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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Publications DEPARTMENT.
Cons. 4. 8. 57

G.O. No. <i>1422</i>	Press Mis.
<i>16-67</i> Dated <i>27-7-57</i>	<i>18-57</i>

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Fort Saint George, Public Works Consultation of 4th August 1857.

No. 16. Read the following letter from Colonel C. E. FABER, Chief Engineer; to H. FORBES, Esq., Acting Secretary to Government, dated 6th July 1857, No. 1814.

SIR,

I have the honor to forward, for submission to Government, two letters received from the District Engineer of Coimbatore, which were intended to furnish the information called for by Government in para. 4 of Extract from the Minutes of Consultation No. 787, dated 25th April 1857, respecting the period passed by each Officer of the Public Works Department, in the Coimbatore District, on the Hills in 1856, and the necessity of their stay on the Hills on each occasion.

1 Letter (original) from the District Engineer Coimbatore No. 99, dated 23rd May 1857.
1 do do. No. 108, dated 13th June 1857.
1 Statement.

2. The letters are No. 99, dated 23rd May, and No. 108, dated 13th June.

3. The first explains that the District Engineer is not in the habit of sending Officers to the Hills nor are they in the habit of proceeding thither from stations in the low country except when he has occasion to give them particular verbal instructions or enter into personal discussions with them. With the second letter is furnished a list shewing the number of days each Officer in the District was on the Hills during the official year 1856-57.

4. The information now afforded, though not exactly that called for by Government, will, it is trusted, supply all that is required to enable Government to come to a decision on the recommendation made by the Superintending Engineer Southern Circle in his letter No. 94, dated 18th March, to the effect that every Officer, should in his turn proceed to the Hills.

No. 17. ORDER THEREON, No. 1472; dated 29th July 1857.

In reporting his inspection of the works on the Cauvery and Bhowany rivers in Coimbatore, the Superintending Engineer Southern Division recommended* that every Executive Engineer in the District, save the Officer in charge of the Barracks at Jackatallah, should by turns, take his tour of duty in the low country. With reference to this recommendation the Chief Engineer was requested† to obtain from Captain Francis, and submit to Government, a return, shewing the number of days each Officer of the Public Works Department was in the District and on the Hills, the causes of their stay on the Hills, and the duties on which they were employed.

2. Before meeting this requisition, Colonel Faber, in his letter of the 1st May 1857 No. 4, strongly protested against the Superintending Engineer's proposition, as being diametrically opposed to one of the fundamental practical rules of the Public Works Department. He dilated on the evil effects arising from a change of all Officers of the Department from one charge to another, and especially of those connected with the Neilgherry range of the Coimbatore District; and recommended that no restriction should be placed on the District Engineer as to the mode of employing his executives. The Government, in Extract Minutes Consultation dated 16th May 1857 No. 947, stated that on the receipt of the report called for from the District Engineer, of the time spent on the Hills by each Officer in the past year, they would take the Chief Engineer's remarks into consideration.

3 In reference to the requisition adverted to in para 2, Colonel Faber, with his letter above recorded, forwards two others, dated 23rd May and 13th June, from the District Engineer of Coimbatore. In the first it is explained that Captain Francis' Subordinate Officers are not in the habit of paying periodical visits to the Neilgherry Hills, but that they occasionally proceed to that station to receive verbal instructions from him in case of his office being located there. It is further stated that the period of their stay on the Hills is short, and that they have not been engaged on any work there.

4. In the other letter is enclosed a Tabular Statement of the period passed by each officer on the Hills during the year 1856-57. From this Statement some of the Officers appear to have

Fort Saint George, Public Works Consultation of 4th August 1857.

remained for a long time on the Hills, apparently without any duty to attend to, except receiving verbal instructions from the District Engineer. To this may in part be attributed the want of proper supervision on the works in Coimbatore generally, which were lately reported upon as being unsatisfactory, particularly the Bridge at Suttymungalum.

5. The Government entirely concur in the views of the Chief Engineer contained in his letter of the 1st May, against the proposal of Major Lawford, that the Executive Engineers in the District should take by rotation their tour of duty in the low country; a measure which would involve periodical changes of Officers in the superintendence of works in each range. It is desirable that each Officer should have the control of the works in his own range, so that he alone may be responsible for their proper execution. The Government are unwilling to place any restriction on the District Engineer of Coimbatore, and they therefore leave it to his discretion in the employment of his Executives, to make such arrangements as he may find necessary for an efficient supervision of the works in the District.

6. The docket on the two letters from the District Engineer of Coimbatore, submitted by the Chief Engineer with his letter above recorded, is on the wrong side, and Colonel Faber is requested to call the attention of that Officer to the proper mode of making it.

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

1. Letter from J. P. to the
2. Letter from J. P. to the
3. Letter from J. P. to the
4. Letter from J. P. to the
5. Letter from J. P. to the
6. Letter from J. P. to the
7. Letter from J. P. to the
8. Letter from J. P. to the
9. Letter from J. P. to the
10. Letter from J. P. to the

Central Office of P.W.
Fort St. George
6th July 1857

1857

The Chief Engineer

General

The Secretary to Govt P.W.D.
Sir,

I have the honor to forward, for submission to Government, two letters received from the District Engineer of Coimbatore, which were intended to furnish the information called for by Government in para 4 of G.O. from the Office of Consultation No. 787, dated 25th April 1857, respecting the period proposed by each Officer of the Public Works Department, in the Coimbatore District, on the Hills in 1856, and the necessity of their stay on the Hills on each occasion.

2. The letters are No. 99 dated 23rd May, and No. 108 dated 13th June.

3. The first explains that the District Engineer is not in the habit of sending Officers to the Hills, nor are they in the habit of proceeding thither.

thither from Stations in the low Country
except when he has occasion to give them
particular verbal instructions or enter
into personal discussions with them. To this
the second letter is furnished a list
showing the number of days each Officer
in the District was on the Hill
during the official year 1856/57.

11. The information now afforded,
though not exactly that called for by
Government, still, it is trusted, supplies
all that is required to enable Govern-
ment to come to a decision on the
Recommendation made by the Superintend-
ing Engineer Southern Circle in his letter
No. 94 dated 18th March, to the effect
that every Officer should in his turn
proceed to the Hills.

Fort St. George } I have the honor to be,
6th July 1857. Sir,
Your most obedient

To
The Secy. to Govt. in Charge
12th July 1857
Wm. Campbell
Mr. Robert Campbell
Chief Engineer

Public Works Dept.

No. 1472
Extract from the Minutes of Consultation
Under date the 29th July 1857.

Read the following
letter from the
Chief Engineer.

Here enter 6th July 1857

At

the

In reporting
the inspection of the
works on the Cauvery
and Bokwary rivers
in Coimbatore, the Super-
intending Engineer
Southern Division re-
commended that every
Executive Engineer in
the

See the Chief Engineers'
Proceedings dated 25th March 1857
No. 11309.

Case 28th April 1857

Public Works Dept.
29th July 1857
Chief Engineer
to the Chief Engineer
to the Chief Engineer

Letter 6th July 1857
No. 725

Chief Engineer
No. 1472. 29th July

Received the information
from the Chief Engineer
dated 25th March 1857
re: the works on the
Cauvery and Bokwary
rivers in Coimbatore.
The works are in
progress and the
works are in progress
and the works are in
progress.

Case 28th April 1857

the District, save the
Officer in charge of
the Barracks at Jackatallap
should by turns, take
his tour of duty in
the low Country. With
reference to this recom-
mendation the Chief
Engineer was requested
to obtain from Captain
Francis, and submit
to Government, a re-
turn, showing the
number of days
each Officer of the
Public Works Depart-
ment was in the
District and on the
Hills, the causes of
their stay on the
Hills, and the duties
of

Ex Min Cons dated 25. April
1857 N. 787.

9.
on which they were
employed.
2. Before meeting
this requisition, Colonel
Faber, in his letter
of the 1st May 1857
N. 4, strongly protested
against the Superin-
tending Engineer's
proposition, as being
diametrically opposed
to one of the funda-
mental practical
rules of the Public
Works Department.
He objected on the
evil effects arising
from a change of all
Officers of the Depart-
ment from one
charge to another,
and

and especially of those
connected with the
Veilgherry range of
the Coimbatore Dis-
trict; and recommended
that no restriction
should be placed on
the District Engineer
as to the ~~best~~ mode
of employing his
Officers. The
Government, in a
Ministerial Consultation
dated 16th May 1857
No 947, stated that
on the receipt of the
reports called for
~~in the former papers~~
from the District
Engineer, of the time
spent on the hills.

by

by each Officer in the
past year, they ~~would~~^{would}
take the Chief Engi-
neer's remarks into
consideration.

3. In reference
to the requisition ad-
verted to in para 2,
Colonel Faber, with
his letter above re-
recorded, forwarded
two others, dated 23rd
May and 13th June,
from the District
Engineer of Coimba-
lore. In the first
it is explained
that Captain Fran-
cis' Subordinate
Officers are not in
the habit of paying
periodical

periodical visits to the
Velgherry Hills, but
that they occasionally
proceed to that station
to receive verbal in-
structions from him
in case of his Office
being located there.
It is further stated
that the period of
their stay on the
Hills is short, and
that they have not
been engaged on any
work there.

4. In the other
letter is enclosed
a Tabular Statement
of the period passed
by each Officer on the
Hills during the year

1856/57

1856/57. From this
statement some of
the Officers appear
to have remained
for a long time on
the Hills, apparently
without any duty
to attend to, except
receiving verbal
instructions from the
District Engineer.
To this may in part
be attributed to the
want of proper
supervision on the
works in Coimbatore
generally, which
were lately reported
upon as being un-
satisfactory, particu-
larly the Bridge
at

of the works in the District.

6. (The docket on the two letters from the District Engineer of Calicut, submitted by the Chief Engineer with his letter above recorded is on the wrong side, and Colonel Faber is requested to call the attention of that Officer to the proper mode of making

WZ

of Copy to the Chief Engr. Dispt. 30.5
with 3 Encl.

to be put in the
docket of the
Chief Engineer
with his letter
above recorded
is on the wrong
side, and Colonel
Faber is requested
to call the attention
of that Officer to
the proper mode of
making

WZ
Dispt. 30.5
with 3 Encl.

at Sitturungalam.

5. The Government entirely concur in the views of the Chief Engineer contained in his letter of the 14th May, against the proposal of Major Lawford that the Executive Engineers in the District should take by rotation in their tour of duty in the low Country a measure which would involve periodic changes of Officers in the ^{superin-} ~~super-~~ ^{tendence} of works in ^{each} range. It is desirable that each Officer should

should have the control of the works in his ^{own} range, so that he ^{alone} may be responsible for their proper execution. The Government are ~~less~~ unwilling to place any restriction on the District Engineer of Coimbatore, and they ~~cannot~~ therefore leave it to his discretion in the employment of his Executives, to make such arrangements as he may find necessary for an efficient supervision of

Public Works 1857 Sept.
D^o to Com^r 1st 15 & Aug^t.

N^o 14, 72.

6
Extract Minis. of Com.
D^o 29th July 1857.

From the Chief Eng^r D^o 25th
August 1857 & N^o 1695 Com.
& 16th Sept.

Receiving and passing
orders on the Letter from the
Chief Engineer regarding the
period passed on the hills in
the Coimbatore District in 1856-57
by each Officer of the Public
Works Department.

N^o 16 & 17.