

Public Works (1896) Department.

G.O., No. 3582-36

DATED 14 December

[Despatch Abstract.]

Hony: Lieut: and Dy: Secy to Commissioner A.C.
Lord: Ordered that the petition from — Asst
Engineer, Supernumerary, relative to certain
grievances under which he suffers in his posi-
tion as an Hony: Commissioned Officer, be
forwarded to the Govt of India.

Forwarded

I am directed to forward, for disposal, a petition from Henry Kent & Dy: Asst. Commr. A. C. Lord, Asst. Engr. Superintending, in the U. S. Dept of the Treasury, relative to certain provisions under which he suffers

in his position as an Honorary
Commissioned Officer, and
to state that as the
matters dealt with are
beyond the competence
of this Court, no remarks
by H.C. the Gov. in Council
can be called for -

C₁

8/12/96

Despatch with copy of
petition
15/12/96

9/1

By Asst. Asst. & Deputy Com.
missioners are not honorary
grades in Dept. at Home
or in Colonies, & in
para 4 he says that in
India they are Asst. &
are classed as Warrant
Officers, notwithstanding
the attached honours of
Lieut. & Capt.

What Mr. Lord
wants is that By. Asst.
Asst. & Deputy Commission
may be made puella
Commissioned grades, the
honorary title of Lieut.
& Capt. being attached
to them or at present -

The petition looks
as if it has been printed
to be filled in by all
Hon. Commissioned Officers of
the different depts. &
no doubt numbers of
the same have been
submitted by them in
the Ordnance Commission
and other depts.

C₁
15/12/96

6) Department.

Public Works (1896) Department.

CURRENT No. 11005

Order

From The Superintending Engineer,
Civil -
Madras.

No. 3784

Dated 1st December 1896

Received

Enclosures one petition in duplicate

Spare copies

SUBJECT.

Petition from ^{Mr} A. C. Lord,
Assistant Engineer,
Madras Public Works -

Forwards the -
explaining his grievances
owing to his anomalous
position in which he is
placed as an "Honorary Commis-
sioned officer"

11005

I do not understand
the petition from
3 years it contains
in claim 1 para 4

The first Mr. Lord is to be
that in this Commission
Report, on the 10th Jan.
1896

8/12/04

W
The gist of the petition
appears to be that by act,
act, & Deputy Commission
and under the Army
& Regt. classed as Warrant
officers with conductors &
Sub. Conductors, & that there-
fore, although one of the
first three grades receive
Honorary Commission rank
as Lieut. & Captain, they
are still looked upon
& treated as Subordinate.
In para 3. Mr. Lord
means that ~~the~~

20.11.94

71

To

His Excellency the Right Honourable
Victor Alexander Bruce,

EARL OF ELGIN AND KINCARDINE, P. C. J. L. D., G. M. S. J., G. M. J. F.

LORD BRUCE OF KINLOSS AND LORD BRUCE OF TORRY IN THE
KINGDOM OF SCOTLAND, AND BARON ELGIN IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.

Viceroy and Governor-General of India.

THE HUMBLE PETITION OF

AM Assistant Engineer
IN THE Madras Public Works
DEPARTMENT.

Most respectfully sheweth:

1. That your petitioner is at present an
Honorary Lieut. and Deputy
Assistant Commissary
in the Public Works Department
of the Indian Establishment of Her Majesty's
Indian Military Forces.

2. Your humble petitioner begs most respectfully to submit for the favourable consideration of your Lordship in Council, certain grievances under which he labors, owing to the anomalous position in which he is placed as an "Honorary" Commissioned Officer, both as regards his official and social status, and his relative position towards Officers in general in the hope that your Lordship will be pleased to enquire into and if possible remove the anomaly, now brought to notice.

3. Your humble petitioner would respectfully beg to bring to your Lordship's notice, that no such designation as "*Honorary*" Commissioned Officer exists in Her Majesty's Army, either at Home or in the Colonies, and neither is it acknowledged in the Royal Warrant for Pay and Promotion, nor are the holders thereof shewn in the Monthly War Office Army List.

4. Your humble petitioner most respectfully ventures to bring to your Lordship's notice that the Departmental "Honorary" Commissioned Grades of Deputy Commissary, Assistant Commissary, and Deputy Assistant Commissary, are still classed in Articles 854, 855 and 860-A, Army Regulations, India, Volume I, Part I, under the head, "Warrant Grades" notwithstanding that these said grades are those of "Honorary Commissioned Officers," vide Indian Army Circular No. 124 of 1886.

That on these grades the honorary ranks of Captain and Lieutenant respectively are conferred, vide Article 856, Army Regulations, India, Vol. I, Part I, which "Honorary Rank" in accordance with Queen's Regulations (1895) Section II, Para. 14, carries precedence with combatant Officers of the Army except for military command etc.; as therein defined.

That by writ of his Commission, Her Most Gracious Majesty, The Queen Empress has been pleased to grant him "Full Power and Authority, to have hold and enjoy your said 'Honorary Rank' accordingly together with 'all and singular the privileges thereunto belonging.' And We do hereby Command 'all Our Officers and Soldiers whom it may concern to acknowledge you as a Lieutenant 'as aforesaid.'"

5. Your humble petitioner respectfully begs to bring to your Lordship's notice that by virtue of his Departmental grading as a Deputy Assistant Commissary, he is acknowledged, treated, and officially addressed as a Subordinate, in conjunction with Warrant and Non-Commissioned Officers, Native Store-keepers, Agents, etc., and this Subordinate grading mars his official and social status in the estimation of Commissioned, Warrant, and Non-Commissioned Officers and Soldiers, and such Native Establishments as may be serving in his Department.

6. Your humble petitioner would venture to state that as an Officer, holding the honorary rank of Lieutenant, he is prohibited from associating with Warrant Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers and Soldiers, yet as an Honorary Commissioned Officer with the Departmental grading of Deputy Assistant Commissary, he is not acknowledged by Commissioned Officers in general and is thereby officially, and socially ostracized; so that the honor intended to be conferred by Her Most Gracious Majesty, The Queen Empress, in granting him the honorary rank of Lieutenant, (and subsequently that of Capt.) is frustrated by the anomalous position in which he is placed.

7. Your humble petitioner would most respectfully venture to suggest for your Lordship's

favourable consideration, that the anomaly represented would be removed by granting "bonâ-fide" Commissions, as Deputy Commissary, Assistant Commissary, or Deputy Assistant Commissary, with the honorary ranks of Captain and Lieutenant as at present, and thus abolish the designation "Honorary Commissioned Officers," placing these grades on equal footing with Officers holding similar rank (honorary), and status in the Departments of the Army in England and the Colonies, i. e., The Army Service Corps, Ordnance Store Corps, and Senior Assistant Surgeons of the Indian Subordinate Medical Department, who have recently had "bonâ-fide" Commissions conferred on them, vide Royal Warrant, dated 19th July 1890, promulgated in Indian Army Circular No. 150 of 1890, and Royal Warrant, dated 12th March 1894, promulgated in Indian Army Circular No. 63 of 1894. All of whom are shewn as Commissioned Officers in the War Office Army List.

8. In conclusion, your humble petitioner craves your Lordship's pardon for this intrusion and ventures to say that the anomaly may be removed without incurring extra expense to the State, and will be most gratefully acknowledged.

For whatever mark of favour and consideration, your Lordship may be pleased to bestow, your humble petitioner as in duty bound shall ever pray.

Alfred Leuit
Name.

Assistant Engineer
Designation.

Madras Public Works
Department.

V circle P.W.D.

From Lieut. A.C. Lord
Assistant Engineer
Cuddalore Sub Division
To the Superintending Engineer
V Circle, Madras
Thro' the Executive Engineer,
South Arcot Division

No 2358

Camp Cuddalore
Dated 23 November 1896

Sir,
I have the honour to enclose here
with a petition in duplicate, which I request
you will, if you see no objection to so doing,
forward, through the proper channel to His
Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General of
India.

I have etc.
(Signed) A.C. Lord Lieut
Asst Engineer.

No 884 S.E.

Forwarded

(Signed) J.S. Wilson
Executive Engineer.

No 378 W

Copy. To the Chief Engineer, Public
Works Department.

Enc. 1. Petition
in duplicate.

W. L. Gurnea
1/12/96 Lieut Col
Superintending Engineer V Circle

1896 20.11.96

