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(2) Date of repair 16. 5. 42

(3) Initials of the Referencer

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 121 Press / Mis.

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Dated 4—2 18 42.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 4th February 1862.

No. 36. Read the following letter from Lieutenant-Colonel J. OUCHTERLONY, Acting Deputy Chief Engineer, Northern Circle, to Lieutenant-Colonel W. H. HORSLEY, Chief Engineer and Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Chepauk, 28th January 1862, No. 9,938 :—

SIR,

1. I have the honor, with reference to the enclosed letters* from the District Engineers of Nellore and the Godavery, to draw the attention of Government to the urgent demand which appears to be daily springing up for Officers to superintend Executive ranges in the provinces: not mere tyros who have, in a measure, almost every thing to learn relating to active duty in the Public Works Department, but men scientifically educated and possessed of a certain amount of practical professional attainment.

* 1 Letter from District Engineer Godavery, No. 706, dated 21st January 1862.
1 Copy of do. from District Engineer Nellore, No. 111, dated 22nd January 1862.

2. At this moment there are attached to the Head Quarters of the Sappers and Miners several young Officers of Engineers who are to my own knowledge—from having been for a time a Professor at the College at which they were educated—well fitted, in all essential respects, for active employment in the Department. All of them have, more or less recently, made a tour of inspection of the most important and interesting Civil Engineering works in progress in the United Kingdom, under the guidance and tutelage of an experienced Officer of the Royal Engineers, Captain Scott; and the practical knowledge they have thus acquired would naturally prove of the utmost value when applied, as is now so desirable, to the superintendence of operations in progress in this Presidency.

3. I hope I am not travelling beyond proper limits in earnestly recommending a relaxation of whatever rule may be in force which prevents these Officers from lending to the State the aid of which it at present stands so much in need, and which they are so well qualified to tender.

No. 37. ORDER THEREON, 4th February 1862, No. 121.

1. The Government in their Proceedings No. 73, dated 11th January 1861, ordered that young Engineer Officers on first arrival in India shall be attached for one year at least to the Sappers and Miners, and that no Officer shall be withdrawn from the Corps for employment in the Department of Public Works until he shall have passed the test prescribed in one of the Vernacular languages of this Presidency, and they see no reason for altering the decision then arrived at. A knowledge of the Vernacular is absolutely necessary for the efficient performance of the duties of Range Officer, whatever may be his professional attainments, and this can only be attained by careful study, for which there would not be time if the Officer were otherwise engaged. There are other considerations also which render it desirable that a young Engineer Officer should spend the first year of his residence in India at the Head Quarters of the Sappers and Miners.

2. With reference to the temporary vacancy in the Nellore District caused by the employment of Lieutenant Marshall, 1st Assistant District Engineer, on other duty, the Government observe that in the Official Gazette of the 28th instant, Mr. Biggers was appointed to officiate in his stead.

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

Central Office of P. W.
Chatham 28 January 1862.

No. 9938.

From Lt Colonel J. Crichton
Asst Chief Engineer
Northern Circle

to Lt Colonel W. H. Dursley
Chief Engineer & Secretary to Govt
&c &c

Public
Enc 2.

Sir,

I have the honor, with reference to the enclosed letter× from the District Engineer of Kellore & the Collectorate, to draw the attention of Govt to the urgent demand which appears to be daily springing up for Officers to superintend Executive Ranges in the Provinces: not mere tyros who have, in a measure, almost every thing to learn relating to active duty in the P. W. Dept, but men scientifically educated & possessed of a certain amount of practical professional attainment.

2 At this moment there are attached to the Head Quarters of the Sappers Miners several young Officers of Engineers who are to my own knowledge - from having been for a time a Professor at the College at which they were edu-cated - well fitted, in all essential respects, for

× No. 111 of 22 January/62
" 706 of 21 " "

active employment in the Dept. All of them have, more or less recently, made a tour of inspection of the most important and interesting Civil Engineering works in progress in the United Kingdom, under the guidance & tuitelage of an experienced Officer of the Royal Engineers, Capt. Scott; & the practical knowledge they have thus acquired would naturally prove of the utmost value when applied, as it now so desireable, to the superintendence of operations in progress in this Presidency.

3. I hope I am not travelling beyond proper limits in earnestly recommending a relaxation of whatever rule may be in force which prevents these Officers from lending to the State the aid of which it at present stands so much in need; & which they are so well qualified to render.

I have the honor to be

Sir,

Your most obed. Serv.

J. Auchterlony Lt. Col.

Ag. Dir. Ch. Engrs.

Central Office P.W.

Assam

28th January 1862.

11. Jany 61 Nos 147 - 148

No. 36 & 37.

year of his presidence is in India at the Head Quarters of the Sappers and Miners.

With reference to the temporary vacancy in the Nellore District caused by the employment of Lieut. Marshall, 1st Asst. Dist. Engr, on other duty, the Govt. observe that in the official Gazette of the 28th Instant Mr Biggers was appointed to officiate in his stead.

1 Copies 2994
of Govt. St. George 4th Feby 1862.
To The Chief Engr. Dup. 25.
13 X. 8.7. Chief Engr. N. Circle.

1862 Departt.
Pros. of Govt. for February
No. 225.

From
The acting Dy. Chief Engr.
N.C.
To The Chief Engr. & Secretary
to Government

Dated 28
Rec'd 29 January 1862

Enc. No. 2938

Forwards letter from the Dist. Engr. Nellore & Godavery regarding the want of Officers for Executive ranges & recommends that the young Officers at the Head-Quarter of N. Dn. may be availed of.—

With an order
No 121. - 4 Feb.

Ans

No. 121

The Government in their Proceedings No. 43 dated 11th January 1861 ordered that young Engineer Officers on first arrival in India shall be attached for one year at least to the Sappers and Miners, and that no Officer shall be withdrawn from the Corps for employment in the Department of Public Works until he shall have passed the test prescribed in one of the Vernacular languages of this Presidency, and they see no reason for altering the decision then arrived at. A knowledge of the Vernacular is absolutely necessary for the efficient performance of the duties of Range Officer, whatever may be his professional attainments, and this can only be attained by careful study for which there would not be time if the Officer were otherwise engaged. There are other considerations also which render it desirable that a young Engr Officer should spend the first year