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(3) Initials of the Referencer _____

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1283 Press
355, 356 Mis.

Dated 14- 5 1872.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 14th May 1872.

No. 355. Read the following letter from the Superintending Engineer, 8th Division, to the Officiating Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Madura, 3rd May 1872, No. 457 :—

I HAVE the honour to submit, for the favourable consideration and orders of Government, the accompanying memorial from Mr. J. P. Martin, late Supervisor, Public Works Department, in charge of No. 3 Range, Madura District.

1 Memorial from Mr. Martin, dated 27th April 1872, with one Enclosure.

2. I have addressed the Government so frequently and at such great length on the matter of the affairs of the Shevagungah Range, that I am almost ashamed to trouble them with any further remarks on this subject.

3. I will only mention that I have pointed out on former occasions that Mr. Martin was not a competent man to select for the position of a Range Officer, and by being placed, as he was, in a very isolated locality, and left unvisited by his superior officer for several years at a time, it is no wonder that the affairs of his range fell as they did into such great confusion.

See my report No. 778, dated 8th June 1871, paragraph 17.

4. I have also pointed out that I considered Mr. Martin as the tool of a party, and that party a bad lot, see my report No. 2,595, dated 16th October 1871, paragraph 16; and under the above-mentioned circumstances, and the consideration of the fact that Mr. Martin had, when properly supervised, done good service, and had indeed earned the thanks of Government, it will be for the Government to decide as to what further consideration should be given to his case.

5. I am not myself prepared to recommend his restoration to the service whether as Supervisor or even as Talook Overseer, but as a reward for his former good conduct for which he received the thanks of the Government they may perhaps be disposed to look mercifully on his case, and grant him a gratuity to enable him to start afresh in life, and thus provide for his large family who are entirely dependent upon him for support.

No. 356. ORDER THEREON, 14th May 1872, No. 1,283.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 38.

THE Government must decline to accede to the prayer made by Mr. J. P. Martin, lately in charge of No. 3 Range, Madura District, whether for re-employment in the department, or for pension, nor can they, adopting the recommendation made by the Superintending Engineer of the Division, accord him a gratuity.

2. On account of the fraudulent aspect of some of the transactions in which Mr. Martin was concerned, the Governor in Council was strongly

inclined to institute criminal proceedings against him, and is of opinion that, in simply directing his dismissal from the department, the Government gave full weight to every mitigating circumstance which could be urged in his favor.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R.E.,

Officiating Secretary to Government.

No 457 Superintg. Engineer's Office S.D.
Madura 3d May 1872.

From

Lieut: Colonel H A Roberts R.E
Superintg Engineer 8th Dn.

To

Colonel G W Walker R.E
Offg Secretary to Government Pub.

Sir,

I have the honor to submit for the favorable consideration and orders of Government, the accompanying Memorial from Mr J & Martin late Supervisor D.P.W. in charge of No 3 Range Madura District.

Endosures 2
1 Memorial

2 I have addressed the Government so frequently, and at such great length on the matter of the affairs of the Sheraqinqah Range that I am almost ashamed to trouble them with any further

remarks on this subject.

3. I will only mention that I have pointed out on former occasions that Mr Martin was not a competent man to select for the position of a Range Officer, and by being placed, as he was, in a very isolated locality, and left unvisited by his superior Officer for several years at a time, it is no wonder that the affairs of his Range fell as they did into such great confusion.

See my Report No 778, dated 8th June 1871 para 14.

4. I have also pointed out that I considered Mr Martin as the tool of a party, and that party a bad lot - see my report No 2595, dated 16th October 1871 para 16 - and under the abovementioned circumstances, and the consideration of the fact that Mr Martin had, when properly supervised, done good service and had indeed earned the thanks of Government, it will be for the Government to decide as to what further consideration should be given to his case.

5. I am not myself prepared to recommend his restoration to the service whether as Supervisor or even as Talook Overseer - but as a reward for his former good conduct for which he received the thanks of Government they may perhaps be disposed to look mercifully on his case, and grant him a gratuity to enable him to start afresh in life, and thus provide for his large family who are entirely dependent upon him for support.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your Most Obt servant

Comptd
SDr

Alex. J. Roberts Lieut: Col. RE
Superintg Engineer S Dn

-ing.

Madura
27th April 1872.

To,

The Right Honble,
A. J. Arbuthnott. C. S. I.
Governor in Council of
Fort St George & its dependencies.

The humble Memorial of
Mr. J. P. Martin, late Superintendent
D. P. W. in charge of No. 3 Range,
in the Madura District,

Respectfully Sheweth,

That Memorialist has been furnished with a copy of the order of Government dated 12th April 1872 No. 957 in the D. P. W. dismissing him from office under circumstances which his humble opinions, justify this appeal to your Excellency.

2. That the Superintending Engineer having had reason to be dissatisfied with the conduct of Executive duty in No. 3 Range which was under the charge of your Memorialist, that officer with the Sanction of Government suspended your Memorialist from office in April 1871 and instituted an inquiry which extended over several months and the result of which was ultimately placed before the Government in a letter dated 24th January 1872 No. 410, wherein the Superintend-

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Rs 19 Vmo fo 181 315-316
& 25 Encl ——— 166 Pais

Public Works 1872 Department
Offn. copy for May
No. 457
From No. 2265
The Supg Engineer
S. D.

To
The Secretary to
Government
D. P. W.

Dated 3 May 1872
Received
Enclosures 2 (1)

Forwards for
favorable consider-
ation a Memorial
from the late Superi
sor Mr J. P. Martin
and recommends
that a gratuity
may be granted
to him
No. 1283. 14 May 72

Rs 18 May 72 D. 13355

-ing Engineer arrives at the conclusion that "it is impossible to consider him" (your Memo-rialist) "the fons et origo mali, i.e., in any "other sense than that he was appointed to "a charge for which he was at the outset "mentally and physically unfit, and that "in consequence he became the mere tool "of the unscrupulous people by whom he "was surrounded."

3. That the correspondence on which the order of dismissal is based will shew your Excellency the precise points on which your Memorialist was asked to submit any explanation he might have to offer; that the explanation he has offered carries with it the important feature, that no opinion has been expressed by the Government to the effect that it is unsatisfactory; so that virtually those charges in Assistant Engineer Mr. Lyon's Report on certain works in No. 3 Range which im-puted fraud to your Memorialist, either fall to the ground or are abandoned; that your Memorialist is further borne out in this conclusion by the fact that the only mat-ter in which he is in explicit terms found fault with, is that he "has shewn himself wholly unfit for the conduct of Executive duty;" and that the Government were justi-fied in arriving at this conclusion is clear from the fact that they had before them the opinion of the Superintending Engineer to the effect, which opinion was the result of several months' close scrutiny and strict in-quiry in the district.

4. That humbly accepting this grave dictum, your Memorialist respectfully submits that the punishment awarded to him is more serious and more heavy than perhaps the nature of his offence demanded; that it nowhere appears as the opinion of the Government or the Superintending Engineer that your Memorialist was guilty of fraud or peculation, whatever may have been the acts of the unscrupulous people by whom he was surrounded; that the only fault which the Superintending Engineer and the Government have found with him is that he is unfit for the charge of No. 3 Range, a fault which your Memorialist humbly submits, is rather a fault of Nature, than the result of any personal lack of diligence.

5. That it is no matter of surprise your Memorialist should have been found unfit for the proper conduct of Executive duty in No. 3 Range; that while Ranges Nos. 1 & 2 are considerably smaller than No. 3, those Ranges are controlled by Assistant Engineers who have Overseers under their orders for the due performance of departmental work, that whereas No. 3 Range being the largest in the Madura District and comprising as it does the Shevagunga and Ramnad Zemindaries, it was barely possible that with no overseers to assist, your Memorialist could efficiently supervise the several works scattered over so large a track of country; that under these circumstances, your Memorialist res-pectfully asks, if he could fairly be expect-ed to conduct Executive duties with succes-

That.

6. That your Memorialist is fit for his duties as a Supervisor Simply, is nowhere disputed; that as an Overseer he has obtained the marked approbation of Government is apparent from the Testimonials, copies of which are hereunto annexed; that because your Memorialist is mentally and physically unfit for a charge usually entrusted to Assistant Engineers, he should be dismissed from public employment after a term of 20 years' service, with a large family to support and at a time when he should rather be preparing to retire from the active pursuits of life, is a measure of punishment the extreme severity of which, is beyond all question.

That being found unfit for the Executive charge of a Range, it was open to the Government to relieve Memorialist of that charge and order him to do duty under some executive officer; that such an arrangement not suiting the Government, it was open to them to place Memorialist on the pension establishment, considering that he had served the Government for 20 years continuously, that no moral delinquency had been established against him, that most of those who as witnesses were instrumental in accomplishing his ruin are men who have since lost the confidence of the Superintending Engineer and transferred to other Districts by order of Government.

7. And your Memorialist therefore humbly

humbly prays that your Excellency will take into consideration the circumstances under which he was expected to control so large a division as No. 3 Range, and the fact that the result of the long protracted inquiry instituted by the Superintending Engineer has resulted in that officer exonerating Memorialist from personal delinquency and declaring him to have been made a tool of by unscrupulous people; as also the further fact that upto the date of his dismissal Memorialist had already been under suspension for a year or thereabouts, and thereupon be pleased to restore him to his appointment by ordering him to do duty under some executive officer, or permit him to retire on a pension.

And your Memorialist, as in duty bound

Shall ever pray.

J. P. Martin.

P.P. 226 5/72.

Memorial

Rec'd 14 May 1872 & Ref. to Sec.

Enc: 1 Cover letter from Supy Engineer & to Secretary to Govern ment & Rw dated 3rd May 1872 & No 457.

Copy of Testimonials.

I do hereby certify that Mr. J. Martin served under my orders on board the Paumben Steamer Dredge for several years, and conducted himself invariably during the whole time entirely to my satisfaction and also to that of his immediate Superior Mr. Shortt Engineer of the Dredge; Mr. J Martin has been with the Dredge at Coringa and in consequence of continued sickness has been compelled to leave her, I regret this much but trust that he will be fortunate enough to get a situation in the Madras Railway. Mr. J. Martin's character is unexceptionable.

Paumben
24th August
1855.

(Signed) Colin Gile Capt.
3rd Europeans
Superintending Operations

Mr. J Martin served under me in the Annamally Forests as Assistant Overseer and Superintendent of the Teak plantations and I have in every way been pleased and satisfied with his conduct.

1st November 1856.

(Signed) Douglas Hamilton Capt.
Late Acting Supt. Annamally Forests

Mr. J. Martin has been five months at work under my orders and has given satisfaction.

Coiputatore
1st June 1857.

(Signed) John Shand Capt.
Asst Engineer.

Mr. J. P. Martin has served under me from the month of June to the 15th December 1867. I could at all times trust him with any amount of money or any quantity of work; the best test of his honesty is that all his Workmen would gladly go with him, I found that I could get the work done quicker under him; More substantial and cheaper than done by any other of my Subordinates; this may look odd in my recommending

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a relative, but I hope the next Officer he is placed under will be able to say the same of him.

Carour
18th Decr 1857

(Signed) T. Reid
Supt Engineer.

Mr Joseph Martin lately promoted to Assistant Overseer and appointed to Malabar leaves me with my best wishes for his future success; he is careful, trustworthy and obedient to instructions.

Coimbatore
23rd Decr 57

(Signed) P. M. Francis
Distt Engineer.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Madras Govt No 1087 dated 7th May 1859 embodied in the Proceedings of the Chief Engineer No 300 of 10th May 1859.

2. The Governor in Council notices with pleasure the testimony borne by the District Engineer of Malabar to the zeal and diligence of Assistant Overseer Martin employed on the Iruvy Bridge. The display of these qualities from Special claim to promotion; and the Governor in Council requests the Chief Engineer to bear them in mind in that connection, in the case of this Asst Overseer as well as in that of Overseer employed on the Kindry Bridge. But where a duty is not only difficult but dangerous to health, still more consideration is due to those who bravely and zealously face this danger; and the Governor in Council will be prepared to give favourable consideration to a proposal of pecuniary reward to Overseer Martin, should his conduct to the completion of this work be equally well reported on.

(True Extract)

(Signed) J. H. M. Babington
Ag. Asst Eye Engineer
Malabar

Overseer J. P. Martin having requested that I should testify to his qualifications &c., ere leaving this Division, I have much pleasure in stating that I have invariably found him a most willing, hard working servant of Government, too regardless of his own health in his zeal to complete any work under his charge. The promotion and gratuity lately received by Overseer Martin speak stronger in his favor than any thing I can urge.

Cannanore
9th June 65

(Signed) J. H. M. Babington
48th Regt
2nd Asst Distt Engineer
Malabar.

Mr Martin was employed as a Taluq Overseer under me from July to November 1865 inclusive. During this time I always found him a very willing and hard-working man. His conduct whilst under my orders has always been in every way satisfactory.

Palacky
2nd Decr 1865

(Signed) H. C. Smith
Lt R. E.
Asst Engineer.

Mr J. P. Martin supervisor P. W. had served under me for seven months. I have found him to be willing, active and intelligent.

Coonoor
17th July 1861

(Signed) George. V. Law. Captain
Asst Engineer

No 1283. P.W.D. (2)

Proceedings of the Madras Govt

Read the following

From:

The Supt Engineer
& D.C.

(M. E. Desp. 45 of 8 May 1872)

The Government must decline to accede to the prayer made by Mr. J. D. Martin, lately in charge of No 3 Range Madura District, whether for reemployment in the Department or for pension or gratuity as they adopting the recommendation made by the Superintending

Enc: 2. Anna letter from the Subdy Engineer & D.C. to Secretary to Government PW dated 3 May 1872 No 457.

P.W. 2265/72.

Copy of Testimonials.

Recd. 11 May 1872

Superintending Engineer of
the Division, — accord
him a gratuity.

On account of
the fraudulent aspect of
some of the transactions in
which Mr Martin was
concerned, the Governor
in Council was strongly
inclined to institute Cri-
minal proceedings against
him and is of opinion
that in simply directing
his dismissal from the
department the Government
gave full weight to every
mitigating circumstance which
could be urged in his favor.

C.W.C.

20

6 To The Super Engr Dist
Dec/72 21/5/72

No 2265

Govt. of {1872} [illegible]

PUBLIC WORKS.

To The Superintending Engr
8th Division

Dated

Rec'd Encl.

Gr. 14th May 72. No 1283.

Nos 3584 & 5b

Br. J. S. Martin, late Surveyor, Madras District. Desiring to accede to the prayer of Br. Martin either for re-employment in the Dept, or for pension or for the grant of a gratuity.