

- (1) Number of pages _____
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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

Government of Madras

Public works DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	1778	Press
B.P. No.		Mis.
166, 167		
Dated	10. 7.	1873.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
10th July 1873.*

No. 166. Read the following endorsement of the Chief Engineer for Irrigation, dated Ootacamund, 10th June 1873:—

From J. H. LATHAM, Esq., Chief Engineer and Manager of the Madras Irrigation and Canal Company, to Lieutenant-Colonel J. MULLINS, R.E., Chief Engineer for Irrigation, dated Kurnool, 3rd June 1873, No. 15.

Mr. Browning's leave.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of G. O., No. 1,379, of 17th ultimo, which I will at once communicate to the Board of Directors.

2. As a reference is made to G. O., No. 2,704, of 11th November 1870, I have the honour to point out that the leave rules of the Company may be based upon, or may only be, as much as possible, conformed to military leave; and they are also agreed to by the Engineer and the Company, not as a reward for past services, but as a necessary and proper provision for the maintenance of the Engineer's health. But I fail quite to see how the date of the conclusion of his service should abrogate the original understanding on the subject of leave. I consider it simply oppressive if an Engineer, whose health is his bread, after he have, it is presumable at some sacrifice to his health, postponed his leave until the termination of his active service, is then robbed of the leave due, and left to recruit his health at his own expense, and especially so if the postponement of his leave was obviously for the Company's interest, or at the request of the Company's officers.

3. The cause of the termination of the agreement between the Company and the Engineer should make no difference in his treatment, provided it be an honourable cause. In England the etiquette of the profession is not to check a man's fair progress, or prevent his obtaining the market value of his services, by pressing the terms of an agreement, except so far as is necessary to secure the principal from loss, and this forbearance is not in the long run unrewarded. Mr. Browning informed me that he had no notion of any such offer being made him, as to take charge of the Natal Railways, until his leave was more than half over.

4. Mr. Browning's agreement with the Company was, I believe, like that of other Engineers, reduced to a month's notice, viz., that his passage home should be paid whenever his service terminated. He also had power under the agreement to give a month's notice in England before returning from leave. So that the only liberality that, so far as I am aware, the Company exercised was in considering that his privilege leave had accumulated for three years (as in the Military rules), instead of cutting off the leave beyond two years, as is provided for in the rules of the Company.

5. I took charge from Mr. Browning on the 5th, but have not noted the hour.

6. The above views I will communicate to the Board when sending them the Government order.

SUBMITTED for the information of Government with reference to G. O., No. 1,379, dated 17th May 1873.

(Signed) J. MULLINS, Lieut.-Colonel, R.E.,
Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

Chief Engineer for Irrigation

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
10th July 1873.

No. 167.

ORDER THEREON, 10th July 1873, No. 1,778.

IRRIGATION, No. 12.

ORDERED to be recorded.

2. The Government notice with
disapproval the tone which pervades the

Manager's letter, which is unsuited to the discussion of official business.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R.E.,

Secretary to Government.

No. 15

Madras Irrigation & C. Co.
Chief Engineer & Manager's Office
Kurnool 3 June 1873

To the Chief Engineer for Irrigation
Madras

Sir

Mr Browning's leave.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt
of G.O. No. 1,379 of 17th ult., which I will at
once communicate to the Board of Directors.

As a reference is made to G.O. No. 2704 of
11th Nov 1870, I have the honour to point out
that the leave rules of the Company may be based
upon, or may only be, as much as possible, confor-
med to, military leave; and they are also agreed
to by the Engineer and the Company - not as a
reward for past services - but as a necessary &
proper provision for the maintenance of the
Engineer's health. But I fail quite to see how
the date of the conclusion of his service should
abrogate the original understanding on the
subject of leave. I consider it simply oppressive
if an Engineer, whose health is his bread, after he
has, it is presumable at some sacrifice to his health,
postponed his leave until the termination of his
active service, is then robbed of the leave due, &
left to recruit his health at his own expense; &
especially so if the postponement of his leave was
obviously for the company's interest, or at the request
of the Company's Officers.

The cause of the termination of the agree-
(ment

Chief Engineer & Manager

3/2

Meant between the Co & the Engineer should make no difference in his treatment, provided it be an honourable cause. In England the stigma of the profession is not to check a man's ~~from~~ progress, or prevent his obtaining the market value of his services, by pressing the terms of an agreement - except so far as is necessary to secure the principal from loss: & this forbearance is not in the Engineer's reward. Mr Browning informed me that he had no notion of any such offer being made him ~~from~~ to take charge of the Natal Railways, until his leave was more than half over.

Mr Browning's agreement with the Co was I believe like that of other Engineers reduced to a month's notice, viz that his passage home should be paid whenever his service terminated. He also had, however under the agreement to give a month's notice in England before returning from leave. So that the only liberality that, so far as I am aware, the Co exercised was in considering that his privilege leave had accumulated for 3 years (as in the military rules); instead of cutting off the leave beyond two years, as is provided for in the rules of the Co.

I took charge from Mr Browning on the 5th, but have not noted the hour.

The above views I will communicate to the Board, when sending them the G. O.
I have the honour to be

Sir
Your most obedient servant
Wm. H. Latham
Chief Secy & Manager

The Chief Engineer
for Brigation will be
requested to return
this letter to the Chief
Engineer and manager
of the Macraes Briga-
tion and Land Com-
pany with an intima-
tion that if intended
for submission to Go-
vernment it should
be

I thought it I could
be satisfied with the
alteration - or in consequence
may continue to be
checked to the
I don't think the
letter the original
should be left
a check with the
2nd copy of the
Macraes Briga-
tion and Land
Company and
submit the letter
to the Government

18th 1873
Submitted for the
Chief Engineer
17th June 1873.

John Lundie
Chief Engineer
Macraes Briga-
tion and Land
Company

10 June 1873

Recd 3 3 June 73
Recd 5 3 June 73
Recd 24 3 June 73

No 138
18th 1873
with the intimation

Commencing on 18th
No 1379-17 May 73
on the subject of
the Macraes Briga-
tion and Land Com-
pany

18th 1873
21st 1873

18th 1873
21st 1873
18th 1873

21st 1873

be couched in more
temperate and res-
pectful language
C.M.W.

Dr. Dunnington

The only notice which in com-
pliance with Mr. Seris's
suggestion I assumed to take of
the objectionable tone of
the letter issued i.e.
2 para. To the effect:

That The Govt notice with disappro-
val the tone which pervades the manager's
letter which is unsuited to the
discussion of official business"

N^o 186-67.

Dec 11/73

1778

P. W. D.

Proceedings of the Madras Government,
Under date the 187 .

Endorsement from the
Chief Inspr for Dist. { P.O. No. 710 June/73

Read the following:—

Ordered to be
recorded.

The Government
notice with disappro-
val the tone which
pervades the manager's
letter; which is un-
suited to the discus-
sion of official

business

G.M.W.

• Cp. 3588

Govt. of 1873 Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

1. The Chief Eng for
Irrigation

Dated

Recd.

Encl.

G.O. 10 "ackd" 17/8

Nos. 168 & 169

Mr. Browning, M. S. C.

Letter, submitted by the
Chief Eng for Irrigation, from
the Manager of the M. S. C.
commenting on the
subject of Mr Browning's
passage money, & stating
that the Govt. of the Manager's
letter noticed with disap-
proval.

Ch. Eng for Irrigation

" Eng & Manager M. S. C.

Dated 18/7/73