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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 3926	Press ~~Mis~~
388-89	
Dated 19 12	1867.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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No. 388. Read the following letter from Captain H. W. WOOD, R. E., Field Engineer, Abyssinian Field Force, to the Secretary to Government, Department Public Works, Madras, dated Byculla Club, Bombay, 10th December 1867 :—

1. The ship "Bruce," in which I am directed to leave for Annesley Bay, being on the point of departure, I beg leave (without waiting for the receipt of certain documents I shall hereafter mention) to submit the following circumstances for the consideration of the Madras Government.

2. As a Field Engineer, Abyssinian Field Force, my staff pay amounts to Rupees 240 per mensem. Had I, however, been holding (at the date of my appointment to the Abyssinian Field Force) my probable position in the Public Works Department, my pay would have been some Rupees 200 to Rupees 250 in excess of that sum, as is the case with all the other Field Engineers of the Force.

3. Considering that the Bombay Government would deem it inexpedient that the accident of one only of the Field Engineers being temporarily without employ in the Public Works Department, should subject him to so heavy a pecuniary fine while employed on Military duty, I did myself the honor of submitting my exceptional case through His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief of the Bombay Army, for such orders as Government might see fit to pass.

4. The Bombay Government (I have been given to understand) have ruled that any claim I may have for staff pay, in excess of that of a Field Engineer, should be pronounced upon by the Government of Madras, under whose orders I should, under ordinary circumstances, be serving in the Public Works Department. This ruling on my case I have not yet received, the documents in which it appears are those alluded to in my first paragraph.

5. I would respectfully request that my case be now considered by the Madras Government, with the view of appointing me to the Department Public Works of that Presidency from 26th November 1867, the day on which I commenced my duties at Bombay under the orders of the Officer in charge of the Engineer Park, Abyssinian Field Force, and I would further beg that such orders may be passed as will enable me to draw the staff allowances claimable from such appointment from the date I have named.

6. But, should the Madras Government feel precluded (by rules which may possibly exist) from granting, what I would respectfully call, a not unreasonable request on my part, I beg, in that event, that the matter be submitted to the Supreme Government of India, with the object of a re-consideration of the rates of pay of Field and Assistant Field Engineers, or at least of those proceeding on field service while temporarily being without employ in the Department Public Works.

7. For, it can scarcely be supposed that on the matter being represented, the Supreme Government would have the staff pay of a Field Engineer at Rupees 240 per mensem, while that of a Subaltern in the Transport Corps has been fixed at Rupees 300 for the same period.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
19th December 1867.

No. 389. ORDER THEREON, 19th December 1867, No. 3,926.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 35.

As there is no vacancy in the Public Works Department at present, the Government regret that they are unable to comply with Captain Wood's request, but they will take an early opportunity of bringing him upon the permanent strength of that Department as an Executive Engineer, and they will then take into consideration the propriety of authorizing the disbursement to him, under the exceptional circumstances of his case, of such portion of the Civil salary of his grade as he may be entitled to during his employment with the Abyssinian expedition, without requiring him to join his appointment in accordance with the rules.

(True Extract.)

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

To Captain H. W. Wood, R. E., Field Engineer, Abyssinian Field Force.

Erd. S. T. Augustin.

Bengalla Club.
Bombay.

10th December 1867

From Captain H. W. Wood, R. E.
Field Engineer, Abyssinian Field Force
to Colonel F. A. Orr, R. E.
Secy to Government, S. P. W.

Sir, The ship "Bruce" in which I am directed to leave for Bombay Bay being on the point of departure; I beg leave (without writing for the receipt of certain documents, I shall hereafter mention) to submit the following circumstances for the consideration of the Madras Government.
1. As a Field Engineer, Abyssinian Field Force, my staff pay amounts to Rs. 240 per mensem. And I have been holding (at the date of my appointment to the S. P. W. D.) my probable position in the S. P. W. D. my pay would have been some Rs. 200 to Rs. 250 in excess of that sum: as is the case with all the other Field Engineers of the Force.
2. Considering that the Bombay Govt. would deem it inexpedient that the accident of one of the Field Engineers being temporarily withdrawn from the S. P. W. D., should subject him to so heavy a pecuniary fine while employed in military duty; I deduced myself to the honor of submitting my exceptional case. This has excellently been commended in chief of the Bombay Army for such orders as you might see fit to pass.
3. The Bombay Govt. I have been favored

understand) have ruled that any claim
I may have for staff pay in excess of what
I am entitled to, should be pronounced
upon by the Government of India; under
those orders I should under ordinary circum-
stances be serving in the P.W.D. This ruling on
my case I have not yet received. The document
in which it appears contains a statement in
my first paragraph.

5. I should respectfully request that my case
be now considered by the Madras Government,
with the view of appointing me to the P.W.D.
of that Presidency, from 26th Nov-1867 the
day on which I commenced my duties at
Bombay under the orders of the officers in
charge of the Engineer Park A.F.F. — and
I would further say that such orders may be
passed as will enable me to draw the staff
allowances claimable from such appointments
from the date I have named.

6. But, should the Madras Government feel pre-
cluded by ~~existing~~ rules which may possibly
exist) from granting what I would respect-
fully call a not unreasonable request on
my part. I beg, as that event that, the
matter be submitted to the Supreme Govt.
of India, with the object of a reconsideration of
the rate of pay of Field and Assistant
Field Engineers, or at least of those proceed-
ing on Field Service while temporarily being
employed in the P.W.D.

7. For, it can scarcely be supposed that on the
matter being represented, the Supreme Govt.
would leave the staff pay of a Field Engineer

Rs 240 per mensem; while that of a Subaltern ^{is}
in the Transport Corps has been fixed at
Rs 300 for the same period.

I have the honor to be Sir
Your most obedient servant
R. Woodroffe
J. F. F.

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No 388

Praying that he
may be so appointed
to the 25th, with effect
from the 25th inst 1867.

No 3926-19 Dec 1867

21st 1867 } Dec 1867
No 16 } Dec 1867
21st

From
Capt. A. W. Wood R.E.
Two Regts. Madras
Force
4779

Course

Public Works Department
No 3926
Proceedings of the Madras Government
Under date the 19th December 1867
Read the following

From Capt. A. W. Wood R.E.
Field Eng. Madras Force } A.C. to Dated 10th Decr 1867

1.
1867
WOW

As there is no vacancy
in the P. W. Department
at present, the Govern-
ment regret that they
are unable to comply
with Captain Wood's
request, but they will
take an early opportu-
nity of bringing him
upon the permanent
strength of that Dept.
as an Executive Engineer,
and they will then
take into consideration
the propriety of autho-
rizing the disbursements.

to him, under the excep-
tional circumstances
of his case, of such por-
tion of the Civil salary
of his grade as he may
be entitled to during
his employment with
the Abyssinian Expedition,
without requiring him
to join his appointment
in accordance with
the rules -

W. H.

Col Capt A. W. Wood.
Field Engr. A. F. S.

Dec 20/14/67

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Pub. Works 1867 Department

Pro of Govt for December

No. 3926

Pro of the Madras Govt.

19th (December 1867)

Informing Capt. Wood
R. E. that Govt. will take an
early opportunity of bringing
him upon the permanent
strength of the D. P. W. as an
Executive Engineer.

No 388-389