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(2) Date of repair 7-4-38

(3) Initials of the Referencer

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

Cert 4158

G.O. No. 59 Press
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Dated 6 April 1858.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

7.CC.30

No. 47. Read the following Extract from the Proceedings of the Right Honorable the Governor General of India, in the Public Works Department, (Public) under date the 19th November 1858, No. 1272.

Read the following papers.

From Resident at Hyderabad to the Secretary to Government, Foreign Department No. 85 dated 7th August 1857.

„ do do to do „ 88 dated 9th do „
„ do do to do „ 89 dated 10th do „
„ do do to do „ 90 dated 10th do „
„ do do to do „ 91 dated 10th do „
„ Colonel Coffin to do „ dated 6th do „
„ do do to do „ dated 8th do „
„ do do to do „ dated 13th do „
„ Resident at Hyderabad to do „ 101 dated 15th do „
„ Military Department to do „ 572 dated 14th do „
„ Resident at Hyderabad to do „ 103 dated 18th do „
„ do do to do „ 104 dated 19th do „
„ do do to do „ 105 dated 19th do „
„ do do to do „ 106 dated 19th do „
„ do do to do „ 112 dated 24th do „
„ do do to do „ 116 dated 26th do „
„ do do to do „ 128 dated 3rd Sept. „
„ Secretary to Government Fort Saint George, Military Department to Secretary to Government of India, Military Department No. 2986 dated 1st Sept. 1857.
„ do to do dated 25th Augt. „
„ do to do dated 26th do „
„ Acting Chief Secretary Fort Saint George, to Secretary to Government Foreign Department No. 610, dated 15th do „

Public Works Department Consultation, 28th August 1857, Nos. 100 to 104.

„ Secretary to Government of India, Military Department, to Resident at Hyderabad No. 291 dated 7th Sept. 1857.
„ Resident at Hyderabad to Secretary to Government Public Works Department „ 157 dated 2nd Oct. „
„ do do to do „ 160 dated 5th do „
„ do do to do „ 162 dated 6th do „
„ do do to do „ 168 dated 9th do „
„ do do to do „ 3 dated 23rd Jany 1858
„ do do to do „ 221 dated 1st June „
&c. &c. &c.

Observations.—His Lordship having considered the mass of documents relating to the dissensions which have unhappily arisen at Hyderabad, between Major General Coffin on the one part, and the Resident and Chief Engineer on the other, on many occasions since June 1857, feels it impossible to acquit of blame any of the parties concerned in these differences. Believing however that there has lately been a renewal of better feelings, and having every reason to hope that no differences detrimental to the public service will recur, His Lordship desires now to touch upon the past much more lightly than he would otherwise have felt to be justifiable.

The Governor General is of opinion that Colonel Davidson, considering the proximity of the Residency to Secunderabad and its dependence on the Subsidiary Force for Garrison, acted unwisely in undertaking defences there in the absence of previous explanation and consultation with the Brigadier. He erred also in giving orders respecting the fortification of the Arsenal to the Chief Engineer, instead of addressing General Coffin on the subject.

Colonel Davidson also, on several occasions connected with these controversies, has written with a needless strength of expression, and in one letter used words to which doubtless he did

not attach the signification which they bear on the surface, but which naturally and justly were felt as gravely injurious.

General Coffin on the other hand has, His Lordship believes, invariably preserved a becoming temperance in expression. But the Governor General cannot extend the same approval to his acts.

It is to be regretted that the orders passed by the Government of India, on the first reference regarding these dissensions were not issued in a more explicit form, instead of merely stating that General Coffin's proceedings were opposed to principles previously laid down by Government.

Still this was a distinct intimation that General Coffin in the general course that he had followed was in error. And in ignoring altogether these orders, as he did in effect, he was upholding his own notions of what he considered should be the proper constitution of things, in opposition to the declared opinion of the Supreme Goverment, and was practically setting that opinion at defiance.

He put aside the Officer whom Government had appointed to a specific charge, and set up an Officer of his own creation, restoring an Office which the Government of India had formally abolished.

The Governor General has blamed Colonel Davidson for undertaking defences at the Residency without previously consulting the Brigadier. Still it was the duty of the Brigadier, whom the orders of the Government of India, had so distinctly declared to be under the orders of the Resident excepting in matters pertaining to discipline and detail, before complaining to Government of the Resident's proceedings, to have ascertained from himself the scope and object of the defences undertaken. In that affair which appears so much to have tended to create a breach between the two parties there appears to have been actually no material difference of opinion, had there but been that right intercourse which would have afforded opportunity for mutual explanations.

General Coffin's conduct also, in continuing to issue orders to Colonel Henderson through his Staff Officer, on the ground that he so addressed him, not as Chief Engineer, but as Officer in charge of the Trimulgherry Barracks, was not justifiable and was needlessly vexatious in tendency. The Government of India had formally declared that even in corresponding with the Madras Government respecting the buildings of the Subsidiary Force, Colonel Henderson was to do so under his proper title of Chief Engineer.

Colonel Henderson again, His Lordship observes, was in the early part of these proceedings deserving of the censure of Government. He gave Lieutenant Smith, an Officer acting under his authority and guidance, most injudicious advice on at least two occasions. It was his duty to have desired Lieutenant Smith to attend to the Brigadier's summons without hesitation, and to have referred any point on which he might entertain doubts for the decision of Government, before embroiling himself and his Assistant in a contest with the Chief Military Authority.

Quarter Master General Madras to Colonel Henderson, dated 18th May 1858.

Part of the advice which he gave was not only injudicious but positively wrong. His Lordship would probably have expressed censure of Colonel Henderson in stronger terms, had it not been for the extraordinary severity of the reprimand addressed to that Officer by His Excellency the Commander in Chief at Madras on a later occasion, in the justice of which his Lordship the Governor General is unable to concur. Colonel Henderson's conduct subsequent to the early transactions noticed above appears to have been reasonable and temperate, and His Lordship cannot admit that he was liable to severe censure for protesting, on an occasion which presented no emergency, against General Coffin's persistence in a vexatious mode of address.

On Lieutenant Smith the Governor General will not pass any severe censure, because he is admitted to have acted so immediately under the advice of the chief of his Department. But it will be advisable that he be removed to another Division.

Here His Lordship gladly quits the disagreeable duty which has been imposed on him, with a renewed expression of confidence that these dissensions will recur no more.

ORDER.—Ordered, that copies of the foregoing observations be sent to the Foreign Department and to the Military Department with the Governor General for information, and for communication to the Officers concerned under those Departments respectively.

Ordered also that a copy be sent to the Government of Fort Saint George for information, with the intimation that a decision on the future permanent relations of the Department of Public Works at Hyderabad will follow, and with a request that a qualified Officer (of Engineers if possible) be selected to replace Lieutenant Smith.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) H. YULE, Captain,

Offg. Secy. to the Govt. of India, with the Governor General.

No. 48. ORDER THEREON, No. 54; dated 6th January 1859.

Ordered that the above Extract from the Proceedings of the Right Honorable the Governor General of India be communicated to the Military Department, and to the Chief Engineer.

2. Colonel Faber will be pleased to name a properly qualified Officer of Engineers to supply the place of Lieutenant Smith as Executive Engineer at Secunderabad.

(Signed) W. H. BAYLEY,

Acting Secretary to Government.

No 1272.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Right Honble the Governor General of India in the Public Works Department (Public) under date the 19th November 1858.

Read the following papers.

From Resident at Hydrabad to the Secy. to Govt. Foreign Dept. No. 85 dy. 7 Augt. 1857
" Do. Do. to Do. " 88 dy. 9 "
" Do. Do. to Do. " 89 dy. 10 "
" Do. Do. to Do. " 90 dy. 10 "
" Do. Do. to Do. " 91 dy. 10 "
" Colonel Coffin to Do. dy. 6th "
" Do. Do. to Do. dy. 8 "
" Do. Do. to Do. dy. 13 "
" Resident at Hydrabad to Do. " 101. dy. 15 "
" Military Department to Do. " 572 dy. 14th "
" Resident at Hydrabad to Do. " 103. dy. 18th "
" Do. Do. to Do. " 104 dy. 19 "
" Do. Do. to Do. " 105 dy. 19th "
" Do. Do. to Do. " 116 dy. 19 "
" Do. Do. to Do. " 112 dy. 24th "
" Do. Do. to Do. " 116 dy. 26 "
" Do. Do. to Do. " 128 dy. 3d Sept. "
" Secy. to Govt. Lt. St. George Mily. Dept. to Secy. to Govt. of India Mily. Dept. No. 2936 dy. 4th "
" Do. Do. to Do. dy. 25th Augt. "
" Do. Do. to Do. dy. 26 "
" Acting Chief Secy. Lt. St. George to Secy. to Govt. Foreign Department 640 dy. 15 "
Public Works Department Consultations 28th August 1857. Nos. 114 to 116.
From Secy. to Govt. of India Mily. Dept. to Resident at Hydrabad No. 291 dy. 7th Sept.
" Resident at Hydrabad to Secy. to Govt. Public Works Dept. " 157. dy. 2d Oct.
" Do. Do. to Do. " 160 dy. 5 "
" Do. Do. to Do. " 162 dy. 6th "
" Do. Do. to Do. " 168 dy. 9 "
" Do. Do. to Do. " 3. dy. 23d Jany. 1858
" Do. Do. to Do. " 223 dy. 1st June "

Yea. Yea. Yea.

Observations

His Lordship having considered the mass of documents relating to the dissensions which have unhappily arisen at Hydrabad between Major General Coffin on the one part, and the Resident and Chief Engineer on the other, on many occasions since June 1857, feels it impossible to acquit of blame any of the parties concerned in these differences. Believing however that there has lately been a renewal of better feelings, and having every reason to hope that no differences detrimental to the public service will recur, His Lordship desires now to touch upon the past much more lightly than he would otherwise have felt to be justifiable.—

The Governor General is of opinion that Colonel Davidson, considering the proximity of the Residency to Secunderabad and its dependence on the subsidiary force for Garrison, acted unwisely in undertaking defences there in the absence of previous explanation and consultation with the Brigadier. He erred also in giving orders respecting the fortification of the Arsenal to the Chief Engineer, instead of addressing General Coffin on the subject.—

Colonel Davidson also, on several occasions connected with these controversies, has written with needless strength of expression, and in one letter used words to which doubtless he did not attach the signification which they bear on the surface, but which naturally and justly were felt as gravely injurious.

General Coffin on the other hand has, His Lordship believes, invariably preserved a becoming temperance in expression. But the Governor General cannot extend the same approval to his acts.—

It is to be regretted that the orders passed by the Government of India on the first reference regarding these dissensions were not issued in a more explicit form, instead of merely stating that General Coffin's proceedings were opposed to principles previously laid down by Government.—

Still this was a distinct intimation that General Coffin in the general course that he had followed was in error. And in ignoring altogether these orders, as he did in effect, he was upholding his own notions of what he considered should be the proper constitution of things, in opposition to the declared opinion of the Supreme Government, and was practically setting that opinion at defiance.—

He put aside the Officer whom Government had appointed to a specific charge, and set up an Officer of his own creation, restoring an Office which the Government of India has formally abolished.—

The Governor General has blamed Colonel Davidson for undertaking defences at the

the Residency without previously consulting the Brigadier. Still it was the duty of the Brigadier, whom the orders of the Government of India had so distinctly declared to be under the orders of the Resident excepting in matters pertaining to discipline and detail, before complaining to Government of the Resident's proceedings, to have ascertained from himself the scope & object of the defences undertaken. In that affair which appears so much to have tended to create a breach between the two parties there appears to have been actually no material difference of opinion, had there but been that right intercourse which would have afforded opportunity for mutual explanations.—

General Coffin's conduct also, in continuing to issue orders to Colonel Henderson through his Staff Officer, on the ground that he so addressed him, not as Chief Engineer, but as Officer in charge of the Trimulgherry barracks, was not justifiable and was needlessly vexatious in tendency. The Government of India had formally declared that even in corresponding with the Madras Government respecting the buildings of the Subsidiary force, Colonel Henderson was to do so under his proper title of Chief Engineer

Colonel Henderson again, His Lordship observed, was in the early part of these proceedings deserving of the censure of Government. He gave Lieutenant Smith, an Officer acting under his authority and guidance, most injudicious advice on at least two occasions. It was his duty to have desired Lieutenant Smith to attend to the Brigadier's summons without hesitation, and to have referred any point on which he might entertain doubts for the decision of Government, before embroiling himself and his Assistant in a contest with the Chief Military Authority. Part of the advice which he gave was not only injudicious but positively wrong. His Lordship would probably have expressed censure of Colonel Henderson in stronger terms, had it not been for the extraordinary severity of the reprimand addressed to that officer by His Excellency the Commander in Chief at Madras on a later occasion in the justice of which His Lordship the Governor General is unable to concur. Colonel Henderson's conduct subsequent to the early transactions noticed above appears to have been reasonable and temperate, and His Lordship cannot admit that he was liable to severe censure for protesting, on an occasion which presented no emergency,

Quarter Master General Madras to Colonel Henderson dated 18th May 1858

against

against General Coffin's persistence in a vexatious mode of address.

On Lieutenant Smith the Governor General will not pass any severe censure because he is admitted to have acted so immediately under the advice of the Chief of his Department. But it will be advisable that he be removed to another Division.

Here His Lordship gladly quits the disagreeable duty which has been imposed on him, with a renewed expression of confidence that these dissensions will occur no more.

Ordered, that copies of the foregoing observations be sent to the Foreign Department and to the Military Department with the Governor General for information, and for communication to the Officers concerned under those Departments respectively. Order

Ordered also that a copy be sent to the Government of Fort St. George for information, with the intimation that a decision on the future permanent relations of the Department of Public Works at Hydrabad will follow, and with a request that a qualified

Officer (of Engineers if posible) be selected to replace Lieutenant Smith.—

True Extract

H. Yule
Captain
Offg. Secy to the Govt. of India
with the Governor General

P.W.D.

No 54.

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation
Under Date the 6th January 1859.

Read the following Letter from the
Offg. Secretary to the Govt. of India -
(Above entered 19th November 1858 No 1272)

Pls 3015. Resolved that the
above extract from the Proceedings of the Right Hon'ble the Govr. Genl. of India be communicated to the Military Department, and to the Offg. Chief Engr.
Col. Crawford will
be pleased to have a
properly qualified Officer of Engineers to supply the
place of Lieut. Hunter
as Executive Engineer at
Secunderabad.

10 Copies to the Chief Engr. Dinapore 7th
7 — " — " Milty Dept.

W. H. B

Pub. Dept. 1858. Dept.
Dispatch 12th January 59.
No 3015.

From the Offg. Secty. to
the Govt. of India.

Dated 19th Nov.
Recd 11th Dec. 1858

No. 1272.

Sir, Fort St. George, 6th Augt. 1858.

I am directed by the Govr. in Council to forward the accompanying Copy of a Letter from the Resident at Hyderabad, with enclosures, which were submitted for the consideration of Government by Colonel Davidson, Military Auditor General, and to request that a Selection may be made for the Executive Engineership at Secunderabad, and the Officer appointed to that Situation directed to proceed to his Station.

I have &c.
(Signed) W. Morris
Offg. Secy. to Govt.

To
The Secretary to the Govt. of India
Military Department.

Calcutta

Public Works 1859 Dep.t
Do to Cons.n 11th Jany.

No. 54.

Extract Mins of Cons.
Dy 6th January 59.
From the Secy to Govt Dy 11th
Jany 59 C. No. 94 in 6.25

Ordered that the Extra
from the Proceedings of the
Right Honorable the Governor
General of India be com-
municated to the Milita
Department and to the Chief
Engineer & Colo Fabert will
pleased to name a properly
qualified Officer of Engineer
to supply the place of Lieut Sim
at Secundrabad.

Nº 47 & 48.

Cir Mins Pg