

TESTIMONIALS.

7th November 1856.

MR. LAUGHLAN,

The Secretary grants you a gratuity of a month's pay, *i. e.* 42 Rs., as a reward for your attention to business, and hopes it will be an incentive to correct performance for the future of your duties as it is an earnest of his disposition to reward desert.

(Signed) A. H. H.

(Signed) J. C. WILKINSON.

MADRAS MILITARY MALE ORPHAN ASYLUM, No. 150.

This is to certify that William A. Laughlan is permitted to leave the Institution from this date for the purpose of being employed as a Clerk at the Military Male Orphan Asylum Press.

Admitted into the School on the 6th day of April 1849.

Discharged this 13th day of August 1853.

Character during the above period—Good, which I certify.

MADRAS, }
28th July 1858. }

(Signed) A. H. HOPE,
Secretary.

By order of the Governors,

(Signed) A. H. HOPE,
Secretary.

MADRAS, 15th September 1859.

It gives me great pleasure to certify to the integrity and aptitude for business which six years' knowledge enables me to do of Mr. W. A. Laughlan, Clerk Asylum Press.

(Signed) A. H. HOPE, Captain,
3rd M. L. Cavalry.

MADRAS, February 25th, 1860.

LAUGHLAN,

Consequent on my proceeding to China I have given over charge of the Male Asylum Press to Captain Drury. I cannot however leave Madras without recording and also intimating to you how very satisfied I have been as to the manner in which you have conducted your duties since my assuming the office of Secretary to the Asylum in September last. You have proved yourself well worthy of the praise bestowed upon you by Captain Hope.

Your duties at the Press are arduous and demand constant attention and considerable method, and I can conscientiously affirm that I have never met with your equal among persons of your position.

(Signed) J. W. RIDEOUT.

William Alexander Laughlan, Head Clerk to the Male Asylum Press, has conducted the duty of his Department to my entire satisfaction during the period I have officiated as Secretary to the Male Orphan Asylum.

MADRAS, }
7th May 1860. }

(Signed) C. H. DRURY, Captain,
27th Regt. N. I.

MADRAS, 11th February 1861.

MR. LAUGHLAN,

I thank you much for your letter of this day's date, and the kindly wishes it conveys. I am sorry to hear that you are at present out of employ, but trust it may not be for long,

your industrious and business-like habits, would I should think, fully prevent such a misfortune.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) GEO. TALBOT, Colonel.

MADRAS, 10th December 1861.

The Bearer, Mr. Laughlan, has served as Mess Writer of the 34th L. I. since February last. He is intelligent and careful in the conduct of his duties and has in general given the Officers every satisfaction.

(Signed) A. C. SILVER,
Commanding 34th Lt. Infy.

MADRAS, 30th April 1863.

This is to certify that owing to a reclassification of the Office Establishment of the Madras Clothing Agency under the authority of Government, Mr. Laughlan who has been in the Department since June 1862 has been thrown out of employment.

I regret this, as Mr. Laughlan has always been attentive, and industrious, while in this department.

He was employed on a salary of Rs. 75 per mensem which he has lost from no fault of his own, and I hope this Certificate will soon enable him to obtain other employment.

(Signed) A. C. SILVER, Lt-Col.,
Superintendent and Agent for Army Clothing.

Certified that Mr. Laughlan, appointed by me as Accountant in the Government Press, conducted his duties to my satisfaction, while I was his official superior.

Mr. Laughlan is I believe a good Accountant, and if his health permits him, well able for a higher appointment, though the Account Work in the Press if properly done is no sinecure.

MERCARA, }
December 1864. }

(Signed) W. H. KERR, C. S.

Mr. W. A. Laughlan was employed as Accountant of the Government Printing Establishment, Fort St. George, from September 1863 to May 1865, and performed his duties with ability and zeal. He was dismissed under the orders of Government for having taken the benefit of the Insolvent Act.

FORT ST. GEORGE, }
20th July 1865. }

(Signed) H. SMITH,
Superintendent Govt. Printing Press.

Mr. W. A. Loughlan was employed in the Government Press at the time of my taking charge in July 1864, as Accountant; and I believe I am only doing him justice in stating that the accounts in his hands were well and punctually kept. His insolvency caused his suspension, shortly before I took leave in April last, and I now find that Government declined to reinstate him.

I have never had reason to find any fault with him and should be glad to hear of his obtaining suitable employment.

July 25, 1865.

(Signed) C. G. WALKER,
Under-Secretary to Government.

Read Letter from Mr. Laughlan to W. H. Kerr, Esquire, Superintendent of Coorg.

MR. LAUGHLAN.

Answer thereto dated Coorg, 21st August 1864.

The best testimonial you can get as to the way in which you have performed your duties as Accountant in the Press will be the Auditor's Report. To the best of my knowledge you kept the accounts well and correctly while I was Supervisor, and you certainly kept them

neatly and had them always written up to date; but until I know the result of the Auditor's examination I cannot say more. I shall be glad of course to hear of your getting on and getting higher pay, but I must say that I should not feel myself justified in supporting the application which you tell me you are going to make; and if you take my advice you will not make it at least at present.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) W. H. KERR.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Public Department, dated 21st September 1865.

From J. MACKEY, Esquire, Auditor of the Press Accounts; to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated 30th July 1864.

Paragraph 13. From all that I have seen I believe the Press Accounts to be faithfully kept by Mr. W. A. Laughlan, the Accountant.

(True copy.)

(Signed) W. A. LAUGHLIN.

No. 1810 of 1865.

The Government have no objection to the re-employment of Mr. Laughlan in the Public Service.

FORT SAINT GEORGE, 22nd August 1865.
(By order.)

(Signed) C. G. WALKER,
Under-Secretary to Government.

Read Letter from Mr. W. A. Laughlan to S. Brock, Esq., Controller, P. W. Accounts, Madras, dated 20th February 1869.

Answer thereto.

I will bear Mr. Laughlan's case in mind, and, if a suitable opportunity offer, will certainly place him in a better position in the office.

(Signed) S. BROCK.

Read Letter from Mr. W. A. Laughlan to S. Brock, Esq., Controller, P. W. Accounts, Madras, dated 1st July 1869.

Answer thereto.

Very well. I know Mr. Laughlan to be really a hard working man.

(Signed) S. BROCK.

Has made himself useful in the office, he is a good accountant and regular in his attendance in office.

17th September 1867.

(Signed) J. F. FISHER,
Captain, R. E.

He has continued to be steady, attentive, and satisfactory in the performance of his duties.

28th May 1868.

(Signed) P. P. L. O'CONNEL,
Lt.-Col., R. E.

An intelligent steady man in whom I have always felt an interest. He applies himself to his work with energy, and as Sub-Auditor in the 1st Division has given very great satisfaction. It was my intention, if the scheme submitted to Government in my letter No. 2525, dated 29-1-73, had been sanctioned before my relief, to have given Mr. Laughlan the audit of one of the small Districts.

April 1873.

(Signed) S. BROCK.

Original.

CURRENT No. 2795

TO

HIS EXCELLENCY THE MOST NOBLE
GEORGE FREDERICK SAMUEL MARQUIS OF RIPON,
P. C. G. M. S. I. &c., &c., &c.
VICEROY AND GOVERNOR GENERAL OF INDIA.

THE HUMBLE PETITION OF WILLIAM ALEXANDER
LAUGHLIN, LATE ACCOUNTANT, EXAMINER'S
OFFICE, PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT,
MADRAS.

Through,

HIS EXCELLENCY
THE RIGHT HONORABLE M. E. GRANT DUFF,
P. C. F. R. G. S. &c., &c., &c.,
GOVERNOR AND PRESIDENT IN COUNCIL,

Fort Saint George.

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH,

That Petitioner was entertained in the Accounts' Branch of the Public Works Department on the 1st September 1865, as an Accountant, and retired as such on the 18th March 1880, under Government of India, Finance and Commerce Department Resolution No. 2079, Public Works Department Dated 31st July 1879.

2. That the Madras Government, in G. O. No. 2052 W. P. W. D. dated 30th August 1880, paras 4, 5 and 6 concurred with the Examiner, Public Works Accounts and remarked on Petitioner's first appeal, dated 10th June 1880, that his "case cannot be treated exceptionally," and that he is not entitled to an average pension for service above ten years and a bonus of twelve months' salary, under the said Government of India's Resolution, as he was never graded or regularly brought into the Accountants' Establishment of this Presidency; and for the same reason disallowed his claim of Rupees Five hundred and ten, to House Rent and Presidency Allowance, the former from date of Accountant General's (P. W. D.) letter according his sanction to the exemption from the Entrance Test examination, (see Examiner's letter to Accountant General P. W. D., No. 116, A. dated 4th October 1878 and Accountant General's P. W. D. Reply thereto dated 25th December 1878,) and the latter from date on which the rule to grant Presidency Allowance came into force.

3. That on his second appeal, dated 31st May 1881, the same objections were made and the Government of Madras therefore declined to "re-open the case" (See Government Order No. 1556 W, P. W. D. dated 22nd June 1881).

La Pet 2795/87.

4. That Petitioner was specially selected as an Accountant and exempted on the 25th December 1878 from the Entrance Test Examination by the Accountant General, Public Works Department, and by him declared an Accountant, fifteen months previous to retirement, he virtually performed the duties of an Accountant throughout his service and was called upon by the Examiner, Public Works Accounts to accept service as an Accountant (vide Circular No. 40 of 1876, paras 2, 3, and 8) and also to sign an Agreement as such of the 4th grade (See Examiner Works Form No. 257) and which covenant bound him on the 25th July 1876 to serve in any place in British India, and he therefore reasonably expects a fulfilment of the obligations of the Contract made with him, and is unable to understand why he ceases to be an accountant only when he wishes to reap the benefits of retiring as such in common with those who have been regarded regular accountants.

5. That the omission of a mere formality to grade Petitioner an Accountant on the eve of retirement, should not be considered a bar to the concessions being granted to him, whilst it was allowed to C. Subba Row, similarly exempted, as Petitioner was, and who did not pass the "Divisional Test" but was graded by the Examiner, by powers vested in him by para 21, Chapter I Section ii Public Works Code of 1877, to make the appointment of 4th Grade Accountant; and this technicality should be waived in the exceptional cases of the 5 exempted Accountants retired, inclusive of the individual alluded to, and this boon would have been liberally accorded to them by Major L. Conway-Gordon R. E. in due appreciation of merit and from a sense of justice, were he present to carry out the reductions in the Accounts Branch of the P. W. D. of this Presidency—as Government of India's Resolution granting concessions to retired Accountants makes no distinction in respect to graded Accountants.

6. That the claims to concessions by the Accountants of this Presidency were apparent to Major Conway-Gordon, as he informed an Accountant who had not been exempted and did not elect for general service, that he had nothing to fear on the score of short service to complete for the ordinary half pension as he would obtain the average pension and also benefit by the bonus. Further, in his appointing a Clerk, to a 5th grade Accountantship, and after a month cancelled the same, presumably from the fact of the said Clerk never having performed Account Work, during his tenure of service.

7. That in the recent Order of the Government of Madras, No. 218 W. P. W. D. dated 28th January 1880, when the whole question of the eligibility of the Accountants of this Presidency to the concessions, were fully discussed, it was resolved in justice to the individuals concerned as well as to the public interests,—see para 8 clause 1 of the said Resolution, to request the consent of the Government of India to sanction the principles on which, the concessions to Accountants should be based: and they have therein fairly recognized Petitioner's just claims to the said concessions, since he was regularly and bona fide employed upon the legitimate duties of Accountant and had conducted those duties satisfactorily as shown by the various Officers' reports—(vide Testimonials annexed) he

having also been exempted from the Entrance Test Examination fifteen months previously, and thereby equitably eligible to a 4th grade Accountantship corresponding to the salary drawn by him, on retirement, and which exemption in itself would not have been found necessary if Petitioner was considered officially any other than Accountant. Petitioner was not gazetted and therefore could not (see para 3 of Circular No. 40 of 1876) be expected to pass the formal divisional test, he having audited for years the Accounts of 3 Districts of 15 Ranges or Divisions often single handed and during his leisure hours (see letters of Examiner in Government Orders 2361, 2379 and 947, dated respectively, 14th August 1865, 21st August and 11th April, 1874. para 7, 2 and 3 and 6) and was never found fault with. This fact should be considered as proof of his competency and efficiency as an Accountant.

8. That Petitioner's service in the Army Clothing Department, as Indent Examiner and Tabulator, and the manner in which he conducted his duties brought him to the favorable notice of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, (See Superintendent's letters 1521 and 2442, dated 5th July and 18th August, 1862, respectively to Deputy Adjutant General H. M's. B. F.) This service of 11 months the Government of Madras has, under a misconstruction disallowed; but under Note 2 of Sec. 56 Civil Pension Code, it is allowable, and therefore qualifies for pension together with the subsequent service in the Gazette Press, as a re-classification of the office Establishment threw him out-of-employment, but from no fault of his (see Colonel Silvers' Certificate).

9. That Petitioner humbly relying that his case, will be graciously viewed in a just, charitable and favorable light, after perusal of the Official papers bearing on the Madras Accountants, and on which documents he has founded his claims, he will be considered deserving of a right to rectification at the hands of the Government of India of a mere formality to grade him an Accountant, considering his having fulfilled all the conditions required of such; and therefore fairly entitled to the claims hereunder set forth:—

- I. Average pension and bonus.
 - II. Presidency Allowance and House Rent and
 - III. Eleven Months' Service qualifying for pension and
- Petitioner as in duty bound

Will ever Pray,

MADRAS,

19th December 1881.

W. A. Laughlin, Late Accountant.
Examiner's Office, Madras Public Works Department.

To P. W. C. No 83

His Excellency the Most Noble
George Frederich, Samuel, Marquis of Ripon,
P.C. G.M.S.S. 8th, 8th, 8th

Vice Roy & Governor General of India.

~~Supra~~ ^{20 DEC 31}
The Honorable Petition of William
Alexander Laughlin late Account.
ant. Examiners Office, Public
Works Department, Madras.

Through

His Excellency the
Right Honorable M. S. Grant Duff
P.C. J.R.G.S. 8th, 8th, 8th
Governor & President in Council
Fort Saint George.

Dated 19th } December 1881.
Recd

Enc. one.

Praying that after a
re-consideration of the circumstances
herein set forth, he may be
graciously vouchsafed:

1. Average pension and bonus.
2. Presidency Allowance & House Rent
- and 3. Eleven months' service
qualifying for pension.

(A)
Petition (1881) DEPARTMENT.
P.W.D.

From

M^r William Alexander Laughlin
late Accountant Examiner's
Office, P. W. Department
Madras.

No.

Dated 19th } December 1881.
Recd. 20th }

Recd. 9 Jan. 82. *Encl. I & 2 spare
copies, with 2 Encls.*

CURRENT No. 2795

SUBJECT.

Submit a Memorial
to the address of the
Govt of India, praying
that after a reconsidera-
tion of his case, he may
be granted

1. Average Pension
2. Presidency allowances
and House-rent &
3. Eleven months' ser-
vice gratifying for
pension.

801
2

4.0. 2361. 14. 8. 65
1788. 6. 6. 66
947. 11. 4. 74
2379. 21. 8. 74
2900. 16. 7. 78
3598. 11. 9. 78
2052. 30. 8. 80
1556. 12. 6. 81.

Memo.

Origl papers
referred to in P.W.D.
Ltr. No. 37 A.C.
dated 7th March 1882.

to be put up with
above scene No.

M.
9/3/82.

No. 142 W

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Under date the 17th January 82
Read the following.

Petition from M^r W. A. Laughlin of 19th Dec 1881.

Ordered to be for-
warded to the Govt. of
India.

H.S. No. 143 W of 17th
January 1882.
To the Secy to the Govt.
P.W.D.

Sir,

I am directed to
forward, for submission
to the Govt. of India, a
memorial from M^r
W. A. Laughlin, a
Government Pensioner,
formerly employed in

I think copy of the Govt.
Sanctioning Pension has
been also sent.

in the office of the
Genl of Public Works
Accounts.

2. All the requests
put forward by the
petitioner were fully
considered and disposed
of by this Govt in their
Proceedings No 2052 W of
30th August 1880, a copy
of which is herewith
transmitted.

3. In June last the
petitioner submitted a
memorial to this Govt
very much in the
same terms as the one
now addressed to the
Govt. of India. This
Govt then saw no reason
to reopen the case, and,
I am to say, they now
do not consider there
is

* Together with the Proceedings
granting pension to the
petitioner.

Go Pension No 1120 of
22.11.80

" " " 267 of 8.3.81.

is any ground for
advocating the prayer.
4. The return of the Govt.
Proceedings herewith for-
warded is solicited.

11.1.82

Accepted 17-1-83.

McMullen W. D. 1882

60 No 2361- 14-8-85.
1788. — 6-6-66
947 — 11-4-74
1379 — 21-8-74
29000 — 16-7-78
35982 — 11-9-78
20824 — 30-8-80
18562 — 22-6-81

Be No 142 Way 17th January 1882.
143
Saw
Cu
12/1

Cir. 11. 1.82.

20/1

Saw
13/1/82