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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1456	Press Mis.
(S) A-2	
Dated 8-6-	18 63.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
8th June 1863.*

No. 157. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Military Department, dated 28th May 1863, No. 1,740 :—

Communicating the concurrence of His Excellency the
Commander-in-Chief in the proposal that Officers of the
Royal Engineers who may have been employed in the
duties of the Corps for more than two years prior to their
arrival in India should attend the Civil Engineering College
instead of joining the Sappers and Miners. } *Vide Military Proceedings, 28th May 1863,
Nos. 551 @ 556.)*

No. 158. ORDER THEREON, 8th June 1863, No. 1,456.

Communicated to the Principal of the Civil Engineering College and to Lieutenant Bowen.

(Signed) W. I. BIRDWOOD, Colonel, R. E.,
Secretary to Government.

MILITARY DEPARTMENT.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following papers :—

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department.

Read the following letter from the Chief Engineer, Chepauk, 14th April 1863, No. 6511; to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department.

1. I have the honor to submit for the orders of Government the accompanying letter from Lieutenant C. Bowen of the Royal Engineers, requesting to be allowed to hold an Engineer appointment without proceeding to Dowlaish-

1 Letter dated 13th April 1863.

weram to qualify in one of the Native languages.

2. According to the orders contained in the Proceedings of Government, No. 73, dated 11th January 1861, all young Engineer Officers on first arrival in this country, are required to do duty at the Head Quarters of the Corps of Sappers and Miners for one year, with a view to acquiring a practical knowledge of their Military Engineering duties and to qualify for employment in the Public Works Department by passing an examination in one Native language. The enforcement of this rule in the case of such Officers is without doubt very desirable, but in the case of Lieutenant Bowen, who prior to his arrival in India, had considerable experience in his Military duties, I think that an exception should be made. The means available at the Presidency for learning in a short time a Native language is much greater than at an Out-station, and therefore although I am prohibited by the rules from recommending Lieutenant Bowen's immediate employment as an Executive Officer in the Public Works Department, yet I would request that he may be allowed to remain here and attend at the Civil Engineering College until he has passed the required Vernacular examination, and which he states he will be able to do within the prescribed period.

3. I would also recommend that in modification of the Orders of the 11th January 1861, No. 73, all Engineer Officers who may, like Lieutenant Bowen, have been for some time employed on the duties of their Corps for more than two years prior to their arrival in India should be directed to attend at the Civil Engineering College for the purpose of qualifying in a Native language.

4. While at the Presidency these Officers could from time to time inspect the various works in progress, and make themselves acquainted with the manner in which they are carried out.

From Lieutenant Charles Bowen, Royal Engineers, Madras, 13th April 1863; to Colonel Birdwood, Chief Engineer, Madras.

Having joined the Madras Presidency for duty, and understanding that it is usual for junior Officers of Royal Engineers to proceed on arrival to Dowlaishweram to do duty with the Corps of Sappers and Miners and to study the languages, I have the honor to request that you will submit for the favorable consideration of His Excellency the General Commanding-in-Chief, this my application for permission to hold an Engineer appointment without proceeding to the Station referred to. I beg to state that I have learned Engineer duties during four years Home service, and that I shall pass the required examination in one of the languages within the regulated period.

ORDER THEREON, 24th April 1863, No. 1011.

It appears to His Excellency the Governor in Council that there can be no objection to a compliance with the Chief Engineer's recommendation that young Engineer Officers who, like Lieutenant Bowen, have acquired a practical knowledge of their Military Engineering duties in England should, on first arrival, be permitted to attend the Civil Engineering College for the purpose of studying a Native language, instead of being attached to the Corps of Sappers and Miners; but as the order which it is now proposed to modify was originally passed in the

Public Works Proceedings, No. 73, dated 11th January 1861.

Military Department, at the instance of the Commander-in-Chief, the Chief Engineer's ap-

plication will, before being finally disposed of, be referred through that Department for the opinion of His Excellency, with reference to Military Proceedings No. 4194, dated 17th November 1860.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) W. L. BIRDWOOD, Colonel, R. E.,
Secretary to Government.

Referred to the Commander-in-Chief, (Adjutant General's Department,) with advice to Proceedings of Government, No. 4194, dated 17th November 1860.

29th April 1863.

From the Officer Commanding Royal Engineers, Madras, 1st May 1863, No. 123; to the Secretary to Government, Military Department, Fort Saint George.

With reference to G. O., dated 10th April 1863, I have the honor to submit for the favorable consideration of Government, the accompanying letter from Lieutenant C. Bowen, Royal Engineers, requesting that he may be granted the usual Sapper Allowance of Rupees 60 per month, during the time he may remain at the Presidency.

Enclosure.

1 Letter dated — April 1863.

2. Under paragraph 7, Section XI of the Pay and Audit Regulations, this allowance is payable to young Officers of the Engineers while undergoing the prescribed course of instruction, and it is, I believe, disbursed to all those now doing duty at Dowlaishweram. With regard to Lieutenant Bowen, it is proposed under the circumstances detailed in my letter embodied in the Proceedings of Government, No. 1011, dated 24th April 1863, Public Works Department, to retain him at the Presidency for the purpose of studying a Native language instead of attaching him to the Corps of Sappers and Miners, but he will nevertheless be charged with the expense of Books, &c., for his instruction, I therefore recommend that he be granted
10th April 1863. the Sapper Allowance of Rupees 60 per month from the date of his being placed under my orders, until he has been pronounced qualified in the Vernacular and has been appointed to the Public Works Department as an Executive Officer.

From Lieutenant Charles Bowen, Royal Engineers, Madras, — April 1863; to the Officer Commanding Royal Engineers.

Understanding that it has hitherto been usual to grant to Officers of the Royal Engineers, studying under your orders at the Presidency, a monthly allowance, called Sapper Allowance, to defray the current expenses of Books, Instruments, &c., &c., I have the honor to request that you will submit for favorable consideration, this my application to be granted the same allowance, from the date of my being placed under your orders, during my stay at Madras.

From the Officiating Adjutant General, Fort Saint George, 2nd May 1863, No. 355; to the Secretary to Government, Military Department.

I have the honor, by order of the Commander-in-Chief, to report for the information of Government, that His Excellency concurs in the views expressed by the late Chief Engineer in the letter referred to this Department, under date 29th April 1863; viz., that Officers of the Royal Engineers who may have been employed on the duties of their Corps for more than two years prior to arrival in India, should attend at the Civil Engineering College (instead of joining the Sappers) for the purpose of qualifying in a Native language,—at the same time visiting, under proper control, the various works in progress at the Presidency, and making themselves acquainted with the manner in which they are carried out.

With Report from the Controller of Military Finance, 9th May 1863, D.

ORDER, No. 1740, 28th May 1863.

Resolved that the concurrence of the Commander-in-Chief in the proposal "that Officers of the Royal Engineers who may have been employed in the duties of the Corps for more than two years prior to their arrival in India, should attend the Civil Engineering College instead of "joining the Sappers," be communicated to the Department Public Works.

2. The question of the allowances to be passed to Royal Engineer Officers while thus employed being a general one affecting Royal Engineer Officers serving in the three Presidencies, will be referred for the consideration and orders of the Government of India.

To the Offg. Secy. to the Govt. of India, Milg. Dept. | Here enter 28th May 1863, No. 1741.

(True Extract.)

Secretary to Government.

To the Public Works Department.

- „ Officer Comdg. Royal Engineers.
- „ Adjutant General.
- „ Controller of Military Finance.

[Faint handwritten notes and markings]

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Commenced the
Journal of the Civil Engineering
College and the South American

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1887
J. B. Spurdick of the United Engineering College
at South L. Devon. With some money charged
to the F. & G. Co. of Devon.

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