Mysore Chief Commrs Office
Public Works Department
Bangalore 10th February 181

No 154
481

From,

The Secretary to the Chief Commissioner
for the Government of the Territories of
His Highness the Maha Rajah
of Mysore.

To,

The Secretary to the Government of India
Foreign Department.

Sir,

An application for furlough for two years from Major C. Bowen R.E. having been this day submitted for the sanction of the Government of India, and it not being probable under the present circumstances of the Mysore Province that Major Bowen's services will be required therein on his return from furlough the Chief Commissioner desires me to bring the excellent service that Officer has rendered to the Mysore State to the notice of His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor General in Council.

II Major Bowen joined the service in 158, and arrived in Madras in 163. he was transferred to the Mysore D. P. W. in June 164 and has served in this Province since that date - He was

first

first selected to Officiate as Assistant to Chief Engineer and Assistant Secretary in June/69. and officiated as Superintending Engineer for a month in /70. He had charge of the Central Public Works Office in /73. and again officiated as Superintending Engineer for a few months in /74 - He was made permanent Executive Engineer 1st grade in October/75 and temporary Superintending Engineer in March/76. reverting to Executive Engineer 1st grade in May/79 Consequent on reduction of Establishment - He officiated as Engineer-in-Chief Mysore State Railway from February to June/80 and as Superintending Engineer from September/80 to January/81.

III During the above service Major Bowen officiated as Superintending Engineer for no less than 3 years and 10 months, and whether in an Executive or administrative capacity Mr. Gordon is unable to speak too highly of the industrious, zealous, and efficient manner in which he has invariably discharged his duties - During the recent famine his services were devoted and invaluable, and in bringing them thus prominently to the notice of Government, Mr. Gordon feels he is but performing a simple act of justice to a very meritorious Officer who is about to leave the province -

IV - Feeling Confident that Major Bowen will do ample credit to any position to which the Government may advance him, the Chief Commissioner will be glad to be assured that his services and claims will not be lost sight of during his absence on furlough -

I have &c.
(Signed) W. R. Johnson Bland
Secretary to the Chief Commr of Mysore P.W.D.

No. 571 G. G.

From

The Assistant Secretary to the Government of India

To,

The Chief Commissioner of Mysore.

Dated Fort William the 8th March 1881

Foreign Departt
General

Sir,

I am directed to inform you that the Government of India has received with pleasure your testimony to the value of Major Bowen's services as recorded in your P. W. Secretary's letter No. 154/481 dated 10th February, and to state that the fact of Major Bowen's absence on furlough will not operate to the injury of his permanent position in the P. W. Department -

I have &c.
(Signed) W. Ridgeway Major
Asst to Secy. to the Govt of India

Mysore Chief Commissioner's Office
P.W. Department
Bangalore 17th March 81

No. 329/1026

Memo

Copies forwarded to Major Bowen R.E.
Assistant Superintending Engineer of Mysore
for information.

J. Johnson Colonel
Secretary to the Chief Commr. of Mysore
P.W. Dept.

End. Nil

PW Dy
4638/83

To

Colonel R. A. A. Sankey. C.B. R.E.

Chief Engineer & Secretary to Govt. P.W.D.

Sir.

I have the honor to submit for your favourable consideration and such action as you may deem desirable this my representation regarding my position in the Madras Public Works Department consequent on my transfer thereto on the 30th January 1882 from the Establishment under Local administrations.

2. At the time of my transfer I think I may say I stood first of the Executive Engineers, First Grade, on the classified List under Local administrations, and I had every reason to look forward to early promotion to the permanent staff of Superintending Engineers. As far back as the 14th March, 1876, I was promoted to — Superintending Engineer 3rd Grade, temporary

temporary rank in Mysore and held the same for over 3 years, a period during which the work and strain on the office consequent on the famine proved terribly severe. My services during that trying time were acknowledged by His Excellency the Viceroy. In May 1879 I reverted to Executive Engineer 1st grade, in consequence of reductions in the Mysore state, but subsequently again officiated as Superintending Engineer for periods of 3/2 months and 3/4 months respectively.

3. Obliged to take furlough in April 1881 for the benefit of my health, and anxious as to how my prospects might be affected by my absence I obtained through the Chief Commissioner from the Government of India the assurance that my position in the Department would not suffer thereby. Copies of the correspondence on this subject I put up. I had thus every reasonable prospect of permanent promotion to the Superintending Engineer class, when in January 1882 during my absence on furlough I was transferred to Madras in the Executive Engineer class. I respectfully submit that when this transfer was effected I ought to have been transferred in the Superintending Engineer class.

4. On my return from furlough I found myself on the Madras List in a necessarily junior position—Junior in general Departmental standing to several Executive Engineers of the same grade as myself, above all Junior to all in the claims which lengthened good service in the Presidency must be allowed to carry when promotion in the Presidency is being considered by Government. Under these circumstances I respectfully urge that my transfer, without having been promoted first to the Superintending Engineer class, must be considered to have operated unfavourably to my position and prospects.

5. I am aware that it is difficult for you to submit to Government any recommendation that will meet my case and at the

By Rec: 4638

the same time not militate unfairly against the other Madras officers of my standing. But it is not impossible, and I may be allowed to suggest that as in accordance with the terms of their letter No. 511 G.G. dated Fort William 8th March 1881 Foreign Department, generally, I might have been transferred by the Government of India in the permanent position of Superintending Engineer, 3rd Grade, they may be moved to allow me to be borne on the Madras List in that class and grade as a supernumerary, until I am absorbed, that is until the time comes round when in the ordinary course of things I would be promoted regularly in the Madras Department.

By Rec: 2.6.83
Encls 1.

I have the honor to be
Sir,
Your Most obedient Servant.

C. Bowen. Major R.E.

May/83

O.L.S. 27-5
Cir 25/5- R 29/5-

Mr Rs letter No 511. G.S.
G. 8th March 1881 contains
a distinct pledge that Major
Bowen's absence on furlough
would not operate to the
injury of his permanent
position in the P.W.D -
As previously this spring
home he had appointed
an Sup. 3rd Engineer for
grounds of three years
this good service had been
publicly recognized it is
almost certain that had
he not been obliged leave
the country on account
of his health he would have
been confirmed in that
grade - I think he has
a very good case and
that his claim should be
submitted favourable
consideration

26/5

Cir. 25/5- R 29/5-

For orders

The annexed letter from Major Cr: Bowen who is now Officiating as Dep. Chief Engineer which Major J Pennycuick is about on furlough shows that there is another serious case in which the legitimate expectations of an Officer in regard to promotion have been disappointed owing to the unduly slow promotion of Officers of the Madras P.W.D as compared with others in India

I have known Major Bowen since he entered I may say into the Dept. in 1864, he having till his late return on furlough been employed in Mysore, and so

to the his capacity and energy I have always had the highest opinion - As this Comt. however it is only necessary to refer to the annexed letter No 154/481 of the 10 Feb. 1881 from the Hyderabad Administration to the Secretary to G of I Foreign Department

The reply of the G of I is to the effect that Major Bowen's absence on furlough could not operate to the injury of his permanent position in the P W Dept

In his present letter Major Bowen states his belief that when transferred to the Madras Department he was placed first of the 1st Grade Executive Engineers on the amalgamated list of the three Administrations immediately under the Govt. of India

Owing to the fact of his having so frequently and for so many years officiated as Superintending Engineer the greatest credit to himself there can be no doubt - that ever this, and it does seem for the transfer to this Presidency he would have received his substantive promotion to Superintending Engineer 3rd Class

When transferred to this Department it was necessary to regulate Major Bowens position by the Claims of Officers in this Department of his own Standing, and grave injustice would have been done to a number of deserving Officers had he been placed at the

head of the 1st Grade
Executive Engineers —
On full consideration
it was decided to place
him 8th on the list between
Major Pennycuick* and
Lt. Col Ross Thompson
who had retired the
Lieutenant before him

But as will at once
be seen this is a totally
different position from
that which to all intents
and purposes was guaranteed
to him by the S of S in
the order quoted above

*) See Gradation List
Enumerator

There are two ways by which the guarantee
to him might at least in some measure be made
good without interfering with the rights of other
Officers of the Dept. — The one is that suggested
by Major Bowen himself viz that he should be
transferred in the substantive position of Lieut. Engineer
3 Class & retained in that position as supernumerary
till all his Seniors had received promotion when
he would resume his relative position — The other
is that without removing the grading he should be
allowed a personal allowance equivalent to the
difference of pay — Of the two the S of S, if according
to either, would almost certainly prefer the latter
alternative, and should the Government have no objection
the correspondence might be submitted with this Suggestion

Ch. Proceedings
Chief Engineer
Madras
24.5.83

B
From order

No 1541 W. P. W. Department.

Proceedings of the Madras Government,

Under date the 2nd June 1883.

Read the following:—

Letter from Major C. Bowen R.E. of Madras, May 1883.

Ordered that the
Government of India be
addressed.

(M.E. No 1542 Wdy 2nd June 1883)

To,

The Secretary to the
Government of India.
P. W. Department.

Sir,

I am directed to forward,
for the favorable consideration
of the Government of India,

the accompanying Correspon-
-dence regarding the depart-
-mental position of Major
C. Bowen R.E. It will be
observed that during his
service under the Mysore
Administration, Major Bowen
rose by successive stages
to the position of Supt.g
Engineer 3rd Class (temporary)
and that he had a
reasonable hope of confirmation
in this position when he was
obliged to take furlough
to Europe in April 1881.
During his absence on leave
Major Bowen was transferred
to the Madras P.W. Estabt.t
which he has joined as an
Executive Engineer 1st grade,
and in a position on the
list of Executive Engineers
of this Presidency relatively
such, that it will be some
years before he can Expect
to regain the grading which
he held on the graded list
of the mysore Administration.

2. Looking to the testimony
borne to Major Bowen's suc-
-cessful and meritorious career
by the Mysore Authorities,
and to the assurances given
by the Government of India
in their letter No. 311 G.G. dy
8th March 1881, Major Bowen
might not unreasonably have
Expected that he would be
transferred to the Madras
Presidency in the position of
Superintending Engineer 3rd
Class.

3. However much His Excellency the Governor in Council would under other circumstances have been willing to recive him in this position, as supernumerary to the sanctioned scale until absorbed, he feels himself precluded from proposing this course as it would have the practical effect of superseding several most deserving officers who are Major Bowen's seniors in this Department, but if the grant of a personal allowance equivalent to the difference of pay be admissible, this Government will be quite prepared

to meet the charge.

4. Convinced that Major Bowen's case is deserving of special consideration, His Excellency the Governor in Council would be glad to see it suitably recognized.

31/5/83

Read with other papers & letter from the Registrar Govt re Major Bowens letter to Council

7/8/83

E.E.D.

R.S.

Nos 15-41 Way 2-6-83
1542

CH 7/6

Jo 8/6 Sostd. die Rechtsstr. Regn