

Public Works (1897) Department.

G.O., No. 324-5 W

DATED 3. February 1897

[Despatch Abstract.]

From: Captain and Dy. Commissary J. Lalor, C.S.D.  
Enquiry: Ordered that the memorial from —  
Setting for R his grievances as an honorary Com-  
missioned Officer, be forwarded to the Govt. of India.

Forwarded.

7.6  
5/2/97.

# BACK PAPERS.

| G.O. | No. | Department. | Date. | G.O. | No. | Department. | Date. |
|------|-----|-------------|-------|------|-----|-------------|-------|
|      |     |             |       |      |     |             |       |

## FURTHER PAPERS.

| G.O. | No. | Department. | Date. | G.O. | No. | Department. | Date. |
|------|-----|-------------|-------|------|-----|-------------|-------|
|      |     |             |       |      |     |             |       |

# Public Works (1897) Department.

CURRENT No. 718

*Ms. 324*

Order No. 324 of 3.2.97

The memorial will be forwarded to the Govt of India - 26/12  
S.S. II class

Ms. 325 of 3<sup>rd</sup> July 1897

1. The Govt of India P.W.D.

Sir,

In continuation of my letter No. 3583 of 14<sup>th</sup> Dec 1896, I am directed to forward a memorial from Army Capt. & Dir. Commissary J. Lalor, Asst. Surg. Superintendent, in the P.W. Dept. of this Prov. setting forth his grievance as an Honorary Commissioned Officer -

*26/12 29/1/97*

*MS*

*copy 1.2.57*

From Major W.L.C. Baddley  
Supt. Engineer II Class

No. 435 B.C.

Dated 19 January 1897.

Received 21.1.97

Enclosures one in duplicate

Spare copies

## SUBJECT.

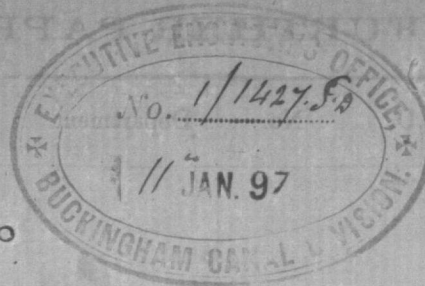
Memorial of Capt. J. Lalor to His Excellency the Governor General in Council bringing to notice the anomalous position of Honry. Commissioned Officer -  
Forwards -

*92*

*DW*

## FURTHER PAPERS.

| G.O. | No.       | Department. | Date.    |
|------|-----------|-------------|----------|
|      | 3582-8325 | P 2         | 14-12-96 |

[illegible]

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 John Lator  
A Subordinate  
IN THE Public Works  
DEPARTMENT.

Most respectfully sheweth:

1. That your petitioner is at present an  
Honorary Captain and Deputy  
Commissionary  
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.

John Lalo

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

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 *Captain* he is prohibited from associating with Warrant Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers and Soldiers, yet as an Honorary Commissioned Officer with the Departmental grading of *Assistant Engineer 2<sup>d</sup> grade* 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

John Lalor

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.

John Lalor, *Hon. Capt.*  
Name. Rank.

*Asst. Eng. 2<sup>d</sup> grade*  
Designation.

*Public Works*  
Department.

*4<sup>th</sup> January 1897*

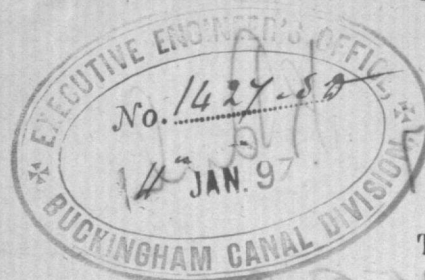
Northern SUB-DIVISION OFFICE,  
6<sup>th</sup> January 1897

No. 188

From

Captain J. Lalor  
THE OFFICER IN CHARGE,

Northern SUB-DIVISION,



To

The Executive Engineer  
Buckingham Canal Division

Enclosure. 2

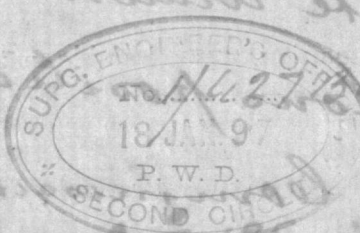
SIR,

In forwarding the enclosed petition in duplicate drawn up with a view to the anomalous position and status of "Honorary Commissioned Officers" of the Indian Establishment being brought to the notice of His Excellency the Governor General in Council, so that "bona fide" Commissions may be conferred on these grades and the designation "Honorary" removed. I have the honor to request you will be good enough to transmit the petition thro: the Supg Engineer & write for which I will feel very thankful.

Manager - Is this in correct form?  
is a printed petition permissible?

I have the honor to be,  
Sir,  
Your most obedt Servant  
J. Lalor - Captain  
Assistant Engineer

1/9 97 D Es.  
Lalor





7-16.  
Forwarded

15  
1997

435-3C Leizneri Ac.

19.1.97  
Forwarded

Wool Bonding

Major R.S.

Engineer

## II Circle

for which I will feel  
petition that the  
you will be good enough  
removed. It was the  
grades and the  
Commissioner  
General in Council, so that "have faith"  
is the matter of this  
of the Indian  
status of "Horse"  
at the time to the  
petition in duplicate  
in forwarding the enclosed  
The P. M.

Assistant Engineer  
 J. Lee  
 Port in not at present  
 of air & forward  
 have the boat  
 of long Commission