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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

Government of Madras

Public Works DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	235	(w)	Press
B.P. No.			Mis.
28-1-1876			
Dated	28		1876

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
28th January 1876.*

No 506 Read the following letter from Major H. L. PRENDERGAST, R E,
Commandant, Sappers and Miners, to Major-General G W WALKER, R E,
Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Bangalore,
21st January 1876, No 50 —

With reference G O, Public Works Department, No 3,271, dated 16th
November 1875, I have the honor to report that Corporal Knight, whose application
for employment in the Public Works
• No 818, dated 13th October 1875 Department was represented in my letter*
embodied in the above Proceedings, states that he is not desirous of serving under
the Government of India, inasmuch as he volunteered for service under the Govern-
ment of Madras

2 Two of the Non-Commissioned Officers, who came out from England in
Class B, that is, for service as Overseers after passing one year in the country, viz,
Serjeant Auderton and Corporal Rawlings, have expressed their desire to enter the
Public Works Department under the Mysore Government; and I enclose a copy of
letter, No. 139, of the 18th January 1876, from the Secretary to the Chief Commis-
sioner of Mysore regarding them

3 It appears from this letter, paragraph 1, that there is still the same difficulty
in a Province under the Government of India of employing Non-Commissioned Officers
of the Royal Engineers under the terms of their volunteering for India. Colonel
Sankey writes, "men without College Certificates cannot, except under very special
circumstances, be introduced into the upper subordinate grades of this department
under the Codal Rules of the Government of India"

4 The Secretary to the Chief Commissioner, however, offers to give the two
Non-Commissioned Officers the position of Sub-Overseers of the first Grade, with
70 Rupees and horse allowance, also to apply for authority for the full amount of
regimental pay, in order that the men may have a fair trial until they either pass the
departmental tests for promotion to the upper subordinate grade or fail to qualify
These terms, moreover, are offered, contingent on the sanction of the Government
of India, as the Codal Rules do not contemplate soldiers entering the department in
the lower subordinate grades

5. The two Non-Commissioned Officers are desirous of accepting employment
on the terms proposed; but there is a second preliminary point, noted in paragraph 4
of Colonel Sankey's letter, that it would be essential, before proceeding further, to
obtain the assent of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief to the conditions
specified, as they are unusual and not provided for by any Military Regulations. I am
therefore writing to the Adjutant-General on this point, and will report the result

From Lieutenant-Colonel R H SANKEY, R E, Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of
Mysore, Department of Public Works, to Major H. L. PRENDERGAST, R E, Officer
Commanding, Sappers and Miners, Bangalore, dated Bangalore, 18th January 1876,
No 139

With reference to letter No 13, of the 10th instant, addressed to me as Chief Engineer,
asking if I wished to employ the Non-Com-
missioner Officers as per margin in this depart-
ment, I have the honor to inform you that so
far as I am personally concerned, I should wish much to give them a trial; but as men without

Serjeant Auderton
Corporal Rawlings

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
28th January 1876.*

College Certificates cannot, excepting under very special circumstances, be introduced into the upper subordinate grades of this department under the Codal Rules of the Government of India, I felt it necessary to submit the inquiry for the decision of the Chief Commissioner

2 I am now authorized to say that, if the men named are willing to enter the department in the position of Sub-Overseers of the first grade with maximum pay (i.e., Rupees 70 + 15 or 30 travelling allowance according to circumstances), a fair trial will be given them till they either pass such departmental tests as may be considered to warrant their promotion to the position of upper subordinate, or fail entirely to qualify for such

3 It is not, I am to observe at present, without the sanction of the Government of India, in the power of the Chief Commissioner to offer these terms definitely, as Codal Rules do not contemplate soldiers entering the department in the lower subordinate grades, but on ascertaining the wishes of the men in question, the requisite application will be made, and also as a special case authority will be sought for the Controller to pass them the full amount of their regimental pay in addition to the departmental ones specified

4. But it is also to be noted that the conditions specified being unusual and not provided for by any military regulations, it would be essential, before proceeding further, to obtain the assent of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, and this, in the interests of the applicants, you will probably be in the best position to obtain. Awaiting, therefore, your reply on the two preliminary points adverted to, I have the honor to be, &c

No 506

ORDER THEREON, 28th January 1876, No 235

ESTABLISHMENT, No 33

RECORDED, pending the receipt of the further reports promised of the results of the applications made to the Government

of India and to His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief.

(True Extract)

(Signed) G. W. WALKER, Major-General, R E,
Secretary to Government.

To the Military Department.

Exd S T. Austin.

Spare Copies

No. 235.

Recorded pending the receipt of the further reports promised of the results of the applications made to the Government of India and to His Excellency the Commander in Chief.

28th Jan 76
Mil Dept 17-2-76

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Ctbl. of 1870 India.

PUBLIC WORKS.

Military Dept.

27/1/61

28 Aug 1870 225

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Employment of Non-
Commissioned Officers
of the Royal Engineers
the R. E. in India
under the Prov. System
Letter from the Commr.
and Report of the Commr.
Recorded by
Remarks.