due superintendence, and in accordance with the permission given to this Government in the 7th para. of the Financial Resolution of the Government of India dated the 12th December last to appoint, pending further orders, any part of the Establishment applied for that may be urgently required, and with the declaration made in the 8th para. of your letter under reply, that no exception had been taken to it, they have authorized the Chief Engineer to entertain the lower subordinate Establishment as conditionally sanctioned by the Governor General in Council.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

(Signed) H. FORBES,

Acting Secretary to Government.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT—STATEMENT OF INCREASE TO ESTABLISHMENT IN OF INDIA.

THIS DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDED FOR THE SANCTION OF THE GOVERNMENT

No.	Extract from Home Department of Govt. of India. Date	Office to which the proposition refers.	Year.	Charges. Ordinary.	Extraordinary.	Total.	Nature of charge. Present Scale.	Totol of Officers' salary and establishment.	Proposed Scale.	Rate per For Military Officers.
			.....	.....	.....	.....		Rupees. A. P.		
		Public Works Department of the Madras Presidency.					1 Chief Engineer.....	} 3,445 1 4	1 Chief Engineer	Rs. 2,250 „ „
							1 Adjutant of Engineers.		3 Superintending Engineers.....	1,000 „ „
							1 Secy. Board of Revenue	} 2,479 2 8	1 Assistant to the Chief Engr...	500 „ „
							D. P. W.....		1 Civil Architect at the Presidency	700 „ „
							1 Assistant do. ...		10 District Engineers or Superintendents of more than one Executive charge.....	700 „ „
							1 Supt. of Trunk roads...	2,142 „ „	10 do. do.	600 „ „
							Engr. Dept. Mily. Board	576 „ „	1 Supt. East Coast Canal.....	700 „ „
							1 Supg. Engr. Presidency	} 2,171 „ „	1 Garrison Engineer.....	500 „ „
							1 Assist to do. ...		20 Executive Engineers 3rd class..	400 „ „
							2 Overseers...		26 do. do. 4th do...	300 „ „
							4 Executive Engrs.... ...	2,430 „ „	32 Assistant Engineers.....	200 „ „
							12 Civil Engineers...	} 12,156 „ „	Total...	....
							Do. Apprentices.....			
							18 1st Assist. Civil Engrs.	6,536 „ „		
							28 2nd do. do.	6,224 „ „		
							31 Executive Officers.....	6,052 „ „		
							4 Overseers from England	1,200 „ „		
							2 Revenue Surveyors.....	451 8 „		
							5 2nd class do.	881 4 „		
							14 3rd do. do.	1,977 8 „		
							11 Sub Assist. Surveyors..	1,016 7 4		
							2 Assist. Supervisors.....	230 „ „		
							4 Overseers.....	415 12 4		
							105 Assist. Overseers.....	5,733 15 9		
							10 Marahmut Supts. and Sibbendy charges... ...	} 9,097 4 „		
							6 Uncovenanted Assist. Civil Engineers...	} 3,096 „ „		
							7 English professional Civil Engineers	} 4,725 5 8		
							280			
							Carried over...	73,036 5 1	Upper Subordinates.	
									3 Sub Engineers 1st Class... ...	250 „ „
									5 do. 2nd do.....	200 „ „
									8 do. 3rd do.....	150 „ „
									12 Supervisors.....	120 „ „
									20 Assist. do.	100 „ „
									40 Overseers.....	85 „ „
									116 Assist. de.....	70 „ „
									Total...	....
									Lower Subordinates.	
									Sub Overseers..	
									24 First class above 10 years standing	„ „ „
									32 Do. above 5 do. ...	„ „ „
									40 Do. others	„ „ „
									63 Second class above 10 years standing	„ „ „
									84 Do. above 5 do. ...	„ „ „
									105 Do. others	„ „ „
									85 Third class above 10 years standing...	„ „ „
									114 Do. above 5 do. ...	„ „ „
									143 Do. others	„ „ „
									690 Total.....	....
									Carried over...	....

Mensem. For persons not in the Military service.			Total for each grade. For Military Officers.			For persons not in the Military service.			Grounds of proposition.	Local Government's recommendation.	Orders of the Government of India. Home Department. Remarks.	Financial Department. Remarks.	Financial Department. Orders.
Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.					
2,250	„	„	2,250	„	„	2,250	„	„					
1,100	„	„	3,000	„	„	4,200	„	„					
750	„	„	500	„	„	750	„	„					
1,000	„	„	700	„	„	1,000	„	„					
1,000	„	„	7,000	„	„	10,000	„	„					
900	„	„	6,000	„	„	9,000	„	„					
1,000	„	„	700	„	„	1,000	„	„					
750	„	„	500	„	„	750	„	„					
600	„	„	8,000	„	„	12,000	„	„					
500	„	„	7,800	„	„	13,000	„	„					
250	„	„	6,400	„	„	8,000	„	„					
.....	...	...	42,850	„	„	61,950	„	„					
400	„	„	750	„	„	1,200	„	„					
300	„	„	1,000	„	„	1,500	„	„					
250	„	„	1,200	„	„	2,000	„	„					
200	„	„	1,440	„	„	2,400	„	„					
150	„	„	2,000	„	„	3,000	„	„					
100	„	„	3,400	„	„	4,000	„	„					
80	„	„	8,120	„	„	9,280	„	„					
.....	...	...	17,910	„	„	23,380	„	„					
60	„	„	1,440	„	„	1,440	„	„					
50	„	„	1,600	„	„	1,600	„	„					
40	„	„	1,600	„	„	1,600	„	„					
35	„	„	2,205	„	„	2,205	„	„					
30	„	„	2,520	„	„	2,520	„	„					
25	„	„	2,625	„	„	2,625	„	„					
25	„	„	2,125	„	„	2,125	„	„					
20	„	„	2,280	„	„	2,280	„	„					
15	„	„	2,145	„	„	2,145	„	„					
.....	...	...	18,540	„	„	18,540	„	„					
.....	...	...	79,300	„	„	1,03,870	„	„		See letter of this day's date No. 609. Favorable.			

expressed agreement with

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT—STATEMENT OF INCREASE TO ESTABLISHMENT IN THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT OF THE MADRAS PRESIDENCY, OF INDIA.

THIS DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDED FOR THE SANCTION OF THE GOVERNMENT

No.	Extract from Home Department of Govt. of India. Date	Office to which the proposition refers.	Year.	Charges. Ordinary.	Extraordinary.	Total.	Nature of charge. Present Scale.	Total of Officers salary and establishment. Rs.	A.	P.	Proposed Scale.	Rate per Mensem. For Military Officers. Rs.	A.	P.	For persons not in the Military service. Rs.	A.	P.	Total for each grade. For Military Officers. Rs.	A.	P.	For persons not in the Military service. Rs.	A.	P.	Grounds of proposition.	Local Government's recommendation.	Orders of the Government of India. Home Department. Remarks.	Financial Department. Remarks.	Financial Department. Orders.
			.....	.....	.....	.....	Brought over...	73,036	5	1	Brought over...	.....	...	...	Rs.	A. ...	P. ...	Rs. 79,300	„	„	Rs. 1,03,870	„	„					
											ESTABLISHMENTS.																	
											1 Chief Engineer...																	
											3 Superintending Engineers...	6,836	„	„	„	„	„	6,836	„	„	„	„	„					
											1 Assistant Chief Engineer...																	
											1 Civil Architect at the Presidency	715	8	„	„	„	„	745	8	„	„	„	„					
											DISTRICT ENGINEER ESTABLISHMENTS.																	
											1 Supt. East Coast Canal... ...	393	„	„	„	„	„	393	„	„	„	„	„					
											20 { 5 Districts first class... ...	393	„	„	„	„	„	1,965	„	„	„	„	„					
											20 { 7 do. second do. ...	359	„	„	„	„	„	2,513	„	„	„	„	„					
											20 { 8 do. third do. ...	309	„	„	„	„	„	2,472	„	„	„	„	„					
											1 Garrison Engineer... ..	745	8	„	„	„	„	745	8	„	„	„	„					
											20 Executive Engineers 3rd class.	150	„	„	„	„	„	3,000	„	„	„	„	„					
											26 do. 4th do.	104	„	„	„	„	„	2,704	„	„	„	„	„					
											32 Assistant Engineers... ...	69	„	„	„	„	„	2,208	„	„	„	„	„					
											10 Sub Engineers 1st class... ..	53	„	„	„	„	„	530	„	„	„	„	„					
											30 do. 2nd do. ...	53	„	„	„	„	„	1,590	„	„	„	„	„					
											40 do. 3rd do. ...	53	„	„	„	„	„	2,120	„	„	„	„	„					
											30 Supervisors...	27	„	„	„	„	„	810	„	„	„	„	„					
											30 Assist. do.	27	„	„	„	„	„	810	„	„	„	„	„					
											32 Overseers...	27	„	„	„	„	„	864	„	„	„	„	„					
											20 Assist. do.	27	„	„	„	„	„	540	„	„	„	„	„					
											12 Probationary..	6	„	„	„	„	„	72	„	„	„	„	„					
											6 Storekeepers...	50	„	„				30,918	„	„	„	„	„					
											8 do.	40	„	„				300	„	„	„	„	„					
											9 do.	30	„	„				320	„	„	„	„	„					
											23 Total of establishments...	.....	...	...				270	„	„	„	„	„					
											Total per mensem...	.....	...	...				31,808	„	„	31,808	„	„					
											54 Engineer apprentices... ...	.....	...	...				1,11,108	„	„	1,35,678	„	„					
																		378	„	„	378	„	„					
							Total per mensem...	73,036	5	1	Grand Total per mensem...	.....	...	...				1,11,486	„	„	1,36,056	„	„					
							54 Engineer apprentices.....	378	„	„																			
							Total per mensem...	73,414	5	1	Grand Total per annum...	.....	...	...				13,37,832	„	„	16,32,672	„	„					
							Total per annum...	8,80,971	13	„	Deduct present charge....	.....	...	...				8,80,971	13	„	8,80,971	13	„					
											Net increase...	.....	...	...				4,56,860	3	„	7,51,700	3	„	See letter of this day's date No. 609.	Favorable.			

Fort Saint George,
2nd April 1857.

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

expressed agreement with

12 Copies Desp.ch 4.

P. W. Dept

No. 609

To

Lieutenant Colonel W. E. Baker

Secretary Government of India P.W.

Sir,

I am directed by the Right Honorable the Governor in Council to reply to your letter of December 19th 1856 No. 5963 forwarding for the information of this Government, a copy of a resolution of the Govt. of India in the Financial Department No. 5500 dated 12th December 1856, relative to the Establishment proposed for the Public Works Department of this Presidency. In the above mentioned resolution the Supreme Govt. expressed agreement in

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Minute by the Hn. H. the G.G. 30 June/86 1937 to 29. Rec. from Hon. Court 20 Nov/86 ch 95 Pub.

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Vars 8, 9, 10

The

The great changes to be effected here are the transfer of the Executive to a professional agency, and the substitution of wholly voluntary labor for that which has hitherto been, more or less, provided by the authority of the revenue Officers. the success of the former measure depends on the sufficiency of the Dept. in point of numbers to superintend our almost countless hydraulic works, and that of the latter, almost wholly, upon the prompt and undiminished payment of the work people, to be secured only by

by the employment of an
agency sufficiently numerous
to attend punctually on
every work in progress,
and sufficiently honest to
give confidence that no
part of the Laborers wages
shall be withheld from
its proper recipients. It
is the opinion of this Govt
that any attempt to
symbolize the numbers
and salaries of the dept.
in Madras, with those
in other parts of the
Indian Empire, (thus
ignoring the local pecu-
liarities so eminently
existing in this Presidency) by
so great a modification
as is proposed of the
scheme

new para:

scheme which is the result
of years of most careful
consideration, will be
not only to "voluntarily
"imperil the success" of
the whole experiments
but will cripple the effi-
ciency of the whole staff
of the Department, by
almost wholly removing
the strong guarantees
for fidelity and zeal
which would be presented
by the titles, salaries,
and hopes of future
promotion, afforded by
the scheme proposed by
this Govt. With
these remarks, the Govt
desire to leave the matter
in the hands of the

Right

Right Honble the Governor
General in Council.

3. In Para 8 of the letter under reply, information was called for, with reference to the exact duties on which it is intended that the Members of the lower Subordinate Dept shall be employed. I am directed to append to this letter an Extract from one from the Chief Engineer under date 3d February 1857, which contains the required details, North Arcot, a second class district being the one which has been selected for scrutiny. Subjoined to the Extract will be found a Table shewing

Paras 11-12-13.

shewing the Classification of the Districts of the Presidency under the new regime, and the size of each. With reference to this part of the subject, the Govern in Council does not consider it necessary to do more than to state his entire concurrence with the sentiments contained in the last sentence of the Extract from Colonel Faber's letter, viz, that "of the "substitution of voluntary "for compulsory labour, "be a necessity, so also "it is a most imperative "necessity that the Districts

"District professional au-
"-thority shall have
"ample machinery
"at command to en-
"-sure a prompt and
"speedy knowledge of
"the circumstances of
"all the hydraulic con-
"-structions within the
"limits of the province
"for which he is respon-
"-sible."

4. In sending up their revised Establish-
-ment lists on the 10th October, this Government dwelt on the great extent of the charges entrusted to the Dis-
-trict Engineers under this Presidency, as compared with the Executive divisions in Bengal. In Para 9 of your letter under reply, it is mentioned that the Executive Divisions of Bengal are rarely confined to one Collectorate, and more often than otherwise range over three or four. The Governor in Council cannot but feel that in this, as in other instances, this Presidency is placed at a disadvantage in its communica-
-tions with the Supreme Government because

because the same terms
signify different things
in the Madras territ-
-tories and in Bengal.
A Madras District
contains on an average
6,800 square miles
while in Bengal it con-
-tains only 3,222, and
in the North West
Provinces only 2,322 the
former being one half
and the latter one third
of a Madras District.
Some districts in Madras
as Bellary, Cuddapah and
Madura contain areas
varying from four to
five times the size of a
Bengal district. The difference
in the work to be done
even in proportion to
area, is still greater.

I

am directed to refer you
to the following Para. of
Mr. Secretary Pyers's
letter to the Govt. of India
of 10th of October last. "It
"has been pointed out on
"more than one occasion
"that the Collectorates
"of this Presidency are
"far larger in respect
"both to extent, Popula-
"tion and Revenue than
"those of the N.W. Provinces
"and are at the same
"time covered with Govt.
"works of irrigation to an
"extent quite unknown
"there. Then any infer-
"ence respecting these
"districts drawn from a
"comparison with the
"requirements of those
"under the Agra Govt.
"would be deceptive."

In

"In Bengal Proper, the
"Collectorates are only
"half the extent of those
"of Madras, while their
"population they are
"almost equal but they
"contain no Govt works
"except the main roads
"and buildings; here
"again therefore the com
"parison would be
"wholly inapplicable and
"fallacious" The Govern
in Council was in hopes
that this explanation
would have made the
matter clear to the
Govt of India, he much
regrets to find that still,
because the thing
intended is indicated
by the word District
or Collectorate, the
great difference really
existing

existing with what ought,
and that the idea is
at arrived that what ought
-ges for a district in
Bengal must also suf-
-fice and be suitable
for a district in Guzera-
In the passage now
under remark it is
admitted indeed that
the works under an
Executive Officer in
Bengal are hard by
comparable with those
under such an officer
in these Provinces; &
still however, the
fact above quoted
is put forward as re
-fatting the argu
-ment urged by this hat
-

5. ~~If in the matter~~
~~true of the Govt to~~
~~obtain the Govt of~~
India

~~Indian Establishment~~
~~Chief Engineer~~
~~Court Martial~~ Bt Lt Col

6. In Para 3 of the Financial Resolution under notice, the Govt of India remark that whereas said grant was given to the present establishment for the Chief Engineer under the idea that he would have to control the expenditure of 76 Lacs, that Establishment must be excessive as only 56 Lacs were expended during the year with reference to which the estimate was framed. I am directed to submit that to hold amount of expenditure exclusively

ac

as a standard of work involved in Lt Colonel Taber is of opinion that had no restrictions been placed on the execution of the works contained in the Budget of 1856-7 there would have been less correspondence, and less demand on the resources of the office, than was the case under the circumstances that occurred, and this appears to the Governor in Council to be obvious, when a work is sanctioned, and the order for its execution has emanated from the Chief Engineers' Office, he has no more to

do

do with it beyond re-
inspecting the Engi-
neers Diaries and
Progress Reports, un-
til he finally audits
the Bill, whereas,
upon an occasion
like that of last
years financial re-
-striction, a very
large amount of extra
labour was entailed
upon the Central
Office in apportion-
-ing the fractional
amount on selected
works throughout in
the Presidency, to
do this repeated
reference to the
District Engineers
and

and to Government
were necessary. It
is further to be ob-
-served that the prin-
-cipal part of the
labour bestowed in
the Central office
upon each project,
is so bestowed before
the submission of
the project to Govern-
-ment, so that even
if it be held that
that no additional
work was entailed
upon the Chief
Engineer by the fi-
-nancial check im-
-posed, it must
be

be admitted that except the audit-ing the Bills for the unexpended amount (a consider-able part of which labour would not have been performed during the year) the office was worked as heavily as if the whole of the 76 Lacs had been expended.

The true standard for the opinion of this Government is hereby to be judged of the amount of work in an

an office, is the number of letters received and despatched, the number of Bills audited, Estimates checked, & maps and plans drawn. The prevailing feature of the Public Works of the Madras Presidency is the number of works of irrigation; and a number of small works call into action a much larger amount of office machinery than one large work of the same aggregate cost.

In the latter part of Para 5 of the Enclosure in your letter under reply, the Establish-ment of the Garrison Engineer of Fort St. George is considered to be excessive. I am directed to point out that the Government of India are under a misconcep-tion regarding this point. On the 1st August 1856, the Government of India sanctioned a modified scale

Scale of increased Establishment for the Superintending Engineer's office at Madras, amounting to Rs. 1491 per Mensem. The Madras Government had recommended a larger increase, but it was directed that the rates sanctioned should be introduced as an Experiment, at the same time that the increase was admitted to be indispensable. The sum thus sanctioned has been divided into two equal portions of Rs. 745-8, and the two portions have been assigned respectively to the Garrison Engineer and the Civil Architect. Under these circumstances I am desired to remark that had an Establishment similar to that of the Garrison Engineer at Fort William been applied for, in addition to the above, which was sanctioned for the Superintending Engineer Presidency Division, it would have been in all probability

probability allowed by the Government of India, and it is hoped that this explanation of what is apparently an oversight will prove satisfactory to the Governor General in Council. The references to the Correspondence in the Case are given Marginally.

Madras Government to Govt. of India 12th April 1856 No. 345.
Ex: Pro: Govt. & Fin. Dept. 1st August 1856 No. 3645.
Madras Govt. Ex: Allin: Cons: 8th Sept. 1856. No. 1602.

8 The last part of the proposed Scale objected to in the Financial Resolution (Para 6) is, the rate of Salaries of the District Store Keepers. The Chief Engineer, to whom this question was referred for an opinion as to what reduction could best be made, replies that the Engineering plant ~~&c~~ Stores which these Store Keepers will have charge, is of a very valuable description, costly Machinery have been, and are being supplied by the Honorable Court and in addition to the custody of these, and the whole of the ordinary

ordinary District implements. the accounts of the receipt and issue of all professional instru= =ments will be kept by the Store-Keepers For such duties as these, a mann of respectability and integrity is required, and the Chief Engineer Considers it unlikely that a duly qualified and honest Agent Could be obtained for a smaller Salary than has been fixed upon. I am further directed to point out that the Store Keepers proposed by this Government are all to hold that situation in relation to an extensive District or a large department: these twenty three Servants therefore will be all among the highest of the class of Storekeepers and the lower of those

range

Letter of 10th/56
No 1842 P16

range of salaries given in the notification of the 17th June will obviously not apply to them. In accordance with Para 23 of that notifi=cation storekeepers will be appointed to particular works where required, but the only persons of this class whom it is thought neces=sary to entertain perma=nently are those above referred to.

7. In submitting these observations for the consideration of the Court of Indian Claims di=rected to request that you will assure the Governor General in Council that this Court

are fully mindful of
the financial position
of the Country, and are
actuated by every de-
=sire to meet his Lord-
=ship's wishes; but that
is as much as an an-
=xious consideration of
the whole subject has
only led to the strongest
conviction that it is
wholly impossible, con-
=sistently with the effi-
=ciency of the entire Pub.
Works Depart.t, the safe-
=ty of the revenue, and
the good of the people,
to effect any reduction
in the scheme as at first
proposed, they are una-
=ble to take upon
themselves the respons.ble
=bility of recommending
any diminution in

submitting

submitting therefore the
revised Establishment
called for by the Govt. of
India they would be
understood as acting not
on their own convictions,
but with a desire to meet
the wishes of the Governor
General in Council.

The executive of
some of the Provinces
in this Presidency has
been already transferred,
and it is hoped that the
measure will be gener.d
at the opening of the next
official year. The Govt.
could not look with-
=out anxiety and alarm
upon such important
interests being left with-
=out due superintendence
and in accordance with
with the permission

Enclosed to this Govt. in the
7th para of the financial resolution of the
Govt of India dated the
12th of December last to
appointments pending further
orders, any part of the
Establishments applied
for that may be urgently required and with
the declaration made
in the 8th para of your
letter under reply that
no exception had been
taken to it they have
authorized the Chief
Engineer to entertain
the lower subordinate
Establishments as conditionally sanctioned
by the Governor General
in Council.

W.M.
March 20.

Fort St. George
Dn April 1857

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Public Works 1857 Dept.
Dr. to Govt. Gr. April
No 609.

To
The Secretary to the
Govt. of India D. P. W.
Dr 2 Apr. 1857.

Extract from Min. Con. of the Govt of India in the Financial Dept. dated 1st Feb. 1853 & 4 Feb. 1853 and this Cons. 27 Oct. 1854 & 2016

(Assuring the Govt. of India, that it is wholly impossible consistently with the efficiency of the entire Public Works Dept. to effect any reduction in the scheme of establishment proposed for it by this Presidency).

No 28.

c 21 March R. 26th