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# MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

Government of Madras

*Public Works* DEPARTMENT

|          |          |        |
|----------|----------|--------|
| G.O. No. | 1827     | Press  |
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| Dated    | 20-7-195 | 4876   |

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,  
20th July 1876. No. 1,827.*

No. 312. Read the following letter from K. F. NORDMANN, Esq., Officiating District Engineer, Vizagapatam, to Major-General G. W. WALKER, R.E., Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Vizianagram, 1st July 1876, No. 715 :—

IN G.O., No. 1,002, dated 21st April 1876, it is remarked that the Acting District Engineer of Vizagapatam has hardly appreciated the duty incumbent on him, as an officer in the Government service, of affording every assistance in his power to the passage of troops proceeding on emergent field service.

2. As I consider that, in this sentence, I am undeservedly censured, I respectfully request that Government will be pleased to reconsider their order.

3. I believed I was strictly carrying out my duty in acting as I did ; and I therefore feel injured when told that I hardly appreciated my duty on the occasion.

4. I beg to recite the facts of the case, which are as follows :—

I had been ordered by the Chief Engineer in March, not on any account to stop work on the new ghaut. A few days afterwards the Governor's Agent called upon me to stop work and send all coolies to carry baggage for the troops marching to Bustar. I naturally hesitated for a moment about complying with the Agent's demands, in the face of the Chief Engineer's order ; and I submit that I acted correctly by telegraphing to the Chief Engineer on the subject. However, as I did not receive an immediate reply from the Chief Engineer by telegraph, I took upon myself, looking to the urgency of the case, to disregard his orders to stop work, and let the Collector have my coolies.

5. When I received the Chief Engineer's telegram in reply to mine, I found that, in acting as I did, I had acted in accordance with that officer's wishes ; his telegram ordering me to do that which I had already done in anticipation of his sanction.

6. I had been placed in a difficult position and was specially anxious to do my strict duty, and act correctly in the matter. Being left to my own devices, in the absence of immediate orders, I did that which was afterwards approved of by the Chief Engineer's telegram ; and the Government, in their order under reference, in paragraph 2, say that I would have incurred a heavy responsibility had I acted otherwise than I did.

7. Under these circumstances, I respectfully submit that I did not fail to appreciate my duty on the occasion ; and I hope that the Government will, on reconsideration, consent to modify their order.

No. 313. ORDER THEREON, 20th July 1876, No. 1,827.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 23.

HIS GRACE the Governor in Council sees no reason for any modification of the order of the 21st April 1876, No. 1,002.

(True Extract.)

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

To the District Engineer, Vizagapatam.  
Exd. W. H. French.  
Spare Copies

N<sup>o</sup> 715

District Engineer's Office Camp  
Virianagram 1<sup>st</sup> July 1876<sup>3</sup>  
resp<sup>d</sup> 3<sup>rd</sup> 8<sup>th</sup>

From

H. F. Nordmann Esq<sup>re</sup>

Officiating District Engineer  
Viragapatam

To

Major General G. W. Walker R.E.  
Secretary to Government C.M.D.  
Madras.

Sir,

In G.O. N<sup>o</sup> 1002 dated 21<sup>st</sup> April 1876, it is remarked that the Acting District Engineer of Viragapatam has hardly appreciated the duty incumbent on him, as an Officer in the Government Service, of affording every assistance in his power to the passage of troops proceeding on emergent field service.

2. As I consider that, in this sentence, I am undeservedly censured, I respectfully request that Government will be pleased to reconsider their Order.

3. I believed I was strictly carrying out my duty in acting as I did; and I therefore feel injured when told that I hardly appreciated my

my duty on the occasion.

4. I beg to recite the facts of the case, which are as follows:-

I had been ordered by the Chief Engineer, in March, not on any account to stop work on the new Ghaut. A few days afterwards, the Governor's Agent called upon me to stop work, and send all coolies to carry baggage for the troops, marching to Buxtar. I naturally hesitated for a moment about complying with the Agent's demands, in the face of the Chief Engineer's order; and I submit that I acted correctly by telegraphing to the Chief Engineer on the subject. However, as I did not receive an immediate reply from the Chief Engineer by telegraph, I took upon myself, looking to the urgency of the case, to disregard his orders, to stop work and let the Collector have my coolies.

5. When I received the Chief Engineer's telegram in reply to mine, I found that, in acting as I did, I had acted in accordance with that Officer's wishes; his telegram ordering me to do that which I had already done in anticipation of his sanction.

1st 7 July, 1875  
875 H: 05  
I had been placed in a difficult position and was specially anxious to do my strict duty, and act correctly, in the matter. Being left to my own devices, in the absence of immediate orders I did that which was afterwards approved of by the Chief Engineer's telegram; and the Government, in their order under reference, in para 2, say, that I would have incurred a heavy responsibility had I acted otherwise than I did.

7. Under these circumstances, I respectfully submit that I did not fail to appreciate my duty on the occasion; and I hope that the Government will, on reconsideration, consent to modify their order.

I have the honor to be  
Sir

Yours most abdt. Servt

W. Morlman  
Offg. District Engineer  
Vizagapatam

21-4-76 No 1002  
 3-4-76 No 17.  
 Ch. Secy. In. 538 of 19th March 76.

Recd. 17 of 1-4-76

1875 Sept.  
 No: 4973

Shops mandating to Quater-  
 Requesting Govt. to modify  
 G.O. No 1002 dated 21st April 76  
 in which the Offg. District  
 Engineer is stated to have  
 failed in appreciating his  
 duty, in connection with the  
 supply of cordia for army  
 using the baggage of—

1875  
 12th July 1876  
 To the Offg. District Engineer  
 Secy. to Government  
 Public Works Department  
 Madras.

No 312  
 Retd. 19-7-76  
 Cir. 15-7-76  
 Respt. to No 12-7-76.

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

UNDER date the

Read the following:—

From  
 The Offg. Dist. Engineer  
 Vizagapatam } (No. 715 of 1st July 1876)

I would readily say  
 that in Journal in  
 reference for any  
 instructions of  
 the order of 24th  
 April

In this letter Mr.  
 Nordmann has neglected  
 to state that the Chief  
 Engineer's instructions were  
 in reply to a question put  
 by himself, whether he  
 might continue work on  
 the New Pottinghy Ghant  
 after the 1st April; and  
 were precisely of the same  
 nature as that Officer  
 would be bound to give  
 with reference to any  
 incomplete work; under  
 the orders of Govt. which  
 prescribe

prescribe that such shall  
on no account be suspended  
for want of formal grant  
of money, merely because  
the official year happens  
to have come to a close.

Under these circum-  
stances His Excellency the  
Governor in Council is not  
of opinion that Mr. Nord-  
mann has improved his  
position by the reference  
now made.

Chg 4973  
Vizag: Gulf

Hand R. L. L. L. L.

Water R. L. L. L. L.  
19-7

Hand R. L. L. L. L.

No 1827  
Public Works Department.  
PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

9  
Under date the 20 July/76.  
Read the following:—

The Offg. Dist. Engineer  
Vizagapatam } (N.E. No 715 of 1<sup>st</sup> July 1876)

His Grace the Governor  
in Council sees no reason for  
any modification of the order  
of the 21<sup>st</sup> April 1876, No.  
1002.

S. E. Vizagapatam V  
Sept 31/76

4973 CH.



Govt. of 1876 Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To

*Mr. R. S. Vyasaiah*

Dated

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G. O., 20 July 1876. No. 1827

Nos. 312-313

*Sent in Reg. 1-8-76*

Mr. R. S. Nordinan

Mr. S. S. Vyasaiah

Declining to modify the  
order of the 21<sup>st</sup> April 1876  
remarking that  
has hardly appreciated the  
duty incumbent on him as an  
Officer in the G.O. service of  
affording assistance in to  
the passage of Troops moving  
in urgent field service.

*Noted here*