M.R.O. 1—77,006—8-6-37.

(1) Number of pages 13

(2) Date of repair 13-2-43

(3) Initials of the Referencer

# MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

## Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 941 Press / Mis.

505-506

Dated 23 — 3. 1866.

**Not to be folded or roughly handled**

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department.*
*23rd March* 1866.

No. 505. Read the following letter from the Superintending Engineer, 7th Division, to the Secretary to Government, Department Public Works, dated Camp, Coonoor, 8th March 1866, No. 283:—

1. The accompanying original letter* from the Range Officer in charge of North Wynad is not the first on the same subject that has been received by me. Under ordinary circumstances, I should again have used the influence I possess with him to induce him to hold on through another season's work; but I cannot now refuse him the chance of receiving from Government the same consideration which has been granted to the South Wynad Range Officer.

* No. 108 of 3rd March 1866.

2. I can endorse all that Mr. Nordmann says of the nature of his work, and of the trouble he has taken to set things in train, with such success that I have no hesitation in saying that he has merited the approbation of Government, as he has gained my own and that of the North Wynad Planters, so far as the funds at his disposal have enabled him to go. Whether as Táluq Overseer at Caroor, as my manager, or as Supervisor in charge of the Errode and North Wynad Ranges, I have been struck with the superiority of the man to the subordinate position which he has held; and have recognized in him the promise of very great future usefulness to the Department if his services could be retained to it. With which view I advocate, as the best practical step to be taken, and with special reference to paragraph 6 of his letter, that he be promoted at the first opportunity to the rank of Assistant Executive Engineer, conditionally on his serving another season in his present post. That his proper status in society, by birth and education, is such as fully to qualify him to promotion from the subordinate ranks of the Department, will be attested by any one who has the pleasure to know him as I do. And if any special testimony, now available at Madras, be desired to this effect, I think I may safely refer to Major Shaw Stewart, who was his Commanding Officer in China.

3. There will be no objection to Mr. Nordmann's having two months' privilege leave from June next; but it will be more to his own advantage to hold on another year with the promise of relief, and three months' leave from 1st February 1867. Last year was an exceptionally bad one, and I trust he may be able to tide over the next three months without suffering materially in health or being forced to quit his charge on that plea.

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From the Supervisor of North Wynad Range, to the Superintending Engineer, 7th Division, dated Manantoddy, 3rd March 1866, No. 108.

1. I have the honor to request that you will be pleased, for the reasons hereinafter noted, to arrange for my transfer from Wynad to the low country, and if possible, to the Coimbatore District.

2. As from personal knowledge, you are aware of how I am circumstanced in my official relations in Wynad, I am confident that you will do me the favor to bestow your best consideration on my motives, as adduced below.

3. If I have not been so successful in Wynad, as to have merited the approbation of Government, or the expressed satisfaction of the Planters, I submit, that this has not been owing to want of exertion on my part, but rather to the great difficulties, well known to you, I encountered on my taking charge of my Range on the 30th November 1864. It was not that I took charge under ordinary circumstances, and had nothing to do, but to keep a well regulated machinery of routine in motion: I had to create order out of chaos, before I could begin to show progress in my proper work.

4. This circumstance, as well as the lateness and sickliness of last season, and the number and magnitude of my works, were all against me, and added to the ardour of my up-hill toil. But I worked on, without flagging in my energy, and have now the satisfaction of seeing my Range in proper working order, if I have not as yet any great success in the shape of completed works to show.

5. I have now been hard at work, without a week's intermission, since I left your office to take charge of the Errode and Collegal Ranges, *i. e.*, since April 1864, or for nearly two years; having, as you know, all the time worked at high pressure, if I may be allowed the expression. This unremitting toil, combined with the effects of last season's fever in Wynad, from which I suffered seriously and repeatedly, has affected my constitution, which before was of the most robust kind. I dread the consequence of another feverish season to my health, and am inclined to think it would be good economy to remove me while yet able to work, and before I should have to be carried away, with my constitution finally deranged.

6. Besides the above, I should here, with your permission, reiterate a further social and official reason that pleads in favor of my removal hence. Although the Government have considerately sanctioned to employés in Wynad 50 per cent. additional salary, that addition does not make up for the discomfort and dearness of living, where the climate is adverse, the price of life's necessaries 100 and more per cent. higher, and work far more difficult and trying than in the low country. For a subordinate, therefore, on a salary like mine, life in Wynad is, I submit, a hardship; and though I have so long cheerfully acquiesced in it, I would now beg for a change. As for the social reason I alluded to, I would beg to mention that my inferior departmental rank, in a European community like that of Wynad, does not well accord with my official authority, and heavy responsibility, and is sometimes apt to cause a clash, and to introduce an unpleasant element in the conduct of business.

7. I am also conscientiously of opinion, that my unremitting hard work, for the last two years, now necessitates a short rest, to prevent a prostration of my energies and to enable me to take up a fresh charge with vigour. I would therefore beg that, on being relieved here, I may be granted two months' accumulated privilege leave, previous to my taking up a new charge, since I have enjoyed no privilege leave since December 186[illegible].

8. My Range being now in a fair working trim, with an adequate establishment, my successor will find no difficulty in carrying on the work, and I have besides provided for next season's work by collecting, under your sanction, a considerable stock of building materials. The principal work now in hand, the Teriote road, is making fair progress, and if the season turn not against us, and labor consequently fail, that road will be open during the coming monsoon, inclusive of the larger bridges.

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No. 506. ORDER THEREON, 23rd March 1866, No. 941.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 48.

1. The Superintending Engineer of the 7th Division will arrange, if he considers it necessary, for an exchange of Ranges between Mr. Nordmann and any other Officer or Subordinate in the Division.

2. Should Mr. Nordmann's health permit of his continued employment in the Wynad, any good services that he may there render will receive full consideration, but the Government cannot pledge themselves to such a recognition of them as the Superintending Engineer recommends.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Superintending Engineer, 7th Divisi[illegible]

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

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No. 283.-

Supt. Engrs. office 7th Dn.
Camp Cotoor, 8th March 1866.

From

Lieut.t Col. G.W. Walker R.E.
Supt. Engineer 7th Division

To,

Colonel C. A. Orr R.E.
Secretary to Govt. P.W.D. Madras.

Sir,

The accompanying original letter* from the Range Officer in charge of North Wynaad is not the first on the same subject that has been received by me. Under ordinary circumstances I should again have used the influence I possess with him to induce him to hold on through another season's work; but I cannot now refuse him the chance of receiving from Government the same consideration which has been granted to the South Wynaad Range Officer.

Encls: 1.
* No. 108 of 3. March 1866.

2. I can endorse all that Mr. Nordmann says of the nature of his work and of the trouble he has taken to set things in train; with such success that I have no hesitation in saying that he has merited the approbation of Government, as he has gained my own & that of the North Wynaad Planters, so far as the funds at his disposal have enabled him to go. Whether as Taloor Overseer at Cotoor, as my Manager, or as Superior in charge of the Errode & North Wynaad Ranges, I have been struck with the superiority of the man to the sub-

Pro: Dept. for March 1866.
Dupleix D.P.W.
No 1022

From
The Supg. Engineer 7th Div.
To,
The Secy. to Govt. D.P.W.
Madras.

Dated 8th "
Rec'd 12th " March 1866.

No. 283.

Encl: 1

Submits Mr. Nordmann's Application for transfer from the Wynaad, with Remarks.—

= ordinate position which he has held; and have recognized in him the promise of very great future usefulness to the Department.

His services could be retained but for the which arise solely out of the fact that practical steps have taken, and with reference to those of his letter, that he be permitted at the first opportunity to the service of Government Executive Engineer. Considerably on his coming another team in his present post.— That his proper station is Cocanada, by which all Executive is under the immediate control of the Chief Engineer to Government, as also the present testimony, convincingly of any special one who has the at Madras, be denied to this effect. Should Lucas, after reference to Major Shaw Chief.—

3. Here with deems expedient to submit Mr. Nordmann's Memorial praying permission to proceed from first next; but should he must this own advantage to take on another year with the former Agreement dated 3rd leave from 1st January 1867.— Assistant was due 1st September last, and he may be able to take over the next 3 months without suffering material ill health or duty. Should his absence without pay.

Have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedient
Humble Servt
Lieut. Col. R.E.
Supt. Engr. 7th Division

Public Works Dept.

1694 / 41

Proceedings of the Madras Government

Under date the 23rd March 1866

Read the following

From the Supg Engineer 7th Div.

Submits Mr. Nordmann's application for transfer from the Nyanad, with remarks.

(Here enter 8th March 1866 No 283)

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WTB

7 Wt 8 y Bn Watts Letter
Dept. 24th March
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J. W. 1866 Despatch
Prin. of Court for cleared

No. 941

Pro. of the Madras Court

of 23 March 1867

Mr. Nathaniel Superintendent North Arcot Range - The Superintending Engineer authorized to arrange for an exchange between - or any other officer or subordinate of the Division, if considered necessary.

No 505-506.

Ex. 14th March 1867 Pl. 2nd