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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

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No. 78. Read the following letter from Lieutenant-Colonel J. H. BELL, Chief Engineer; to J. D. BOURDILLON, Esq., Secretary to Government, dated 10th June 1859, No. 1458.

When I assumed charge of my office, a mass of papers on the subject of the Executive ranges was laid before me; and I was informed that as soon as the particulars of Revenue and Public Works expenditure for the ranges should be supplied, the required report might be made without loss of time. Having many special subjects to attend to, I did not then examine the papers more than sufficiently to give me a general knowledge of the subject, but when, after repeated calls upon the provincial Officers, it appeared that the information as to revenue and expenditure would be soon complete I went carefully through the whole correspondence and other documents. The result is that I find myself incapable of recommending any scheme for approval, without first procuring instructions from Government on certain points.

1st. The Assistants who have been employed in drawing up various schemes have evidently been in doubt what aggregate amount of present establishment is available for distribution to the executive ranges, namely, whether the establishments of the supernumerary and probationary Assistants who are extra to the fixed number of 21 are to be included in the available amount or not. I considered this question to be decided by the order of Government of the

30th April 1859, and accordingly proceeded to draw up a distribution
No. 1009. scale for the amount of the permanent establishment only. But,

2nd. This amount I found to be barely sufficient to provide each range with a working establishment on a very moderate scale of numbers and payment; and even this, I have since discovered, is not available, as it has been overlooked that the establishments of

Three 3rd class Executive Engineers at Jackatalla, on the East coast canal and at the Dowlaishwaram workshop.

Two 4th class Executive Engineers at Jackatalla and the Dowlaishwaram workshop.

Four Sub Engineers at the Presidency and the Dowlaishwaram Annicut, and attached to the Collector of Coimbatore.

are not available for distribution to the ranges.

2. It is impossible to distribute the aggregate amount, less that of the establishments of these Officers; for such a reduction would defeat the object in view, by rendering the new establishments entirely inefficient. Such indeed was the view of the three Superintending Engineers recorded in a joint Memorandum, as to the proposed new establishments, without the reduction which the exceptional position of the Officers and Sub-Engineers above mentioned proves to be necessary.

3. If the number of permanent Assistants were increased as suggested in the order of the 30th of April above quoted, a greater amount would be available for distribution to the ranges; but as this cannot be done without the sanction of the Government of India, I do not see how a scheme for the ranges can be arranged until that sanction is obtained. If the whole subject of augmentation and distribution were submitted at one view, the scheme would be nullified by a refusal, which cannot be considered improbable, of any augmentation; and the only alternative seems to be that the excepted establishments shall be charged to the works on which they are employed as follows:

Establishments

Of Executive Engineers at Jackatalla to Estimate for Barracks.

Of Executive Engineers coast canal to Canal Revenue.

Of Executive Engineers at Dowlaishwaram
workshop..... to works of the Division.

Of Sub-Engineers at the Presidency to works at the Presidency.

Of Sub-Engineer Godavery Annicut ... to Annicut repairs.

Of Sub-Engineer attached to Collector of
Coimbatore..... No provision that I know of can be made
in this case, unless by charging for private surveys.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
from 11th to 17th June 1859.*

4. This plan would be the most economical; because an encrease of Assistants would be an encrease of charge for their salaries as well as for their establishments; but should the Government be unwilling to sanction the arrangement I shall be prepared, on receiving instructions, to draw up a scale for the ranges either on the plan of an encrease of permanent Officers, or on that of an encrease of the aggregate cost of the establishments, the efficiency of each range establishment being the essential object aimed at in either plan. I am precluded by para. 7 of the order of the 8th of February, (No. 330) from now propounding any scheme which involves an encrease of charge.

5. The first plan would be eventually the most expensive if all the supernumeraries were absorbed, because there would then be an additional number of permanent Officers: the second would be the most so with reference to the present charges for permanent and supernumerary Officers, because the supernumerary establishments must still be retained, as long as there are supernumerary Officers, who, being in course of absorption, cannot be allotted to the ranges.

6. The following scales will illustrate my remarks, I reckoned that Rupees 6,555 derived as follows:

	Rs.	Rs.
13 3rd class Executives. ... at.....150	1,500	1,950
17 4th class Executives. ... at.....104	1,768	1,768
21 Assistants at..... 69	1,449	1,449
16 Sub-Engineers. at..... 53	848	848
12 Supervisors at..... 27	324	324
8 Assistant Supervisors ... at..... 27	216	216
<u>87</u>	<u>6,555</u>	

might be distributed over the 87 ranges; but if the establishments of three 3rd class and two 4th class Executives and of four Sub-Engineers are retrenched 15 Assistants must be added to make up the same amount as thus:

10 3rd class Executives ... at.....150	1,500
15 4th class Executives ... at.....104	1,560
36 Assistants at..... 69	2,484
12 Sub-Engineers at..... 53	636
14 Supervisors and Assistant Supervisors at..... 27	378
<u>87</u>	<u>6,558</u>

7. From this it appears that if the establishments of the special Officers are to be retained, the establishments of no less than 15 additional permanent Assistants would be required to make up the least amount sufficient for division among the ranges.

8. This would be a very expensive way of meeting the difficulty; and though additional Officers would be extremely useful, it appears to me that under present circumstances it would be better to augment the allowances for establishments in one of the ways which I have suggested, that is by specially charging the excepted establishments; or by at once drawing up an adequate scale for the ranges.

9. It is possible that some of the special employments might be discontinued at once, but I cannot speak certainly on this point without particular enquiries. Others will lapse in time; but as long as they hold good they are an effectual hinderance to the proposed arrangements for the executive ranges.

10. The establishments of the Officers and others holding such employments may also possibly be reduced in strength; and if this is done there will be so much the less additional charge to be provided for; but I defer reporting upon these details till the Government have approved of a definite plan of procedure.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
from 11th to 17th June 1859.*

11. I must add that I am unable to say with certainty that the amount of Rupees 6,555 would be sufficient for our purpose, as I cannot determine, till the whole information as to the revenue and expenditure of the ranges is before me, how many of each class of establishments will be required. Even the number of ranges is not clearly ascertained; for I find that the District Engineers of Kurnool and Trichinopoly report 4 and 3 ranges respectively, while the numbers in our list are 3 and 4. Unless we are right or wrong in both cases the whole number will thus be altered.

12. It has been proposed in the Office to meet the difficulty of providing an adequate establishment for each range by doubling or even trebling ranges under the charge of the higher Officers; but I cannot say that I at all approve of this plan, for nothing in my judgment is of more importance than the limitation of the territorial extent of the charges high or low.

ORDER THEREON, 16th June 1859, No. 1479.

No. 79.

The Chief Engineer solicits orders on certain points connected with the preparation of a scale of office establishments for the Executive ranges in the Districts. The order of the 11th Instant, No. 1445 meets the case on the main question; but some minor points are raised on which it is desirable to pass orders.

2. The Chief Engineer will prepare and submit a scale of Executive establishments on the basis prescribed in the order above referred to; but in doing so he will state what portions of the funds included in that basis are not available for the purpose.

3. As respects the mode in which such deficiency may be made good, the Government do not approve of Colonel Bell's first proposal, because the question of efficient establishments for the ranges and that of the proper number of Officers in the Department, are distinct the one from the other. They do not approve of his second plan, because it would be irregular and a virtual evasion of orders. But the Governor in Council would suggest for early and careful consideration to Colonel Bell whether the efficiency of the Department might not be improved by reducing the salaries in certain ranks and augmenting the numbers. Such a measure would, of course, not be allowed to affect actual incumbents.

4. Adverting to paras. 9 and 10, the Governor in Council would wish the Chief Engineer to consider carefully whether reductions may not be effected in the two modes there referred to.

5. The Governor in Council quite agrees with Colonel Bell in condemning the plan of clubbing up two or more ranges, as a measure of economy.

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

1458

Central Office of H.
Fort Saint George
10th June 1859.

From
The Chief Engineer

To,
The Secretary
to Government D. S. L.

Dear Sir,

When I assumed charge of my office, a mass of papers on the subject of the Executive Ranges was laid before me; and I was informed that as soon as the particulars of Revenue and Public Works Expenditure for the Ranges should be supplied, the required report might be made without loss of time. Having many special subjects to attend to I did not then examine the papers more than sufficiently to give me a general knowledge of the subject. But when, after repeated calls upon the provincial Officers, it appeared that the information as to Revenue and Expenditure would be soon complete I went carefully through the whole (or correspondence) and other documents. The result is that I find myself incapable of recommending any scheme for approval, without first procuring instructions from Government on certain points.

Yours

1st The Assistants who have been employed in dividing up various Schemes have evidently been in doubt what aggregate amount of present establishment is available for distribution to the Executive Ranges, namely whether the Establishments of the Supernumerary and Retentionary Assistants who are extra to the first number of 21 are to be included in the available amount or not. I considered this question to be decided by the Order of Government of the 30th April 1859, and accordingly

succeeded to draw up a distribution scale for the amount of the Permanent Establishment only. But,

2nd This amount I found to be barely sufficient to provide each Range with a working establishment on a very moderate scale of numbers and payment; and even this I have since discovered, is not available, as it has been overlooked that the Establishments of-

3 1st Class Executive Engineers at Juckabullee, in the East Coast Canal and at the Dindigul workshop.

2 1st Class Executive Engineers at Juckabullee and at the Dowlaiswaram workshop.

11 Sub Engineers at the Presidency and the Dowlaiswaram arsenal, and attached to the Collection of Coimbatore.

are not available for distribution to the Ranges.

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2. It is impossible to distribute the aggregate amount, if that of the Establishments of these Officers; for such a reduction would defeat the object in view, by rendering the new Establishments entirely inefficient. Such indeed was the view of the three Superintending Engineers recorded in a joint Memorandum, as to the proposed new establishments, without the reduction which the reduction of the Officers and Sub Engineers above mentioned proves to be necessary.

3. If the number of permanent Assistants were increased as suggested in the Order of the 30th of April above quoted, a greater amount would be available for distribution to the Ranges; but as this cannot be done without the sanction of the Government of India, I do not see how a scheme for the Ranges can be arranged until that sanction is obtained. If the whole subject of augmentation and distribution were submitted at one view, the scheme would be nullified by a refusal, which cannot be considered improbable, of any augmentation; and the only alternative seems to be that the accepted Establishments shall be charged to the

works on which they are employed as civilians.

Establishments

of Executive Engineers

at Juchatalia

to Estimate for Dams

Executive Engineer

Cost Canal

to Canal Revenue

Executive Engineer

Establishments

at Juchatalia

to works of the Division

Sub Engineer

at the Presidency

to works at the Presidency

Sub Engineer

at Juchatalia

to estimate of the

Sub Engineer

attached to the

of the Division

To provision for the cost of
in this case, and for the cost
for private surveys.

4. This plan would be the most economical,
because an increase of Assistants would be an increase
of charges for their salaries as well as for their establishments.

but should the Government be unwilling to sanction
arrangement I shall be prepared, on receiving instructions
to draw up a scale for the Ranges either on the plan
of increase of permanent Officers, or on that of an increase
of the aggregate cost of the Establishments, the efficiency
of each Range Establishment being the essential object
at in either plan. I am precluded by para 7 of the Order
of the 8th of February (N^o 330) from now proposing
any scheme which involves an increase of charge.

5. The first plan would be eventually the
most expensive if all the Supernumeraries were also
because there would then be an additional number of
permanent Officers: the second would be the most
with reference to the present charges for permanent and
Supernumerary Officers, because the Supernumerary
Establishments must still be retained, as long as there
are Supernumerary Officers, who, being in course of
absorption, cannot be allotted to the Ranges.

6. The following scales will
illustrate my remarks. I mention
that Rupees 6,555 derived as
follows.

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13	3 rd Class Executives	at 130	1,930
17	5 th Class Executives	at 104	1,768
21	Assistants	at 69	1,449
16	Sub Engineers	at 53	848
12	Supervisors	at 27	324
8	Assistant Supervisors	at 27	216
<u>87</u>			<u>5,535</u>

might be distributed over the 87 Ranges, but if the Establishment of 3. 3rd Class and 2 4th Class Executives and if 4 Sub Engineers are retrenched 15 Assistants must be added to make up the same amount, as thus

10	3 rd Class Executives	at 130	1,300
15	4 th Class Executives	at 104	1,560
36	Assistants	at 69	2,484
12	Sub Engineers	at 53	636
4	Supervisors and		
	Assistant Supervisors	at 27	270
<u>87</u>			<u>6,250</u>

7. From this it appears that if the Establishments of the Special Officers are to be retained, the Establishments of no less than 15 additional permanent Assistants would be required to make up the least amount sufficient

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sufficient for division among the Ranges. —

8. This would be a very expensive way of meeting the difficulty, and though additional Officers would be extremely useful, it appears to me that under present circumstances it would be better to augment the allowances for Establishments in one of the ways which I have suggested, that is by specially charging the excepted Establishments, or by at once drawing up an adequate scale for the Ranges. —

9. It is possible that some of the special employments might be discontinued at once, but I cannot speak certainly on this point without particular enquiries. Others will lapse in time, but as long as they hold good they are an effectual hindrance to the proposed arrangements for the Executive Ranges —

10. The Establishments of the Officers and others holding such employments may also possibly be reduced in strength, and if this is done there will be so much the less additional charge to be provided for, but I defer reporting upon these details

details till the Government have approved of a definite plan of procedure. —

11. I must add that I am unable to say with certainty that the amount of Rupees 6555 would be sufficient for our purpose, as I cannot determine till the whole information as to the revenue and expenditure of the Ranges is before me, how many of each class of Establishments will be required. Even the number of Ranges is not clearly ascertained; for I find that the District Engineer is of Murreel and Tuckinopoly respectively 4 and 3 Ranges respectively, while the numbers in our list are 3 and 4. Unless we are right or wrong in both cases the whole number will thus be altered.

12. It has been proposed in the office to meet the difficulty of providing an adequate Establishment for each Range by dividing or subdividing Ranges under the charge of the higher Officers; but I cannot say that I at all approve of this plan, for nothing in my judgment is of more importance than the limitation of the territorial extent of the charges

changes high or low. —

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Central Office of P.W.
Fort Saint George
June 1839.

B. L. G. a. a.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient Servant
A. L. G. a. a. a.
Chief Engineer

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P.W. Dept.

N^o 1479

Proceedings of the Madras Government
Under date the 16th June 1859

Read the following
letter from the Chief
Engineer

(Here enter 10th June 1859)
c. 1458.

The Chief Engineer
solicits orders on certain
points connected with
the preparation of a scale
of office establishments
for the Executive ranges
in the Districts. The
order of the 11th instant,
no 1445, meets the case
on the main question, but
some

[Signature]

[Handwritten notes]
H. J. Bell
1859

China Creek (1859)
1859

1859-1860
1859

1859-1860
1859

1859-1860
1859

1859-1860
1859

1859-1860
1859

some minor points are raised on which it is desirable to pass orders.

2 The Chief Engineer will prepare and submit a scale of Executive establishments on the basis prescribed in the order above referred to; but in doing so he will state what portions of the funds included in that basis are not available for the purpose.

3 As respects the mode in which such deficiency may be made good, the Government do not approve of Colonel Bell's first proposal, because the question of efficient establishments for the ranges and that of the proper number of officers

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in the department, are distinct the one from the other. They do not approve of his second plan, because it would be irregular and ^{virtual} ~~an~~ evasion of orders. But the Governor in Council would suggest for early and careful consideration to Colonel Bell whether the efficiency of the department might not be improved by reducing the salaries in ^{certain ranks or augmenting the number,} Such a measure would, of course, not be allowed to affect actual incumbents.

4, Adverting to paras 9 and 10, the Governor in Council would wish the Chief Engineer to consider carefully whether reductions may not be effected in the two modes there referred

referred to.

5 The Governor in
Council quite agrees
with Colonel Bell
in condemning the plan
of clubbing ^{up} two or more
ranges, as a measure
of economy.

JA

10 Copies to the Chief Surg.
Dispt. 17

Quina-itter Aug 2
Humber 1839 (1820) 8.

Public Works of 1859
Humber 1839 (1820) 8.

1839 1840

1839 1840
Humber 1839 (1820) 8.

From the 1839 1840
Humber 1839 (1820) 8.

De Long orders and
certain points connected
with the regulations of a
state of 1839 1840
for the 1839 1840
the District.

1839 1840