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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

Circ. No. 4. 1858

G.O. No.	<i>683</i>	Press Mis.
<i>23-28.</i> Dated	<i>12-4-</i>	1858.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

12/11/57

Fort Saint George, Public Works Consultation of 20th April 1858.

Read the following papers.

No. 23. Extract from the Proceedings of the Chief Engineer, dated 11th August 1857, No. 2831.

Read the following letter from Brigadier J. C. COFFIN, Commanding H. S. Force; to Colonel C. E. FABER, Chief Engineer, dated Secunderabad, 3rd August 1857, No. 220.

SIR,

As the Chief of the Department of Public Works I think it right to make you acquainted with a correspondence that I have been obliged to submit for the consideration of the Commander-in-Chief and which has led to my appointing an Officer to act as Superintending Engineer to this Force.

A.

Letter from Captain T. PEYTON, Assistant Quarter Master General H. S. Force; to Lieutenant H. D. B. SMITH, Officiating Executive Engineer, Secunderabad, dated 28th July 1857, No. 622.

SIR,

I have the honor to inform you that the building last made over to you, formerly the Cantonment Library is required by the Commissariat Officer and request that it may be made over to me as soon as possible.

Letter from Captain T. PEYTON, Assistant Quarter Master General H. S. Force; to Lieutenant H. D. B. SMITH, Officiating Executive Engineer, Secunderabad, dated 28th July 1857, No. 623.

SIR,

I have the honor by order of the Brigadier Commanding the Force to enclose for your perusal and to be returned a Circular letter from the Quarter Master General of the Army, and to request that you will be good enough to have all thatched buildings immediately removed from the Engineer's yard, and public buildings contained in it.

Letter from Lieutenant H. D. B. SMITH, Executive Engineer, Secunderabad Division; to Brigadier J. C. COFFIN, Commanding H. S. Force, dated Secunderabad, 31st July 1857, No. 22.

SIR,

With reference to Official letters Nos. 622, 623, from the Assistant Quarter Master General H. S. Force, respectively directing me to hand over the building used by my Department as an office, to the Assistant Commissary General H. S. Force, and to remove all thatches from Public Buildings in my charge, I have the honor respectfully to represent that I am unable to meet your wishes in this respect or to comply with any request of a similar nature unless by order of the Chief Engineer of Hyderabad.

B.

Lieutenant Smith, Officiating Executive Engineer, Secunderabad Division, has the honor to acknowledge the Official Memo. of the Assistant Quarter Master General H. S. Force and regrets that by reason of emergent work at Chudderghaut and Trimulgherry, he is unable to comply with the wishes of the Officer Commanding H. S. Force therein contained.

The Memo. above alluded to, is detained for submission to the Chief Engineer of Hyderabad.

(Signed) H. D. B. SMITH, Lieutenant,
Officiating Executive Engineer, Secunderabad Division.

Secunderabad, 1st August 1857.

C.

Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel R. HENDERSON, Chief Engineer of Hyderabad; to Brigadier J. C. COFFIN, Commanding Hyderabad Subsidiary Force, Secunderabad, dated Bolarum, 1st August 1857, General No. 633, Departmental No. 318.

SIR,

Lieutenant Smith having laid before me an order addressed to him by the Assistant Quarter Master General H. S. Force, by your order (copy herewith forwarded) requiring him to attend at your quarters at 1 o'clock this day, I do myself the honor to address you in order to point out Lieutenant Smith's position while holding his present appointment.

2. Lieutenant Smith as Executive Engineer of the Secunderabad Division of the Hyderabad Department Public Works, is the local Head of a Circle, comprising the Stations of Secunderabad, Bolarum, Chudderghaut, and Wurrungul, and is immediately responsible to the Chief Engineer for the manner in which he performs his duties. He has strict orders to attend to all requisitions, regarding emergent repairs, or trifling alterations to buildings from yourself or other authorities within his Division, and in the event of any of these authorities not being satisfied with the manner in which he carries on his duties, are presentation to that effect made to me will always receive attention, but I consider that no authority except myself (under the Resident) has the power of either dictating to Lieutenant Smith, the manner in which his duties should be performed, or of otherwise interfering with him in the exercise of his official functions.

3. With the above explanation I cannot but consider, that the style of the Assistant Quarter Master General's Memo. is not consistent with Lieutenant Smith's position, as Head of a Department, exclusively under my immediate orders, and not forming a portion of the Staff of the Hyderabad Subsidiary Force. It is customary I believe, for Officers situated as he is to be addressed direct, and not through Staff Officers, but should you in future, make your wishes known to Lieutenant Smith through your staff, I would beg that more consideration may be shewn to his position.

MEMORANDUM.

Duplicate Lieutenant Smith, Officiating Executive Engineer, Secunderabad is directed to attend at the Brigadier's quarters at one o'clock, this day, this Memorandum to be acknowledged and returned.

(By order,)

(Signed) T. PEYTON, Captain,

Assistant Quarter Master General H. S. Force.

Secunderabad, 1st August 1857.

Letter from Brigadier J. C. COFFIN, Commanding H. S. Force; to Colonel F. A. REID, Quarter Master General of the Army, Fort Saint George, dated Secunderabad, 1st August 1857, No. 218.

SIR,

I have the honor to report for the information of the Commander in Chief that I have this day appointed Captain A. N. Scott of the Artillery to act as Superintending Engineer of this Force and to transmit an Extract from Division orders which I trust General Beresford, will move the Government to confirm.

The circumstances which led to this appointment are as follows on the 28th Ultimo. two letters were addressed to the Officiating Executive Engineer Secunderabad, the one requesting that a public building might be made over (being urgently required in consequence of the near approach of a Company of Sappers) the other calling upon that Officer to remove all thatched buildings from the Engineer's yard, on the 31st Ultimo. I received a reply directed to myself, in which this Officer states "I am unable to meet your wishes in this respect or to comply with any request of a

similar nature unless by order of the Chief Engineer of Hyderabad" copies* of this correspondence are enclosed.

* Marked A.

I would have immediately placed this Officer in arrest for such direct disobedience of my orders, but that my doing so might have been injurious to the Public service, as Lieutenant Smith is Executive Engineer at Chudderghaut and Bolarum also. I wished moreover to give Mr. Smith an opportunity of withdrawing his letter, as I thought he might have acted under injudicious advice and therefore desired my Assistant Quarter Master General to direct his attendance at my quarters at 1 p. m., this day in reply to which Lieutenant Smith sent memo. copy* of which is annexed.

* Marked B.

The very insubordinate character of this memo. and of the previous correspondence rendered it necessary that I should take immediate measures for the performance of the Engineer duties with this Force, which are much too important to be left in the hands of an Officer who knows so little of subordination as Lieutenant Smith has shewn himself to do; and in appointing Captain Scott to act as Superintending Engineer to this Force, I did so designedly, feeling from experience it was far better he should not in any way, be under the control of the Chief Engineer of Hyderabad, Lieutenant Colonel Henderson C. B., who has apparently advised his subordinate how to act in this matter, and supports him in his line of conduct, as will be seen by accompanying copy* of a communication from the Chief Engineer.

* Marked C.

I trust this correspondence will shew the great necessity there is for the appointment of a Superintending Engineer with this Force. It is impossible to say what may be required of us, and I conceive it would be somewhat out of place for me to be looking about and if—I did meet with an Officer of the Public Works Department, asking as a favor from him what I ought to be able to demand as a right.

Resolved that in forwarding the within original correspondence from the Brigadier Commanding the H. S. Force for the information and orders of the Right Honorable the Governor in Council, the Chief Engineer's opinion be submitted that if the orders had been addressed by Major General Coffin to the Chief Engineer Hyderabad as Head of the Department instead of to his Officiating Subordinate Lieutenant Smith the unfortunate official collision now reported would probably not have taken place.

2. Resolved also to represent that whilst the conduct of Lieutenant Smith in bringing forward the allegation of professional employment elsewhere as a reason for disobeying the Brigadier's orders for a personal visit is highly culpable, it admits of question whether the measure adopted by Major General Coffin of nominating Captain Scott Superintending Engineer H. S. Force on his own authority, and of taking forcible possession of the Engineer's office and Records at Secunderabad was the best and wisest that could have been adopted.

(Signed) C. E. FABER, Colonel,

Chief Engineer.

No. 24. From Colonel C. E. FABER, Chief Engineer; to H. FORBES, Esq., Acting Secretary to Government, dated 11th August 1857, No. 2832.

SIR,

Agreeably to the application from the Chief Engineer at Hyderabad No. 618, of the 5th Instant, I do myself the honor to forward for the information of Government, the correspondence in original which I have received from Lieutenant-Colonel Henderson C. B. and which contains his narrative of certain events of recent occurrence in connexion with the Head Quarters of the Hyderabad Subsidiary Force.

Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel R. HENDERSON, Chief Engineer of Hyderabad; to Colonel C. E. FABER, Chief Engineer, Fort Saint George, dated Bolarum, 5th August 1857, No. 648.

SIR,

1. As I understand Brigadier Coffin Commanding H. S. Force has forwarded a complaint against my Department to the Military authorities at Madras, I consider it my duty to forward

the accompanying copy of a letter I have addressed to the Resident of Hyderabad, and should feel obliged by your laying the correspondence before the Madras Government in order that they may be put in possession of the facts of the case.

2. I have also called upon Lieutenant Smith for a narrative of the events as they occurred which is now before the Resident, and this also shall be forwarded as soon as possible.

3. I am not aware of the exact nature of the complaint made by Brigadier Coffin, but I leave the documents to speak for themselves.

4. To an Officer of your experience and position it is unnecessary for me to dwell upon the inconvenience that has been caused to my Department, by the order of Brigadier Coffin. The late Superintending Engineer's office, together with the old records of which an inventory was taken by the Committee, are now in the possession of an Officer over whom I have no control whilst the Department is left without any suitable accommodation for the office servants, or for the preparation of documents, the office furniture even having been given up to Captain Scott, to the great obstruction of public business. I understand that every document containing the signature of any Superintending Engineer was entered in the Committee's list, and is now under Captain Scott's charge.

5. I take this opportunity of mentioning that the defensive works at the residency are being carried on under the immediate Superintendence of Captain Michael my personal assistant aided by another Officer of my Department, and these are only occasionally visited by the Executive Engineer (who is therefore almost always at either Secunderabad or Trimulgherry) and they will be finished within another fortnight. At Bolarum there is nothing on hand, and even at Secunderabad, the only work in progress of any importance, is the fitting up of some of the new Barrack Ranges with saddle stands. The troops at Wurrungul have been withdrawn and therefore I do not see any necessity for the appointment created by Brigadier Coffin, especially under the present stringent orders, regarding the expenses of the Public Works Department.

Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel R. HENDERSON, Chief Engineer of Hyderabad; to Captain A. R. THORNHILL, First Assistant Resident Hyderabad, dated Bolarum, 4th August 1858, General No. 641, Departmental No. 324.

SIR,

I have the honor to request you will be so good as to lay before the Resident the following Statement.

2. On the evening of the 31st Ultimo I received a communication from Lieutenant Smith, informing me that Brigadier Coffin, had addressed the Resident requesting, that should Lieutenant Smith be at Chudderghat, he might be ordered into Secunderabad, and directed to report himself to the Brigadier.

6 miles.

3. Very early the next morning I received a note from Lieutenant Smith, stating, that he expected to be summoned to the Brigadier's Quarters that morning, and requesting my advice, in the event of this happening in reply I wrote* to the effect, that although I considered that Brigadier Coffin had no right to direct his attendance at his Quarters, as he was under my orders, and not under the Brigadiers I still left it to his discretion to attend to the Brigadiers wishes, in the event of his being able to do so without interfering with his other duties.

4. The hour appointed on the 1st instant by Brigadier Coffin was one o'clock and shortly after that hour Lieutenant Smith came to me at Bolarum, bringing me the memorandum from the Assistant Quarter Master General H. S. Force, marked B, with his reply marked C. regretting that owing to press of business at Chudderghat and Trimulgherry, he could not comply with the Brigadiers requisition, I now regret that at the time I did not direct him to* intimate to the Brigadier, that in deference to his rank, in the event of his not being able to wait on him at one o'clock that day, he would do so at a future hour, or next day, but I subsequently directed him to attend the Brigadier on Monday the 3rd instant. He at the same time complained to me of the style in

which the order had been conveyed to him, and as it appeared to me from its perusal, that the Brigadier was under a misapprehension of Lieutenant Smith's position, I addressed to the Brigadier a letter marked D. in the hope that such an explanation would render future correspondence more agreeable.

No 633 dated 1st August 1857.

5. I had scarcely finished writing the last mentioned letter when a Trooper Orderly galloped up to my Quarters with a division order marked E. signed by Major Hodson, and after its persual, I addressed to Brigadier Coffin the letter marked F. I received no reply to either of these letters.

Dated 1st August 1857.
No 637, dated 1st August 1857.

* No 638 dated 2nd August 1857.
† No. 219, dated 2nd August 1857.

6. Having heard the next day from Lieutenant Smith, that his Office containing some Books &c, had been locked up; I addressed a letter to Brigadier Coffin marked G* to which I received the reply marked H.†

7. It may be now necessary to explain, that the reason for Brigadier Coffin requesting the Resident to order Lieutenant Smith to return to Secunderabad was as follows. On the 28th Ultimo Lieutenant Smith received two official letters,† requesting him to pull down the Chuppers of all Public buildings under his charge, and directing him to hand over one of those buildings to Captain Peyton for Captain Webb's use. Lieutenant Smith intimated to Captain Peyton in a private note, that he was ready to hand over the building, but on being told by me, that before doing so, he should have referred to me, as the Building was occupied at the time as an office for the Trimulgherry Barracks, Lieutenant Smith wrote officially marked I. with my permission to Brigadier Coffin, informing him, that he would be unable to comply with his requests or similar requests without a reference to me.

8. The next day on seeing the letter he had written, and perceiving that the concluding part of it, might be misunderstood, I directed him to write another letter* more fully explaining his meaning. This letter was returned to him by the Assistant Quarter Master General in a wrapper, with the docket signed by him returned. If the "Executive Engineer has any communication for submission to the Brigadier Commanding the Force, he will address the Assistant Quarter Master General of the Force."

9. Lieutenant Smith then embodied the letter in question in one to the Assistant Quarter Master General.

10. The above statement, and the correspondence therein referred to, will I think demonstrate to the Resident the following facts.

1stly. That Brigadier Coffin has in his Division order marked E. assumed to himself the power of summarily depriving me of the control of a part of the duties entrusted to me, by the Supreme Government, without previously assigning to me, or to my immediate superior the Resident, any reason for his having done so; and before having had any communication whatever with me on the subject. Had I been written to, at first the whole of these unpleasant proceedings would have been avoided.

2ndly. That Brigadier Coffin under an evident misapprehension of the present constitution of the Public Works Department, assumes the power of issuing orders himself, and through his Staff, to an Officer of the Public Works Department, distinctly under the orders of a Chief Engineer.

Lieutenant Smith's position is an excellent case in point, to demonstrate the impossibility of such orders being implicitly obeyed. He, as Executive Engineer of the Secunderabad Division has charge of the stations of Chudderghat, Secunderabad, Bolarum, and Wurrungul, and would be liable to receive similar orders from the Officers Commanding at each of those stations.

3rdly. That throughout the whole of this correspondence Brigadier Coffin has totally ignored my authority, or control over the Executive Engineer of the Secunderabad Division of the Hyderabad Department Public Works. He has issued orders to, and rebuked that Officer through his Staff, and when requiring his personal attendance at his quarters made no Communi-

cation to me, [Lieutenant Smith's immediate superior] but applied to the Resident. Two of my letters on this subject have met with no reply or attention, and the only manner in which he has at all acknowledged me, is by his letter marked II, and by having endorsed my name on the extract of Division orders signed by his Acting Assistant Adjutant General marked* as follows. "To be acknowledged by Lieutenant Smith Officiating Executive Engineer" "Colonel Henderson Chief Engineer."

11. As my appointment of Chief Engineer of Hyderabad, renders me answerable for the efficient performance of all duties connected with the Public Works in Secunderabad, and for the proper rendering of the accounts to the Supreme Government, I must protest against Lieutenant Smith being made to give place to an Officer over whom I am to have no Control, and I have therefore deemed it my duty to lay the whole circumstances before the Resident, as my immediate Superior, in order that he may take such steps in the matter as he may deem advisable.

A.
Letter from Lieutenant Colonel R. HENDERSON, Chief Engineer, Hyderabad; to Lieutenant H. D. B. SMITH, Officiating Executive Engineer H. S. Force, dated 1st August 1857.

SIR,
You are not the Executive Engineer of the Hyderabad Subsidiary Force, but of the Secunderabad Division of the Hyderabad Department Public Works, and you are not under the orders of General Coffin in such a manner as to be obliged to report yourself to him. You are immediately under my orders, but it is your duty to attend to the wishes of General Coffin regarding all Public Works in Secunderabad, and he should make his wishes known to you in writing, and not order your attendance upon him which might be very inconvenient, and interfere with other works of equal, if not greater importance than those of the Cantonment, particularly as the Resident has told me to consider the work at the residency as of paramount importance, and even to suspend all other work if necessary till its completion. Should it be inconvenient therefore, for you to attend upon General Coffin at any time, you should tell him so and I will bear you out. Your Department is not under him at all, but if he requires your, or its services he should address you in the same manner as he would any other independent Head of a Department. You are not only answerable to me for the accounts of the work at Chudderghaut but for the work itself. In fact the whole affair is being carried on under you, though I have spared my personal assistant to give you his aid, and to make himself generally useful on the spot, when you are necessarily absent looking after other works.

This arrangement puts me to considerable inconvenience, but I have made it rather than make a demand for more Officers, and Michael is better up to the work than a raw hand would be. You will attend (as I said before) scrupulously to every requisition from General Coffin, but the time and manner of doing so is left to your own discretion. I take it for granted that every thing required will be performed with the least possible delay, and in the best manner. If I have reason to believe that your duties are not being carried on satisfactorily, it is for me to interfere, and if General Coffin is dissatisfied with you he should represent this to me, but I have no reason to anticipate any thing of this kind.

P. S.—Keep this note as a document I purpose visiting Chudderghaut to-morrow morning.

(Signed) R. HENDERSON,

B.

MEMORANDUM.

Duplicate.—Lieutenant Smith Officiating Executive Engineer Secunderabad is directed to attend to the Brigadier's Quarters at one o'clock this day. This Memorandum to be acknowledged and returned.

Secunderabad, }
1st August 1857. }

By order.

(Signed) T. PEYTON, Captain,
Assistant Quarter Master General H. S. Force.

C.

COPY.

Lieutenant Smith Officiating Executive Engineer Secunderabad Division has the honor to acknowledge the Official Memo. of the Assistant Quarter Master General Hyderabad Subsidiary Force, and requests that by reason of emergent work at Chudderghat and Trimulgherry he is unable to comply with the wishes of the Officer Commanding H. S. Force therein contained.

The Memo. above alluded to is detained for submission to the Chief Engineer of Hyderabad.

Secunderabad, }
August 1st 1857. }

(Signed) H. D. B. SMITH, Lieut.,

Offg. Executive Engineer Secunderabad Division.

D.

Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel R. HENDERSON, Chief Engineer Hyderabad; to Brigadier J. C. COFFIN, Commanding Hyderabad Subsidiary Force, Secunderabad, dated Bolarum, 1st August 1857, No. 633.

SIR,

Lieutenant Smith having laid before me an order addressed to him by the Assistant Quarter Master General H. S. Force by your order (copy herewith forwarded) requiring him to attend at your Quarters at one o'clock this day, I do myself the honor to address you in order to point out Lieutenant Smith's position while holding his present appointment.

2. Lieutenant Smith as Executive Engineer of the Secunderabad Division of the Hyderabad Department Public Works is the local head of a Circle, comprising the stations of Secunderabad, Bolarum, Chudderghat and Marrimgul, and is immediately responsible to the Chief Engineer for the manner in which he performs his duties. He has strict orders to attend to all requisitions regarding emergent repairs or trifling alterations to buildings from yourself, or other authorities within his Division, and in the event of any of these authorities not being satisfied with the manner in which he carries on his duties, a representation to that effect made to me will always receive attention, but I consider that no authority except myself (under the Resident) has the power of either dictating to Lieutenant Smith the manner in which his duties should be performed or of otherwise interfering with him in the exercise of his official functions.

3. With the above explanation I cannot but consider that the style of the Assistant Quarter Master General's Memo is not consistent with Lieutenant Smith's position as head of a Department exclusively under my immediate orders and not forming a portion of the Staff of the Hyderabad Subsidiary Force. It is customary I believe for Officer's situated as he is to be addressed direct, and not through Staff Officer's but should you in future make your wishes known to Lieutenant Smith through your staff I would beg that more consideration may be shewn to his position.

E.

Division order by Brigadier J. C. Coffin Commanding Secunderabad 1st August 1857.

Captain A. N. Scott of the Artillery is appointed to act as Superintending Engineer of the Hyderabad Subsidiary Force, without prejudice to his Regimental duties subject to the confirmation of Government.

A Committee composed as follows will assemble at the Superintending Engineer's office at 4 o'clock this afternoon to take an eventory of stores &c.

President.

Colonel Foord Commanding Artillery.

Members.

Lieutenant and Quarter Master Locke 3rd M. E. Regiment.
Lieutenant and Quarter Master Wilson 41st Regiment N. I.
Captain Scott and Lieutenant Smith Officiating Executive Engineer will be pleased to attend the Committee.

By Order.

(Signed) D. HODSON, Major,
A. A. A. General H. S. Force.

F.

Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel R. HENDERSON, Chief Engineer of Hyderabad; to Brigadier J. C. COFFIN, Commanding H. S. Force, Secunderabad, dated 1st August 1857, No. 637.

SIR,

With reference to Division order issued by you of this day's date a copy of which has been forwarded to me by your Acting Assistant Adjutant General, Major Hodson, I cannot but feel that this order has been issued under a total misapprehension of the position of my Department, as I trust will be more fully explained by my letter No. 633, of this date.

2. I am not aware of any circumstances that have called forth the above order, I believe all requisitions from you, relating to repairs or alterations of Public Buildings have been complied with, and as I have never received any complaint against Lieutenant Smith. I feel it my duty not to allow any interference with my Department by any local authority, under that of the Resident of Hyderabad.

3. Lieutenant Smith has had extensive and urgent duties to perform lately by order of the Resident in fortifying the Residency, and he would have been justified in suspending all the trifling work that have been lately required in the Cantonment of Secunderabad to attend to the work at the Residency [Vide Resident's letter No. 512 copy of which was forwarded to you my letter No. 631] but so far from this being the case Lieutenant Smith has by great personal exertion kept the whole in progress at once, and has fulfilled his duty in this respect entirely to my satisfaction. My object in forwarding to you a copy of the Resident's letter No. 512, was to shew you the demand upon the *Material* and not upon the *personnel* of the Department which latter I consider to be fully equal to the duties of the Secunderabad Division even under the present emergency and therefore I cannot admit the necessity either of another Officer being appointed to my Department or of Lieutenant Smith being superseded in his duties.

4. I beg to add that if you consider Lieutenant Smith to have neglected his duties, I shall be glad to receive any representation to that effect, and to meet your wishes to the utmost of my power, though I cannot recognize the above Division order as at all applicable to the Hyderabad Department of Public Works over which I have been placed by the Government of India.

5. With the above explanation I trust the Division order issued by you will be cancelled, and I beg to assure you, that nothing shall be wanting either on my part, or on that of any of my subordinates to meet your wishes in regard to the prosecution of the Public Works within the Cantonment of Secunderabad, although a change in the manner of performing these duties has been ordered by the Government of India.

6. I beg to enclose with this letter the order forwarded to me by Major Hodson.

G.

Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel R. HENDERSON, Chief Engineer of Hyderabad; to Brigadier J. C. COFFIN, Commanding H. S. Force, Secunderabad, dated Bolarum, 2nd August 1857, No. 638.

SIR,

I have the honor to forward herewith a copy of a letter addressed to me by the Officiating Executive Engineer of the Secunderabad Division and should Lieutenant Smith's representation

be correct may I request you will do me the favor of ordering the restoration of his office and the keys thereof to be delivered up by Captain Scott of the Artillery as soon as possible to prevent obstruction to the duties of the Department under my charge.

2. I regret to be obliged to trouble you with this matter to-day (Sunday) but the case is urgent as the work at the Residency is carried on to-day on emergency.

Enclosure to G.

Letter from Lieutenant H. D. B. SMITH, Officiating Executive Engineer, H. S. Force; to Lieutenant-Colonel R. HENDERSON, Chief Engineer of Hyderabad.

SIR,

I have the honor to bring to your notice that yesterday evening the office of the *Executive Engineer, Secunderabad Division*, was taken possession of by Captain Scott of the Artillery who has been appointed by the Brigadier Commanding the Force, to act as *Superintending Engineer H. S. Force*.

2. As this last named appointment was formerly held by yourself, I would venture to suggest that the Officer Commanding H. S. Force be made acquainted, that it has subsequently been abolished by the Supreme Government, and that he be requested, to order the restoration of my office which has been locked up, and the keys placed in the Guard.

3. I would beg further to add that this request is *most emergent*, as the Chudderghat and Trimulgherry Accounts are in the office, and important work is hindered and prevented.

H.

Letter from Brigadier J. C. COFFIN, Commanding H. S. Force; to Lieutenant-Colonel R. HENDERSON, Chief Engineer, Hyderabad, dated Secunderabad, 2nd August 1857, No. 219.

SIR,

In reply to your letter of this day's date, I have the honor to state that a copy of my Division order appointing Captain Scott to act as Superintending Engineer of this Force also ordering a Committee to assemble at the Superintending Engineer's Office to take an inventory of stores, &c. and which Lieutenant Smith was directed to attend was sent for your information as well as Lieutenant Smith's. The latter Officer did not choose to attend, so that any obstruction to the Public Service rests with that Officer.

I am quite sure that Captain Scott now in charge of the Superintending Engineer's Office will afford Lieutenant Smith on his application every facility in the performance of his duties until he can make arrangements for the removal of such portion of his Office Establishment as may be here.

I.

Letter from H. D. B. SMITH, Executive Engineer, Secunderabad Division; to Brigadier J. C. COFFIN, Commanding H. S. Force, dated 31st July 1857, No. 22.

SIR,

With reference to official letters Nos. 622, 623 from the Assistant Quarter Master General H. S. Force, respectively directing me to hand over the building used by my Department as an Office, to the Assistant Commissary General H. S. Force, and to remove all thatches from Public Buildings in my charge, I have the honor respectfully to represent, that I am unable to meet your wishes in this respect or to comply with any request of a similar nature unless by order of the Chief Engineer of Hyderabad.

J.

Letter from Lieutenant H. D. B. SMITH, Officiating Executive Engineer, Secunderabad Division; to Captain T. PEYTON, Assistant Quarter Master General Hyderabad Subsidiary Force, dated 1st August 1857.

SIR,

As I have reason to apprehend that my official letters of yesterday's date, to the address of the Brigadier Commanding H. S. Force, has been misunderstood, I would beg, that I may be permitted to express more fully, that the cause of my not complying with the requests contained in your Memoranda therein referred to, was simply, because:

1. The building called for did not belong to me, but to the Officer constructing the Trimulgherry Barracks, to whom it was made over in 1854.
2. Similarly the thatches belonged to the same office, he having erected them for the use of the Carpenters employed in making doors and windows for the above mentioned building.

Also my intimating my inability to comply with orders of a "similar nature" referred to orders similar to the above, wherein I was called upon to deliver up the property of my Commanding Officer without his permission.

I regret, that I was unable to attend at the Brigadier's quarters this day as he requested: the rain of yesterday had prevented materials being forwarded to the Residency, and every exertion on my part was necessary to prevent the work stopping.

Wrapper to J.

Docket

No. 60.

MEMORANDUM.

Returned. If the Executive Engineer has any communications for submission to the Brigadier Commanding the Force, he will address the Assistant Quarter Master General of the Force.

By order,

(Signed) T. PEYTON, Captain,

Assistant Quarter Master General

Hyderabad Subsidiary Force.

Secunderabad, 1st August 1857.

No. 25. Extract from the Proceedings of the Chief Engineer, dated 13th August 1857, No. 2906.

Read the following letter from Brigadier J. C. COFFIN, Commanding H. S. Force; to Colonel C. E. FABER, Chief Engineer, dated Secunderabad, 6th August 1857, No. 225.

SIR,

In continuation of my letter No. 220 of the 3rd Instant, I have the honor to forward copies of further correspondence which I have also submitted to the Provincial Commander in Chief.

Letter from Brigadier J. C. COFFIN, Commanding H. S. Force; to the Quarter Master General of the Army Fort Saint George, dated Secunderabad 3rd August 1857, No. 221.

SIR,

In continuation of my letter No. 218 of the 1st Instant I have the honor to forward further copies of correspondence* with the Chief Engineer under date 1st Instant also of a letter† from Lieutenant Smith of same date which I request you will submit to the Commander in Chief. It is not necessary for me to remark on the tone of Lieutenant Colonel Henderson's letter.

* Marked D.

† Marked E.

In regard to Lieutenant Smith's part in this unfortunate business that Officer waited upon me this day and explained to me that in the first instance he had complied with the directions contained in the Assistant Quarter Master General's letter of 28th Ultimo, but on informing Lieutenant Colonel Henderson he had done so, that Officer found fault with him, and directed him to write his letter of 31st Ultimo, copy of which was forwarded with my letter of 1st Instant; moreover directed Lieutenant Smith not to obey any orders he might receive from me, except those regarding alterations and repairs of buildings, without (his) the Chief Engineer's authority.

Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel R. HENDERSON, Chief Engineer of Hyderabad; to Brigadier J. C. COFFIN, Commanding Hyderabad Subsidiary Force, dated Bolarum, 1st August 1857.

SIR,

With reference to Division Order issued by you of this day's date, a copy of which has been forwarded to me by your Acting Assistant Adjutant General Major Hodson, I cannot but feel that this order has been issued under a total misapprehension of the position of my Department, as I trust will be more fully explained by my letter No. 633 of this day's date.

2. I am not aware of any circumstances that have called forth the above order I believe all requisitions from you relating to repairs or alterations of Public Buildings have been complied with, and as I have never received any complaint against Lieutenant Smith I feel it my duty not to allow any interference with my Department, by any local authority under that of the Resident of Hyderabad.

3. Lieutenant Smith has had extensive and urgent duties to perform lately by order of the Resident, in fortifying the Residency, and he would have been justified in suspending all the trifling works that have been lately required in the Cantonment of Secunderabad, to attend to the work at the Residency (vide Residents letter No. 512 copy of which was forwarded to you in my letter No. 631) but so far from this being the case, Lieutenant Smith has by great personal exertion, kept the whole in Progress at once, and has fulfilled his duty in this respect entirely to my satisfaction. My object in forwarding to you a copy of the Resident's letter No. 512 was to shew you the demand upon the "material" and not upon the "personal" of the Department, which latter I consider to be fully equal to the duties of the Secunderabad Division, even under the present emergency, and therefore I cannot admit the necessity either of another Officer being appointed to my Department, or of Lieutenant Smith being superseded in his duties.

4. I beg to add that if you consider Lieutenant Smith to have neglected his duties, I shall be glad to receive any representation to that effect, and to meet your wishes to the utmost of my power, though I cannot recognize the above Division Order as at all applicable to the Hyderabad Department of Public Works, over which I have been placed by the Government of India.

5. With the above explanation I trust the Division Order issued by you will be cancelled, and I beg to assure you that nothing shall be wanting either on my part or on that of any of my Subordinates, to meet your wishes in regard to the prosecution of the Public Works, within the Cantonment of Secunderabad, although a change in the manner of performing these duties has been ordered by the Government of India.

I beg to enclose with this letter the order forwarded to me by Major Hodson.

Letter from Lieutenant H. D. B. SMITH, Officiating Executive Engineer Secunderabad Division; to Captain T. PEYTON, Assistant Quarter Master General H. S. Force, dated Secunderabad, 1st August 1857.

SIR,

As I have reason to apprehend that my official letter of yesterday's date to the address of the Brigadier Commanding H. S. Force, has been misunderstood, I beg that I may be permitted to express more fully that the cause of my not being able to comply with the requests contained in your memoranda therein referred to was simply because.

1. The building called for, belonged not to me, but the Officer constructing the Trimulgherry barracks, to whom it was made over in 1854.

2. Similarly, the "thatches" belonged to the same Officer, he having erected them for the use of the Carpenters employed in making doors and windows for the above mentioned buildings.

Also, I would beg to state, that my intimating my inability to comply with orders of a "Similar nature," referred to orders similar to the above wherein I was called upon to deliver up the property of my Commanding Officer, without his permission.

I regret that I was unable to attend at the Brigadiers quarters this day as he requested; the rain of yesterday had prevented materials being forwarded to the Residency, and every exertion on my part was necessary to prevent the work stopping.

Letter from Brigadier J. C. COFFIN, Commanding H. S. Force; to the Quarter Master General of the Army Fort Saint George, dated Secunderabad, 4th August 1857, No. 222.

SIR,

In continuation of my letters Nos. 218 and 221 of the 1st and 3rd Instant, respectively, I have the honor to annex, for submission to the Provincial Commander in Chief, copy of a letter this day received from Lieutenant Smith.

Letter from Lieutenant H. D. B. SMITH, Officiating Executive Engineer, H. S. Force; to Captain T. PEYTON, Assistant Quarter Master General Hyderabad, Subsidiary Force, dated Secunderabad, 4th August 1857.

SIR,

I beg you will do me the favor of expressing to the Brigadier Commanding the Force, my very deep regret at my having declined compliance with his orders on Saturday last the 1st instant, I had been given to understand that "I was not under the orders of General Coffin in such a manner as to be obliged to report myself to him," and that "should it be inconvenient for me to attend upon General Coffin at any time, I should tell him so, and the Chief Engineer of Hyderabad will bear me out." I regret to find that in following these directions, I have disobeyed the order of lawful authority, for which I am extremely sorry, and I trust that the Officer Commanding the Force will accept my best apologies for having done so.

Resolved that the foregoing correspondence be also laid before Government in original in continuation of the Chief Engineers Proceedings No. 2831, dated the 11th Instant.

(Signed) C. E. FABER, Colonel,
Chief Engineer.

No. 26. Extract from the Proceedings of the Chief Engineer, dated 17th August 1857, No. 2979.

Read the following letter from Lieutenant-Colonel R. HENDERSON, Chief Engineer of Hyderabad; to Colonel C. E. FABER, Chief Engineer, dated Bolarum, 9th August 1857, General No. 664, Departmental No. 337.

SIR,

In continuation of my letter of the 6th Instant, No. 632, I have the honor to request that you will be so good as to lay before the Madras Government the accompanying copy of two letters* as noted in the margin addressed by Brigadier Coffin to the Resident of Hyderabad, regarding Lieutenant Smith without any reference to me although this Officer was then serving under my orders.

*Nos. 77, and 216, of respectively 31st July and 1st August 1857.

2. I beg at the same time to forward a copy of a letter* addressed by me to Brigadier Coffin on the new arrangements taking place in the Hyderabad Public Works Department by order of the Government of India.

Letter from Brigadier J. C. COFFIN, Commanding H. S. Force; to Major C. DAVIDSON, British Resident at Hyderabad, dated Secunderabad, 31st July 1857, No. 77.

SIR,

As I have reason to believe that Lieutenant Smith Executive Engineer of this Force is at present employed, at Chudderghaut. I have the honor to request, if his services could be dispensed with, you will direct him to return to Secunderabad to-morrow and report himself to me.

Letter from Brigadier J. C. COFFIN, Commanding H. S. Force; to Major C. DAVIDSON, Resident at Hyderabad, dated Secunderabad, 1st August 1857, No. 216.

SIR,

I have the honor to bring to your notice that the conduct of Lieutenant Smith Officiating Executive Engineer Secunderabad Division has been so subversive of all discipline in refusing to obey my orders, that I have only been deterred from placing him in arrest by the fear that the Public service might suffer thereby, this Officer having other duties at Chudderghaut and Bolarum, but as it is quite impossible I can allow this Officer to continue many Executive charge in the Force under my command, I have this day appointed Captain Scott to act as Superintending Engineer of this Force and to take charge of the office.

Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel R. HENDERSON, Chief Engineer of Hyderabad; to Brigadier J. C. COFFIN, Commanding H. S. Force, Secunderabad, dated Bolarum, 25th June 1857, General No. 512, Departmental No. 256.

SIR,

Lieutenant H. D. B. Smith having been appointed by the Resident to officiate temporarily as Executive Engineer of the Secunderabad Division of the Hyderabad Public Works Department consisting of the stations of Secunderabad Bolarum, Chudderghaut and Wurringul, I have the honor to request that all communications of an ordinary nature regarding repairs alterations or proposed new Buildings in the Cantonment of Secunderabad may be addressed to that Officer as the local head of the Executive Department, and I beg at the same time to add that I shall be most happy to attend to any communication you may think it necessary to make to this office connected with the business of the Public Works Department.

Resolved that the foregoing correspondence be laid before Government for information, agreeably to the application of the Chief Engineer Hyderabad dated the 9th August 1857.

(Signed) C. E. FABER, Colonel,
Chief Engineer.

No. 27. Extract from the Proceedings of the Chief Engineer, dated 17th August 1857, No. 2980.

Read the following letter from Lieutenant-Colonel R. HENDERSON, Chief Engineer Hyderabad; to Colonel C. E. FABER, Chief Engineer, dated Bolarum, 10th August 1857, General No. 671, Departmental No. 344.

SIR,

In continuation of my letter No. 664, of the 9th Instant, I have the honor to request that you will be so good as to lay before the Madras Government the accompanying copy of a letter

* No. 893, dated 9th August 1857. as noted in the margin* addressed by the Resident at Hyderabad to Major General Coffin Commanding H. S. Force, regarding the Executive Engineer of the Hyderabad Subsidiary Force, and his Department being placed under the immediate orders of the Chief Engineer of Hyderabad.

2. I beg at the same time to forward copy of a letter with enclosure as per margin†, directing me to place myself in communication with Major General Coffin Commanding H. S. Force, which I have done, although at all times ready to attend to any communication from General Coffin, vide my letter No. 512 dated 25th June 1857, addressed to General Coffin, copy of which I forwarded to you yesterday.

Letter from Captain A. R. THORNHILL, First Assistant Resident Hyderabad; to Lieutenant Colonel R. HENDERSON, Chief Engineer, Hyderabad dated 9th August 1857, No. 893.

SIR,

With reference to your letter No. 663, dated the 8th August, I have the honor by desire of the Resident to forward for your information copy of a letter which has this day been addressed to Major General Coffin Commanding the Hyderabad Subsidiary Force.

Letter from Major C. DAVIDSON, Resident at Hyderabad; to Major General J. C. COFFIN, Commanding H. S. Force, dated 9th August 1857, No. 892.

SIR,

I have the honor in reply to your letter No. 216, dated the 1st August in which you state that you have been obliged to relieve Lieutenant Smith from his duties as Officiating Executive Engineer Secunderabad, and had directed Captain Scott to take charge of the office, to inform you that the Government of India in their letter No. 2662, dated the 29th May last have distinctly ruled that until further orders the Executive Engineer H. S. Force, and his Department are to be under the immediate orders of the Chief Engineer Hyderabad.

2. I have therefore to request that the above order of the Government of India may be strictly carried out whatever Officer may be in immediate charge of the office.

3. I have reported this to the Right Honorable the Governor General in Council and have informed the Government of India I have instructed you, pending their orders, not to deviate from the instructions above alluded to, and I have only further to request that you will have the goodness to intimate to me your having given full effect to the above instructions.

P. S.—A communication has been addressed to Lieutenant Colonel Henderson Chief Engineer Hyderabad informing him of the communication now made to you with reference to his Department.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) A. R. THORNHILL,
1st Assistant Resident.

Letter from Captain A. R. THORNHILL, 1st Assistant Resident Hyderabad; to Lieutenant-Colonel HENDERSON, c. B., Chief Engineer of Hyderabad, dated Bolarum, 10th August 1857, No. 895.

SIR,

I am directed by the Resident to transmit for your information and guidance the accompanying copy of a letter No. 894, addressed under this date to Major General Coffin Commanding Hyderabad Subsidiary Force and of its enclosure.

Letter from Major C. DAVIDSON, Resident Hyderabad; to Major General COFFIN, Commanding H. S. Force, Secunderabad, dated 10th August 1857, No. 894.

SIR,

I have the honor to forward for your information copy of a Telegraphic Message (requested to be returned) which has just reached me from Madras.

I have instructed Lieutenant Colonel Henderson c. B., to place himself in communication with you in case his services should be required at the present time in Secunderabad.

Letter from Military Secretary Fort Saint George; to Major C. DAVIDSON, Resident Hyderabad, dated 9th August 1857.

"Lieutenant Winscom was appointed in order to the services of an Engineer being available under the immediate authority of the Brigadier with the Sappers."

"In consequence of your objections the appointment has been suspended."

(True Copies.)

(Signed) A. R. THORNHILL,
1st Assistant Resident.

Resolved that the foregoing correspondence be forwarded in original for the information of Government, as requested by the Chief Engineer Hyderabad, under date the 10th Instant.

(Signed) C. E. FABER, Colonel,
Chief Engineer.

No. 28. ORDER THEREON, No. 683; dated 14th April 1858.

Pending the final orders of the Government of India regarding the Executive arrangements proposed for the Engineer Department at Hyderabad, and adverting to the instructions of the Resident contained, in his letter* to the Brigadier Commanding the Hyderabad Subsidiary Force, dated 9th August 1857, No. 892, the Government do not consider that any further orders are called for on the subject of the communications recorded above.

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

Extract from the Proceedings of the Chief Engineer
in the Department of Public Works.

Under date the 11th August 1857

Read the following letter from
the Officer commanding H. S. Force

Forwards copies of correspondence
submitted for the consideration of
the Commandant in Chief, which has
led to his appointing an Officer to
act as Engineer of the Force.

(18th August 3/57 No 220/)

In one
orig^l

Resolved that in forwarding
the within original correspondence from the
Commandant commanding the H. S. Force for
the information and orders of the Right
Honorable the Governor in Council, the
Chief Engineer's opinion be submitted that
if the orders had been addressed by Major
General Coffin to the Chief Engineer
Hyderabad as Head of the Department
instead of to his officiating subordinate
Lieut Smith the unfortunate official
collision now reported would probably

not

not have taken place.

2. Resolved also to represent that whilst the conduct of Lieut Smith in bringing forward the allegation of professional employment elsewhere as a reason for disobeying the Engineers orders for a personal visit is highly culpable, it admits of question whether the measure adopted by Major General Coffin of nominating Captain Scott Lieut Surge R. S. Forde on his own authority and of taking forcible possession of the Engineers office and Records at Secunderabad was the best and wisest that could have been adopted.

True Belongs

Wd. Peter Colonel

Chief Engineer

To The Secretary to Government
D. P. W.

No 2832

Central Office of
Fort Saint George
11th August 1857

From, The Chief Engineer.

To, The Secretary to Govt. N.D.

Sir,
Agreeably to the application from the Chief Engineer at Hyderabad No 648 of the 5th Instant. I do myself the honor to forward for the information of Government, the correspondence in original which I have received from Lieut. Col. Henderson C.B. and which contains his narrative of certain events of recent occurrence in connection with the Head Quarters of the Hyderabad Subsidiary Force.

I have the honor to be
Sir

Your most Obedt Servt
W. Lister Colonel
Chief Engineer.

(Public Office 1857)
By the Secy. to Govt. N.D.
No 1606

Extract from the Proceedings
of the Engineering
Committee of the Govt. N.D.

20th 11th Aug 1857
Recd 11th 11th Aug 1857

Enclosure (No 1606)
No 653, 11th 11th Aug 1857

Resubmitting for the
information of the Govt. N.D.

Agst. 10th 11th Aug 1857

in formal requisition

in reference to the

order to the Chief Eng. at Hyderabad

in reference to the

order of the Govt. N.D.

in reference to the

order of the Govt. N.D.

in reference to the

N^o 2906

Extract from the Proceedings of the Chief Engineer
in the Department of Public Works
Under date the 13th August 1857.
Read the following letter

From the Officer Commanding
H. S. Free.

In continuation
of letter N^o 220 forwards copies
of further correspondence
which he has also submitted
to the Commander in Chief
regarding Colonel Henderson.

/Hereunder August 1857 N^o 225/

Resolved that the foregoing
correspondence be also laid before Government
in original in continuation of the Chief
Engineer's Proceedings N^o 2031 dated the
11th instant.

/True Extract/

Archiever Colonel
Chief Engineer.

The Secretary to Government
P. W. G.

01024

Public Works 1857 Re 116
By to Comr. 204 of funds
No 1604.

From the Chief Engineer
To the Secy to Govt 11602

Letter 11th Aug 1857

Enclosure 2nd 10-5-58
Returned 10-5-58

Transmit for
formation of Public Works
by a correspondence to Comr
the Chief Engineer & Review
at Hyderabad

15th No 683. M. 1. 1857

25.

No 25

Under date the 17th August 1857.

Read the following letter.

Hon.
 The Chief Engineer
 Hyderabad

Requests that the enclosed
copies of papers from Brigadier
Offin addressed to the Resident
at Hyderabad regarding Lieu-
tenant Smith may be laid
before Government.

A. B. 9th August 1857

Resolved that the foregoing correspondence be laid before Government for information, agreeably to the application of the Chief Engineer Hyderabad dated the 9th August 1857.

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To,
The Secretary to Government
Public Works Department.

Pullio 17th 1807. Skunk
 By to leave. 20th. Skunk
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abstract from the Proceedings
of the Chief Engineer

The Secretary to Court.

Hated 1894
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N^o 2980

Extract from the Proceedings of the Chief Engineer
in the Department of Public Works.
Under date the 17th August 1857

Read the following letter

From the Chief Engineer Hyderabad

Forward a copy of a letter
addressed by the Resident
of Hyderabad to Brigadier
Coffin regarding the Execu-
tive Engineer Hyderabad Sub-
sidiary Force and his De-
partment being placed
under the immediate orders
of the Chief Engineer.

1 A. B. 10th August 1857

Resolved that the foregoing corres-
pondence be forwarded in original for
the information of Government, as requested
by the Chief Engineer Hyderabad, under
date the 10th Instant.

[True Extract]
W. S. L. Colonel
Chief Engineer

To
The Secretary to Government
Public Works Department

Public Works Dept. Hyderabad
To the Secretary to Government
of the Chief Engineer
of the Hyderabad
Public Works Department
S. M. S.

Extract 17th } August 1857
Page 17

N^o 2979

Submittal of correspondence
from the Chief Engineer Hyderabad
regarding the Hyderabad
Barracks. Copy forwarded to
the Government of Hyderabad
regarding the same may be
sent before Government for
information.

1692 683. H. & Co. 1857

No 26

229/1857 April

P. H. D.

N^o 683.

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation
Under date the 16th of Aug^r / 58.

Read the following
Extracts from the Pro-
ceedings of the Chief
Engineer.

(Here enter 11th 13th 14th 17th Aug^r 1857
2832 2906 2950 2979

Pending the final
orders of the Government
of India regarding the
Executive arrangements
proposed for the Engineer
Department at Hydera-
bad, and adhering to the
instructions of the
President contained in
his

W. H.

18th Aug 1857
20 Aug 1857

18th Aug 1857
20 Aug 1857

Extract from the Proceedings
of the Chief Engineer
to the Secretary to Government

dated 17th Aug 1857
Recd 17

20 Aug 1857

Substantially for information
conferred on the Chief
Engineer Hyderabad regarding
the proposed Engineer H. S. J. J. J.
This Department being placed
under the immediate orders of
the Chief Engineer.

18th Aug 1857 14th Aug 1857

18th Aug 1857

his letter to the Brigadier
Commanding the Hydera-
bad Sub: Force, dated
9th August 1857 N^o 592,
the Government do not
consider that any further
orders are called for on the
subject of the Communica-
tions recorded above.

* Vide enclosure to Chief
Engr: Pro: of 17th Augt 1857
N^o 2980.

WJ

4 Copies to the Chief Engr.
Sept 2-16.

Rowd. 30, June 5th 1884 V 83
- 28th July - 1124 113.

1st 1st June 1885 Dep^{ty}
Dep^y to Rowd: 207th April

C No 683

Exp^{re}chev^{er} of Rowd.
Date 14th April 1885

Interesting that ex^{tr}
Government do not consider
that any further action was
called for, regarding the Council
arrangements proposed for
the Engineer Department at
Sydenham, pending the final
action of the Government of
India.

C No 28 of 1885

29th March 1885