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No. 478.

Office of the Consulting Architect to Govt.
Chepauk, Madras.
4th May 1895.

From

Henry Irwin, Esq., C.I.E.,

Consulting Architect

to the Government of Madras,

To

The Chief Engineer and
Secretary to Government

P. W. Department, Madras.

Sir,

Enclosures.

I have the honor to state in
next January, 21st. I shall have attained
the age of 55 and will have to retire unless
I am granted an extension of service.
I am in good health and well able to
continue working and I have every desire
to be retained in my present appointment
for a further term and shall be extremely
grateful if the local Government
think it worth while applying for an
extension of the term of my employment.
In the first place my pension of Rs 6000
per annum will be wholly inadequate
for the support of myself and family
and if retired at 55 I must seek to
obtain employment so as to supply

my pension and I am anxious to ascertain at as early a date as possible whether the Government will be willing to extend the term of my employment or not, so that I may make arrangements.

In my case the circumstances are somewhat different from those of the majority of the officers of the Department.

I am on the Madras list getting my promotion *pari passu* with the other Superintending Engineers and in no way interfere with the promotion of others so that there would be no grievance created by my retention in this appointment. It carries no special or extra emolument with it and I receive only the pay of my grade.

The appointment can only be held by an officer of any rank or grade below that of a Chief Engineer.

My promotion has been stopped in consequence, and I have been deprived of further promotion when I attained my present rank 1st class Superintending Engineer, losing thereby not only my present pay but also my prospective pension. For instance when Colonel A. C. Smith R.E. officiated Chief Engineer, I applied to be promoted *pari passu* with him. I was refused

refused on the ground that my appointment could not be held by an officer of the rank of a Chief Engineer. Vide L.O.M. 1075 W. dated 18 April 1891.

The Government of India and the Secretary of state may be disposed to consider the above and grant an extension if the Government of Madras considered my services are of sufficient value to recommend me for it. It is not for me to say whether my services are of sufficient value or not but I am very much interested in my work and have endeavoured to carry it out to the satisfaction of Government.

I have the honor to be

Sir,

Yours most obedient servant

Henry Innes

Consulting Architect to Govt

Public Works Department.

From

THE CONSULTING ARCHITECT

TO THE GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS,

To

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

No. 478

Dated

4th } May 1895.

Received

No. of ENCLOSURES.

Subject.

Requesting to grant
an extension of service from
21st January 1896.

P. W. CURRENT No. 34

Decs: 6. 5. 95

Log 1308-9 W ay 1 June 1895 P. W. Dept. C 22 3460

Letter from the Consulting Architect to Govt. No. 478
dated 4th May 1895.

Note by the Chief Engineer
P. W. Dept.:

Submitted for the
consideration and orders
of Government.

2. The rule that an officer
should retire at the age
of 55 is an excellent one
and in ordinary cases it
would be most undesirable
to depart from it.

3. Mr. Irwin's case is
however an exceptional one;
in the first place, he being
extra to the regular establish-
ment of the Department
his retirement causes no
promotion and one of the
chief reasons, if not the
chief reason, for the main-
tenance of the 55 years rule
does not operate.

I entirely concur with all that is
said in this note, and I think we
should make out the best case we
possibly can for Mr. Irwin.

The fact of his holding a special
appointment has deterred him
from rising as he otherwise would
have done, wh. is very hard on him -
and considering the good work wh.
he has done here, & for the Govt.
of India (of wh. fact it would be
as well to remind them) I think
we may well press for the concession
alluded to in para 6.

Mr. Irwin is good for many
more years active service, as
we can personally testify.

W

12 May

I quite agree. It would be
a thousand pities if we
were to lose Mr. Irwin, for I
don't know how we could re-
place him - I should apply
for the extension of his service
until the age of 60, on such &
his health continuing good, as it

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For orders

Cs

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4. In the second place Mr. Irwin is a special list of a kind exceedingly rare; he possesses artistic taste and constructive skill to a degree which is very seldom found combined in one individual; ^{and} he knows the town of Madras and its requirements as well as that of the Presidency at large to an extent which no successor will know them for many years to come.

5. I am of opinion that the loss of his services to this Government would be a very serious one, and that the public interests would be well served by his retention for a considerable period. In the interests of the Dept. therefore I express the hope that Government will support his application

is now, for his promotion as proposed. He is worth good pay, which is more than can be said for everyone

MS
14/5/95
I agree
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for an extension of service.
6. In connection with this subject I would suggest for the consideration of Government whether the Government of India and the Secretary of State might not be moved to grant to Mr. Irwin the personal rank of Chief Engineer 2nd or 3rd class.

7. The terms of his appointment limit its tenure to officers below the rank of Chief Engineer, and for purposes of promotion Mr. Irwin was linked with Colonel A. Smith R.E. who retired last year; that officer had previous to his retirement officiated as Chief Engineer 2nd class, and it is certain that if Mr. Irwin had remained in the ordinary line of Departmental work he would have reached that rank before the

present time; both by
length of service and
professional as well as
personal qualifications
he is eminently fitted for it,
and the grant of this rank
would be no more than
a fitting acknowledgment
of the admirable service
which he has rendered
since his transfer to
Madras in 1889.

S

E.W.

Dota Command }
May 9. 1895 }

C No 3460

P. W. DEPARTMENT.

No. 1308-964, 1st June 1895

Read the following:—

Letter from the Cmsy Architect No. 478 d/4 May 1895.
Note by the Chief Engineer P.W.D. dated 9th.

FOR ORDERS.

note
For H.E.'s remarks vide
Chief Engineer's note.

Attention is invited
to Govt No. 1075 W of 18th April
1891 and No. 35 W of 10th
January 1893.

2. In the former a proposal
to grant Mr. Spwin the rank
of Chief Engineer while Col.
Smith was acting in the
same rank was negatived
on the ground of the terms
of his appointment, but it is
submitted that his present
additional service of more
than four years gives a
reasonable ground for a
revision of these terms.

3. In the second order a
proposal to appoint him to
act as a Chief Engineer
on the ordinary establishment
during Colonel Pennycook's

absence was negatived,
and for sufficient obvious
reasons; the present proposal
is to give him the personal
rank of Chief Engineer,
as was done to Colonel
Penycuik during his
employment in charge of the
Perry's Project.

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(1) The Hon. Mr. H. W. Bliss
(2) The Hon. Mr. H. W. Bliss
(3) The Hon. Mr. H. W. Bliss
FOR ORDERS.

Retention of Mr. Sparrow's
services

1895
No 1308W of 1 June 1895

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following

Letter from the Chief Architect No. 478 dated 4 May 1895
note by the Chief Engineer P.W.D. " 9th "
(in full)

His Excellency the
Governor in Council
fully concurs in the
opinions expressed by
the Chief Engineer.

2. The Government
of India will be addressed
upon the subject of the
retention of Mr. Sparrow's
services and of his
promotion to the rank of
Chief Engineer.

DESPATCHED
1-JUN.95
The C. E. to Govt

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No 1309 W. & 1st June 1895

The Secretary to the
Government of India,
Public Works Dept.

Sir,

I am directed to request that the sanction of the Secretary of State may be obtained to the retention of the services of Mr. H. Irwin, C.I.E., Consulting Architect to this Government, after the completion of his 55th year, which expires on the 21st January 1896, and to the grant to that officer of the rank of Chief Engineer 2nd Class from the 1st April of the present year.

2. Mr. Irwin was transferred to this Presidency

as Consulting Architect
in September 1889, and I
am to say that this Govt
cannot speak too highly
of the services which he
has since rendered;
his requirements both
as an Architect and
an engineer are of the
very highest order, and
he has obtained an
acquaintance with the
requirements of the
Presidency at large as
well as of the town of
Madras which would
render the loss of his
services an evil to be
seriously deplored.

3. This Government
fully admits the value
of the rule that an officer
in this Department should
retire at the age of 55,

and in ordinary cases
would be most unwilling
to propose any relaxation
of it, but Mr. Spavin's case
is exceptional; apart
from his high value as a
specialist the fact that
he is extra to the ordinary
establishment of the
Department and that
his retirement therefore
gives no promotion, is of
importance.

4. Mr. Spavin is in
excellent health and full
of vigour, and His
Excellency the Governor in
Council considers that it
would be to the advantage
of the public service
that his services should
be retained until he
has completed his sixtieth
year, subject of course

to his continuance in good health.

5. With regard to the proposal to grant to Mr. Irwin the rank of Chief Engineer 2^d class, I am to say that he was transferred to this Presidency on the understanding that he should be promoted in due course up to the rank of Capt. Engineer 1st class, but that in the opinion of this Government there are now sufficient grounds for a recommendation of this arrangement. The officer with whom Mr. Irwin was linked for purposes of promotion (Colonel A. C. Smith R.E.) retired from the service on 7th January 1894,

and had before his retirement officiated as Chief Engineer. It is almost certain that had Mr. Irwin remained in the ordinary line of the Department his talents and ability would have earned this rank for him before the present time, and it cannot be said that he has, up to the present, received ^{any} exceptional promotion on account of his appointment as Consulting Architect; the grant of the promotion now solicited would in the opinion of His Excellency the Governor in Council be no more than a fitting acknowledgment

of the excellent service
which Mr. Irwin has
rendered, not only to
this Government but
to the Government of
India before his transfer
to this Presidency.

6. Under these cir-
cumstances I am directed
to express the hope of this
Government that the
Government of India
will be able to support
the recommendations
now made.

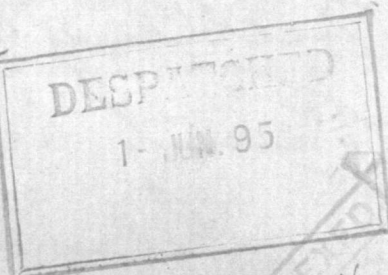
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18.4.91 .. 1075W
16.1.90 .. 111W
22.5.88 .. 1296W
18.11.89 .. 3266W

No. 1308-9W dyl June 95