

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

DEPARTMENT

GO. No.	1000
Serial	118
Date	1911

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Port Saint George, Public Works Consultation of 30th March 1853.

No. 3. Read the following letter from Colonel C. E. FABER, Chief Engineer ; to H. FORBES, Esq., Acting Secretary to Government, dated 22nd February 1858, No. 7525.

SIR,

With reference to Extract Minutes Consultation No. 228, dated 10th February 1858, I have

* No. 15 dated 9th Feb. 1858.

the honor to submit a letter* from the Acting District Engineer of Tinnevely, stating that the reason why he had not continued to employ as Goomastahs the late establishment under the Collector, was that he had filled up all such situations prior to the reduction of the Department ordered in Gazette Extraordinary dated 18th July 1857, before which date the Collector's Goomastahs were employed as Sub Overseers, and that when their services as such were dispensed with, their ignorance of the English language precluded their being transferred to the Goomastahs situations in the D. P. W., in supersession of the actual incumbents.

1 Original letter with 2 enclosures.

2. There is no doubt that a knowledge of English is almost essential to the usefulness of a Goomastah under the Officers and Subordinates of this Department, many of whom are ignorant of the local Vernacular, and it is also certain that the system of account is very different to that practised in the Revenue Cutcheries to which the Goomastahs are accustomed.

3. Moreover, the salaries of our Goomastahs are too small to satisfy men who have been generally stationary at a Cusbah, or when travelling have had assistance which is no longer available, and who, from their age and education, can look forward to no advancement.

4. It is not, as the Government suppose,† that men are displaced because the Head of the Department has been changed. I am certain that the services of experienced and intelligent Goomastahs would have been gladly availed of, if possible, by the Officers under my orders, but it is because the entire system of work and account has been altered, and that European agency has been, to a great extent, substituted for that of natives, that it has been found impracticable to conduct the duties efficiently by means of persons who have generally become unalterably fixed in ideas fostered by early training and long continued habit.

† Extract Minutes Consultation No. 206, dated 5th February 1858.

5. Those men who have been recently entertained as Goomastahs in the Department having, for the most part, been employed under Europeans, are capable of aiding in general duty as well as keeping accounts, so that they hope gradually to qualify themselves for higher situations, and are thus contented with inferior salaries at present, but with most of the Goomastahs transferred from the Revenue Officers, the position is simply a refuge from destitution and efficiency can hardly be expected when necessity is the sole motive to exertion.

Letter from Lieutenant R. F. OAKES, Acting District Engineer Tinnevely ; to Colonel C. E. FABER, Chief Engineer, dated Caroongolum, 9th February 1858, No. 15.

SIR,

With reference to Extract from your Proceedings No. 6141, dated 22nd December requesting to be informed whether I had filled up the situation of Goomastahs in the Department, and if so, why I had not entertained the late Marahmut Goomastahs I have the honor to inform you that the office establishments, with the exception of Mr. Wrights, were filled up previous to the reduction of the Department consequent on the restriction of expenditure on Public Works and that I did not remove the present occupants because I was of opinion that the efficiency of the Department would have been materially impaired by the entertainment of the late Goomastahs in their stead. Whether such would be the case you will be able to judge from the enclosed statements which exhibit the qualifications and services of the Goomastahs at present employed in the office establishments in this District as well as those of the late Marahmut Goomastahs.

2. You will perceive that the Goomastahs now employed in the Department with the exception of the 2nd Goomastah in my office are more or less acquainted with English and my 2nd Goomastah was the late Goomastah in the Collectors office whom I was ordered to entertain in letter No. 3012, dated 18th August from your office.

Fort Saint George, Public Works Consultation of 30th March 1858.

3. It is absolutely necessary that the Goomastahs employed in Supervisor McNairs and Overseer Smithers' office should be able to read and write English as the former has charge of an Executive Range and is obliged to send his accounts to my office in English and the latter is only acquainted with Tamil colloquially and has but a single servant in his office. Lieutenant Paxton and Mr. Walsh have only a trifling knowledge of Tamil and it is therefore convenient to them to employ Goomastahs who are acquainted with English and to whom they can therefore give their orders directly, and Lieutenant Payne's Goomastah has been employed for 31 years in the Department and is a most useful and intelligent man and is reported upon very favorably by that Officer.

4. The Goomastah employed by Overseer Mooneappah Pillay was his Goomastah when he was Marahmut Superintendent and the Goomastah employed by Mr. Wright formerly acted in that capacity to Lieutenant Hasted and is well acquainted with the duties of his position. It is very necessary that the single servant in the offices of the Upper Subordinates of the P. W., should be capable of performing the duties of writer as well as Goomastah and to fill such a post not a single Marahmut Goomastah under the old regime is qualified, * Ammayappa Moodelly. for only one* of them knows any thing of English and his knowledge is almost entirely colloquial and the date of his entering the Department is November 1855. Under these circumstances it is my opinion that the Department would not be improved but on the contrary that its efficiency would be very much impaired by the introduction of the late Marahmut Goomastahs in the room of the Goomastahs now employed in the offices of the Executive Officers and Members of the Upper Subordinates of the Public Works.

No. 4. ORDER THEREON, No. 528; dated 24th March 1858.

The explanation furnished in the above letter from the Chief Engineer and its accompaniments, of the circumstances under which the late Marahmut Goomastahs in the Tinnevely District have been deprived of their situations in public employ, confirms the Government in the opinion they had already formed, of the hardship with which these men have been treated.

2. From the lists submitted by the Acting District Engineer, it appears that the former Goomastahs, whose length of service ranged from as far back as 1832, were converted into Sub Overseers on the transfer of the establishment from the Collector to the Engineer, and in their stead, to suit the convenience of the Executive Officers whose knowledge of the Vernacular is said to be small, were entertained men who possessed certainly the additional qualification of a knowledge of English, but none of whom had been attached, in any way whatever, to the Public Works Department before 1850, and scarcely one had really previously held any permanent situation in it before their present one.

3. When the reduction was recently ordered in the establishment, the former Goomastahs were dismissed from their new posts of Sub Overseers, and turned adrift, and the Chief Engineer now attempts to show that this result was inevitable, and necessary to preserve the efficiency of the Department.

4. The Government cannot admit that it has been shown that these old servants are unfit for the Office of Goomastahs, and the ignorance of Tamil imputed to the District Executive Officers cannot be allowed to justify their dismissal. The Executive Officers down to Sub Engineers, have each an English writer attached to their establishment—and the system of accounts to which these Goomastahs were formerly accustomed, in what the Chief Engineer calls the Revenue Cutcheries, but which were the Marahmut Offices, cannot be so different from that now in use, as to preclude the possibility of employing them in their former capacity.

5. They are able to keep their accounts in English figures, and in many Districts it has been found perfectly feasible to retain similar men in the new establishment, and the Government, while anxious to leave as much as possible in the hands of the Engineer Officers concerned the organization of their establishments, cannot permit so palpable an injustice as the present to pass unrectified.

Fort Saint George, Public Works Consultation of 30th March 1858.

6. They therefore resolve to direct the Chief Engineer to cause the immediate re-employment of the first six of the Goomastahs entered in list No. 2, forwarded by the Acting District Engineer, whose period of service ranges as far back as 1832, and is in no case of later commencement than 1848. The claims of the remaining six persons are not so strong, but the Government desire that they may be re-employed gradually as opportunity offers.

7. It will be left to the Chief Engineer to arrange for carrying out these orders—but the Government expect to receive within a month, a report showing how they have been complied with.

(Signed) H. FORBES,
Acting Secretary to Government.

15
Colonel (E. J. S.)
Chief Engineer,
Department of Public Works,
Fort San George

With reference to Extract from your Proceedings
No 6118 dated 22nd December requesting to be informed whether
I had filled up the situation of Commasake in the Department,
and if so, why I had not yet entertained the last Arrangement.
I have the honor to inform you that the Office Exche-
quer, with the exception of Mr. Wright, were filled up prior
to the reduction of the Department consequent on the restriction
of Expenditure on Public Works and that I did not remove
the present occupants because I was of opinion that the efficiency
of the Department would have been materially impaired by
the entertainment of the late Commasake in their stead. Whether
such would be the case you will be able to judge from the enclosed
Statement which exhibit the qualifications and services of
the Commasake at present employed in the Office Establishments
in this District as well as those of the late Arranged Commasake.

2
You will perceive that the Commasake now em-
ployed in the Department with the exception of the 2nd Commasake
in my Office are more or less acquainted with English
and my 2nd Commasake was the late Commasake in the
Collector's Office whom I was ordered to entertain by His M.
No 12 dated 10th August from your Office.

2. Please let horses to be
 sold
 Yours most Obedient Servant

Universally Michl Engineer. Officer
 Caraculawa 9th February 1881.

W. F. Baker

The Comptroller employed by Government has been killed
at the Comptroller when he was Assistant Superintendent and
the Comptroller employed by the Government formerly in India but
in charge of the Comptroller's Office and is well acquainted with the
duties of the position. It is very necessary that the single
person in the Office of the Public Works and the Office of the
Comptroller should be capable of performing the duties of both as well as
the duties of the Comptroller and a person such a Post not a single Assistant Comptroller
under the old regime is qualified, for only one of them knows
any thing of English and his knowledge is almost entirely
collegial and the date of his entering the Department is Novem-
ber 1885. Under these circumstances it is my opinion that
the Department would not be improved but on the contrary
its efficiency would be very much impaired by the intro-
duction of the late Assistant Comptroller in the room of the Comptroller.
I am employed in the Office of the Executive Officer and
in the Office of the Public Works.

Central Office of R.R.
Port St. George
22^d February 1858.

17525

27th

John M. Chief Engineer

Butler

The Secretary to Government, P.O.

With reference to D. Min.
Order No 228, dated 10th February 1858,
I have the honor to submit a letter
from the Acting District Engineer
of Ponnore, stating that the person
whom he had not continued to employ
as Gomastake the late establishment
under the Collector, was that he had
filled up all such situations prior
to the reduction of the Department
ordered in Gazette Extraordinary
dated 18th July 1857, before which
date the Collector's Gomastake was
employed as Sub Overseer, and
that when their services as such
were dispensed with, their ignorance
of the English language precluded
their being transferred to the Gomastake.

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29/3/81

Walter has been informed
of your kind letter and has
been in the room of the President
conferred on the subject of his
position. He is now in the
of the place of the President of the
the 12th in the morning.

Gomastake situations in the D.P.H. in
super session of the actual incumbents.

2. There is no doubt that a
knowledge of English is almost
essential to the usefulness of a Gomastake
under the Officers and Subordinates
of this Department, many of whom
are ignorant of the local vernacular,
and it is also certain that the
system of account is very different
to that practised in the Peshwa
Cutcheries, to which the Gomastake
are accustomed.

3. Moreover, the salaries of
our Gomastake are too small to
satisfy men who have been generally
stationary at a Cutchery, or when
travelling have had assistance
which is no longer available, and
who, from their age and education,
can look forward to no advance-
ment.

4. It is not, as the Government
suppose, that men are displaced
because the Head of the Depart.
ment has been changed. I am
certain that the services of
experienced

experienced and intelligent Gomastake
would have been gladly availed of,
if possible, by the Officers under
my orders, but it is because the
entire system of work and ac-
count has been altered, and that
European agency has been, to a
great extent, substituted for
that of natives, that it has
been found impracticable to en-
dow the duties efficiently by
means of persons who have
generally become unalterably fixed
in ideas fostered by early train-
ing and long continued habits.

Those men who have been
recently entertained as Gomastake
in the Department having, for the
most part, been employed under
Europeans, are capable of
aiding in general duty as well
as keeping accounts, so that they
hope gradually to qualify them-
selves for higher situations, and
are thus contented with inferior
salaries at present, but with
much

12
most of the Comestake transferred
from the Revenue Officers, the
position is simply a refuge
from destitution and efficiency
can hardly be expected when
necessity is the sole motive to
action.

Fort St George
12 July 1888.

Lt.

R. S. G. G. G.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,

Your most obedient servant

Richard C. G.

Chief Clerk

To
The Secretary to Government
R. S. G. G.

Wm. W.

Will certify the qualifications of the said persons employed in the Department of Education by
 in the District of Columbia.

Name	Station of employment and rank held	Age	Character of employment and the Department	Of character in English	Of character in Latin	Remarks
1. <i>James M. Smith</i>	3rd Class 2nd Grade 47	1857 July 1858.	Museum of Natural History 1858.	Books and writing English only.	Books and writing Latin and Greek.	The above has reported that he is a good accountant in Latin and English and more than the
2. <i>John A. Smith</i>	3rd Class 2nd Grade 56	1857 July 1858.	Museum of Natural History 1858.	Books and writing English only.	Books and writing Latin and Greek.	The above has reported that he is a good accountant in Latin and English and more than the
3. <i>John A. Smith</i>	3rd Class 2nd Grade 47	1857 July 1858.	Museum of Natural History 1858.	Books and writing English only.	Books and writing Latin and Greek.	The above has reported that he is a good accountant in Latin and English and more than the
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7. <i>John A. Smith</i>	3rd Class 2nd Grade 47	1857 July 1858.	Museum of Natural History 1858.	Books and writing English only.	Books and writing Latin and Greek.	The above has reported that he is a good accountant in Latin and English and more than the
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10. <i>John A. Smith</i>	3rd Class 2nd Grade 47	1857 July 1858.	Museum of Natural History 1858.	Books and writing English only.	Books and writing Latin and Greek.	The above has reported that he is a good accountant in Latin and English and more than the
11. <i>John A. Smith</i>	3rd Class 2nd Grade 47	1857 July 1858.	Museum of Natural History 1858.	Books and writing English only.	Books and writing Latin and Greek.	The above has reported that he is a good accountant in Latin and English and more than the

J. P. Smith
 Acting District Clerk

No. 1.
 Nominal Roll of Grammarists attached to the several Offices of the Department of Public Works in the District of Tinnevely.

Names	Where Employed	Age	Date of present appointment	Previous appointments in the P. W. Department	Knowledge in English	Knowledge in Tamil	Remarks
Chinnaboo Kanyanar alias Chinnaboo Pillay	District Engineer's Office	31	10 Decr 57	Wrote to British and accountants in the Cotton Road for South Arcot from June 1854 to April 1856, and Civil Engineer's Secretary and Writer in May and June 56 at Tanjore in the Civil Engineer's Office from July to December 56 and 3 accountants in the same office from January to 29 Aug 57	Speaks well acc. to British and understands quantities in English with Tamil language and Tamil very well accounts		
Tiruvannamthoos Pillay	do	28	22 Sept 57	Acting Assistant Grammarist from April to 29 Sept 57 in the Secordamoo Sababoo Tamboury Grammarist from Oct 51 to Aug 55 in the Construction of the Cantonment by and from Assistant Grammarist from Sept 57 to Aug 57 in the Collection Office	Reads and writes English	do	do
Chandemathendrapillay	Executive Engineer's Office P. W. C. B. Office	24	1 Jan 57	Grammarist on the Branch Cotton Road from June 1854 to Sept 57 by	Speaks well and retains the English language fluently	do	do
Venkuttaram Rares	do District Engineer's Office	35	7 April 1857	None	Speaks well and retains the English language very well	do	do
Paulakristnapillay	Sub Engineer's Office P. W. C. B. Office	26	1 Feb 57	Substant in the District Engineer's Office for 9 months	Speaks well and retains the English language fluently	do	do
Mosathappapillay	Superintendent's Office	25-3	1 Sept 57	Secretary and Writer in the Assistant Engineer's Office from 25 March to 25 April 1857. Additional Writer from 1 May to 20 November 1856. Writer in the same office from 1 Dec 56 to 5 February 57. Writer in the District Engineer's Office from 6 Feb 57 to 27 August 1857.	Speaks well and understands the English language	do	do
Sunkatalingam Pillay	Overseer Grammarist's Office P. W. C. B. Office	35	1 Sept 57	Master and Substant in the Grammarist's Office from 12 July 1854 to 30 April 1857, and additional Grammarist in the District Engineer's Office from 1 May to 27 August 1857.	Speaks well and understands the English language	do	do
Mullasew Pillay	Overseer Smith's Office	20	1 May 57	None	Speaks well and understands the English language fluently	do	do
Saravananthapillay	Sub Engineer's Office P. W. C. B. Office	22	1 Feb 57	Substant and Substant in the District Engineer's Office from 12 July 1854 to 30 April 1857, and additional Grammarist in the District Engineer's Office from 1 May to 27 August 1857.	Speaks well and understands the English language	do	do

Tinnevely
 District Engineer's Office
 Chinnaboo 9 February 1858

J. P. R. R. R.
 Acting District Engineer
 Tinnevely

1328

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation
Under date the 24th March 1858.

Read the following
letter from the Chief Engr.
(Received 22nd February 58.
No 1325)

*At
to*

W. M.

The explanation
furnished in the above
letter from the Chief Engr.
and its accompani-
ments, of the circum-
stances under which
the late Museum of
Sons, Parks in the same
valley District have
been deprived of their
situations in the
public employ, confirms
the fact in the opinion

They had already formed
of the last ship like which
these men have been
trained.

From the list sub-
mitted by the A. S.
Engineer, it appears
that the former Ensigns take
~~some of them~~ shown
length of service ranged
from as far back as
1832, some converted
into Sub. Officers on
the transfer of the Establish.
from the 1st to the 2nd,
and in their stead,
I sent the convenience
of the Executive Officers
shown knowledge of
the particulars is said to
be small, but interesting

From the present
state of the additional
multiplication of the
number of English, but
none of them had
been attached, in any
way whatever, to
the A. S. before 1850, &
scarcely one had really
seriously held any
position in the
in it before the present
one. From the reduction
was recently ordered
in the 1st Division,
the former Ensigns
but do not hold position
two parts of the officers
and turned a drift,
and the A. S. has
attempted to show that
this was it was in itself
& necessary, & moreover
the efficiency of the

Department.

The D. P. cannot admit
that it has been shown
that these Madras
are unfit for the office of
Domestics, and the
ignorance of Tamil imputed
to the S. Executive Officers
cannot be allowed to
justify this dismissal.

The Executive Officers
D. P. & Sub. Magistrate
each an English writer
attached to their establish-
ment, and the
system of accounts &
which these Domestics
are formerly accustomed
in what the Ch. Secy.
calls the Government territories,
but which even the Government
Officers, cannot find
different from that now
in use, as I presume
to point out from
the following

Summary.

They are acquainted
able to keep their accounts
in English figures, &
in many districts
has been found perfectly
feasible to obtain
similar returns in the
Government territories
and the Government
is anxious to leave
as much as possible
in the hands of the English
Officers concerned in the
organization of their
establishments, cannot
be permitted to publish
as unjust as the
Government officers are
justified.

They therefore
desire to direct the
Ch. Secy. to cause the
immediate re-employment

of the first six of the Indians who
entered in list N^o 2,
forwarded by the A.S.
Inf^y, ~~and~~ ^{and} ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~2~~ ² ~~over~~ ^{over} period
of service ranges as far
back as 1832, and
is in a case of later
commencement than
1848. The claims of
the remaining six persons
are not so strong, but
the Govt desire that they
may be re-employed
gradually as opportunity
offers.

It is left to
the A.S. Inf^y to arrange
for carrying out these
orders. but the Govt
expect to receive within
a month a report
showing how they have
been complied with.

I Copy to the Chief Insp.
Capt. 25

B.S.

Public Works 1858 Departs
Dy. to Cons. 30th March

No 528

Extract Mus. of Cons.
Dated 24th March 1858
From Supp. Cons. Circle in Charge
of the Central Office P.W. & S. 29th
March 1858 C. No 698 in 1858 April

Directing the Chief Engineer
to cause the immediate employment
of the first six Maramunt boomers
take in the late establishment of
the Collector of Timorally ordered
in the list No. 2, whose period of
service ranges as far back as 1832,
and intimating that the remaining
6 persons may be re-employed
gradually as opportunity offers.

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