M.R.O. 1—77,006—8-6-37.

(1) Number of pages 44

(2) Date of repair 23-4-38

(3) Initials of the Referencer

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works **DEPARTMENT.**

Con. 15-3-59

G.O. No.	536	Press / Mis.
17-18 Dated	1. 3.	1858.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 17. Read the following letter from Colonel C. E. FABER, Chief Engineer; to J. D. BOURDILLON, Esq., Secretary to Government, dated 26th February 1859, No. 8147.

SIR,

Having been honored on the 18th Instant, with the Extract Minutes Consultation, No. 400 of the 17th Idem, I have to apologize for neglect of duty in not having immediately corrected two mistakes in matters of fact, which through apparent inadvertence, have been placed on the permanent records of the Madras Government.

2. In para. 5 of Extract Minutes Consultation, No. 400, the Government accept very disadvantageously to myself, Lieutenant Colonel Lawford's hasty ascription of the alleged cause of the second Memorandum of the 24th January last, themselves adding that "this ex-"planation of the origin of the order is not denied by Colonel Faber."

3. Yet in point of literal fact, the following expressions made within five minutes of receiving Lieutenant Colonel Lawford's first extraordinary note of the 27th Ultimo, namely "I "had intented in the same spirit to have told you the real cause instead of that you mistakenly "ascribe of the 2nd Memorandum, which again I was not unwilling to withdraw," were in the possession of the Government, who impute acquiescence to me, notwithstanding so emphatic and direct, though courteous a denial.

4. I respectfully enquire whether there were no aggravation to other and previous injuries, that a malicious motive already denied in no dubious terms, should persistently be ascribed to me, and whether because in outraged silence, I did not renew an offer once rejected with ignominy (see Lieutenant Colonel Lawford's second note replying to my tendered explanation, offensively re-urging that very relationship of cause and effect I had protested against) I am to be held by the Government whom I serve to be as untruthful as Lieutenant Colonel Lawford states me to be.

5. The Government both accuse and convict me of admitting on the 31st of January what I had taken the earliest possible opportunity of refuting, in language as temparate as it was unequivocal, on the 27th idem; and thus it will be seen that unless I venture to assume the inadvertent commission of an oversight, my disgrace becomes complete, as a direct consequence of having, without any provocation, been subjected to the most unexpected and unprecedented insults from an insubordinate Subordinate, that it is possible for man's imagination to conceive.

6. I have referred to the origin of Memorandum No. 2, and it seems self apparent, that desire to protect a most excellent and obliging public servant, P. Chellaputty Naidoo, who by Officiating as Cashkeeper had gradually become liable to demands on his services, as of right, when his assistance was a favor that no one but the Members of the Central Office proper could be entitled to claim, had really called forth the 2nd Memorandum.

7. So early as on the 15th of January I had meant to make the Cashkeeper's actual position known, because it was alike hard and unjust that he should incur the blame of any one but myself and Assistant, who elsewhere has invariably assumed charge of the Office in the absence of its Head, and the particulars would have all been stated to Lieutenant Colonel Lawford personally, but for causes needless to again recapitulate. It was considered advisable for many reasons to extend generally to other Members of the Central Office, the same protection afforded to the Cashkeeper, and the Secretary to Government is himself aware, by a very striking recent instance of the practical evils arising from a control diluted by quintuple sub-division.

8. Nevertheless, Memorandum No. 2 of 24th January 1859 was cancelled on the day that the order reached me.

9. It is no less advisable to represent *correctly* what the circumstances were which led to the reproof of the 2nd Uncovenanted Assistant by the Superintending Engineer, Southern Circle, on the 22nd of January last.

10. On that date (Saturday, when I have my papers at home as the Office breaks up at 2 P. M.) an application was received from the District Engineer of Salem, recommending that Assistant Engineer O'Hara might be permitted to proceed on the 24th Idem to Madras on duty,* in order to personally examine the pumps under despatch for the purpose of draining the foundations of the new buildings at Oopoor.

See original letter G., No. 12631, forwarded herewith.

11. I had been ready to assent to Captain Gahagan's proposal, but labelled the application that the leave was to be dependent on the Superintending Engineer of the Southern Circle, and I was a good deal surprized at finding in the afternoon, by the accompanying note from Lieutenant-Colonel Lawford, to which I also attach the 2nd Assistant's letter, that he attributed very unworthy motives to the Local Officers, which certainly would,not have,suggested themselves to me, especially as I was aware that most vexatious mistakes had been committed in supplying the Madura and Tinnevelly Districts with pumps. Finally leave was withheld, but I submit that Mr. Baber on finding a letter, one of numerous others in my own despatch box, and which he himself had, at an earlier hour given to the Superintending Engineer's Head Clerk for submission to Lieutenant-Colonel Lawford, can scarcely be said to have "possessed himself improperly of a letter which was before Lieutenant-Colonel Lawford for disposal," especially when it is considered, that the leave was to commence on the 24th, that the office closed at 2 P. M., that the next day was Sunday, and that Superintending Engineers cannot make disposals on applications for leave.

Lieutenant Colonel Lawford's Note of 22nd.
Mr. Baber's do. do., attached in original.

12. I now draw to the conclusion of a most painful task, by referring to paras. 8 and 9 of Extract Minutes Consultation, No. 400, though necessarily ignorant how far those strictures on myself personally are, or are not based on the two important mistakes I have sought to rectify.

13. In the first of those paras. allusion is made, and most justly, to the repeated instances of the valuable time of Government being taken up by disputes between Colonel Faber and Colonel Lawford. But surely it has altogether been overlooked that in the case now before them, I had deprecated throughout any intrusion whatever of my Memoranda on the Government, and also that inasmuch as it is on record, that on the 27th Ultimo, I was prepared, and signified so to the Officer believing himself aggrieved, to entirely withdraw both Memoranda, rather than incur the displeasure of Government, it is hard indeed to make me blameable in any degree for that which was occasioned solely by the admittedly unwarrantable character of Lieutenant-Colonel Lawford's two notes of the 27th.

14. Grievously sinned against by language of the grossest contumely, which after the failure of my first conciliatory missive, giving the fullest opportunity for withdrawal, could only be redressed by Government, I am converted into and punished as if I myself had been the chief culprit.

15. Again it is said, that "these unseemly dissensions continue ?" but has such been indeed the case ? I conscientiously affirm my own ignorance of any dissension whatsoever, until by no act of my own, I was compelled to put myself under the protection of Government as one of its servants, who had been placed in a most trying position. My defence to this charge is, my own note of the 27th January to Lieutenant-Colonel Lawford, and it is difficult to discern what more could have been done by any one than I then offered to do.

16. My last act as Chief Engineer, before departure in July, was one of personal intercession with the Head of the Government in behalf of the Superintending Engineer, for whom I undertook, that if his then grave offence were condoned, he should humbly apologize within 3 hours and promise to avoid all insubordination and disrespect in future, and I venture to ask, how with such an element in favor of considerate action on my own parts I can thus early be justly accused of fresh "unseemly dissensions."

See Extract Minutes Consultation 1207, 26th June 1858.
1458, 28th " "
From Lieutenant-Colonel Lawford to Secretary to Government.

17. Most unexpected is the recorded opinion of the Right Honorable the Governor in Council, that he "finds it difficult to determine which of the two is most in fault," when Lieutenant-Colonel Lawford's "unwarrantable" notes are before His Lordship. If I have indeed been

ever guilty of conduct placing me on a par with the writer of those wanton insults, I indeed am unworthy to hold my present position for a day, but looking back for more than four years, I state solemnly, that it has been my unceasing endeavour to gain the good will and co-operation of the Superintending Engineer, Southern Circle. It is simple truth however, that if the least able Officer in the Corps had been assigned to me as an associate, instead of an Officer of the Lieutenant-Colonel's admitted professional talents and proved ability, the business of the Office and my own efficiency would now be standing on a very different footing.

18. Is it a presumption if in my present painful position, I solicit the Government to take into some consideration the relative antecedents of Lieutenant-Colonel Lawford's career and my own ? ? for whilst I can claim to have maintained, without exception, the most friendly relations with all whom, a residence in India of nearly 30 years has brought me in contact with, (not excepting one of the many Officers associated with me in the Central Office) being on good and even cordial terms with public servants of nearly all classes, what does the previous history of the Superintending Engineer, Southern Circle reveal.

19. His Lordship in Council considered it necessary to alike menace the Chief and the Superintending Engineer, Southern Circle, with removal from public employment should "these discreditable and mischievous squabbles continue or recur," and by this decision the unique principle is established of the welfare of the Head of the Office being made to depend on the forbearance, or the misbehaviour of one of his own Subordinates.

20. As Lieutenant-Colonel Lawford has now discovered that by exceeding the conventions of either private or public life, and by using language of intolerable sarcasm and accusation, he is able to compel his superior to depart from the prudential line of forbearing and conciliatory conduct he had rigidly prescribed for his own observance, and to coerce him into an appeal for the protection of higher authority, do the late proceedings of Government, afford one element of reasonable hope that similar "squabbles" will not recur ?.

21. The authority of my own Office has been abated rather than enhanced and confirmed; it is stated that I have rendered myself "an object of derision to my Subordinates," whilst Lieutenant-Colonel Lawford has the direct encouragement of the recorded opinion, that because we are both of nearly the same age, and are now identical in Regimental rank, it is to be expected that he, as a Superintending Engineer, shall be placed almost on a par with the Officer selected by Government to be a Chief Engineer of the Ist Class, which latter is further stated to insist on himself doing the work of a Superintending Engineer, and of leaving his own work undone ; a charge founded apparently on three acts of "general regulation and control," two of which have been distinctly approved in detail, and the third condemned only because a mistaken origin is imputed, which having once pointedly denied, I neglected to file a renewed disclaimer against.

22. But it has become no less a duty to the public service than to myself, to point out respectfully, that as the order of Government, No. 400 of the 17th Instant now stands, the Head of the Central Office is placed in the power and at the mercy of one of his Subordinate Officers, whose antecedent entire official life has notoriously been one of habitual controversy and acrimonious dispute.

23. I do not presume to say I have never incurred just censure by being tempted at some time or other into indiscreet reprisals, but I do affirm, that reviewing Lieutenant-Colonel Lawford's career from that notable occasion which elicited the Extract Minutes Consultation, No. 140 of 19th July 1849, followed by his improper letter* to the Board of Revenue, Department Public Works, and the Board's Proceedings* thereon, down to his recent unseemly disputes and recrimination with the Inspector General of Ordnance, and invoking the testimony of gentlemen of such consideration as Mr. E. Maltby, Mr. Bishop, Mr. Forbes, Mr. Phillips and Mr. Bird, the Collectors with whom Lieutenant-Colonel Lawford has been associated, there is absolutely no ground for hope, (but the greatest cause for apprehension,) that if the Superintending Engineer, Southern Circle, be permitted to continue in the Central Office, his future periodical demonstrations of insubordination will be suppressed; yet it is to these that my own prospects and means of Official usefulness are to be sacrificed.

* 14th October 1851, No. 593.

* 6th November 1851, No. 925.

See 2515 of 26th November 1858
From Inspector General of Ordnance, dated 9th August 1858.
To Do, 10th do., 1858.
From Do. 12th do., 1858.

24. I confess to having had no misgivings as to the action of Government on Lieutenant-Colonel Lawford's two Notes of the 27th Ultimo, being such as for the general interests of the public service, would have effectually prevented the very possibility of a recurrence of dissensions so inseparable from that Officer's personality, wherever he may be, by his removal from a position, for which his ungovernable spirit of insubordination, his sensitive jealousy, and his unhappy infirmities of temper, combine to totally and manifestly disqualify him, notwithstanding his reorgnized abilities and his undeniable experience.

25. As Head of the Central Office, however, and as now doubly responsible for Lieutenant-Colonel Lawford's future good conduct, I do myself the honor to deliberately report that Officer unfit for the appointment of a Superintending Engineer on the present footing of the Office in the Madras Presidency. I should be equally under the same conviction, whoever were the incumbent of the Head ship of the Central Office, whilst to renew the not very encouraging experiment of the last half year of 1858, would be offering a premium on conduct which the Government have already denounced.

26. There is but little ostensible difference between the salaries of a Superintending Engineer, and of a District Engineer of the 1st Class, and all real difference is more than compensated by Travelling Allowances, and by the reduced expenses of a Mofussil life. Thus little, if any pecuniary penalty would result from Lieutenant-Colonel Lawford being employed as a District Engineer of the 1st Class; on the explanations I have now had the honor to submit, it perhaps will be thought no very heavy mark of the displeasure of Government to remove an Officer who had so completely forgotten the respect due to the Head of his Office, to a lower departmental grade, whilst as a special case, and for securing that peace and good order of the Central Office hitherto so often violated or compromised, though only by himself, amongst the Superintending* Engineers, who have joined the office, it surely would be well worth while to permit Lieutenant-Colonel Lawford to retain both the title and salary of a Superintending Engineer, whilst discharging the duties of a District Engineer of the 1st Class, either in Coimbatore, or in such other District as the Right Honorable the Governor in Council may be pleased to direct.

* Lieutenant-Colonel F. C Cotton.
Major Bell.
" Birdwood.
Captain Orr.
" Collyer.
" Johnston.
" Francis.

27. I conclude by expressing my own conscientious belief that no measure, short of removing the source and origin of discord in the Central Office, (as formerly of the Civil Engineers Department in the fifth and sixth Divisions,) is likely to ensure the full efficiency and usefulness of the new Department Public Works, which the Government so greatly desire should prove a successful measure of administrative reform.

Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel E. LAWFORD, Superintending Engineer; to Colonel C. E. FABER, Chief Engineer, dated 22nd January 1859.

MY DEAR FABER,

I find that application about O'Hara was improperly sent to you before coming to me, and you have passed orders on it. I consider this application wholly unnecessary and a mere pretext for his coming to Madras, and so I shall officially report, I have been here all this morning and Mr. Baber had no right whatever to send this paper to you, I sent it out to be registered and brought back to me for disposal. The orders of Government as to the duties of Superintending Engineers are too plain.

From H. BABER Esq., ; to Colonel C. E. FABER, Chief Engineer, dated 22nd January 1859.

SIR,

I beg to bring to your notice that Colonel Lawford just now sent for me and in very angry language reproved me for sending that letter of Captain Gahagan's, applying for Mr. O'Hara to have leave, before the same had been dealt with by him.

The facts of the case are as follows: Mr. Shutie brought me the paper to let me know as usual that an application for leave had come in. This was about 10½ A. M., I returned the paper to him to submit to Colonel Lawford after registry. Sometime afterwards on looking over the contents of the Chief Engineer's box, I therein found the letter in question, destined as I had every reason to suppose for submission for orders to the Chief Engineer, and seeing it to be of an emergent nature, I at once despatched it to you by a special messenger, marked " immediate."

Though I have explained all this to Colonel Lawford in language most respectful, and have further assured him that no disrespect to himself, or disregard of mamool was intended, I have been spoken to in the language of most undeserved reproof, and notwithstanding my own protestations I was told that I had done that which I knew to be irregular and improper.

No. 18. ORDER THEREON, No. 536; dated 11th March 1859.

This letter relates to the Extract Minutes Consultation of February 17, No. 400, passing orders on the subject of some differences of opinion between the Chief Engineer and the Superintending Engineer of the Southern Circle. Colonel Faber notices a mistake of fact in that order on one point, he remonstrates against the severe censure passed on himself; and finally, he requests that Colonel Lawford may be removed from the Central Office.

2. Colonel Faber points out that he is represented in para. 5 of the order, as not having denied the cause assigned by Colonel Lawford for the issue of the second Memo. of the 24th January, whereas in fact, a denial of it was contained in his private note to that Officer of the 27th Idem, which was before Government. The Governor in Council accepts Colonel Faber's present statement, (paras. 6 and 7) of the real cause of issuing the Memo. in question; but he cannot admit that the assumption objected to as to a different cause, was without foundation. Neither Colonel Faber's reply to Colonel Lawford's official letter of the 31st January, imputing that other cause, nor his letters to Government of January 29, and February 2, sending up the papers and explaining the grounds of the Memos., contained any denial of that cause. Even the private note of the 27th, to which he now appeals, contains only an indirect denial, which in that position might easily, as it actually did, escape notice. With reference to para. 6 of the present letter, the Government must observe, that the cause of the Memo. would not by any means be clear to Government from the Memo. itself, without explanation. And with reference to the close of para. 21, they must declare that their condemnation of the Memo. was, and is, wholly independent of the particular cause of issuing it.

3. With respect to the 13th and following paras, and especially para. 21, the Chief Engineer errs greatly in supposing that the censures of the 17th February on himself arose solely out of the papers then before Government. The order does not say this, but expressly refers to previous events. In point of fact, the Government were led to those censures by the recollection of many former similar dissensions, and by their knowledge of Colonel Faber's method of managing the Office, ever since its first formation; which, as he is well aware, has often come under unfavorable notice. Adverting to para. 18, it is within the knowledge of the members of Government, that Colonel Faber's method of management has been felt to be irritating and vexatious by many other of the Superintending Engineers, besides Colonel Lawford, though no other has allowed himself so greatly to give way to feeling on the matter.

Adverting to para. 21, it must also be remarked, that it was not the order of Government which lowered the authority of Colonel Faber's Office; that order did no more than indicate the certain consequence of his own acts.

4. The proposition that Colonel Lawford should be sent into the Provinces as a District Engineer, but retaining the salary and title of Superintending Engineer, is one which the Government are wholly unable to listen to.

(Signed) J. D. BOURDILLON,
Secretary to Government.

Central Office S. & W.
Fort Saint George
26th February 1859.

No. 8117.

From

The Chief Engineer

To

The Secretary to Government,
Public Works Department.

Sir,

Enclosures 2

Having been honored on the 18th instant with the Est. Mines Cons: No. 400 of the 17th Instt, I have to apologize for neglect of duty in not having immediately corrected two mistakes in matters of fact which through apparent inadvertence, have been placed on the permanent records of the Madras Government.

2. In paras 5 of E. & C. No 400, that Government accept very disadvantageously to myself, Lt. Col. Lawford's hasty ascription of the alleged cause of the second Memorandum of the 24th January last, himself, adding that "this explanation of the origin of "the order is not denied by Col. Faber."

3. For my point of liberal fact,

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The following expressions made within five minutes of receiving Lt Col. Lawsons first extraordinary note of the 27th Instno, namely "I had intended me the same opinion he have told you the real Cause instead of that you mistakenly ascribe of the 2d Memorandum which again I was not unwilling to withdraw", were in the supposition of the Government, who imputed acquiescence to me, notwithstanding so emphatic & direct, lengthy Countenance as denial.

4. I respectfully enquire whether five and no aggravation to other & previous injuries, that as malicious motive already denied and no dubious terms, should forcibly be ascribed to me, & whether because an outraged silence, I did not renew an offer once rejected with ignominy from Lt Col. Lawson second time refusing to any tendered explanation, offensively re-urging that very relationship of Cause and effect I had protested against? I am to be held by the Government whom I serve to be as untruthful as Lt Col. Lawson states me to be.

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and Convicted me of admitting on the 31st of January what I had taken the earliest possible opportunity of refuting, in language as temperate as it was unequivocal, on the 27th idem; and thus it will be seen that unless I venture to assume the inadvertent Commission of an oversight, my disgrace becomes Complete, as a direct Consequence of having, without any provocation, been subjected to the most unexpected and unprecedented insults from an inordinate subordinate that it is possible for mans imagination to Conceive.

6. I have referred to the origin of Memorandum No 2, & it seems self apparent, that desired to protect a most excellent & obliging public Servant, Mr Chellapullay Naidoo, who by officiating as Cashkeeper had gradually become liable to demands on his service, as of right, when his assistance was a favor that no one but the members of the Central Office proper could be entitled to claim, had really called forth the 2d Memorandum.

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10. On that date (Saturday), when I have my papers at home as the Office breaks up at 2 P.M. an application was received from the District Engineer of Salem, recommending that Asst Engineer Vitara might be permitted to proceed on the 24th inst to Madras on duty in order to personally examine the pumps under despatch for the purpose of draining the foundations of the new buildings at Coopoor.

11 I had been ready to assent to Capt Gahagans proposal, but labelled the application that the leave was to be dependent on the Superintending Engineer of the Southern Circle, and I was a good deal surprized at finding on the afternoon by the accompanying Note from Lt Col: Lawford, to which I also attach the 2d Apastrants letter, that he attributes very unworthy motives to the Local Officers which certainly would not have suggested themselves to me, especially as I was aware that most vexatious mistakes had been committed in supplying the Madura & Tinnevelly

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See original letter G. No 12631 forwarded herewith

Lt Col. Lawfords Note of 22d & Mr Bakers D.O attached in original

(Districts with Journeys. Finally leave was withheld,
that I submit that Mr. Baker on finding a Letter,
one of numerous others in my own despatch box, &
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submission to Lt. Col. Lawford, can scarcely be
said to have "professed himself improperly of a
Letter which was before Lt. Col. Lawford for disposal,"
respectfully where it is Considered, that the Leave was to
Commence on the 26th, that the Office closed at 2 O'Cl,
that the next day was Sunday, and that Superintendent
Engineers Cannot make disposals on applications
for Leave.

I now draw to the Conclusion
of remarks I sought to make by referring to Paras. 8 & 9
of Col. Lt. Co. Letter, though necessarily ignorant how
far those strictures on myself personally are or are not
based on the two unfortunate mistakes I have sought to
rectify.

13 In the first of those Paras.
Allusion is made, and most properly, to the deprecated

instances of the valuable time of Government, being
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See Ch. C 1207 - 26 June 1856
1456 - 28 do
from Lt Col. Lawford to Secretary to Govt.

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Sw 2576 of 26 Nov/58
Items inspr Genl to Ordnance d/g Aug 18.8
To 30 19 30
From 30 12 30

24. I confess to having had no misgivings

misgivings as to the action of Government on Lt Col. Lawford's last Rolls of the 27th Ultimo, being such as for the general interests of the public Service would have effectually prevented the very possibility of a recurrence of dissensions so inseparable from that Officer's personality wherever he may be, by his removal from a position, for which his ungovernable spirit of insubordination, his sensitive jealousy, & his unhappy infirmities of temper Combine to totally & manifestly disqualify him, notwithstanding his recognized abilities and his undeniable experience.

25. As Head of the Central Office, however and as now doubly responsible for Lt Col. Lawford's future good Conduct, I do myself the honor to deliberately report that Officer unfit for the appointment of a Superintending Engineer on the present footing of the Office in the Madras Presidency. I should be equally of under the same Conviction whoever were the incumbent of the Headship of the Central Office, whilst to remain the not very encouraging experiment of the last half-year of 1858, would be offering a premium on Conduct

which

21

which the Government have already denounced.

26 There is but little ostensible difference between the salaries of a Superintending Engineer, and of a District Engineer of the 1st Class, and all real difference is more than Compensated by travelling allowances, and by the reduced expenses of a Mofussil life. Thus little if any pecuniary penalty would result from Lt Col. Lawford being employed as a District Engineer of the 1st Class; on the explanations I have now had the honor to submit, it perhaps will be thought no very heavy mark of the displeasure of Government to remove an Officer who had so Completely forgotten the respect due to the Head of his Office, to a lower departmental grade, whilst as a special case, and for securing that peace and good order of the Central Office hitherto so often violated or Compromised, though only by himself, amongst the Superintending Engineers, who have joined the Office, it surely would be well worth while to permit Lt Col. Lawford to retain both the title and salary of a Superintending Engineer whilst discharging the duties of a District Engineer

of,

* Lt Col. F. C. Collow
Major Bell
" Birdwood
Captn Orr
" Collyer
" Johnstone
" Francis

Cons. 25 = Feby 1859 - No 20 -
— Do 8 = Do — 4089 -
— Do — 1 = Do — 115 - 116 -

Dte Cons 15 Jany 1859 No 456.

To the Chief Engineer

The Secretary to Government
Public Works Dept

Dated 26 February 1859

No 26

No 8447

With 2 Enclosures Rs 24-2-60

Est: 536. 11th March 1859.

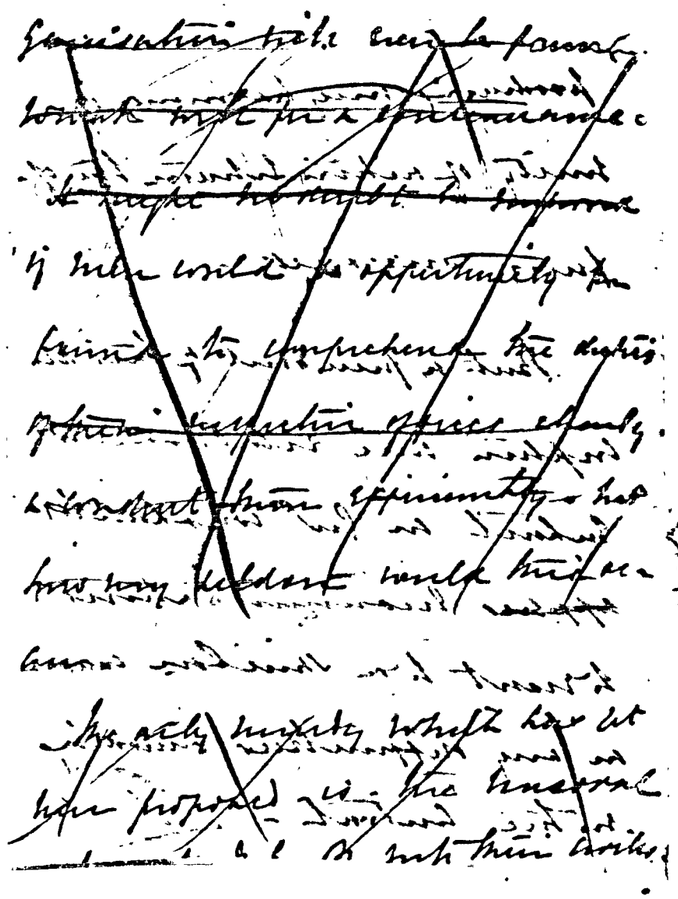
Punkah cat two inadvertent
mistakes of Government in Para 5
of Lt Col C. Est 400 of 17 Instant,
before some equal salary remarks are
Paras 8 & 9 of that order, I
Conclude by respectfully recommending
for reasons given that Lt Col Lushington
shall be employed as a Dy Engineer
of 1st Class & allowed to retain the
title & salary of a Deputy Engineer

No 17.

such discretionary powers as
they may fairly consider them
selves entitled to use under
to create discord.

Col Parker's conduct in the
present instance. putting the
troops demanded by the district
in the exigencies of a Sup. Court
case which seemed cannot
be entertained - which I am at
the time informed supported by

produced by any harmony
unity of action between the
[illegible] commanders
but a punishment of their di
sophism and substituted
subject to the constant
appeal becoming almost
to grant the similar course
in any opposition standing
to the contrary -



Can act with him with
any degree of satisfaction
or advantage to the public
service though his ability
and abilities are unquestionable

Lt Hancock

Lt Hancock

[illegible] Father from his regard
[illegible] to [illegible] satisfac-
tion in the discharge duty
the Lieut he has had in
his present position
and the cheerful testimo-
ny of Colonel Dearborn &
Lieut that he may either
[illegible] or [illegible]

occurred as he has from
blame his subordinate.
of all filers constant personal
& minute interference in every
detail of the office has produced
inefficiency & neglect the most
perfect harmony & thorough discipline
subordinates, would have existed.
might have been enforced.
But the reverse is notoriously the
case. The total disorganization
of the department, the numerous
discreditable failures in Executive
& cautions on his conduct with the
proceedings of the last
three years, show that he
only and the trust & discretion reposed in
the management of others but that
he has lamentably failed in the
performance of his administrative duties
that office placed under his control

order in due form,
&c

P W D

No 536 37

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation
Under date the 11th March 1859.

Read the following letter from the Chief Engineer

Received 26 Feby 59
No 8167.

Thro letter relates to the Ely Main Coast of February 17. No 200 passing orders on the subject of some difference of opinion between the Chief Engineer and the Superintending Engineer of the Southern Circle. Colonel Faber notices a mistake of fact in that order in the point, he

the remonstrates against the severe censure passed on himself, and finally he requests that Colonel Lawford may be removed from the Central Office.

2. Colonel Taber points out that he is represented in Para 5 of the order as not having denied the cause assigned by Colonel Sawford for the issue of the second Memo: of the 24th January, whereas in fact a denial of it was contained in his private note to that officer of the 27th inst. which was before Govt. The Governor in Council accepts Colonel Taber's present statement

(Paras 6 and 7) of the real cause of issuing the memo: in question, but he cannot admit that the assumption objected to as to a different cause, was without foundation. Neither Colonel Taber's reply to Colonel Sawford's official letter of the 31st January, imputing that other cause, nor his letters of Jany. 29 and Feb. 2 to Government, sending up the papers and explaining the grounds of the Memo, contained any denial of that cause. Even the private note of the 27th to which he now appeals, contains only an indirect denial, which in that position might

might easily, as it actually did, escape notice. With reference to Para 6 of the present letter, the Government must observe that the cause of the Mines would not by any means be clear to Government from the Memorial only, without explanation. And with reference to the close of Para 21, they must declare that their condemnation of the Mines was based upon wholly independent of the particular cause of issuing it.

3. With respect to the 13th and following Paras, and especially Para 21, the Chief Engineer

Engineer errs greatly in supposing that the censures of the 17 Feby on himself arose solely out of the papers then before Government. The order does not say this, but expressly refers to previous events. In point of fact the Government were led to those censures by the recollection of many former similar dispositions, and by their knowledge of Colonel Fabers method of managing the office ever since its first formation, which, as he is well aware, has often come under unfavourable notice. The Governor in Council deems it right also to put it on

Adverting to Para 18, it is within the knowledge of the members of Govt.

[redacted] that Colonel
Faber's method of man-
agement has been [redacted] felt to be
[redacted] irritating and vex-
atious [redacted] by many others of the
[redacted] superintending
Engineers [redacted] besides Colonel
Sanford, though no other
has allowed himself
so greatly to give way
to feeling on the matter.

Adverting to Para
VI. it must also be remarked
that it was not the
order of Government
which lowered the
authority of Colonel
Faber's office, that order
did no more than [redacted]
indicate the certain
consequence of his own acts.
[redacted]

The proposition
that Colonel Sanford
should

should be sent into the
Provinces as a Dis-
trict Engineer, but re-
taining the salary and
title of Superintending
Engineer, is one which
the Government are
wholly unable to listen

JDM

10 Copies to the Chief Engr.
Desp.ch 11

Public Works 1859 Depart.
Dft to Cons: 15th March.

No 536.

Extract Mins of Cons:
Dft 11th March 59.

Passing orders on a letter
from the Chief Engineer remon-
strating against the Assumed
Jurisdiction him and requesting
that Colt Lawford may be removed
from the Central Office.

No 17418.