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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

Government of Madras

Publications DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	2309	Press
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Dated	19-8-	195

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 416. Read the following letter from Lieutenant-Colonel A. S. MOBERLY, R.E., District Engineer, Cuddapah, to Colonel G. W. WALKER, R.E., Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Camp at Wontimittah, 25th May 1874 :—

WITH reference to G. O., No. 769, of the 11th March 1873, I have the honor to request that Government will reconsider their order so far as it affects me. When that order was passed I was on furlough in England and delayed my present appeal until I should have returned to India and been enabled to refer to exact dates and records. I trust that the observations which I shall now respectfully proceed to make will induce the Government to reverse their decision, or at least to mitigate the very severe punishment which the above order inflicts upon me.

2. The last paragraph of their order referring to me concludes thus :—“ It will be open to him to lay before Government any explanation he may wish to give of his share in the responsibility for the mismanagement of the Allipore works ; but he will understand that the Government are dissatisfied with the defence made by him under date the 25th October 1872, in reply to paragraphs 5 and 6 of the order above quoted, which has failed to remove from their minds the impressions they had been led to conceive of his gross neglect of his duties in connection with the Bellary timber transaction and the work of the 3rd Division generally.”

3. As I understood paragraphs 5 and 6 of G. O., No. 2,119, of 6th September 1872, I was called upon for explanations solely with regard to the Bellary timber defalcations, and to that matter alone I confined my observations in my letter to Government, dated Kensington, 25th October 1872. I was not aware that any defence was required from me in regard to my discharge of the duties attaching to the work of the 3rd Division generally, as no copy of G. O., No. 1,376, of 3rd June 1872, was furnished to me. As, however, the order of Government, No. 769, of 11th March 1873, is based upon my gross neglect of these duties, as well as in regard to the Bellary timber defalcations, I beg to place the following observations before the Government, and respectfully submit that I have not been guilty of any such gross neglect.

4. I would here point out to Government the great difficulty of meeting a charge of such a general character. I am not informed how, or in what manner, I have neglected my duties, nor are any specific instances mentioned. If I am to give any explanation regarding the manner in which I conducted my duties as Superintending Engineer of the 3rd Division, I respectfully urge that I should be furnished with specific charges, and that I should not be punished until I have had an opportunity of submitting my defence.

5. There are three transactions referred to in G. O., No. 769, of 11th March 1873, and to these three I will confine my remarks :—

1st.—With regard to the estimate for the Tungatoor Gungahedy channel in the Pullumpett Taluq of the Cuddapah District, mentioned in G. O., No. 1,376, of 3rd June 1872.

2nd.—With regard to the timber accounts of the Bellary Range, mentioned in G. O., No. 2,119 of 6th September 1872.

3rd.—With regard to the Allipore Tank Project, mentioned in G. O., No. 769, of 11th March 1873.

6. As regards the estimate for the Tungatoor Gungareddy channel, the subject of G. O., No. 1,376, of 3rd June 1872, I frankly admit that I was in blame in passing it. The only way in which I can account for my oversight as to the item for excavation in rocky soil is that the estimate was laid before me for signature just after my return from three months' privilege leave. I was overwhelmed with work, having to read up all the papers in the office relating to the transactions of the division during my absence, and I can only conclude that, in the hurry of signing papers, the large item for excavation in rocky soil escaped my notice. However, as, I believe I am correct in saying, this is a solitary instance of oversight, and as no work was done upon the estimate, I would ask Government not to let it weigh heavily in the scales against me.

7. As I have already stated in paragraph 3, no copy of G. O., No. 1,376, of 3rd June 1872, was ever furnished to me, and it was only in April 1874 after my return to India from furlough that I saw it. With reference to paragraph 8, I would respectfully observe that I did not delegate the investigation of this and other charges connected with the Pullumpett Range to a young Assistant Engineer in charge of another range. I was on and off in the Pullumpett Range for about two months and a half. I went down there on the 23rd September 1871, and it was not until I suspended Mr. Cowley in the middle of October 1871 that I sent for Mr. Hunter and put him in temporary charge of the Pullumpett Range, in addition to his work in the Cuddapah Range. This I reported in paragraph 10 of my letter, No. 1,346, of 20th October 1871, and at the same time asked Government to give me the services of an officer for the Pullumpett Range, even if it were only for a short time, in order that all the works carried out under Mr. Cowley might be as carefully measured up as possible. On this letter of mine Government passed an Order, No. 2,770, of 2nd November 1871, approving of Mr. Cowley's suspension, but taking no notice of paragraph 9; and I therefore respectfully contend that my placing Mr. Hunter in temporary charge in addition to his work in the Cuddapah Range was also approved, as no steps were taken to give the help for which I applied. I was very unwell during part of the time, as I reported in paragraph 2 of my letter, No. 1,814, of 19th December 1871, but nevertheless I continued my investigation, merely having Mr. Hunter with me to assist in taking measurements, and reported to Government in my letters Nos. 1,814 and 1,844-A, of 19th and 30th December 1871, respectively, and No. 1,913 of 18th January 1872. I beg respectfully to refer to these letters, on which, so far as I am aware, no orders have yet been passed for the purpose of showing that there was no lack of energy and personal exertion on my part in looking after the affairs of this range, and that my conduct is not open to the observations contained in paragraph 8 of G. O., No. 1,376, of 3rd June 1872. In January 1872, I had to move into the Cumbum Range to look after Mr. Hudson, on whom I reported specially to Government.

8. With regard to the Bellary timber defalcations, I would again respectfully submit that I can hardly be held responsible. I do not wish to travel over all the ground occupied in my letter, dated Kensington, 25th October 1872, but I would remind the Government that the 3rd Division was the largest in the

Madras Presidency extending over the three districts of Cuddapah, Bellary, and Kurnool, and having an area of 26,583 square miles. From the date of my appointment to the charge of this division in November 1864, until I went home on furlough in May 1872, a period

Cuddapah	...	...	...	...	8,050
Bellary	...	...	...	...	11,496
Kurnool	...	...	...	...	7,037
					<u>26,583</u>

of seven years and a half, I believe that I was second to no officer in the Presidency in vigilance, energy, and activity. I had thirteen Range Officers under my control, and I was constantly moving to and fro looking into and checking their expenditure and work, being generally absent from head-quarters during nine or ten months of each year. It was during one of these long absences from Bellary that I first learned of the deficit in the stock of timber at that place, and I immediately brought the matter to the notice of Government in my letters, No. 3,213, dated 14th February 1870, and No. 3,551, dated 15th March 1870.

9. At that time Lieutenant-Colonel Palmer, the Executive Engineer in charge of the Timber Depôt, assured me that Rupees 752 was the total amount of the deficiency, and I had no reason in the world to doubt his accuracy. Of his subsequent stock-takings, and the further deficiencies discovered, Lieutenant-Colonel Palmer never informed me, nor had I any reason for suspecting that any further defalcation would take place. I knew from repeated interviews with him that he was particularly alert and vigilant with regard to the timber depôt. I was aware that he had procured two sentries from the Brigadier-General Commanding the Ceded Districts, and had one posted inside and the other outside the timber-yard. I had every confidence in him as an officer of long standing in the department, and senior too to myself in the service. Surely I am not to blame for relying not only on his written assurance as to the amount of defalcation (Rupees 752), but on his repeated verbal communications that there was nothing wrong. I had many bad and inefficient officers, and Lieutenant-Colonel Palmer was among those in whose honor, integrity, and correctness I had most reason to trust.

10. As regards the Allipore Tank Project, mentioned in G. O., No. 769, of 11th March 1873, I would respectfully urge that blame should not be attached to me. I will confine my remarks to the tank and the supply channel from the Chuttrum nullah. The earthwork and the stone revetment to the former were commenced by the Sappers, and the portion to the east of the sluice was executed by them. I saw the ground excavated agreeably to Colonel Palmer's orders to allow of a footing to the revetment so as to prevent the stones slipping, and Colonel Bean, in paragraph 14 of his letter, No. 1,979, of 26th November 1872, admits that the revetment of that portion of the bund carried out by the Sappers has stood well and forms no portion of the work reflected on in this report. He has erroneously said northwards, where he should have said eastwards. When the other portion was given out on contract by Colonel Palmer, in order to expedite the completion of the work, it was, I recollect, stipulated that a footing or foundation of one-half to one yard, according as it was found necessary, should be made for the stone revetment. I have tried to get the orders that were issued at this time, which were, I think, in 1868, but no orders previous to February 1869

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
19th August 1874.*

can be found. The lower part of this portion of the work was executed during my absence on tour in the division, and as from the way in which work was executed in the station of Bellary itself, and which was, I believe, a very great improvement on the kind of work done in previous years, I had full confidence in Colonel Palmer, I did not consider it necessary to rip open the work on my return to Bellary for the purpose of seeing whether it had been executed in accordance with Colonel Palmer's stipulation. This portion of the work was under Serjeant Swallow's charge as well as the piece being carried out by the Sappers; and as he had attended to this order about a footing or foundation in the one case, and which I had seen, I concluded he had done so in the other.

11. As regards the rates, I respectfully urge that it was the duty of the Controller to discover and bring to notice if the rates, at which a Range Officer was working, exceeded the sanctioned estimates. Copies of all sanctioned estimates over Rupees 2,500 were supposed to be sent to him, and if not sent he had only to bring it to notice. I have a perfect recollection of his informing me that copies of some estimates had not been sent, and of my ordering Range Officers to supply them; and I learn from Captain Edgcome that in March 1870 copies of the Allipore tank estimate and of twenty one other estimates were sent to the Controller.

12. In paragraph 10 of his letter, No. 1,979, of 26th November 1872, Colonel Bean says that, though the fall of the channel was intended to be only 2 feet per mile, it has really a fall of from 4 to 5 feet per mile. I can only say that Colonel Palmer tried to adhere to the line along which Lieutenant Porter took his levels, and which that officer stated he had carefully checked, and to the best of my recollection was checked on several occasions whilst the work was in progress and said to agree very nearly.

13. As regards paragraph 14 of Colonel Bean's letter, I beg to state that when I first went to Bellary in December 1864, I learnt from the Range Officer that no bills for Sapper labor were being supplied to him, and immediately directed they should be submitted, and had been under the impression that they were regularly supplied and adjusted as I had no more complaints. I did take the matter up as soon as I heard from the Controller, but cannot remember now what was the difficulty in adjusting.

14. I do not know if the Government are aware of the severity of the punishment inflicted upon me in paragraph 5 of G. O., No. 769, of 11th March 1873. Besides my reduction in rank, I suffer by it a loss of pay amounting to Rs. 308-12-0 per mensem. From November 1864, when I was made Superintending Engineer, I drew Rupees 800 as Public Works salary, in addition to the Military pay of my rank, and as at the time of my going home on furlough in 1872, I was

Pay as Lieutenant Colonel	Rs.	A.	P.	a Lieutenant-Colonel drawing Rupees
„ Superintending Engineer.	1,002	4	0	1,002-4-0 Military pay, the amount of
	800	0	0	my salary per mensem was Rupees
Total	1,802	4	0	1,802-4-0. By the ruling in the Govern-
				ment order above mentioned, I can only

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
19th August 1874.*

Maximum as Executive Engineer...	Rs.	A.	P.
Net Military Pay Proper...	1,250	0	0
	243	8	0

1,493 8 0

Difference between the above ...	308	12	0
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Pay as Colonel ...	1,265	5	0
„ Superintending Engineer.	800	0	0

2,065 5 0

Maximum as Executive Engineer...	1,250	0	0
Net Military Pay Proper...	304	6	0

1,554 6 0

Difference between the above ...	510	15	0
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draw the maximum pay as Executive Engineer, viz., Rupees 1,250, plus my Military pay proper Rupees 243-8-0, or a total of Rupees 1,493-8-0, by which I shall be a loser of Rupees 308-12-0 per mensem. In the event of my not being reinstated before getting my promotion to Colonel, my loss would be Rs. 510-15-0 per mensem.

15. The impossibility of one man being able efficiently to superintend the work of a division so extensive as the 3rd, was one of the reasons which led to the new organization and to smaller charges. My shortcomings, whatever they may have been, were owing rather to defects inherent in the old system than to any want of zeal, activity, or vigilance upon my part.

No. 417. ORDER THEREON, 19th August 1874, No. 2,309.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 35.

His Excellency the Governor in Council has reconsidered, with reference to the present representations, the various orders referred to as affecting Colonel A. S. Moberly, and sees no reason to alter the decision come to after careful deliberation. Irrespective of the specific matters animadverted on the Government have reason to be seriously dissatisfied with Colonel Moberly's administration as a Superintending Engineer of the 3rd Division (through a succession of years), the defects of which are still felt in all the districts which were under his charge.

2. Colonel Moberly has now an opportunity of redeeming the past in a sphere of duty which should be within his power to do justice to, and the Government will anxiously watch, and hope to be able in future to approve of, the manner in which his public duties are conducted.

(True Extract.)

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

To the District Engineer, Cuddapah.

Exd. T. O'Connor.
Spare Copies

Camp Montimattah
Sidhout Talug
Cuddapah District
25th May 1874.

From
Lieut Colonel A. S. Moberly R.E.
District Engineer
Cuddapah.

To
Colonel G. W. Walker R.E.
Secretary to Government
Public Works Department.

Sir.

With reference to G. O. No. 769 of the
11th March 1873 I have the honor to request that
Government will reconsider their order so far as
it affects me. When that order was passed I
was on furlough in England and delayed my
present appeal until I should have returned to
India and been enabled to refer to exact dates
and records. I trust that the observations which
I shall now respectfully proceed to make will
induce the Government to reverse their decision or at
least to mitigate the very severe punishment which
the above order inflicts upon me.

2. The last paragraph of this order referring to
me concludes thus "It will be open to him to lay
before Government any explanation he may wish
to give of his share in the responsibility for the
mismanagement of the Allipore works; but he will
understand that the Government are dissatisfied
with the defence made by him under date the

25th October 1872, in reply to paragraphs 5 and 6 of the order above quoted, which has failed to remove from their minds the impression they had been led to conceive of his gross neglect of his duties in connection with the Bellary timber transaction and the work of the 3^d Division generally."

3. As I understood Paras 5 and 6 of G. O. No 2119 of 6th September 1872. I was called upon for explanations solely with regard to the Bellary timber defalcations and to that matter alone I confined my observations in my letter to Government dated Kensington 25th October 1872. I was not aware that any defence was required from me in regard to my discharge of the duties attaching to the work of the 3^d Division generally, as no copy of G. O. No 1376 of 3^d June 1872 was furnished to me. As however the order of Government No 769 of 11th March 1873 is based upon my gross neglect of these duties as well as in regard to the Bellary timber defalcations I beg to place the following observations before the Government and respectfully submit that I have not been guilty of any such gross neglect.

4. I would here point out to Government the great difficulty of meeting a charge of such a general character. I am not informed how or in what manner I have neglected my duties, nor are any specific instances mentioned. If I am to give any explanation regarding the manner in which I conducted my duties as Superintending

Engineer.

These are special
Kangaroo
But there is
the border
Gandhi's
See also No 112
528 of 17th Feb
1872

How different
this is from
the order of
G. O. No 1376
of 3^d June 1872
para 7 -

Every paper
has been placed
entirely at
his disposal.

"No regard to the
checking of
estimates for
reparation of
roads, works,
this office
never conceals
it to be
before the
Chief."

Engineer of the 3^d Division I respectfully urge that I should be furnished with specific charges and that I should not be punished until I have had an opportunity of submitting my defence.

5. There are three transactions referred to in G. O. No 769 of 11th March 1873, and to these three I will confine my remarks.

1st With regard to the Estimate for the Tungatoo Gungareddy channel in the Pullumpeth Taluq of the Buddahal District mentioned in G. O. No 1376 of 3^d June 1872.

2^d With regard to the Timber accounts of the Bellary Range mentioned in G. O. No 2119 of 6th September 1872.

3^d With regard to the Allipore Tank Project mentioned in G. O. No 769 of 11th March 1873.

6. As regards the Estimate for the Tungatoo Gungareddy Channel the subject of G. O. No 1376 of 3^d June 1872. I frankly admit that I was in blame in passing it. The only way in which I can account for my oversight as to the item for excavation in rocky soil is that the Estimate was laid before me for signature just after my return from three months' privilege leave. I was overwhelmed with work having to read up all the papers in the office relating to the transactions of the Division during my absence; and I can only conclude that, in the hurry of signing papers, the large item for excavation in rocky soil escaped my notice. However as, I believe I am correct in saying, this is a solitary instance of oversight

oversight and as no work was done upon the Estimate I would ask Government not to let it weigh heavily in the scales against me.

7. As I have already stated in Para 3 no Copy of G. O. No 1376 of 3rd June 1872 was ever furnished to me and it was only in April 1874 after my return to India from furlough that I saw it.

With reference to Para 8 I would respectfully observe that I did not delegate the investigation of this and other charges connected with the Pullumpett Range to a young Assistant Engineer in charge of another Range. I was on and off in the Pullumpett Range for about two months and a half. I went down there on the 23rd September 1871 and it was not until

I suspended Mr Cowley in the middle of October 1871 that I sent for Mr Hunter and put him in temporary

charge of the Pullumpett Range in addition to his work in the Buddapah Range. This I reported in Para 10 of my letter No 1346 of 20th October 1871

and at the same time asked Government to give me the services of an Officer for the Pullumpett Range, even if it were only for a short time, in order that

all the works carried out under Mr Cowley might be as carefully measured up as possible. On this letter of mine Government passed an order No 2770 of 2nd November 1871 approving of Mr Cowley's sus-

pension but taking no notice of Para 9 and I therefore respectfully contend that my placing Mr Hunter in temporary charge in addition to his work in the Buddapah Range was also

approved

Mr. Cowley
remained in
charge of the
Pullumpett Range
until the middle
of October 1871
when he was
suspended. Mr.
Hunter was then
put in temporary
charge of the
Pullumpett Range
in addition to his
work in the
Buddapah Range.
This was reported
in Para 10 of my
letter No 1346 of
20th October 1871.
At the same time
I asked Government
to give me the
services of an
Officer for the
Pullumpett Range,
even if it were
only for a short
time, in order that
all the works
carried out under
Mr Cowley might
be as carefully
measured up as
possible. On this
letter of mine
Government passed
an order No 2770
of 2nd November
1871 approving
of Mr Cowley's
suspension but
taking no notice
of Para 9. I
therefore respectfully
contend that my
placing Mr Hunter
in temporary
charge in addition
to his work in the
Buddapah Range
was also approved.

+ G.O. No 1409 of 1871
+ G.O. No 1410 of 1872

These reports were
sent to the
Honble the Secretary
to the Government
of Madras.
The Honble the
Secretary to the
Government of
Madras has
been directed to
take the necessary
action thereon.

Another matter
connected with the
Pullumpett Range
has been referred
to the Government.

approved, as no steps were taken to give the help for which I applied. I was very unwell during part of the time as I reported in Para 2 of my letter No 1814 of 19th December 1871, but nevertheless I continued my investigation, merely having Mr Hunter with me to assist in taking measurements; and reported to Government in my letters No 1814 and 1844 of 19th and 30th December 1871 respectively, and No 1913 of 18th January 1872. I beg respectfully

to refer to these letters, on which, so far as I am aware, no orders have yet been passed, for the purpose of shewing that there was no lack of energy and personal exertion on my part in looking after the affairs of this Range and that my conduct is not open to the observations contained in Para 8 of G. O. No 1376 of 3rd June 1872. In January 1872 I had to move into the Cumbum Range to look after Mr Hudson on whom I reported specially to Government

8. With regard to the Bellary timber defalcations I would again respectfully submit that I can hardly be held responsible. I do not wish to travel over all the ground occupied in my letter dated Kensington 25th October 1872, but I would remind the Government that the 3rd Division was the largest in the Madras Presidency extending over the three Districts of Buddapah, Bellary and Kurnool

oversight and as no work was done upon the Estimate I would ask Government not to let it weigh heavily in the scales against me.

7. As I have already stated in Para 3 no Copy of G. O. No 1376 of 3rd June 1872 was ever furnished to me and it was only in April 1874 after my return to India from furlough that I saw it.

With reference to Para 3 I would respectfully observe that I did not delegate the investigation of this and other charges connected with the Pullumfitt Range to a young Assistant Engineer in charge of another Range. I was on and off in the Pullumfitt Range for about two months and a half. I went down there on the 23rd September 1871 and it was not until

I suspended Mr Cowley in the middle of October 1871 that I sent for Mr Hunter and put him in temporary charge of the Pullumfitt Range in addition to his work in the Buddapale Range. This I reported in Para 10 of my letter No 1346 of 20th October 1871 and at the same time asked Government to give me the services of an Officer for the Pullumfitt Range, even if it were only for a short time, in order that all the works carried out under Mr Cowley might be as carefully measured up as possible. On this letter of mine Government passed an order No 2770 of 2nd November 1871 approving of Mr Cowley's suspension but taking no notice of Para 9, and I therefore respectfully contend that my placing Mr Hunter in temporary charge in addition to his work in the Buddapale Range was also

These reports were then the Inspector General's decision. I am sorry to hear that the above case was not brought to the notice of the Government. I am, Sir, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
J. H. Hunter

approved, as no steps were taken to give the maps for which I applied. I was very unwell during part of the time as I reported in Para 2 of my letter No 1814 of 19th December 1871, but nevertheless I continued my investigation, merely having Mr Hunter with me to assist in taking measurements; and reported to Government in my letters Nos 1914 and 1844 of 19th and 30th December 1871 respectively, and No 1913 of 18th January 1872. I beg respectfully

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Your obedient servant,
J. H. Hunter

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Kurnool and having an area of 26583 square miles. From the date of my appointment to the charge of this Division in November 1864 until I went home on furlough in May 1872; a period of 7 years and a half, I believe that I was second to no officer in the Presidency in vigilance, energy and activity. I had thirteen Range Officers under my control and I was constantly moving to and fro looking into and checking their expenditure and work, being generally absent from Headquarters during nine or ten months of each year. It was during one of these long absences from Bellary that I first learned of the deficit in the Stock of Timber at that place and I immediately brought the matter to the notice of Government, in my letter No. 3213 dated 14th February 1870 and No. 3551 dated 15th March 1870.

9. At that time Lieutenant Colonel Palmer the Executive Engineer in charge of the Timber Depot assured me that Rs 752 was the total amount of the deficiency and I had no reason in the world to doubt his accuracy. Of his subsequent stock takings and the further deficiencies discovered. Lieutenant Colonel Palmer never informed me, nor had I any reason for suspecting that any further defalcation would take place. I knew from repeated interviews with him that

he

buddapala 8050
Bellary 11496
Kurnool 7037
26583

he was particularly alert and vigilant with regard to the timber Depot. I was aware that he had procured two sentries from the Brigadier General Commanding the Ceded Districts and had one posted inside and the other outside the Timber yard. I had every confidence in him as an officer of long standing in the Department and senior to myself in the service. Surely I am not to blame for relying not only on his written assurance as to the amount of defalcation (Rs 752) but on his repeated verbal communications that there was nothing wrong. I had many bad and inefficient officers and Lieutenant Colonel Palmer was among those in whose honor, integrity and correctness I had most reason to trust.

Mr. Palmer
might not
have been in the
Dept. Head
had the real
importance of
the matter
been known
earlier -

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and Colonel Beau in Para 11 of his letter No 1979 of 26th November 1872 admits that the pavement of that portion of the bund carried out by the Saffers has stood well and forms no portion of the work reflected on in this report. He has erroneously said Northwards, where he should have said Eastwards. When the other portion was given out on Contract by Colonel Palmer, in order to expedite the completion of the work, it was I recollect stipulated that a footing or foundation of one half to one yard, according as it was found necessary, should be made for the stone pavement. I have tried to get the orders that were issued at this time which were I think in 1868, but no orders previous to February 1869 can be found. The lower part of this portion of the work was executed during my absence on tour in the Division and as from the way in which work was executed in the Station of Bellary itself, and which was I believe a very great improvement on the kind of work done in previous years, I had full confidence in Colonel Palmer, I did not consider it necessary to rip open the work on my return to Bellary, for the purpose of seeing whether it had been executed in accordance with Colonel Palmer's stipulation. This portion of the work was under Sergeant Swallow's charge as well as the price being carried out by the Saffers, and as he had attended to this

order about a footing or foundation in the one case, and which I had seen, I concluded he had done so in the other.

It has never been noticed by him that this was not the case.

It is the duty of the Controller to discover and bring to notice if the rates at which a Range Officer was working exceeded the sanctioned Estimates.

11. As regards the rates I respectfully urge that it was the duty of the Controller to discover and bring to notice if the rates at which a Range Officer was working exceeded the sanctioned Estimates. Copies of all sanctioned Estimates over Rs 2500 were supposed to be sent to him and if not sent he had only to bring it to notice. I have a perfect recollection of his informing me that copies of some Estimates had not been sent and of my ordering Range Officers to supply them and I hear from Captain Edgemo that in March 1870 copies of the Alliflor Tank Estimate and of twenty one other Estimates were sent to the Controller.

12. In Para 10 of his letter No 1979 of 26th November 1872 Colonel Beau says that though the fall of the Channel was intended to be only 2 feet per mile it has really a fall of from 4 to 5 feet per mile. I can only say that Colonel Palmer tried to adhere to the line along which Lieutenant Porter took his levels and which that Officer stated he had carefully checked and to the best of my recollection was checked on several occasions whilst the work was in progress and said to agree very nearly.

and Colonel Beau in Para 14 of his letter No 1979 of 26th November 1872 admits that the revetment of that portion of the bund carried out by the Sappers has stood well and forms no portion of the work reflected on in this report. He has erroneously said Northwards, where he should have said Eastwards. When the other portion was given out on Contract by Colonel Palmer, in order to expedite the completion of the work, it was I recollect stipulated that a footing or foundation of one half to one yard, according as it was found necessary, should be made for the stone revetment. I have tried to get the orders that were issued at this time which were I think in 1868, but no orders previous to February 1869 can be found. The lower part of this portion of the work was executed during my absence on tour in the Division and as from the way in which work was executed in the Station of Bellary itself and which was I believe a very great improvement on the kind of work done in previous years, I had full confidence in Colonel Palmer, I did not consider it necessary to rip open the work on my return to Bellary, for the purpose of seeing whether it had been executed in accordance with Colonel Palmer's stipulations. This portion of the work was under Sergeant Waller's charge as well as the pier being carried out by the Sappers; and as he had attended to this

order about a footing or foundation in the one case, and which I had seen, I concluded he had done so in the other.

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12. In Para 10 of his letter No 1979 of 26th November 1872 Colonel Beau says that though the fall of the Channel was intended to be only 2 feet per mile it has really a fall of from 4 to 5 feet per mile. I can only say that Colonel Palmer tried to adhere to the line along which Lieutenant Porter took his levels and which that Officer stated he had carefully checked and to the best of my recollection was checked on several occasions whilst the work was in progress and said to agree very nearly.

13. As regards Para 14 of Colonel Beau's letter I beg to state that when I first went to Bellary in December 1864 I learnt from the Range Officer that no bills for Saffers labor were being supplied to him and immediately directed they should be submitted and had been under the impression that they were regularly supplied and adjusted as I had no more complaints. I did take the matter up as soon as I heard from the Controller but cannot remember now what was the difficulty in adjusting.

14. I do not know if the Government are aware of the severity of the punishment inflicted upon me in Para 5 of G. O. No 769 of 11th March 1873. Besides my reduction in rank I suffer by it a loss of pay amounting to Rs 308-12-0 per mensem. From November 1864 when I was made Superintending Engineer I drew Rs 800 as Public Works salary in addition to the Military pay of my rank and as at the time of my going home on Furlough in 1872 I was a Lieutenant Colonel drawing Rs 1002-4-0 Military pay the amount of my salary per mensem was Rs 1802-4-0. By the ruling in the G. O. above mentioned I can only draw the maximum pay as Executive Engineer viz Rs 1250 plus my Military pay proper Rs 243-8-0 or a total of Rs 1493-8-0 by which I shall be a loser of Rs 308-12-0 per mensem. In the event of my not being reinstated

Pay as Colonel 1265-5-0
 & Sup. Engr. 800-0-0
2065-5-0

Max. as Executive Engineer 1250-0-0

Mil. Military Pay Proper 304-6-0
1554-6-0

Difference between the above 510-15-0

reinstated before getting my promotion to Colonel my loss would be Rs 510-15-0 per mensem.

15. The impossibility of one man's being able efficiently to Superintend the work of a division so extensive as the third was one of the reasons which led to the new organization and to smaller charges. My short comings, whatever they may have been were owing rather to defects inherent in the old system, than to any want of zeal activity or vigilance upon my part.

I have the honor to be

Sir.

Your Most Obedient Servant.

W. A. R. E. Smt Col R. E.
 District Engineer
 Bangalore

Rs. 1002-4-0

Pay as Lieut. Colonel 800-0-0

1802-4-0

Max. as Executive Engineer 1250-0-0

Mil. Military 243-8-0

Pay Proper 1493-8-0

1493-8-0

Difference between the above 308-12-0

Public Works Department
 Proceedings of the Madras Government

From

The St. Engineer, Cuddalore (H. & Co. - dated 25 May 1874)

His Excellency the Governor in Council
 regrets his inability to arrive at a more favorable opinion of Lieut. St. Michael's fitness for the rank and position of a Superintending Engineer of the Public Works Department, than that announced in G.O. No. 469 of 11th March 1873. It was a position quite beyond his power to fill

3259

admission, implied in the
reorganization, but the
rule of help engineers
was, since then they could
be expected to perform
do these thoroughly.

Ch. Walker might possibly
suggest some modification
of the order such as
would mitigate the
severity of the
penalties.

23/7

Public Works Department
Proceedings of the Madras Government
Read the following

From

The Secretary reports his
inability to suggest any
modification of the present
arrangement inflicted on Council. Sec.
H. S. Moberly R.S. short of D.P.W.
reinstating him in the
appointment of Super-
intending Engineer for
which his qualifications
has been proved beyond
all doubt.
It is respectfully sub-
mitted that such action
would be an injustice
towards these officers
who have proved their
competence for the highest
grade, especially since
the reorganization of the
Dept. has deprived them
of 2 out of 7 chances of

It was a position quite
beyond his power to
fill

25 May 1872
1872
Every the
Council
ability
more
in view
shelby's
and
Super-
engineer
or Ro
that
a S.B.
arch 1873.

325

Public Works Department
 Proceedings of the Madras Government
 Read the following

From

ed fortunate in having 25 May
 been allowed to remain 4)
 in the position of Subg
 Inspr from 1864 to 1872-

G. M. Sutherland Esq. Secy
 to Govt. D. P. W.

Order of the Council
 24th July 1874

I think that South letter
 that Mr. Sutherland's name
 was thoroughly deserved
 25/7

I think it is to
 the whole of the
 charge of the
 presently [unclear]

no. 1 of 11 March 1873.
 It was a position quite
 beyond his power to
 fill

obtaining it - and that
 Colonel Palmer who was
 dismissed from the
 Dept. on only one of the
 charges of neglect for
 which Col. R. Moberly
 has been punished, will
 have a right to have his
 case reconsidered if the
 latter be reinstated.
 Colonel Moberly pro-
 motion to the rank of
 Regimental Colonel is
 presumed by set. Dist. Inspr.
 and by good manage-
 ment of Cuddalore
 District he may even
 promotion to the rank
 of Subg. Inspr. before he at-
 tains it. Meanwhile
 he draws Rs 1500 a month
 and he may be considered

fill efficiently; as evi-
-denced by order after
a order from as far
back as season 1866-67
at least, when he was
told that a continuance
of his inactive adminis-
-tration of his charge
would seriously affect
his position, until
his going on furlough
in May 1872. Lieut.
Col. Moberly has now
the duty of supervising
one single District
of the three which formed
his former charge;
and it rests with him
to show his competence
for the management
of the works and execu-
-tive agents of that
District.

His

His great fault in his
respect of matters con-
-nected with the Pal-
-lappett Range re-
-ferred to in D.O. 1346 of
3rd June 1872 was the
want of such de-
-cided action after
suspending Mr.
Cowley in October
1871, as was necessary
to support that pro-
-cedure; so that mat-
-ters remained in
abeyance till the
Govt. took up the
Gungareddy Channel
case alone, and passed
a decision upon its
most glaring facts,
which bore most
heavily against

Lieut. Col. Ingham, as he
now admits - the tone
of that admission is
singularly in contrast
with para 4 of his letter
No. 354 of 11th May 1872,
wherein he states that
"as regards the checking
of details of estimates
for ordinary repairs of
"Irrigation Works, this
"Office never considered
it the part of its duty
to see". The amount of the
particular estimates in
question being very nearly
Rs 6000 - Remissness
in not quickly following
up and putting an end
to all disputed cases, has
formed a marked fea-
ture of Lieut. Col. Ingham's
mismanagement

mismanagement of his
charge as noted in G.O.
No. 2274 of 25th September 1872
No. 1 of 4th January 1873 and
No. 528 of 17th February 1873 -

In the matter of the
Sinkers defalcations
at Bellary Lieut. Colonel
Ingham has failed to
bring forward any more
satisfactory defence
than had previously
been laid before Govt.
and disposed of.

In paras 1, 2, and 3
of G.O. No. 469 of 11th March
1873 the history of the
Sleipone Tank and Channel
works is summarized,
and nothing can palliate
the fact of Lieut. Col. Ingham's
neglect

neglect between 2nd
February 1842, when
their defects were brought
of his notice, and his de-
parture on furlough
on way, to realize the
extent to which they
were mismanaged,
and of the remedial
measures necessary.
So that he left the
country without cor-
recting the impression
that he conveyed to
of the insignificance
of the matter; which he
assured them could be
rectified from funds
at his own disposal
for Military Repairs.
In like manner

did the Cooloor Tank
works drift on from
their commencement
in June 1864 in the
manner recorded in
Ed No. 2/184 of 2 Sept 43.
and (not to go into de-
tails with reference to
such works as the
Cutcheries and Roads
of the Kurnool Dis-
trict), it is not too
much to say that the
state of the Public Works
Department, in the 3
Districts of which the
3rd Division was composed,
was one of utter in-
efficiency and disor-
ganization. For which

His

His Excellency the
Governor in Council
cannot but hold res-
ponsible, and punish,
the officer who pre-
sided over that divi-
sion for a period
of $4\frac{1}{2}$ years.

LMW

3259

LMW

Public Works Department
Proceedings of the Shadash Government
Read the following
From
The Shlyg-Luddafel K.B. - 9 25 May
1874

His Excellency
the Governor in Coun-
cil has reconsi-
dered, with reference
to the present repre-
sentations, the va-
rious orders referred
to as affecting LMW
CDU A. Inoherty, and
sees no reason to
alter the decision
come to after
careful

LMW
25/7

LMW

27/7

LMW

Rev 29/6/54

careful deliberation.
In respect of the
specific
special matters
animadverted on
the Govt. have reason
to be thoroughly dis-
satisfied with Lieut.
Col. Moberly's admi-
nistration as a
Superintendent of the
3^d Division (through
a succession of years)
the defects of which
are still felt in
all the Districts
which were under
his charge.

Lieut. Col. Moberly
has

has now an opportu-
-nity of redeeming the
past in a sphere of
duty which should
be within his powers
to do justice to, and
the Govt. will ana-
-lytically watch, and
hope to be able in
future to approve
of, the manner in which
his public duties
are conducted.

G.M.W.

To the D.C. Cuddalore
1. Copies despatched 25/5/74.

3259 ✓

Govt. of 1874 Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.



To

Mr. Dick Ingham
Chudapah

Dated

Recd.

Encl.

G. O. 19 Aug 1874, No. 2307

Nos. 416-417.

Genl. Coll. A. S. Moberly

Declining to alter
the decision conveyed in
the several orders affecting
his administration
as Supg Engr of the
late 3^d Div.

For the Secy to Govt.

18/8/74

Recd 28/8/74

Lt. Col. Moberly

Mr. H. Robinson
Mr. J. H. Smith
H. & the Governor

✓