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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	818	(W)	Press <u>Mis</u>
Dated	9-3-	1877	.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 227. Read the following letter from Major P. MONTGOMERIE, R.E., District Engineer, Salem, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Yerkaud, 28th February 1877, No. 155 SL:—

I HAVE the honor to submit, for the favorable consideration of His Grace the Governor in Council, the following facts relating to the particularly hard circumstances under which I am placed in reference to my connection with the Public Works Department in Madras. Not only has my promotion in this department been unprecedentedly slow, but I have virtually been superseded by one who is many years my junior in the service by which my further promotion may be indefinitely postponed.

2. I was appointed to the second grade of Executive Engineer on the 1st of September 1871; so that I have now been five and a half years in this grade without any advancement whatever. For the last year and a half my name has been at the top of this list, and I naturally expected that, on the first occasion, I would be promoted to the first grade of Executive Engineers; such opportunities have been afforded by the retirement of Lieutenant-Colonel Oakes, R.E., and again by the advancement to off-reckonings of Major-General Walker, R.E.; but, instead of receiving the promotion I expected, I find that I have been superseded by Mr. G. T. Walch, who was only appointed to the second grade on the 1st September 1875, and who has not done a single day's duty in that grade.

3. Knowing as I do from personal experience Mr. Walch's character as a most careful and hard-working Executive Officer, I would be the last person to deprecate his advancement to an appointment in which I believe the Government have to be congratulated quite as much as my friend Mr. Walch. But what makes my supersession in the Public Works Department Gradation List by Mr. G. T. Walch appear to me as an injustice is that when I was appointed (*vide Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 11th March 1873) to act for Major A. deC. Scott, R.E., as Under Secretary to Government and in almost precisely the same position as that to which Mr. Walch is now appointed, I was not promoted out of the grade in which I then was and in which I still remain; nor did I supersede or wish to supersede those immediately above me in the list.

4. From the *Port St. George Gazette*, dated 13th February 1877, I observe that Colonels Foord, Shaw-Stewart and Farewell have been appointed to, and confirmed in, different ranks of the department, and again on the 20th *idem* Mr. G. T. Walch has been promoted from the second to the first grade of Executive Engineer. And I would most respectfully request that the Government, after inquiry as to my claims for promotion, will authorize my advancement to the first grade of Executive Engineer from the date of Lieutenant-Colonel Oakes' retirement from the service and the department.

5. I may here also most respectfully remind the Government that, if they had not refused my services to the Government of Mysore in their letter, No. 256, dated 27th January 1869, I should now be in the same position as Captain Bowen, R.E., (who went there in my stead) and who is now an Acting Superintending Engineer and a permanent first-class Executive.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
9th March 1877. No. 818.

6. I have, however, cast in my lot with Madras. And, as I have always endeavored while in this department to do my duty, whether in charge of the important Irrigation Districts of Tanjore and Trichinopoly, the Presidency Town or in the Secretariat and have not (that I am aware of) incurred the displeasure of Government in any instance, I, with the more confidence, respectfully lay my case before His Grace the Governor in Council.

No. 228.

ORDER THEREON, 9th March 1877, No. 818.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 10.

MAJOR MONTGOMERIE will be informed that the retirements of Colonel Oakes and Major-General Walker have enabled super-

numeraries to be absorbed, but did not create vacancies in the grade of Executive Engineer, first class, and that grade is at present full.

2. Mr. Walch's appointment to act as Deputy Chief Engineer and Under Secretary should not be deemed a supersession of Major Montgomerie, this appointment being extra to the regular number of Executive Engineers, first grade, and of a kind always filled by selection irrespectively of seniority.

3. Major Montgomerie's claims to promotion will be duly considered on the occurrence of a vacancy in the first grade.

(True Extract.)

Lieut.-Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government, P.W.D.

To the District Engineer, Salem.

Exd. E. C. Shunker.

Spare Copies

Establishment No. 155 SL District Engineer's Office,
Salem 28 Feb'y 1877.

From

Major P. Montgomerie R.E.,
District Engineer,
Salem.

Lieut. Col. J. Mullins R.E.,
Chief Engineer, P.W.D.,
Madras.
Sir,

I have the honor to submit for the favourable consideration of His Grace the Governor in Council the following facts relating to the particularly hard circumstances under which I am placed in reference to my connection with the Public Works Department in Madras. Not only has my promotion in this Department been unprecedentedly slow, but I have virtually been superseded by one who

who is many years my junior in the service by which my further promotion may be indefinitely postponed.

2. I was appointed to the 2nd grade of Executive Engineer on the 1st of September 1871, so that I have now been 5½ years in this grade without any advancement whatever. For the last year and a half my name has been at the top of this list, and I naturally expected that on the first occasion I would be promoted to the 1st grade of Executive Engineers; such opportunities have been afforded by the Retirement of Lieut. Col. Oakes R.E., and again by the advancement to off-reckonings of Major General Walker R.E., but instead of receiving the promotion I expected, I find that

I

I have been superseded by Mr. G. J. Walch who was only appointed to the 2nd grade on the 1st September 1875, and who has not done a single day's duty in that grade.

3. Knowing, as I do, from personal experience Mr. Walch's character as a most careful and hardworking Executive Officer, I would be the last person to deprecate his advancement to an appointment in which I believe the Government have to be congratulated, quite as much as my friend Mr. Walch. But what makes my supersession in the P. W. D. graduation list by Mr. G. J. Walch appear to me as an injustice, is, that when I was appointed (vide Fort St. George Gazette dated 11th March 1873) to act for Major A. de C. Scott R.E., as under

Secretary

Secretary to Government and in almost precisely the same position as that to which Mr. Walch is now appointed, I was not promoted out of the grade in which I then was and in which I still remain; nor did I supersede or wish to supersede those immediately above me in the list.

4. From the Fort St. George Gazette dated 13th February, 1877, I observe that Col: Food, Shaw-stewart and Firewall have been appointed to, and confirmed in, different Ranks of the Department, and again on the 20th idem Mr. G. J. Walch has been promoted from the 2nd to the 1st grade of Executive Engineer. And I would most respectfully request that the Government, after enquiry as to my claims for promotion, will authorize
my

my advancement to the 1st Grade of Executive Engineer from the date of Lieut: Col: Oakes' Retirement from the Service and the Department.

5. I may here also most respectfully remind the Government that, if they had not refused my services to the Government of Mysore in their letter No. 256 dated 27th January, 1869, I should now be in the same position as Captain Bowen R.E., (who went there in my stead) and who is now an acting Superintending Engineer and a permanent 1st Class Executive.

6. I have, however, cast in my lot with Madras. And, as I have always endeavoured while in this Department to do my duty, whether in charge of the
important

9 4
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Sajore and Trichinopoly, the
Presidency Town or in the Secretariat
and have not (that I am aware
of) incurred the displeasure of
Government in any instance, I,
with the more confidence, respect-
fully lay my case before His
Grace the Governor in Council.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Yours most Obedt. Servant,

Wm Fox Maule Major R.E.,

District Engineer, Salem.

P.W.D.
3 MAR 77
No. 2208

submitting for the
general consideration
of Govt. his claims for
promotion to Executive
Engineer 1st grade with
a request that Govt.
will authorize his advance
ment to that grade from
the date of retirement
from the service of Govt.
C.R.

Dated 28th July 1877
Recd. 3

D. S. W.

The Chief Engineer,

to be seen.

The District Engineer,

No. 165-22
Establishment.

No. 227-

Major Montgomerie will be informed that the
retirement of Colonel Daker and of Major General
Walker enable supernumeraries to be absorbed, but
do not create vacancies in the former Executive
Engineer 1st grade, to which promotion can be
made & that grade is at present full.

2. Mr. Lach's appointment to act as Deputy Chief Engineer
& Under Secretary should not be considered as
superior to that of Major Montgomerie, this appointment
being ~~an~~ extra to the regular number of Engineers 1st grade
It is however an app. of a kind always filled by selection
irrespective of seniority.

Separate
draft.

Extract from the Fort St.
George Gazette, Page 534 of
11th March 1873.

P.W. Dept.

Capt. P. Montgomerie R.E.
Executive Engineer 3rd Grade,
to officiate as Under Secy to
Govt in the Public Works Dept.
during the absence on medical
certificate of Major A. de B. Scott.
or until further orders. To give
in relief by Major R. F. Baker R.E.

R.L.

Go. 27-1. 69 No 255 & 256

P.W.D.

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P. W. D.

Memorandum.

Major P. Montgomery
now an Executive Engineer
of the 2^d grade and at the
hope of that grade complains
of his virtual supersession
by Mr. Welch who was re-
cently appointed to act
as Deputy Chief Engineer
and Under Secretary since
Major Scott, and asks to
be promoted to the first
grade since Colonel Baker
retired.

2. The Deputy Chief Engineer
for Irrigation is an
hydra appointment in the
1st grade. His Government
are aware Mr. Welch was
selected as being of those

[Faint handwritten notes on the bottom left of the right page, possibly bleed-through from the reverse side.]

eligible the Officer who
could with least incon-
venience be posted to
the Office of the Chief En-
gineer for Irrigation.

3. The retirement of General
Walker from the Depart-
ment and of Colonel Baker
from the Service give no
promotions in the Execu-
tive Engineer Grade be-
cause there were Super-
numerary Superintend-
ing Engineers to be absorbed.

The proper establishment
of Executive Engineers of
the 1st Grade is 6 and
there are the following
Officers at present
in it besides Supernumer-
aries and extras:-

1. Major H. L. Prendergast
2. Major J. Verhue
3. Lt Col. B. S. Moberly
4. Mr. W. S. Harrington
5. Mr. A. C. Lawford
6. Major H. R. Mead.

There is therefore no vacancy
and as Government have
decided to give up the
old rules under which
permanent promotions
were made in the place
of officers going on leave
for 12 months or more,
Major P. Montgomery can
on the departure of Mr.
A. C. Lawford on furlough
be promoted only temporarily
and he will revert to his sub-
stantive grade on the re-
turn from furlough of Mr.
J. W. Randall a few weeks
subsequently.

41 6/5

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

UNDER date the

9th March 1877.

Read the following:—

From the District Eng^r, Salem, (H.R. No 155 S.D. of 28 Feb 77)

Major Montgomery will be informed that the retirements of Colonel Sikes and Major General Walker have enabled supernumeraries to be absorbed but did not create vacancies in the grade of Executive Engineer, 1st Class, and that grade is at present full.

2. Mr. Welch's appointment to act as Deputy Chief Engineer and Under Secretary should not be deemed a supersession of Major Montgomery, this appointment being extra to the regular number of Executive Engineers 1st Grade and of a kind always filled by

2278

Salem

$$\begin{array}{r} 175 \\ 637 \end{array}$$

9 Mar. 818

selection irrespective of
seniority.
3. Major Montgomery's
claims to promotion will
be duly considered on
the occurrence of a
vacancy in the 1st grade.

Aug. 7/3

2278
Govt. of 1877 Madras.
PUBLIC WORKS.

To The D. C., Salem.

Dated

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G. O., 9th March 1877, No. 878

Nos. 227-228

Major P. Montgomery,
A.R., Executive Engineer

informed of the reason
why he cannot at present
be promoted to Executive
Engineer 1st grade, and
that his claims to pro-
motion will be duly
considered on the occurrence
of a vacancy.

But in 1878

1/11/78