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No 210 W dated 23rd Jan 1884
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C. J. ...

Entered in ...

6. I am to request that after careful consideration it may be reported whether in His Excellency's opinion there will be any difficulty in carrying out the above proposals; and if not, how many Engineers could be placed at the disposal of the Government of India by appointing upper subordinates to carry on their duties. On the receipt of such information the Government of India would be in a position to call for the services of the officers indicated, as from time to time they were required.

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(Here enter No. 211 W., dated 23rd January 1884.)

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. SHAW-STEWART, Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Govt., P.W.D.

To the Examiner, Public Works Accounts.
„ Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

ENDORSEMENT—dated 23rd January 1884, No. 211 W., Public Works.

Copy of the above forwarded to the Government of India with advertence to their letter, dated 8th January 1884, No. 87 G.

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GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following letter from G. H. W. WALKER, Esq., Officiating Under Secretary to the Government of India, Public Works Department (General), to the Secretary to the Government of Madras, Public Works Department, dated Fort William, 8th January 1884, No. 37 G. :—

The large impetus which has recently been given to the operations of the Public Works Department by the sanction of several new projects, especially railways, and by the necessity which has arisen for numerous surveys with a view to railway extensions adequate to the rapidly developing needs of the country, has rendered the prompt enlargement of the staff of Engineers and Assistant Engineers a matter of obvious and paramount necessity.

2. This enlargement has, to a limited extent, been obtained by the temporary entertainment of outsiders, but this source of supply is neither adequate nor altogether satisfactory. With a view to meeting the difficulty, the desirability of appointing upper subordinates as temporary Engineers was explained in Public Works Department Resolution No. 1146 G., dated 23rd August 1883, and recommendations were asked for on behalf of upper subordinates fitted for these appointments. A number of these recommendations have been received, and the manner of utilising the services of the subordinates so recommended to the best advantage has been under consideration.

3. It occurs to the Government of India that it would be better, in the first instance at any rate, to utilise these subordinates on the duties of Engineers within their own provinces, or on the works to which they have been accustomed, instead of transferring them to a new sphere of duties. This would be secured by appointing them temporary Engineers to carry on the duties now performed by the Engineers of the permanent establishment, the latter becoming by this means available for transfer to new works, especially railways, for which Engineers are at present much required.

4. The principal difficulty in carrying out this proposal would, it is thought, be in providing men to carry on the duties of the upper subordinates selected for such promotion. This might, however, be met by bringing forward the second rank of good upper subordinates to fill the places of the first rank of selected men, their places being again filled by the best lower subordinates, who would be temporarily promoted to the upper subordinate class, the places of these lower subordinates being filled by temporary appointments.

5. The effect, so far as promotion is concerned, I am to explain, would be as follows. The permanent upper subordinate would become a temporary Engineer on higher pay than he at present draws, to be sanctioned in each case by the Government of India on the recommendation of the local Government. Substantive *pro tempore* promotions from grade to grade would then be made for the subordinate promoted. The Engineers deputed to other works would continue to draw the pay of their grades, but would receive the advantage of any permanent or temporary promotion to which they might become eligible on their own lists while on deputation. No promotions would be made in the permanent Engineer establishment in consequence of their deputation.

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