

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

DEPARTMENT

NO. No.	Page
Dated	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 96. Read the following letter from Lieutenant G. V. WINSKOM, Principal of the Civil Engineering College; to H. FORBES, Esq., Acting Secretary to Government, dated 20th March 1858, No. 32.

SIR,

Having been informed by the Chief Engineer that Candidates for Assistant Overseerships, although possessing College Certificates of their qualifications as tested at examinations for that grade, must, by the wishes of Government wait till all those formerly in the Department are again installed in their prior positions, I do myself the honor to bring to notice the very prejudicial effect such a system must exert in disheartening all those who would, by study, endeavour to qualify themselves for obtaining a livelihood in the Department.

2. I am aware that the dismissal of many persons from the Public Works lately, has been a severe hardship much felt, and that these persons should be re-installed in their former appointments as soon as practicable, appears a simple act of justice; but it is also equally evident that during the time that they are out of work, they might, with much advantage, both to themselves and the Government, be qualifying themselves theoretically for the situations they covet to occupy; and that Government is not bound to give bread to the idle.

3. The examination test for the Upper and Lower Subordinate Establishment, as laid down in the Government Notification of the 23rd June 1857, is by no means a difficult one, and the questions, I give in accordance therewith are of a plain simple description and only such as to prove that the Candidate knows those subjects which he can and must use in practice; nevertheless there has been only one individual (Corporal Watson) of all those who have been returned to their Regiments and temporarily dismissed from the Department Public Works, who has applied to be examined and get the needful certificate, and this is not wonderful if people find that they can re-enter the Department without being at the trouble of undergoing an examination or, as Natives would say, by "Masters' favor" instead of proved intelligence and knowledge.

4. It does not appear to me that to order these men to pass the prescribed examination before they can re-enter the Department would be any act of injustice to them; they have the time to learn what is required, and as I before observed it would be a real benefit both to themselves and the Government they serve. The majority of them have, I believe, been for a very short time only employed in the Department, and to cause them to re-enter according as they pass the necessary examination, would seem to be a wise measure, and just to all.

5. But what, as the appointed Director of Civil Engineering education, I would particularly notice, is the disheartening hardship that those who *do* pass, undergo, in not obtaining the livelihood they have meritoriously striven for, and the detrimental effect it must have upon the theoretical Engineering knowledge which Government so wisely wish their servants to possess and which at present is certainly most deficient, as evinced by so far only one Candidate in 7 reaching the established standard. The Candidate to whom I refer (C. Sambiah) passed a highly creditable examination gaining 92 per cent. of the full number of marks, and has excellent Certificates of character; indeed he is a young man of very superior abilities and studious habits, but according to existing regulations, he must wait till all those who have before been in the Department are been re-instated, although they may have only served for two or three months, and be never likely, either from indolence or stupidity, to excel; this appears a hard case.

6. I trust therefore that Government may see fit to direct all the Upper Subordinate Department to pass the required examination before being entertained and that the passed Candidates may rank according to the date of their examination.

No. 97. ORDER THEREON, No. 577; dated 30th March 1858.

In this letter Lieutenant Winscom represents the disadvantageous position in which Candidates for Assistant Overseerships, who have passed the prescribed examination in the Civil Engineering College, are placed, in consequence of having to wait for appointments to that grade, until all those who have been temporarily removed from the Public Works Department, shall

re-installed in their former appointments

as

have been re-instated in their former appointments. Lieutenant Wincom fully admits the justice of providing for these persons; but he argues that to give priority to such of them as have not passed the prescribed examination, over Candidates who have undergone the test, is disheartening to the latter, and prejudicial to the interests of Government. He therefore recommends that all the servants of the Upper Subordinate Department shall be required to pass the prescribed examination before being again entertained, and that the passed Candidates shall be allowed to rank according to the dates of their examination.

2. The Right Honorable the Governor in Council has carefully considered Lieutenant Wincom's representation, and is disposed to admit its force. His Lordship in Council is accordingly pleased to direct, in partial modification of the orders of 15th September 1857, No. 1752, that all the servants of the Upper Subordinate Department who were displaced from their appointments, consequent on the late reduction of the Public Works Establishment, shall be required to pass the prescribed examination before re-admission into the Department, and that passed Candidates shall be allowed to rank according to the dates of their examination.

3. Ordered that a copy of Lieutenant Wincom's letter, and of this Resolution, be furnished to the Chief Engineer, for his information and guidance.

(Signed) H. FORBES,

Acting Secretary to Government.

Madras 20th March 1858.

No. 32.

From

The Principal of the Civil Engineering College

To the Secretary to Government.

P. H. C.

Fort St. George

Sir, Having been informed by the Chief Engineer that Candidates for Assistant Quarterships, although possessing College Certificates of their qualifications as stated at Examination for that grade, must, by the orders of Government, wait till all those formerly in the Department are again installed in their prior positions, I am myself the more to bring to notice the very prejudicial effect such a system must exert in disheartening all those who would, by ~~study~~ endeavour to qualify themselves for obtaining a livelihood in the Department.

I am aware that the dismissal of many persons from the Public Works lately, has been a severe hardship enough, and that these persons should be re-installed in their former appointments as

as practicable appear as simple acts
of justice; but it is also equally evident
that during the time that they are out
of work, they might, with much advan-
tage, both to themselves and to the Govern-
ment, be qualifying themselves theoret-
ically for the situations they seek to oc-
cupy, and that Government is not bound
to give bread to the idle.

3 The examination test for the
Upper and Lower Subordinate Establish-
ment, as laid down in the Government
Notification of the 23rd June 1857 is by
no means a difficult one, and the ques-
tions given in accordance therewith are of
a plain simple description and only
such as to prove that the Candidate knows
those subjects which he can and must
use in practice; Nevertheless there has
been only one individual (Corporal
Hobson) of all those who have been return-
ed to their Regiments and temporarily
dismissed from the O.P. who has
applied to be examined and get the
useful Certificate, and this is not
unwonderful if people find that they can
re-enter the Department without being
at the trouble of undergoing an examination

or, as natives would say, by "matters fact"
instead of proved intelligence and
knowledge.

4 It does not appear to me that
to order these men to pass the prescribed
examination before they can re-enter
the Department would be any act
of injustice to them; they have the
time to learn what is required, and
as I have observed it would be a
real benefit both to themselves and
the Government they serve. The major-
ity of them have, I believe, been for a
very short time only employed in the
Department, and to enable them to re-
-enter according as they pass the re-
-cessary examination would seem
to be a wise measure, and just.

5 Whoever has the appointed
Director of Civil Engineering Education,
should particularly notice, as the
disheartening has always been, that those
who do pass undergo, in obtaining
the livelihood they have meritoriously
striven for, and the detrimental effect
it must have upon the theoretical
Engineering knowledge which Govern-
ment ^{so wisely} ~~has~~ their servants to possess
and

and which at present is certainly
most desirable, as will be by so far
only one candidate in reaching the
established standard. The Candidate
to whom I refer (C. Cambi) has passed
a highly creditable examination gaining
98 per cent of the full number of
marks, and has received certificates
of Character; indeed he is a young man
of very superior abilities and studious
habits, but according to existing regula-
tions, he must wait till all those who
have before been in the Department have been
re-instated, although they may have only
served for two or three months, and he
never likely, either from indolence or the
opposite to excel. This appears a hard case
to me. I trust therefore that Government
may be fit to direct all the Upper sub-
ordinate Department to pass the required
examination before being entertained
and that the passed candidates may
rank according to the date of their ex-
amination. I have the honor to be.

Yours most Obedient Servant
Geo. T. Wmslow Lieutenant
Principal of the L. I. College

23 March

9624

11
P. H. D.

N: 577.

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation
Under date the 30th March 1858.

Read the following letter
from the Principal of the
Civil Engineering College.

(Here enter 20th March 1858. & 32.)

A
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1. In this letter Sir
Winscom represents the dis-
advantageous position in
which candidates for office
overseers, who have passed
the prescribed examination
in the Civil Engineering
College, are placed, in conse-
quence of having to wait
for appointments to that en-
grade, until all those who
have been temporarily removed
from the Public Works Depart-
ment shall

It is to be seen the force
of the position of the
Principal of the
College. The same
force is to be seen
in the

shall have been reinstated
in their former appoint-
ments. Lieutenant Winscom
fully admits the justice of
providing for these persons,
but he argues that to give
priority to such of them as
have not passed the pre-
scribed examination, over
Candidates who have under-
gone the test, is dishearten-
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cial to the interests of Govt.
He therefore recommends
that all the servants of
the Upper Subordinate
Department should be re-
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being again entertained,
and that the passed
Candidates should be allowed
to

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to rank according to the
dates of their examination.
2. The Right Honble
the Governor in Council has
carefully considered Lieut.
Winscom's representation,
and is disposed to admit
its force. His Lordship in
Council is accordingly pleased
to direct, in partial modifi-
cation of the orders of 15th Sept
1857 & 17th 52, that all the ser-
vants of the Upper Subordi-
nate Department who were
displaced from their
appointments, consequent
on the late reduction of
the Public Works Establish-
ment, shall be required
to pass the prescribed ex-
amination before re-
admission into the Depart-
ment, and that passed
Candidates

Candidates shall be allowed
to sail according to the
dates of their examination.

Ordered that a copy
of Lieutenant Wincom's
letter, and of this Resolu-
tion, be furnished to the
Chief Engineer, for his infor-
mation and guidance.

[Signature]

1/1 Copies to the Chief Eng
Capt. H

1-11 M. Port Engg. College

10th 1897

Public Works Dept
Cous. 37th March

10th 1897

Engineer's Office of Public

Works 37th March 1897

From the Engineer's Office of Public

Works 37th March 1897

to the Engineer's Office of Public

Works 37th March 1897

for the Engineer's Office of Public

Works 37th March 1897

by the Engineer's Office of Public

Works 37th March 1897

for the Engineer's Office of Public

Works 37th March 1897

by the Engineer's Office of Public

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by the Engineer's Office of Public

Works 37th March 1897