

1. Number of pages. 28
2. Date of repair. 4-1-37
3. Initials of Referencer.
M.R.O. 1-39,000-18-11-36

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	690	Press
		~~Mis~~
Dated	22-5-19	1869

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 181. Read the following letter from F. H. SHARP, Esq., Madras Civil Service, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Penconda, 30th April 1869.

I have the honour to address you on the following subject.

2. The Government have in repeated orders prohibited monetary dealings between Civilians and Indians resident in their jurisdiction. I regret to state that, when resident at Cumbum, Kurnool District, as Acting Head Assistant to the Collector and Magistrate of that district, I acted contrary to the letter of those orders in the following instances. But I would here record that my errors arose from heedlessness or ignorance, and not from any wilful intention to disobey the orders of Government; and that my conduct was free from any corrupt motive or from any desire to obtain any improper pecuniary advantage from my official position.

3. Some time in July—November 1865, a large party of police marched into Cumbum on their return from duty at some distant station, and represented to the Assistant Superintendent of Police and myself that they were totally destitute of money wherewith to purchase provisions, &c., on the remaining part of their march (nearly 100 miles) to their head-quarters. As it was undoubtedly inadvisable that a large body of Government servants should be marching about the country without money for their daily food, and as a sum of one hundred rupees appeared to be necessary to them, I borrowed that sum from one Bhowanassi Gurumurti, a wealthy and independent merchant resident at Bestarapett, a village about a mile from my head-quarters, and advanced the money to the police, informing their District Superintendent thereof. That Officer shortly afterwards entrusted the amount to a person travelling up to Cumbum to hand over to me. But that person found it necessary to spend some of the money on his journey, and handed none of it over to me, paying the Soucar direct a short time afterwards, whether with interest or not I do not know.

4. Some time in April or May 1866, as the pay of my office did not arrive at the usual time, and I was going out into the district, I borrowed five hundred rupees from the same Soucar, repaying the amount without interest a few days afterwards.

5. In June or July 1866, on being emergently summoned into Kurnool on Government business, I borrowed from the same lender, I think, one hundred rupees, which was also repaid shortly afterwards, *i. e.*, within a few days, or a week or two.

6. In November or December 1866, I, on a pressing demi-official emergency, which admitted of no delay, paid one hundred and fifty rupees to the same Soucar, and obtained from him a hoondie payable in Madras for six hundred and fifty rupees. The balance of five hundred rupees I repaid two or three months afterwards. I endeavoured to obtain from the Soucar an account of the cost of the loan; but, failing to do so, remitted to him fifty rupees, if I remember right, beyond his dues.

7. I made another attempt recently to obtain from the Soucar an account of my monetary transactions with him, but failed to do so. I have, therefore, to trust to my memory in laying these details before you.

8. All the above loans were made without interest, without the taking from me of any bond or receipt, and on verbal messages sent through the subordinate

those orders in the following in-

officials about me. At the same time they were contracted without any corrupt motive or sense of obligation on my side, with the utmost publicity, and without a thought, to the best of my memory, of any impropriety in them. And if I was not entirely ignorant of any Government orders on the subject, I probably thought such to be obsolete and unnecessary at the time alluded to.

9. And I may add that, to the best of my belief, no one in Cumbum saw any impropriety in these matters, and that Bhowanassi Gurumurti had no thoughts of placing me under any obligation to him, that he probably considered it in the light of an honour to lend to me, and that from this motive he refused to take any interest.

10. At the same time, while attempting to record motives as well as acts in this matter, the impropriety of my conduct has long since forced itself upon me; and I have felt that, whether conscious or ignorant of Government orders on the subject, a sense of what was due to my official position, and of the duty of guarding against even the appearance of compromising myself, ought to have made me careful to avoid any pecuniary obligation to those around me.

11. But I would respectfully ask the Government to take into consideration, in reviewing this matter, that at the time at which these transactions occurred, I was inexperienced as to the duties and responsibilities of Revenue Officers, that I had been recently transferred from the post of Assistant to the Collector of Trichinopoly, where, as a resident in a large station, I had no experience of official influence.

12. While, as stated above, a sense of the impropriety of my conduct has long since forced itself upon me, I have refrained from bringing it to notice, arguing with myself that the absence of any improper motive on my part excused me from blame. But I now consider that this is a subject of which Government, and not I, should judge.

13. As this is a matter which concerns me personally with Government, I take the liberty of addressing you direct on the subject.

No. 182. ORDER THEREON, 22nd May 1869, No. 690.

In the letter above recorded, Mr. Sharp, the Acting Sub-Collector of Bellary, reports to Government the fact that on two occasions, when he was Acting Head Assistant in the Kurnool District, he borrowed on his own private account money from a Native Soucar resident within his jurisdiction. These loans, amounting to Rupees 100 and Rupees 500, were repaid by Mr. Sharp with a sum of 50 Rupees as interest very shortly after they were contracted.

2. In borrowing money in the manner described, Mr. Sharp violated a most important standing order of the Government, with which Mr. Sharp, as are all Civilians on entering the Government Service, was made acquainted.

3. The Government are unable, therefore, to admit that Mr. Sharp, in borrowing this money, acted in ignorance of this standing order; but they recognize with satisfaction the candour with which Mr. Sharp has of his own accord acquainted the Government with his transgression of the rule, and are satisfied that he had no unworthy motive or intention in the transactions which he has reported to Government.

4. They deem it, however, necessary to mark their disapprobation of Mr. Sharp's conduct on this occasion, and the importance which they attach to the strict observance by all public officers of the rule published in Extract Minutes of Consultation dated 23rd May 1856, by removing Mr. Sharp from his present appointment as Acting Sub-Collector of Bellary.

5. Mr. Sharp will be appointed as Head Assistant of the Salem District, it not being desirable to allow him to revert to his substantive appointment as Head Assistant in the Kurnool District.

(True Extract).

R. S. ELLIS,
Chief Secretary.

To F. H. Sharp, Esq.

To the Collector of

„ Civil and Session Judge of

„ Judge of the Court of Small Causes at

„ Revenue Department.

Exd. A. S. Rodgers.

those orders in the following in-

Pencondan
Bellary District,
30th ~~29~~ April, 1867.

To The Chief Secretary to Government,
Fort St. George.

Lin

I have the honor to address
you on the following subject.

2. The Government have repeated orders prohibited us
any dealing between civilians
and Indians resident in their
jurisdiction. I regret to state
that when resident at Cumbur
Kannool District, as acting Head
Assistant to the Collector and
Magistrate of that District,
I acted contrary to the letter of
those orders in the following in-

0000000000

00000000

W. L. GILLES, INC.

Robert Dwyer, Esq.

5

C. O., and May 1889, No. 690

[illegible][illegible][illegible]

stances. But I would here record that my errors arose from heedlessness or ignorance and not from any wilful intention to ~~disobey~~ ^{disobey} the orders of Government; and that my conduct was free from any corrupt motive or from any desire to obtain any improper pecuniary advantage from my official position.

3 Sometime in July—November, 1865, a large party of police marched into Cumbum on their return from duty at some distant station, and represented to the Assistant Superintendent of Police and myself that they were totally destitute of money wherewith to purchase provisions &c. on the remaining part of their march (nearly 100 miles)

to their headquarters. As it was undoubtedly inadvisable that a large body of Government servants should be marching about the country without money for their daily food, and as a sum of one hundred rupees appeared to be necessary to them, I borrowed that sum from one Bhownassaji Jummanti, a wealthy and independent merchant resident at Bestarapett, a village about a mile from my headquarters, and advanced the money to the police, informing their District Superintendent thereof. That officer shortly afterwards entrusted the amount to a person travelling up to Cumbum, to hand over to me. But that person found it necessary

to spend some of the money on his journey; and handed none of it over to me, paying the sowcar direct a short time afterwards, whether with interest or not, I do not know.

4. Sometime in April or May, 1866, as the pay of my office did not arrive at the usual time, and I was going out into the district, I borrowed five hundred rupees from the same sowcar, repaying the amount without interest a few days afterwards.

5. In June or July, 1866, on being ~~em-~~mergently summoned into Kurnool on government business, I borrowed from the same lender, I think, one hundred rupees, which was also repaid shortly afterwards, i.e., within a few days or a week

or two.

6. In November or December, 1866, on a pressing semi-official emergency, which admitted of no delay,

I paid one hundred and fifty rupees to the same sowcar, and obtained from him a hundee payable in maddas for six hundred and fifty rupees. The balance of five

hundred rupees, I repaid ^{afterwards} two or three months. I endeavoured to obtain from the sowcar an account of the cost of the loan, but failing to do so, lent to him fifty rupees, if I remember right, beyond his due.

7. I made another attempt recently to obtain from the sowcar an account of my monetary transaction

tions with him, but failed to do so. I have therefore to trust to my memory in laying these details before you.

8. All the above loans were made without interest, without the taking from me of any bond or receipt, and on verbal messages sent through the subordinate officials about me. At the same time they were contracted without any corrupt motive or sense of obligation on my side, both the utmost publicity, and without a thought, the least of my memory, of any impropriety in them. And if I was not entirely ignorant of any Government orders on the subject, I probably thought such to be

as obsolete and unnecessary at the time alluded to.

9. And it may add that to the best of my belief no one in Cumbrun saw any impropriety in these matters, and that Bhawanassipruxumanti had no thoughts of placing me under any obligation to him, that he probably considered it in the light of an honour to lend to me, and that from this motive he refused to take any interest.

10. At the same time, while attempting to record motives as well as acts in this matter, the impropriety of my conduct has long since forced itself upon me, and I have felt that whether conscious or ignorant of

age station, I had had no experience of official influence.

2. While, as stated above, a sense of the impropriety of my conduct has long since forced itself upon me, I have refrained from bringing it to notice, saying within myself that the absence of any improper motive on my part excused me from blame.

But I now consider that this is a subject of which Government, and not I, should judge.

As this is a matter which concerns me personally with Government, I take the liberty of addressing you direct on the subject.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,
F. H. Sharp C.S.

Government orders on the subject, a sense of what was due to my official position, and of the duty of guarding against even the appearance of compromising myself, ought to have made me careful to avoid any pecuniary obligation to those around me.

11. But I would respectfully ask the Government to take into consideration, in reviewing this matter, that at the time at which these transactions occurred, I was inexperienced as to the duties and responsibilities of Revenue officers, that I had been recently transferred from the post of Assistant to the Collector of Indrapur, whereas a resident in a

After reading the paper in
the story, and I have substantially
come to the conclusion that it
is the duty of the Government
not only to administer to the
Thompson a more vigorous
for his handwriting of a well-known
and important note, but to
work to ease of the misperception
of his conduct by transferring him
to a more appropriate than that
at present held by him. As
they are removed from his
appointment and was placed
out of sympathy for several
months. Taking into consideration
the Thompson's past & comparative
inexperience since he looks
through the note in question,
it will perhaps be sufficient
to remove him from his appointment
as acting sub-Master and
transfer him to a more important
ship in some other District than
nowhere where may

Public 1869 Sept
Date 30 April, 1869.
New York May 1869.

From

F. H. Sharp, Esq.

C.S.

To

The Chief Secretary
to Government

Fort St. George.

1300 Sept
1869 May 1869

Bringing to notice

Certain necessary

in connection of the

waters' when 1869.

and at Government

Government District

Copy 1869
All 1821

Removal.

I do not think that any help
would be given of the charges
transcriptions will meet the
requirements of the case.

Having read the record of the story case,
I concur in the view taken
of this minor matter by
Mr. Arkhurst - WDH

I will speak about it in
Council. AD

more money may

(13)

Young

of the transactions reported
by Mr. Sharpe in this letter
the loans A. & B. though
irregular were really for a
public purpose.

Loans C. & D were for his
own private convenience &
there can be no doubt that
in borrowing from a source
at his own station Mr.

Sharpe has violated an
important standing order
of the Govt.

His letter is however a
very honest confession of
his irregularity and I ~~have~~
submit that Govt may

give him credit for
having acted thought-
lessly & perhaps ignorantly
and that it will be
sufficient to point out
to him the grave error
he has committed and
to state that the Govt.
will not in the present
instance take the serious
notice of his irregularity
which they would have
been obliged to ^{take} ~~give~~
had they not believed
that Mr. Sharp was
imperfectly acquainted

would say.

The Govt. appreciate
the motives which have
induced Mr. Sharp
to enter the pecuniary
transactions which
occurred between a
Latin Money lender
and himself at an
earlier period of
his service. They
acquaint Mr. Sharp
of any improper
motives in the
affairs referred to
and while they

feel themselves
unstrained to record
their judgment that
the conduct of Mr.
Sharp was not
consistent with
the regulations of
Govt. They are
satisfied that
the mature judgment
and better knowledge
of Mr. Sharp will
effectually protect
him against the
repetition of such
irregularities in
future.

with the orders of Govt, and
were they not convinced
that he had not unworthy
motive or intention in
the transactions which
he has himself with
becoming candour
reported to the Govt.
R.H.

I think that the language of
the order ought to be a little
more force than that proposed
by H & the former. Every
friction or annoyance is prohibited
with an order prohibiting him
from borrowing money from natives

Public Department.

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following letter from Mr

F.R. Sharp,

Order thereon No 690. d/22nd May/89.

In the letter above recorded Mr Sharp the Acting Sub Collector of Bellary reports to Government the fact that on two occasions when he was acting Head Assistant in the Tumkur District he borrowed on his own private account, money from a Native Soncar resident within his

W.M.

N.

W.M.

in his British and
his sharp was found
to have been under in
mind. he has been to
think he was. As it
might be seen from
agreement to him that
a native merchant would
not be likely to lend him
money without interest
being anticipated by some
other motive.

If we doubt upon and
his sharp with some thing
we shall lay ourselves out
to the annihilation of the
Govt. of India who are
certain to notice these
proceedings. When the
papers are re-issued the
correspondence in the case of
the story and then the various
other in the subject of borrowing
money from natives should be
put up. his story reported that
he had done a was surprised
to hear this. A.A.

According to the principles of legal justice
he ought not to be punished for these words - but
as we have no opinion as to whether he has seen the papers
in Mr. Sharp's case - W.M.

The way to the
Secretary - General
in Presidency. R.

The order of Govt.
against borrowing money from
natives are so clear and unambiguous
that we feel in Mr. Sharp's case
the case is clear when formally
confronted with his plea of
semi-ignorance. I feel
doubtful whether

his jurisdiction. These loans amounting to Rs 100 and Rs 500 were repaid by Mr Sharp with a sum of 50 Rs as interest very shortly after they were contracted.

In borrowing money in the manner described, Mr Sharp violated a most important standing order of the Government with which Mr Sharp as one all Civilians on entering the Govt Service was made acquainted.

The Government are unable therefore to admit that Mr Sharp in borrowing this money ~~was~~ acted in ignorance of ~~this~~

this Standing Order but they recognize with satisfaction the candour with which Mr Sharp has of his own accord acquainted the Govt with his transgression of the Rule and are satisfied that he had no unworthy motive or intention in the transactions which he has reported to Govt.

They deem it however necessary to mark their disapprobation of Mr Sharp's conduct on this occasion, and the importance which they attach to the strict observance by all public officers of the rule published in E.P.O. of 23rd May 1856, by removing Mr Sharp from his present appointment as Asst Sub Collector of Bellary.

Mr Sharp may be appointed as Head Typist of

leave after com. or leave about done

of the Salem District,
 it not being desirable
 to allow him to revert
 to his substantive ap-
 pointment as Head Upst^r
 in the Vermont District.

13-9-91

Cont. of 1186 } **Quarant.**

Public

To
 J. H. Sharp Esq.

Dated May 22 } 1869 No. 699
 Recd.

Nos. 131-182

Respecting Mr. J. H. Sharp, Esq.
 and Collector in the Vermont
 Dist. on his confession of
 having violated a most
 important standing order
 of Gov. from his present
 appointment to that of
 Head Upst. of the Salem
 District.

J. H. Sharp Esq. disp 22/5
 To the Collectors of all Dist^s disp 24/5
 Civil and Criminal Judges of all Dist^s disp 24/5
 all Dist^s including Com. & J. P.
 Judges of the Court of Sessions - disp 24/5
 Revenue Department. disp 27/5

15

c 18 May
 122 "

121
 c 12 "

been
 after
 com^d
 since
 since
 done