

(1) Number of pages 6

(2) Date of repair

(3) Initials of the Referencer

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works **DEPARTMENT.**

Despatches to England.

Depy. G.O. No.	<u>2</u>	Press Mis.
Dated	<u>12-1-</u>	<u>1860.</u>

Not to be folded or roughly handled

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

PUBLIC.

No. 2 of 1860.

TO

THE RIGHT HONORABLE THE SECRETARY

OF STATE FOR INDIA.

RIGHT HONORABLE SIR,

1. On the 14th September 1859, we reported to the Government of India certain changes which we had deemed it expedient to introduce in the Public Works Department of this Presidency, as reported to you in our despatch of the 1st November 1859 No. 58. The changes were the following—

I. Abolishing the grade of 1st class District Engineers on Rupees 700 Staff salary, and giving all District Engineers (with three exceptions) only Rupees 600 a month staff salary.

II. Abolishing the grade of 3rd class Executive Engineers on Rupees 400 Staff salary, and giving all Executive Engineers Rupees 300 Staff salary only; these officers to be called Assistant District Engineers.

III. Applying the saving of Rupees 2,000 a month so made in part to the augmentation of the Staff salaries of the Deputy Chief (or Superintending) Engineers from Rupees 800 to 1,000 a month; and the remainder to increasing the number of the lower Executive grades.

IV. Making the establishment of Executives in the Public Works Department one by districts instead of having a general classified list as in Bengal. Each district to have—

1 District Engineer on.....	Rupees 600 Staff salary.
1 or more 1st Assistant Engineers on.....	„ 300 „ „
1 or more 2nd „ „ on.....	„ 150 „ „
or Probationary Assistants on.....	„ 100 „ „

2. Of these changes we gave immediate effect to the first, second, fourth, and part of the third, reserving only the interests of existing incumbents as respects the first and second; but we considered it proper, with reference to former correspondence, to apply for the sanction of the Government of India to the plan of raising the salary of the Deputy Chief Engineers. In making this recommendation we stated our strong conviction of the necessity and justice of the proposed augmentation; we gave reasons for our opinion that the change need not of necessity involve a similar change in other parts of India, and we pointed out that the reductions to be effected in other appointments would enable us to give the proposed increase without any augmentation of the total cost of the public works establishment.

3. We have now received a reply of which we enclose a copy for your information. The Government of India review our letter in detail, and finally refer the question of the salaries of the Deputy Chief Engineers for your orders, with what we must regard as an unfavorable expression of their own opinion. Our object in now addressing you is to solicit your careful consideration of the reasons adduced in our letter of the 14th September* for advocating the increase in question. The Deputy Chief Engineers are officers of long standing and service, who have distinguished themselves in the provinces, and who are called to the Presidency for the performance of important duties of control. We consider it of great consequence that they should be sufficiently well paid to render the position an object of ambition to all District Engineers, so that the Government may always be able to select the fittest men; and this is not the case at present. We desire to point out, also, that this Government has uniformly regarded 1,000 Ru-

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* Paragraphs 5 to 7.

pees a month as the proper salary of the Deputy Chief Engineer; and we cannot but feel it to be a hardship that deserving officers should be kept out of emoluments which those in the best position for judging of their deserts, regard as their due. With these few remarks we beg to commend the subject to your favorable consideration.

4. We have to observe lastly that we are not conscious of having rendered ourselves justly liable to the charge conveyed in the latter part of the sixth paragraph of the letter from Calcutta. Nor is any reason apparent to us, either for introducing that charge or for the tone which distinguishes the whole paragraph.

We have the honor to be,

Right Honorable Sir,

Your most obedient humble Servants,

Fort Saint George, }
12th Jan. 1860. }

FORT SAINT GEORGE
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Letter to the Right Honorable
the Secretary of State for India,
Dated 12th January,
No. 2 of 1860.

Forwarding reply from the Government of India to
a reference made to them relative to certain changes
in the public works establishment of this Presidency
and recommending that the salary of the Deputy Chief
Engineers may be raised as proposed.

To

No. 2 of 1860.

P. W. D.
3

The Right Honorable
The Secretary of State for India

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Proceedings² January 1860
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graph of the letter from
Calcutta. Nor is any rea-
son apparent to us, either
for introducing that charge
or for the ~~captious~~ tone
which distinguishes the
whole paragraph.

J. H.

Sweet Will

- It would be more dig-
nified, I think, to omit
the word "captious" &
leave the Secretary of State
to find an epithet for the
tone exhibited in the
Capt. Dickson's letter.

The
Fort St George
12th January 1860

I.W.D.
By the Secy. Genl.
N^o 2

Letter to the Right Honble
The Secretary of State
for India
Dated 12 January 1860

Origl. fr Steamer Colombo & Mauritius
14 Jan 1860
Dup: 3 D 28 Jan 1860 V.G.

Copied to Govt of India 17 Jan 60

Please in remark
in the last para
Forwarding reply from
the Govt of India to a reference
made to them relative to
certain changes in the Public
Works Establishment of this
Presidency & recommending that
the salary of the Dy. Chief Engrs
may be raised as proposed.

Replied - 28 dated
29 March 60.

26th Jan 1860 R.H.