

(1) Number of pages _____

(2) Date of receipt _____

(3) Initials of the Referee _____

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Relations DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1995	Press
4-17-18	Mis.
Dated 18-6-1895	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 417. Read the following letter from the Officer in charge of Public Works Operations in the Wynaad, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Luckadie, 17th May 1869, No. 101 :—

On the departure of the Sappers, wishing to give more accommodation to the Coolies, I ordered one of my subordinates to make over to them some of the lines vacated by the former; and in consequence of his report that the huts were in such a filthy state as to be uninhabitable, I directed Hospital Assistant Paul to inspect the whole of the lines; and subsequently I requested Major Raynsford, who has come to Luckadie to take up my duties temporarily, to go round with him. I beg to forward the reports on the subject made by the latter Officer* and the Hospital Assistant.*

* Dated 15th May 1869.

2. I am very far from being of opinion that the sickness amongst the Sappers is to be attributed entirely to the condition in which their lines were kept, as I consider both Companies were rather predisposed to the disease from having suffered from it previously to their coming to Wynaad; and it is undeniable that the droughty character of the season, and consequent prevalence of fever, is considerably more than usual; but I must say that until I became acquainted with the facts now reported, I was puzzled to account for the universality of disease amongst the Sappers, not one single individual of whom, I was informed, had escaped; in fact, latterly, on several days, there was not a man available for public work; this was a state of things that did not exist amongst my other work-people, and it did seem unaccountable that men who were apparently better housed, better clothed, and better cared for in every way, should be suffering so much more severely. I would have been rather inclined to think more was made of sickness than was justified, had it not been for the wretched appearance of the men and their families, which unmistakably acquitted them of any such attempt.

3. In a letter to the Deputy Quarter Master General of the Mysore Division, I pointed out how my responsibility, as regards the houses of the Sappers, could not but cease on my handing them over to them, and, to avoid repetition, I beg to forward a copy.†

† No. 55, dated 30th April 1869.

4. Having served for nine years and a half myself as a Sapper Officer, I am pretty well acquainted with what used to be considered the duties of one; and during the time I was in command at Luckadie, I adopted certain measures with reference to the lines which quite prevented any such state of things as I have now to bring to notice. In each block of huts one double-house was set apart for a Non-Commissioned Officer, and he was held responsible for the keeping in repair and cleanliness of that block, while the Native Officers were directed weekly to inspect the lines of their Company, and report the result. Whether this had any sanitary effect or not I will not take on myself to say, but I beg to forward a statement showing the number of deaths, and the number of cases requiring sick leave during the four years that the Company I commanded remained at Luckadie, that period being only broken, in the first year of their service here, by a removal to Wellington from May to September 1860.

5. I have more than once alluded to the great inconvenience caused by the absolute independence assumed by the Officers doing duty with the Sappers, and

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
18th June 1869*

think it my duty to lose no opportunity of bringing that point forward, interfering so seriously as it does with the good service that the men would otherwise render to the public. Had I possessed the necessary powers, I would have taken very good care that there should have been no such cause which should have tended to aggravate disease, as the reports I have the honour to forward show existed; but the jealousy of any kind of interference is carried to such an extreme, that I have no means of knowing any thing connected with the Sappers, except from such information as may be volunteered.

6. I am most reluctantly obliged to write so strongly, especially when what I say may affect so good an Officer as the one lately in command at Luckadie; but I have no choice, and in justice to myself, as well as to remove the opinion that is doubtless entertained of the unhealthiness of the station, I cannot refrain from reporting what I believe to be the chief reason that has caused the necessity for the removal of the detachment, and consequent loss of its services, that just at this season of the year are more useful than at any other. If Sappers again come to Luckadie, I trust that either I may be entrusted with somewhat more authority over them, in matters not absolutely Military, than I now possess; or else that stringent orders may be issued in the Military Department, defining the various duties of a Sapper Officer, with reference to his connection with the Public Works Department. It is, I believe, entirely owing to the absence of such, and the knowledge on the part of the Officers concerned that the late Commandant was particularly jealous of their entire independence, that they have left unperformed many duties which, in my time, were understood to be necessary; and that were those duties and their position once properly defined, no Officer would fail in proper attention to either, and of all who have been here none would be less likely to do so than Captain Elliot.

7. These Officers arrive here fresh and totally unacquainted with the climate, and, without any reflection on them, almost equally so with the nature of the work they have to perform; it stands to reason that if my long experience of both is worth anything, they might advantageously have the benefit of it, and would, were it not for the feeling that any subservience to my instructions might seem to argue a subordinate position on their part; while I am equally deterred from volunteering anything that may bring upon me unpleasant rebuffs, such as on some occasions I have been subjected to, when I have ventured to make suggestions.

8. With regard to the description of the lines given over to the Sappers, they were inspected by His Excellency Sir William Denison, and no fault found; His Excellency the Governor has also seen them, and, I believe, passed an opinion that although not equal to those at Bangalore, they were as good as the generality of huts inhabited by Sepoys. The present Inspector General of Indian Medical Department, the Deputy Inspector General of Hospitals, Mysore Division, Brigadier General DeSausmarez, and others have also seen them, and no objection was ever raised as to their suitability; nor has any unfavorable report on the subject been made, so far as I am aware, by any of the Medical subordinates who have been in charge of the Sappers, so I think I am justified in saying that so far as my duty to provide proper accommodation has been involved, I have not failed to perform it.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
18th June 1869,*

Return showing the number of deaths amongst the Sappers and Miners stationed at Luckadie, from 2nd February 1860 to April 1864.

Company and number.	Rank and Name.	Diseases.	Date of death.	Remarks.
D	Carpenter	Annaroo	24th April 1862	Arrived at Luckadie sick, illness attributed to excessive use of drugs.
2,629	Private	Kristamah	6th July	Effects of climate.
2,651	Do.	Veerasawmy	30th November 1862	Do.
983	Havildar	Veerasen	21st May 1863	Result of his own imprudence.
2,543	Private	Cautiah	29th June	Constitutional, aggravated by climate.

Return of men allowed to proceed on sick leave from 2nd February 1860 to August 1861.

Company and number.	Rank and Name.	Diseases.	Period during which granted sick leave.	Remarks.
1,577	Private	Lazaar	9th November 1860.	
1,719	Do.	Govindoo	Do.	
1,579	Do.	Monean	8th June 1861.	
1,003	Do.	Madramotoo	16th September 1861.	
1,220	Do.	Permaul	4th August	
1,591	Do.	Doorgiah	16th September	
1,325	Naigue	Cocposawmy	15th December	
1,657	Private	Iyasawmy	19th July 1862.	
2,545	Do.	Francis	8th "	
2,586	Do.	Monean	21st August	
1,136	Do.	Moorgan	7th September 1862.	
2,586	Do.	Monean	9th December	
1,141	Do.	Monean	24th March 1863.	
1,656	Do.	Vythelingom	15th August	
1,597	Naigue	Madray	Do.	
1,215	Ditto.	Motooteerapen	8th December 1863.	

(Signed) R. B. KENNEDY, Major,
Special Executive Engineer, Wynaad.

LUCKADIE,
17th May 1869.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
18th June 1869.*

From Major F. M. RAYNSFORD, to the Special Executive Engineer, Wynaad, dated Wynaad,
15th May 1869.

HAVING been requested by you to ascertain whether the report of the filthy state of the huts, lately occupied by the Sappers and Miners, was correct, I have the honour to state that I went down each room, and examined the court-yards and huts, the odour from the court-yards was quite overpowering, and it was quite evident to me that they had been used for evacuation purposes for some time, and in some of the huts there were actually holes made and filled up that had been used for the same object; only one hut was in a clean state, and the worst conditioned hut was one occupied by a Ilavildar, the first on the right hand of the road going towards the head of the ghaut. The Dresser who accompanied me saw the condition of these huts, and can state whether it would be likely to produce sickness or injury to health.

From Second Class Hospital Assistant A. PAUL, No. 635, in Medical charge, to the Executive Engineer, Luckadie, dated Luckadie, 15th May 1869, No. 2.

I beg most respectfully to bring to your kind notice, that yesterday morning, soon after the departure of K. Company from this station, I visited few of the Sappers' huts, and this morning, agreeably to your order, I went round the whole lines, and beg to report that they are in a very filthy state, and it is notorious that they are polluted in consequence of the careless and disgusting habits of the natives in not carrying off sewage of their huts, and converting the compounds, which is nearly about twelve square-feet, into latrines, the odour of the evacuations is very strong, and the pestiferous practice of accumulating ashes, &c., in several places where evacuations are concealed, and damping the grounds by washing their utensils, &c., hence I attribute the impure and vitiated condition of atmosphere caused the prevalence of sickness amongst the Sappers and their families to an unlimited extent, which though prevalent during this time of the year, yet it could have been checked considerably if proper sanitary condition of the lines were attended to.

2. The sickness among the coolies is very few, and this I consider is owing to the good condition of the lines observed by them.

3. Major Raynsford himself visited the lines this noon, when I pointed out every thing.

4. In conclusion, I beg that if your honour will order the Overseers to place certain number of coolies under my command every Sunday morning, I shall try to keep all the lines as neat as possible.

From the Special Executive Engineer, Wynaad :—
(Here enter 30th April 1869, No. 55.)

No. 418.

ORDER THREEON, 18th June 1869, No. 1,995.

MILITARY WORKS, No. 25.

COMMUNICATED to the Military Department.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R. E.,

Secretary to Government.

To the Military Department.
To Major R. B. Kennedy.

Exd S. T. Augustin.

Station showing the number of Deaths amongst the
 persons and animals stationed at Snellville from 21st February 1861 to April 1864.

Company	Rank & Name	Rank	Date of Death	Remarks
10	"	Captain	March 24 April 1861	Arrived at Snellville 24th, illness attributed to exposure and fatigue.
"	2624 Private	Mustard	March 1 st July 1861	Effects of climate.
"	2651 "	Weathering	Roll 30 hours 1861	ditto
4	953. David H. Hester	Private	June 21 Aug 1861	Result of his own imprudence
10	2573 Private	Connel	July 22 June 1861	Result of a cold contracted by climate.

Return of men allowed to proceed on sick leave from

Company	Rank and Name	Rank	Date of Death	Remarks
10	1577 Private	Logan	March 9 th Nov 1860	Result of exposure
"	1749 do	Forrester	April 9 th ditto	Result of exposure
"	1579 do	Johnson	March 8 th June 1861	Result of exposure
"	1603 do	Johnson	April 16 th July 1861	Result of exposure
"	1120 do	Johnson	April 16 th Aug 1861	Result of exposure
"	1591 do	Johnson	April 16 th Aug 1861	Result of exposure
"	1325 Private	Copeland	June 15 th Dec 1861	Result of exposure
"	1607 Private	Copeland	July 18 th July 1861	Result of exposure
"	2635 "	Francis	July 22 July 1861	Result of exposure
"	2556 "	Johnson	July 22 Aug 1861	Result of exposure
"	1146 "	Johnson	July 22 Aug 1861	Result of exposure
"	2588 "	Johnson	July 22 Aug 1861	Result of exposure
"	1141 "	Johnson	July 22 Aug 1861	Result of exposure
"	1656 "	Johnson	July 22 Aug 1861	Result of exposure
"	1897 Private	Johnson	July 22 Aug 1861	Result of exposure
"	1215 ditto	Johnson	July 22 Aug 1861	Result of exposure

Special Agent's Office
 No. 100, N. 100, 1861

Special Engineer's Office
Srinagar, Nagaland, 50
April 1869.

No 55

To,

The Acting Deputy Quarter Master
General Nagaland Division
Nagaland

In reply to your letter of the
27th instant No 1026, I have the honor to
inform you that the repairs therein
referred to have been completed, in
fact, on the day that the officers in com-
mand of the Detachment were
materials were at site; & as Captain
Elliot was aware of this, he should
have mentioned it, and saved this
reference. As regards the Lines, I
have to complain of the carelessness
of the Sappers in both the manner of
building their huts, and the want
of supervision in keeping them in
proper repair. The lines built by
myself when in command of the
Detachment were put up without any
assistance from the Public Works Depart-
ment; more done in less than one
third the time now taken in the
same work with the assistance of as
much hired labor as may be
asked for; they lasted also for

From the Official
Engineer's Office
No 111. Dated 17th April.

To,
The Deputy Quarter Master
General Nagaland Division

Dated 17th April 1869.

Yrs
27/7/69

Acting Quarter Master

and Junior Engineer
to the Nagaland Division

Lines from 10th instant

1869 to 17th April 1869.

Done at Nagaland 19th April 1869.

upwards of four years with scarcely
slight annual repairs; while the
new put up has to be raised entirely
renewed every year. The hire of
labors at my disposal is of an inferior
description, or I should not require
the presence of Sappers at all; and
I am necessarily obliged to leave
all work requiring any skill, or care,
to the Sappers, my experience with
the ~~European~~ ^{Corps} men extends over 15
years, nearly nine of which I did
actual duty with it, and to meet my
objection that may be raised about
obliging the men to erect and
repair the buildings intended
for their use, I beg to say that such
has been the invariable custom, the
men receiving working pay, while
so employed.

Under these circumstances,
as I have no authority of any description
to compel either proper supervision,
or good work, I cannot consent to
take responsibility which should
lay with the officers in command,
and I candidly I have good cause
for complaint, where after so heavy
an expenditure as is annually in-
curred on the houses, and other buildings
required for the Detachment that Public

money should be so grossly wasted
as it is. I beg to add that the
Sines are regularly repaired once
a year, my experience proves that
when properly done, such repair
is ample; a greater part of the minor
houses were retatched within the
last six months, and if they are bad
it is the fault of the Sapper officers who
ought to have exercised strict su-
pervision in the matter, and officers
should not be sent here who are not
competent to judge whether work is
properly done, or not. My duties are too
multifarious, and numerous to permit me
to supply their want of experience.
The proper time for repairs to be
executed is just previous to the
monsoon, but of late the practice
that has arisen of taking away a
Company just at that time, and so
obliging their lines vacated by them
to be left uninhabited till resumed
by the succeeding Company, has led
to a contrary course, before the
rainy season commenced further re-
pairs are needed, as the thatch falls
into disrepair, partly owing to the
utter absence of periodical inspections,
and timely conservancy, and a great deal
arriving to the thatch being destroyed

the number of Privies left by the men.
The rains in March and April, are
generally merely a few desultory, though
heavy showers, and it is not ad-
visable to commence repairs till near
the time when winter light frosts
are most required, besides which I have
invariably been kept in such a state
of uncertainty as to whether any,
or the whole Detachment would
be persuaded, & when, that it has made
me hesitate in laying out Public
money, & taking up valuable time, for
possibly no use at all. This year, had
I ever thought it advisable, I could
not for want of funds, ^{have} commenced
any rebuilding before the cur-
rent month, besides which, it would
have been sheer waste to have done
so, when I had myself proposed
the quick and permanent reduction of
the strength of the Detachment by
one Company, in order that the
materials of their lines might
be utilized for the repair of those
of the Company left behind. I beg
to add that if the Commandant
of Sappers can find me 25 picked
tradesmen, with a good energetic
Station Officer, & the proper complement of

of non-commissioned Officers, I would willingly
dispute with a larger number, as in a
whole Company, I find that many men are
simply supernumeraries, still better than the
labor than can be hired. This course would
enable me to have the men much better
housed, and I believe be attended with the
very best results. I have already marked
the subject to Lieut. Colonel Prendergast,
decide officially, and there ought to be no diffi-
culty in finding me the tradesmen I have
named, as they are of the ordinary description
most common in a Sapper Company.

In conclusion I have the honor
to represent the great imprudence that has
been shown, in leaving the station at this
season, without competent medical aid. I
have never ceased urging at every possible
opportunity, the necessity of a good apothecary
being always here, and I am positive that
three fourths of the illness is due to the inex-
perience of the Internates who have been left
with this responsible charge. At this moment
the station is without any effective medical
Officer, the 3^d Class Hospital Assistant
attached

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James W. L. L. L.

Copy of a letter from
the City of St. Louis to the
acting Adjutant-General
of the
Army.

On a letter from the
acting Adjutant-General
of the Army to the
acting Adjutant-General
of the Army.

John W. L. L. L.
Adj. Gen. Engineer Wynand.

St. Louis, Mo. 15th May 1869.

Major R. B. Kennedy
Adj. Gen. Engineer Wynand.

Sir,
Having been requested
by you to ascertain whether the
report of the filthy state of the huts
lately occupied by the soldiers &
shirers was correct, I have the
honour to state that I went down
each room, and examined the
privies, and huts, the odour
from the Camp yards was quite
overpowering and it was quite
evident to me that they had been
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Havildar, the first on the right hand
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of the stream. The 10th Regt. who ac-
companied me, saw the condition
of these huts & can state whether

it would be likely to produce sickness
or injury to health:-

I have the honour to
acknowledge Sir,
your most obliging

J. M. Raymond Major

On a letter from the
Honble Executive Engineer
Hydrabad dated 17th May
1869 I have the
honble Secretary to
Government D. D. W.
Hydrabad
J. M. Raymond
Major
Hydrabad
17th May 1869
Original letter from
Hydrabad of J. M. Raymond
Major dated 17th May
1869
The Honble Secretary
to Government
Hydrabad

No 2
Lucknow
15th May 1869

Major R B Kennedy
Executive Engineer
Lucknow

Honored Sir

I beg most respectfully to bring
to your kind notice, that yesterday morning
soon after the departure of H Company
from this Station, I visited few of the
Sappers & Co, and this morning agreeably
to your order, I went round the whole lines
and beg to report, that, they are in a ^{very} filthy
state and it is notorious that they are polluted
in consequence of the Careless and disgusting
habits of the natives in not carrying off
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Compounds which is nearly about 12 Square
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Evacuations is very strong and the pestiferous
practice of accumulating ashes &c in
several places, where evacuations are
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121
Condition of atmosphere caused the prevalence of Sickness amongst the Sappers and their families to an unlimited extent which though prevalent during this time of the year, yet it could have been checked considerably if proper Sanitary Condition of the Lines attended to.

The Sickness among the coolies is very few and this I consider to the good Condition of the Lines observed by them.

Major Raymond himself visited the Lines this noon when I pointed out every thing.

In Conclusion I beg that if your Honor will order the Overseers to place certain number of coolies under my Command every Sunday morning I shall try to keep all the lines as neat as possible.

I beg to remain

Honored Sir

Your Most Obedient Servant

A Paul No 35

2nd Co H 41st Regt

In Med^l charge P. P. W.

Special Executive Engineers' Office, Wynand Suddadie
 17th May 1869.
 From, The Special Executive Engineers Wynand.

To, The Secretary to Government
 Department Public Works
 Madras.

Sir, On the departure of the Sappers, wishing to give more accommodation to the Coolies, I ordered one of my Subordinates to make over to them some of the lines vacated by the former, and in consequence of his report that the huts were in such a filthy state as to be uninhabitable, I directed Hospital Assistant Paul to inspect the whole of the Lines, and subsequently requested Major Ragnersford, who has come to Suddadie to take up my duties temporarily, to go round with him. I beg to forward the reports on the subject made by the latter Officer, and the Hospital Assistant.

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* d/15 May 1869.
 & d/15 May 1869.

A. a letter from the office
 to the Engineer Wynand Suddadie
 dated 15th May 1869.
 To the Secretary to Government
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No. 55. 4/30th
April 1869.

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I will not take on myself to say, but they
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of deaths, and the number of cases requiring
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to write so strongly, especially when what I say
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3
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were understood to be necessary, and that were
those duties, and their position once properly
defined, no Officer would fail in proper
attention to either; and of all who have been
here, none would be less likely to do so than
Captain Elbert.
I am, Sir, Your obedient servant,
These Officers are now here fresh

I am totally unacquainted with the climate,
and without any reflections on them almost
equally so with the nature of the work they
have to perform; and it stands to reason
that if my long experience of both is worth
anything, they might advantageously have
the benefit of it, and would were it not for
the feeling that any subservience to my in-
structions might seem to argue a subor-
dinate position on their part, while I am
equally deterred from volunteering anything
that may bring upon me unpleasant rebuffs,
such as on some occasions I have been sub-
jected to, when I have ventured to make suggestions.
With regard to the description of
the Linc given over to the Sappers, they were
inspected by His Excellency the ~~British~~
Governor, and no fault found, His Excellency
the Governor has also seen them, and I believe
in paper an opinion that although not equal to
those at Bangalore, they were as good as the
generality of huts inhabited by Sepoys. The
present Inspector General of Indian Medical
Department, the Deputy Inspector General
of

of Hospitals Mysore Division, Brigadier
General De-Sansumarez and others have also
seen them, and no objection was ever raised
as to their suitability; nor has any un-
favorable report on the subject been made,
so far as I am aware, by any of the Medical
Subordinates who have been in charge of the
Sappers, so I think I am justified in say-
ing that so far as my duty to provide proper
accommodation has been involved I have
not failed to perform it.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant

W. M. Kennedy Major

Special Executive Engineer

Mysore.

462

1869 Sept
From, 121 1/2 No 277
The Special Executive

Engineer, Howard
of Virginia
The Secretary to
the Committee on
Education, 10.000
withstand

Oct 17 96
Dec 28 1869

1871

Enclosure 4.

Howard, Arthur

Comprehending reports
the state of affairs, and
officers, and the
the

the

No 1995 - 1872 June 1869

White can order

No 1995

Communicated to

the Military Dept.

Part 81 George
1872 June 1869

Ch. B.

the Military Dept.
Major H. B. Remondy

Sept 19 69

2-255 May 1869

10 2177

Govt. of 1869: Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To The Military Department

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