M.R.O. 1—77,006—8-6-37.

(1) Number of pages _____

(2) Date of repair _____

(3) Initials of the Referencer _____

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 262 Press ~~Mis.~~

542. 543

Dated 23. 1. 1866.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 542. Read the following letter from the Superintending Engineer, 7th Division, to the Secretary to Government, Department Public Works, dated Coimbatore, 10th January 1866, No. 230 :—

1. Messrs. Beaumont and Minchin having "declined treating with me for the execution of any Contract whatever," I have lost no further time in instructing Captain Kennedy to make the best arrangements that may now be possible for re-modelling the line of road from Sultan's Battery to Poongollycottah wherever the gradients are objectionable, and for opening a fair weather cart road through the jungle between Poongollycottah and the Mysore frontier. I have also called on him to send in, with the least practicable delay, plans and estimates for bridges and drains on the whole line.

2. Messrs. Beaumont and Minchin state, "We have already in justice to ourselves been forced to represent to Government that you have in a most uncalled for manner, attempted to persuade Government that for *interested* motives we have misled them; and that your statements are not supported by facts. We were anxious, seeing the little progress made by your Department in South Wynad, to afford it every assistance that our local position and command of labor might have enabled us to do; but the course which you have adopted leaves us no choice but to withdraw."

3. With reference to the above, I can but repeat the expression of disappointment in paragraph 8 of my letter No. 152 of 16th October at the failure of Messrs. Beaumont and Minchin to realize any single expectation which they held out of co-operating with this Department in pushing forward the communications of Wynad. But it is in vain that they attempt to attribute their reluctance to treat with Government through me, to the causes assigned, for they had set me aside and gone up to Government direct before ever I gave any cause of offence. They knew well enough that they could not, through my agency, succeed in diverting Imperial Funds from north to south of the Kulputty hill, and endeavoured to carry their point without me. I leave Government to decide whether I have done my duty in the matter or not.

4. I have only to add, with reference to Mr. Beaumont's statement in paragraph 2 of his letter to Government of 29th November, that in my reply to his letter to my own address of the 29th September, printed with G. O. No. 1,101 of 21st October, I distinctly offered him the whole of the work laid out by Captain Kennedy between Vythery and Kulputty at Captain Kennedy's rates. I can only conclude that, owing to the uncertainty of Postal communication in Wynad, Mr. Beaumont never received my letter.

No. 543. ORDER THEREON, 23rd January 1866, No. 262.

CIVIL WORKS, No. 97.

Ordered to be recorded.

(True Extract.)

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

Ed. T. O'Connor.

Superintending Engineers Office
7th Division
Coimbatore 10th January 1866.

No. 230.

From

Lieutt Colo. G. W. Walker RE.
Superintending Engineer 7th Div.

To

Colonel C. A. Orr RE.
Secretary to Government N.W.P.

Sir,

Messrs Braumont and Minchin having "declined treating with me for the execution of any Contract whatever," I have lost no further time in instructing Captain Kennedy to make the best arrangements that may now be possible for remodelling the line of road from Sultan's Battery to Coingollycottah wherever the gradients are objectionable, and for opening a fair weather Cart Road through the Jungle between Coingollycottah and the Mysore Frontier. I have also called on him to send in with the least practicable delay Plans and Estimates for Bridges and Drains on the whole line.

2. Messrs Braumont and Minchin state "we have already in justice to ourselves been forced "to represent to Government that you have in a "most uncalled for manner, attempted to persuade "Government that for interested motives we have "misled them; and that your Statements are not "supported by facts. We were anxious, seeing the little "progress made by your Department in South Wynaad, "to afford it every assistance that our local position "and command of labor might have enabled us to "do - but the course which you have adopted "leave us no choice but to withdraw."

3. With reference to the above I can but repeat the expression of disappointment in para 8 of my letter No. 520 of 16th October at the failure of Messrs Braumont and Minchin to realize any single expectation which they held out of

Co-operating

cooperating with this Department in pushing forward the communications of Wynaad & But it is in vain that they attempt to attribute their reluctance to treat with Government through me, to the causes assigned, for they had set me aside and gone up to Government direct before ever I gave any cause of offence. They know well enough that they could not, through any Agency, succeed in diverting Imperial Funds from North to South of the Kulputty Hill, and endeavoured to carry their point without me. I leave Government to decide whether I have done my duty in the matter or not.

4. I have only to add with reference to Mr. Beaumonts Statement in para 2 of his letter to Government of 29th November that in any reply to his letter to my own address of the 29th September printed with G.O. No. 1161 of 21st October I distinctly offered him the whole of the work laid out by Captain Kennedy between Vythery and Kulputty at Captain Kennedy's rates. I can only conclude that owing to the uncertainty of Postal communication via Wynaad. Mr. Beaumont never received my letter.

I have the honor to be
Sir,
Your most Obt. Servant
Walker Lieutt. Colonel R.E.
Superintending Engineer 4th Div.

Dept. of 1866
Govt. of Govt. for Surv
From No. 157
The Superintendent
4th Division
To
The Secretary to Govt.
M.C.W.
Dated 10th January 1866
Rec'd 18th "
No. 230
Reports that Messrs Beaumont & Runclimans have declined to take any contract whatever on the line of road from Sultans Battery to Pongolly cottah
Record
No. 262-23rd Jany 1866
No. 542-543
1st January 1866 A-20