

is suggested as an alternative
to pensionable service, and as
the main request has been
conceded, the alternative
need not be considered.

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3/2/82

Ref. 324 Waf 6 Feb 1882

To

The Petitioners

depts to L.A. Arputham

Moody 8 Feb 1882.

C. Ad. in Receipt Regd

3/2/82

Public Works Department

G. E. No 2408, dated 19th October 1881.

Circular Memorandum.

Endorsement No 41 S.W. dated 1st October 1881, from the Chief Engineer for Irrigation on letter from the Superintendent of Works - Godavari No 1565, dated 17th September 1881.

The Chief Engineer has the honor to request that Superintending Engineers will favor him with their opinions generally as to the policy of including men of the old Maistry class in the permanent Establishment of the Public Works Department, and maintaining an establishment of Sub-overseers.

2. First, there are cases in which men of the old Maistry class are very valuable, and it is thought that a legitimate way of rewarding such as deserve promotion, would be to give them positions in any of the grades of Sub-overseers (para 20 of the Code). The services of good practical men would thus be retained, and their sons would probably be also encouraged to undergo sufficient education as would entitle them to similar positions.

3. The Sub-overseer class it is thought would afford a very good means of giving Eurasians and Natives with College certificates as Overseers, a means of acquiring practical training, and showing what they are worth before promoting them to the position of upper subordinate.

4. Again youths of both these classes who have acquired a certain amount of theoretical education, though unable to obtain an Overseer certificate, will often turn out well as Sub-overseers.

/By order/

R. B. B. B.
Major R. E.
Dy. Chief Engineer P.W.D.

To

Supg. Engineers.
Supts. of Works.

Ag. Dy. Chief Engineer P.W.D.

2408-19-10-81

Public Works Department.

No 3127 dated 22nd December 1881.

Circular Memorandum.

Adverting to Circular Memorandum No 2408 of 19th October 1881, and the replies which have been received thereto it is proposed to bring on the Permanent Establishment of the Public Works Department a certain number of selected Maistries in the grades and pay as per margin,

1st Grade.... Rs 25.

2nd Do..... " 20.

3rd Do..... " 15.

their advancement to depend upon their own exertions and merits and to be irrespective of seniority or date of first appointment. From this class such men as may prove themselves qualified for further advancement would be promoted to the position of Sub Overseer, in which class such further promotion may be open to them.

2. In reference to this proposal the Chief Engineer has the honor to request that Superintending Engineers will favor him with an expression of their opinion on the following points.

(1.) How many really efficient and deserving men of the Maistry Class now in the Circle might as a commencement be brought on the proposed Establishment in the several grades with any specially good men who might be nominated in any of the reorganized grades of Sub Overseers.

(2.) Whether any fixed period such as five or ten years should be laid down as a minimum qualifying period for promotion from grade to grade.

3. The object at present in view being to secure on the permanent Establishment of the Public Works Department the services of a number of fully trained and qualified native foremen for special duties, a purely practical trade test alone would be required of maistries for promotion to the grade of Sub Overseer, and the selection of the men would be left entirely to the Superintending Engineers in communication with the Executive and Assistant Engineers of their respective Circles.

4. Superintending Engineers will understand that as this is merely a proposal to the carrying out of which the approval of the Government of India would be necessary, no action should be taken nor hopes held out to men of the classes concerned.

/By order/

R. G. P. W. D.

To

Supg. Engineers.

Lieut. Col. R. G.

Ag. Dy. Chief Engineer P. W. D.

To

RECEIVED
25 JAN 1912

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL

Fort St. George, Madras.

*The Humble Petition of the Undersigned
Passed Students of the Civil Engineering
College Madras.*

MOST RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH :—

That your Excellency's humble Petitioners have been labouring under a grievance for which they seek redress.—It is the practice which obtains in the Public Works Department that Surveyors, as a rule, are not allowed to be on the permanent staff, and though it may sound strange that the prerogative of the Crown (a pension) is withheld from this Class of hardworking officials in Government service, yet this incident is nevertheless true.

2. These students of the Civil Engineering College who are subject to all the restrictions, while in the employ of Government, like other lower subordinates of the Public Works Department are led into the belief that they will be equally dealt, with the advantages as with the disadvantages as others, but to their great dismay they find in after-life that of the cup of gall and honey offered to them in common with the other subordinates of the service, only the gall is their portion without the smallest admixture of the sweet. They are then in a position to appreciate the truth that all their labour and toil in the pursuit of knowledge peculiar to their vocation, while undergoing a collegiate training, is merely useless as it entitles them to nothing permanent. They find, to their dismay, that they are only called into requisition for temporary work, as uncertain as it is transient, and which, in some cases, amounts in broken fragments to a lifelong service of hard and enervating work, at the end of which they find their physical powers exhausted by constant exposure to the climate (as the nature of their duties is such as to impose on them the necessity of subjecting themselves to all variations of weather in discharging out-door work); and without any compensation in the shape of gratuity or pension to rely upon, when nature is too feeble to endure work. Besides this their age becomes an impediment by the 25 years order even if they should latterly get a permanent job.

Replies are compiling

21/1

3. Your Excellency's humble Petitioners venture to assert that their general qualifications are similar to those which be-fit a student for the U. C. S. or Middle School Examination, with their special subject of *surveying* in addition. They beg to submit that the subjects they have to pass in are such as to make them eligible for *admission* to the Matriculation Class as a knowledge in Euclid Arithmetic to the extraction of the square root, and a fair knowledge in other subjects are indispensably necessary to enable them to succeed in the Surveyors Test. They therefore presume to state, with confidence, that from their qualifications they may be deemed fit for exemption from the Middle School Examination if their services should be required or utilized in any other capacity than surveyors.

4. They further beg to state that it would satisfy their present need if the place of Sub-overseers be invariably given to *them* exclusively, in preference to any other class of candidates. This concession will at least ensure some permanency, and this will be an encouragement for the future, and a recompense for the past, study of that Test which, under existing circumstances, is entirely disadvantageous.

5. Having suggested these two considerations, your Excellency's most humble Petitioners would, under the foregoing circumstance, beg to urge on your Excellency's unbiassed Judgment and indulgent consideration that the service of surveyors in the Public Works Department be made pensionable, or that they may be exempted from passing the Middle School Examination, when an opportunity offers an appointment in other capacities than surveyors, possessing, as they do, the necessary qualifications to entitle them to the post, or in other words that the plea of their being qualified only as surveyors may not be admissible where their services may be utilized in other department of the Government service, besides surveying, so long as their general attainments are found useful and efficient for Government service.

For which act of justice and mercy Your Excellency's Petitioners shall,
As in Duty bound.
Ever Pray.

Madras
24th January 1882

C. Varnappan Mudali
C. Vignaranga Pillay
Manicka Mudali
J. C. Chelvanayagam Pillai
Higna Paul
A. V. Pushpanatha Pillai
S. A. Arputha Mudali
H. P. D. ...

C. Varnappan Mudali

P. Pushpanatha Pillay
S. S. S. S.

V. Parthasarathy Mudali

C. Varnappan Mudali

P. C. Chelvanayagam Mudali
S. Lingaravaloo Mudali

Pray that the Candidates, who pass out as Surveyors from the Civil Engineering College, may be made eligible for Pension, & may be appointed exclusively as Sub Engineers, in preference to other class of men, or that they may be exempted from passing the Middle School examination, so that their services may be utilized in other Departments of Govt Service if necessary.

Pr. 634/2

P. W. C. No. 634 *P.W.*
 From *G. Vaniyopaul Smith*
C. Viziaringad Pillay & others
Passed Students
of the C. E. College
Madras

No.

Dated *24* } *Jan 82*
 Recd. *26* }
Recd. 31

CURRENT NO. 232

SUBJECT.

Pension to Surveyors

Cl. 24.08 - 19-10-87
3127 - 22. 12. 87

Civ 12.81 R-3-2-81

Read the following:—

Petition from Certain Passed students of the Civil
Engineering College, of 24th January 1882,

FOR ORDERS.

Provision is now
made on the permanent
Establishment of the M. Dept.
for a certain number of
Surveyors (16), and the
services of the men appointed
to these posts will in
future be pensurable.

The principal request
of the Petitioners is thus
disposed of.

2. Their claim to exclusive

MR

appointment as Sub Overseers
is unreasonable. If they
are otherwise qualified for
such posts there is very
little doubt that their
knowledge of surveying
would be regarded as
an additional recommendation.
But no such exclusive privi-
lege as they ask for could
with justice be conceded.

3. The exemption from the
Middle School examination
is suggested as an alternative
to pensionable service,
and as the main request
has been conceded - the
alternative need not be considered.

C. M. Henry
Col. R. E.

Secretary to Government, P.W. Dept.

R.S. Cir 1.2.81 R- 3.2.81

FOR ORDERS.

The Hon. W. H. Dutton

N^o 324 W

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

UNDER date the 6th Feb'y 1882

Read the following:—

From passed Students of the
Civil Engineering College } (A.E. N^o of 24 Jan'y/82)

Petitioners are informed
that provision is now made
on the permanent establish-
ment of the P.W. Depart^t
for a certain number of
Surveyors, and that the services
of the men appointed to these
posts will in future be pensionable.
2. Their claim to exclusive
appointment as Sub Overseers
cannot be entertained. If
they are otherwise qualified
for such posts there is very
little doubt that their know-
ledge of surveying would
be regarded as an additional
recommendation.

3. The exemption from the
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is

February 1882

SPW
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to pensionable service, and as
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need not be considered.

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Alt

3/2/82

Ref. 314 Waf 6 July 1882

To

The Petitioners

depts to SA Arpsbam
Inodr. 13th July 1882.

Ad. vi Receipt Regr

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