Archives I-10,006—16-8 77.

(1) Number of pages 60
(2) Date of repair 10-12-86
(3) Initials of the Referencer [illegible]

TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

P.W.D DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. **B.P. No.**	2332-W	**Press.** **Mis.**
Dated	9-10-1880	~~197~~.

R.R.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

2332
1

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

9th October 1880, No. 2,332 W.

General.
Establishment.

Read the following paper :—

No. 42. Petition from C. Mooroogasa [illegible]elliar, dated 17th July 1880.

No. 43. Order thereon, 9th Octob[illegible]0, No. 2,332 W.

On reconsideration of the circumstances c[illegible]ected with the dismissal of Overseer Mooroogasa Moodelliar, His Grace the Govern[illegible]n Council accepts the opinion of the Chief Engineer that the more serious charges [illegible]ught against that subordinate were not sufficiently proved, and that dismissal fr[illegible] the service was an unduly severe punishment for such deficiencies as those whic[illegible] appears to have shown.

2. He will therefore be re-appointed to t[illegible]ervice on such terms and from such date as the Chief Engineer may direct.

(True Extr[illegible]

Major, R.E.,
Under Secy. to Govt., P.W.D.

To the Superintending Engineer, Third Circle
„ Examiner of Public Works Accounts.

Exd. E. C. Shunker.
Spare Copies

GENERAL
ESTABLISHMENT.

Govt. of [1880] Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To

THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER,
THIRD CIRCLE,
&c., &c., &c.

Dated October, 9th.

Issued

Recd. *Encl.*

G. O., 9th October 1880, No. 2,332 W.

OCTOBER.
Nos. 42-43.

C. Mooroogasa Moodelliar.—Re-appointment of — in the Public Works Department.

2332/2

TO

THE SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Fort St. George.

The humble petition of CONGEEVARAM MOOROOGASA MOODELIYAR, *late Talook Overseer Dindigal, Madura District.*

MOST RESPECTFULLY SHOWETH,

1. That I was Talook Overseer Dindigal Talook Madura District, till 1*st* January 1878 when I was removed from the Service under orders No. 4689 dated 28*th* December 1877 of the Chief Engineer on the report of the District Engineer Madura No. 253 dated 18*th* December last, on which I beg respectfully to submit my Appeal for Your Honor's consideration and disposal of Government.

2. Before I can say anything in vindication of my conduct or on the merits of the report of the District Engineer upon which the orders for my removal was based, I think it my duty to represent and place before Your Honor's fatherly consideration all the circumstances connected with my unhappy case as it transpired from the beginning.

3. I received my 1st appointment of Talook Overseer in the Madura District from Colonel Roberts R. E. Superintending Engineer in 1873, from which time upto 31*st* December last I held the post and performed my duties to the satisfaction of all my superiors as the copy of my service register will shew. Mr. Harrington assumed charge of the Madura District about April 1877 and upto June 1877 I was not subject to any inconvenience or molestation.

4. On the 28*th* June last, I applied for a weeks leave for my son's marriage to go to Coimbatore, vide enclosure marked A, through the Range Officer, which was submitted with favourable recommendation to the District Engineer. The District Engineer totally refused to grant the leave, but when I very respectfully remonstrated and submitted the necessity of the case and solicited this special favour, his honour was pleased to grant the leave for 5 days and that without pay with severe remarks upon my conduct and with an advice to the Range Officer to watch over my conduct as will be seen in the 2nd para of Exhibit B. namely,

> "I beg that you will look very strictly after this individual. His manners
> "are bad, and Mr. Lawford thought very badly of his qualifications."

This was the first time any remark of the kind was passed, and there was no ground for it as Mr. Lawford was perfectly satisfied with me when he left the District which will be evident from copy of his Testimonial, annexed in the Appendix.

5. That, that gentleman never thought ill of my qualifications, will be evident from his having never remarked badly of the several works executed by me during his stay in the Dindigal division for upwords of one year.

Lr No 1481 5/8/80

Octy 24/8/80

8/80

6. Again on the *7th* August 1877, the District Engineer sent an order to the Range Officer cancelling my hard earned travelling allowance for the previous months of May and June 1877 forwarding extract of his remarks against me which conveyed severe censures. The order requiring state of works to be given in the Inspection report was not received by me when the June report was submitted, and I was not therefore able to supply the necessary information. How this innocent act of mine could have given room to the District Engineer to charge me with systamatic disobedience of orders, neglect of duty can be more imagined than described by me. I explained this circumstance in my letter No. 98 marked D. All information regarding the state of works used to be furnished in the monthly progress reports and the order to give such information in the Inspection report also was not received by me when the Inspection report for June was submitted having been then mostly engaged on Famine works (the Departmental works being almost at in abeyance) the District Engineer had not several opportunities of testing the manner in which I performed my work, he to my great misfortune still expressed his opinion in a very unfavorable manner as follows; (Exhibit C.)

> "He should be informed, that if he fails to supply the information in his "next report, he will be reported to Government for grave disobedi-"ence. This man appears to systamatically neglect his work, disobey "orders, and remain for days at Dindigal, this he may rest assured will "no longer be permitted or allowed unpunished."

7. On the *15th* August last I submitted an application to the Range Officer to recommed to the District Engineer to grant me my travelling allowance which was cancelled by the District Engineer, explaining all the circumstances in Exhibit D.

This was submitted by the Range Officer with the following recommendation: —

> "Though the Pulney Overseer did not travel very much in May, I consider "he is a very good subordinate and does his work well. The Dindigal "Overseer had also improved latterly." (Exhibit E.)

Upon which his honour the District Engineer passed the travelling allowance to Pulney Overseer and informs the following through the Range Officer for my information. (Exhibit F.)

> "As C. Mooroogasa Moodeliar has in no way improved, and his conduct is "utterly unsatisfactory, no travelling allowance will be passed to him.

Here I beg most respectfully to submit, that in the absence of any single report from my Range Officer against me, I fail to see from what sourse his honor gathers information regarding my conduct, neglect of work, and other particulars &c.

8. Ever since from May last up to December, with small sums of travelling allowance now and then, I had to live upon my pay in such hard time and I leave the subject of my privations and sufferings to Your Honors Gracious Consideration.

9. I took particular care regarding the conservancy of roads and was therefore obliged to press hard upon my subordinates, and caused the Maistries and mile coolies punished for their negligence by the Range Officer, and the Road No. 31 in particular being in so bad a state and the Maistry in charge was too neglectful in the performance of his duties caused him and his mile coolies fined ¼ of their pay for short work which with the encouragement that Maistry received from the leading officials in the Range Office led to the concoction of a case that was possible within his capacity and so prevailed

upon his mile coolies to make a complaint against me to the Range Officer on the *25th* September when they have come to receive their pay. This being echoed by the Range Office people who are good friends of the Maistry assumed every importance induced the Range Officer to report the fact of the complaint to the District Engineer on the *27th* September (Exhibit G.); and I was furnished with a copy of it for my explanation. I submitted my explanations, minutely detailed all particulars on the *2nd* October (Exhibit H) which was submitted to the District Engineer's consideration and orders.

10. When I observed that the Range Officer with all my explanations was still inclined to believe the statements of his ministerials on the subject, I sent in a Demi-official letter on the *9th* October Exhibit I. to the District Engineer in a Registered cover intimating all circumstances requested his honor to make a personal enquiry and settle the matter on the spot; and although his honor had been 4 times at Dindigal since the time of the complaint, he was not inclined to make any enquiry nor allowed me an opportunity as requested by me to explain matters in person. I was kept a perfect stranger to all the proceedings of the Range Officer and District Engineer from *27th* September till *2nd* November on which date all of a sudden an order of suspension dated *2nd* November No. 2264. Exhibit J. was put into my hands. Subsequent orders of the Range Officer Exhibit K. and L. will shew the regor of the Range Officer in taking charge from a servant of Government, who had once been entrusted with the sole charge and responsibility of an extensive Talook and in a moments time deemed as a culprit at the story of mile coolies and reduce him all at once to a contemptable position in the midst of society and in the sight of the world. With every respect to discipline and orders of Government I obeyed all their commands with implicit obedience.

11. To my great surprise, suspension followed by the Warrant issued by the Joint Magistrate of Dindigal on the *15th* November for a crime of cheating punishable under section of the Penal Code. On my enquiry of the sudden arrest, I was informed, that the Joint Magistrate issued the same on the letter of the Range Officer who referred the complaint of the mile coolies for judicial enquiry.

12. Feeling myself quite dreadful at such an unexpected calamity, I intimated to the Chief Engineer the whole of the facts on the *18th* November Exhibit M. and sought protection by praying to issue orders to District Engineer to postpone judicial enquiry, to investigate the case himself or to appoint a commission to enquire into the matter; but to my misfortune I had not been favored with any remedy.

13. Next day the *19th* November, I was tried before the Joint Magistrate at Dindigal for a crime of extortion quite different from that specified in the Warrant, and the Magistrate finding the reality of the case, dismissed the same and honorably acquitted me, the facts of which I have duly intimated to the Chief Engineer and the District Engineer on the *22nd* November, together with the copeis of the decision of the Joint Magistrate (Exhibit N.)

As soon as the resolution passed between the District Engineer and Range Officer to prosecute me, I believe the District Engineer applied to Chief Engineer to appoint a successor feeling that some more charges were forthcoming against me and I heard a rumour that the Chief Engineer has sent an order sanctioning the appointment and to report upon the further charges which were alleged to be forthcoming.

14. According to the rumour, next day of the dismissal of the case, pending which I was kept under suspension, I received an order from the Range Officer No. 2441 dated 20*th* November. (Exhibit O.) directing me to give overcharge of my talook to one Kristnamacharri who was the person that was recommended I belive in anticipation of conviction, which the Range Officer, and the District Engineer surely, expected to my ruin as will be evident from the District Engineer's letter written to the Range Officer about the 24*th* November when the latter Officer reported about the result of the case, his honor the District Engineer expressed his extreme surprise for the case not having been proved against me, and asked the Range Officer to search out any other charges inorder to enable him to recommend to Government for my dismissal with such determination that he will certainly have me dismissed without any ceremony.

15 These letters, and the file of Correspondence that have been passed between the District Engineer, and Range officer of Dindigal from 25*th* September to 31*st* December be called for, and examined, it will clearly indicate the procedure, the motives, and determination of the District Engineer to work my ruin and the fact of his having wanted only any opportunity to carry out his wishes. It can be clearly inferred that save the prejudice of the District Engineer, there was nothing on record up to the date of latest requisition upon the Range officer, for further charges to shew that I was neglectful in my duties or anything about bad work or any circumstance as to deserve severe notice of my superiors.

16. The Range officer was not at all inclined to answer to the call of the District Engineer as he can find no charge worthy of his notice, and being pressed by too many reminders I believe he sent in some report about the 16*th* December last for the satisfaction of the District Engineer.

On the receipt of the memo of Range Officer No. 2441 dated 20*th* November referred to in Paragraph 14 above. I applied to the District Engineer requesting him to relieve me from suspension (Exhibit Q.) and also intimated the same to the Chief Engineer (Exhibit S.) on the very date incontinuation, of my humble letter of the 29*th* November (Exhibit T.) which would have informed of what transpired upto that date.

17. On the 30*th* November, I was favored with an order of the Range Officer directing me to resume charge of my talook from Kristnamacharri as can be observed from (Exhibit U) and I relieved him immediately, according to orders.

18. All the while since the Complant was made, I have personally requested the Range Officer to recommend me for transfer to some other District, which he fully promised me to do. I submitted my application for the same on the 2*nd* January Current (Exhibit W.) this application was returned to me as can be observed by (Exhibit X). I have duly intimated to Chief Engineer my humble intention regarding transfer in my letter of 16*th* December last, prior to the last report of District Engineer upon which my dismissal was based (Exhibit V.) Had I Known the intention of the District Engineer, or his determination that he was to ruin me at any rate, I would have submitted my request for transfer to the District Engineer on the very date I intimated my above humble request to the Chief Engineer; but I am sorry I have entirely depended upon the generosity of the District Engineer, and the assurance of the Range Officer, trusting full well, that all the persecution I have undergone under their administraton would have, quite passified their feelings, and they would allow me every patronage and sympathy out of Compassion to the injured subordinate under their orders.

19. While I was earnestly expecting every protection and the sympathy of Chief Engineer on my behalf, to my greatest mortification, I received Copy of Chief Engineer's Memo No. 4689 dated 28*th* December 1877, announcing my dismissal from 1*st* January 1878 on the Report of the District Engineer Madura No. 253 dated 18*th* December 1877, not for any crime or cause for which I have been subject for the past 6 months, but entirely for a fresh and sudden issue namely :—

> " For having twice reported a work in progress on which
> " no work whatever had been done during the time to
> " which my report referred, and my District Engineer
> " having stated that work done by me is generelly most in-
> " efficiently performed (vide Exhibit Y.) "

20. On the receipt of this order, I have finally given charge of my talook as directed by the Range Officer on the 8*th* January last, and on the 12*th*, I applied to the District Engineer to furnish me with a copy of his letter No. 253 referred to in the Chief Engineer's Memo, or any report he might have sent in against me (Exhibit Z.), inorder to submit my Appeal earlier for the consideration and disposal of Government to which I received no reply upto this date. On the same date, I have intimated the fact to the Chief Engineer by my humble letter of 12*th* January 1878, (Exhibit A. A.)

21. So far as I am aware of, and my knowledge of the transactions permit, I have given a true brief history of a subordinate as myself in connection with Mr. Harrington the District Engineer of Madura. Although I have respectfully applied for a copy of his honor's report out of Justice (Exhibit Z.) which brought about my dismissal, it was either denied or not complied with and I know not how to proceed in my helpless state.

22. In the absence of any such papers to submit a complete defence to all the points referred to therein, I beg to state that I have no other alternative at present, but to follow the tenor and wording of the Chief Engineer's memorandam No. 4689 dated 28*th* December 1877 in which I humbly observe two Items viz.

1st. For having twice reported a work in progress on which no work had been done during the time to which my report referred.

2nd. My District Engineer having stated that work done by me is generally most inefficiently performed are set forth as grounds for my dismissal from the Department.

23. As for the 1*st* Item, on my examination of my Progress Report of the Dindigal Talook, I find that the work which the District Engineer alludes to is I humbly believe to be the Repairs of Chittoor Monthaculum, a tank situate at an extreme part of the Talook Estimate Rupees 100. This work was sanctioned as one of the Famine Relief works, but given on contract to one Ismall Saib, under the direct orders of Range Officer with orders to complete the same by the end of September last. During the heavy demand for my services by the Revenue Authorities in marking out works for the Famine Relief Coolies, I had not sufficent time left to inspect all the works in my talook during August, hence I was obliged to remark in my Progress Report on the information received from the

contractor "that the work was under progress but not inspected by myself" as can be observed by the Exhibit A. B. which bears the Range Officer's and the District Engineer's remarks as to the fact. During September, I inspected the tank, and found that although the tank received its supply of water, the contractor has not commenced the work, and even on my strict orders he only stated that some delay will occur which I have reported to the Range Officer on the 26*th* Sepember, (Exhibit A. C.) and requested orders upon which the Range Officer concelled the contract, and issued orders to me to complete the same at once; upon which, I gave it to another contractor. (Exhibit A, D.) who commenced the work and executed a small quantity of work during September, and I therefore entered in the Progress Report for September as "work under progress".

24. This is the only explanation I can now offer with reference to the District Engineer's 1st Item of charge which has its own authority to prove the innocence of my remark, and the truth of the transaction confirmed by my Report, which on the face of it bears the Range Officer's, and District Engineer's remarks on this particular work which was brought to their cognizance in the month of August and September, "I am said to have twice reported a work in progress". I made no separate report on the first occasion having merely made a remark in an ordinary Return that the work was in progress but not inspected; but when next month I found on inspection the first contractor failed to do the work I submitted the fact, got the contract cancelled, and gave it to another and, as the latter did some work I gave that information in the report. There was nothing wrong. The progress in the two reports represents two different state of things, and it is left to your honor to see how this can be construed as sufficient ground for fresh action being taken to support the District Engineer's views when recommending me for dismissal in the month of December last.

25. As I was not favored with the copy of the report of the District Engineer or Range Officer, I am sorry I can not devine whether "a work" signifies this work or any other specific work they referred to, I simply afforded the explanation out of the document in my possession viz; the Progress Report in which I find only work above referred to as can be found in (Exhibit A.B.) If further explanation be wanting upon any other point, I am fully prepared to furnish on the receipt of the same from District Engineer.

26. With reference to the 2nd Item of charge, "that the work done by me is generally inefficiently performed" I regret I am totally unable to state any thing by myself, as it depends entirely upon the records of the Talook, the opinion of the Range Officers under whom I directly served for the past 5 years, and upon the works entrusted to my charge for execution and which have been executed.

27. During the whole tenor of my appointment, I had been in charge of Ramnad and Sevagungah Zamindaries under the Sub-divisional Officer, Pulney, Teroomengalam and latterly for the last 3 years in the Dindigal Talook, and executed works amounting to several thousands of rupees and worked out allotments of each year granted for New Roads, Irrigation, Buildings and Maintenance of roads &c., of each year and afforded satisfaction to my superiors in every respect as can be observed by their Yearly Administration Reports. The Completion Certificates they might have sent in for such completed works contain no remarks about my inefficient execution or upon my character, and latterly in April last when A. C. Lawford Esquire late Range Officer on his taking charge of Dindigal division and on his giving over charge previous to his going on Furlough

examined all my works, measured himself personally, and after careful check measurements and valuation granted Completion Certificates to all the works under my charge, and *never said a word about my conduct or execution of work.* Since the arrival of the present Range Officer L. W. Paynter Esquire, Famine Works engrossed the attention of the Officers and Overseers and all other works assumed a Dead Stop till October and November, when heavy and unceasing rain retarded the progress of works to a great measure. With all these draw-backs, such of the petty work, viz; repairs of road &c., for which allotments were available were worked out.

28. The present Range Officer has not had cause to find fault with me so far as I am aware of, and I have enjoyed every encouragement and assurance from his honor, and I believe that he had been pleased to express his satisfaction of the execution of my works and conduct when he submitted the Special Return of Subordinates to Government about June or July last which if referred to, will give some idea of the way I have performed my duties.

29. In the absence of any such record against me, and in the absence of execution of any work of Importance since the advent of the District Engineer Mr. Harrington, how that gentleman has come to the conclusion on the 16*th* December last, to assert that the work done by me is generally most inefficiently performed, and the peculiar circumstances under which his honor necessitated to have recourse to this extreme expedient are subjects Your honor has to consider in connection with my unhappy case. It is not but possible that superior officers can find fault with a subordinate at any moment they please, and the District Engineer I humbly beg to state, has taken that privilege to an entire extent when he had determined to ruin me by any means in which I am sorry at last he was entirely successful.

30. I beg to submit that I have so far, attempted to shew the whole truth of my case supported by an appendix containing all authentic papers and correspondances from June to December 1877 by which Your honor will be convinced that I am unmercifully sacrificed for some biassed opinion of Mr. Harrington without any Just cause.

31. With all my exertion and trouble I have borne all his honor's treatment and persecution with extreme patience. Sufferred all the privations of the Famine by his honors curtailing my travellnig allowances for the last six months, the concoction of certain dissatisfied Mile Coolies assumed every importance in his honor's ears than the explanation of an Overseer who is placed over them, and induced him to subject me to suspension and disgrace and ultimately to Criminal prosecution on the evidence of the very Mile Coolies who are the Complainants. During the interval of suspension filled my talook with the appointment of another individual *in Anticipation of Conviction*, and orders issued to take charge from me without Ceremony, *when the result of the Case, and the decision of the Magistrate was communicated to him by the Range Officer, he expressed his extreme surprise for the Case not been proved against me and continued his determination that he will certainly have me dismissed at any rate, and publicly called upon the the Range Officer to report upon any other charges in order to enable him to recommend to Government for my dismissal* when the Range Officer satisfied his cumpulsary requision; the facts of which I am perfectly ignorant, *and without calling or obtaining a word of explanation from an injured subordinate* sent in his last report No. 253 dated 18*th* December last upon which the Chief Engineer based his honor's orders for my dismissal from the Department from 1*st*

January 1878, for no other Crime, but for a simple remark made by me in an ordinary return as *a work under progress* the particulars of which was already explained and for *a biassed opinion the District Engineer seems to have stated "that work done by me is generally inefficiently performed."*

32. In conclusion without taxing any further with my unfortunate history I have only to add that I have used every exertion to discharge my duties to the satisfaction of my superiors as can be observed by the annexed copies of Testimonials, and the manner I have borne my character in society can be best testified by Public Opinion of the Talooks I was in charge and I only regret that I had no chance of removing the biassed opinion of Mr. Harrinton who had scarcely allowed me any least apportunity to explain my circumstances.

33. Under the above explanations I beg most respectfully, that Your Honor will be pleased to view all the previous circumstances particularized in my humble Appeal inconnection with the last report of District Engineer No. 253 upon which my dismissal is based and after patient examination, and consideration of my Deplorable Case, and the treatment I have sufferred from my superiors, graciously to award justice by restoring me to my post of Talook Overseer without prejudice to my position and interests in the Department and thus protect a really injured and faithfull Servant of Government.

For which act of charity and benevolence I as in duty bound shall ever pray.

C. MOOROOGASA MOODELLIYAR.

Talook Overseer,

Dindigul

2332/6

APPENDIX.

A

No. 63.

TO

L. PAYNTER Esquire.

EXECUTIVE ENGINEER.

Dindigal Range.

Respected Sir,

I beg most respectfully to submit that my son's marriage is to take place on the *5th* July next at Coimbatore, and I am required to be present there to perform my duties during the celebration of the marriage. I request your honor will be pleased to grant me leave for 8 days or one week from 3rd July next. It is necessity, a most important marriage of my eldest son and certain ceremonies to be performed in the presence of relatives and friends on the occasion, compel me to solicit the leave at the present juncture—this will be the last time that I will trouble your honor for any such thing, and after my return I shall use all my exertions to perform my duties to your honor's satisfaction.

Begging to be excused,

I am &c.,

(Signed) C. MOOROOGASA MOODALIAR

Taluq Overseer.

Dindigal
28th June 1877.

B

No. 713.

DISTRICT ENGINEER'S OFFICE.
DINDIGAL,
2nd July 1877.

FROM
THE DISTRICT ENGINEER
TO
THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER,
Dindigal Range.

Your No. 843 of *29th Ultimo.*

I do not think that you should have recommended Overseer Mooroogasa Moodaliar for a week's leave immediately after he had obtained 4 days leave of absence. It may be that his son's marriage is an important ceremony as he states, and his presence is very desirable; but he knew this on the *20th* ultimo when he applied for 4 days leave and which most assuredly I would not have given had I known that he proposed making another application for leave a very few days thereafter. He may have 5 days leave of absence but without pay, and I shall refer the case to Government.

I beg that you will look very strictly after this individual His manners are bad, and Mr. Lawford thought very badly of his qualifications.

I have &c,

(Signed) W. S. HARRINGTON,

District Engineer.

C

No. 1061.

DISTRICT ENGINEER'S OFFICE
MADURA.
7th August 1877.

FROM
THE DISTRICT ENGINEER
TO
THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER
Dindigal Range.

Sir,

The Overseer in charge of the Dindigal Taluq not having given the information regarding the "state" of the work &c. in columns 8, 9, and 10 of his Inspection Report for the month of June last, I have not passed his travelling allowance. He should be informed that if he fails to supply the information in his next report he will be reported to Government for grave disobedience. This man appears to systematically neglect his work, disobey orders and remain for days together at Dindigal ; this he may rest assured will no longer be permitted or allowed to pass unpunished.

I have &c.,

(Signed) W. S. HARRINGTON,
District Engineer Madura.

No. 1259.

Forwarded to the Overseer in charge of the Dindigal Talook, for information and guidance.

The Overseer is requested to give all information required fully in his Inspection reports in future.

10th August 1877.

(Signed) L. W. PAYNTER,
Range Officer.
Dindigal Division.

D

No. 98.
TO
L. W. PAYNTER Esquire.
EXECUTIVE ENGINEER.
Dindigal Range.

Respected Sir,

With reference to your honor's endorsement No. 1245, dated *9th* August, forwarding extract of remarks of the District Engineer on my diary for the month of May last, and of your honor's No. 1259 Dated *10th* Instant, forwarding copy of the letter of District Engineer conveying severe remarks.

I beg respectfully to submit with extreme regret that for the month of May last to which the extract refers only 15 Rupees was allowed, and for June entire travelling allowance was disallowed for not giving detailed information regarding the state of work, that both these orders were sent simultaneously for my information and guidance.

Had I been favored with the extract of remarks of the District Engineer dated *14th* July last earlier, I had a chance to rectify such defects and to meet with his honor's requisition in my diary for June for which full allowance was cancelled. I am extremely sorry that I am not aware what was required till the receipt of the letter of the District Engineer above referred to.

I had respectfully submitted the full information wanted in the extract with my letter No. 977 of this day. The Diaries of May and June were prepared as usual with an impression that all particulars of the Progress of Work were given in the Progress Report of each month which was really unconscious on my part, and never meant to show the slightest disobedience of orders. I always humbly maintain that obedience to the orders of my superiors is the first order of the day.

As the destiny of a subordinote like myself is left entirely at the mercy of my superiors, I do not in the least dare to protest or remonstrate against the will and pleasure of the District Engineer and most respectfully leave the subject of my misfortune to his honors benign and generous sympathy and reconsideration, with an humble and earnest request that my travelling allowance for part of May and full for June last be kindly restored to me.

I beg most respectfully to bring to the generous consideration of my superiors, that I am a man encumbered with a large family and 8 children, besides having to protect the servants, horse, and bullocks required for my travelling, all of them depend upon my pittance that will be favored by Government at the pleasure of my superiors. If I were to be mulcted of such allowance in the most famine stricken and critical season, I have only to subject them to Starvation. With greatest respect to the views of the District Engineer, I humbly beg to submit for his honor's fatherly consideration, that I do not with my conscience merit such severe censures, but with all my heart, I take them for my instructions batonly I beg to submit that I am in charge of an Extensive Taluq with highest responsibility, with

any kind of useful assistance, and with all such drawbacks I use my best endeavours to perform my duties to the satisfaction of my superiors, and I only expect some encouragement and advice in order to use my entire exertions to do fulljustice to the duty and responsibility entrusted to me.

I beg to submit further, that I have lost 15 Rupees for May, 30 Rupees for June, and 12 Rupees in my pay amounting to Rupees 57 in one month, and leave therefore the privations to which I am subject by these unexpected deductions.

Under the above circumstances, I beg your honor will be pleased to recommend to the District Engineer's favourable consideration, my hard case, and the way I perform my duties to pass the travelling allowance for May and June last. In doing this, I beg respectfully to assure your honor, that I will give no room for such opinions for the future, and I will use my best exertions to carry out the orders of my superiors.

Begging to be excused,
I beg to remain &c,

Coviloor
15th August 1877.

(Signed) C. MOOROOGASA MOODELLY.
Taluq Overseer.

E

No. 1408.

DINDIGUL DIVISION OFFICE.
CAMP VADASEUNDOOR.
25th August 1877

FROM
THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER
Dindigul Division.

TO
THE DISTRICT ENGINEER.
Madura.

Sir,—I have the honor to forward for consideration and disposal the accompanying copies of 2 letters, No. 122 dated *2nd* Instant, and No. 98 dated *15th* Instant, from the Pulney and Dindigal Overseers regarding their travelling allowances.

2. Though the Pulney Overseer did not travel very much in May I consider he is a very good subordinate and does his work well. The Dindigul Overseer has also improved latterly.

I have &c,
(Signed) L. W. PAYNTER.
Executive Engineer.
Dindigul Division.

F

No. 1287.

DISTRICT ENGINEER'S OFFICE.
MADURA.
3rd September 1877.

FROM
THE DISTRICT ENGINEER.
of Madura.

TO
THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER.
Dindigul Range.

Your No. 1408 dated 21*st Ultimo*.

Sir,

* * * *

As C. Mooroogasa Moodaliar has in no way improved and as his conduct is utterly unsatisfactory no travelling allowance will be passed to him.

I have &c,
(Signed) W. S. HARRINGTON.
District Engineer.
Madura.

8/80

No. 1556.

DINDIGAL DIVISION OFFICE.
DINDIGUL, 6th September 1877.

Forwarded to the Overseer in charge of the Dindigal Taluq for information in reference to his No. 91 dated 15th Ultimo.

(Signed) L. W. PAYNTER.
Executive Engineer.
Dindigul Division.

No. 133.

TO
THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER.
Dindigul Division.

RESPECTED SIR,

I beg to report that on my Inspection of the Road No. 31, from Dindigul to Palkanooth I find that the state of the road from the 1st to 7th Mile is in a most neglected state. The Pygust seems to have paid any attention at all or given instructions properly to Kunganie's or mile coolies although it is situated near the vicinity of his head quarter. I do not see any sign of work having been executed from the *1st* to *8th* and *11th* to *15th* mile for the whole of last month although the latter in a fair state which is owing to the nature of soil and not for the exertion of the Pygust or mile coolies. I see some attention was paid by the mile coolies of the *9th* and *10th* miles who are actually doing their work I have therefore deducted 2 Rupees each of all the mile coolies except the 8th and 9th and beg the same will be approved off.

When I had been at Palkanooth on the 4th Instant, I was given to understand that the mile coolies of the 13th and 14th miles left their work delivered the tools to the Kungany and joined the relief work, and although it is 8 day's since they have left their work I have not received a word of report from the Pygust Rungasawmy Pillay, which clearly shows how punctual he is in the performance of his duties and obedience he maintains to the orders of his superiors.

There are so many irregularities I observe in his management of the Road and mile coolies which will form the subject of separate reports.

AMMAINAICKNOOR,
12th September 1877.

I beg &c,
(Signed) C. MOOROOGASA MOODALIAR,
Taluq Overseer.

No. 1682.

MEMO.

DINDIGUL,
13th September 1877.

Reference.—Letter No. 133 of the 12th Instant from the Overseer in charge of the Dindigul Talook.

The fine of Rupees 2 recommended to each of the mile coolies on Road No. 31, excepting to those on the 8th and 9th miles is approved.

2. In reference to his 2nd para, the Overseer is requested to call upon the *Pygust* at once for his written explanation.

3. The further report promised in the 3rd para is awaited.

L. W. PAYNTER,
Executive Engineer.
Dindigul Division.

G

No. 1844.

DINDIGUL DIVISION OFFICE.
DINDIGUL, *27th September* 1877.

FROM
THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER.
Dindigul Division.

TO
THE DISTRICT ENGINEER.
Madura.

SIR,—I have the honor to report that all the mile coolies (14) employed on Road No. 31, from Dindigul to Palkanooth, and three out of the four mile coolies employed on the Authalore Ghaut have brought a complaint against the Overseer in charge of the Dindigul Talook of extortion.

2. I examined the coolies yesterday, each separately, and out of hearing of any of the others; and though they were cross examined, no contradictory statement was given, but they all agree so exactly in the details, that their story must be either true, or they have been most remarkably well trained in getting up the charge if it is false.

3. The coolies story is, that the Overseer when paying them some months back, the last occasion he paid them, compelled each cooly to give him Rupees two under the threat, if they would not do so, he would procure their dismissal.

The Authalore Ghaut coolies gave the same story exactly except that they say they each paid the Overseer Rupees 3.

4. I have forwarded a copy of this letter to the Overseer for any explanation he may have to offer, and when it is received I shall send it to you with my opinion of the case. I now merely acquaint you with the facts so far as I know.

I have &c,
(Signed) L. W. PAYNTER.
Executive Engineer.
Dindigul Division.

No. 1845.

DINDIGUL DIVISION OFFICE.
DINDIGUL, *27th September* 1877.

Forwarded to the Overseer in charge of the Dindigul Talook for any explanation he may wish to offer.

No delay should occur in submitting a reply.

(Signed) L. W. PAYNTER.
Executive Engineer.
Dindigul Division.

H

TO
THE RANGE OFFICE.
Dindigul Division.

RESPECTED SIR,

With reference to your honor's No. 1845 dated *27th* September annexing copy of report to the address of District Engineer calling explanation concerning the complaint made against me by the mile coolies of the Road No. 31, and Audaloor Ghaut Road for extortion, I beg respectfully to submit, that in the *1st* instance, I regret I am no away able to reconcile with my own conscience, the idea of having ever interfered with my subordinates in any respect to deprive them of their pittance or extort them from their humble gains.

Cases of this kind of complaint are not of rare occurrence in this Taluq, but it was hitherto only confined to the mile coolies and Maistries when the former is any way displeased or ill treated or pressed hard by the latter, Extortion is the first charge that will easily be concocted and brought forward for their own satisfaction; but in the present instance by degrees, it has extended a step higher as the mile coolies have come forward to complain against the Overseer for extortion—but it has its own reason, because the principal complainant under veil is the Maistry, as the coolies are only auxiliaries in his hands.

Before stating anything in defence of the charge itself, I humbly beg permission to relate some circumstances to trace out the cause of this complaint.

On my Inspection of the Road No. 31, on the *4th* September last, I have gone over mile by mile, and found out so many irregularities with the mile coolies as per annexed extract of my Diary of that date, and reported the fact then and there in my report to your honor No. 133 and 134 of *12th* August 1877 regarding the state of the work done by the mile coolies during the whole month and also recommended to fine the mile coolies 2 rupees each, and suggested some fine to be inflicted to the Maistry and all of my suggestions are sanctioned, and the mile coolies were stopped of 2 rupees in their pay for August last, and the Maistry was fined 4 rupees by your honor's direct orders. I have also cautioned the mile coolies individually, if they do not work hard according to orders, they will be surely removed from service and also warned the maistry to be careful in his work, lest he will surely be transferred to some other roads.

These are the actual facts of the case in reality at once startled the Maistry's anxiety of finding some means to prevent the comming changes and removals of himself, and his beloved set of coolies who are well fitted to minister his wants in every respect, and commenced his tution and brought them to perfection as to relate the story of extortion of money said to have been made 4 months ago in such a way in accordance with the instructions imparted to them by MaistryRungasawmy Pillay

This Rungasawmy Pillay is a man of no ordinary capacity. He is best known in the Madura District as a man of superior abilities, able to set up parties, cook up cases, and ruin men of honesty and respectability and especially Overseers under whom he serves, and therefore, any Overseer who had him under has to dread of his interference if they wish to escape from bad reflection. A reference to such Overseers will at once confirm the truth of my statement regarding his conduct and behaviours.

This is not the first instance, he attempted to play a game of the sort. He is perfectly trained up to such things from years past. It appears, he had committed similar things in 1873 and seems to have extorted money from the mile coolies on the name of the Overseer or for himself when he was in Paria Coolum Talook, which being proved, he was dismissed from the Service by J. M. Hawksworth Esquire Range Officer at that time.

When Mr. Hamilton was in charge of this Talook as an Overseer, it appears, he was spreading such scandalous reports and writing anonimous petitions against him which being detected and tried before the Joint Magistrate at Dindigul, he was fined (100) rupees on conviction. In fact, he was not in good term with any Overseer, and the Overseers themselves kept a loaf from his interference and left him to his own ways.

Since I have been taken charge of this talook for the last three years, I have managed very judiciously with him, and prevented any colision in the best possible way knowing his character and conduct full well of which I have personally informed your honor on several occasions. Since the orders of the District Engineer and of your honor are so stringent which cost my hard-earned travelling allowance for the last three months, and their being no alternative to extract work from them by passive measures, I thought is my duty to exert myself as much as I can, and ran over almost all the roads in the talook and the result was, that all idlers are recommended to be removed, and others fined, all these reports were approved and sanctioned by your honor during last month.

2332 C 9

But the Pygust or (Maistry) Rungasawmy Pillay, taking advantage of the fines inflicted on himself and his coolies, which he never expected in his life by an Overseer, and especially being enraged at his transfer from the scene of his inheritance at once commenced to tutor his disciples, and brought them to perfection and actually by persuasion, and compulsion, sent them at the time when they came for pay to inform the story of extortion which is a fact eye-witnessed by every body that were present in the Range Office compound at the day the complaint was made.

In order to give coloring to his scheme, he had prevailed upon the Kangany of the Audalore Ghaut Road, who is an ignorant lad, and a passive tool in his hand to set up his coolies to follow his example. Since the report of the Superintendent of Police on the Audalore Ghaut Road, I have pressed upon the mile coolies and Kangany, that they must live on the Hills and work hard, which is the cause of their dissatisfaction, being strongly encouraged by Rungasawmy Pillay they have succeeded the coolies of Road No. 31.

By the foregoing, I have pointed out the object for which the complaint was started, and the manner the mile coolies are taught to prefer the same.

With reference to the complaint itself that I have compelled each cooly to give me two rupees under threat of dismissal, I regret to state, I know nothing of the matter, and never I have ever attempted to do a thing of the kind in my life. During the whole time, I have made payments to the mile coolies for the last three years of all the roads in this Talook, there was never a complaint of any sort forthcome except the very last payment made by me, and subsequently the payments were made directly in the Range Office. Nearly 4 months had elapsed since the date of last payment by me, and the date of complaint preferred. During the interval, your honor had always been at Dindigal, inspected the road of the complainants more than twice, and the District Engineer stationed on the road for some days, and they received payments in the Range Office directly for the last three months, if there was any complaint at all to prefer, there was ample opportunity for them to report the circumstances then and there. I beg therefore to submit, that the complaint now preferred after a lapse of 4 months especially after the mile coolies have been fined, and the Maistry transferred, are facts which I beg your honor particularly to consider.

The payment of the mile coolies are not made at any time in the absence of the maistries of the respective roads, and without their cognizance; the Maistry of each road when present, money is put into his hands which being handed over to the cooly, at last receive his own pay, signs his name, and attests in the body of the Nominal Rolls "that all mile coolies have received their pay actually in his presence," as can be observed in all the passed Nominal Rolls up to April last which are on record in the Range Office.

Under the above circumstances, I am sorry to see, how I could have disgraced myself in the presence of the Maistries and Kanganies and others who have been present to threaten coolies and receive 2 and 3 rupees by extortion. I beg therefore your honor will be pleased to consider the genuiness of the complaint. Your honor will clearly observe that this charge of extortion was actually invented by Maistry Rungasawmа Pillay and set up by him in order to revenge the fines inflicted on him and his coolies especially to avoid his Transfer from Road No. 31.

In conclusion I beg respectfully to state, that I am in the Department for the last 5 years, and had been in charge of several Talooks, and stationed at Dindigul for the last three years, during the whole period, there was not a single complaint that I have ever interfered with mile coolies, but to the best of my belief I have treated my subordinates with every possible courtsy, and assisted them as far as lied in my power to mitigate their wants. This is the first complaint that was ever broght against me which I humbly beg to state is quite an unjust and unmerciful bold attempt to stain the character of a Public servant on the part of a Maistry in return for the discharge of Public duties in obedience to orders of Superior Officers.

I beg therefore your honor will be pleased to consider all the facts of the case, and protect me from the effects of cruel imputations attempted to inflict by a notorious Pygust's instigation, and unless some measures are adopted to curb the notorious actions of Rungasawmy Pillay, I beg to state that no Overseer will be safe in his position (in this Talook) and neither will he be able to transact Government duties with independent motives and to afford satisfaction to his superiors.

Dindigal }
2nd October 1877. }

I am &c,
(Signed) C. MOOROOGASA MOODALIAR
Taluq Overseer.

I

TO

THE DISTRICT ENGINEER,
Madura.

Respected Sir,

I beg most respectfully to submit my humble case for your honor's benign consideration. Your honor is in possession of the complaint of mile coolies of Road No. 31 represented by the Range Officer and my explanation on the subject and it is left to your impartial consideration and disposal.

The subject matter of the complaint made to the Range Officer by mile coolies personally is that I have received 2 rupees from mile coolies of Road No. 31 some months ago for my having purchased a pair of bullocks to your honor, it is not their production but couched on the dictation of the Maistry who was dismissed by your honor on the Pulney Road and was reinstated as a last trial in the service.

I have fully explained the reasons for such complaint, traced out its origin, and pointed out in detail the character of the man who is at the bottom of this connection. If the Arbitrary complaint made by mile coolies in return for the fines inflicted by an Overseer in his official capacity be credited at once by superior, I beg to submit that there will be no security to any public servant to perform his duties with any amount of independence and only tends to embolden subordinates to have recourse to such things without repugnance against all superiors.

I beg therefore your honor will be pleased to consider of all the circumstances connected with this affair and after full enquiry award justice.

As it is an affair vitally important to preserve my respectability in society and the character of my family and children, I beg your honor's pardon for this intrution.

I request I may be allowed an opportunity of explaining all these circumstances before disposal or I beg respectfully that the whole subject be submitted for the consideration of Government.

Dindigul }
9th October 1877. }

I beg to remain &c,
(Signed) C. MOOROOGASA MOODELLIAR.
Taluq Overseer.

Note.

The above was despatched in a register cover on the *9th* October 1877, to the address of the District Engineer.

A good deal of correspondence passed between the District Engineer, Range Officer, and Chief Engineer in the interval viz, from *2nd* October to *2nd* November 1877 the particulars of which I was kept quite ignorant.

J

No. 2264.

DINDIGUL DIVISION OFFICE.
Dated *2nd November* 1877.

MEMO.

Under instructions from the District Engineer C. Mooroogasa Moodaliar Talook Overseer is placed under suspension pending an enquiry into the charges brought against him by certain mile coolies.

The balance of cash and cash book should be handed over to the undersigned. The records, tools &c, should remain in charge of the Talook Writer.

(Signed) L. W. PAYNTER,
Executive Engineer.

K

No. 2286.

DINDIGUL DIVISION OFFICE.
Dindigul, *5th November* 1877.

MEMO.

Talook Overseer Mooroogasa Moodelly is directed to attend the Range Office this evening at 5 o'clock, and bring with him his cash book, and balance of cash. No farther delay can be allowed and if the Overseer does not obey this order he will be reported for insubordination.

(Signed) L. W. PAYNTER,
Executive Engineer.
Dindigul Division.

L

No. 2287.

DINDIGUL DIVISION OFFICE.
Dindigul, *5th November* 1877.

MEMO.

Talook Overseer Mooroogasa Moodally is directed, as he says he is not well enough himself to attend this office, to send his cash book, and balance of cash by the bearer Taluq Writer Mahalingum Pillay, immediately to this office.

(Signed) L. W. PAYNTER.
Executive Engineer.
Dindigul Division.
18th November 1877.

M

TO
COLONEL E. A. FOORD R. E.
CHIEF ENGINEER AND SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT.

The humble petition of C. Mooroogasa
Moodelliar *Talook Overseer in charge*
of Dindigal, Talook.

Most Respected Sir,

I beg respectfully to submit the following circumstances for your honor's fatherly consideration.

I am in this Department for the last 5 years having been in charge of several Taluqs, and performed my duties to the satisfaction of my superiors without subjecting to any complaint whatever. Since Mr. Harrington took charge of the District, the orders regarding the conservancy of roads was so stringent that I had to use my best endeavours in obedience to his honor's orders. In the performance of my legitimate duties, I had caused certain mile coolies and Maistry fined for not attending to orders in September last, and the coolies having been instigated by the Maistry, preferred a complaint against me to the Range Officer that they have paid me 2 rupees each some months past who had sent in a Report to the District Engineer and gave me a copy of it for my explanation which I have furnished in fall particulars; the whole record regarding this are in your Honor's office. What passed subsequently is out of my knowledge. I hear that your honor had given permission to deal with the case departmentally. But Mr. Paynter, I have observed much prone to prosecution on the simple belief on the statement of mile coolies and determined to ruin a public servant. If the statement of mile coolies are so much depended upon by Local Heads of Department and an innocent Overseer so persecuted, it is left to the mercy of Government to see what security will there be for men of position to maintain their honesty in the world, and how disastrous are the circumstances of such unhappy men. All the while I was expecting an enquiry from the District Engineer or Range Officer. The District Engineer had been 4 times on the spot at Dindigul (since the complaint) and never made an enquiry or settle the matter. All on a sudden I have received a Warrant just now to appear before the Joint Magistrate of Dindigal on the 19th Instant and I see my humble expectations were entirely frustrated. As I humbly observe that the District Engineer and Range Officer are entirely determined to ruin my prospects and the charge now preferred does not in the least affect the interest of the State, and the officers with such unmerciful determination attempt to ruin an Overseer who is in charge of a Talook. I beg your honor's sympathy in the present case and to have a Departmental enquiry be made either by the District Engineer or by a Commission to ascertain the truth and thus protect a man of large family from the disgrace that attends the criminal examination in a Court of law.

DINDIGUL,
18th November 1877.

I beg to remain &c,
(Signed) C. MOOROOGASA MOODELIAR
Taluq Overseer.

N

Decision passed by the Acting Joint Magistrate of Madura in Calendar case No. 143 of 1877.

Complainant.	Defendant.
Regina.	MOOROOGASA MOODALLY *Taluq Overseer.*

Extortion punishable under Section 384 of the Indian Penal Code.

This is a charge instituted by the Range Officer of Dindigul against Mooroogasa Moodally the Taluq Overseer, because of a complaint made to him in a body by the mile coolies, employed on the road from Dindigal to Pulkanooth.

2. The men 14 in number or one man for each mile of road tell the same story the facts of which are very few. They say that 4 months ago when they had received their pay the Overseer informed them that he required 2 rupees each from them, because he was obliged to purchase a pair of bullocks for the big gentleman, and when they remonstrated at so heavy a tax in Famine time he threatened to dismiss any man who failed to pay. Under the fear of dismissal they all then paid. They fix the time when the money was extorted from them by saying, that they have received 3 month's pay since and that there is now due to them 1½ month's pay. They also say that they were paid at the time two month's pay in a lump which they were not paid at any time previously.

3. The tenor of the Defedence as given by the Defendant's Vakeel is briefly that such a charge after so long a lapse of time is incredible, that it is incredible that the men who have long been employed as mile coolies would have submitted to a loss of ⅓ of a month's pay without making a representation to the Range Officer or that they could have thought that either the Range Officer or District Engineer would have required money wherewith to purchase bullocks: the men are all old employers on the Road *and they say that they never before were even asked money by the Overseer;* every one of them except 2 had been fined 2 rupees or dismissed a month previous to the enquiry, and their Maistry *whose name they are anxious to keep out of the enquiry* was recommended to be transferred by the Taluq Overseer on the 27*th* of September or the day previous to the complaint to the Range Officer.

4. I am of opinion, that the defence is satisfactory, and *that the Maistry is most probably at the bottom of the charge.* The road in part much neglected and the coolies were enabled to draw their pay for little work *through the connivance of the Maistry.* They with the exception of the two and he were fined ⅓ of their month's pay at the Overseer's instance, and this was a serious loss to them in hard times. Those who are not fined could very easily be induced to join the combination against the new state of things which was directed towards making them all render a proper task in return for the pay received. There was evident anxiety on the coolies part to make it appear that the Maistry was not present when the money was extorted from them. They say he signed the book and went away, but yet one of them in advertently let out that in a supposed conversation he had with the Maistry he told him that he should get the money returned by the Overseer because, it was he the Maistry who made them paid. The witness immediately corrected himself but I have little doubt that an abandoned version of the story confused him for the moment. Coupling the improbability of the whole story with the fact that the complaint was contemporary with the recommendation to transfer the Maistry I refused, to believe the charge and I have discharged the defendant

FINDING AND SENTENCE.

The Evidence of the complainant and of the witnesses for the prosecution and examination of the accused person having been taken, the Acting Joint Magistrate finds that *no offence* has been proved against the accused person Mooroogasa Moodally and directs under Section 215 of the Criminal Procedure Code that he be forthwith discharged.

(Signed) C. W. W. MARTIN,
Acting Joint Magistrate.

19*th November* 1877.

O

No. 2441.

DINDIGUL DIVISION OFFICE.
DINDIGUL, 20*th November* 1877.

MEMO.

Overseer C. Mooroogasa Moodelliar is directed in continuation of this office No. 2264 dated 2nd Instant to hand over charge of all records, tools and works to S. Kristnama Chariar B. C. E.

Every work should be measured and handed over, and every information that may be necessary given to Krishnama Chariar.

(Signed) L. W. PAYNTER.
Executive Engineer.
Dindigul Division.

P

TO

THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER

Dindigal Range.

Respected Sir,

With reference to your honor's No. 2441 dated 20th Instant, I beg respectfully to inform your honor, that in obedience to your honor's orders I am prepared to give charge as directed and I respectfully beg to forward herewith copy of a letter sent to the District Engineer for your honor's information.

Dindigul
21st November 1877.

I beg to remain &c,
(Signed) C. MOOROOGASA MOODELLIAR.
Taluq Overseer.

Q

TO THE DISTRICT ENGINEER

Madura.

Most Respected Sir,

I most respectfully beg pardon for my intrusion. By my humble prayers of yesterday your honor would have been informed of the dismissal of the complaint brought by the mile coolies against me by the Magistrate of Dindigal pending the result I was kept under suspension. Without relieving me from suspension I have received an order from the Range Officer this day to hand over charge of my Taluq to S. Krishnama Chariar. It is most painful to my humble mind to see how a subordinate as myself being dealt with by superior officers of the Department.

I beg therefore your honor will be pleased to have pity of my circumstances and award justice by sending early orders to the Range Officer regarding the subject of giving overcharge.

I beg most respectfully your honor will be pleased to protect a man of large family and children which will be an act of greatest charity in the Face of Providence.

I am too poor to protest anything against your honor's pleasure. I crave most respectfully to extend your patronage and send early orders to relieve me from anxiety. I beg to be informed whether I am to give overcharge as directed by Range Officer in such unsettled state of affairs.

I beg to remain.
(Signed) C. MOOROOGASA MOODELLIAR
Taluq Overseer.

R

TO THE DISTRICT ENGINEER.

Madura.

Respected Sir,

I beg respectfully to forward herewith the copy of the Decision of the Joint Magistrate of Dindigul in the case tried against me for your honor's kind perusal. Your honor will now at least see of my Innocence and the truth of the statements set forth in my defence and humbly beg that your honor's protection be extended to an actually injured subordinate under your administration.

Dindigal
22nd Fovember 1877.

I am &c,
(Signed) C. MOOROOGASA MOODALIAR
Taluq Overseer.

S

TO

COLONEL E. A. FOORD R. E.
CHIEF ENGINEER AND SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT.

Most Respected Sir,

Adverting to my humble letter of 18th Instant I beg most humbly to submit that notwithstanding my earnest request to the District Engineer of Madura to investigate the complaint of mile

coolies against me, his honor on the advice of L. W. Paynter Esquire, Dindigal Range Officer, given orders to prosecute me before the Joint Magistrate at Dindigal and the case was tried on the 19th Instant at Dindigal and was dismissed as it was found to be a concocted affair. Copy of the Magistrate's Decision will be submitted when obtained. I humbly submit these for your honor's fatherly consideration with an earnest requested that if Mr. Paynter or District Engineer adopt any serious Measures to deprive me of my livelihood, I beg your honor's calling for my explanation before disposing of the matter. Although I do not wish to state anything about my superiors at the present moment, as an actually injured subordinate I may have the opportunity of explaining the source of the District Engineer's displeasure and my grievances.

I hear that the District Engineer has asked the Range Officer to send in some reports. I know not what will be the production of such requisition. It is not a difficult matter (your honor) that a superior can find fault with a subordinate at any moment he pleases especially in the position of an Overseer and this is a fact that will explain the latent motives which actuated them to do so.

I was kept in suspension from the 2nd Instant pending the enquiry of the complaint which was dismissed by the Magistrate. Without relieving me from suspension or ordering me to resume my past, the Range officer sent in an order dated 20th Instant, directing me to give overcharge of my Tauq to one Krishnama Charry. I know not on what reason. I beg therefore your honor's protection and support and beg your honor will be pleased to view all my circumstances when the District Engineer sends further Report, and extend your honor's patronage to an actually injured subordinate under your administration.

Dindigal
22nd November 1877.

I beg to remain &c,
(Signed) C. MOOROOGASA MOODALIAR
Taluq Overseer.

T

TO.

COLONEL E. A. FOORD R. E.
CHIEF ENGINEER AND SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT.

The humble petition of C. Mooroogasa
Moodelliar *Overseer in charge of*
Dindigal, Talook.

Most Respected Sir,

With reference to my letter of 22nd Instant I beg respectfully to submit the copy of the decision of the Acting Joint Magistrate of Dindigul in the case brought against me at the instance of the Range Officer at Dindigul for your honor's benign consideration and humbly crave your honor to see how an Overseer who is in charge of a responsible Taluq had been disgraced by the heads of Department at the mere story of the mile coolies encouraged by a notorious Maistry.

Notwithstanding my elaborate defence to the Range Officer concerning this complaint on the very onset which was totally disbelieved and unnoticed and an Overseer was at once made a Criminal and compelled to take his trial before a Magistrate. If the statements of such menial coolies are believed, all at once by the local heads of the Department, and proceed with a determination to prosecute an Overseer under their orders, solely on the Evidence of the very mile coolies who are actually the Complainants I beg respectfully your honor to consider how insecure the position of an Overseer and how disastrous are the results attending the destiny of such unfortunate men like myself.

I beg your honor to observe how resolute the District Engineer and Range Officer are towards my ruin and what consolation I can safely expect from their hands any further. The complaint was made on the 25th of September (by mile coolies) I have submitted my defence on the 2nd October, they have suspended me on the 2nd of November, referred the complaint to the Magistrate on the 12th

Novr. I was arrested by a Warrant on the 15th of the same month, they have appointed another Overseer to take charge of the Taluq in anticipation of the result, I was tried on the 19th of November and dismissed by the Magistrate. The Range Officer sends in an order to given overcharge of my Taluq without relieving me from suspcusion on the 20th of November and I know not what will follow hereafter. I now continue giving overcharge in obedience to orders, awaiting the pleasure and mercy of the District Engineer. On the result of the case I have intimated the facts to the District Engineer. Copy herewith enclosed.

DINDIGUL
29th November 1877.

I beg to remain &c,
(Signed) C. MOOROOGASA MOODELLIAR,
Taluq Overseer.

U

No. 2605.

DINDIGUL DIVISION OFFICE.
CAMP CHATTRAPATTE, *30th November* 1877.

Under instructions from the District Engineer, Overseer C. Mooroogasa Moodelliar is relieved from suspension ordered in this office No. 2264 dated 2nd Instant and he is directed to resume charge of the Dindigul Taluq at once from S. Kistnamah Charry B. C. E.

The date on which Kristhama Charry is relieved should be reported without delay.

(Signed) L. W. PAYNTER.
Executive Engineer.
Dindigul Division.

V

TO

COLONEL E. A. FOORD R. E.
CHIEF ENGINEER AND SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT.

MOST RESPECTED SIR,

With profound respect and submission I beg humbly to submit for your honor's consideration that my humble letter dated 29th November 1877 and the copy of the decisisn of the Joint Magistrates of Dindigul, on the complaint of mile coolies at the instigation of Maistry under my charge enclosed therein would have fully explained the circumstances connected with my unfortunate case and I humbly expect that the same would have been duly intimated to your honor by the District Engineer of Madura.

Since then I beg to state that I have received orders to resume the charge of my Taluq.

With whatever obedience and punctuality I can conduct my duties to the best of my conscience and abilities, I feel myself dreadful when I consider the manner I was treated by my superiors and the spirit and determination with which I was prosecuted and arrayed before a Criminal Court on the simple statement of coolies which was so much believed and acted upon, which if proved, would have ruined me for life the respectability of my family and children for ever, and I only regret that my superiors in whose hands the Destiny of Overseers like myself is placed had not the sympathy to settle this simple matter by themselves notwithstanding my full explanation and repeatedrequests verbal and written before leading me to such painful extremities.

I beg therefore to submit that I feel quite unsafe to serve further under such displeased masters and whatever obedience I may sincerely evince to obey their orders I am apprehensive that I cannot be altogether free from their latent displeasure which may perhaps tend to their adverse reports as to blast my prospects in life. I am too poor to merit their dissatisfaction or the protest

against their authority and i orders to prevent which I intend sending an application to the District Engineer Madura through the Range Officer to submit to your honor to transfer me to some other Tamil District and should it reach your honor I beg your fatherly protection and support as to transfer me to some other Tamil District near Madras which will be an act of grace in the sight of Providence to pass my life for some days more with peace of mind and to protect my large family and 8 children all of them depend upon my support.

I had been greatly patronized by Colonel Roberts R. E. and many other gentlemen who are all out of India and I see no other protection in this world except your honor's fatherly benevolence and generosity.

All of my previous prayers have been submitted direct to your honor when I was under Suspension and I humbly submit this Demi-Officially in order to inform your honor my final request and to close the subject connected with my unfortunate case.

DINDIGUL,
16th December 1877.

I beg to remain &c,
(Signed) C. MOOROOGASA MOODELIAR
Taluq Overseer.

W

TO

W. S. HARRINGTON ESQUIRE,
District Engineer,
Madura.

RESPECTED SIR,

With due deference and submission I beg rospectsully to inform your honor that from the time I was put in charge of Dindigul Taluq I was subject to much trouble privations and uneasiness of mind and since the time I was subject to the late complaint of the mile coolies to which I was prosecuted and as I was not so fortunate as to merit your gracious protection I have made up my mind to request your honor with all respect and submission to submit my humble application with an earnest request that your honor will be graciously pleased to recommend to the Chief Engineer to transfer me to some other Tamil District in order to pass my days in the Department for sometime more.

As I have no other protection expect your honor in this world it will be an act of charity and benevolence in the Sight of Providence to do me this great favor which will be always remembered by myself and my large family with highest feelings of gratitude for ever.

DINDIGUL,
2nd January 1878.

I beg to remain.
(Signed) C. MOOROOGASA MOODELLIAR
Taluq Overseer.

X

No. 2953.

DINDIGUL DIVISION OFFICE.
DINDIGUL, *3rd January*, 1878.

MEMO.

As by a Memo of the Chief Engineer forwarded to C. Mooroogasa Moodelliar this day the latter has been dismissed the accompanying Application to the District Engineer cannot now be forwarded by the undersigned.

C. Mooroogasa Moodeli can send it direct if he wishes.

(Signed) L. W. PAYNTER.
Executive Engineer.
Dindigul Division.

Y

No. 4689. P. W. D.

MEMORANDUM.

Letter from the District Engineer. Madura, No. 253 dated 18th *December* 1877.

Mooroogasa Moodally having twice reported a work to be in progress on which no work whatever had been done during the time to which his report referred; and his District Engineer having stated that work done by him his generally most inefficiently performed, is dismissed from the 1st January 1878.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
28th *December* 1877.

(Signed) E. A. COLONEL FOORD R. E
Chief Engineer P. W. D.

TO
MOOROOGASA MOODALLY,
through the District Engineer,
Madura.

Z

TO
THE DISTRICT ENGINEER
Madura.

DINDIGUL, 12*th January* 1878.

Sir,

I am in receipt of the Chief Engineer's Memo No. 4689 dated 28th December 1877 forwarded with your Memo No. 2468 dated 1st Instant.

With all my obedience to your honor's orders whether just or unjust I consider I am utterly undeserving of the severe measure taken by your honor and leave the whole matter however to the Mercy of Providence.

As the Chief Engineer's order for my dismissal appears to have been based upon your honor's reports, I request you will be so good as to favor me as early as possible the copy of your honor's report or letter No. 253 dated 18th December last and also any other reports which your honor might have submitted or at the instance of Range officer against me in order to enable me to prepare my Defence or Appeal to submit for the consideration and Disposal of Government.

Copy of this letter had been forwarded for the information of the Chief Engineer and Secretary to Government.

Begging an early reply,

I beg to remain
(Signed) C. MOOROOGASA MOODALLY,
Taluq Overseer.

A A

TO
COLONEL E. A. FOORD R. E.
CHIEF ENGINEER AND SECRETARY TO GONERNMENT.
Madras.

RESPECTED SIR,

I beg respectfully to submit that I have duly received your honor's Memorandum No. 4689 dated 28th December dismissing me from 1st January 1878 on the report of District Engineer Madura No. 253 dated 18th December last.

I am sorry I know not conscientiously of any occasion I have reported of any work to be in progress when there was no work at all, and as for the statement of the District Engineer that my works are inefficiently performed is a subject which ought to be considered in connection with the circumstances duly submitted to your honor in my humble prayers of 18th, 22nd, 29th, November and 16th December last or two days previous to the last report of the District Engineer referred to in the Memo, and judged impartially, taking into consideration the determination with which the District Engineer works the ruin of unfortunate and innocent subordinate under his orders.

I am a man of a large family and 8 children and have faithfully served Government without the least blemish upon my character or a single complaint against me up to Mr. Harrington's report and I beg respectfully to submit the peculiar aspect of my case and humbly expect your honor's fatherly sympathy in the present instance.

The District Engineer worked systematically towards my ruin and even submitted me to the severe penalty of prosecution to which I have very quietly submitted in obedience to his orders and to the will of Providence, and when I have again solicited his honor's patronage, he had sent in such report to effect my dismissal at any rate without showing least Mercy or Sympathy to a servant of Government.

I have applied this day to the District Edgineer to favor me with copies of such reports he might have submitted in support of his opinion; on the receipt of which I shall duly submit my Appeal to your fatherly consideration and disposal of Government in order to show whether the District Engineer is justified in his proceedings against an unfortunate and innocent subordinate and whether I am deserving such a heavy punishment on the ground set forth by the District Engineer even without calling for a word of Explanation or defence (a concession freely allowed even to culprits of high crime) by his honor I humbly beg to submit in conclusion that I am a faithful servant of Government unhappily sacrificed to the Arbitrary Will of W. S. Harrington Esquire who has fully determined to ruin me and my children for ever as can be observed in Appeal that will be submitted as shortly as possible; and beg earnestly your honor's gracious protection and support of Government to restore me to my post and transfer me to some other District, should my Case be deemed as such as to merit the Mercy of Government.

I beg to remain &c,
(Signed) C. MOOROOGASA MOODALLY,
Taluq Overseer.
Dindigul.

DINDIGUL,
12*th January* 1878.

A. B.

Remarks on the statement shewing the progress made by Contractors on works in the Dindigal Range, Madura District during August 1877.

Name of Contractor.	Name of work.	Amount of Cotract.	Date of Contract.	Payment up to the end of last Month.	Payment during the Month.	Date when the work will probably be completed.	Range Officer's Remrks.	District Engineer's Remarks.
Syed Ismal Saib.	Raising and widening the bund of Chittoor Munthay Colam. Camp Pilathoo, 15th *September* 1877.	100	1st *August* 1877,	... ...	... ...	30th *September* 1877.	Work in progress but has not been examined by the Overseer.	The work should be examined by the Overseer soon. (Singed) W. S. HARRINGTON, *District Engineer.*

No. 1745.

(True Extract.).

Forward to the Overseer in charge of the Dindigal Taluq for information and guidance.

This work should be examined at once, and no delay allowed in measuring works completed.

Camp Ammoinaiknoor, 19th September 1877.

(Signed) L. W. PAYNTER

EXECUTIVE ENGINEER

Dindigal Division.

2332/15

A C

No· 150.

26th *September* 1877.

TO THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER,

Dindigul Division.

Respected Sir,

I beg respectfully to report that Syed Ismall Saib Contractor for the Repair of Chittoor Mantha Coolum has not done any work. I have inspected the tank in question and although there is water in the tank which the contractor alleges now as an excuse for executing the work there is ever chance of the work being finished within a work if the contractor choose to set to work at once Evidently ,he has short of funds and I fear he will not be able to finish it before some time to come· I beg therefore to submit that if the contractor wishes to give up the work. I shall have the work executed at once Early orders requested

---

A D

No. 1822.

Dindigul, 26th *September* 1877.

MEMO.

In reference to the letter No. 150 of the 25th Instant the Overseer in charge of the Dindigul Talook is informed that the Range Officer consider that the Overseer is quite as much to blame as the Contractor as neither of them have apparently taken any trouble to carry out the repair to the tank referred to according to direction of this office.

2. The Contract has now been taken out the hands of Syed Ismal Saib and Mooroogasa Moodaliar is directed to carry out the work at once by daily labor ; if it is not finished by the end of this month, the District Engineer will probably take serious notice of the matter.

TALOOK OVERSEER OFFICE.

Dindigul, 28th *September* 1877.

A. E.

No. 249.

கண்டிராக்ட்டர் ஐயம்பெருமாள்பிள்ளைக்கு.

உத்தரவு,

சித்தூர் மந்தைகுக்குளத்துமராமத்து கண்டிராக்ட்டு உமக்கு கொடுத்திருப்பதால் கெடி கண்மாய் உள்வாயில் வெட்டக்கூடிய இடங்களில் மண்ணைவெட்டியும், புறக்கரையில்லைத்துமண்ணைவெட்டியும் போட்டு ஜரூராய்வேலையை முடிப்பித்து நமக்குரிபோர்ட்டு செய்யவேண்டியது. அரியவும், உமக்கு குடுத்திருக்கிற எஸ்டிமேட்டுப்படிக்கி வேலையைநடத்தவேண்டியது.

Ordering to complete the repairs of Chittor Munthacoolum as per Estimate already given to Iamperoomal Pillay contractor Dindigul.

(Signed) C. MOOROOGASA MOODALLY,

Taluq Overseer.

18/80

2332/16

TESTIMONIALS.

COLLEGE OF CIVIL ENGINEERING *Fort St. George.*

Certificate No. 39. Dated the 28*th* of June 1859.

Name—C. Mooroogasa Moodelly
Race—Tamil, *Religion*—Hindu, *Age*—23.
Qaulified for the grade of Sub-Overseer 1st Class D. P. W. *under para* 8 *and* 9 *of Public Works Notification No.* 1 *of the 23rd June* 1857

(Signed) GEORGE WINSCOM CAPTAIN ENGINEERS.
Prinlipal C. E. College.

THIS is to Certify that C. Mooroogasa Moodelly has served as Store-keeper at the Central Jail at Coimbatore for seven months from the 1*st* May 1867, and has given satisfaction in the performance of the difficult duties required in that position. He can write a good hand, speak English well, and is neat at accounts. His conduct has been good. A

COIMBATORE,
27*th* November 1867.

K. D. ROBERTS.
Assistant Engineer.

ENDORSEMENT ON THE APPLICATION.

APPLICATION by the Store-keeper at the Central Jail to the Superintending Engineer, for a post of a Talook Overseer forwarded for his favorable Consideration, as I think him in every way well fitted to fulfil such duties as well be required of him, he has been under me for 7 months, and has shewn some ability in the difficult position he has held, and acquired considerable knowledge in Buildings. B

COIMBATORE.
6*th* September 1867.

(Signed) K. D. ROBERTS,
Assistant Engineer.

THE Appoinment of Talook Overseers rests with Superintending Engineers.

30*th* September 1872. (Signed) G. W. W.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 22nd January 1873.

No. 438. Read the following letter from the District Engineer, Madura, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Paumben, 30*th* December 1872, No. 4,337 :—

I have the honor to report that, as a temporary arrangement, I have appointed one C. Mooroogasa Moodelliar to act as Talook Overseer in the room of Overseer P. Mooroogasa Moodelliar who has obtained two months' leave on medical certificate. C

2. I may mention that the qualifications of C. Mooroogasa Moodelliar have already been reported by me to Government in my letter No. 3,623, dated *5th* November 1872 printed with G. O. No. 2,734, dated the 21*st* idem, sanctioning his appointment as Acting Talook Overseer.

No. 439. ORDER THEREON, 22nd January 1873, No. 212.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 29.

SANCTIONED on the condition indicateed in the G. O. quoted by the District Engineer.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) G. W. WALKER, COLONEL, R. E.,
Secretary to Government.

I do hereby certify that the bearer C. Mooroogasa Moodelliar has been employed under me in the Zemindary Sub-Division of the Madura Range as Acting Talook Overseer for a period of upwards of 6 months, during which time I have found him to be diligent, hard-working and willing to execute orders. He is a man of superior attainments in English; and I shall be glad to hear of his being confirmed in his present appointment.

(Signed) M. MOONEAPPAH PILLAY,
Suprivisor Zemeendary Sub-Division.

April 1873.

Extract from the Quaterly Return of Officers and Subordinates submitted to Government for the quarter ending 30*th* September 1873.

* * * * *

Very active and intelligent and he has accordingly been confirmed in his appointment.

* * * * * *

(Signed) R. A. ROBERTS, LIEUT COLONEL R. E.
District Engineer Madura.

Extract from the Administration Report of the Dindigal Range for 1873—74.

* * * * *

The Local Fund works have progressed also, several Roads, that have for 5 and 10 years, been slowly progressing have been pushed to completion amongst them, most prominently stand the Road from Dindigal to Pulney, and from Pulney to Darapuram; both in the Pulney Talook and for which much credit is due to the Talook Overseer C. Mooroogasa Moodelliar who deserves to be favorably mentioned, and who affords me much pleasure in the endeavours he has made to push on the works in his Taluq and the ready willingness he has shewn in carrying out my orders and wishes. I cannot I am sorry to say this of any one else.

(Signed) J. M. HAWKSWORTH,
Executive Engineer.
In charge of No. 2 or Dindigul Range.

2332/17

It is now upwards of a year and a half since C. Mooroogasa Moodelliar received his first appointment in this District from me; and I am happy to be able to put on record that he has given every satisfaction not only to myself but to every officer under whom he had immediately served during that period.

He is deserving of promotion.

MADURA.
15*th* June 1874.

(Signed) R. A. ROBERTS, LIEUT. COL. R. E.
District Engineer,
Madura.

On first joining I formed by no means a good opinion of Mooroogasa Moodelliar but when he found that I was determined to have work properly done, and would take the trouble to shew him he had endervoured to meet my wishes, and had I stayed longer we could have worked well together. He is willing and active in the discharge of his duties.

DINDIGUL.
April 23rd 1877.

(Signed) A. C. LAWFORD,
Executive Engineer.

Abstract of the accompanying Printed Appeal Petition

2332/1.8

30. I beg to submit that I have so far, attempted to shew the whole truth of my case supported by an appendix containing all authentic papers and correspondances from June to December 1877 by which Your honor will be convinced that I am unmercifully sacrificed for some biassed opinion of Mr. Harrington without any Just cause.

31. With all my exertion and trouble I have borne all his honor's treatment and persecution with extreme patience. Sufferred all the privations of the Famine by his honors curtailing my travellnig allowances for the last six months, the concoction of certain dissatisfied Mile Coolies assumed every importance in his honor's ears than the explanation of an Overseer who is placed over them, and induced him to subject me to suspension and disgrace and ultimately to Criminal prosecution on the evidence of the very Mile Coolies who are the Complainants. During the interval of suspension filled my talook with the appointment of another individual *in Anticipation of Conviction*, and orders issued to take charge from me without Ceremony, *when the result of the Case, and the decision of the Magistrate was communicated to him by the Range Officer, he expressed his extreme surprise for the Case not been proved against me and continued his determination that he will certainly have me dismissed at any rate, and publicly called upon the the Range Officer to report upon any other charges in order to enable him to recommend to Government for my dismissal* when the Range Officer satisfied his cumpulsary requision, the facts of which I am perfectly ignorant, *and without calling or obtaining a word of explanation from an injured subordinate* sent in his last report No. 253 dated 18*th* December last upon which the Chief Engineer based his honor's orders for my dismissal from the Department from 1st January 1878, for no other Crime, but for a simple remark made by me in an ordinary return as *a work under progress* the particulars of which was already explained and for *a biassed opinion the District Engineer seems to have stated "that work done by me is generally inefficiently performed."*

In No 1491 of 80.

2332/19 1481

12/8/80.

To

to Chief Engineer

The Most Noble Richard Plantagenet Two Campbell
G. C. S. I.
Duke of Buckingham and Chandos,
Governor of Madras Presidency
The humble petition of C. Moorugan
Moodeliar late Talook Overseer
Dindigul Talook Madura District

Most humbly Showeth

Your humble petitioner begs
most respectfully to submit the following
deplorable circumstances, with sanguine
hopes, that your Noble Grace will take
his case into Your Grace's favourable
consideration.

From the enclosed papers,
Your Noble Grace will note, that
Mr. Harrington the District Engineer
of Madura, having been biassed
against your petitioner, owing to the
misrepresentation of the Range Office
Accountant one Soobbia Naidoo, his
old friend, and determined to ruin

Dly 24/8/80

your petitioner by any means.

Mr Harrington's passionate temper is a thing not unknown to any, who had to deal with him. During a few Months your petitioner served under his jurisdiction, he had subjected your petitioner to all persecutions, and privations, and tried all the means in his power, to successfully get him criminally punished through the instrumentality of the Accountant, who was your petitioner's deadly enemy, and he was not able to gratify the Accountants —— to say the truth — unlawful demand.

After all the charge that was at last arraigned against your petitioner was,

" Having twice reported a work to be
" in progress on which no work
" whatever had been done during the
" time to which his report referred,
" and his District Engineer having
" stated that work done by him is
" generally most inefficiently
" performed is dismissed from
" the 1st January 1878.

As to the 1st point, your petitioner humbly solicit your Graces serious consideration, to the Executive Engineer's remark* on the petitioner's report, on which, Mr Paynter plainly states that the work was in progress but not inspected by the Overseer. Your petitioner, it is true, made the remark in the 1st instance, on the information received from the contractor as usual. Indeed, the work was in progress in the subsequent Month, though your petitioner did not inspect it which was a transaction transpired in August 1877 with the cognizance of the Range Officer and District Engineer but, Mr Harrington believing the misrepresentation of your petitioner's enemies, made it a charge of False Report, and reported in December 1877, 5 Months afterwards, upon which the Chief Engineer, without asking your petitioner's explanation, passed an order of dismissal. This is what is popularly called Stabbing a man in the dark

* xhibit. A.B. page 18 in the Appendix.

As to the charge of unsatisfactory out turn of work, your petitioner humbly refers Your Noble Grace, to the testimonials given by the several Officers under whom he served, if not biassed, your petitioner can confidently say, that Mr Harrington could not have thought it proper to prefer a charge, when he had in fact no opportunity to get himself acquainted with your petitioner's works, and qualifications, as he had not inspected any work under your petitioner.

Your petitioner further begs to refer Your Grace, to the Inspection Reports of Mr Harrington for the period, your petitioner was under his jurisdiction, Your Grace will find, that he never inspected any work of the petitioner.

By the above circumstances, Lord Your Grace, will find that your humble petitioner is not culpable of any Moral guilt to deserve any lasting punishment; besides he is

loaded

loaded with a large family, and has in fact 9 children, to protect. The difficulties he is undergoing to provide the necessaries of his family, will not admit description.

In conclusion, your petitioner humbly and respectfully pray, Your Noble Grace, as an act of charity and Mercy in Your Lordship's Gracious administration of the Benighted Presidency, pleased to sympathize with your petitioner's deplorable condition, and cancel the Order of Dismissal, and sanction the re-entertainment of your petitioner in this or any other Department without prejudice to his prospects in life.

For this act of indulgence, your petitioner as in duty bound shall ever pray.

Coimbatore
17th July 1880.

C. Moorangara Magdally
Late Taluk Overseer
Dindigul Taluk
Madura District
now
in Coimbatore.

2332
22

Brings to notice, that after a faithful service of 5 years, he has been dismissed on the grounds of his "having twice reported a work to be in progress, "on which no work whatever "had been done during the "time, to which his report "referred; and his Dt "Engineer having stated "that the work done by him "is generally most inef"ficiently performed"; but that a perusal of his accompanying printed petition and other papers appended to it will show that he has not made any false report; and that Mr Harrington, the Dt Engineer, was prejudiced against petr on the misrepresentation of the Range Office Accountant, who is an old friend of the Dt Engineer & an enemy of the unfortunate petitioner.

Prays, that on a due consideration of his hard case, the order of his dismissal may be cancelled and his re-entertainment in this or any other Dept may be sanctioned.

Transferred to the Chief Engineer Public Works Department:
(By order)
Major
Military Secretary.

Dispatch the Governor

Mily: Secy's Office
Government House
Ootacamund 10th Aug 82

Petition
R.P. 12/8

Pr Shyl 12 Augt

Lnd d/ 10-8-78 - 814

Petition : P.W. Department.

2332W

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

Petition No. 1481 of 1880.

From C. Moorooga[illegible] Moodelliar

Occupation late Taluk Overseer

Village

Taluk Dindigul

District Madura now at Coimbatore

Dated 17th July
Received 12th August } 1880.

Enclosures. 2

SUBJECT.

Re-entertainment

Cir 21-10-80 — Pttd 4-10-80 —
Ordy 24/8/80

Petition no 1481 d/ 12.8.80.
G. O. 2.10.74 no 2786
Petition no 814 d/ 4.4.78,
C. E's procs no 332 d/ 18-1-78
C. E. nos 4689. 4690 d/ 28-12-77
" " 3650 d/ 31-10-77
" " 3244 d/ 15-10-77.

2332/23

GOVT. OF MADRAS. } 188 . { P. W. DEPT.

SECRETARY.

Chepauk, 23rd August 1880.

OFFICE NOTE.

To W

I must say I think this man has been very hardly used —

If the statements made in the marked passages (in the printed petition) are true, and as they can be checked by records he would hardly venture to make them if they were not, there is primâ facie ground for the belief that he has not had fair play —

Ord. 24/8/80
[illegible]

As however orders have already been once passed on his first petition, I fear we can do no more than decline to reopen the question -

=

I have gone into the matter again as directed in your note of the 22nd, and still think the man has been unfairly treated -

It is always difficult to prove or disprove charges of general inefficiency but the fact that specific charges, where such have been made, are clearly

shown to be unfounded, raises suspicions of the judgment of the officers who bring the general charges -

The Madura District was most irregularly managed for some time and I attach very little importance, so far as the subordinates are concerned, to irregularities such as those referred to in G.O. No. 2786 of 2nd October 1874 and 233 of 26th January 1875; the responsibility for these rests with the officers and not with the subordinates -

been made, case closed

2332/25

Dr. W

Please go into this case again with reference to the annexed note by the C.A.W.

I have no wish to traverse the previous decision unless such be necessary in the interests of strict Justice to the man

22/9/80

The Hon W H [illegible]

For orders

The annexed file has reference to a petition presented to His Grace the Governor from C Mooriganna Mudt. late Taluq Overseer who was dismissed on 28th December 1877 G.O. No 4689 "for having "twice reported a work "to be in progress on "which no work whatever "had been done during the "time to which his "report referred; and "his District Engineer "having stated ~~that~~ "work done by him is "generally most inefficiently "performed"

As a rule I am very averse from going back on decisions which had been completely

It is thought that the order of 26th January, 1875, No. 233, may have influenced the late Chief Engineer in awarding the petitioner's case. It is to be observed that general [illegible] inefficiency as well as the specific instances cited in the Chief Engineer's Memo. of the 28th Decr., 1877, led to the man's dismissal. There is nothing in the case to show he did not notice the G.O. in question,

[illegible]
22/7

233/26

Memo

On reading ~~these~~ these papers it certainly appears to me ~~that~~ some of the specific charges against ~~the~~ man were scarcely substantiated by the facts adduced. The fact were in one or two respects directly contradicted, at the same time from the general tenor of much of the correspondence it is impossible to believe that Moorgasam Moodeliar was as active as he ought to have been — Govt. might be asked so far to reconsider the dismissal order as to say ~~that~~ he might be given a trial as a Sub-Overseer should opportunity offer for his re-entertainment. 20/7/80 [illegible]

To Hon W. Huddleston

For orders

The annexed file has reference to a petition presented to His Grace the Governor from C. Moorgasa Mood. late Taluq Overseer who was dismissed on 28th December 1877 G.O. No. 4689 "for having "twice reported a work "to be in progress on "which no work whatever "had been done during the "time to which his "report referred; and "his District Engineer "having stated ~~that~~ "work done by him is "generally most inefficiently "performed"

As a rule I am very averse from going back on decisions which ... had been completely

From ... are clearly

C A W

The members grounds of the Pet.r's dismissal as stated in Colonel Fraser's minute are that he was clearly convicted of making false reports —

Before moving further in this matter I must see the papers alluded to by Col F.

Papers received [illegible] 1879

26/9/80

The [illegible] Retd.

20/9/80

2532/27

Submitted for the Ch E's perusal

MD 3/10

Dr W.

For disposal

4/10/80

M

Cir 2.10.80. Retd 4.10.80 — [illegible]

The Hon W Huddleston

For orders

The annexed file has reference to a petition presented to His Grace the Governor from C Moorigasa Mood.r late Taluq Overseer who was dismissed on 28th December 1877 G.O. No 4689 "for having "twice reported a work "to be in progress on "which no work whatever "had been done during the "time to which his "report referred; and "his District Engineer "having stated ~~that~~ "work done by him is "generally most inefficiently "performed"

As a rule I am very averse from going back on decisions which had been completely

---

been made, as clearly

-ticularly like Cols. Foord & Farwell were unlikely to have acted with insufficient information or undue haste, but I confess that there are cir-cumstances connected with this case which lead me to think that dismissal from the service was in the present case too severe a measure on the facts as now known.

It will be observed from the office notes that have passed on the subject that Major Pennycuick after also going over the details is of the same opinion.

The false reports on which the charge against him mainly

rested are I should consider now sufficiently disposed of and the Harringtons opinion as to his inefficiency are to some extent unsupported. That Col. Foord himself had doubts in regard to the latter point will be observed from his pencil note on draft order dated 3/1/78 in which he says "I hardly think an Overseer "should be dismissed on "the report of Mr. Paynter "&c" and I confess from what has come to my knowledge of Mr Harrington's own work I should not be disposed to place a high value upon his opinion of efficiency or the reverse.

On the whole I should not object with the H. E.'s approval to give the man another trial with previous clear understanding

that he will be for
a year on probation
and that his efficiency
or otherwise will form the
subject of a special report
by the Officer under whom
he may be placed

If he was guilty of
deficiencies in the performance
of his duties, the lesson he
has had should have
sufficed, and if there
may be any good in
him, it is a pity that the effects of
this punishment, and of
all that he has been taught
at College should be
thrown away

1/10/80

[illegible] under orders

2332/29 No: 2332 W.

and extract

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

UNDER date the 9th Oct. /80

Read the following:—

Petition from C. Mooroogasamood: dated 17th July 1880.

On reconsideration of the circumstances connected with the dismissal of Overseer Mooroogasamood:, His Grace the Governor in Council accepts the opinion of the Chief Engineer that the more serious charges brought against that subordinate were not sufficiently proved, and that dismissal from the service was an unduly severe punishment for such deficiencies as those which he appears to have shown.

2. He will therefore be reappointed to the service on such terms and from such date as the Chief Engineer may direct.

8.12.

S. E. 3' Circle ✓
Ex J.W.A. ✓
15-10-80

~~8~~

Govt. of (1879) Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

11-10-80

~~No.~~

Dated

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G. O. 9th Octr. 1880 No. 2332W.

Nos. 42-43.

C. Moorroogasa Moodelliar.

Reappointment of —— in the P.W. Deptt.

34/3