M.R.O. 1—77,066—8-6-57.

(1) Number of pages 12

(2) Date of repair 11-2-60

(3) Initials of the Referencer

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public works **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 383	Press ~~Mis.~~
15-16	
Dated 1 2	1870.

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Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 15. Read the following letter from J. L. WILSON, Esq., Assistant Engineer, Department Public Works, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated camp at Tripatore, 28th January 1870:—

I HAVE the honour to request you will be good enough to lay the following letter before His Excellency the Governor in Council. In Government Order, dated 9th instant, I was deeply grieved to find that my services in the investigation of the Kistnagherry Project had not met with the approbation of Government, and further that I was to be placed in a subordinate position in the district.

2. I can now only assure Government that throughout the whole of the survey, which was taken in one of the hottest seasons that has been known in India for many years, every morning I was at the instrument waiting for sufficient light to take a sight, and I did not leave off until the radiation prevented my taking the readings accurately. I have very rarely returned to camp before half past eleven, having been out since four o'clock A.M. I had no assistance; the ground was of the most difficult nature to survey, owing to the dense and rocky jungle, and yet I levelled and surveyed more than 200 miles; this, of course, includes contour, check, and cross-section levels, besides a great deal of Trigonometrical Survey.

3. I quite agree with Government that the report on the Project is not complete; this is through no fault of mine, as I was ordered by the Superintending Engineer to forward at once whatever plans and reports were ready, and proceed to Oossoor to assume temporary charge of the Oossoor Range. This, of course, I did, fully expecting that as far as I had proceeded with the work, it would be approved of, and that I should be ordered to complete the survey in all its details. In concluding this subject I may mention that I have repeatedly been told by the Superintending Engineer that a complete and finished survey was not required by Government *at present*. After serving as an Articled Apprentice for six years in England, and receiving at the end of that time a high testimonial for ability and assiduity I came to India, and was ultimately posted to the Bellary District, then in charge of Captain R. C. Babington, who on leaving expressed his complete satisfaction as to my work; subsequently under Colonel E. Hemery, R.E., who carefully and often examined my Range. That officer was so satisfied with my services and general conduct that in his letter to Government, No. 276, dated 20th February 1864, he states: "I can assure Government that Mr. Wilson is second to none in this division for zeal, energy, and attention to his duties." After Colonel Hemery left, I was struck down by lightning and almost blinded, which necessitated my going Home for a time on sick certificate, when, of course, I lost all chance of promotion.

4. I cannot but come to the conclusion that a prejudice unfavourable to me exists, and that I cannot under these circumstances hope for promotion. I cannot, as a married man, with the strictest economy, save anything from my present small pay. I have had to incur heavy expenses in going to England and returning here, having had to pay my passages both in going and coming myself. My Covenant will expire in February 1871, but I now humbly and respectfully solicit Government that they will grant me six months' pay, and allow me to resign, as the

general order has thoroughly disheartened me. The reason I ask for this favour is, that I have no means to take my wife and myself Home, nor have I any prospect of employment in this country.

No. 16. ORDER THEREON, 1st February 1870, No. 383.

ESTABLISHMENT No. 2.

HIS Excellency the Governor in Council accepts Mr. Wilson's resignation of his appointment in the Public Works Department, and authorizes the grant to him of a gratuity equivalent to six months' salary on his executing a deed acquitting the State of all further demands under the terms of his Covenant.

2. The charge will be debited to the grant for Establishments.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) CHARLES A. ORR, Colonel, R. E.,

Secretary to Government.

To the Superintending Engineer, 5th Division.
,, Controller of Public Works Accounts.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

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Camp Tripatore
28th January 1870

From
J. L. Wilson Esqr
Asst. Engr P. W.

To The Secretary to Government
Public Works Department.

Sir

I have the honor to request you will be good enough to lay the following letter before his Excellency the Governor in Council. In Government order dated 9th Instant I was deeply grieved to find that my services in the investigation of the Kistnagherry project had not met with the approbation of Government, and further that I was to be placed in a subordinate position in the District.

I can now only assure Government that throughout the whole of the

Survey which was taken in one of the hottest seasons that has been known in India for many years. every morning, I was at the instrument waiting for sufficient light to take a sight, and I did not leave off, until the radiation prevented my taking the readings accurately. I have very rarely returned to camp before half past eleven, having been out since four o'clock a.m.
I had no assistance, the ground was of the most difficult nature to survey, owing to the dense and rocky jungle, and yet I levelled and surveyed more than 200 miles, this course includes contour, check and cross section levels, besides a great deal of Trigonometrical Survey.
I quite agree with Government that the report on the project is not complete, this is through no fault of mine as I was ordered by the Superintending Engineer to forward at once whatever plans and reports were ready, and proceed to Bossoor to assume temporary charge of the Bossoor Range. This of course I did, fully expecting that as far as I had proceeded with the work, it would be approved of, and that I should be ordered to complete the Survey in all its details. In concluding this subject I may mention that I have repeatedly been told by the Superintending Engineer that a complete and finished Survey was not required by Government at present.
After serving as an articled apprentice for six years in England and receiving at the end of that time a high testimonial for ability and assiduity. I came to India, and was ultimately posted to the Bellary district, then in charge of Captain R. E. Babington, who on leaving, expressed his complete satisfaction as to my work. Subsequently under Colonel P. Henery R.E. who carefully and often examined my range; that officer was so satisfied with my services and general conduct that in his letter to Government No. 276 dated 20th Feb: 1864 he states, "I can assure Government that Mr. Wilson is second to none in this Division for zeal, energy and attention to his duties."
After Colonel Henery left, I was struck down by lightning, and almost blinded, which necessitated my going home for a time on sick certificate, when of course I lost all chance of promotion.

I cannot but come to the conclusion that a prejudice unfavourable to me exists, and that I cannot under these circumstances hope for promotion. I cannot, as a married man, live the strictest economy save anything from my present small pay. I have had to incur heavy expenses in going to England and returning here, having had to pay my passages both in going and coming myself. My covenant will expire in February 1871, but I now humbly and respectfully solicit Government that they will grant me six months pay and allow me to resign, as the General order has thoroughly disheartened me. The reason I ask for this favour is that I have no means to take my wife and myself home, nor have I any prospect of employment in this country.

I have the honour to be
Sir
your most obedient Servant

J. L. Wilgress
Capt. R.A.

Rec. 18th Feb. Dept. Pub. Works Feb. 17th
No 4086

From
Mr. Asst. Engr. J. Wilson.

Dy 28th
Rec 31st } Jan/70.

No. 383 - 1st Feby 1870
Regarding
the recent order
of Govt on his work
in connection with
the investigation of
the Kishnagheiry
Project & soliciting
six months' salary
& allowance to
resign his appoint-
-ment in the P. W.
Dept.

No 15

No 383

Under date the 1st Feby/70

His Excellency the
Governor in Council ac-
-cepts Mr. Wilson's resigna-
-tion of his appointment
in the Public Works Deptt.,
and authorizes the grant
to him of a gratuity —
equivalent to six months
salary on his executing
a Deed acquitting the State
of all further demands un-
-der the terms of his Covenant

The charge will
be debited to the grant
for

Rec 408

Govt. of 1870 Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To

The Superintending Engr.

5th Division

Dated

Read.

G. O., 1st July 1870, No. 883

Nos. 15 - 16

Wilson - Asst Engr. He resigna-tion tendered by Asst Engr Wilson, & his appointment as Ex. Asst. accepted; and permission granted conditionally for his disbursements of a portion of Esq. -valents to his Div Masters salary, &c