

4. D. Mybrow Esquire  
Superintending Engineer  
It is to be noted

429 / Lino /

L. J. Usher Esquire  
Executive Engineer  
Godavari District D<sup>o</sup>

A. A. Moss Engineer  
Assistant Engineer  
Head Works Sule Dr.

$\frac{100}{31/5793}$

S. Parnassia neidiger  
Ancient Superintendant

Most Honored Sir,

I most respectfully  
and humbly beg your honor to transmit  
the enclosed Memorial to the Govt for  
its favorable Consideration with your  
kind recommendation.

I beg to remain

Most Honored Sir

your most obedt Son

ನಂದಿರೇಶ್ವರನು ರಾಜ್ಯವು

Dowlatabad

20<sup>th</sup> May 1893

14.6.93

To

The Secretary to the Government  
of Madras Public Works Department

Humble memorial of Na direo. Veekata-  
ancient house of the Godavari Eastern Du  
on whom notice has been served under G.  
O. No 840 dated 28-3-93, stating that his  
services will be dispensed with at the expi-  
-ration of three months from the date  
of notice.

Most Honored Sir,

With due deference and  
profound submission, the memorialist  
prays the Govt that the following few lines  
may be taken into its kind consideration.

The first thing that the memorialist  
would bring to the notice of the Govt is that  
no new rule has ever been enforced in  
the British Govt with retrospective effect,  
except that the rule has been brought into  
operation from the date of its origin. In  
the case of Govt's humble memorialist,  
his services being under twenty years  
are ordered to be dispensed with as per G.  
O. No 840 dated 28-3-93. Evidently  
the rule originated in the aforesaid

G.O. of March 1893 has affected the services of Govt's poor servants of 20 years standing in the department. The object of the Govt in doing so, is perhaps to preserve economy without undergoing expenses for affording pensions to those that survived after completing 30 years service, overcoming innumerable hardships & accidents to lives (irrespective of natural and domestic life struggles) in the due performance of the duties of ancient lascars who are required:—

- (a) Sometimes to swim with express letters one or two branches of the river Godavary at night during flood time in cases of emergency.
- (b) To convey tappals regularly by means of a small man or row-boat, even when the river is in its highest flood and all traffic by Rahadari boats or dhonies is altogether stopped for fear of getting them drowned.
- (c) To put ancient planks, for preserving water for second crop cultivation, over the ancient crest when 1' to 2' of water is passing over it and when it is too slippery to pass, owing to the growth of moss, over it (one slip

or slip of foot makes a man fall down and smash his head into pieces by carrying him along the whirling currents below the ancient, none but experienced men who have been accustomed can put ancient planks to prevent water being wasted)

- (d) To work with the gearings of the undersluices in some parts of the year both day and night according to the state of water in the river (sometimes in working the gearings during the high freshes putting some ancient planks over the parapet walls of the undersluices there is every chance of men being slipped into the water above undersluices by accident not knowing the position of the ancient planks placed beneath their feet owing to there being 3' or 4' of water over the parapet walls; none but experienced lascars can either raise or lower shutters of the undersluices at Dowlaishewar and Bahadurkankar & Vijeshwar)
- (e) To carry large apron stones from one place to another and to do such other difficult works during the whole scorching day of the working (summer) season notwithstanding watching at night materials (lime & surki) tools, the river embankments and banks (infested with ebras) during

the times of flood and in the rainy season. What daily laborers or temporary men can be entrusted with the above works of responsibility and what relevance can officers and subordinates keep on them and what will be the punishment in case of neglect of duty of their (daily laborers) part?

The memorialist would bring to the special notice of the Govt, the differences between servants who are bound by service reckonable towards pension and others who have no such binding.

(f) To accompany the Delta Supt<sup>th</sup> attached to the Sd Works, sub D<sup>o</sup> for river survey work in surveying banks and sand-shoals four miles below and four miles above the four branches of the ancient bearing scientific instruments in the searching sun over them and burning sand beneath their feet (if a levelling bow is slipped down the head of a lascar for his either getting too much fatigued by sun-stroke or, by accident then there with end the lascars services and for fear of this he is more careful towards the instrument than to his own life, but please consider the case of a daily laborer or a temporary

servant chargeable to work, nothing can be done but confiscating the wages of the laborer viz as 3 or 4 or whatever he gets for that day)

(g) To row boats measuring distances in the river & taking soundings after field work of river-chart survey is over (None but experienced lascars can be employed in measuring distances over water)

2. Besides the duties enumerated from (a) to (g) under para 1, which form the ordinary daily work of ancient lascars the following extraordinary works have been undertaken by them.

(a) During the working season of May 1889 a big hole was found beneath the Aladulur ancient. Officers and subordinates attempted to penetrate into it and inspect the bottom of it but did not succeed not because the hole was not sufficiently large to hold men, but because it was too dark and heat was very immense, there was not good air to breathe in; light was created by reflection of large glasses into the hole; no daily laborer ventured to enter into the hole.

At this time the anicut lasears were ordered to enter into the hole and to fill it up from its very bottom. They did the work very satisfactorily and won the favor of the superintending the Eses: Engrs & the Asst Engrs of the time to whom the Govt may make reference and obtain the truth of matter as they form the eyewitnesses of the fact.

(4) During the time of the construction of Babberlanka Head-Sluiceway in 1798, Dowlaishuram Hd Lock in 1886-87, Babberlanka Hd Lock in 1889-90 and Vijeshuram Hd Lock 1891-92, daily laborers did not offer themselves to dive into the wells sunk and for pile driving work. Though it was a very difficult task especially diving into wells and sinking them yet the anicut lasears were considered as so many giants that can undertake the work & accordingly it was got done by them. W. B. Downton Esq. will bear testimony to the hazardous work played by anicut lasears when the Babberlanka Hd Sluiceway was washed away in the year 1878. A reference to J. S. Lohmers Esq. Esq. the present

Esq. Engr in the Rushkulia D. will clear the doubts of Govt if any, in the case of work done by them to Dowlaishuram Hd Lock.

(3) Both the above facts stated in (a) and (b) under para 2, will, they believe, convince the Govt in so far that they have undertaken the above works even at the risk of their lives. Such has been the hard labor with which they have been entrusted and such is the ultimate benefit they derive of it viz the reduction of their posts into posts chargeable to work which carry no pensions with them.

4. Fully anticipating that they will enjoy the golden rule of the British Govt and get pensions in their old age some of the lasears who have had landed property have disposed it of, but they may be transferred to <sup>some</sup> other places far off their native land; they also disposed of their cattle which most of them had been unable to look after them while attending to the onerous duties of their public service both day and night. If they intend to return to their former profession, viz, cultivating their land they are now destitute of both land and cattle. When they are reduced to such a poor

state of life as this, they have been reduced  
to work establishment to their great  
misfortune.

(5) Had this reduction been effected when the railway work was commenced in the Godamoni district, the memorialist would have at least earned six paise from 4 to 6 annas a day (for only day time & not for night work), seeing that the local rates of wages of daily laborers in force are greater than what he gets six paise a day (i.e. 10 paise).

for a month both for day and night work and finding that the ancient lascars in the Kustnow district draw Rs 6, 7 & 8 per mensem, the Govt's poor memorialist continued -plated of sending a memorial to the Govt for raising his salary to the corresponding grade of local rates but believing that the scale of rates established once for all will not be revised without his undergoing much trouble he did not submit the memorial. He now very deeply regrets for the necessity of his having had to present this memorial to keep him even in the same state he has been in for the last 20 years. He most submissively requests the Govt to contrast the

the differences between laborers whose wages are charged to works by day and servants who are bound (in fact fettered) by service binding.

(6) The Government may then question why the several advantages opened to daily laborers may not now be enjoyed by the permanent ancient lascars as they have now been reduced to work establishments; for this they have to reply that their loyal adherence to the department for the last 20 years setting up their land and cattle receiving small salaries viz Rs 5 & 6 per mensem, for both day and night work, would not keep them justified receiving three months notice in spite of their hard labors in connection with river business even at the risk of their lives as enumerated in the foregoing paras.

(7) To <sup>be</sup> sent to think of the economy of Govern-  
ment alluded to in the sentence above  
(a) under para 1 in which Govt's servants  
have some interest, they believe it is no  
economy when Govt undertakes to pay  
temporary men both for day & night  
work for it amounts to more than the  
principal of the amount to be afforded  
for pensions as well as interest on it.

