M.R.O. I—32,000—16-10-29.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

Gen. 2 2 5 3

G.O. No. 60 Press Mis.

46-47

Dated 27-4- 19 48

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 46. Read the following letter from H. D. PHILLIPS, Esq., Acting Collector of Tanjore; to H. FORBES, Esq., Acting Secretary to Government, dated Wellum, 5th January 1858, No. 14.

SIR,

Para. 1. I have the honor to submit the explanation relative to the dismissal of Lock Monegar Soobroya Moodelly, required in Extract Minutes of Consultation, dated the 7th November last, No. 2079.

2. This person was Superintendent (Monegar) of a Lock constructed a few years ago, at the head of a small Canal excavated mainly to facilitate the navigation of the rivers Cavery and Munnyar, which by its means are connected and enable boats to reach the sea at Port Novo.

3. The Monegar's pay was Rupees 17½ per mensem and under him were three Assistants (Cottens) each on Rupees 3½ a month. Their only duty is to see that the lock is kept in working order so as to be available for boats passing and repassing. It is true that the number of boats which take advantage of the facilities afforded by the Lock and its small Canal, is not great, the monthly average which have passed through it during the last three years and eight months, being only $39\frac{29}{44}$ as shown in the marginal statement.

Years.	No. of boats.
1854.	737.
1855.	283.
1856.	438.
Eight months in 1857.	287.
Total	1745.
Monthly Average	$39\frac{29}{44}$

4. During the same period the cost of repairs to the Lock has been Rupees 287-7 and further extensive repairs to its gates are necessary at the present time. This outlay* added to the aggregate amount of salary paid to the Monegar and his Cottens for a similar period, shows that the Government have paid for the passage of each boat a sum of one Rupee nearly.

* Repairs	287-7-0
Aggregate salary.	1320-0 0
	1,607-7-0

5. It is to be observed that the labors of the Monegar and his Assistants can be of real necessity at the Lock during only seven months of the year, the water in the Cavery during the other five months being at too low a level to admit of the Lock being then worked.

6. The Lock establishment have thus a very easy quiet life and my impression, from circumstances that have been before me, is, that in reality they do little or nothing and that the Government are considerably losers by the system under which they are retained.

7. Lately the District Engineer and the local Tahsildar paid an unexpected visit to the Lock under Soobroya Moodelly's Superintendence. The Moodelly was not there at 7 A. M. and with one exception, the Cottens were also absent.

8. There were however, no less than twelve boats waiting to be admitted through the lock, and they had been there so waiting for 48 hours. The boatmen were clamorous and loud in their complaint of detention. Their own aid was being brought into play by the Cotten present, to effect the removal of a mass of accumulated sand which prevented the opening of the Lock gates. After an interval, the Monegar appeared and excusing himself threw all the blame of the mismanagement of the Lock affairs on the Subordinate Cottens, whose agency it was his bounden duty to have employed in seeing that the Lock was held available for the simple and single purpose for which it had been constructed. Beyond this he had nothing to do. He was not expected personally to haul at the gates, but he should have kept their the men paid for the purpose, to act under his orders. It was particularly in the early morning, too, that boats were to be expected there after dropping down the stream from Trichinopoly.

9. The District Engineer addressed me on the subject and suggested a mode of noticing the Monegar and the Cottens neglect of duty. The Tahsildar also addressed me giving particulars from his own observation. The Monegar is a member of an Establishment which receives its salary through the Collector. He was appointed by one of my predecessors and the order for his dismissal would necessarily be under the Collectors signature. He has always been under control by the local Tahsildar so also have his Cottens. I therefore felt bound to exercise my own judgment in the matter of the punishment for so obvious a dereliction of duty, but it did not seem to me that it would be meting out justice to fine the Monegar a fifth of one month's salary, and deprive of their bread, the Subordinates, who, if the Monegar had honestly discharged the duty entrusted to him at a spot where unavoidably he is left a good deal to himself, would perhaps have been in no wise culpable.

10. Having, then, on a previous occasion had to notice by suspension a gross neglect of duty on the part of another Monegar, who had permitted much damage to be done by certain fishermen to the apron of a work under his charge, I felt that I was bound to dismiss Soobroya Moodelly and I conscientiously believe that all things considered, he richly deserves the punishment awarded to him.

11. He is not, like Police and Revenue Officers remunerated by a salary more or less equal to his own, daily and hourly required to give his attention to matters of various kinds which call him from place to place and Village to Village. He has had nothing to do but draw very good allowances for doing very little and when a chance visit from two Superior Officers of the Government was made to the locality of this single duty, it was discovered that the little he had to do was not done at all. I respectfully urge on the Government that my severity, if severity it be deemed, has been timely, appropriate and justifiable.

12. I would now with permission beg to notice the tenor of para. 7 of the Chief Engineer's Resolution of date the 15th October last, No. 4475. The Chief Engineer's has pointed out "that a state of things now exists in Tanjore, which must preclude efficient co-operation "between the Collector and the Engineer and represents that it is highly desirable to expedite "that separation of duties and control which the stoppage of public expenditure has unfortu-"nately delayed."

13. If the present were the only instance in which the Chief Engineer has expressed himself in a somewhat similar manner, I should not trouble the Government with any comment. The reverse being the case, I am bound to mention that the "state of things" on which the desired expedition is so strongly pressed upon the Government, is an assumption by the Chief Engineer and has existence only in the imagination of that functionary.

14. The District Engineer and myself have not in every official matter taken the same view exactly, a result scarcely attainable from the nature of of human affairs, but I distinctly deny that there has been any want of co-operation or that the public interests have in the most remote degree suffered from a trifling difference of views. All which have been discussed in a friendly open manner when we have met. In the particular case now reported on, I think the District Engineer and myself have more than once in our private intercourse, referred to the Monegars misconduct and certainly the District Engineer has never hinted even, that he felt the exercise of my undoubted authority, was the grievance into which it seems to have been converted in the office of the Chief Engineer.

No. 47. ORDER THEREON, No. 167; dated 29th January 1858.

Under the explanation furnished by the Acting Collector of Tanjore of the circumstances which led to the dismissal of the Lock Monegar Soobroya Moodelly, the Government decline to interfere.

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

No 14

Tanjore Collector's Office
Vellum 5 January 1858

From A. D. Phillips Esq
Acting Collector of Tanjore

To H. Forbes Esq
Acting Secretary to Government
Fort St. George.

Sir,

Para 1 I have the honor to submit the explanation relative to the dismissal of Lock Monegar Soobroya Moodly, requires in Extract Minutes of Consultation, dated the 4th November last, No. 2079.

2. This person was Superintendent (Monegar) of a Lock constructed a few years ago, at the head of a small Canal excavated mainly to facilitate the navigation of the rivers Cavery and Mummy, which by its means are connected and enable boats to reach the Sea at Porto Novo.

3. The Monegar's pay was Rs 17½ per Mensem and under him were

were three Assistants/Cottars/each on Rs 3½ a month. Their only duty is to see that the Lock is kept in working order so as to be available for boats passing and repassing. It is true that the number of boats which take advantage of the facilities afforded by the Lock and its small Canal, is not great, the monthly average which have passed through it during the last three years and eight months, being only $39\frac{9}{44}$ as shown in the marginal statement.

Years.	No. of boats.
1854	737.
1855	283.
1856	438.
Eight months in 1857	287.
Total	1745.
Monthly average	$39\frac{22}{44}$

4. During the same period the cost of repairs to the Lock has been Rs 287-7-. and further extensive repairs to its gates are necessary at the present time. This outlay (*) added to the aggregate amount of salary paid to the Monegar and his Cottars for a similar period, shows that the Government have paid for the passage

(*) Repairs..... 287-7-.
Aggregate Salary 1320-...
1607-7-.

of each boat a sum of one rupee nearly.

5. It is to be observed that the labour of the Monegar and his Assistants can be of real necessity at the Lock during only Seven Months of the year, the water in the Canal during the other five Months being at too low a level to admit of the Locks being then worked.

6. The Lock establishment have their own easy, quiet life and my impression, from circumstances that have been before me, is, that in reality they do little or nothing and that the Government are considerably losers by the system under which they are retained.

7. Lately the District Engineer and the local Tahsildar paid an unexpected visit to the Lock under Lookroy a Monday's Superintendence. The Monday was not there at 7 A.M. and without exception, the Cottars were also absent.

8. There were however, no less than twelve boats waiting to be admitted through the Lock, and they had been

there

there so waiting for 4-8 hours - The boatmen were clamorous and loud in their complaint of detention - Their own and was being brought into play by the Cotteen present, to effect the removal of a mass of accumulated sand which prevented the opening of the Lock gates - After an interval, the Monegar appeared and exonerating himself threw all the blame of the mismanagement of the Lock affairs on the Subordinate Cotteen, whose Agency it was his bounden duty to have employed in seeing that the Locks was held available for the simple and single purpose for which it had been constructed - Beyond this he had nothing to do. He was not expected personally to haul at the gates, but he should have kept there the men paid for the purpose, to act under his orders - It was particularly in the

the early morning, too, that boat were to be expected there after dropping down the stream from Trichinopoly -

9. The District Engineer addressed me on the subject and suggested a mode of noticing the Monegar and the Cotteen's neglect of duty - The Tahsildar also addressed me giving particulars from his own observation - The Monegar is a member of an Establishment which receives its Salary through the Collector - He was appointed by one of my predecessors and the order for his dismissal would necessarily be under the Collector's signature - He has always been under control by the local Tahsildar, so also have his Cotteens - I therefore felt bound to exercise my own judgment in the matter of the punishment for so obvious a dereliction of duty, but it does not seem to me that it would be meting out justice to fine the Monegar a fifth of one months salary

and

and deprived of their bread, the subordinates, who, if the Mooregar had honestly discharged the duty entrusted to him at a spot where unavoidably he is left a good deal to himself, would perhaps have been in no wise culpable.

10. Having, then, on a previous occasion had to notice by suspension a grave neglect of duty on the part of another Mooregar, who had permitted too much damage to be done by certain diversions to the Apron of a work under his charge, I felt that I was bound to dismiss Soobraya Moodely and I conscientiously believe that all things considered, he richly deserved the punishment awarded to him.

11. He is not, like Police and Revenue officers remunerated by a salary more or less equal to his own, daily and hourly required to give his attention to matters of various kinds which call him from place to place and village to village. He has had nothing to do but draw very good allowances for doing very little and when a chance visit from two superior officers of the Government was made to the locality of this single duty, it was discovered that the little he had to do was not done at all. I respectfully urge on the Government that my severity, if severity it be deemed, has been timely, appropriate and justifiable.

12. I would now with permission beg to notice the tenor of para 7 of the Chief Engineer's resolution of date the 15th October last, No. 4475. The Chief Engineer has pointed out "that a state of things
"now exists in Tanjore, which must pre-
"clude efficient cooperation between
"the Collector and the Engineer and
"represents that it is highly desirable
"to expedite that separation of duties
"and control which the stoppage of
"public expenditure has unfortunately delayed."

13. If the present were the only instance in which the Chief Engineer has expressed himself in a somewhat similar manner, I should not trouble the Government with any comment - The reverse being the case, I am bound to mention that the "state of things" on which the desired expedition is so strongly pressed upon the Government, is an assumption by the Chief Engineer and has existence only in the imagination of that functionary.

14. The District Engineer & myself have not in every official matter taken the same view exactly, - a result scarcely attainable from the nature of human affairs - but I distinctly deny that there has been any want of Cooperation or that the public interests have in the most remote degree suffered from a trifling difference of views - All which have been discussed in a friendly

open manner when we have met - In the particular case now reported on, I think the District Engineer and myself have more than once in our private intercourse referred to the Moneyare misconduct and certainly the District Engineer has never hinted even, that he felt the exercise of my undoubted authority was the grievance into which it seems to have been converted in the office of the Chief Engineer.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedient Servant -
A Dalrymple
Acting Collector -

Tanjore.
Tillum -
5th January 1858

To
The Secretary
to Government
Fort St George -

Cons. 10th Jan. 58 No 44

No 167.

Under the explanation furnished by the Acting Collector of Tanjore of the circumstances which led to the dismissal of the Lock Monegar Coolies, I would the Government decline to interfere.

Fort St. George
29th January 1858

9 Copies to the Chief Engr. Civil Dept
1 — Collr of Tanjore

No 167 dated 29th January 1858
From
The Acting Collector
of Tanjore
To
The Secretary
to Government
Fort St George

Dated 5
Received 8th January 1858

Extract from Cons. Engr. Dept. 5th Jan. 58
No 228 Cons. 16 Sets

Regarding the dismissal
of the Lock Monegar
at Permal Coil.

No. 46-47.

No 167 - 29th January 1858
With an order