

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

Cor 20-4-58

G.O. No. <i>492</i>	Press Mis. <i>—</i>
<i>45-7</i> Dated <i>15-4-</i>	<i>18 58</i>

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Read the following letters.

No. 45. From Major E. LAWFORD, Superintending Engineer, S. Circle in charge of Central office of Public Works ; to H. FORBES, Esq., Acting Secretary to Government, dated 29th March 1858, No. 8566.

SIR,

In acknowledging the receipt of Extract Minutes Consultation No. 528, dated 24th March 1858, I have the honor to acquaint you, for the information of Government, that the District Engineer of Tinnevely has been ordered to confirm immediately and implicitly to the instructions conveyed in para. 6.

2. But it is incumbent on me to point out that in Extract Minutes Consultation No. 519, dated 23rd Idem, the Government declared their unwillingness to give any orders on Lieutenant Hankins' complaint of the inefficiency of the Goomastah employed in his office owing to ignorance of English, and as that Officer has very extensive accounts to keep, his retention of such a person is considered by the Chief Engineer wholly incompatible with the due discharge of his duties, and the District Engineer has been directed to provide an efficient man in the room of the said Goomastah.

No. 270, dated 20th March 1858. 3. The District Engineer of Tanjore has reported the disqualification of several of the Collector's Goomastahs transferred to his Department, owing to their ignorance of English, and has shewn that the accounts cannot be properly kept under such conditions.

4. In fact either the Subordinates under whom these Goomastahs are employed must keep English writers besides, or they must become Copyists themselves, to the prejudice of their professional duties.

5. The Government appear to have overlooked the fact that most of the Goomastahs are old men, brought up in a system essentially different from that which is now established, and generally incapable of unlearning old, or learning new principles of account.

6. That they have hitherto been retained in some Districts is not because it is "perfectly feasible," but because it is ordered, and on the same ground their removal from their situations in Tanjore is impossible ; but the Government cannot fairly look for correctness and punctuality in accounts from Officers who are compelled to employ men they declare to be incompetent, but whom they would otherwise most willingly retain on their establishments.

Letter from Lieutenant W. C. PALMER, 4th Class Executive Engineer ; to Major W. J. BIRDWOOD, District Engineer, dated Camp Ellattoor, 19th February 1858, No. 79.

SIR,

In reply to your letter No. 454, of 1858, I have the honor to inform you that I find the following Gomastahs lately attached to the Collectors Department and now under my own and my subordinates orders incompetent to perform the duties acquired of them viz.

Bauboo Row Sub Overseer 2nd Class 3rd Grade.

Soobramony Row Goomastah in my office establishment.

Sashagree Row Ditto in that of Overseer Koelmeyer.

Lutchmana Row Ditto Assistant Overseer Rungasawmy Naidoo.

2. Bauboo Row is a good Tamil Accountant but has no knowledge of Bricklaying, Carpentry, or road making and he is totally unable to survey, level, or draw Plans. In all the requisites of a Sub Overseer therefore he is so incompetent as to be useless.

3. The three Goomastahs, Soobramony Row Shashagree Row and Lutchmana Row are also from their want of knowledge of English unable to perform the duties required of Goomastahs in the office Establishment. All the accounts, reports, returns and correspondence with the higher and controlling authorities of the Members of the grades entitled to office establishments have to be prepared and written in English. Their Books also must be kept in that language and

3

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

all reports, returns &c. &c. received by them have to be translated to enable their own returns to be prepared—a knowledge of English is therefore essential to enable the Goomastahs to perform their duties.

4. The Overseer and Assistant Overseer have both brought to my notice the incompetency of their Goomastahs from their want of all knowledge of English beyond English figures. They have each only one man allowed for their office establishment viz. one Goomastah on 15 Rupees a month and if, as in the present case, that man is incompetent to prepare one single report or any one of their numerous returns, their own time will have to be occupied in performing the duties of their writer that is to say a man on the pay of 100 Rupees a month will have to do the work of one on 15 to the setting a side their own proper duties, and the public service must consequently suffer thereby.

5. I submit the above statement for your consideration and trust you will be pleased to authorize the dismissal of these Goomastahs and the appointment of fully qualified men as it is essentially necessary that our office establishments should be composed of competent men to enable us to perform our duties regularly and well and in a manner which may hope to meet with your approval.

Letter from Lieutenant J. H. MOORE, Assistant Executive Engineer Tanjore; to Major W. J. BIRDWOOD, District Engineer Tanjore, dated Camp Triviam, 17th March 1858, No. 192.

SIR,

Agreeable to your remarks at the foot of an Extract from the Proceedings of the Chief Engineer D. P. W., No. 7788, dated 4th March 1858, I have the honor to report upon the qualification of Ram Row Acting Goomastah under Assistant Overseer Mr. O'Donaghue:

2. It appears from the man's statement that he was formerly Sagoopady Ameenah in the Munnargoody Talook, he afterwards was Marahmut Goomastah in which appointment he served about 10 years receiving Rupees 10½ per mensem, he knows Maistry work, can make estimates also acquainted with English figures, but does not know English reading or writing Mr. O'Donaghue states that he is of no use in his office as a Writer or Goomastah, for he has little or no correspondence in Tamil all his accounts being in English had it not been for the Extra Writer that I have allowed each Overseer, he would not have been able to send in his papers; (unless he had given up nearly all his time and written them himself); from the qualifications of this man he seems much more fitting the appointment of a Maistry than that of a writer, but I state without hesitation that unless a person is acquainted with English both reading and writing, he is perfectly unfitted for the appointment of a writer and Goomastah to any Overseer and I therefore consider Ram Row should not continue in his present appointment.

Extracts from a letter from the District Engineer of Tanjore No. 270 dated 20th March 1858.

I have the honor to forward the accompanying original letters, received from Lieutenants Palmer and Moore, regarding the qualifications of some of the officials under their orders; indeed from all quarters. I have had complaints of the utter inutility of the Goomastahs of the late Marahmut Establishment, as Assistants in the offices of the Overseers especially, as they can neither read nor write English, can copy English figures, but cannot read them or write them from dictation.

As regards the Goomastahs lately attached to the Marahmut Establishment might, I venture to suggest their employment, as road Amcens; their services then would be of some use, where as at present they are encumbrances, drawing Government pay for doing next to nothing, indeed it is most unfair to the Overseers who are only allowed a Goomastah and expected to make

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

their returns in English, prepare estimates and bills in English which are very heavy during the working season, and are consequently obliged to employ an English writer paying for the same out of their private funds.

(Signed) W. J. BIRDWOOD, Major,
District Engineer Tanjore.

No. 46. From Major E. LAWFORD, Superintending Engineer in charge of the Central office of Public Works; to H. FORBES, Esq., Acting Secretary to Government, dated 31st March 1858, No. 8661.

SIR,

With reference to Extract Minutes Consultation No. 519, dated 23rd March 1858, I have the honor to submit copy of a letter from the District Engineer of Chingleput, and beg to be favored with Distinct orders on the subject of Goomastah Vencata Nursoo Puntooloo's being retained in the Assistant Executive Engineer's office, for the duties of which he is declared to be totally unfitted by his ignorance of English.

2. A copy of my instructions to Lieutenant Moberly, consequent on the receipt of the orders above quoted, is herewith submitted, and while I exceedingly regret the necessity of obtruding on Government, a subject they consider too trivial for their attention. I see no way of avoiding it, except by disregarding their orders of the 24th March 1858 No. 528 or suffering the continuance of a man in the service, who cannot perform the duties his situation involves.

Letter from Lieutenant A. S. MOBERLY, District Engineer of Chingleput; to Colonel C. E. FABER, Chief Engineer, dated Camp at Guindy 29th March 1858, No. 2010.

SIR,

I have the honor to inform you, that I have transmitted to Lieutenant Hankin, a copy of Extract Minutes of Consultation No. 519 of the 23rd Instant, forwarded with your Memorandum No. 8526, of the 26th Instant, as none of the old Marahmut Goomastahs is efficient enough for the purposes required, none of them being able to read or write English, I have desired him to entertain a man competent to assist in the duties of the office.

2. I have now the honor to request, you will inform me, what is to be done with Vencata Nursoo Puntooloo, the Goomastah at present attached to Lieutenant Hankin's office he was formerly a Talook Goomastah and has been employed since November 1837, his age is about fifty in my recommendation roll of Sub Overseers, I entered him and Vencata Row, who is now attached to Mr. Bigger's office, at the bottom of the list, as being both of them healthy and willing I did not recommend their dismissal, as I did Runga Row and Sashagery Row, although I did not consider them fit for any higher place than that I assigned to them.

3. On the reduction of the establishment on 1st August last, these men were struck off; but were ordered by Government in Extract Minutes of Consultation No. 1559, of the 11th August last to be re-employed, some in the Executive Engineers office &c. and others as vacancies occurred agreeably to these positive orders of Government, I sent Vencata Nursoo Puntooloo to Lieutenant Hankin, and Vencata Row to Mr. Biggers, although I knew they would be of little or no use; and from my letter No. 1827 of the 22nd Ultimo, you will observe my opinion was confirmed, as I therein informed you, that both Lieutenant Hankin and Mr. Biggers complained that they were of no use.

4. As Government have now ordered that Lieutenant Hankin be supplied with an efficient man, in place of Vencata Nursoo Puntooloo, I beg your instructions as to what pay Vencata Nursoo Puntooloo is to get, and how it is to be paid; or if I am merely to strike him out, and inform him, that it is done by orders of Government.

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

Extract from the Proceedings of the Chief Engineer in the Department of Public Works Fort Saint George, under, date the 26th March 1858, No. 8526.

Read the following Extract from the Minutes of Consultation P. W. D.

Observes with reference to the difficulties stated to exist by Lieutenant Hankin of the Chingleput District, in the conduct of the duties of his office, that Government, cannot undertake to make all internal arrangements of the Office's of District Engineers, and reiterates the opinion that the pay of Storekeepers cannot be reduced. (Here enter 23rd March 1858, No. 519.)

Resolved with reference to the foregoing order No. 519, dated 23rd March 1858, to request the District Engineer of Chingleput, to place an efficient Goomastah, under Lieutenant Hankin, in order that the public service may not suffer by the employment of an incompetent person.

(A true Extract.)

(Signed) E. LAWFORD, Major,
In charge of C. C.

No. 47. ORDER THEREON, No. 692; dated 15th April 1858.

In the first of the above letters, the Superintending Engineer Southern Circle in charge of the Central Office, informs Government that the District Engineer of Tinnevely has been directed to conform immediately and implicitly to the instructions conveyed in para. 6 of Extract Minutes of Consultation 24th March 1858, No. 528, regarding the re-employment of some of the Goomastahs lately dismissed in that District on the score of inefficiency. He also points out in both letters that, as Government in Extract Minutes of Consultation 23rd Idem declared their unwillingness to give any orders on Lieutenant Hankin's complaint of the inefficiency of his Goomastah, and as that Officer has very extensive accounts to keep, the District Engineer of Chingleput has been directed to provide him with an efficient man in his room. A similar complaint by the District Engineer of Tanjore of the disqualification of the Collector's Goomastahs transferred to his Department is brought to notice in para. 3 of the above letter.

2. It was not the intention of Government in Extract Minutes Consultation of the 23rd March, regarding Lieutenant Hankin's Goomastah, that he should be dismissed, but that the District Engineer, or failing him, the Chief Engineer should make such an arrangement of the office servants in the Division as would give Lieutenant Hankin's a Goomastah that better suited him, while the man he objected to was placed elsewhere.

3. The Government are unable to admit that men who have spent their lives in keeping intricate accounts under the Collector should be so unable as is represented to adapt themselves to any change of system that may have been introduced in the Department Public Works. Changes of system occurred when the Collector had the Marahmut, and often occur in his Revenue Cutcherry, but it has never yet been necessary on that account to dismiss all the Goomastahs and entertain a wholly new establishment, and the Government are convinced that there is no real necessity for such a measure now.

4. The Government would be better pleased if the views they have so frequently enunciated on this matter received support from the Central Office, instead of, as has been too much the case, arguments being constantly adduced in opposition to them.

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

Public.

From

The Superintending Engineer, S. Circle
in Charge of Central Office of P.W.

To

The Secretary to Government P.W. D.

Sir,

In acknowledging the receipt of Extract Minutes Consultation No. 528, dated 24th March 1858. I have the honor to acquaint you, for the information of Government, that the District Engineer of Tinnevely has been ordered to confirm immediately and implicitly to the instructions conveyed in Para. 6.

2. But it is incumbent on me to point out that in Extract Minutes Consultation No. 519, dated 23rd Idem, the Government declared their unwillingness to give any orders on Lieutenant Hankin's complaint of the inefficiency of the Goomastah employed in his Office owing to ignorance of English, and as that Officer has very extensive accounts

to keep. his retention of such a person is considered by the Chief Engineer wholly incompatible with the due discharge of his duties, and the District Engineer has been directed to provide an efficient man in the room of the said Gomastah.

3. The District Engineer of Tanjore has reported the disqualification of several of the Collector's Gomastahs transferred to his Department, owing to their ignorance of English, and has shown that the accounts cannot be properly kept under such conditions.

AR-270. dated
20th March 1858

4. In fact either the Subordinates under whom these Gomastahs are employed must keep English writers besides, or they must become Copyists themselves, to the prejudice of their professional duties.

5. The Government appear to have overlooked the fact that most of the Gomastahs are old men, brought up in a system essentially different from that which

is now established, and generally incapable of unlearning old, or learning new principles of account.

6. That they have hitherto been retained in some Districts is not because it is "perfectly feasible," but because it is ordered, and on the same ground their removal from their situations in Tanjore is impossible; but the Government cannot fairly look for correctness and punctuality in accounts from Officers who are compelled to employ men they declare to be incompetent, but whom they would otherwise most willingly retain on their Establishments.

Central Office of
Public Works ---
Fort St. George ---
29th March 1858 }
Signed E. Lawford.
Sup^d Eng^r in Charge
in charge of central office.
S. P. W.

From

Lieutenant M Palmer

4th Class Executive Engineer

T

Major W. I. Bidwood

District Engineer.

Sir,

In reply to your letter of 4th 54th of 1858, I have the honor to inform you that I find the following Gomastahs lately attached to the Collectors Department and now under my own and my subordinates orders, incompetent to perform the duties required of them viz:-

Bambos Row. Sub Overseer 2nd Class 3rd Grade
 Sosbramong Row Goomaitah in my office
 Shashagree Row Ditto in that of Overseer Hoelmeyer
 Lutekumana Row Ditto Assistant Overseer Rungasamy Aidi

2. Rumbos Row is a good Tamil
accountant but has no knowledge
of Bricklaying, Carpentry, or Road making
and he is totally unable to survey, level,
or draw Plans. In all the requisites
of a sub Overseeer therefore he is so in-
competent as to be useless. - The

The

Approved on Chapter the
General Office of the

Public Notice 1858 Dep. A.
Dy to Comr: 27th of June

Adgd.

New York Aug. 11. 62.

in Charge of Judicial Office

To J^d Andrews to Hark

Mr. Dicks: Thanks;

Book 20: a { 1858.

No 8566.

With 3 Enclosures.

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The three Goomastahs, Soobramony Row Shashagree Row and Lutchmana Row are also from their want of knowledge of English unable to perform the duties required of Goomastahs in the Office Establishments. All the accounts, reports, returns and correspondence with the higher and Controlling authorities of the Members of the grades entitled to Office Establishments have to be prepared and written in English. Their Books also must be kept in that language and all reports, returns &c &c received by them have to be translated to enable their own returns to be prepared. A knowledge of English is therefore essential to enable the Goomastahs to perform their duties.

4 The Overseer and Assistant Overseer have both brought to my notice the incompetency of their Goomastahs from their want of all knowledge of English beyond English figures. They have each only one man allowed for their Office Establishment viz:-

One

One Goomastah on 15 Rupees a month and if, as in the present case, that man is incompetent to prepare one single report or any one of their numerous returns, their own time will have to be occupied in performing the duties of their Master that is to say a man on the pay of 100 Rupees a month will have to do the work of one on 15 to the setting aside their own proper duties, and the public service must consequently suffer thereby.

5. I submit the above statement for your consideration and trust you will be pleased to authorize the dismissal of these Goomastahs and the appointment of fully qualified men as it is essentially necessary that our Office Establishments should be composed of competent men to enable us to perform our duties regularly and well and in a manner

which

which may hope to meet with your
approval.

4th Class Ex. Engineers } Signed/ W. C. Palmer Lt
Office } 4th Class Executive
Camp Ellattoo } Engineer
19th February 1858.

/ True Copy /

/ Signed / C. Lawford

Supp. Eng. S. C.

in charge of Central

Office. P. W.

W. M. Macmillan

No 192 of 1858.

From

Lieutenant J. M. Moore

Asstt Executive Engineer Tanjore

To

Major W. I. Birdwood

District Engineer Tanjore

Sir,

I agreeable to your remarks at the foot of an Extract from the Proceedings of the Chief Engineer R. D. W. No 7788, dated 4th March 1858, I have the honor to report upon the qualification of Ram row Acting Goomastah under Assistant Overseer Mr. O'Donoghue

2

It appears from the man's statement that he was formerly Sagropady Amicnah in the Munnargoody Talook, he afterwards was Marahmut Goomastah in which appointment he served about 10 years receiving Rupees 10½ per mensem, he knows Maistry work, can make estimates,

P. M. No 696 of 1858.

estimates, also acquainted with English figures, but does not know English reading or writing Mr. O'Donoghue states that he is of no use in his Office as a writer or goomashta, for he has little or no correspondence in Tamil all his accounts being in English had it not been for the Extra Writer that I have allowed each overseer, he would not have been able to send in his papers; (unless he had given up nearly all his time and written them himself); from the qualifications of this man he seems much more fitting the appointment of a Maistry than that of a writer, but I state without hesitation that unless a person is acquainted with English both reading and writing, he is perfectly unfitted for the appointment of a writer and goomashta to any overseer and I therefore consider —
Ram

Ram Row should not continue in his present appointment.

Asst. Ex. Engrs Office
Camp Trivaur } (signed) J. W. Moore. L
17th March 1858 } Asst. Executive Engrs

/True copy/

/signed/ E. Lawford

Supr. Engrs S. C.

in charge of Central Office
P. W.

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Ms. A. 6. 9. 6 of 1858.

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Extracts from a letter from the District
Engineer of Tanjore No 270 dated 20th March 1858

I have the honor to forward
the accompanying Original letters, received
from Lieutenants Palmer and Moor, regarding
the qualifications of some of the Officials
under their orders; indeed from all
quarters. I have had complaints of
the utter inability of the Goomastahs
of the Late Marumut Establishment,
as Assistants in the Offices of the
Officers, especially, as they can neither
read nor write English, can copy
English figures, but cannot read them
or write them from dictation.

x x x x

As regards the Goomastahs
lately attached to the Marumut
Establishment, might I venture to
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they are encumbrances, drawing Government
Pay for doing next to nothing, indeed it
is most unfair to the engineers who
are only allowed a Goomastah and
expected to make their returns in
English, prepare Estimates and bills
in English which are very heavy during
the working season, and are consequently
obliged to employ an English writer
paying for the same out of their private
funds.

Signd/ W. J. Birdwood Major
District Engineer Bangalore.

(True Extract)

Signd/ E. Lawford

Superintending Engineer. S. C.
in charge of Central Office
P. W.

No. 79 of 1857/58.

From, Lieutenant W. C. Palmer,
4th Class Executive Engineer.

To, Major W. J. Birdwood
District Engineer.

Sir,

In reply to your letter No. 454, of 1858,
I have the honor to inform you that I find the
following Gomastahs lately attached to the
Collector's Department, and now under my own
and my Subordinate's orders, incompetent to per-
form the duties required of them viz:-
Bamboo Row. Sub overseer 2nd Class 3rd Grade
Sobramony Row. Gomastah in my Office Establishment
Shashagree Row Ditto in that of Overseer Hoelmeyer's
Lutchmana Row Ditto Appointed Pungasaumy Naidoo

2. Bamboo Row is a good Tamil Accountant,
but has no knowledge of Bricklaying, Carpentry,
or Boat making, and he is totally unable to survey,
level, or draw Plans. In all the requisites of a
Sub overseer therefore he is so incompetent as
to be useless.

3. The three Gomastahs, Sobramony Row,
Shashagree Row and Lutchmana Row are also
from their want of knowledge of English
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D. No. 1696 of 1858.

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4. The Quarter and Assistant Quarter have both brought to my notice the incompetency of their Goomastahs from their want of all knowledge of English beyond English figures. They have each only one man allowed for their Office Establishment viz:- One Goomastah on 15 Rupees a month and if, as in the present case, that man is incompetent to prepare one single report or any one of their numerous returns their own time will have to be occupied in performing the duties of their Writer that is to say a man on the pay of 100 Rupees a month will have to do the work of one on 15 to the setting aside their own proper duties, and the public service must consequently suffer thereby.

5. I submit the above statement for

for your consideration and trust you will be pleased to authorize the dismissal of these Goomastahs and the appointment of fully qualified men as it is essentially necessary that our Office Establishments should be composed of competent men to enable us to perform our duties regularly and well and in a manner which may hope to meet with your approval.

I have &c. &c. &c.
 4th Class Ex: Engineer
 Office - } signed M. C. Palmer Lt.
 Camp Ellathoor } 4th Class Executive Engineer
 19th February 1858.

1 Enclosed copy

Lawrence
 Supg: Engineer. S. C.
 in charge of Central office
 P. M.

Copy

No 192 of 1858.

Assistant Executive Engineer Office
Camp Trinitaire, 17th March 1858.

From,

Lieutenant J. H. Moore,
Asst. Executive Engineer Tanjore.

To,

Major W. J. Birdwood
District Engineer Tanjore.

Sir,

Agreeable to your remarks at the foot of
an Extract from the Proceedings of the Chief Engineer
S. P. M., No. 7788, dated 4th March 1858, I have
the honor to report upon the qualification of Rambo
Acting Goornastah under Assistant Quarter Master
O'Donoghue.

2. It appears from the man's statement
that he was formerly Sagopady Ameenah in the
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Goornastah in which appointment he served about
10 years receiving Rupees 10½ per mensem, he knows
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Enclosure in a letter from
the Chief Engineer, S. P. M.,
in charge of the Talook of
So. of the Talook of So. of
the Talook of So. of
S. P. M. D.

Received by
J. H. Moore
1858.

1858.

Copy of a letter from
Lieutenant J. H. Moore
Asst. Executive Engineer
of the Tanjore District
to the District Engineer
Tanjore dated 17th March
1858.

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I have &c &c &c

Asst. Engr. Office }
Camp Engineer } (Signed / J. H. Moore)
17th March 1858 } Assistant Executive Engineer

/ True copy /

Le... ..
Sup. Engineer. S. C.
in charge of Constable Office
D. M.

Copy H

Extracts from a letter from the District Engineer of Tanjav No. 270 dated 20th March 1858.

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Enclosed in a letter from the District Engineer. J. G. in charge of District Office. P. M. S. The Secretary to Govt. P. M. S.

Order of 27th March 1858.

No. 5568

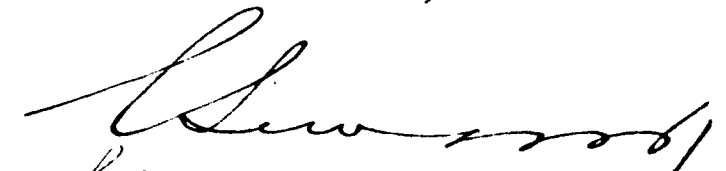
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Copy of a letter from District Office in Tanjav No. 270 dated 20th March 1858. The Goomastahs are not acquainted with English and cannot write or read English.

Estimates and bills in English which are
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are consequently obliged to employ an English
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(Signed) W. J. Birdwood, Jr.
District Engineer San Jose

/ True Extracts /


Superintending Engineer S. C.
in charge of Const. Office
D. M.

Comp. H.

Central Office of P.W.
Fort St. George, Madras

No 8566.

From
The Superintending Engineer S. Circle
in charge of Central Office of P.W.
To
The Secretary to Government P.W.D.

Public.

no. 5.

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Enclosed in a letter
from Mr. Collyer, Engineer
in charge of Central Office
to
The Secretary to Govt.
P.W.D.

no 896/58

Dated 29th March 1858.

No 8566

Explain to them a letter
from the District Engineer
of Tanjore forwarding
original letter received
from Superintendent of
and by now regarding the
qualification of some
of the officers in the
their order.

very extensive accounts to keep, his retention of such a person is considered by the Chief Engineer wholly incompatible with the due discharge of his duties, and the District Engineer has been directed to provide an efficient man in the room of the said Gomastah.

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M. 270 8720.
March 1888

4. In fact either the Subordinates under whom these Gomastahs are employed must keep English writers besides, or they must become copyists themselves, to the prejudice of their professional duties.

5. The Government appear to have overlooked the fact that several of the Gomastahs are

are old men, brought up in a system essentially different from that which is now established, and generally incapable of unlearning old, or learning new principles of accounting.

That they have hitherto been retained in some Districts is not because it is "perfectly feasible," but because it is ordered, and on the same ground their removal from their situations in Tanjore is impossible; but the Government cannot fairly look for correctness and punctuality in accounts from officers who are compelled to employ men they declare to be incompetent, but whom they would otherwise most willingly retain on their establishments.

St. George
9th March 1888

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

Lawford Major
Surgeon Major to Circle
in Charge of Civil Works
H. B. 1888

Mr Secretary to
Government P. H. W.
b. 1888

Read the following

Extract from the minutes of consultation P.W.D.

Observes with reference to the difficulties stated to exist by essential character of the Chingleput District, in the conduct of the duties of his Office, that Government cannot undertake to make all internal arrangements of the Office of ^{Dist} Engineers, & reiterates the opinion that the pay & attributions -

(L. C. 23rd March 1858/59)

I solved with reference to the foregoing order
No 19, dated 23rd March 1858, to request the District En-
gineer of Chingleput, to place an efficient Goomastar
under Lieutenant Rankin, in order that the public
Service may not suffer by the employment of an in-
competent person.

To The District Engineer,
Chingapat.
 J. B. Crawford Major
 in ch. of B. Co.
 A true copy of
 Cheverton Major.

Yoff.

Land: 30th March / 1880 344
 " 28 " " 26 427.

P. W. 1858 Dec 16
 Dear Sir,
 I have the honor to acknowledge
 the receipt of your letter of the
 11th inst. in regard to the
 matter of the
 Secretary of the
 Board of
 Commissioners of the
 State of New York.

Feb 29. 1868
Recd 308

Feb. 23 1856

1860. Dec 22. 15. 8. 1/2. 1/2. 1/2. 1/2.

Shake not the United
States of America out
as well as Auburn with
indication of her means
with regard to the 16,000
most of Auburn Co
fearful of character
on the diabolical
of my feelings well
are generally disreputable
with party of well they have
been offended.

2745

1813.

From,
Lieutenant A. J. Probsty,
District Engineer of Chingleput.

To, Colonel C. E. Haber,
Chief Engineer D. C. W.

Sir,
I have the honor to inform you, that I have transmitted to Lieutenant Hankin, a copy of Extract Minutes of Consultation N519 of the 23rd Instant, forwarded with your Memo: N8526 of the 26th Instant, as none of the old Karamut Goomastahs is efficient enough for the purposes required, none of them being able to read or write English, I have desired him to entertain a man competent to assist in the duties of the Office.

2 I have now the honor to request you will inform me, what is to be done with Venkata Nurusoo Puntan, the Goomastah at present attached to Lieutenant Hankin's Office - he was formerly a Talook Goomastah and has been employed since November 1837 - his age is about fifty - in my Recommendation Roll of Sub-Overseers

Enrollment in a Chingleput
Office in 1837
as the Secretary of the
Office
21st of March 1858
C. E. H.

N8526

Copy of an Ex: from the C. E.
of the Chief Engineer to the
District Engineer Chingleput
forwarding copy of C. E. H. N. 8.
of 21st of March 1858 and
requesting to place an
Enrollment under the name
of the Chief Engineer

Overton, I entered him and Veneata Row, who is now attached to Mr Biggers Office, at the bottom of the list, as being both of them healthy and willing. I did not recommend their dismissal, as I did Runga Row and Sashagery Row, although I did not consider them fit for any higher place than that I assigned to them.

3 On the reduction of the establishment on 1st August last, these men were struck off; but were ordered by Government in Extract Minutes of Consultation N^o 559, of the 11th August last to be re-employed, some in the Executive Engineer's Office &c, and others as vacancies occurred. agreeably to these positive orders of Government, I sent Veneata Nurdoo Puntooloo to Lieutenant Hankin, and Veneata Row to Mr Biggers, although I knew they would be of little or no use; and from my letter N^o 1827 of the 22nd ultimo, you will observe my opinion was confirmed, as I therein inform you, that both

Lieutenant

Lieutenant Hankin and Mr Biggers complained that they were of no use.

As Government have now ordered that Lieutenant Hankin be supplied with an efficient man, in place of Veneata Nurdoo Puntooloo, I beg your instructions as to what pay Veneata Nurdoo Puntooloo is to get, and how it is to be paid; or if I am merely to strike him out, and inform him that it is done by orders of Government.

District Engineer's Office,
Camp at Guindy,
29th March 1858

I have &c

/s/ J. T. Moberly Lieut
District Engineer of
Chingleput

Is a True copy.

W. S. S. Major
Superintending Engineer,
In charge of the Central
Office of Public Works.

Yours

Central Office of Public Works
Port Saint George
31 March 1858.

No. 8661

From The Officer in charge of the
Central Office of Public Works.

To, The Secretary to Government P.W.D.

Sir,
With reference to Extract Misc. Cond. No. 1579,
dated 23. March 1858, I have the honor to submit copy
of a letter from the District Engineer of Chingleput,
and beg to be favored with distinct orders on the
subject of Gormastah Tennata Nurtos Puntoloo's being
retained in the Assistant Executive Engineer's Office,
for the duties of which he is declared to be totally
unfitted by his ignorance of English.

I copy of my instructions to Lieutenant
Roberty, consequent on the receipt of the orders
above quoted, is herewith submitted, and while I
exceedingly regret the necessity of obtruding on
Government, a subject they consider too trivial

for
of

Public

enclosed in a letter from
the Officer in charge of the
Central Office of P.W.
to the Secretary to Government
P.W.D.

Port 31 March 1858

No. 8661.

Copy of a letter from the
District Eng^r Chingleput
is herewith to be favored with
distinct orders on the subject
of Gormastah Tennata Nurtos
Puntoloo's being retained in the
Assistant Executive Engineer's
Office for the duties for which
he is totally unfitted.

for their attention. I see no way of avoiding it, except
by disregarding their orders of the 26th March 1858
N528, or suffering the continuance of a man in the
Service, who cannot perform the duties his situation
involves.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most Obedt Servt

Central Office of P.W.

Fort Saint George,

31 March 1858.

Lawford Major
Superintending Engineer

In charge of the

Central Office of P.W.

To,

The Secretary to Government P.W.D.

N: 8526.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Chief Engineer
in the Department of Public Works Fort St. George
Under date the 26 March 1858

Read the following
Extract from the Minutes of Consultation P. W. D.

Observed with reference to
the difficulties stated to
exist by Lieutenant Bankier
of the Chingleput District,
in the conduct of the
duties of his Office, that
Government cannot undertake
to make all internal
arrangements of the Office
of District Engineer, and
reiterates the opinion that
the pay of Storekeepers
cannot be reduced.

Resolved with reference
to the foregoing order N: 519, dated
23 March 1858, to request the
District Engineer of Chingleput,
to place an efficient Groomstall,
under Lieutenant Bankier, in
order that the public Service may
not

Comd March 1858: 28 1727

Sub. H. K. 1858: 1000
By the 1st of March 1858

Chief Officer in charge of the
Central Office of the
Secretary to Government
P. W. D.

Date 21 March 1858
Received 1st of March 1858
J. S. No. 692, 15. April 1858.
N: 9664

Enclature 2

17946

Forward copy of a letter from
the 2nd Eng. Chingleput, and
should be forwarded with
direct orders on the subject
of Groomstall. Remarks
should be kept in mind in the
affair of Ex. Eng. Office for the
discharge of duties for which
he is actually entitled.

1858: April 1858

not suffer by the employment of an
incompetent person.

/A True Extract/

/Signed/ E. Sanford Mayor
In charge of C. C.

/A True Copy/

/Signed/ E. Sanford Mayor
Sup^{ts} English in charge
of the Central Office
of P. T. W. K.

N^o 2010

Friend

Lieutenant A. J. Moberly

District Engineer of Chinghai

To,

Colonel C. E. Fisher

Chief Engineer D. P. W.

Sir,

I have the honor to inform you, that I have transmitted to Lieutenant Hankins, a copy of Extract Minutes of Consultation N^o 519 of the 23rd Instant, forwarded with your Memo: N^o 8526 of the 26th Instant, as none of the old Maramut Goomastahs is efficient enough for the purposes required, none of them being able to read or write English, I have desired him to entertain a man competent to assist in the duties of the Office.

J

R

PM No 719 of 1858.

I have now the honor to request, you will inform me, what is to be done with Venkata Nursoo Puntooloo, the Goomastah at present attached to Lieutenant Hankin's Office. he was formerly a Talook Goomastah and has been employed since November 1837. his age is about fifty. in my recommendation roll of Sub Overseers, I entered him and Venkata Row, who is now attached to Mr. Biggers's Office, at the bottom of the list, as being both of them healthy and willing I did not recommend their dismissal, as I did Runga Row and Sushagery Row, although I did not consider them fit for any higher places than that I assigned to them. —

3 On the reduction of the establishment on 1st August last, these men were struck off; but were ordered by

by Government in consequence of Consultation N^o 1559 of the 11th August last to be re-employed, some in the Executive Engineer's Office &c, and others, as vacancies occurred. agreeably to these positive orders of Government, I sent Venkata Nursoo Puntooloo to Lieutenant Hankin, and Venkata Row to Mr. Biggers, although I knew they would be of little or no use; and from my letter N^o 1877 of the 22nd ultimo, you will observe my opinion was confirmed, as I therein informed you, that both Lieutenant Hankin, and Mr. Biggers complained that they were of no use. —

As Government have now ordered that Lieutenant Hankin be supplied with an efficient man, in place of Venkata Nursoo Puntooloo, I beg your instructions as to what pay Venkata

Veneta nurses. Puntocloo is to get,
and how it is to be paid; or
if I am merely to strike him
out, and inform him, that it
is done by orders of Government.

District Engineer's Office
Camp at Guindy W. A. S. Moberly
29th March 1858 } District Engineer
of Chingleput

A true copy
Signed C. Lawford Major
Superintending Engineer
In charge of the Central
Office of Public Works

PM 10/19-1858

Public

N^o 8661

Central Office of Public Works

Fort Saint George

31st March 1858

From

Major E. Lawford

Superintending Engineer in charge
of the Central Office of P. W.

To

H. Forbes Esquire

Acting Secretary to Government

Dated 31st March 1858 N^o 8661

Encls: 2

Sir

1 Copy of letter from

District Engineer, Bhinglee

N^o 30108/29 March/58

1 Copy of Com. Pro.

N^o 8526 8/26th

March/58

With reference to Contract Min.

Cons: N^o 519, dated 23rd March 1858, I have

the honor to submit copy of a letter
from the District Engineer of Bhinglee.

and beg to be favored with distinct
orders on the subject of Goomastah

Vencata Nurusoo Puntoloo's being re-
tained in the Assistant Executive

Engineer's Office, for the duties of
which he is declared to be totally

unfitted

of

unfitted by his ignorance of English.

2 A copy of my instructions to Lieut^l
Moberly, consequent on the receipt
of the orders above quoted, is herewith
submitted, and while I exceedingly re-
-gret the necessity of obtruding on Go-
-vernment, a subject they consider too
trivial for their attention. I see no way
of avoiding it, except by disregarding
their orders of the 21st March 1858 No 530
as suffering the continuance of a man
in the service, who cannot perform the
duties his situation involves

Signed/ C Lawford Major
Superintending Engineer
In ch. of the Cent^l Office
of P.W.

Public Works Dept

No 692

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation
Under date the 15th April 1858

Read the follow.

ing letters from the Super-
intending Engineer, Sew-
-thern Circle in charge of
Central Office of Pub Works.

11/6

There enter 29th March 1858
1855/6
and 866

Well

In the ^{first of the} above
letters the Superintending
Engineer Southern Circle
in charge of the Central
Office, informs Government
that the District Engineer
of

2746

Public Works Dept
No 719
From the Office in Charge
of the Central Office of Pub
Works
To the Secretary to Govt
Dept of Public Works
Dated 31 March 1858
Dated 14 April
A. E. No 692-15: April 1858
Enclosure 2 No 8661
No 692-15 April

of Trivello has been
directed to conform
immediately and impli-
citly to the instructions
conveyed in Para 6 of
Extract Mins of Consul-
tation 24. March 1858
N^o 528, regarding the
reemployment of some
of the Gomastahs lately
dismissed in that Dis-
trict on the score of in-
efficiency. He also
^{in both letters} points out that, as
Government in Extract
Minutes of Consultation
23. idem declared their
unwillingness to give
any orders on Lieut
Harrison's complaint of

the inefficiency of his
Gomastah, and as that
Officer has very extensive
accounts to keep, the
District Engineer of
Chingleput has been
directed to provide
him with an efficient
man in his room.
A similar complaint
by the District Engi-
neer of Tanjore of
the disqualification
of the Collector's Gomas-
tah transferred to his
Department is brought
to notice in para 3
of the above letter.
2. It was not
the intention of Govt
imp

in Ex: Minister of the
23^d March, regarding
Lieutenant Hankin's
Gomastah, that he
should be dismissed,
but that the District
Engineer, ^{or} failing
himself, the Chief Engineer,
should make such
an arrangement of
the Office servants in
the Division as would
give Lieutenant Hankin
a Gomastah that
better suited him, —
while the man he
objected to was placed
elsewhere.

3. The Government
are unable to admit

that

67
that men who have
spent their lives in
keeping intricate
accounts under the
Collector should be
so unable as is re-
presented to adapt
themselves to any
change of system
that may have been
introduced in the
Department Public
works. Changes of
systems occurred
when the Collector
had the Mammut,
and often occurred
in his revenue
Citchery but it
has never yet
been

been necessary on that
account to dismiss
all the Comastake
and entertain a
wholly new Estab-
lishment, and
the Government are
convinced that there
is no real necessity
for such a measure
now.

4. The Government
would be better pleased
if the views they have
so frequently enunciated
in this matter received
support from the
Central Office, instead of,
as has been too much
the case, arguments

being constantly adduced
in opposition to
them. - BZ

9 Copies to the Chief Surg. Dir. 16

