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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works **DEPARTMENT.**

Cons. 21-4-57

G.O. No.	446	Press Mis.
12-13		
Dated	8-4	1857.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 12. Read the following letter from Colonel C. E. FABER, Chief Engineer; to H. FORBES, Esq., Acting Secretary to Government, dated 30th March 1857, No. 11401.

SIR,

Leave having been granted in the Official Gazette of the 17th Instant, to Mr. Shortt, Engineer of Paumben Dredge for six months, it is necessary to place an Engineer temporarily in charge of the Dredge, I have therefore the honor to recommend, that Mr. Thompkinson Mechanical Engineer, be nominated to the above duty. Mr. Thompkinson, has had long experience in the workshops of Mr. Nasmyth; who is well known as the inventor of the Patent Steam Pile driving Machine, and the Steam Hammer, and I cannot, but hope that he will be able to suggest some improvements, either in the details of the Steam Dredge, or in the method of working it, which will increase its efficiency.

2. The amount of work performed by the Dredge has never satisfied me, and I have been for some time under the impression, that this might be attributed partly to the want of Mechanical skill, and judgment on the part of the present Engineer, Mr. Shortt, who has never had the advantage of an education in an English workshop.

3. I am not certain that Mr. Thompkinson, will be able to suggest any important improvement, as he has never been employed in designing, but only in executing and working Machinery; but I think that opportunity should be afforded him. Irrespective of this prospect of advantage to the public service. I consider Mr. Thompkinson's employment as a person well fitted to put the Dredge to work to the full extent of its existing powers highly advisable, I have therefore the honor to recommend that a free passage be granted to him to Cocanada, and from thence with the Dredge to Paumben, he being allowed one Rupee and a half per diem whilst absent from the Presidency, to cover the extra expenses to which he will be subjected.

4. The Dredge is to be towed down to Paumben by the Steamer "Corimandel" in the month of April, and as there seems no immediate likelihood of the operations of repair so urgently required by the sea front of this Fortress being undertaken, so as to call the apparatus (Nasmyths patent Steam Pile driver) more peculiarly his own into early use again. I observe no other equally eligible means of utilizing Mr. Thompkinson's services.

5. It is advisable I think to give this thoroughly practical Engineer, an opportunity of seeing the Dowlaishwarum workshops, in which it is not unlikely that he may make a few useful suggestions, and I propose with the approval of Government, to send one of the Mechanist Sub Overseers 2nd Corporal Robinson Sappers and Miners with Mr. Thompkinson, either to remain with him on board the Dredge, or to be employed in the Dowlaishwarum Workshops.

No. 13. ORDER THEREON, No. 660; dated 8th April 1857.

Agreeably to the recommendation of the Chief Engineer contained in the letter above recorded, the Right Honorable the Governor in Council authorizes the nomination of Mr. Thompkinson, Mechanical Engineer to be Acting Engineer of the Paumben Dredge during the absence of Mr. Shortt on leave on Medical Certificate; but he observes that the extra allowance to be paid to him should not exceed that forfeited by the latter.

2. The "*Coromandel*" being expected shortly at Madras with the Dredge, the Government do not think it advisable that Mr. Thompkinson should now proceed to Dowlaishwarum and therefore direct that Officer to remain at Madras and take charge of the Machine on its arrival.

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

Public Works Dept.

No. 660

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation

Under date the 8th April 1857.

Read the following

letter from the Chief

Engineer.

Recd. entd 30th March 1857
No. 11401

Agreeably to the
recommendation of the
Chief Engineer contained
in the letter above recorded
the Right Honorable
the Governor in Council
authorizes the nomina-
tion of Mr. Thompkinson
Mechanical Engineer

to

to be Acting Engineer
of the Dumbeer Dredge
during the absence of
Mr. Shortt on leave
on Medical certificate;
but he observes that
the extra allowance
to be paid to him should
not exceed that forfeited
by the Cutter.

2 The Coromandel
being expected shortly
at Madras with the
Dredge the Government
do not think it adv-
isable that Mr.
Thompkinson should
now proceed to Dow-
-laishwaram and
therefore direct that
Officer to remain at

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and take
charge of the Machine
on its arrival. BR.

9 Copies to the Chief Engr Dist.g
1 — Civil Auditor

Public Works 1857 — Sept.
Dt. 6 Encs: 2 Exc. & Subs

No. 660.

Extract Mins. of Cons.

Dt. 8th April 57.

Pro. from Chief Engr. 26 June 57 Ct. 128 Jun 67 Pub

Authorizing the nomination of Mr. Thompkinson, Mechanical Engineer, to be Acting Engineer of the Dawin ben Dredge during the absence of Mr. Shortt, and directing him to remain at Madras to take charge of the Dredge which is shortly expected.

No 12413.

c 2 Appl. dft. E