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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Publicworks. DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	3515	Press
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Dated	12-12-	1864.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
12th December 1864.*

No. 168. Read the following letter from Captain J. G. RYVES, R. E., Superintending Engineer, 1st Division, to Colonel C. A. ORR, R. E., Secretary to Government, Department Public Works, dated Waltair, 21st November 1864, No. 1,301 :—

SIR,

It has been for sometime notorious that Serjeant Brien (Taluq Overseer at Chicacole in the Ganjam District) is a confirmed drunkard.

Enclosure 1.

2. Early in last month the Principal Assistant Collector called my attention to the fact, of which I was then not aware; on which I directed Deputy Commissary Irving, the Sub-Engineer, in charge of the Range to direct the Serjeant to appear before the Zillah Surgeon, whom I requested to report on the Overseer's fitness for duty; but the Zillah Surgeon, although stating in a letter to my address that the Overseer was in a weak, nervous state of health, furnished me, through the Range Officer, with a certificate that he was fit for duty.

3. Captain Philipps, acting in accordance with general instructions from me, has since visited Chicacole and has ascertained beyond all doubt that Serjeant Brien is a wretched helpless drunkard, and that he is consequently utterly untrustworthy and altogether unfit for duty.

4. He has, therefore, with my approval, suspended the Overseer: and I have now the honor to recommend that Serjeant Brien be re-placed at the disposal of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief. Copy of Captain Philipps' report is forwarded herewith.

5. I regret that I have to bring to notice Mr. Irving's failure to do his duty as Range Officer in this matter; he must have been aware of Serjeant Brien's unfitness for duty and its cause—yet, even when the subject was distinctly brought forward by myself, he failed to report it; but transmitted the Medical Certificate without remark. He has also, it appears from the Executive Engineer's report, acted improperly in not attending at Chicacole on the occasion of that Officer's visit. He will be now called upon to explain, if possible, his conduct in the above two particulars.

From Captain C. G. PHILIPPS, Executive Engineer, Ganjam, to Captain J. G. RYVES, R. E., Superintending Engineer, 1st Division, dated Chicacole, 19th November 1864.

SIR,

In accordance with the orders conveyed in your letter, No. 1,035, dated 4th ultimo, and its enclosure, I arrived here early yesterday morning, and about a mile from the town passed the Sub-Engineer, whose person was unknown to me: directly afterwards I met one of the old Range Lascars, who informed me that it was Mr. Irving whom I had met, and that he had gone out shooting.

2. About 10 A. M. I heard from the Apprentice that the Sub-Engineer had gone on to Nursimpetta, 14 miles off, from which place I had just arrived; I immediately wrote Memorandum, No. 173, as follows:—"Mr. Sub-Engineer Irving will be good enough to wait on the Executive Engineer to-morrow (19th) bringing with him his Inspection Reports for the last three months, and data list." This was despatched before 11 A. M. by the Range Office Writer to Nursimpetta.

3. At 3 P. M. I ordered Taluq Overseer Brien to be present with his Inspection Reports, and on his presenting himself I was shocked to see an emaciated tottering wreck of a man, so very different to what he was when I last saw him. Though free from "delirium," he was suffering from "tremens," and having seated him, to prevent his falling, I found he could not control hands or feet, so violent was the tremor of the entire system.

4. On charging him with recent drunkenness he did not attempt to deny it, but only begged I would report favorably of him. I can prove from his Writer's evidence, that he was fearfully drunk the night before in his palanquin at Nursimpetta.

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5. I consider him totally unfit to have charge of public funds, or works, and have telegraphed to you accordingly, with a request that I might suspend him.

6. The habitual intemperance of this man is well known to every one I have spoken to, European and Native, at Chicacole, and I consider the Sub-Engineer has signally failed in his duty, if he has not brought the matter to your notice.

7. He has also deliberately disobeyed paragraph 2 of your Circular No. 1,034, by neglecting to comply with my order to attend at my quarters this day, though his Gomastah Venket-ruthnum informed me at Calingapatam this morning, that my order was duly delivered yesterday to the Sub-Engineer, who stated that he would go on to Bomally, and not return to Chicacole.

8. A man of this stamp, who can neither submit to discipline himself, or enforce it in the case of those under his control, is fitter for the pension establishment, than to have Executive charge of a Range. I believe he applied for his pension when in the Nellore District.

9. I have informed Mr. Brien that I should recommend his being remanded to his corps.
(True Copy.)

(Signed) J. G. RYVES, Captain, R. E.,
Superintending Engineer, 1st Division.

No. 169.

ORDER THEREON, 12th December 1864, No. 3,515.

1. Under the circumstances represented in the foregoing letter, the Governor in Council directs that Serjeant M. Brien, of the Effective Supernumeraries, Taluq Overseer in the Ganjam District, be dismissed from the Public Works Department.

2. Copy of these Proceedings will be furnished to the Military Department, with a view to the services of Serjeant Brien being re-placed at the disposal of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief.

3. The Government will await the receipt of Mr. Sub-Engineer Irving's explanation of his neglect to bring Serjeant Brien's misconduct to the notice of the Superintending Engineer and of his failure to attend at Chicacole, on the occasion of Captain Philipps' visit to that station.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Superintending Engineer, 1st Division.

„ Controller of Public Works Accounts.

„ Military Department.

Exd. T. O'Connor.

*Superintending Engineer,
Office, 1st Div. Wallah,
No 1301
21st November 1864
From Captain J. G. Ryves R.E.
Superintending Engineer, 1st Div.
To Colonel C. A. Orr, R.E.
Secretary to Govt., D. W.*

*Madras.
Sir,*

It has been for sometime notorious that Serjeant Brien (Taluq overseer at Chicacole in the Ganjam Dist.) is a confirmed drunkard.

2. Early in last month the Principal Asst. Collector called my attention to the fact, of which I was then not aware, on which I directed Deputy Commissioner Irving, the Sub Engineer, in charge of the Range to direct the Serjeant to appear before the Killah Surgeon whom I

I requested to report on the Overseer's fitness for duty - but the Hillah Surgeon, although stating in a letter to my address that the Overseer was in a weak, & poor state of health, furnished me through the Range Officer with a certificate that he was fit for duty.

3. Captain Philipps, acting in accordance with general instructions from me, has since visited Chicacole and has ascertained beyond all doubt that Sergeant Brien is a wretched helpless drunkard and that he is consequently utterly untrustworthy & altogether unfit for duty.

4. He has therefore, with my approval, suspended the Overseer, and I have now the honor to recommend that Sergeant Brien be replaced at the disposal of ^{His Excellency} the Commander in Chief.

Copy

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Copy of Captain Philipps's report is forwarded herewith.

5. I regret that I have to bring to notice Mr. Irving's failure to do his duty as Range Officer in this matter. he must have been aware of Sergeant Brien's unfitness for duty & its cause - yet, even when the subject was distinctly brought forward by myself, he failed to report it, but transmitted the medical certificate without remark - He has also, it appears

from the Executive Engineer's report, acted improperly in not attending at Chicacole on the occasion of that Officer's visit. He will, he now called upon to explain if possible his conduct in this above particular.

I have the honor to be
Yours most obedt. Servt.
H. J. [Signature]
Superintending Engineer

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