M.R.O. 1—77,008—3-6-37.

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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 3099 Press / Mis.

Dated 28 7 1846.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
28th September 1866.

Read the following papers:—

No. 673. From the Superintending Engineer, 7th Division, to the Secretary to Government, Department Public Works, dated Camp, Coonoor, 27th July 1866, No. 103.

1. I have the honor to state that, in accordance with the instructions communicated with G. O. No. 2,310, of 21st July, I shall hold the Detachment of Sappers, now here, in readiness to start for the Tambercherry Ghaut, on receipt of orders from Army Head Quarters towards the end of August. But I desire to point out, that the Quarter Master General has apparently forgotten the circumstances under which a Detachment of Sappers was originally granted for the work on Coonoor Ghaut, and I take the liberty of recalling them to the notice of Government, in hopes that some modification of their late order on the subject may be made.

2. In paragraph 4 of my letter, which was referred for consideration in the Military Department, by G. O. No. 2,735, of 16th September 1865, I recommended that "on the withdrawal of three Companies of Sappers from Tambercherry Ghaut, "some thirty or forty picked men should be detailed for work at Coonoor, and "*retained as long as their services could be made good use of, &c. &c. &c.*" In a letter printed with G. O. No. 2,876, of 28th September 1865, His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief was so good as to plead for the Coonoor Ghaut, as a Military work, that a transfer from the Lawrence Asylum allotment might be made to it; which being objected to, His Excellency in paragraph 5 of a letter printed with G. O. No. 719, of 2nd March 1866, concurred in the alternative suggestion of Government that the Detachment of Sappers applied for by me might be sent to Coonoor.

3. It has, therefore, been with great regret and surprise that I have found that my concurrence in the reduction of one out of the three Companies, latterly employed in Wynaad, has not secured us the retention of a small body of men on the Coonoor Ghaut, truly recognized by His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief as an important Military communication. The more so as local (toll) funds, to the extent of Rupees 3,600, have been spent in building them three permanent barracks at different points of the ghaut, and the allotment of the current year (Rupees 30,000) is so insufficient to enable work to be carried on with full vigour, that the loss of the cheap skilled labor and superintendence afforded by Sappers will be seriouly felt.

4. I venture, therefore, to plead for the re-placement of the forty men ordered to rejoin the H. Company at Tambercherry Ghaut, by a similar body from the B. Company under orders for Coorg.

Referred to the Military Department for favorable consideration, with reference to the undermentioned Orders No. 2,476, dated 17th July 1866.

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

FORT SAINT GEORGE,
31*st July* 1866.

Referred to the Commander-in-Chief (Quarter Master General's Department.)

(Signed) R. HAMILTON, Colonel,
Deputy Secretary to Government.

FORT SAINT GEORGE,
2nd August 1866.

No. 674. From the Quarter Master General, to the Deputy Secretary to Government, Military Department, dated Ootacamund, 7th August 1866, No. 459-6,880:—

1. I have the honor, by order of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, to report, in reply to Colonel Walker's letter to Government, dated 27th ultimo, Public Works Department, referred for the Commander-in-Chief's observations on the 2nd instant, that in recommending the 3rd Company of Sappers to be sent to Coorg, it was not forgotten that the Coonoor Ghaut had put in a claim for Sapper services also.

2. But it is well known from the correspondence of previous years, that the Commander-in-Chief has always objected to so many Companies being permanently detached from Regimental Head Quarters; and when two Companies were asked for for the Tambercherry Ghaut, it became a matter of consideration whether the request of the Supreme Government should be complied with, or that of the Superintending Engineer, 7th Division.

3. When the Commander-in-Chief agreed to allow a party of forty men to be detached to the Coonoor Ghaut, the "convenience" consisted in the fact that the men could stop there instead of returning all the way to Bangalore, until such time as it was determined how many Companies were required for the Tambercherry Ghaut this season. It was not the Commander-in-Chief's intention that it should be a permanent detachment, because, on a previous occasion when Colonel Walker asked for a Company to be stationed on the Ghaut, it was not consented to.

4. Under these circumstances, therefore, the request of the Supreme Government for a Company for Coorg was complied with.

5. The Commander-in-Chief therefore leaves it with Government to determine whether forty men of the Company ordered to Coorg should be sent to Coonoor. His Excellency is much interested in the progress of the new ghaut, but it was not from indifference to it, that the request of the Supreme Government obtained the preference. The necessities of the one seemed from the correspondence greater than the other. Moreover, His Excellency understands that the Sappers sent to the Coonoor Ghaut have not been employed on the ghaut all the time they have been there, or since March last.

Transferred, with No. 3,669, and the Right Honorable the President's note, to the Department Public Works, for disposal.

FORT SAINT GEORGE,
20th September 1866.

(Signed) R. HAMILTON, Colonel,
Deputy Secretary to Government.

No. 675. ORDER THEREON, 28th September 1866, No. 3,099.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 56.

1. The Superintending Engineer of the 7th Division will be informed that the Government have no objection to the party of Sappers being retained for employment on the Coonoor Ghaut provided that they are kept usefully at work.

2. Colonel Walker will report the duties upon which the Sappers are now engaged.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R. E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the Superintending Engineer, 7th Division.
,, Military Department.
,, Controller of Public Works Accounts.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

Note on No 3860 1866.

Submitted for orders whether the party 40 suppers is to be retained on the Coroner's Grant.

It will be observed that the statement that the men have hitherto not been employed on the Grants.

11 Dec. 1866. AM

I think that the news of the Fire Chief should be complied with and that

Bucharest
19th Sept.

My dear Hamilton

Please see Lord Augustus Loftus and ask him if he can give me a few lines - he left Paris I think with the Empress for Zarauz but perhaps Lord Lyons knows better where he is now & if he is there I do not like to propose anything to Walter Jerningham

Yours
A. J. Cumberland

Noted on No 1
3860 & 3869

Lord Augustus Loftus
Paris

Sir,

I am directed by Earl Granville to enclose herein for your information a copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Minister at Bucharest, reporting the arrival of the Empress Eugenie at that place.

I am, Sir,
Your most obedient humble servant,
Edward Hertslet

Foreign Office
11 Aug 81
to 19 Sept

PII 3898/86

3199

Pr. 3898/66

No 103

Superintending Engrs office 7th Div
Camp Coonoor 27th July 1866.

From

Lieutt Colonel J. St. Walker RE
Supg Engineer. 7th Division

To,

Colonel C. A. Orr RE.
Secretary to Government. NWP

Sir,

I have the honor to state, that in accordance with the instructions communicated with G.O. No 2810 of 21st July, I shall hold the Detachment of Sappers now here, in readiness to start for the Tamberacherry Ghaut, on receipt of orders from Army Head Quarters towards the end of August. But I desire to point out that the Quarter Master General has apparently forgotten the circumstances under which a Detachment of Sappers was originally granted for the work on Coonoor Ghaut, and I take the liberty of recalling them to the notice of Govt in hopes that some modification of their late order on the subject may be made.—

2. In para 4 of my letter which was referred for consideration in the Military Department by G.O. No. 2735 of 16th September 1865 I recommended that "on the withdrawal of 3 Companies "of Sappers from Tamberacherry Ghaut some "30 or 40 picked men should be detached for "work at Coonoor, and retained as long as "their Services could be made good use of "&c &c &c." In a letter printed with G.O.

No 2876 of 28th September 1865, His Excellency the Commander in Chief was so good as to plead for the Conoor Ghaut as a Military work that a transfer from the Lawrence Asylum allotment might be made to it, which being objected to, His Excellency in para 5 of a letter printed with G.O. No. 719 of 2d March 1866 Concurred in the alternative suggestion of Government that the Detachment of Sappers applied for by me might be sent to Conoor.—

3. It has therefore been with great regret and surprise that I have found that my Concurrence in the reduction of one out of the three Companies latterly employed in Wynaad has not secured us the retention of a small body of men on the Conoor Ghaut, truly recognized by His Excellency the Commander in Chief as an important Military Communication.— The most to us local (toll) funds to the extent of Rupees 3600 have been spent in building three permanent Barracks at different points of the Ghaut, and the Allotment of the current year (Rs 30,000) is so insufficient to enable work to be carried on with full vigour that the loss of the cheap Skilled Labour and superintendence afforded by Sappers will be seriously felt.—

4. I venture therefore to plead

for the replacement of the 40 men
ordered to reform the K. Company
at Samberekerry Ghaut by a similar
body from the B Company under orders
for Coorg. —

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your Most obed.t Servant,

Commdg 4th Regt
Asst Qr Mr Genl

Referred to the Commander-in-
Chief (Quarter Master General's
Department)
Washington 66
Dy. Secretary to Govt.

Fort Saint George,
2nd August 1866.

To The Quarter Master General 2nd
Sir, I have the

Quarter Mr. General's Office,
Head Quarters, Ootacamund
7th. August 1866.

No. 459
1880

From
Lieut. Colo. F. W. Scott
Quarter Master General

To
Colonel C. Hamilton
Deputy Secretary to Government
Military Department

Sir,

I have the honor by order of His Excel-
-lency the Commander in Chief to report, in
reply to Colonel Walker's letter, to Government
dated 27th. ultimo, P. W. D. referred for the
Commander in Chief's observations on the 2d.
Lieutt. that in recommending the third Com-
-pany of Sappers to be sent to Coorg, it was not
forgotten, that the Coonoor Detail had put in
a claim for Sapper services also.

2. But it is well known from the corres-
-pondence of previous years, that the Command-
-er in Chief has always objected to so many

Companies

Companies being permanently detached from Regimental Head Quarters; and when two Companies were asked for, for the Pambercherry Ghaut, it became a matter of consideration whether the request of the Supreme Government should be complied with, or that of the Superintending Engineer 4th Division.

3. When the Commander in Chief agreed to allow a party of 40 men to be detached to the Coonoor Ghaut, the "convenience" consisted in the fact that the men could stop there instead of returning all the way to Bangalore, until such time as it was determined how many Companies were required for the Pambercherry Ghaut, this season. It was not the Commander in Chiefs intention that it should be a permanent detachment because, on a previous occasion when Colonel Walker asked for a Company to be stationed on the Ghaut, it was not consented to.

4. Under these circumstances therefore the request of the Supreme Government for a Company for Coorg was complied with.

5. The Commander in Chief therefore leaves it with Government to determine whether 40 men of the Company ordered to Coorg should be sent to Coonoor. His Excellency is much interested in the progress of the new Ghaut, but it was not from indifference to it, that the request of the Supreme Government obtained the preference, the necessities of the one seemed from the correspondence, greater than the other. Moreover His Excellency understands that the Sappers sent to the Coonoor Ghaut have not been employed on the Ghaut all the time they have been there, or since March last.

Have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most Obedient Servant,
Lieut. Colo.
Quarter Master General

Encl. to

Public Works Department.

3099

No 3099

107

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT Under date the 28th Sept/66

Read the following

From The Supg. Engineer of the 7th Divn. (Here enter No. 103 dated 27th July 1866)

From The Divl. General (" No 459/6.880 dd 7th Augt: 1866)

The Superintending Engineer of the 7th Dn will be informed that the Government have no objection to the party of Sappers being retained for employment on the Coonoor ghat provided that they are kept usefully at work.

Col. Walker will report the duties upon which the Sappers are now engaged.

WDL.

The Engr 7 Dn
Milty Depts
Controller

28 Sept 1866

From Lt. Col. W. Walker
Offg. Divl. Engr. 7th Divn.
Ootacamund 18th August 1866.

To The Secretary to Govt.
Public Works Dept.

Sir,

I have the honor to request that the party of Sappers employed on the Coonoor Ghaut may be retained at work for the present season.

2. The Road is in a very bad state, and the Sappers are employed in repairing it.

3. The Road is a very important one, and I consider the Sappers are usefully employed.

I have &c.
(Signed) W. Walker Lt. Col.
Offg. Divl. Engr.

Received 21st August 1866.

Recd 21st Augt
Regd No. 3099
Regd. 22nd Augt
No 459 Co. 1866

Copy forwarded relative to the retention of the detachment of Sappers at Coonoor for work.

Transferred.
No 3099 - 28th Sept 1866

P. W. 1866. Department.

Rec. of the Govt. for Sept. 1866.

No. 3099

PROCEEDINGS OF GOVERNMENT. Selected

Dated 28th Sept. 1866

To Supg Engr of the 7th Dn.

informed that there is no objection to the party of Sappers on the Concor Chand being retained, if they can be kept fully at work, and requested to report the duties upon which they are now engaged.

Ab 673 @ 675