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(2) Date of repair 22. 10. 42  
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## MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

**Government of Madras.**

*Public Works* **DEPARTMENT.**

|                |               |
|----------------|---------------|
| G.O. No. 34 38 | Press<br>Mis. |
| 66-11          |               |
| Dated 1 — 12 — | 1864.         |

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,  
1st December 1864.*

No. 10. Read the following letter from Captain F. J. MOBERLY, R. E., Superintending Engineer, 8th Division, to Colonel C. A. ORR, R. E., Secretary to Government, Department Public Works, dated Madura, 16th November 1864, No. 1,797 :—

SIR,

1. I have the honor to enclose, for the consideration of Government, a letter from Lieutenant Coningham, which appears to me objectionable in tone and language.

1 Letter from Lieutenant Coningham.  
1 Copy of Superintending Engineer's letter to Lieutenant Coningham.

2. It was written in reply to my request that he would supply me with estimates in detail and abstract separately, in forms given in C. O. Book, pages from 191 to 199, as if he sent them to me combined in one I could not carry out the order of Government desiring me to furnish only the abstract.

3. I requested Lieutenant Coningham to withdraw this letter, but he has declined to do so in a letter which I think still further shews a want of proper subordination.

From Lieutenant W. CONINGHAM, R. E., Assistant Executive Engineer, 2nd Range, to Captain F. J. MOBERLY, R. E., Superintending Engineer, 8th Division, dated Chinnamanoor, 9th November 1864, No. 168.

SIR,

1. I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 1,336, 12th October 1864, returning for the second time my letter No. 124 of 22nd September 1864, on the

• Enclosure 1.

grounds of its containing an order to yourself, and an unbecoming and improper expression of an opinion regarding an order of Government.

2. With reference to the order to yourself, I beg to state that I entirely differ from you; paragraph 3 of the letter is clearly not an order, but a request, in this paragraph "I request that you will frame some copies of estimates, for the information of my Overseers, as if this work is to be done by my Office, there will be delay, &c. &c.," I merely request you to have some work done in your Office, clearly leaving it at your option whether it is done or not; under these circumstances I cannot see how paragraph 3 is an order.

3. I also beg to inform you, that I do not consider that I am behaving in an improper or unbecoming way when I express an adverse opinion on any order of Government, provided that the opinion is expressed in suitable terms.

4. I have the honor therefore to return my letter, No. 124 of 22nd September 1864, and I also request that you will not return the letter again to me.

From Captain F. J. MOBERLY, R. E., Superintending Engineer, 8th Division, to the Officer in charge of 2nd Range, dated Madura, 16th November 1864, No. 1,336.

SIR,

1. In reply to your No. 139, 6th instant, I have the honor to observe that I must still adhere to my opinion as to the impropriety of your No. 124; without absolutely issuing an order I do not see how I could use any expression more forcible to my subordinates than you have to me in your paragraph 3.

2. I do not understand why your Overseers cannot copy the form of estimate from the C. O. book for themselves, my request for estimates, however rough, does not in my opinion authorize any departure from the form laid down, my object was to save you from the trouble of going into details which I should consider necessary were it supposed that the estimate was for the complete restoration of the road.

No. 124, to be returned.

Your expression of an opinion as to an order of Government seems to me unbecoming, and the language which you have used improper.

(True Copy.

(Signed) F. J. MOBERLY, Captain, R. E.,  
Superintending Engineer, 8th Division.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,  
1st December 1864.

No. 11. ORDER THEREON, 1st December 1864, No. 3,438.

1. The Superintending Engineer of the 8th Division has omitted to forward the letter to his address from Lieutenant Coningham, No. 124 of the 22nd September 1864, referred to in the letter above recorded, and which Captain Moberly considers objectionable; but the passage in that letter which is described as conveying an order, and is therefore characterized as insubordinate, is quoted in paragraph 2 of Lieutenant Coningham's letter of the 9th November 1864, No. 168, and the Government are glad to find that it seems to have been misunderstood by the Superintending Engineer. The Government are satisfied that no disrespect was intended to be shown to the Superintending Engineer by Lieutenant Coningham.

2. The Government have no objection to an Officer expressing an opinion on their orders, provided it be done in a proper and becoming manner.

(True Extract)

(Signed) CHARLES A. ORR, Colonel, R. E.,  
Secretary to Government.

To the Superintending Engineer, 8th Division.

Exd. T. O'Connor.

No. 1336. Sup<sup>r</sup> Engineer's Office 8<sup>th</sup> Div.  
Madura 16<sup>th</sup> November 1864  
From, The Superintending Engineer 8<sup>th</sup> Division  
To, The Officer in charge of 2<sup>nd</sup> Range  
Sir,

In reply to your No 139 6<sup>th</sup> instt, I have the honor to observe that I must still adhere to my opinion as to the impropriety of your No 124 - without absolutely issuing an order I do not see how I could use any expression more forcible to my subordinates than you have to me in your para 3.

2. I do not understand why your Overseers cannot copy the form of estimate from the G.O. book for themselves. - my request for estimates however rough, does not in my opinion authorize any departure from the form laid down. my object was to save you from the trouble of going into details which I should consider necessary were it supposed that the estimate was for the complete restoration of the road

No 124. to be returned.

Your expression of an opinion as to an order of Govt seems to me unbecoming & the language which you have used improper.

I have.  
(Signed) F. J. Moberly, Captain R.E.  
Superintending Engineer 8<sup>th</sup> Division

(True copy.)

A. Crosby Captain R.M.  
Superintending Engineer S. Division

No. 1797  
From.

Sup<sup>r</sup> Engineer's Office & Division  
Madura 16<sup>th</sup> November 1864.

To  
Captain F. J. Moberly R.E.  
Superintending Engineer & Division  
Colonel Charles A. Orr R.E.  
Secretary to Government. D.F.W.

Sir,

I have the honor to enclose for the consideration of Government a letter from Lieut<sup>t</sup> Coringham which appears to me objectionable in tone & language. 2. It was written in reply to my request that he would supply me with estimates in detail and abstract separately in forms given in G.O. book page from 191 to 199, as if he sent them to me combined in one I could not carry out the order of Government desiring me to furnish only the abstract. 3. I requested Lieut<sup>t</sup> Coringham to withdraw this letter but he has declined to do so in a letter in which I think still further shows a want of proper subordination.

I have &c.

F. J. Moberly  
Superintending Engineer & Division  
Captain R.E.

Public  
Enclo 2  
Letter from Lieut<sup>t</sup> Coringham  
Copy of 191 & 199  
Letter to Lieut<sup>t</sup> Coringham

Enclosure is a letter

from the Sup<sup>r</sup> Engineer

& Division dated 16<sup>th</sup>

Nov 1797.

29/11/64

Copy of a letter from  
the Sup<sup>r</sup> Engineer to the  
2<sup>d</sup> Range Officer Mysore

Pub: Works Dept

Proceedings of the Indian Government.

Under date the 1st Decr 1864

Read the following letter from the Superintendent

enclose for the consideration of Govt a letter from Lieut Cunningham which appears to him objectionable in tone and language

16th Nov/64 No 1797

The Superintendent Engineer of the 8th Div has omitted to forward the letter to his address from Lieutenant Cunningham.

No 124 of the 22nd Sept/64 referred to in the letter above recorded which Captain Moberly considers objectionable, but the passage in that letter which is described as containing an order, and is therefore

MR  
The  
JP

10.10.

no 3438-1078007/1864

27th 1864  
No 3438-1078007/1864  
The duplicate of the letter from  
Lieut Cunningham  
of the 8th Div  
is enclosed for the consideration  
of Govt  
Dated 16th November 1864  
Thurs 21  
C2  
1st Lt to the Prov.  
Enclosed for the consideration  
of Government a letter from  
Lieut Cunningham which  
appears to him objectionable  
in tone and language

therefore characteristically  
as inordinate is quoted  
in para 2 of Sentiment

Douingham's letter of the 9th Nov/64, No 168, and  
the Hosts are glad to find

that it seems to have been  
misunderstood by the

Superintendent Engineer,  
The Hosts are satisfied  
that no disrespect was  
intended to be shown  
to the Superintendent by  
Sight Douingham.

The Government  
have no objection to an  
Officer expressing an  
opinion on their orders,  
provided

provided it be done in  
a proper and becoming  
manner.

W. B.

Superintendent 8th Nov

Dec 2nd 1864

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