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M.R.O. 1—77,000—8-6-37.

(1) Number of pages 6

(2) Date of repair 13-5-62

(3) Initials of the Referencer

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	16	Press / Mis.
29-30		
Dated	16-1-1862.	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 16th Jannary 1862.

No. 29. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Military Department, dated 7th January 1862, No. 26:—

Approving the course proposed by the Provincial Commander-in-Chief respecting the employment of the European Military Students admitted into the Civil Engineering College, but who are unable to pass the standard of examination laid down for the grade of Assistant Overseer.

(Vide Military Proceedings, 7th January 1862, No. 39 @ 41.)

No. 30. ORDER THEREON, 16th January 1862, No. 16.

Communicated to the Deputy Chief Engineers Northern, Southern and Central Circles with reference to the Proceedings of Government, No. 2,195, dated 28th November 1861.

(Signed) W. H. HORSLEY, Lieut.-Colonel,
Chief Engr. and Secy. to Govt., D.P.W.

MILITARY DEPARTMENT.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following papers :—

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Educational Department.

Read the following letter from the Director of Public Instruction, Coonoor, 26th October 1861, *No.* 2084 ; *to the Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George.*

The Principal of the Civil Engineering College has brought to my notice that several of the European Military Students admitted into the College will be unable to pass the standard laid down for the grade of Assistant Overseer, and that a recent Rule to the effect that the Military Pay of a Soldier employed as a Sub-Overseer shall be merged in his Civil salary, precludes their appointment to the latter grade ; the salary attached to it, Rupees 40, being "insufficient for a European with a marching appointment to live on in respectability." He accordingly recommends that orders may be issued for the appointment of such men, provided their characters are good, to the situations of Barrack Serjeant and Road Serjeant as vacancies occur, in preference to men who have not attended the College.

2. It appeared to me, when I received this recommendation, that, under the circumstances of the case, the course suggested by the Principal might, with propriety, be followed in regard to deserving Students now in the College who are not likely to qualify as Assistant Overseers, but that it was not desirable, or necessary, that the Civil Engineering College should be made permanently a place of education for Departments for which the instruction imparted in it is not really required, and that if European Students cannot be appointed Sub-Overseers, the test for admission in this case should be so regulated as to exclude any man who might not reasonably be expected to pass for the grade of Assistant Overseer within a period of two years.

3. The Deputy Chief Engineer in charge of the Central Office of Public Works, to whom I made a reference on the subject, was of opinion that the standard for admission could not be revised, and was doubtful whether a higher entrance test would remove the difficulty. "Some few men," he observed, "would be capable of passing a much higher entrance examination, but "that might be, and probably would be, the result of superior early education, and they might "still be unable to grasp the higher subjects that form part of the course." He expressed his concurrence in the opinion of the Principal as to the expediency of giving a preference to Military Students of approved character from the Civil Engineering College for the situations of Barrack Serjeant and Road Serjeant.

4. On full consideration of the subject, I beg leave to support the Principal's recommendation, and to suggest that the attention of the Heads of the Departments in which Barrack Serjeants and Road Serjeants are employed be directed to the order of Government noted in the margin.* It is probable that however carefully the standard for admission to the College may be enforced, there will be some Students admitted who will prove unable to pass successfully through the prescribed course of instruction, but who would be well qualified for such situations as those to which the Principal refers. None of course should be selected but men of approved good character and fair natural intelligence.

* *Public Works Department, No.* 2492, *dated 24th October* 1859, *Paragraph* 5, *Clause* 3.

ORDER, No. 56, 19th November 1861.

Referred to the Military Department and to the Department of Public Works for consideration.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

Referred for the observations of the Provincial Commander-in-Chief.

20th November 1861.

Memorandum from the Adjutant General of the Army, Fort Saint George, 12th December 1861, *No.* 569.

The Provincial Commander-in-Chief has the honor to forward for submission to Government, the within Memorandum from the Quarter Master General, with reference to the letter from the Director of Public Instruction, communicated on the 20th November 1861.

7th December 1861, *No.* 1894.

2. Major General Budd thinks that the proper course to pursue in the case of the Military Students referred to, is to look upon them as eligible for appointment to Non-Commissioned Staff situations in the same manner as other European Soldiers are: and on their names being submitted to the Adjutant General of the Army in the usual Recommendation Roll in which their qualifications, &c., should be specified, their claims to preferment would be taken into consideration with those of other men, and their cases disposed of according to their respective merits.

———

Memorandum from the Quarter Master General of the Army, Fort Saint George, 7th December 1861, *No.* 1894*; to the Adjutant General of the Army.*

In reply to the Adjutant General's Memorandum, dated 25th ultimo, No. 2098, the Quarter Master General has the honor to state, that he has no objection to offer to the proposition made for appointing men who cannot pass the prescribed examination at the Engineering College, to the situation of Road and Barrack Serjeants under the proviso of their character being unexceptionable. The Quarter Master General would however observe, that there are situations in other Departments which could be found suitable for men of this class, and that it would not be advantageous that this Department should be alone expected to provide situations for them. To those other Departments, the order of Government quoted by the Director of Public Instruction, also refers. To all heads of Offices is given the privilege of recommending deserving Non-Commissioned Officers for promotion to the Staff, and it is therefore trusted that all may be equally looked to do so. There is nothing special in the duties of Barrack Serjeant, for which a man from the College would be more fit than any body else; and the duties of Road Serjeant of a Cantonment, though requiring some little special knowledge, are only such as any man may easily acquire a knowledge of, in a very short time.

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ORDER, No. 26, *7th January* 1862.

Ordered to be communicated to the Public Department, with reference to the order in the Educational Department, No. 56, dated 19th November 1861.

2. The Governor in Council approves of the course proposed by the Provincial Commander-in-Chief in paragraph 2 of the Memorandum from the Adjutant General, above recorded.

(True Extract.)

Deputy Secretary to Government.

To the Public Department.
„ Quarter Master General.
„ Adjutant General.
„ Controller of Military Finance.
„ Deputy Adjutant General H. M.'s British Forces.
„ Department Public Works. With 6 spare Copies

Exd. T. Stubbs.

pm 24th Oct. 1859 Nos 17 & 19
" 28th Nov. 1861 Nos 351-352

Pub: Works 1862 Dispatch
Pro: of Govt for January
No 9

Pro: of the Madras Govt
in the Military Dept

Dt January 1862 No 26

Approving the Course proposed by the Provincial Commander-in-Chief respecting the employment of the European Military Students admitted into the Civil Engineering College but who are unable to pass the Standard of Examination laid down for the grade of Assistant Overseer.

Witte an Order
No 16. 16th January.

No. 16.

Communicated to the Dy. Chief Engineers Northern, Southern and Central Circles with reference to the Proceedings of Government No. 2195 dated 28th Nov. 1861

Fort St. George
16th January 1862

Copy To The Deputy Chief Engr. No. Circle
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