M.R.O. 1—77,000—8-6-37.

(1) Number of pages 1

(2) Date of repair

(3) Initials of the Reference

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 3246 Press Mis.

14445

Dated 7 10 1867.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 7th October 1869.

No. 144. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Public Department :—

Communicating copy of a despatch addressed to the Home Government by the Government of India, requesting that, except under the most exceptional circumstances, no man with a large family should be engaged in England for minor civil employment in India. (Here enter 28th September 1869, No. 1,343.)

No. 145. ORDER THEREON, 7th October 1869, No. 3,246.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 6. ORDERED to be recorded.

(True Extract.)

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

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,
28th September 1869.

No. 158. Read the following despatch from the Government of India, Financial Department, to Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India; dated Simla, 26th August 1869, No. 212.

Administration and Public Departments.

The Master of the Calcutta Mint has informed us that William Norris, the workman whose engagement was notified to us in Sir Stafford Northcote's despatch No. 474, dated 17th November 1868, was accompanied to India by a wife and seven children.

2. As a consequence, he finds it exceedingly difficult to support his family upon the salary for which he contracted, and considers that he has been deceived as to the value to him in India of the wages given him. His discontent interferes seriously with the efficiency of his services.

3. We cannot help regarding it as a matter for much regret that Norris was permitted to bring his large family to Calcutta. The inevitable result of the importation of a family of English children to India, with a view to a lengthened residence there, is suffering and disease, which can be mitigated and prevented if at all only by costly appliances altogether out of the reach of a man in Norris' position.

4. The employment of English artizans in the plains of India is for the present indeed a necessity, which, however much we may regret it, cannot be avoided. The only remedy is the substitution of skilled native labour to the uttermost; and we are well-persuaded that there is no handicraft, however intricate and difficult, which the natives of India are not capable of learning. Our most earnest attention will be given to this subject, with the distinct object, among others, of dispensing, so far as may be possible, with European labour of a mechanical nature.

5. But we respectfully suggest to your Grace that it be made a rule, to be departed from only under the most exceptional circumstances, that no man with a large family shall be engaged in England to proceed to India for minor civil employment under the Government there.

No. 2995.

Copy of the above forwarded to the Local Governments, and to the Military, Foreign, and Public Works Departments, in order to the issue of particular instructions for the avoidance, by every possible expedient, of the importation of English mechanics whose employment in this country is beset with evils. Especial attention should be given to the object of training native skilled labourers whenever possible.

(By Order,)

(Signed) R. H. HOLLINGBERY,
Asst. Secy. to the Govt. of India.

SIMLA, FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT,
26th August 1869.

ORDER THEREON, 28th September 1869, No. 1313.

No. 159. Communicated to the Revenue, Military, and Public Works Departments, for observance.

(True Extract.)

Actg. Secy. to Govt.

To the Revenue Department.
" Military do.
" Public Works do.

Engd. J. Wright.

No 4154

No 3246

Ordered to be recorded

Filed for record

Sept 3 1873

at 7 o'clock P.M.

Sept 3 1873

at 7 o'clock P.M.

No 3246

Date and note

Doc 41854

Govt. of India.

PUBLIC WORKS.

Dated [illegible] 1869. No. 3246

Nos. 114 — 115

[illegible]