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# MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

*Public Works* DEPARTMENT.

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,  
24th June 1863.*

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No. 541. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Military Department, dated 16th June 1863, No. 1,937:—

Declining to sanction the re-appointment of a Road Serjeant to the Cantonment of Bellary, and observing that the statement of the Quarter Master General "that the conservancy Estimate does not include making any roads," appears to be at variance with paragraph 2 of G. O. G. No. 369 of 1860, so far as minor roads, bridges, drains, &c., are concerned. } (Vide Military Proceedings, 16th June 1863, Nos. 275 @ 277.)

No. 542. ORDER THEREON, 21st June 1863, No. 1,650.

Communicated to the Superintending Engineer 3rd Division.

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

MILITARY DEPARTMENT.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following papers :—

*From the Quarter Master General, Fort Saint George, 8th May 1863, No. 3805; to the Secretary to Government, Military Department.*

In Order of Government, Judicial Department, dated 31st March last, No. 504, in the last clause of paragraph 2, Government is pleased to declare "that the Judge's responsibility for the maintenance of the Cantonment roads (at Bellary) must cease."

2. The intention of this Order His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief believes to be, that the supervision and maintenance of all the roads in that Cantonment should again devolve upon the Military Authorities, and that the Public Works Department should provide for the repair and maintenance of the roads, the Conservancy allowance being devoted as before stated, to preserving cleanliness everywhere. The Conservancy Estimate submitted, did not include making any roads.

3. If this view of the intention of Government be correct, it becomes necessary that the appointment of a Road Serjeant should be again sanctioned. Such a functionary is provided for the Stations of Kamptee, Secunderabad and Trichinopoly, as it is impossible that the Deputy Assistant Quarter Master General can do the duty. The services of Convicts will no doubt be available, but that consideration would form part of the duty of the Public Works Department to see to.

4. The Officer Commanding Ceded Districts makes the following report on the provision of Convicts, to which His Excellency begs to draw the attention of Government.

"I take this opportunity of stating that the Judge at Bellary has recently intimated, that the Inspector General of Jails has issued orders against the employment of Convicts beyond a radius of two miles from the Jail, and has withdrawn them accordingly; and as the greater portion of the Cantonment roads hitherto kept in repair by the Convicts, are beyond this distance, it will be impossible to keep such roads in repair, unless the Government should be pleased to overrule this order. I am not aware of any inconvenience having arisen for their employment in any part of the Cantonment where their services were required: their employment has not been limited to the mere repair of the roads, but on "sanitary grounds," to the removal of vast quantities of Prickly Pear and other obnoxious vegetation so injurious to the health of the Troops, but much is still required to be done in this respect."

"Letter from the Session Judge withdrawing the Convicts, is herewith forwarded."

*From H. E. Sullivan, Esq., Acting Session Judge, Bellary, 6th April 1863, No. 276; to the Deputy Assistant Quarter Master General, Ceded Districts.*

I have the honor to inform you that the Cavalry Lines, where a gang of fifty Convicts are at present employed cutting Prickly Pears, being three miles from the Jail, I have directed the Prisoners to be withdrawn.

2. The Inspector General of Jails, prohibits Convicts being employed beyond the two mile radius from the Jail.

*With Report from the Controller of Military Finance, 5th June 1863, F.*

ORDER, No. 1937, 16th June 1863.

In the foregoing letter, the Quarter Master General applies for the re-appointment of a Road Serjeant to the Cantonment of Bellary, consequent on the altered circumstances connected with the charge of the roads at that Station, under the Order of Government marginally noted.

2. It not being however apparent that the supervision of a Road Serjeant is absolutely necessary, on the transfer of the maintenance of the roads at Bellary to the Department Public Works, which provides its own superintendence, the Governor in Council is not prepared to

sanction the appointment in question,—His Excellency seeing no sufficient reasons why the general supervision of the Cantonment roads should not be exercised by the Officer of the Quarter Master General's Department on the spot, with the means at his disposal.

3. Adverting to paragraph 2 of the Quarter Master General's letter, the Governor in Council observes that the statement "that the Conservancy Estimate does not include making any roads," appears to be at variance with paragraph 2 of G. O. G., No. 369 of 1860, so far as minor roads, bridges, drains, &c., are concerned.

4. Paragraph 4 of the same letter will be communicated to the Judicial Department, in view to its being considered whether any relaxation of the Rule, regarding the two mile radius from the Jail, may not be expedient in large Military Cantonments, where the Jails are not centrally situated.

(True Extract.)

*Hamilton Stet*  
Deputy Secretary to Government.

To the Quarter Master General.  
„ Public Works Department. *With 20 spare copies*  
„ Judicial Department.  
„ Controller of Military Finance.

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