

First. THE TAMBERCHERRY GHAT.—Here it would appear that Colonel Walker has taken upon himself to order the Sappers to leave the duty for which they were specially sent to Wynaad, and to work at the lower portion of the road in deference, as he says, to the opinion of the Collector and the Planters.

8. Colonel Walker must have been well aware, indeed he states in his letter, what the object of the Government was when it ordered a third Company to be sent to Wynaad, namely, to complete the heavy rock cutting at the top of the ghât, which I was told in 1864 would require two years' more labor; on the face of this he has, by his own statement, employed the Sappers to perform work which could very well have been executed by the ordinary labor of the country; he has wasted their labor; produced bad effects on their health; and shown in fact a want of discretion and judgment which he now admits, but the blame of which he as usual tries to impute to others, to the Collector, to the Planters, &c., &c.; but the Government hold Colonel Walker responsible for the proper employment of the means placed at his disposal; and, in my opinion, he has acted most improperly in removing the Sappers from the portion of the work which they were specially employed upon, and I am in no way disposed to allow Colonel Walker's admission of his folly to be a sufficient excuse for his conduct.

9. In his letter No. 201, dated 5th December 1865, Colonel Walker alludes to what he conceives to be a misconception on the part of the Government of the value of the road from Luckady, viâ Teriote, to Manantoddy; and he proceeds to offer his opinion not only as to the view which he expects will be taken by the North Wynaad Planters, should this road be preferred to the new Periah Ghât, but also as to the results likely to flow from such a view; these, however, are matters with which Colonel Walker has nothing to do. It is his business to obey the orders issued to him by the Government, and to carry out the work entrusted to him to the best of his ability, leaving to the Government the responsibility of vindicating the orders it pleases to issue. I am in no way disposed, notwithstanding the consequences foretold by Colonel Walker, to modify the Order of Government of 17th November last, to the effect that no more money was to be laid out on the Periah Ghât until the other more important roads are completed.

10. Colonel Walker has now been upwards of two years Superintending Engineer of the 7th Division, and from the time of his appointment up to the present date, his conduct has been the constant subject of reference to the Government; he has never fairly adopted the responsibilities of his position, and has shown, on many occasions, an absence of method in dealing with his subordinates, which has been productive of the worst effects. The present correspondence is a fair type of that which has preceded it. It contains attempts to shift the responsibility of even admitted errors of judgment upon the shoulders of others; of a want of capacity to manage the subordinates of the Department; of a disposition to work out his own schemes in opposition to the orders of the Government. I cannot but think, therefore, that it would be better to remove him from the important District where he is mismanaging matters, to one of less importance. I am convinced that the work of the Public Works Department in Wynaad would progress more rapidly, and more harmoniously as regards the connection of the Department with the settlers, under another Officer, than Colonel Walker, and the sooner the change is made the better.

December 12th, 1865.

(Signed) W. T. DENISON.

No. 369. MINUTE BY THE HONORABLE T. PYCROFT.

1. The reports of the Superintending Engineer, 7th Division, on the state and progress of Public Works in Wynaad do certainly appear to me to be unsatisfactory, and to be in great part open to the strictures passed upon them by His Excellency the President.

2. I cannot, however, think that matters would be improved by the transfer of Lieutenant-Colonel Walker to another Division.

3. Some allowance should be made for the difficulties incident to the prosecution and superintendence of Public Works in Wynaad, and to the inefficient agency which Colonel Walker has sometimes had to employ. He has an intimate acquaintance, derived from long experience, with the Districts on the Western Coast, and the execution of Public Works there, and, despite his peculiar temper, and injudicious style of writing, is as I have always considered, and as I believe is his character in the Public Works Department, a zealous, able, and hard-working Officer. The Revenue Officers of the two Districts which compose his charge have full confidence in him, and think highly of him. One of them—Mr. P. Grant, the Collector of Coimbatore—has very recently expressed to me a strong opinion in his favor, and the Planters of Wynaad generally would, I believe, regret his removal from the Division.

4. I would, therefore, suggest that his reports be reviewed, and his shortcomings noticed much to the effect proposed by the President, with an intimation that the Government will expect him to exercise closer supervision over his subordinates in Wynaad for the future, and to do his best for making good past deficiencies.

5. Legal proceedings should, I suppose, be taken against Mr. Carter for the recovery of the advances outstanding against him.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT.

15th December 1865.

No. 370. MINUTE BY THE HONORABLE H. D. PHILLIPS.

The Government have, I think, ample reason for blaming Colonel Walker for the embarrassments which so frequently result from his querulous manner of treating the deficiencies of his subordinates, and I am sensible that the observations in this and other respects, which His Excellency the President has noted, are well deserved. But Colonel Walker's Division, as regards its geographical distribution, climate, and other peculiarities arising partly from the classes of person who are resident in it, is, it seems quite clear to me, a very difficult one to manage; and I doubt whether, under new control, we should be rid of the embarrassments in question. Colonel Walker is justly acknowledged to be an energetic, laborious, highly qualified servant of the Government; and although, after considering these papers, I see much that may be condemned, I cannot avoid feeling that the public interests will better be served by communicating the displeasure of the Government, in the terms used by His Excellency the President, than by displacing Colonel Walker, and so bringing two Divisions under new Superintendents.

(Signed) H. D. PHILLIPS.

20th December 1865.

GOVT.
OF MADRAS.

18

P. W.
DEPT.

EXAMINER, P. W. ACCOUNTS.

Madras, 21st OCTOBER 1887

OFFICE NOTE No. 734

To

I HAVE TO POINT OUT THAT THE
ESTIMATE SANCTIONED IN G.O. NO. 2411
DATED 30TH. SEPTEMBER 1881, FOR
'SINKING A WELL IN THE COMPOUND OF
THE SUPERINTENDENT'S QUARTERS AT
THE CENTRAL JAIL AT RAJAHMUNDRY'
SHOULD BE REGISTERED AS PROVINCIAL
(CONVICT LABOR FUND) AS ACCORDING
TO G.O. NO. 423 W. DATED 17TH. FEBRU-
ARY 1881, CHARGES FROM THE CONVICT
LABOR FUND SHOULD BE TREATED AS
PROVINCIAL.

KEEP WITH

Genl. No.

dated

18

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

UNDER date the 3rd Novr 1887
Read the following:—

Office Note from the Examiner
P. W. Accounts } G.O. No. 734 of 21st Octr 1887

Do — to — do — (" 919 of 25th —)

Do — from — do — (" 764 of 31st —)

Erratum

In para 2 of G.O. No.
2411 W of 30th September 1881.

For

This sanction has been
registered as Incorporated
Local Funds (Convict
Labor Fund) No. 27 W
of 1881-82

Read

G.O. No. 919 of 25th Octr 1887

To C.

The work is not to be
executed by the P. W. Dept
nor has the sum it is

Read

This sanction has
been registered as
Provincial No 87 Wofe
1881.82.

Cu

2720/9. 3-11-81.

Examine

To,

The Insp. Genl of India ✓

" S. W. Goddard ✓
" 1st Circle

" Examine W. H. H. ✓

" Jud. Genl. Sept ✓

Ind. Genl. 4-11-81

One of the proposals of the
revised Scheme consists of a con-
tribution of \$1,250 per annum
from Local Funds in consideration
of the work done for them in the
examination of Projects.

I am not aware of your view as
to the utilization of this sum, but
I would be to propose that a portion
of it be employed in strengthening our
office which is far too weak, numerically,
to cope with the work expected of it.

I have with me at present at
least seven unpaid clerks
on salaries of \$60, \$32-\$30, with
no attendants to help with the Records.
With this establishment I manage
the best way I can. I scarcely
think that the clerks of any
subordinate office of the P. W. D. or
any other Dept. of Govt. are called
upon to do so much as our clerks
are required to perform. I would
bring up a larger