No

Salaklas D. Engineers Office
Cabanat. 30. October 1839

No 161

From

W. S. Sturrington Esq.
District Engineer Salaklas

To

Colonel G. W. Walker R.E.
Secretary to Government
&c. &c. &c. Manilas.

Sir,

With reference to G.O. 2d Lieutenant No 2,786 I have the honor to comply with his request to forward for your consideration Copy of letter No 327 dated 23d Instant from Lieut. Dobson R.E. the officer in charge of the Camarines Range of this District. I should state that until my visit to Camarines last week I was unaware that any extra Establishment had been employed.

I

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient
Servant
W. Stanniforth
District Engineer
Wallaba

No 327 Cannanore 23rd October 1874.

From

The Asstt. Engineer

Cannanore Range, Malabar

To

The District Engineer

of Malabar D.P.W.

Sir,

With reference to your endorsement No 381 of 13th October 1874 on Proceedings of Government No 2786 of 2nd October, I have the honor to bring to your notice the following with reference to order on para 4, and request that you will forward this letter to Government for disposal.

It appears from para 4 that the employment of extra writers in a Range office without sanction is irregular and that Mr Hawksworth who has employed them has been compelled to pay arrears, as from what I shall say after, it appear to have been the custom in my office for many years. I at once bring it to your notice so that you may forward the whole proceedings to Govt. for disposal.

4. When I arrived in this Range in April 1872, I found there were certain extra hands employed both in the Range Office & Canton-ment office as per margin.* When I took charge in March 1874 from Captain Bailey before that time I was only doing duty

*Three extra hands altogether

Received the 27th October 1874.

Recd 3rd Novr 1874.

Copied

Copied 6th Novr 1874

I continued the practice as I was assured by Capt. Bailey & the Head Accountant that it had been done for years and this will be shown to be the case from the table marked A, compiled from Office Records & certificates.

This Range Office is altogether an exception. I have a very large Cantonment besides three Talugs. As you wished me always to put every order, no matter how small, into writing, I have done so: but this entails very much more writing and since then I myself have appointed one extra man Salary Rs 7, and this man has been employed off and on for years according to pressure of work.

My total Establishment is as follows:—

1 Head Accountant
2 Asstt Accountants
2 Gomastahs - extra
1 Draftsman
Cantonment Office
1 Writer
1 Extra Do
1 Mustering Gomastah

The two extra men in my office and the two in the Cantonment Office here employed are paid out of Estimates or Roads where the heaviest expenditure is, & the charges are evenly distributed or nearly so, as shewn by appendix B, which is the extra establishment Roll for the month of September

Even with the extra establishment and writing a great many orders to Overseers with my own hand, I can with great difficulty (and often & often have the Clerks been sitting till past 6 working) get the work done, sometimes even on Sundays have they been obliged to work.

The whole of the work in my Range & Cantonment is departmental - nothing is done by Contracts, the result is that the number of vouchers & Coolly rolls & Station Books that have to be checked is largely increased, and I insist on the smallest irregularity always being brought to my notice and orders are immediately issued to the Overseers concerned. All this of course entails extra writing.

I will give you one or two examples of the amount of work in my Office, and I would respectfully ask if it is possible to do the work with 3 clerks or Accountants.

Take my Progress Report this consists for the month of September of 60 pages. This has to be copied four times - once my Office copy this I also keep in the fair rough & do not make a fair copy to save labour, then there is your copy again the Controller's, the Vice Presidents extract and lastly the copy lately asked for by the President containing every thing & about which I have referred to

You

you- and the whole make five copies; four have now to be made out-

As it takes one man nearly three days to a fair copy which has then to be carefully compared & checked; if I employ one of my permanent establishments on this, I have only two left for checking vouchers & cooly rolls & carrying on the current work, which is always heavy, and I am certain, that without the extra establishments, it would be perfectly impossible to get the work done on anything like the time required by the Controller-

Again the number of large works I have going on in various parts of the Range these have to be all booked up in the Register of works & to keep these regular, up to date requires care and labour.

Again taking my Cantonment works alone without taking into consideration Taluq works, there were last month 53 works going each requiring a Station Book, Cooly roll & vouchers, & every one of these has to be checked & when necessary registered in my office. I am not at all exaggerating when I say, that it is almost one man's work to write the certificate required by the Controller on the Vouchers that come in, and have to be countersigned by me-

As I have lately introduced into the Cantonment works the system of daily reports, to avoid errors and keep a check on the Cantonment works these are all booked up in my office & then again checked & against the Overseers Accounts, this requires time & labour. but with the amount of works in the Cantonment in addition to the works on the three Taluqs it is quite impossible that 3 men can do it. as every kind of materials in the Cantonment & elsewhere is always paid by cheques by me and I have large works going on- it takes time to copy the duplicates of the vouchers which are kept in my office for record.

If you will but therefore consider the amount of work and labour required just from the above examples, and I could give many more, it is apparent what the total work of this Range must be.

I wish now to say a word about the Cantonment office- There are two extra men employed here, one an extra writer & Accountant to assist- I do not think it would be possible to do the work with one.

Taking the 53 Station books, cooly rolls & Cash book &c. sent in last month, there is an immense deal of labour required in the preparation of them, they have to be booked up from daily progress reports checked & & filled up, and write the Account of petty Military Repairs, each requiring a separate Station

Station Book, the amount of work is very great as these Cantonment petty Repairs are constantly required many small articles; Screws, Nails &c. for all of which I require a voucher properly sent in & these again have to be entered in the Cash Book.

As it may not be apparent what a mustering Gomastah is for, I will explain, at present I only employ 2 Maistries besides this there are always a number of petty Repairs going on in Barracks & various parts of the Cantonment, which do not require constant supervision - and as it would be useless to employ a Maistry to look after them. I employ (according to precedent) a Gomastah. The coolies are told off by the Overseer in the morning & it is the Gomastahs work to go round twice a day, morning & afternoon, to count the coolies & see if they are all there. The Overseer himself being responsible for the work, not the Gomastah who is not an executive, for it has been found that the coolies do not always continue to work all day & he makes out the daily progress Report & assists in the office; if I employ a Maistry to do this, he would be away from his proper work, i.e. Superintending & taking over materials from Contractors and having them ready for my own or the Overseer's inspection next morning. This Gomastah is charged nearly equally to all works, as he visits every work in the Cantonment twice a day.

There is also an Office Watchman charged to different works, he was appointed, I am told by Captain Bailey, as the latter said his three peons had hard enough work, doing district & Office works without sleeping at the Office, also the Range Office has attached to it a store room, & there must be a watchman to take care of the things & the one watchman looks after both. I do not think that there can be any objection to charging these extra men as I have done in the list marked B, and I request that Government may be addressed on the subject.

Lastly I would wish to draw your attention to the following -

Writer D'Costa has been employed from January 1865, being nearly 10 years. This system seems to have been carried on a long time without any exception being made to it by the Controller who must it is presumed have visited the Office during these years.

Writer Ramen also employed in Novr 1863 in the Cantonment Office. As this seems to have been the system in these Offices for so many years, and as I have found it would be utterly impossible to carry on the work with the permanent establish-

ment

A

List of Extra Establishment in the Cantonment Overseer's Office & Range Office

Nos	Names	Rate of Salary	Date when 1st Appointed	Remarks.
	M. Ramen Gomastah	15 " "	1st November 1863	Employed in the Cantonment Overseer's office
	E. D'Costa ——do——	15 " "	1st January 1865	—Do— in the Range Office since 1866.
	B.V. Ireyers, Mustering-do-	14 " "	14th February 1870	—Do— in the Cantonment works for Mustering Coolies & assisting in the Overseer's office since dismissed for attempt of fraud & another entertained instead.
	K. Chirukandan ——	7 " "	28th March 1860	This individual was kept & dispensed with according to pressure of work - From 23d March to 23d September 1860 under Overseer Allen; from October 63 to 28th January 64. under Overseer Washington - In the Range Office for 6 or 8 months in 1864 - & then in the Cantonment Overseer's office up to 69 - again appointed in the month of March 1874 owing to pressure of work - and since kept on for the same reason -

57

Cannanore
23d October 1874. 3

(True Copy)
M. Washington
District Engineer,
Malabar.

Lieut. A. E. Dobson Lt. R.E.
Asstt. Engr. Malabar

Lieut. Dobson
Asstt. Engr.
Malabar

Dated 19 Dec 74
In B No 407

Dated 1/12/74

For Adjustment

No 1 Cannanore Range D. P. W.

Her Majesty's Government of India ____ Dr.

To the Pay of Petty Establishment No 1 Cannanore Range in the Malabar Distt. for the month of Octr. 65.

Authority	Designation.		Rate of monthly Pay	Deduction on account of Fines stoppages &c	Balance	Remarks.
G. O. No 1392 of 22nd May 65. & G. O. No 2422 of 21st August 1865.	2 Maistries	each	15	.. ..	30	
	4 Do.	"	12	7 8 9	40 7 3	
	14 Do.	"	10	23 10 4	116 5 8	
	1 Gomastah		15	.. ..	15	
	1 Do.		12	.. ..	12	
	3 Do.	each	10	.. ..	30	
	3 Store Keepers	"	6	.. ..	18	
	Totals				261 12 11	

Cannanore
23rd Novr/65.
With three acquittance rolls.

(True Copy)
W. Garmston
Distt. Engr: Malabar

True Copy
pr A. E. Dobson Lt R.E.
Asstt. Engr Malabar

pr E. N. Norton Major
Asstt. Engineer

Pd. 19 Decr/74
Lr B No 407

Bv. 2170/74.

Appendix B

Her majesty's Government _____ Dr.

Salary of Petty Establishment for the month of September 1874.

nation	Names	Amount	Salary	Deduction	Fines	Balance	Remarks
naste	E. Costa	20	..	..	..	20	.. Sub Conductor P/ Post office P/ Garrison hospital P/ Asphalting 2/ wells 3/
"	M. Ramen	15	..	7	8	7	8 .. Sawing wells 3/ Petty repairs 4/8 —
"	C. Karrapen	14	..	..	..	14	.. To be charged to 7 works 2/each
"	K Cheroothanton	7	..	3	9	6	13 } Coast Road & Poria Road
"	do	10	..	9	18	5	4 }
"	K Govindan	10	..	9	18	5	4 Petty repairs
istry	M. Ramen	15	..	..	..	15	.. Conductors Quarter
"	Chinnaswamy	12	..	..	..	12	.. wells 11/- Roads 2/
human	Chattan	7	..	..	..	7	.. Petty Repairs
"	Mannen	6	..	..	..	6	.. Hospital
"	Bappoo	6	..	..	..	6	.. Conductor Quarter
"	O Amboo	6	..	..	..	6	.. Rs 3/ asphalting Rs 3/ alteration Barrack

Paid out of Sundries deposit as there is much work in the neighbourhood & there will be much writing

Paid principally out of petty repairs as there [illegible] much writing

Paid on these rolls two months as the expenditure very heavy therefore heavy salaries

Same as No 2

specially employed

ditto. Partly looking after the work & partly other

office watchman & Range Store Keeper

Hospital watchman to look after store at site of work

ditto

Cantonment Stone house in Bermashawy.

Commandg RC

1st October 1874

B

True Copy

W Harrington

Asst Engr Malabar

Sign'd W Willis Capt.

Comdg R.E. P.W.

Sign'd A. E. Dobson Capt.

R.E. Asst Engineer in charge

Cannanore Range.

Statement of Extra Establishment entertained in the Cannanore Range during the quarter ending 31st March 1865

Description	Names	Date of entertainment	Rate of Pay per Mensem	Amount per Mensem	From what source paid	On what work employed.	Remarks
Maistry	Mr Kannen	1st Septr 1859	15	45	Estimate Rupees 22,940 Rs	Regimental School Remains from married Qrs Serjeants Mess Qrs Barrack Sale	Fined Rs 1-0
Gomastah	Mr Ramen	1st Nov. 1863	12	36	32,124.7.20	37,52 3,2804020	
Superintendent	Mr F. Simonetto	1st Decr 1864	10	30		Quarters & Barracks Tile Farming	
Maistry	V. Teeroopuriam	8th Decr 1863	12	35 2			Fined as 1/4
"	Chinnan	26 Octr 1864	12	35 2		Cantonment walls & Petty Repairs	" " 1/4
"	E. Westa	1st Janry 1865	8	24	Estimate Rs 31100 from Petty Repairs	Military Civil Lines	
"	Sraajan parambil Raman	11th Feby 1865	10	16	Estimate Rs 300	Annual Repairs to Cutcherry Compound	
"	Shaslyen	1st June 1864	15	9 8			Salary for 17 days
"	moothoroden	9th Decr 1864	10	3	Estimate Rs 3710	Annual do to Trunk Road 22½	do for 9 do
"	Store Keeper	June 1860	6	18			
"	Shshyen	1st June 1864	15	29	do Rs 3274	metalling do do	do for 46 do
"	Servarambah	do	10	30			
"	Store Keeper	do	6	18	do Rs 3520	Annual Repairs penal Bs	
Maistry	Potter	do	15	15	do Rs 3270	Bakkathoden Bridge	
"	Sashyen	do	15	3 8			Retired Being allowed Pension
"	Chinnan Naick	6th Nov. 1864	35	57 25			
"	Pushy	June 1863	15	30			Salary for 2 months
"	do	do	20	10 10	do Rs 1680	Straity Bridge	do for 20 days
Gomastah	Annoo nair	1st Decr 1864	15	45			
Maistry	Harrayding	22nd do do	10	30	do Rs 9160	Allikotta Civil Dispensary	
do	Essa	26th Feby 65	10	9 54	do Rs 674	Court House	
	Total Rupees			529 48			

Cannanore
27 May 1865

sign/ E. N. Rootsee Captain
Asstt. Engineer

/True Copy/
sign/ A. J. Dobson
Asstt. Engineer
Malabar.

(True Copy)
W. Barrington
District Engineer
Malabar.

No. 2724

Office of the Controller of
Public Works Accounts
Madras 16th November 1874

From

The Officiating Controller of
Public Works Accounts

To

The Secretary to Government,
Public Works Department,
Fort Saint George.

Sir

In returning herewith the Original papers received with your Endorsement of the 10th Instant, I have the honor to state that the question as to the extent to which the practice so long prevalent at Cannanore of employing permanent Office Gumastahs and charging their Salaries to work must be considered objectionable, should, in my opinion, be considered more with reference to the custom and practice of past years, than with reference to the rules on the subject which rules were certainly not known to Range Officers. Judged by the rules, the arrangement in the Cannanore Range was altogether wrong, but judged by the general practice and the custom of years, I do not think that any Range Officer is to blame for continuing such an arrangement.

2. I beg to suggest that the Proceedings of Government No. 2519 dated the 5th September 1874 be followed up by requiring

District

Project Engineers to submit Statements showing Establishment now charged to works but which should in future be charged to the head Establishment either as "Petty" or "Office".—

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most Obedient Servant,

Off. Controller of
Public Works Accounts

P.W.D. Dr. 1874 Sept.
From Pro: Govt for Sept
No: 7176
The Offg Controller of
Public Works Accounts

To
The Secretary to Government
Public Works Department
Fort St. George

Dated 15 November 74
Recd 16

No 7241

Returns certain papers with Remarks as to the practice of employing at Cannanore, Permanent Office Gomastahs and Charging their Salaries to Work.—
G.O. No: 3577. 19-12-74.

No 407

Re Cir 4-12-74
Cir 28-11-74
Despd to Coonoor 16 Nov 74

P.W.D.

Proceedings of the Madras Government,

Under date the 187

Read the following:—

From
The Controller of P.W. Accts

Dist. Engr. Malabar (Ltr No 161 dt 30 Octr 74)
(Ltr. No. 7241 dt 14 Novr 74)

3577

It would appear that the Cannanore Range, which includes a Cantonment Charge in addition to that of several Talugs, has not been supplied with an Office Establishment in excess of the scale of the Ordinary 1st Class Range Office; and that it should be placed in this respect on an Exceptional footing,

as

as is the case with other Ranges including Cantonments where Europ. Infantry Troops are quartered. His Excellency the Governor in Council accordingly sanctions the Interlandment in the Cannanore Range of 3 Gomastahs on salaries of Rs. 16, Rs 14, and Rs. 13 respectively or at such other rates of pay as shall not make up the aggregate increase to more than Rs 42 per annum.

Sd/- H. B. Hudleston
Secretary to Govt.
Dept. of Lands &c.
23/12/74.

Sd/- W. Robertson
Chief Secretary
23/12/74.

Sd/- [illegible]
Secretary

The above Para of the Controller's letter dated 406-408.

The call for certain Statements suggested in the last para. of the Controller's letter dated 23-12-74 being communicated for orders of Govt. if necessary -

Sd/- [illegible]
Cir 28-12-74

Sd/- [illegible]
Secretary

Details of Establishments for Range Offices at Bellary and other Duty Stations

Vizianagram

1. Assistant		Rs 60	Rs	P.
1 Draftsman & Estimator		40		
1 Asstt Accountt & Writer		30		
1	do	do	20	
3. Lascars at Rs each		21		141

Bellary

1. Accountant		70		
1 Draftsman & Estimator		40		
1 Asstt Accountt		35		
1	do	do	25	
1	do	do	20	
1 Writer		30		
4 Lascars at Rs each		20		240

Saint Thomas Mount

1. Accountant		60		
1 Draftsman & Estimator		40		
1. Asstt Accountt & Writer		30		
1	do	do	20	
3. Lascars at Rs each		21		171

Yellow

1 - Accountant - 60 — " — "
1 Draftsman and Estimator } 40 — " — "
1 Asst Acctt & Writer 30 — " — "
1 Leo Leo 20 — " — "
3 - Lascars at 7 Rs each } 21 — " — " 171 — "

Bangalore

1 — Head Accountant — 60 — " — "
1 Asst Leo Leo 50 — " — "
1 Leo Leo 40 — " — "
1 Draftsman — 50 — "
1 " Leo } 40 — "
1 - Storekeeper — 40 — "
2 - Lascars at 6 " 12 — " — " 292 — "

Trichinopoly

1 - Accountant — 70 — " — "
1 Draftsman and Estimator } 40 — "
1 - Asst Acctt & Writer — 30 — " — "
1 " Leo — 25 — " — "
1 " Leo Leo — 20 — " — "
4 - Lascars at 7 Rs each - 28 — " — " 213 — "

Cannanore

1 - Accountant - 60 — " — "
1 Draftsman and Estimator } 40 — "
1 Asst Acctt and Writer } 30 — " — "
1 - Leo Leo 20 — " — "
3 - Lascars at 7 Rs each - 21 — " — " 171 — "

R 7176

1874

Govt. of India Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To

The Asst. Engr.
Malabar

Dated

Recd. Encl. 6

G. O., 15 Decr 74, No. 3377

Nos. 406-408.

Establishment Malabar &c.
sanctioning
the entertainment in the
Cannanore Range ~~of the~~
~~Malabar District~~ of 3
Gomastahs on certain
salaries or at such other
rates of pay as shall not
make up the aggregate
amount to more than
Rs. 42 per mensem.