M.R. O. 1—39,000—16-10-29.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 2761 Press ~~Mis.~~

31-32
Dated 2-11- 19 1868

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
2nd November 1868.

No. 31. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Military Department :—

Communicating to the Commander-in-Chief papers respecting the admission of certain Officers of the General List to the Staff Corps. } (Here enter 13th October 1868, No. 4,026A.)

No. 32. ORDER THEREON, 2nd November 1868, No. 2,761.

Miscellaneous.

Communicated to the Board of Revenue, Director of Revenue Settlement, Superintendent of Revenue Survey, and Conservator of Forests.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) H. SEWELL,
Acting Under Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue,
,, the Director of Revenue Settlement,
,, the Superintendent of Revenue Survey,
,, the Conservator of Forests,
} With Proceedings Military Department, No. 4,026A.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

Govt. of Madras

REVENUE.

To

THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

&c., &c., &c.

Dated November, 2nd.

Recd.

Encl.

G. O., 2nd November 1868, No. 2,761.

NOVEMBER.

Nos. 31-32.

Admission of Officers to the Staff Corps.—Order in the Military Department on this subject, communicated to departments concerned.

MILITARY DEPARTMENT.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following papers :—

Military despatch from the Right Honorable the Secretary of State for India, India Office, London, 31st August 1868, No. 88; to His Excellency the Right Honorable the Governor in Council, Fort Saint George.

Para. 1. With reference to the letters from your Lordship, dated the 16th and 30th of April last, Nos. 106 and 129, respecting the admission of certain Officers of the General List to the Staff Corps, I forward a copy of a despatch to the Government of India, dated the 30th June last, No. 228, from which you will observe that I have consented to the admission of Officers who have practically passed a year's probation by service in a staff appointment, to the Staff Corps, without further probation, on the understanding that the requisite certificates are produced, and that the admission dates from the General Order appointing them thereto, subject to the approval of Her Majesty's Government.

2. In accordance with this decision, the names of the undermentioned Officers will be submitted to Her Majesty, for admission to the Staff Corps in your Presidency, from the dates specified :—

Lieutenant	C. Walker,	General List, Infantry,	July 30th, 1867.
,,	F. Hole,	,, ,,	July 31st, 1866.
,,	T. R. Byng,	,, ,,	November 30th, 1866.
,,	W. M. Robinson,	,, ,,	January 15th, 1867.
,,	F. H. Mathias,	,, ,,	February 1st, 1867.

3. The name of Ensign A. McCally, of the 102nd Foot, will also be submitted to Her Majesty for appointment to the Staff Corps, and promotion to the rank of Lieutenant, from the 4th of September 1866, the date on which he had completed three years' duty with a regiment, of which two had been passed in India, and had, therefore, become eligible for appointment as a probationer for the Staff Corps. His nomination as a probationer on the 19th of April 1866, appears to have been erroneous.

4. Lieutenant S. L. Hunt, of the Infantry General List, is eligible, under the despatch above mentioned, for appointment to the Staff Corps from the date of his completing a year's probationary service in a Staff appointment, namely, the 16th of January 1868; and, on his being appointed in General Orders, subject to the confirmation of Her Majesty's Government, his name will be submitted to Her Majesty for transfer to the Staff Corps.

Military despatch from the Right Honorable the Secretary of State for India, India Office, London, 30th June 1868, No 228; to His Excellency the Right Honorable the Governor General of India in Council.

Para. 1. I have considered in Council your Excellency's Military letter, No. 166, dated 27th April 1868, stating your views, with reference to my despatch, No. 94, dated the 19th March
as to requiring General List and other Officers of the old Indian Army to undergo a period
n before they are admitted to the Staff Corps.
that despatch I observed that, "although Officers of the General List are, as observed
gible to hold Staff appointments without joining the Staff Corps, I cannot consent to
relieved, on their applying to join it, from any of the conditions of admission imposed
ulations," upon this you remark, that "to require Officers who have passed every
amination, and who have already served perhaps for some years in their appointments,
e to do so for a year longer, after submitting their applications for the Staff Corps, in
t it may be ascertained whether they are fit for them, could never, of course, have
ntention of Her Majesty's Government."

2. It appears to me, for obvious reasons, most desirable that the established rules of the service, which have of late years undergone such extensive and disturbing changes, should, at the earliest possible date, be brought into general operation, and made to apply strictly and impartially to all classes of Officers affected by them. With this view, it appeared to me inexpedient to place the Officers of the local Army as candidates for the Staff Corps, in any respect on a different footing from those of line Regiments, and, as regards the required year of probation, this appeared the more necessary, with reference to the importance of having some fixed and intelligible rule, respecting the date of permanent appointment, determined under existing rules by the date of appointment on probation.

4. I observe that, in some recent cases, you have proposed to date the admission of Officers of the local service to the Staff Corps, from date of passing the tests, in others from date of application, while, in the cases of Officers from line Regiments, the date is that of General Order appointing them as probationers. The latter rule is definite and intelligible, the former practice variable and unsatisfactory, and your Government will observe that all these Officers are subject to the rules of the Staff Corps as to Staff Service qualifying for promotion, which dates from date of appointment to the Staff Corps.

5. I shall not object, however, to an Officer of the Indian Army, who has practically passed a year's probation by service in a Staff appointment, being admitted to the Staff Corps without further probation, on the understanding that he produces all the certificates required by the regulations for such appointment, including those respecting health and conduct, and that his admission dates from the General Order appointing him, subject to the approval of Her Majesty's Government.

ORDER, No. 4026A, 13th October 1868.

Communicated to the Commander-in-Chief, (Adjutant General's Department) with reference to Proceedings of Government, 1st, 2nd, 28th and 29th April 1868, Nos. 1335, 1341, 1692 and 1698, and to previous* correspondence.

*Pro. of Govt., 31st July 1866, No. 2689B.
,, 30th Nov. ,, ,, 4187.
,, 15th Jan. 1867, ,, 166A.
,, 1st Feb. ,, ,, 418.
,, 5th August ,, ,, 2877.
,, 17th Sep. ,, ,, 3511.
,, 18th Oct. ,, ,, 4048B.

2. In accordance with paragraph 2 of the foregoing despatch, the dates of admission to the Staff Corps of the several Officers therein alluded to, will be altered to those specified against their names.

3. Lieutenant S. L. Hunt will now be admitted to the Staff Corps from the 16th January 1868, (the date on which he completed a year since his appointment to the Quarter Master-ship of the 3rd Regiment Light Infantry,) subject to the confirmation of Her Majesty's Government, the necessary notification being made in G. O.

4. Adverting to the decision communicated in paragraph 3 of the foregoing despatch, it will be brought to the notice of the Right Honorable the Secretary of State for India, that although Ensign A. McCally, of the 108th Foot, completed three years' duty with a Regiment on the 4th September 1866, he was, at that date, virtually ineligible for appointment as a Probationer for the Staff Corps, not having passed any of the language tests prescribed by regulation, his nomination in G. O. by the (late) Commander-in-Chief, dated 19th April 1866, to do duty with a Native Regiment, as a candidate for the Staff Corps, having been irregular.

5. Ensign McCally passed the lower standard in Hindoostani in February* 1867, the higher standard in the same language in May 1867†, and the elementary test in a 2nd language (Canarese) in June‡ 1867.

*G. O. C. C., 14th February 1867.
†Do. 20th May 1867.
‡Do. 4th June 1867.

6. He obtained a Regimental Staff appointment only on the 4th June 1867.

7. It is observed that this Government admitted him to the Staff Corps from the 17th July 1867, the date of his application, on the ground of his having already performed a year's duty with a Native Regiment, and having then passed the required language tests.

8. To admit him to the Staff Corps from the 4th September 1866, the date assigned by the Secretary of State, would give him an advantage not conceded to other Officers, and lead to embarrassment.

9. The question of the date of Ensign McCally's appointment to the Staff Corps and promotion therein to the rank of Lieutenant, will therefore be again referred to Her Majesty's Government.

(True Extract.)

S. L. Hunt Lieut.-Colonel,

Offg. Deputy Secretary to Government.

To the Adjutant General.
,, Controller of Military Accounts.
,, Judicial Department, } for information. With 10 spare Copies.
,, Revenue Department, }

Fxd. J. E. Cashart.

Revenue 1868 Dept.
Pro of Govt for Nova
No. 3410.

Proceedings of the
Govt. Military
Departt.

Dated 13th } 3 Octr/68
Received 27th }
No. 4026a

No 2761. 2 Nov
Comng to the Commrs
in Chief, papers re-
-specting the admission
of certain officers
of the General Staff
to the Staff Corps
with Order

No 2761.

Comm'd to the
Board of Rev. Direc of
Rev. Settlt. Supt of Rev
Survey & Con of Forests

2d Novr/68.

2 Copies to the Dy of Rev
1 Copy " Dy of Rev Settt
1 " Supt of Rev Survey
1 " Con of Forests
} with Ord in No 4026A
Despatch

No. 31-32

31-32