M.R.O. 1—77,696—1-6-37.

(1) Number of pages _____

(2) Date of repair _____

(3) Initials of the Reference _____

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 3461 702-703	Press Mis.
Dated 31-10 19 40.	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 702. Read the following letter from the Superintending Engineer, 7th Division :—

Submits, for the orders of Government, certain papers connected with the case of Mr. Hammett, alluded to in G. O. No. 3,045 of 22nd September 1866. } (Here enter 24th October 1866, No. 155.)

No. 703. ORDER THEREON, 31st October 1866, No. 3,461.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 63.

1. From a perusal of the papers submitted with this letter, the Government are satisfied that, placing the most liberal interpretation on Mr. Hammett's proceedings, he has been guilty of a grave error of judgment, which his long experience in the department should have been sufficient to guard him against.

2. The Government are greatly disappointed to find that a subordinate of Mr. Hammett's standing should have allowed himself to ignore a fundamental rule of the department which requires that the accounts of Public Works Officers shall represent none other than *bonâ fide* payments, and were it not for the Superintending Engineer's opinion that Mr. Hammett was not actuated by any fraudulent intention in exhibiting in his Progress Report for April larger expenditure on works than had actually been incurred during that month, but by a desire to convey a favorable impression of his efficiency as a Range Officer, his conduct would have merited very serious notice. Looking, however, to this circumstance, and to Mr. Hammett's past services extending over a period of eighteen years, the Government are not disposed to deal severely with him on the present occasion, but, as a mark of their displeasure, they resolve to transfer him to the Vizagapatam District, with a warning that similar irregularities on his part will result in his reduction to a lower grade, if not to removal from the department.

3. Adverting to paragraph 15, the Government are of opinion that the other parties connected with the irregular transactions under notice will be sufficiently punished by transfer from their present charges, with a warning that a repetition of such misconduct will lead to their dismissal from the service.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R. E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the Superintending Engineer, 7th Division, with Enclosures.
,, Do. do. 1st Division.
,, Controller of Public Works Accounts.

Encl. S. T. Augustin.

No 155

Superintending Engineer's Office
Coimbatore

Coimbatore 21st October 1886

From

Lieut-Colonel C.H. Bagshaw R.E.
Superintending Engineer 1st Circle

To

Colonel C.E.S. Ord R.E.
Secretary to Government P.W.D.

Sir,

I have the honor to submit for the orders of Government certain papers connected with the case of Mr Hammett debited to my Co. No. 3265 of 30th Sept. 1886 with my remarks and conclusions thereon—

2 Paper A. is a copy of the charge of falsification of his accounts officially sent by me to Mr Hammett while still in charge of the Collegal Range—Mr Davies having only received that paper and stated that he acted for the first time on my office on the 1st October—

3 However that may be, paper B. contains extracts of his written statements denying the charges—

4 Paper C. is the Collegal Range Progress Report for the month of April 1886 sent to me from the Range Office on the 10th May—

5 Paper D. is the original Progress Report for the month of April, closed up to the 21st of that month, and apparently despatched to the Range Office on the 30th idem—

6 Paper E. is the Extract Cash Account of the Collegal Taluk ended 25th of April and sent with the Progress Report—

7 Mr Hammett having intimated that papers D. and E. might probably have been

altered

ordered by my informant to suppress these documents.

8. Paper S. is a copy of the charge recommended against Pillay's examination under date the 8th October which was confined to the duplicate of the authenticity of those documents and the details of alterations thereon. It will be observed that the red ink alterations in the Jail Progress Report ordered on his by the charge recommended tally precisely with the entries made on the charge Progress Report but may but are unsupported by any Cash account extracts from the Jail Cash Book for April or later date. Still attention also to be drawn to paper O. on the charge recommending and summonsing of Edwin Bin to Collect certain Compensation for entry in his books"

9 Paper T. and pages 60 to 63 of the original Cash Book of the Colleged Jail.

10 Paper U. is the Extract of that Cash Book up to 30th May and dated 15th June and in support of paper T. the Jail Progress Report for May is far more Statement than two sets of papers ordered and in some cases but in another are comprised copy of the item which of Charges Firm with having falsely submitted in his Progress Report for April — those items however were entered in pages 46 and 63 of paper T. in the hand writing of one Kuttammerimbi a Convict Compiled under Mr Bennett and Kullumangalam Copy of whose examination respecting these forms Exhibit D— they bear date 30th of April in the Jail Cash book but the true

Extract

extract thereof paper U. shews all the items except the first on page 46 to have been falsified which is further proved by paper No. copy of the Overseers earlier examination during the person by whom the original entries were made.

11 The Overseers Order having now identified all the Jail Papers the Charge recommended Pillay was again examined with the result shewn in paper V. in which he admits that he acted under the orders of the Charge Officer in falsifying the accounts so as to secure completion of all the Police Works within the month of April.

12 To complete the set of papers copy of Temporary Overseer Ending Book said examination recorded on January 1st as a sample of the true character of the Statements, proved only prior to the case Convict referring that he signed on the 30th of May the last page of the Jail Cash book which contains an entry of transactions purporting to have been made on the 28th of that month.

13 I confine myself for the present to the subject of Mr Bennetts falsifications which are clearly proved by the papers now sent in and which are of so grave a nature in my opinion as to render him altogether unfit for independent Charge, if indeed it should please Government to retain him at all in the Public Service — I have never supposed that Mr Bennett made these falsifications for purposes of embezzlement but

but

not simply to convey the impression that he had performed his duty as a Range officer in compiling these small works which the Board generally, their Inspection and Surveyor in Chief have since had occasion to bring under my notice, but to draw the attention of the Range officer himself, and through him to the faults which he had committed and to point out to a Range officer labouring under such disadvantages, how he is obliged to falsify one paper after another to support a single original false entry — Compare for instance the paper marked A. purporting to be a Statement of the Cash balances of the Collegate Range on the 30th April with the Entry on Page 46 of the Cash Book under the same date — the former gives the Cash balance in Court as One hundred and sixty six Rupees the latter states the Amount to have been no less than 565 Rs.

It is accordingly very much matter of concern to such a paper with the Board as I personally in taking up my present charge felt much consideration from old acquaintance with the Father and Uncle towards the Range Office and from intimate acquaintance with his Father in Law who stands high on the Board's Subordinate List of Civil Servants that I was affected to obtain from him the correct discharge of his duties rather as an Overseer or as a Supervisor — and instead of endeavouring by increased exertions to give

satisfaction he has now put the climax to his proceedings by endeavouring to cover the effects of his own Inaction by false entries in his accounts

It is their share in these transactions which resolved to dismiss Boyapaddi Pillay from his appointment in the Range office and recommend that he be proclaimed as disqualified for further Government service. I should also order Boyapaddi and Subbammariahs names to be struck off the Pay and Channel Establishments and that they should never again be employed — Finding the orders of Government to have placed the Senior Overseer of the Coimbatore District the Superintendent in charge of Collegate Range and removed him for the present to the Head Office as Special Superintendent he has now worked for more than a year in charge of the Pindanoyakoot comprising 160 of the Cultivated Channel, is very active, intelligent and steady and has given myself and the Range officers general satisfaction in the discharge of his duties —

I have the honour to be
Sir
Your most obt Servant

Signed Lieut & C.E.
Superintending Engineer S.D.

Public Works Department

No. 3461

Proceedings of the Madras Government
Under date the 31st October, 1866.

Read the following

from the Supg Engineer
of the 7th Division (T.C. - No. 155 - 24th Oct/66

From a perusal of the
papers submitted with this
letter, the Government are
satisfied that, allowing
the most liberal interpre-
tation on the Executive
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3

of Mr. Hammetts Extending should have allowed him self to ignore a fundamental rule of the Department which requires that the Accounts of Public Works Officers shall represent more than their bonafide ~~Expenditure~~ and not ~~but~~ for the Superintending Engineers opinion that Mr. Hammett was not actuated by any fraudulent intention in so libelling in his Progress Report for April longer ~~Expenditure~~ or works than had actually been in current charges that month, but by a desire to convey a favorable impression of his efficiency as a Manager

Query, his conduct would have merited very serious notice. Seeing however to this circumstance and to Mr Hammetts short services extending over a period of 18 years, the Government are not disposed to deal severely with him on the present occasion, but as a mark of their displeasure they resolve to transfer him to the Trigonometrical Detail, with a warning that similar irregularities on his part will result in his reduction to a lower grade, if not to removal from the Department.

Adverting to para 15, the Govt are of opinion that the other parties

concerned

connected with the irregular
transactions under notice
will be sufficiently pre
vented by transfer
from their present charge,
with a warning that a
repetition of such mis
conduct will lead to their
dismissal from the ser
vice -

A 702-703

Off Cork Dispd.

Pro. of Cats for Oct.

1st. 3/4 61

Pro of the Madras Cat.

Off 31st Oct 66.

8

L. Carmont, Mr. Superintendent Fine Paper Mfg. at Coimbatore, Dist. of Coimbatore, Madras Presidency, has this day transferred to this Progress Report for April Cat. received, and has drawn for the Rupees payable on Oct. 31st 1866.

Apl 702 & 703