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*cf***MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.****Government of Madras.***Public Works* **DEPARTMENT.***Cons. 20-5-1860*

G.O. No.	<i>1051</i>	Press Mis.
<i>109-10</i>		
Dated	<i>17-5-1860</i>	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
for the month of May 1860.*

No. 109. Read the following letter from Colonel J. H. BELL, Chief Engineer, to J. D. BOURDILLON, Esq., Secretary to Government, dated Chepauk, 9th May 1860, No. 265:—

I have the honor to forward the accompanying letter and enclosure, the latter addressed to yourself from Mrs. Sophia Wilkins, widow of the late Assistant Overseer Thomas Wilkins, praying for a Pension for herself and children.

Dated 27th March 1860.

2. The late Mr. Wilkins belonged to the Corps of Carnatic Ordnance Artificers, and his services were transferred in January 1852 to the Public Works Department as an Assistant Overseer, in which he remained until his death on the 3rd August 1856. His services in this Department consequently extended over a little more than four years, while in the Ordnance

See Extract Minutes of Consultation, dated 14th January 1860, No. 13.

Letter from the Acting Civil Engineer, 8th Division, dated 4th August 1856, No. 124.

Department it is reckoned at thirteen years and seven months. It further appears he was admitted as a pupil in January 1838, and was in November 1841 posted to the Corps of the Carnatic Ordnance Artificers, that he remained in the Gun Carriage Manufactory till January 1844, when he was ordered to join the

Arsenal at Masulipatam. That in 1847 he was ordered to Nagpore, whence in 1849 he was sent to Saugor to do duty in the Arsenal there, where he remained till he was posted to this Department. The late Mr. Wilkins from the time he was transferred to this Department was employed

* See letter, dated 4th August 1856, No. 124.

on the Trunk Cotton Roads in Tinnevely, and it is reported* as to his character and qualifications that Captain Paxton, the Executive Officer spoke frequently of them to the Civil Engineer in terms of the highest commendation. He was also well known to Major Horsley, when

Civil Engineer, 8th Division, who had a good opinion of him.

3. Mrs. Wilkins claims a Pension in virtue of her late husband's long and faithful services, and on the ground that she is a cripple and incapable of earning a livelihood for herself and children. It is understood that two of her boys have been admitted as Orphans in the Military Male Asylum.

4. In consideration of the late Mr. Wilkins' services extending over a period of eighteen

† Mrs. Lincoln, Extract Minutes Consultation, 12th May 1826, No. 295.
Mrs. Claridge, do. 29th June 1836, No. 803.
Mrs. Oliver, do. 29th Jany. 1859, No. 269.

years and the favorable mention made by Officers who were acquainted with him, and the peculiar and helpless condition of the widow and the destitute state of the family, I beg to recommend that a Pension of Rupees fifteen per mensem may be granted to Mrs. Wilkins as has been done in similar cases noted in the margin.†

No. 110. ORDER THEREON, 17th May 1860, No. 1,031.

Mrs. Wilkins is not entitled to a Pension by the Rules: and the Government find nothing in her case of so exceptional a nature as to justify them in recommending that a special Pension should be given to her.

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

Madras 27th March 1860
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To

The Secretary to Government
Public Works Department
Fort St. George

Sir

I beg most respectfully to bring to
your Hon^d notice that my late Husband
Thomas Wilkins was admitted in the Corps of
Artificers in January 1838 as a Pupil, and
afterwards transferred in November 1841 to the
Corps of Carnatic Ordnance Artificers in the
Gun, Carriage & Manufactory where he continued
doing duty up to January 1844 during which
period he has given Colonel Mailland Com-
mandant of his Corps every satisfaction - In
January 1844 he was ordered by the said Com-
mandant to go and join the Arsenal at
Masulipatam where he was placed under the
orders of Major H. S. Ford, and afterwards
under Captain G. W. Y. Simpson his successor -
that my late Husband has given entire satis-
faction both to Major Ford as well as
Captain Simpson - In 1847 my late Husband
was ordered off to Nagpore to place himself under
the orders of Major W. H. Miller my Husband
has given satisfaction to that Officer also - In 1849
he

he was put in orders to join the Rangoon Arsenal
 and to do duty in that Arsenal, he accordingly pro-
 ceeded to that station and remained there till
 January 1852 - In January 1852 he was transferred
 from the Ordnance to the Public Works Department
 and posted to the Tinnevely District under the
 orders of Captains Micklethorp, Paxton, Hasted,
 Roberts and Major Stovely and gave them also
 every satisfaction and won a character from
 each of those Officers - That my husband died
 in Calamcottah on the 3^d August 1856 leaving
 behind him a widow and four Children viz two
 Boys and two Girls - Since his death I have been
 left quite in a destitute state in the wide world
 myself and Children suffering much distress and
 inconvenience from want of proper food and
 raiment; at the same time I beg to inform you
 that in consequence of my being a Cripple from
 deformity in my legs and defective sight I am
 totally unable to earn a livelihood for myself.
 Under these trying circumstances I trust that
 you will be graciously pleased to submit my
 deplorable case to Government and obtain a small
 pension from them as a special case for the
 faithful and energetic services rendered to Govern-
 ment by my husband for a period of 18 years and
 one month - I further beg to mention that my
 husband's exertions during his connection with the
 Public Works Department as Assistant Overseer
 has mainly contributed to his untimely end as the
 work in the jungles had thrown him into Consumption.
 I beg further to refer you to Major Stovely Deputy
 Chief Engineer Department Public Works one of
 my late husband's Employers who is at present in
 Madras who will bear out all what I have

Said

said concerning my late husband's exertions in
 that Department as for the other Officers who are
 not at present in Madras a reference also to them
 will add to the testimony of my late husband's
 services - The total period of services both in the
 Ordnance and Public Works Departments is as
 follows viz

	Yrs	Mos	Days
Served in the Gun Carr: Madras as a Pupil	2	10	"
" as Carnatic Ordnance Artificer	10	9	"
" in the P.W. Department as Asst. Overseer	4	6	"
<u>Total Years</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>"</u>

Under all these circumstances I beg that
 you will be good enough to represent to Government
 that I am undergoing hardships and much distress
 and that I am unable to endure my trials any longer
 therefore I have pity on me and my Children -
 He who is the Father of the Fatherless and the Saviour
 of the Widows will abundantly reward you

I beg also to enclose two Books called
 "Tommy Atkins" regarding my late husband's cha-
 racter and conduct during his connection in the
 Ordnance Department for the perusal of
 Government.

I beg leave to remain

Sir

Your most Obedient Servant

Sophia Wilkins

Central Office D.W.
Chepauk 9th May 1860

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From:
The Chief Engineer
To
The Secretary to Government
D.W.D.

Sir.

I have the honor to forward the accompanying letter and enclosure, the latter addressed to yourself from Mrs Sophia Wilkins widow of the late Assistant Overseer Thomas Wilkins, praying for a pension for herself and children. The late Mr. Wilkins belonged to the Corps of Carnatic Ordnance Artificers, and his services were transferred in January 1852 to the Public Works Department as an Assistant Overseer, in which he remained until his death on the 3rd August 1856. His services in this Department consequently extended over a little more than four years

Encl. 4
Dated 27th March 1860.

20 June 19 May 1860 No 285

From
M. J. P. Wilkins
Secretary to Government
Public Works Department
Chepauk

Dated 27th March 1860

J. W. D.
in D. W. D.

Regarding the small pension may be granted for a special case on account of the late Mr. Wilkins's faithful and long services to Government both in the Ordnance and Public Works Departments.

while in the Ordnance Department
it is reckoned at 13 years and 7 months.
It further appears he was admitted as a
Pupil in January 1838, and was in
November 1841 posted to the Corps of
the Carnatic Ordnance Artificers,
that he remained in the Gun Carriage
Manufactory till January 1844, when
he was ordered to join the Arsenal at
Madrass, that in 1847 he was or-
dered to Nagpore whence in 1849 he
was sent to Secunderabad to do duty in the
Arsenal there, where he remained till
he was posted to this Department -
The late Mr. Wilkins from the time
he was transferred to this Department
was employed on the Pambour Cotton
Roads in Sinnerelly, and it is reported
as to his character and qualifications
that Captain Docton the Executive
Officer spoke frequently of them to
the Civil Engineer in terms of the highest
commendation. He was also well
known to Major Forsley when
Civil Engineer 8th Division, who
had

*See Letter dated
4th Aug 1860. N. 124*

99
had a good opinion of him.

3 Mrs. Wilkins claims a
pension in virtue of her late
husband's long and faithful services
and on the ground that she is a
cripple and incapable of earning
a livelihood for herself and
children - It is understood that
two of her Boys have been admitted
as Orphans in the Military Male
Orphanage.

4 In consideration of the
late Mr. Wilkins' services extending
over a period of 18 years and the fa-
vorable mention made by Officers
who were acquainted with him -
and the peculiar and helpless
condition of the widow and the
destitute state of the family -
I beg to recommend that a Pension
of Rupees Fifteen per mensem
may be granted to Mrs. Wilkins

as

as has been done in similar cases
noted in the margin -

Mr Lincoln - E. M. C.
12 May 1862 - No 295
Mr Claxton - Dec 29
June 1866 - No 803
Mr Oliver - Dec 29 1867
1859 - No 269 -

Chepach
9 May 1860

I have the honor to be
Sir,

Your most obedient Servant

A. Bell Colonel
Chief Engineer

To
The Secretary
to Government D. A. S.

4th May

Sept 1860 Dec 11
Nov 29 - 20 Eliot
" 16 1856

Thom,

John Reid (Engineer)

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My Dearest Love
 Edw'd.

Del'd 9^{1/2}
Rec'd 10
May 1/60

Ms. A. 9. 2. 5
Enc. 4

Some and a petition
 from Mrs Sophia Wilkins
 better address of her day
 to Govt. D. Did you know:
 much a friend of -
 Feb-15 from museum many
 be granted to her -

W. H. and B. Dr.
No. 1031. 17th Aug.

Sept. 1081.
Your letter is not an-
-swered - Is a pleasure to the

Notes: sent

Order: and
The Government
nothing in the case of
as expedient or suitable
and to justify them in
believing that a
series of action should
be given to ~~the~~ the

Thos. W. Gordon
172 May 160



10 Copies. Prof. Engemann to the Secy. Aug. 18.