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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

Government of Madras

Public Works DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	976	(W)	Press
B.P. No.			Mis.
Dated	12-4-		1876.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
12th April 1876.*

No. 239. Read the following letter from JAMES MAY, Esq., Superintendent, Madras Harbour Works, to Major-General G. W. WALKER, R.E., Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Madras, 25th February 1876, No. 44 W.:—

I HAVE the honor to refer to the printed Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, No. 1,815 and No. 1,857, of 29th June and 2nd July 1875, respectively. These papers embody copies of correspondence between the India Office, Mr. William Parkes, and me, with reference to my appointment as Superintendent of the Madras Harbour Works, commencing from 1st April 1875. The papers explain the circumstances under which this appointment was first offered to me by Mr. Parkes, and subsequently, on Mr. Parkes' recommendation, by the Secretary of State.

2. The salary attached to the office when it was first offered on 26th December 1874 was £1,500 per annum, and on this condition I accepted it.

3. Sir Louis Mallett's letter of 17th March last names the salary at "£1,500 per annum," and in a following paragraph converts the same sum into "15,000 Rupees a-year." Being then unacquainted with India, I was not aware of the value of a Rupee, but I have since ascertained that £1,500 and 15,000 Rupees represent values which are very different.

4. The following is the way in which this operates with me from one month to another. My expenditure in this country being at the rate of about £100 per annum, I ought to be enabled to remit the balance of £1,100 per annum to my family in England; but in order to do this, I am compelled to buy Banker's Bills at the current rate of exchange (1s. 8½d. on demand this morning), and, at this rate, the equivalent of £1,100 is Rupees 12,800, involving a loss to me of Rupees 1,800 per annum.

5. I beg you will lay this statement before the Government, in the hope that it may please them to make arrangements for the sum of £91-13-4 per calendar month (£1,100 per annum) to be paid to my Banker in England, the Union Bank of London, 66 Charing Cross, and for me to receive the balance in this country at the rate of 2s. per Rupee.

This question does not affect other members of the staff, the amounts of whose salaries were originally proposed to them in Rupees and not in English money.

P.S.—The exchange on England quoted this morning is, on demand, 1s. 8½d. per Rupee.

26th February 1876.

No. 240.

ORDER THEREON, 12th April 1876, No. 976.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 15.

It is evident from the papers recorded with G.O., Nos. 1,433 of 25th May, and 1,815 of 29th June, that the understanding between Mr. Parkes and the Government of Madras was that Mr. May's salary should be £1,500 a-year, which is at the rate of £125 a-month.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
12th April 1876.

2. His Grace the Governor in Council will accordingly recommend to the Secretary of State for India that he be paid £90 a-month commencing on 1st May at the India Office. And it will be decided in the Financial Department at what rate he shall receive the balance in Rupees at Madras.

(True Extract.)

Colonel,
Offg. Under Secy. to Govt., P.W.D.

To the Superintendent, Madras Harbour Works.
" Examiner of Public Works Accounts.
" Financial Department.

Public Works Department.

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Under date the

Read the following:—

From
The Superintendent
Madras Harbour Works } (H.C. No. 14 W of 25th May 1876)

It is evident from the papers recorded with G.O. No. 1433 of 25th May and 1815 of 29th June, that the understanding between Mr. Parker and the Government of Madras is that Mr. May's salary should be £1500 a year, which is at the rate of £125 a month.

Mr May is entitled to £1500 a year. The Government of Madras is not to pay more than £125 a month. The Government of Madras is not to pay more than £125 a month.

His

2. His Grace the
Governor in Council
will accordingly re-
commended to the
Secretary of State
for India that he
be allowed to draw
£35 a month at
Madras at the rate
of 2 1/2 per cent, and
that a monthly re-
mit be made of £70.
Commencing from
the 1st May be made
to Mr. Major Walker
in London.

3 Supt. Madras Harbour Works
S. R. P. L. R.

2001 Ci 20-3-76

Private!

Harbour Works, Madras,

February 25, 1876 -

My dear General,

Mr. Parker wrote to me on 4th instant
follows: -

"The Exchange has become so ruinous that if I
were in your place, I would apply again on
the question of salary. - I think you will find
that having dropped the matter before would
now be in your favour, and that in the face
of a further fall in the Exchange and the
evidence you have given of your confidence
in the good faith of Government, the Madras
Government will listen to you. -

"My letter to you of 18th June last will remind
you how the matter stood at that time, and there
is much in it that you might quote without
infringement of propriety - Nothing has been
said on the subject at this end since that
talk with Mr. Horton" -

The following are Mr. Parker's words to me on
18th June last: -

John. Russell

"Since I last wrote to you I have done some
"more in the matter of your pay, and
"I think all I can do. — Sir H. Baker told me
"he had brought the matter forward both in Council
"and I think in Council, but certainly before
"Lord Salisbury. — Sir H. B. himself would not
"conceded to your request, and said all he could
"do was to find the opposition too strong.
"He thought, however the matter of 8th and 11th
"(G.O. 22 July 1875) would do — I am sure
"the Madras Government if you raised the question
"with them. — I then wrote to General Walker,
"now in England, enclosing the correspondence. —
"He says in his reply: 'all that I can say is
"that Mr. May shall have my hearty support
"on my return to Madras if he will limit
"his demand to payment of so much of
"his salary as he may wish to draw
"at Madras at the rate of 2/ to the rupee,
"the remainder being paid in England at
"the rate of £1500 a year. — It appears
"me that Mr. May accepted Rupees 15000
"supposing it to be the full equivalent."

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"£1500. — Of course, I cannot pledge myself
"that the Madras Government will interfere in
"any arrangement made by the India Office with
"Mr. May, but I think it will be found they
"have taken for granted that his salary is to be
"what you stated, viz: £1500 a year. —

"Before receiving this reply, I had occasion to
"see Mr. Thornton on another matter, and I raised
"the question with him. — He said he put down the
"15000 rupees with the full intention of its being an
"equivalent of £1500."

Apologizing for trouble,

I am, very faithfully,

James May,

Superintendent.

General Walker, R.L.;

&c. &c.;

Fort Saint George.

Mr. Parker

No. 44 W.
From
The Superintendent,
Madras Harbour Works.

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

Madras 25 February 1876.

Sir
I have the honour to refer to the
printed Proceedings of the Madras Govern-
ment, Public Works Department, No. 1815
and No. 1857, of 29th June and 2nd July
1875 respectively. — These papers embody
copies of correspondence between the India
Office, Mr. William Parker, and me
with reference to my appointment as Super-
intendent of the Madras Harbour Works,
commencing from 1st April 1875. The
papers explain the circumstances under
which this appointment was first offered
to me by Mr. Parker, and subsequently,
on Mr. Parker's recommendation, by the
Secretary of State.

2 The salary attached to the office

when it was first offered on 26th December 1874 was £1500 per annum, and on this condition I accepted it.

3. Sir Louis Mallet's letter of 17th March last names the salary at "£1500 per annum" and in a following paragraph converts the same sum into 15000 Rupees a year. Being then unacquainted with India, I was not aware of the value of a Rupee, but I have since ascertained that £1500 and 15,000 Rupees represent values which are very different.

4. The following is the way in which this operates with me from one month to another:

My expenditure in this country being at the rate of about £400 per annum, I ought to be enabled to remit the balance of £1100 per annum to my family in England; but in order to do this I am compelled to buy Bankers' Bills at the current rate of exchange (1/8th on demand this morning) and at this rate the equivalent of £1100 is Rs. 12,800, involving a loss to me of Rs. 1800 per annum.

5. I beg you will lay this statement before the Government, in the hope that it may please them to make arrangements for the sum of £91. 13. 4, per calan dar

month (£1100 per annum) to be paid to my Banker in England, the Union Bank of London, 66 Charing Cross, and for me to receive the balance in this country at the rate of 2/10 per Rupee. —

This question does not affect other members of the Staff, the amounts of whose salaries were originally proposed to them in Rupees, and not in English money. —

I have the honour to be

Sir

Your most Obedient Servant,

James Elmy,

Superintendent,

Madras Harbour Works.

P. 126 February 1876.

The Exchange on England quoted this morning is, on demand, 1/8th per Rupee.
J.M.

C. 4-2-76.

Supt. Madras A. Works; cordently.
Exm. P. D. Accts & Sept 2-5-76
Financial Department. 1876

to the Secretary of State
for India that he has
paid £ 90 a month
commencing on 1st

May at the India office.
And it will be decided
in the Financial
Department at what
rate he shall receive
the balance in Rupees
at Madras.

MM

Submit to His
Grace that refer-
ence to the Hon.

Dept. cannot
be made till
after the order
of the Secy of
State shall have
been passed.
And that pay-
ment to Mr.
Murray of the bal-
ance in India
at the rate of
2/6 the Rupee
wh. Mr Murray
is very favorable
terms to the
Govt.

MM
20.3

1469
Cobt. of 1876 Madrid.
PUBLIC WORKS.

To

*The Supr of the Madrid
Public Works*

Dated

Issued

Recd

Encl

G. O. 12 April 1876, No.

976

Nos. 239 - 240

Supt. M. H. Work

Passing orders on
letter from Mr. May
regarding the salary
of his appointment as

*Let. in file
2-5-76*