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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. Press
Mis.

Dated 18

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 40. Read the following letter from C. W. READE, Esq., Collector of Vizagapatam; to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated Nursipatam Collector's Circuit Cutcherry, 30th October 1858, No. 199.

SIR,

Para. 1. I feel it my duty to submit to Government the accompanying copies of letters addressed by me to Mr. Hawkins the Assistant Executive Engineer in this District.

2. After taking much trouble in setting the people to work and inducing the District Engineer to order Mr. Hawkins to reside at Nursipatam to superintend, every thing is again at a stand still through Mr. Hawkins injudicious manner of dealing with the people under him.

3. Some days ago he struck his head Bricklayer a severe blow on the neck with his stick; the man formally complained to me, and after enquiry I fined Mr. Hawkins Rupees 35. I then endeavoured to press on him the necessity of a conciliatory course and gave him all the advice I could. He thanked me for my courteousness when leaving my Office, although I had found it necessary to impose a fine on him, had I not done so, the coolies and others employed under him would have lost all confidence and would in all probability have at once deserted.

4. The very same day however Mr. Hawkins discharged the man whom he had injured because he had complained to me, although Mr. Hawkins admitted before me that he was the best Bricklayer he had, and the consequence has been the desertion of the rest who would not stay without their principal.

5. Through Captain Owen both the head-man and his comrades had agreed to remain and work, as they said they felt they would be protected, but the latter declined to do so without the head-man, a refusal only to be expected and which is invariably the rule with Natives and of this Mr. Hawkins was duly warned, yet under the influence of personal feelings he persisted it appears in discharging the man.

6. For 3 days nothing has been done and every Bricklayer 5 or 6 in number have returned to Vizagapatam, and Mr. Hawkins has also left the place and these important buildings which are really so urgently required and for which Government gave the money upwards of 2 years ago are again at a stand still, and as far as I can see with no prospect of being resumed while left to the management of Mr. Hawkins.

7. Lieutenant Vertue the District Engineer is fully conscious of Mr. Hawkins' inactivity and want of zeal, but from kindly motives he will not take the initiative in bringing him to the notice of higher authority, and in consequence the invidious task devolves upon me, as I am of opinion I should be grievously wanting in my duty as a Public Officer and as Head of this District were I to overlook in a Subordinate acts brought under my immediate cognizance and which so materially affect the interests of the Government and the Public.

8. With every wish to smooth matters and in view to prevent hindrance to the progress of these buildings, I addressed Mr. Hawkins my first letter of the 28th. He neither acted on it or acknowledged it, but has left the place and all work is stopped.

9. The Government will I hope acquit me of any desire to get Mr. Hawkins into trouble, and I hope they will express the opinion that in thus bringing his conduct to their notice I have simply discharged a duty, the omission of which would have reflected on myself. Captain Owen is here and can testify to all I have done in the matter of these buildings since my advent to Nursipatam, and he can further state how anxious I have been to conciliate all parties in view to hastening on their completion.

Letter from C. W. READE, Esq., Collector of Vizagapatam; to F. HAWKINS, Esq., Assistant Executive Engineer, Nursipatam, dated Collector's Circuit Office, 28th October 1858, No. 645.

SIR,

I am informed the work of the Barracks and Hospital here is at a stand still because of your dismissal of the Bricklayer Maistry with whom the other Bricklayers employed are associated but who will not consent to remain without their Principal.

2. From what you mentioned yesterday I presume you have dismissed the Head-man consequent on his complaint against you. I have no wish to interfere with your arrangements in any way, but it is necessary I should point out to you how important it is that there should be no delay whatever in completing these buildings and that this should be a paramount consideration with you to which all others of a personal nature should yield and I think it hardly reasonable to allow such feelings to operate to the detriment of higher interests which have been committed to your trust and I am decidedly of opinion that the exercise of these feelings can find no justification in the single circumstance of the Head Maistry having sought redress for your striking him. Such an act necessarily lowered him in the eyes of those who were working as it were under him and if he had not found redress the probability is that every cooly as well as all others employed by you would have deserted and ran away.

3. So far from my decision lessening your authority I conceive it must have the reverse effect as showing to all that they will be protected from an unlawful exercise of authority, and without such protection, confidence would have ceased and people would have been afraid to work under you.

4. I therefore trust that consideration for the public good will have their proper weight with you and that on re-consideration you will see the necessity of adopting a conciliatory conduct towards all in your employ and that you will not suffer your feelings of annoyance with the man who so justly complained against you to stand in the way of his future employment; as with his dismissal you will probably be involved in considerable trouble in securing the labor of others you may require and I am confident your own regard for the public interests will ensure your attending to my suggestion, for otherwise it is right I should inform you that it will be my duty to report the matter to Government in order that they may know the real causes which have arisen to further delay a work which should have been finished many months ago.

Letter from C. W. READE, Esq., Collector of Vizagapatam; to F. HAWKINS, Esq., Assistant Executive Engineer, Condakirlah, dated Nursipatam Collector's Circuit Office, 30th October 1858, No 651.

SIR,

It has been to-day reported to me that the Masonry work at the Barracks and Hospital is at a stand still and that nothing has been done the last 2 days consequent on the departure of the 4 Bricklayers who I am informed would not consent to work without their Principal whom you have thought proper to discharge.

2. I had hoped after my letter of the 28th that you would have adopted the suggestion therein offered if only in deference to the public interests but you have not chosen to do so nor have you acknowledged my letter and this important work is again hindered and I fear is likely to be further delayed through your injudiciousness, for there can be little doubt that these Bricklayers will prejudice others against taking employ under you and thus a great difficulty may be experienced in supplying their place.

3. It is my duty to interfere and I shall now bring the matter to the notice of Government in view to some Officer being sent to superintend in your place as I conceive it is owing entirely to you that the present difficulty has arisen.

4. I had taken considerable trouble in stirring up the people and in pressing on the District Engineer the urgent necessity for speedily completing these buildings and just when every thing was in regular working order and was progressing as I had hoped satisfactorily, all is again thrown back by this unfortunate affair which however need not have been the result had you only been pleased to receive my advice in the spirit which dictated it.

No. 41. ORDER THEREON, No. 2674; dated 9th December 1858.

Referred to the Officiating Chief Engineer who will be pleased to suggest the course proper to be taken with respect to Mr. Hawkins.

(Signed) W. H. BAYLEY,
Acting Secretary to Government.

No 645

Vizagapatam District
Nursipatam Collectors Circuit
Office 28th October 1858

From

E. W. Reade Esqre
Collector of
Vizagapatam

To

F. Hawkins Esqre
Assistant Executive Engineer
Nursipatam

Sir

I am informed the work of the Barracks and Hospital here is at a stand still because of your dismissal of the Bricklayer Maistry with whom the other Bricklayers employed are associated but who will not consent to remain without their Principal

2 From what you mentioned yesterday I presume you have dismissed the headman consequent on his complaint against you. I have no wish to interfere with your arrangements in any way, but it is necessary I should point out to you how important it is that there should be no delay whatever in completing these buildings and that this should be a paramount consideration with you to which all others of a personal nature should yield and I think it hardly reasonable to allow such feelings to operate to the detriment of higher interests which

which have been committed to your trust and I am decidedly of opinion that the Exercise of these feelings can find no justification in the single circumstances of the Prest Ministry having sought redress for your striking him. Such an act necessarily lowered him in the eyes of those (who were witnessing it (were under him) and if he had not found redress the probability is that every body as well as all others employed by you would have deserted and run away.

3 So far from my decision lessening your authority I conceive it must have the reverse effect as showing to all that they will be protected from an unlawful exercise of authority and without such protection confidence would have ceased and people would have been afraid to work under you.

I

4. I therefore trust that consideration for the public good will have their proper weight with you and that on reconsideration you will see the necessity of adopting a conciliatory conduct towards all in your employ and that you will not suffer your feelings of annoyance with the man who so justly complained against you to stand in the way of his future employment as with his dismissal you will probably be involved in considerable trouble in securing the labor of others you may require and I am confident your own regard for the public interests will ensure your attending to my suggestions for otherwise it is right I should inform you that it will be my duty to report the matter to Government in order that they may know the real causes which have arisen to further delay a work which should have been finished many months

ago.

-ag°.

Shame Yrs &c.

/Signed/ C.W. Brade

Collector

№ 631.

Vizagapatam District
Vizagapatam Collector's
Circ.r Office 30 October 1838.

From C. W. Brade Esqre
Collector of Vizagapatam

To
J. Hawkins Esqre
Assistant Executive Engineer
Condakinlak

Sir,

I have been today reported to, that the Masonry work at the Barracks and Hospital is at a stand still and that nothing has been done the last 2 days consequent on the departure of the 4 Bricklayers who I am informed would not consent to work without their Principal (whom you have thought proper to discharge).

2. I had hoped after my letter of the 28 that you would have adopted the suggestion therein offered of only in deference to the public interest that you have not chosen to do so—now have you acknowledged my letter and the [illegible] work is again hindered and probably to be further delayed through your imprudence, for there can be little doubt that these Bricklayers will persuade others against taking employ under you and thus a great difficulty may be experienced in supplying their places.

3. It is my duty to interpose and I shall now bring the matter to the notice of Government and desire to have some Officer sent to superintend in your place as I conceive it is owing entirely to your conduct that the present difficulty has arisen.

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Engineer the urgent necessity
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as I had hoped satisfactorily,
all is again thrown back
by this unfortunate affair
which however need not have
been the result had you only
been pleased to receive my
advices in the spirit which
dictated it.

I have &c.

(Signed) C. W. Reade
Collector

(True Copies)

C. W. Reade
Collector

No 199.

Vizagapatam District
Nursapatam
Collector's Cutcherry
30th October 1858.

From
C. H. Nicodel Esqre
Collector

To
T. Pycroft Esqre
Chief Secretary to Government
For. & St. George

Sir,

Para 1. I feel it my duty to submit to Government the accompanying Copies of letters addressed by me to Mr. Hawkins the Assistant Executive Engineer in this District.

2 After taking much trouble in settling the people to work and inducing the District Engineer to order Mr. Hawkins to reside at Narsapatam to superintend every thing it appears at a stand still through Mr. Hawkins injudicious manner of dealing with the people under him.

3. Some days ago he struck his head Mason a severe blow on the neck with his stick, the man formally complained to me and after enquiry I fined Mr. Hawkins Rupees 35. I then endeavoured to press on them the necessity of a conciliatory course and gave them all the advice I could. He thanked

me

1858
Public Works Dept
Copy of a letter from the Collr.
of Vizagapatam
dated 30th October 1858 &c &c
129
From The Collector of
Vizagapatam
To Chief Secretary to
Government
Fort St George
Dated 30th October 1858
Received 5th November
Answered 15th Do
Registered 16th Do

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have lost all confidence and would on all pro-
bability have at once deserted.

4. The very same day however
Mr. Hawkins discharged the men whom
he had injured because he had complained to me,
although Mr. Hawkins admitted before me
that he was the best Bricklayer he had, and
the consequence has been the desertion of the
rest who would not stay without their principal.

5. Through Captain Cracroft both
the head-man and his comrades had agreed to
remain and work, as they said they felt
they would be protected, but the latter de-
clined to do so without the head-man, a pre-
caution only to be expected and which is invari-
ably the rule with Natives and of this
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the influence of personal feelings he persisted
it appears in discharging the man.

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upon me, as I am of opinion I should
be grievously wanting in my duty as a
Public Officer and as Head of the
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cognizance and which so materially
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and the public.

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kins into trouble, and I hope they will
express the opinion that in thus bringing

his

his conduct to their notice I have simply discharged a duty the omission of which would have reflected on myself. Captain Owen is here and can testify to all I have done in the matter of these buildings since my advent to Nuwara-Eliya and he can further state what unexpected Obstacles I have had to Conciliate all parties in view to hasten my on their Completion.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most Obt. Servt

Charles Rode
Collector

x28 Brown

1858

Pub. Works Despatch
By the Steamer
No. 2659

From

The Collector of
Vizagapatam

To The Chief Secretary
to Government
Fort St. George

Dated 30 October 1858.

Rec'd. 10th Novr.

No. 2674. 9th Decr. 1858.

No. 199

Enclosures 1

No.

Intimates copies of letters addressed to him & Mr. Hawkins the Asst. Exec. Engineer & states that owing to their unjudicious manner with the workmen, instigation, the former got upon his horse & left work, and was fined 35 Rs. every thing pertaining to the buildings now under construction for the use of the Orphan Asylum is again at a stand still & hopes the Govt will pay & support the expenses for further building his opinion that the Collector has simply done his duty, the measure which should have been adopted in such cases

Wants an order

From Chief Engr
13th Decr 58 No. 3040
in Cons.
11 Jany 59

No. 40 & 41.

30 Nov. to 6 Dec.

No. 2674

Referred to the Chief Engineer who will be pleased to suggest the course proper to be taken with respect to Mr. Hawkins.

W. H. B

Fort St. George
9th Decr 58

10 Copies to letter 2659 Chief Engr.
Despd 10th