

(1) Number of pages _____

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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 3069	Pres-
472-473	Mis.
Dated 25-10-	1864

Not to be folded or roughly handled

India Office
London 9th December 1864.

Public Works
No. 17.

To
His Excellency The Right Honble
The Governor General of India in Council

My Lord,

I hasten to reply to your Excellency's
Despatch No. 22 of 23rd September last, commenting
on the recent proceedings of the Madras Government
with respect to re-organization of their Public Works
Establishments. —

2. Those proceedings arose out of in-
structions conveyed by my despatch to Madras, of
9th April 1862, but it was far from the intention
of Her Majesty's Government, when prescribing as
was done in that Despatch, certain general principles
for observance, to limit the power, legitimately be-
-longing to the Government of India, of controlling
any arrangements which might be proposed by the
Government of Madras for giving effect to those
principles. Still less was it intended to prevent your

your Excellency's Government from interposing
in the event of a course being proposed differing
essentially from that which my despatch had
contemplated. It is obviously desirable, that the
system of Public Works Administration should
in its general features, be as nearly as practicable
uniform throughout the whole of India, but there can
be little hope of uniformity if large local changes
are suffered to be made, without reference to your
Government, I am however, unable to concur in the
views you have expressed in para 7 of your despatch,
regarding the disposal of points of detail in con-
nexion with measures of which the principles have
been decided; being of opinion that such details should
as far as possible be left to the unfettered management
of the local Governments, and that minute interference
in them is unnecessary, and should be avoided.

3. The report made to me by the Madras
Government of the steps taken by them on the receipt
of my despatch, has been for some time before me, but
I have not as yet made any communication in reply,
and I shall continue to abstain from doing so, until
you shall have fully discussed with them the
various points in their proceedings to which you
take

take exception.—

3 E

Have Agc.

[Signed] C. Wood.

gm

(Copy to be sent to the
23rd Nov 1864, No 81.

MS 569/1/64

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5 E

From
The Secretary to the Government of India
To
The Secretary to the Government
Fort Saint George.
Public Works Department.
Public Works Department
Simla 1st August 1864.

Establishment

Sir,

With reference to the correspondence
which terminated with Lieut. Col. Beadles
letter No. 5398 dated 29th December 1863, regarding
the reorganization of the Public Works Department
in the Madras Presidency, I am directed to com-
-municate the following observations and instructions.

2. In the letter above quoted, the
Governor General in Council resolves to suspend
the previous orders of the Governor General, which
required the reduction of the number and pay of
the Superintending Engineers, pending the receipt
of

of a reply from the Secretary of State, to whom the correspondence had been submitted. That reply has now been received; and I am directed to forward a copy for the information of His Excellency the Governor in Council. It will be observed that the Secretary of State gives no opinion on the specific measures introduced by the Madras Government, and leaves the matter open for farther discussion in this country.

3. It appears to the Governor General in Council, that as the new system has been in force now for a whole year, a more useful result will ensue from an appeal to the experience of the Madras Government as to its working, than to any abstract discussion of the relative merits of different systems of any organization. It is requested accordingly, that the Governor General in Council, may be favoured with the opinion of the Madras Government based on past experience.

4. I am however to request, the particular

#47 dated 9
1863.

particular attention of the Government of Madras to the following points.

5. The Executive Staff of Engineers consists of,

6 Executive Engineers 1st Class

11 — Ditto — 2nd — 8 —

8 — Ditto — 3rd — 8 —

25

6 Assistant Engineers 1st Class

8 — Ditto — 2nd — 8 —

8 — Ditto — 3rd — 8 —

22

6. The salaries do not differ from those in the Bengal Presidency, except in the case of the two lower grades of Assistant Engineers. But the proportions of Officers in the respective grades differs widely, as will be seen from the following figures applicable to 31 Officers on 300/ per mensem and upwards:

	Madras	Bengal
1 st Class Executive Engineers	6	4
2 nd — — — — —	11	6
3 rd — — — — —	8	7
4 th — — — — —	6	14
to Madras 1 st Class Assistants	31	31

Further

7. Further, under the Government of India there would be at least the same number of Assistants as Executive Engineers; but in Madras there are only sixteen Assistants of the lower grades; or about one half of the proportion given under the Government of India.

8. To superintend the Executive Staff, there are 8 Superintending Engineers, originally proposed to be on Rupees 200 per mensem Staff salary. The number of Officers in the Engineer Branch of the Department in the several Provinces are as follows;

	Chief Engineer		Super- intending Engineers	Total	Executives and Assistants	Proportion of Executives to Superintending Officers -
	1 st Class	2 nd Class				
Madras	1	"	8	9	49	5.2 to 1
Bombay	1	1	4	6	79	13.1 to 1
Bengal	1	"	5	6	68	11.3 to 1
N. W. Provinces	1	1	4	6	76	12.6 to 1
Punjab	1	"	5	6	71	11.8 to 1
Minor Provinces	"	4	4	8	90	11.2 to 1

9. The proportions of the higher grades are, in the opinion of the Governor General in Council

council; too high; and the Madras Govern-
ment should in reviewing the question endeavour to redistribute the classes; so as to bring their res-
pective strengths into some degree of conformity with the proportions observed in the Establishments under the Government of India. The exact pro-
portions of all grades are shortly to be reconsidered, and a further communication will be made to the Madras Government, when any decision has been adopted on this point -

10. It appears to the Governor General in Council that while the Madras Public Works Establishments are so organized as to give a far higher proportion of the superior grades, discontent is likely to be engendered in the minds of the Madras Officers serving under the Government of India; and there is likely to be an unwillingness on their part to be transferred to serve in Provinces under the Government of India; where the exigencies of the Public Service may often demand their transfer. The necessity for a certain uniformity in

in these respects is the more pressing, now that the Department is being gradually recruited from the amalgamated Corps of Royal Engineers -

11. It appears further, to the Government of India to be essential to a proper and efficient discharge of the functions of the Department, that a different apportionment of duties and responsibilities should be made between the Executive Engineers, and the subordinate grades - than would appear to be contemplated, or indeed to be practicable, under the system as now in operation. On this point the Government of Madras was addressed in para. 14 of my letter No. 2337 G. G. dated 25th September 1863. This appears to the Governor General in Council, as at present informed, the weakest point of the system.

Although the titles of Executive and Assistant Engineers are given to different grades of Officers, it is understood that there is no difference in kind between the nature of their duties. Each district is divided into ranges, so as to give 84

for

for the whole Presidency.

Of these

20 are managed by Executive Engineers

20 - - - - - Assistant Engineers

12 - - - - - Sub Engineers

32 - - - - - Supervisors

each of whom is immediately under the superintending Engineers. The difference therefore between the Executive, and the Assistant, or between either and a Sub Engineer or Supervisor, appears to be entirely in name and pay. It is probable that in practice, the ranges will be so arranged that the more important charges will be in the hands of the higher classes of Officers, but such a system must have this great disadvantage, that the junior officers, being put at once in independent charge of ranges, will not be in a position to profit by the instructions and advice of the experienced older officers, who will themselves be in charge of independent ranges. And moreover it does not seem probable that

that the ranges can be so arranged, that 32 of them shall really be charges requiring no higher heads than Supervisors.

12 While mentioning these points, the Governor General in Council desires me to say, that the Government of India is unwilling to press absolutely any alteration or modification of the internal organization of the Department in Madras, to which, on mature consideration and after actual experience of the working of the present system, the Government of Madras, continues to be opposed. But the Governor Genl. in Council feels confident that due weight will be given to the remarks of the Secretary of State in the Despatch now forwarded; to the effect, that it is desirable that the system of Public Works Administration should in its general features be as nearly as practicable uniform throughout the whole of India; and that the Madras Government will adopt or suggest such modifications of the present system, as are calculated

calculated to conduce to that end.

13 There are some questions of fact which are not clearly understood, relating to the cost of the Establishment -

14 The estimate of the expense of the old scale is Rs 16,60,540; and that of the new scale Rs 13,18,235. It is not understood, whether the sum of Rs 25,752. for the Secretary's office, which is charged to Civil Estimates, should be added to both estimates or to the smaller one only.

15 It is also understood, that the cost of the Establishment employed to replace the Lower Subordinates, is to be added to the lesser estimate.

16 The late Lower Subordinate Establishment is nominally dismissed; but it is believed, that it is proposed to charge its cost to works. The Government of India has frequently expressed its objection to this system.

17 The means by which the proposed reduction

reduction of Rs. 3,000 in contingencies is to be
effected, is not understood:-

18. The Governor General in Council
will be glad to have an explanation on these
points:-

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant -

W. H. C. R. R.

Secretary to the Govt of India

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I dare that the following
letters be deposited

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25. October 1884. 10

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Departure!
William Baker.

Submitted for the order
of His Excellency the Pres-
ident

Chapman
23 (2nd) St.

It seems to me that Gov. Orr
should be called upon to carefully note the
matter alluded to in his letter, and then
to submit to the Gov. a memorandum.
Giving entirely the results of his experience
of the working of the Slep. Co. during the past
year, but feel somewhat as may occur to
him on the subject of the fees or compensation
of the Slep. Co. may provide the Gov. in its reply
to the Gov. Genl. W.D.

J. Macaulay
Major 688

174 $\sigma_e = \sqrt{\sigma^2_{\text{error}}}$ (37/28)

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