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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 2850 Press Mis.

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Dated 3-10- 1864.

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16/1942 HP

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 3rd October 1864.

Read the following letters :—

No. 8. From Lieutenant-Colonel G. W. WALKER, R. E., Superintending Engineer, 7th Division, to Colonel C. A. ORR, R. E., Secretary to Government, Department Public Works, dated Coimbatore, 6th August 1864, No. 79.

SIR,

1. I have the honor to report, as required in paragraph 6 of G. O. No. 1,940, of 4th July, on Mr Smith's conduct and fitness for charge of a Range.

2. Under the present organization of the Department, which gives each Officer and subordinate a distinct executive charge, and which brings him directly under the notice of the Superintending Engineer (an arrangement of which I highly approve), I must pronounce Mr. Smith incompetent for the post he holds. I can conceive him a useful Assistant to an able Executive Engineer, from his personal activity, knowledge of native languages, pleasing manners, and amiable disposition towards all men. But I hold him incapable of independent charge, from his incorrigible carelessness in money matters (if no stronger word be applied to the transaction disposed of in G. O. No. 3,787 of 21st December 1863), his ignorance of, and inattention to, the ordinary routine of office work, his random notions of contracts and of supervising contract work, his inattention to repeated instructions, and his inability to devise and adhere to any systematic mode of operations.

3. *Firstly.*—As to carelessness in money matters, I found him in November 1863, involved in contracts and other liabilities to an amount stated by himself at more than quadruple his available resources; some of these liabilities had been inherited from Major Syme, but without attempt on his part to lessen them; others had been deliberately incurred by himself. Thanks to the appropriations of Rupees 13,000 (out of Rupees 25,000) from Imperial Funds, and Rupees 10,000 (out of Rupees 13,128) from Income Tax Funds, sanctioned in G. O. No. 162 of 16th January 1864; of Rupees 7,500 out of a grant of Rupees 10,000 of Imperial Funds made in April 1864; and of Rupees 3,500 unexpended balances of Income Tax sanctions, Mr. Smith was enabled to pull through the season without actual insolvency; though not without endangering the credit of the Government which he had rashly pledged, and exposing himself to great risk of actions for breach of contract. So great was his heedlessness that his accounts for January, February and March were thrown into utter confusion (during my absence from the head quarter office on a long tour of inspection) by his forgetting to credit himself with the Imperial grant of Rupees 13,000 above alluded to. Again in April, he actually over-paid the Contractor for the new Post Office at Manantoddy (which has since fallen down) Rupees 300 more than the sum agreed upon, having made an error of Rupees 1,000 in the amount of sanction; and this only the month after he had sent in a comparative statement of the cost of erecting the same building at Vythery, as compared with Manantoddy. At the present moment also, putting together such scraps of information as I can glean from his papers, &c., I have reason to believe that he has ignored his maintenance sanctions from Imperial Funds, conceiving them to be superseded by the additional grants lately communicated in the Income Tax Fund Budget. Such proceedings are imbecile to an extent that no supervision on my part can foresee or check their consequences.

4. *Secondly.*—As to contracts and contract work. When I visited Wynad in November and December 1863, I found the repairs of the road from Periah Ghât to Manantoddy given out at Rupees 500 per mile throughout, without proper specification of work to be done in each mile, but only an excessively bad road section to work to. So with drains, all were contracted for to one or two sizes; it being entirely out of Mr. Smith's line to make detailed measurements and calculations. The three ranges of married quarters at Cannanore of season 1862-63 were carried out on contract under Mr. Smith, and in reply to paragraph 3 of G. O. No. 1,998 of 11th July, I must state that the responsibility of the work can rest on no other shoulders than his; though I do blame the late District Engineer for having kept down prices at that station to an extent that precluded all expectation of really good work being attainable. Mr. Smith has bitterly

complained of this, stating that Captain Bean allowed himself at Calicut higher rates than he granted his Assistant at Cannanore, and I can certify to having found occasion to revise the Calicut rates to ensure decent work.

5. *Thirdly.*—Mr. Smith's incapacity for business and systematic work, and imperfect execution of instructions can be fully realized only by production of all the correspondence between us. I fondly hoped that my personal instructions, extending over weeks of time and miles of road, would have obviated all cause of complaint, subsequent to my Wynad tour. Not only have I been disappointed, but the just expectations of the Government and public have been baulked; as my own nominee, I have now to regret having tried him in Wynad, against warnings of anticipated failure given me by competent persons acquainted with his former career. Captain Kennedy's proffered assistance to relieve him of charge of the approaches to Tambercherry Ghât, half way from Manantoddy and Sultan's Battery, having been declined by him, I had to refer to Mr. Smith for report the subject of the best line for the latter. Six months after the requisition was made, and after repeated reminders, I have just received his most worthless statement on a matter which is of great importance to the public, and has by me been strongly commended to his attention personally and by letter. While at Manantoddy I spent two mornings with him in examining the river there and fixing the best site for a bridge to suit the three lines of road to Cotiady, Tambracherry, and the Neilgherries. I left in the expectation of receiving, if not plan and estimate for the structure required, at least survey and sections of the river from which the plan might have been prepared in my Office for the Budget of 1865-66 if not for commencement of the work in the current year; no information have I been favoured with. Ever since Mr. Smith took charge it has been reiterated to him that the allotments for 1864-65 would be available only on production of plans and estimates. Except for some miserable temporary structures, for which Income Tax Funds have been allotted, no such documents have been submitted; the Karkoor Ghât allotment of Rupees 30,000 is unavailable for want of them. Thus this year's funds may lie idle, and my Wynad Budget List of 1865-66 promises to be a blank.

6. Sickness is, I believe, the only excuse that Mr. Smith can plead. It would not account for all his short-comings, and should rather have been availed of by him months ago to extricate him from duties which he felt unable to perform. When a man goes on from month to month drawing his full salary and travelling allowances, it is to be presumed that he is fit for the work which he is paid to do. A certificate has lately been given Mr. Smith by his medical attendant at Manantoddy, that he was laid up with Diphtheria in January, that he was long weak in consequence, and that he has been troubled with constant Diarrhœa of late months. But Mr. Smith declined to avail himself of sick leave for fifteen days granted him under date the 31st May, and which I urged him to extend to some months; wishing to replace him for a time by Mr. O'Shaugnessy, then at my dispasal for south Wynad, and through whom I wished to set both ranges in working order by the time the monsoon ceased. Except for February Mr. Smith's inspection lists are almost blanks; "Office work at Manantoddy" being the sole entry for weeks and weeks together. The result of such labours, if any, I have yet to see.

7. Emphatically, Mr. Smith is not the man for Wynad; and as stated above I consider him unfit for the Department under its present organization. I trust that an experienced Officer or subordinate may be sent to replace him; deprecating for the present any attempt to work the Wynad as a single range.

No. 9. From Lieutenant-Colonel G. W. WALKER, R. E., Superintending Engineer, 7th Division, to Colonel C. A. ORR, R. E., Secretary to Government, Department Public Works, dated Coonoor, 10th September 1864, No. 113.

SIR,

1. I have the honor to submit Mr. Smith's explanation called for in your Memorandum No. 91 of 11th August 1864, and to remark as follows on its contents and accompaniments.

2. Mr. Smith admits having incurred, at first starting, liabilities up to nearly double his available funds, but denies having done so to the extent stated by me. His admission is quite enough for my purpose; but it is one of my chief objections to Mr. Smith that he cannot be accurate in accounts, and never knows the full amount of his liabilities. I went very carefully into the subject when travelling with him, and submit an original draft letter* which was never sent him for want of copy ists on the tour, and its necessity supposed to be obviated by my personal instructions for eight or ten days afterwards, whereof it is a faithful summary. I cannot go into details again, but I rely upon the accuracy of the conclusion I came to at the time.

* (1.)

3. He admits having miscalculated his resources by Rupees 13,000, and this affected his accounts (and of course his works), for between two and three months before I found out his delusion, having again been absent from head quarters on a tour, and only seeing the compiled Progress Reports, not those of his range.

4. He admits also having made a mistake of Rupees 1,000 in the amount of an estimate and contract of Rupees 3,330. And I look upon the alleged over-payment to the Contractor with considerable suspicion, taking it in connection with the transaction disposed of in G. O. No. 3,787 of 21st December 1863. I now regret having stood his friend on that occasion when Government would have been justified in dismissing him; his proceedings then rendering him liable even to prosecution under the Penal Code.

5. As to his having ignored maintenance grants from Imperial Funds, I should wish the Deputy Collector, Mr. Richardson, to be asked what amounts Mr. Smith gave him to understand were at his disposal. I shall withdraw my imputation if that gentleman owns to having been told that any but the Income Tax grants were available.

6. Mr. Smith admits having given out repair contracts for miles of road at Rupees 500 per mile, without reference to state of particular miles. So it was with all Wynad contracts. Planters got contracts for new roads at Rupees 1,200 and Rupees 1,500 a mile, the termini and trace of such roads being left absolutely to them. With an honorable and skilful man like Mr. Browning, the result was successful, but the practice is very discreditable to the Department. An equally good Contractor, Mr. Fergusson, took up the line of approach to Tambracherry Ghât from the direction of Kulpetta, but I had to stop proceedings till after Mr. Smith should have verified the line against which Captain Kennedy reported. Such verification he has not made up to the present date.

7. Mr. Smith having expressed a wish that the correspondence which has passed between us should be laid before Government I have acceded to his desire, and called for the originals of most of my letters which are forwarded as per list* accompanying. I am always in the habit of expressing myself earnestly, and that earnestness rises into indignation when I find my expectations so grievously disappointed as they have been in Wynad. I have had most unpleasant duties imposed upon me by my connection with that Táluq. The accompanying statement shows† the state of Wynad range accounts up to 30th April 1864, viz., upwards of Rupees 12,000 of Major Syme's expenditure of 1862-63, which cannot be accounted for at all; and upwards of Rupees 72,000 of his and Mr. Smith's expenditure of 1863-64, for which in spite of his almost constant residence at Manantoddy since Christmas last no vouchers are yet forthcoming, four months after the close of the official year. As for the survey and estimate of Carcoor Ghât road, I have been promised these papers so often that I no longer believe in their existence. The Draughtsman who was said to have prepared them, resigned on being ordered to join Mr. O'Shaughnessy, who would probably have exposed the nature of his work.

* (2.)

† (3.)

8. As to the correspondence forwarded by Mr. Smith, no man but himself after reading my No. 529 of 26th January 1864, could suppose Captain Kennedy (whose services were therein reluctantly declined) to be responsible for any but the Ghât work. His letter of 23rd May, I

account for by his having good naturedly come to Mr. Smith's help after Mr. Ballard's visit in April. Certificates granted to Mr. Smith nine years ago, I need hardly remark, are no guarantee of his having done his duty of late years.

‡ (4.) 9. My correspondence‡ will show that Mr. Smith asked for privilege leave (which the Controller disallowed) on the Medical Certificate now forwarded, and that on the very day when he reported Mr. Campbell's death to me. Also that he was ordered by me to south Wynad on urgent duty, to be performed "if health permitted." That duty was to settle with Mr. Browning, to whom he owed thousands of Rupees, for want of which that gentleman was in great difficulties. Had it not been performed, Mr. Browning would have been compelled to proceed against Government for compensation. Mr. Smith's relief would easily have been managed by me could I have got rid of him for a few months, my intention having been to order up Mr. Overseer Potter from Cannanore. It is a curious comment on his complaints of want of assistance that, in lately reporting Mr. Potter's having joined, he actually requests my instruction how to employ him.

From H. B. SMITH, Esq., Executive Engineer, Wynad Range, to Lieutenant-Colonel G. W. WALKER, R. E., Superintending Engineer, 7th Division, dated Manantoddy, 27th August 1864, No. 282.

SIR,

1. With reference to your report No. 79 of the 6th instant, to Government, I have the honor to make the following remarks, First, as to carelessness in money matters, you state that you found me in November involved in contracts, and other liabilities to an amount, as stated by myself, at more than quadruple my available resources. I beg to state that I made no such statement. Any statement that I may have made is embodied in my letter to you No. 84 of the 18th December 1863, copy of which is enclosed. I applied soon after I had joined Wynad for an extra sum of Rupees 28,246-11-9, and I gave out contracts for the execution of work up to that amount. When I took charge of Wynad there was a balance remaining unexpended of Rupees 35,803-1-3, and a balance due to workmen, &c., of Rupees 4,500, making a balance available of Rupees 31,303-1-3, which with the Rupees 28,246-11-9 asked by me was quite sufficient to meet all liabilities, which did not come up to even double the amount available. Again, my not giving credit for the Rupees 13,000 was that the works were taken from one fund and placed to another. Also about the Post Office. The reason was when I took charge from Major Syme I found on the register of estimates sanctioned, the sum of Rupees 3,330 against the Post Office, and it has been so written in my Progress Reports for months and does not seem to have been corrected by your Accountants. Again you state that at the present moment also, putting together such scraps of information as I can glean from his papers, &c., I have reason to believe that he has ignored his maintenance sanction from Imperial Funds, &c., &c. Now this shows that you must have examined my accounts since May very superficially, for if you had examined them at all you would find that there as been no expenditure in Income Tax Funds by me with the exception of Rupees 1,500 placed at the disposal of the Deputy Collector, while from the maintenance allowance you will find under the different heads charges on which work has been carried on. It is easy to charge one with imbecility, as above, on vague accusations which cannot be supported by evidence.

Imperial Funds.	Rs.	A.	P.
Expenditure in May... ...	1,696	9	7
Do. June	847	15	4
Do. July	1,095	14	0

	May. Rs.	A.	P.	June. Rs.	A.	P.	July. Rs.	A.	P.
Periah road ...	184	0	0	222	1	6	336	2	0
Urricolle road	755	5	7	485	3	10	260	8	0
Goodooloor road	72	0	0	.....			46	0	0
Cacoor Ghát road	.....			10	0	0	296	0	0
Panamarum ...	185	4	0	130	10	6	.....		

Second.—As to contracts and contract work. It would have been useless, in my opinion, to give various sections for road drains while I had no Overseer to supervise and see that they were

carried out. Another reason was that I wanted the work finished quick and made passable for bandies. About my giving the same rate, you seem to suppose that I did not try and get lower rates for certain miles, but I beg to state that I tried my best and could not get the work taken for less. You state also "that it being entirely out of Mr. Smith's line to make detailed measurements and calculations." I can only say that some years ago I took all the levels and made all the calculations for the high level canal to Ellore from Nundamoor, a distance of forty miles, a little more difficult I presume than side drains of a road.

Third.—My "incapacity for business and systematic work and imperfect execution of "instructions can be fully realized only by production of all the correspondence between us," I would wish nothing more than that all correspondence carried on between you and myself be laid before Government; as Government will then be able to judge of the style that officers in the 7th Division are addressed. You state "I have now to regret having tried him in Wynad, &c." Your demi-official of the 29th May 1864, states an opinion quite different; you state in it my "real aptitude for Wynad," an opinion it seems soon changed. Also again, "Captain Kennedy's proferred assistance to relieve him of charge of the approaches to Tambracherry Ghát, &c.;" now I enclose copies of all the correspondence on the subject, so that Government may be able to judge on the matter, as well as your refusing to give me an explanation on my letter in which you said that there were "mis-statements." I forward a letter received from Captain Kennedy quite uncalled for on the subject. You wanted a report on a line of road* on which a horse could not go, and I was too weak to walk a distance of fifteen miles, I would not send a report until I had examined it once more carefully. Again, about the surveys, you promised me the assistance of a Surveyor as the Overseer I had could not survey, and it would have been useless to send in estimates and plans without surveys. Again, about the Carcoor Ghát, the estimate as I have already stated is ready, but the survey made by late Supervisor Campbell was found to be wrong, so I had to send my Draughtsman to survey it, who for his trouble got fined and has now resigned the Department. The survey and estimates would have been sent before this, but my Draughtsman and Accountant have both been sick and away on the coast all last month.

Copies of Superintending Engineer's letters—
No. 529 of 26th January 1864.
Do. 15 of 18th May "
Executive Engineer's letters—
No. 95 of 18th January 1864.
Do. 240 of 4th May "
Do. 246 of 22nd " "
Captain Kennedy's of the 23rd May 1864.
Executive Engineer, No. 246, with endorsement of Superintending Engineer.

Captain Kennedy wished himself to keep the Tallapoya bridge as it was near his lines, and he wanted work for his half-day men who had been on guard. Also as I had no Overseer I could not look after the work as well as Captain Kennedy who was on the spot.

* And yet this untraced road, which Mr. Smith had never examined, was given out on contract at so much per mile.—G. W. W.

Fourth.—You state again, "sickness is, I believe, the only excuse that Mr. Smith can plead," you well know I have been ill and which has often been brought to your notice. Though I had been very ill in January, I was about my District in all February, I was far from well when you were here. You state I declined to avail myself of fifteen days leave granted to me on the 31st May. A Medical certificate was forwarded by me on the 12th April, in which Doctor Cream, my Medical attendant, advised my leaving the District at once. This certificate was returned after some time on the ground of being informal. On the 27th April I applied for Grant's Circular Orders, as I had no form of Medical Certificate. No form was sent to me, and it was only by accident I came across a form in the "Madras Times." On the 19th May another certificate was sent, and on the 31st May my leave appeared in the Gazette on the condition I should first be relieved. Mr. Sub-Engineer O'Shaughnessy, who it seems was to have relieved me, has only about a fortnight ago reached Goodaloor, and from a letter received by me from him, dated the 15th instant, he expects to have to go to Ootacamund for Medical advice himself. Now from the 12th April to the beginning of this month, a period of nearly four months after the first Medical certificate was sent in, I could not have gone on leave. The sickly season also had passed, and I did not like to leave my District when I was regaining my strength. You ordered me after I had sent my first Medical certificate to proceed to Goodaloor without any

Jin G. O. No 3787 of 28th December 1865 / his signature

delay, when you knew well I could not do so. I went and had a severe relapse. My remaining here has not been of my own accord, but is all due to you not sending on the first Medical certificate. Also you well know that I lost my two ponies in one night by lightning on the 24th May, and those that I got up from Madras at a high cost in their place have been very ill and useless. In conclusion, I would place before Government copies of testimonials received from those I have served under, and they will be able to judge from those, if I have during my period of service, now nearly twelve years, given satisfaction or not.

Copies of eight testimonials.

No. 10. ORDER THEREON, 3rd October 1864, No. 2,850.

1. In consequence of the unfavorable reports which had from time to time been made regarding Mr. Smith, Executive Engineer, Malabar District, the Government in their Order No. 1,940, dated 14th July last, called upon the Superintending Engineer, 7th Division, to report on that Officer's conduct, and on his fitness for the charge of an Executive Range.

2. Colonel Walker's report, which was most unfavorable to Mr. Smith, was received some time ago; but as no opportunity had been given to him to defend himself, the Superintending Engineer was requested to call on Mr. Smith for any explanation he might wish to make.

3. This explanation has now been forwarded by Colonel Walker, along with some further remarks of his own on the subject. A good deal of original correspondence, which has passed between Colonel Walker and Mr. Smith, has also been laid before Government.

4. The Governor in Council having carefully perused the whole of the papers submitted by the Superintending Engineer, is of opinion that Mr. Smith has proved himself quite unequal to the active and responsible duties of a Range Officer; and as under the present constitution of the Department, Mr. Smith cannot be otherwise employed, his services will be dispensed with from the date on which these orders may be communicated to him.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Superintending Engineer, 7th Division, for communication to Mr. Smith.
" Do. do. 4th Division.
" Controller of Public Works Accounts.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

Superintending Engr's Office
Coimbatore, 6th August 1864

No. 79.

From

The Superintending Engineer
7th Division

To,

The Secretary to Government P.W.D.
Madras.

Sir,

I have the honor to report, as required in para: 6 of G. O. No. 1940 of 14th July on Mr. Smith's conduct and fitness for charge of a Range.

2. Under the present organization of the Department which gives each Officer and Subordinate a distinct executive charge, and which brings him directly under the notice of the Superintending Engineer (an arrangement of which I highly approve) I must pronounce Mr. Smith incompetent for the post he holds. I can conceive him a useful Assistant to an able Executive Engineer, from his personal activity, knowledge of native languages, pleasing manners, and amiable disposition towards all men. But I hold him incapable of independent charge, from his incorrigible carelessness in money matters, (if no stronger word be applied to the transaction disposed of in G. O. No. 3787 of 25th December 1863) his ignorance of

of, and inattention to the ordinary routine of Office work, his random retrenchments of Contracts and of Supervising Control with his inattention to repeated instructions, and his unwillingness to devise and adhere to any systematic mode of operations.-

3rd. As to carelessness in money matters I found him in November 1863 involved in Contracts and other liabilities to an amount stated by himself at more than quadruple his available resources of these liabilities had been incurred from cheaper rates, but without attempt on his part to defer them; others had been deliberately incurred by himself thanks to the appropriations of Rupees 13,000 (out of Rupees 15,000) from Imperial funds, and Rs. 12,000 (out of Rs 13,128) from Income Tax funds sanctioned in G.O. No 162 of 16th January 1864; of Rs 7,500 out of a grant of Rs 12,000 of Imperial funds made in April 1864; and of Rs 3500 unexpended Balances of Income Tax sanctions, which I was enabled to pull through the season without actual indebtedness though not without endangering the credit of the Government which he had recklessly pledged, and exposing himself to great risk of vexatious for breach of

Contract. So great was his carelessness that his accounts for January February, and March were thrown into utter confusion, during my absence from the Head Quarter Office on a long tour of Inspection, by his forgetting to credit himself with the Imperial Grant of Rs 13,000 above alluded to. Again in April, he actually overpaid the Contractor for the new Post Office at Chanantoddy (which has since fallen down) Rs 300 more than the sum agreed upon, having made an error of Rs 1,000 in the amount of sanction; and three only the month after he had sent in a Comparative Statement of the cost of erecting the same building at Vythery, as compared with Chanantoddy. At the present moment also, putting together such scraps of information as I can glean from his subordinates, I have reason to believe that he has opened his Maintenance sanctions from Imperial Funds, conceiving them to be superseded by the additional grants lately communicated in the Income Tax Fund Budget. Such proceedings are entitled to an extent that no supervision on my part can foresee or check these consequences

4

6. 2nd As to Contracts and Contract work. When I visited Lognaad in Nov. December 1863, I found the repairs of the road from Patrick Ghaut to Shanamboldy given out at Rs 500 per mile throughout, without proper specification of work to be done in each mile, but only an ordinary bad road section to work to. — Hence with Drains all were contracted for to one or two lines; it being entirely out of Mr Smith's line to make detailed measurements and calculations. The 3 Ranges of Mounted Infantry at Cannanore of season 1862-63 were carried out on Contract under Mr Smith, and in reply to para. 3 of G.O. No 1898 of 8th July, I cannot state that the responsibility of the work can rest on no other shoulders than his; though I do blame the late District Engineer for having kept down prices at that station to an extent that precluded all expectation of really good work being attainable. Mr Smith has bitterly complained of this, stating that Captain Bean allowed Annaes at Calicut higher rates than he granted his Assistant at Cannanore. — And I can certify to having found occasion to revise the Calicut rates to endorse decent work —

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execution of instructions can be fully realized only by perusal of all the correspondence between us. I fondly hoped that my personal instructions, intruding over weeks of time and miles of road, would have obviated all cause of complaint, subsequent to my Lognaad tour. Not only have I been disappointed, but the just expectations of the Government and public have been baulked by my own nominee, I have now to report having tried him in Lognaad, against warnings of anticipated failure given me by Competent persons acquainted with his former career. Captain Kennedy's professed assistance to relieve him of charge of the approaches to Tambrecherry Ghaut half way from Shanamboldy and Calicut Battery having been declined by him, I had to refer to Mr Smith for report the subject of the best line for the latter. — Six months after the requisition was made, and after repeated reminders, I have just received his most worthless statement on a matter which is of great importance to the public, and has by me been strongly commended to his attention personally and by letter. — While at Shanamboldy I spent 2 mornings with him in examining the River there and fixing the best site for a bridge to end the 2 lines of road to Calicut.

botiah, Tamberchetty, and the Neilgherries. I left in the expectation of receiving, if not Plans and Estimate for the structures required, at least Survey and Section of the Spot from which the plan might have been prepared in my office for the Budget of 1865.66 if not for Commencement of the work in the Current year; no information has been furnished with- Ever since Mr Smith took charge it has been reiterated to him that the allotments for 1864.65 would be available only on production of Plans and Estimates- Except for some miserable temporary structures for which Encumstance funds have been allotted, no such documents have been submitted; the Harbour Grant allotment of Rupees 31,000 is unavailable for want of them- Other than these grass funds may be idle, and my Wynaad Budget List of 1865.66 promises to be a blank.

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Emphatically, Mr Smith is not the man for Wynaad; and as stated above I consider him unfit for the Department under its present organization- I trust that an Experienced Officer or two hereafter may be sent to replace him; deprecating for the present any attempt to work the Wynaad as a single Range-

No 113

Subg. Engineers Office
Cochin 10th September 1864

From

Lieut. Colonel G. A. Walker R.E.
Superintending Engineer

To

The Secretary to Government
Department of Public Works
Madras

Sir,

I have the honor to submit Mr Smith's explanation called for in your Memo: dt 91 of 11th August 1864 and to remark as follows on its contents and accompaniments -

2. Mr Smith admits having incurred, at first starting, liabilities up to nearly double his available funds but denies having done so to the extent stated by me - His admission is quite enough for my purpose; but it is one of my chief objections to Mr Smith that he cannot be accurate in accounts, and never knows the full amount of his liabilities - I went very carefully into the subject when travelling with him and submit an original Draft Letter which was unfortunately sent him for want of copyists on the tour, and its necessity supposed to be obviated by my personal instructions for 8 or 10 days afterwards, whereof it is a faithful summary - I cannot go into details again but I rely upon the accuracy of the calculation I came to at the time -

3. He admits having miscalculated his resources by Rupees 3000, and this affected his accounts,

Subg. Engrs 1st Division
Dated 11th Sept 1864
Rec'd 19

Submits the Monies to be
his,
Yours most obt. Servant,
Lieut & Subg. Engrs 1st Division

Rec'd 28th Sept 1864 - Entered 1/64

(and of course his work) for between
2 and 3 months before I found out
his delusion, having again been
absent from Head Quarters on a
tour, and only seeing the compiled
Progress Reports, not those of his
Range—

4— "He admits also having made
a mistake of Rupees 1000 in the Amount
of an Estimate and Contract of Rs
3330— And took upon the alleged
overpayment to the Contractor
with considerable suspicion, tak-
-ing it in connexion with the
transaction disposed of in G. O. No
378 of 21st December 1863— I own
regret having stood his friend on
that occasion when Government
would have been justified in dis-
-missing him; his proceedings then
rendering him liable even to pros-
-ecution under the Penal Code—

5— As to his having ignored
Maintenance Grant to John Im-
-perial Fund, I should wish the
Deputy Collector, Mr. Richardson,
to be asked what amount Mr
Smith gave him to understand were
at his disposal— I shall withdraw my
imputation if that Gentleman
swear to having been told that any
but the Cuchnee Tap Grants were
available—

6— Mr Smith admits having
given out Repair Contracts for
Miles of Road at Rupees 600 per
Mile, without reference to state
of particular Miles— So it was
with all Tyroad Contracts— Planters
got Contracts for new roads at
Rupees 1200 and Rupees 1500 a
Mile, the termini and trace

of such roads being left absolutely
to them— With an honorable and
skilful man like Mr Browning
the result was successful, but
the practice is very discreditable
to the Department— An equally
good Contractor, Mr Ferguson
took up the line of Approach to
Tambenkherry Ghaut from the
direction of Pulpetta but Mr Smith
stop proceedings till after Mr
Smith should have verified the
line against which Captain Ten-
-nent reported— Such verification
he has not made up to the pre-
-sent date—

7— Mr Smith having expres-
-sed a wish that the Correspond-
-ence which has passed between
us should be laid before Govern
-ment I have acceded to his de-
-sire and called for the originals
of not of my letters which are
forwarded as per (2) list accom-
-panying— I am always in the
habit of expressing myself ear-
-nestly, and that earnestness
roused into indignation when I
find my expectations so grievous-
-ly disappointed as they have been
in Tymaad— I have had most
unpleasant duties imposed upon
me by my connection with that
Talook— The accompanying
Statement (3) shews the state of Ty-
-maad Range Accounts up to 30th
April 1864, viz upwards of Rs 12000
of Major Lynes's expenditure of Rs 1807
which cannot be accounted

for at all; and in pursuance of Rs 7000 of his and Mr Smith's expenditure of 1863/64, for which in spite of his almost constant residence at Chinsurah & Hooghly since June last no Vouchers are yet forthcoming, 4 months after the close of the Official year — As for the Survey and Estimate of Kankora Ghaut Road, I had been pronounced there papers as often that I no longer believe in their existence the Draughtsman who was said to have prepared them, resigned on being ordered to join the Hooghly survey who would probably have approved the nature of his work.

As to the Correspondence forwarded by Mr Smith, no man but himself after reading my No 529 of 26th January 1864, could suppose Captain Kennedy (whose remarks were therein reluctantly declined) to be responsible for any but the Ghaut Work. His Letter of 23rd May I account for by his having good naturedly come to Mr Smith's help after the Ballard's visit in April — Certificates granted to Mr Smith 3 years ago, I need hardly remark are no guarantee of his having done his duty of late years — (4) with whose (4) ably correspondence, that Mr Smith asked for Privilege leave (which the Executive declined) on the Medical Certificate (4) now forwarded, and that on the very day, when he reported Mr Campbell's death to me — Also that he was ordered by me to South Hymaad on urgent duty, to be postponed if health permitted — that duty was to settle with the Banneah; to whom he owed thousands of Rupees, for wants of which that Gentleman was in great difficulties — Had it not been postponed Mr Browning would have been compelled to proceed against Government for Compensation — Mr Smith's relief would easily have been managed by me could I have got rid of him for a few months my intention having been to ride to Sylhet Cherrapoonjee Patton pursuance — It is a curious Comment on his Complaints of want of assistance that in Lately requesting Mr Patton's having joined his actually requests my instruction how to employ him —

I have the honorable
Sir
Your most Obed Servant

A.W. Walker Lt Col R.E.
Supg Engr 1st Div

Memorandum -

In the order of the 4th July last, No. 1940, Genl. Called on the Supt. Engineer, 7th Division, to report on Lt. H. B. Smith's conduct, & his fitness for the charge of a Ferry.

Colonel Walker's report which was most unfavourable to Lt. Smith has been received on the 11th instant; but as no opportunity had been given to him to defend himself, the Supt. Engineer was requested to call on Lt. Smith for any explanation he might wish to make.

This explanation has now been forwarded by Colonel Walker, along with some further remarks of his own on the subject. A good deal of original

Public Works Office
Toronto, 19th Aug. 1864

Sir,

I have the honor to transmit herewith a letter addressed to me by Lieut. Smith, Engineer, in charge of the Ferry at Collingwood, and to request that you will call upon him for an explanation of the charges preferred against him by Mr. Walker, Superintending Engineer, 7th Division, in his letter of the 10th inst. a copy of which is also enclosed herewith.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,
W. P. Sandfield Macdonald
Commissioner of Public Works.

Lieut. Col. Gzowski, C.B.,
Toronto.

24 {Rec'd 10th inst. from Collingwood
Ans'd 10th "
Rec'd 13th "

Public Works Office,
Toronto, 19th August, 1864.

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Encloses letter from Lieut. Smith, Engineer, in charge of the Ferry at Collingwood, and requests that he will call upon him for an explanation of the charges preferred against him by Mr. Walker, Superintending Engineer, 7th Division, in his letter of the 10th inst. a copy of which is also enclosed herewith.

W.

Ans 28th - 30 Cetr/64

correspondence which
has passed between Col.
Watkins & Lt. Smith, has
also been ~~submitted~~
laid before You.

The State of Texas
papers are now circulated
for orders. It should
be borne in mind that
Lt. Smith's transfer,
from Matagorda to Austin
Arsenal, was ordered some
weeks ago, & that he
has before now been
relieved by Lt. Scott
in the Ordnance Office
& the Texas Troops
& the title double that he
was fit for the charge
of an Education Corps

(16)

Pub Works Dept

25

No 2850

Proceedings of the Madras Government
Under date the 3rd ~~October~~ Octr 1864
Read the following

From the Supt Engineer J. Dist
Reporting on Mr
Smith's competency as an
Executive Engineer in the
D. P. W.

(Here enter 6th August 1864
No 791

From Do ——— Do

Submits Mr Smith's ex-
-planation called for in Mems
No 91 of 11th August 1864.

(Here enter 10 Septr 1864
No 1131

In consequence
of the unfavorable
reports which had from
time to time been made
regarding Mr Smith's
Executive Engineership Malabar
District by the Government
in their Order No 1740
dated

(16) 16th Septr 1864 No 175

dated 11th July last

called upon the Superintending

Engineer 1st Div. to report

on that Officers conduct,

and on his fitness for

the charge of an Executive

Bridge.

Colonel Walker's

report, which was most

favourable to Mr. Smith,

was received some time ago;

but no opportunity

had been given to him

to defend himself, the

Superintendent was requested

to call upon Mr. Smith

for any explanation

he might wish to make

This explanation

has now been forwarded

by Colonel Walker,

along with some further

remarks of his own on

the subject - A good deal

of original correspondence,

which has passed between

Col. Walker and Mr.

Smith, has also been

laid before Govt.

The Governor in

Council having carefully

perused the whole of the

papers submitted by

the Superintendent, is

of opinion that Mr.

Smith has proved himself

quite unequal to the

active and responsible

(14)

duties of a Ranger
Officer; and as under
the present constitution
of the Departt, Mr.
Smith cannot be otherwise
employed; his services
will be dispensed with
from the date on which
these orders may be
communicated to him.

By Superintendt's Comm.
Communicated to Mr Smith
[illegible]
Comptroller

Depty 4th October

(14)

P. V. 1864 Dept.
Pay. of Gov.t for October
No. 2850.
Pay. of the Ch. Gov.t
D. S. October/64

Further Ce.te 5270
of 1864

The Service
of Act. A. B.
Smith, Esq. Engr.
Wynaad Range
dispensed with.

No. 8 @ 10