M.R.O. 1—10,006—28-2-50.

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(2) Date of repair_____

(3) Initials of the Referencer_____

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

Government of Madras

public works DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. 1397 Press

~~B.P. No.~~ Mis.~~—~~

511-12

Dated 26th May 1874 ~~195~~.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 26th May 1874.

No. 511. Read the following endorsement of the Acting Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, dated 1st May 1874.

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 14th April 1874, No. 850.

ABSTRACT.—*Overseer Mr. Wilkinson of Public Works Department*—in Namkul Taluq, Salem District.—Letter from Collector, forwarding copies of correspondence with District Engineer regarding improper tone of a letter addressed by — to Namkul Tahsildar with reference to Deputy Collector Mr. Pritchard's order to Tahsildar for removal of a shed and a brick-kiln in compound of Department Public Works Taluq Office, submitted for orders of Government, and opinion expressed that Overseer should be censured and required to apologize to Deputy Collector.

TRANSFERRED to the Public Works Department.

(Signed) C. G. MASTER,
Acting Secretary to Government, R.D.

No. 512. ORDER THEREON, 26th May 1874, No. 1,397.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 29.

THE Taluq Overseer having withdrawn his letter is not required to make further apology than is implied by such withdrawal, but is severely reprimanded for the insolent tone of his communication.

2. The District Engineer is greatly to blame for not having administered such reprimand as would, in connection with the withdrawal of the cause of offence, have made amends for the breach of courtesy, not to say insolence, of which the Overseer had been guilty towards an official of much higher rank in another department, to whom doubtless he was aware, and intended, the words that he used would be made known. The further consequence of Major Hunter's inaction in the matter is the removal of a useful Overseer to another district, which he will effect at once, ascertaining from officers of adjoining districts, and from the Principal of the Civil Engineering College, where there is a vacancy.

3. To avoid further dispute the Overseer's Office compound will be excluded from the limits of the tope.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) G. W. WALKER, Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the District Engineer, Salem.
,, Revenue Department.

Exd. S. T. Austin.
Spare Copies

No. 850.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 14th April 1874.

Read the following letter from F. PRICE, Esq., Acting Collector of Salem, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Salem, 25th February 1874, No. 57 :—

I HAVE the honour to submit, for the perusal and orders of the Board of Revenue, a letter addressed by Corporal Wilkinson, Overseer, Department Public Works of Namkul, to the Tahsildar of that taluq, and copies of the correspondence which has passed thereon.

2. I do so with the concurrence of the District Engineer, but in so doing, I beg that the second point raised by Major Hunter may be eliminated from consideration, as being a matter which has no bearing upon the subject under discussion, and as being further one, which I have expressed my readiness to enter upon when the question of Corporal Wilkinson's letter is disposed of.

3. The facts of the case are as follows :—

4. The compounds of the Cutcherry at Namkul and the Taluq Department Public Works Office adjoin. Both these are the property of Government, and in planting the former as a tope, Mr. Longley with the consent of Mr. Hiscox, who was at the time Overseer, planted the latter also. When building the Taluq Cutcherry, it became necessary to put up, in the compound of the Overseer's Office, sheds for material, etc., and at the request of Mr. Hiscox, the trees destroyed in doing this were not replaced, there being an understanding, so I learn, that this might be done afterwards. When the Cutcherry was finished and handed over to the Revenue Department, the Tahsildar sent his usual Progress Statement regarding topes, and on this Mr. Pritchard, the Divisional Officer, wrote—"Tahsildar in communication with the Overseer should have these (the sheds and debris) removed without delay." An order to this effect was sent to the Tahsildar, who wrote a yadast in the ordinary form to Corporal Wilkinson. I fail to see in this, a translation of which is enclosed, anything to warrant the extremely insolent letter of which I complain.

5. Corporal Wilkinson, when writing it, could not have been but aware that it would be sent on to Mr. Pritchard, and my view is that, whether right or wrong, he was not justified in writing as he did, and that the case is one in which it is not sufficient that he should simply withdraw his letter, but that he should be required to apologize to Mr. Pritchard for it.

6. Corporal Wilkinson holds a very subordinate post in the department in which he is employed, and Mr. Pritchard is in the position of a Covenanted Assistant to the Collector, and is personally an officer who carefully avoids anything discourteous or which can be construed into an overstepping of his authority.

7. The Board will doubtless remember a case in the Bellary District, where Government made a Superintending Engineer apologize to a Sessions Judge, regarding a discussion which took place in the matter of a docket written by the former. There, the relative official and social position of the two officers was much nearer than in the present instance, and I doubt whether the communication, upon which Government passed orders, was so offensive in its tone as that which I now lay before the Board.

8. I cannot accept Major Hunter's arguments as logical. The gist of what he advances is that because he considers that Mr. Pritchard was "discourteous" to him, therefore Corporal

1397 P. W. D. 72

Proceedings of the Madras Government,

Under date the 167

Read the following:—

Copy of Board of Revenue (Com. Extract dated 14th April 1874)

Pub. Works 1874 Dept.
Proc. of Govt. No. 29 May
Rev. 1874. Dept. No. 2712 Ord.

Board of Revenue,

MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 14TH APRIL 1874, No. 850.

Encl. 16

Received 18th April 74.
Received 6 May 1874

APRIL.

No. 850

Rd. No. 1397. 26-5-74.

Overseer Mr. Wilkinson of Public Works Department—in Namkul Taluq, Salem District.—Letter from Collector, forwarding copies of correspondence with District Engineer regarding improper tone of a letter addressed by — to Namkul Tahsildar with reference to Deputy Collector Mr. Pritchard's order to Tahsildar for removal of a shed and a brick-kiln in compound of Department Public Works Taluq Office, submitted for orders of Government, and opinion expressed that Overseer should be censured and required to apologize to Deputy Collector.

For order

Transferred to the Public Works Department

C Gunasekara
Ag Revenue Board
1 May 1874.

No 571

C 23d April 74 R 29th

2719 I-V

Govt. of 1874 Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

2o

Asst Engr. Salem.

Bailiff Revd.

Dated

Recd. Encl.

G. O. 26th May 1874 No. 1397

Nos. 511-512.

Nilkinson

Overseer Nellore

reprimanded for the
tone of his communication
to the Tahsildar, Naukal
and to be removed to
another district. Steps
to be taken excluding the
Overseer's Office compound
at Naukal from the
Lotte adjoining—

511-512.

Cir 4/5/74 Rd 7/5/74