1. Number of pages 18
2. Date of repair. 17-7-
3. Initials of Reference

M.R.O. 1—82,400—22-11-60

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial 1928 DEPARTMENT.

Con. 4-3-57

G.O. No. 1484 Press / Mis.

2243 Dated 1-8- 18 57

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 42. Read the following letter from Brigadier ÆNEAS SHIRREFF, Commanding the Mount; to H. FORBES, Esq., Acting Secretary to Government, dated 21st July 1857, No. 353.

SIR,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Extract from the Minutes of Consultation, under date the 18th Instant, and to state for the information of Government.

1st. That I viewed some passages contained in Lieutenant Moberly's letters marked Nos. 1 and 2 (requesting that the Cutwal of the Mount not to be allowed to have any thing to do with works in progress) as being dictatorial particularly as I could see no just reasons why he should have objected to the Head Subordinate of the Police being employed to aid the Station Staff Officer in the Executive duties assigned him, I desired Lieutenant Colonel Brown to call upon Lieutenant Moberly for explanation as to the allusions he conveyed relative to the Police Officer in question his reply marked No. 3 appeared to me very unsatisfactory and his letter marked No. 4 to intimate that the Public Works could not be done without the Cutwal's aid, these were the reasons that I looked upon Lieutenant Moberly's correspondence as discorteous, he must have observed throughout Lieutenant Colonel Brown's correspondence that whoever was employed for assisting him must first have my permission to enter on the duty, this the Cutwal had, and in opposing his employment without grounds to establish a just reason for my withdrawing him, I held it as interfering with my authority which I did not expect from Lieutenant Moberly an Officer so many years my junior in the service, I beg to mention that I was at that time under an impression that as long as the Public Works were executed by the Staff Officer, he was at liberty to appoint his own Overseer subject to my approval.

2nd. I complained that the works in the Cantonment were not carried on in a satisfactory way in this I consider I was fully justified when I had noticed a report made by the Director Artillery Depot to the District Engineer complaining of the delay; for one month there were no workmen to complete the repairs of the old laboratory causing not only an inconvenience to that department but great danger by exposure of laboratory stores, a report of the stoppage of this work was made to the District Engineer to which he made no reply, and upwards of three months elapsed before the work was completed.

Certain alterations were ordered to be made to the Cantonment Hospital, this work was at a stand for upwards of a month and the Maistry was withdrawn by Lieutenant Moberly for incompetence, these were my reasons for expressing my dissatisfaction of the works alluded to being retarded or left unfinished by the Department of Public Works and I may confidently venture to state that had these works been placed in the hands of the Station Staff Officer they would have been rapidly executed.

I now most earnestly and respectfully hope that Government will not consider that I was at all influenced by any personal motive to the prejudice of Lieutenant Moberly or the Department Public Works though I have erred in some particulars connected with that Department I had no other object in view than that tending to the good of the State and I cannot but regret that any official misunderstanding should have occurred between myself and the District Engineer of Chingleput.

No. 1.

Letter from Lieutenant A. S. MOBERLY, District Engineer of Chingleput; to Lieutenant Colonel J. R. BROWN, Staff Officer Saint Thomas' Mount, dated Camp at Guindy, 6th December 1856, No. 1329.

SIR,

With reference to the accompanying Extract of a letter from the Superintending Engineer Central Circle, I have the honor to inform you that I propose with the approval of the Brigadier Commanding Saint Thomas' Mount to continue as at present to avail myself of your services in Superintending the Buildings that may be in progress whether new or repairs. I at the same time beg to inform you that I will try and get you a competent Maistry to assist you and re-

quest that you will not allow the Cutwal of Saint Thomas' Mount to have any thing at all to do with the works in progress that you will make the Maistry whom I may send you get all the materials necessary without in any way calling for the aid of the Cutwal who I think ought not in any way to interfere in these matters.

As at present there may be a difficulty in carrying on the works in the manner I wish I shall direct Assistant Overseer Page who is in charge of all works round about the Mount to afford you every assistance in his power.

No. 2.

From Lieutenant A. S. MOBERLY, District Engineer of Chingleput; to Lieutenant Colonel J. R. BROWN, Staff Officer Saint Thomas' Mount, dated Camp at Guindy, 11th December 1856, No. 1338.

SIR,

In reply to your letter No. 729 of this day's date, I have the honor to inform you that it is my wish that the Cutwal be not allowed to interfere in any way in the execution of the work going on at any of the Military buildings, that he be not allowed to procure or having any thing to do with the paying of the work people that may be employed, that he be not allowed to procure any materials that may be required nor have any thing to do with the paying for them in fact that every thing may be done without his interference in any possible way.

No. 3.

From Lieutenant A. S. MOBERLY, District Engineer of Chingleput; to Lieutenant Colonel J. R. BROWN, Staff Officer Saint Thomas' Mount, dated Camp at Guindy, 16th December 1856, No. 1354.

SIR,

In reply to your letter No. 731, dated 13th Instant, I have the honor to inform you that I have carefully read over my letters No. 1329 of the 6th Instant and No. 1338 of the 11th Instant and cannot observe that I have in any way made strong remarks against the Cutwal it has been the custom that the Cutwal should aid in procuring materials, Coolies, &c. for the execution of the works in Saint Thomas' Mount but as it was my wish that every thing connected with the Public Works even to the most trifling repairs should be done by the Engineer's Department without calling for his aid or assistance. I have expressed myself in the latter part of para. 1 of my letter No. 1329, and also informed you that, as you might find difficulty in carrying on the work without the aid of the Cutwal, I should order Assistant Overseer Page to afford you every assistance in his power and that I would also send you a competent Maistry.

2. In your letter No. 729 of the 11th Instant you say as I do not agree in the object you have in view in your remarks respecting the Cutwal I shall feel much obliged by your affording me some explanation as to the cautions you have conveyed to me on the subject of the Cutwal from what I have above stated I trust you will now perceive that you have misapprehended my objects regarding the Cutwal and observe on again in perusing my letters that I give you no caution whatever regarding him my only object being to carry out the orders of Government directing that the Native Police should not interfere or be required in any way to assist in procuring Coolies or materials required for the execution of Public Works.

No. 4.

Extract of a letter No. 16, dated 5th January 1857, from Lieutenant MOBERLY, District Engineer Chingleput; to Lieutenant Colonel BROWN, Station Staff Officer, Saint Thomas' Mount.

" With regard to the last para. of your letter as I have neither accused the Cutwal in any " way or conveyed any cautions against him, I beg to inform you that I do not see that I am

" called upon for any explanation in fact I am prevented from giving any as however it appears " to me to be the opinion of both the Brigadier and yourself that the works in the Mount " cannot be done quickly without the aid of the Cutwal, I have the honor to request that you " will as early as possible clear all the accounts for Military Buildings including all repairs, let- " ting me know when you will be prepared to hand them over to me and to inform you that I " will carry on the works in my own Department."

No. 43. ORDER THEREON, No. 1484; dated 1st August 1857.

The Government are unable to take the view under which the Brigadier Commanding the Artillery animadverted on Lieutenant Moberly's official conduct, but are most willing to believe that that Officer has been actuated solely by a desire to promote the public service.

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

No 1.

No 1329

To

The Staff Officer

Saint Thomas's Mount

Sir,

With reference to the accompanying Extract of a letter from the Superintending Engineer Central Circle Madras that honor to inform you that I propose with the approval of the Brigadier Commanding Saint Thomas' Mount to continue as at present to avail myself of your services in Superintending the Buildings that may be in progress whether new or repairs. I at the same time beg to inform You that I will try and get you a Competent Maistry to assist you and request that you will not allow the Cutwall of Saint Thomas's Mount to have any thing at all to do with the works in progress that you will make the Maistry whom I may send you get all the materials necessary without in any way calling for the aid of the Cutwall who I think ought not in any way to interfere in these matters.

As at present there may be a difficulty in carrying on the works in the manner I wish I shall direct Assistant Overseer Page who is in charge of all Works round about the Mount to afford you every assistance in his power.

I have the honor to be &c.

Signed A.S. Moberly Lieut.

District Engineer of Chingleput

District Engineer's Office
Camp at Guindy
6th December 1836

A true Copy

Lieut. Colonel

Station Staff Officer

No 2

No 1338

From

Lieutenant A. S. Moberly

District Engineer of Chingleput

To

Lieutenant Colonel J. R. Brown

Staff Officer

Saint Thomas' Mount

Sir,

In reply to your letter No 729 of this days date, I have the honor to inform you that it is my wish that the Cutwall be not allowed to interfere in any way in the execution of the Works going on at any of the Military Buildings, that he be not allowed to procure or having any thing to do with the paying of the work people that may be employed, that he be not allowed to procure any materials that may be required nor have any thing to do with the paying for them in fact that every thing may be done without his interference in any possible ways

I have the honor to be Sir

Your most obedient Servant

Signed A. S. Moberly Lieutenant

District Engineer of Chingleput

District Engineer's Office

Camp Guindy

11th December 1856

A true Copy

J. R. Brown Lieutt Colonel

Station Staff Officer

No 2

Lieut Moberly

Chingleput Engineer

to Lieut Irving Q.M.G.

Relative to Cutwall

Fulfilling the Cutwal

Duties & to have power

to Stop & Detain Work

People

P.P.R. 16 Dec 56

No 2

Lieutenant Colonel Kenlock
Requesting that the
Executive Engineer
Colonel Le Fleming
may have any thing
to do with the Public Buildings

Dy. Sec. to Govt.

No 3

No 1354

To

Lieutenant Colonel Brown
Staff Officer
Saint Thomas' Mount

Sir,

In reply to your letter No 731 dated 13th Instant, I have the honor to inform you that I have carefully read over my letters No 1329 of the 6th Instant & No 1338 of the 11th Instant and cannot observe that I have in any way made strong remarks against the Cutwall it has been the custom that the Cutwall should aid in procuring materials Coolies &c. for the execution of the works in Saint Thomas' Mount but as it was my wish that every thing connected with the Public works even to the most trifling repairs should be done by the Engineer Department without calling for his aid or assistance. I expressed myself in the latter part of Para 1 of my letter No 1327, and also informed you that, as you might find difficulty in carrying on the Works without the aid of the Cutwall, I should order assistant overseer Page to afford you every assistance in his power and that I would also send you a competent Ministry.

2 In your letter No 729 of the 11th Instant you say as I do not agree in the object you have in view in your remarks respecting the Cutwall I shall feel much obliged by your affording me some explanation as to the cautions you have conveyed to me on the subject of the Cutwall from what I have above stated I trust you will now perceive that you have misapprehended my objects regarding the Cutwall and observe on again in perusing my letters that I give you no caution whatever regarding him my only object being to carry out the orders of Government directing that the Native Police should not interfere or be required in any way to assist in procuring Coolies or Materials required

No 4

Extract of a letter No. 16 dated 5th January 1837 from Lieut Moberly Distric. Engineer Chinglepute to Lieut Colonel Brown Station Staff Officer Saint Thomas' Mount

"With regard to the last Para of your Letter as
"I have neither accused the Cutwall in any way or conveyed
"any Cautions against him, I beg to inform you that I do
"not see that I am called upon for any explanation in fact
"I am prevented from giving any as however it appears to
"me to be the opinion of both the Brigadier and yourself
"that the works in the Mount cannot be done quickly
"without the aid of the Cutwall I have the honor to reques
"that you will as early as possible clear all the accounts
"for Military Buildings including all Repairs, letting
"me Know when you will be prepared to hand them over to
"me and to inform you that I will carry on the works
"in my own Department."

A true Copy of an Extract

Wm A Brown Lieut Colo.
Station Staff Officer

No 3

Cautions Kindly
Lieut Col. Brown
Assistant Engineer
Any thing Cautionary
against the Cutwall

Pallavaram 25th Jany 1837

Assistant Engineers Office
Camps at Guindy
16th December 1836

Colonel
Station Staff Officer

Assistant Engineer Chinglepute
Colonel
Station Staff Officer

The Secretary to Government
Public Works Department
Fort St. George

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Letter from the Secretary to Government Judicial Department No. 18 Dated 16th. ult. to the Superintendent of Government Press

2. I have perused the passages contained in Lieutenant Stuberty's letter marked 1st. and 2nd. requesting that the Contract of the Printer may not be allowed to cease during the pendency of the Suit instituted against him by the Executive Engineer, as being vexatious particularly as I should see no just reasons why he should be objected to the Head Draftsman of the Police being employed to write the Station Staff Officer's Executive Duties assigned him, I desired Colonel Gibson to call upon Lieutenant Stuberty for explanations on the points mentioned to be conveyed relative to the Police Officer's Question Suits

Fort St. George
P. Pennycuick
Colonel

Neely marked N° 3 appeared to fail
daily unsatisfactory and his letter
marked N° 4 to intimate that
the Public Works Could not be
done without the Contract, these
were the reasons that I spoke
upon Lieutenant Neely's Cor-
-respondence as descriptions, he must
have observed throughout Lieut Col
Brown's Correspondence that whoever
was employed for assisting him
must first have my permission
to enter on the duty, this the Contract
had and per opposing his Employ-
-ment without grounds to Establish
a just reason for my withdrawing
him I held it as interfering with
my authority which I did not
expect from Lieut. Neely an
Officer so many years my Junior
in the Service, I beg to mention
that I was at that time under
an impression that as long as
the Public Works police Executed by
the Staff Officer he was at liberty
to appoint his own Overseer subject
to my Approval

2dly I maintained that the
Works in the Establishment police fail
Carried on to a Satisfactory Close
in as much as Stores fully Jus-
-tified when I had noticed a
Report made by the Director Ordnance
Depot to the District Engineer Com-
-plaining of the delay for one
month there were no workmen to
Complete the Repair of the old
Laboratory Causing not only an
inconvenience to that department
but great danger by Exposure of
Laboratory Stores, a Report of the
Hospital of the work was made
to the District Engineer to which
he made no reply, upwards of
three months Elapsed before the
work was Completed

Certain alterations were
ordered to be made to the Convales-
-cent Hospital, the work was
at a stand for upwards of
a month and the Masonry was
withdrawn by Lieut. Neely
for incompetence, these points

Reasons for Expressing My
dissatisfaction of the Works alluded
to being retarded or left unfinished
by the Dept.t of Public Works and
I may confidently venture to state
that had these funds been placed
in the hands of the Station Offr.
Office they would have been
rapidly Executed.

I now most Earnestly
and respectfully hope that
Government will not consider that
I was at all influenced by
any personal motive to the
prejudice of Genl. Bunbury or the
Dep.t Public Works tho I have
erred in some particulars I candidly
with that Department I had
no other object in view than that
tending to the good of the State
and I cannot but regret that
any Official Misunderstanding
should have occurred between myself
and the District Engineer of Chuckpoint.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most Obed.t Servant
[illegible]
Commanding the Troops

Chuckpoint
21st July 1853

Dft Com. 21 July /57 Nos 28-29.

Public Works 1857 Department
Nº 1492

Nº 1484

The Government are unable to take the view under which the Brigadier Commanding the Artillery animadverted on Lieutenant Moberly's official conduct, but are most willing to believe that that Officer has been actuated solely by a desire to promote the public service.

Fort St. George
1st August 1857

From
Nº 353.
Brigd Comg. Fronts
States the reasons
why he considered
Lieut. Moberly maintained an incorrect
behaviour towards him
as well as why he
considers the Rules
Carried on at the
Present unsatisfactory

Electors — 4
Amount 21 July 857
Rect 23d Do —
Nº 1484 - 1st Augt
Wotherspoon and Co.

1342 + 43

25 July 1230

Copies to the Chief Engr Dist 25
Brigr Comg &c Fort St. George