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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Rev DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	3203	Press.
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	8-6-1877	197.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Mani

Bellary
2203
Rev Deptt

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue
Dy 26th May 1877.

To

The Collector of Bellary

Sir

I have the honor to
bring to your notice that Mr.
A. J. Oldham, Assistant Engineer
stationed at Adoni has just
shown me a telegram of which
I append a copy.

Board No 5587

Dated 13-5-77

From J. M. Garstin Esquire

To Collector, Bellary

"Transfer Engineer Oldham from
Adoni to Railway placing him
under Jopp's order. Send Alexander
to Adoni via Oldham"

J

I would most respectfully
remonstrate against this order
being carried out I never
understood that Mr. Oldham
was under the Revenue authorities
and consequently that he could
do any direct work for me;
hence my correspondence with
the Government and yourself
on the subject of the utilization
of his services and those of the
other D. P. W. Officers in the
Taluk. But since then, by
arrangement made with Mr.
Oldham himself he has become
virtually only less valuable
than

393
than Captain Hamilton in the
direct Relief Administration here,
while carrying on his own depart-
mental duties, I hope the following
explanation will make this clear.

Of the three main works
sanctioned in this Taluk one is
the road from Adone to Sorojgupphur.
It needed extensive repairs, and
a widening part of it had to be
newly constructed and the work
required professional supervision
though it was not under the D. P. W.
In making the Relief labourers
do the work properly Mr. Oldham
has virtually taken charge of the
7000 persons on the road, controlling
their

their organization, the admission
among them and reputations from
them, and, in fact, relieving me
of all trouble regarding them
beyond supplying the paying
and supervising staff and the
payments.

On the other 2 Main
Works, in two places where similar
work had to be done, Mr. Oldham
has in the same way taken charge
of a party of 1000 labourers at
each place, and works there
in the same manner.

But besides this Mr.
Oldham, who is physically a
most active officer and constantly
visits all parts of the Saluy
in the exercise of his professional

3203 3
Supervision over the relief works
gives the most valuable aid by
checking gangs, supervising pay-
ments, hearing and reporting
or even, disposing of complaints,
whenever he has time and the
opportunity for doing so, and
in any of his frequent tours, is
always ready to carry out any
inquiry which Captain Hamilton
or myself may ask him to make
for us. I would remind you
that there is no work under the
D. P. W. in this Saluy.

At the present pressure
and just when I have lost the
valuable services of Captain
Shottland

Shortland the withdrawal
of Mr. Oldham will very
seriously affect the sweep of
relief operations here. If he be
not replaced we shall virtually
lose the services of the D. P. W. Sub-
ordinates who are now working
under him. I have no control
over them, and scattered as
they are, I know by experience
that when left to themselves, their
services will be no aid to us
whatever. If he be replaced
it is exceedingly unlikely that
his successor will help us as
he is doing even should he be
willing to do so the whole work
will

will be new to him.

Mr. Alexander is apparently
thought an equivalent for Mr. Oldham
I have had experience of Mr.
Alexander in more than one
capacity, and while anxious
to avoid harshness, must say
that except for his own personal
trustworthiness as a gentleman,
I should prefer a native on \$500
per month. He can not ride
and he can not speak the
language. Mr. Oldham goes
right round the Saluz in a
week, and can make himself
understood every where. Mr. Oldham
is used to the control of large
bodies

bodies of men and is an Officer
of Superior intelligence. Mr.
Alexander is not accustomed
to this sort of work, and certainly
wherever, though no doubt he
tried to do his best, did not
win our approbation. Under our present
special circumstances with
the organization complete,
great numbers on our works
and everything depending on
constant and almost ubiquitous
supervision, few Officers like
Mr. Alexander would not
compensate for the loss of Mr.
Oldham. As this letter may
possibly go beyond yourself
I

3203/5
I think it worth while reminding
you that Mr. Oldham is no
relation, is not even a country
man of mine.

17 May 1877 } I have rec
Adoni } (s.d.) W. Oldham
Salary relief Officer
Adoni

(Enc Copy)
Forwarded to the Board
of Revenue for the favorable
consideration of Government.
Mr. W. B. Oldham is
doubtless placed at a disadvan-
tage by being deprived of the
services of Mr. A. J. Oldham and
there is no officer available to

supply his place efficiently.
19-5-77 (s.d.) J. H. Master
Collector.
submitted

Submitted for the orders
of Government

(Five Copies enclosed)

Respectfully
Secretary

To
The Adm^l Secretary to Govt
Revenue Department

Nov 1777 244
756.399x

Proceedings of

the Board of Revenue

of 26. May 1877

Res 28 -

in the subject

Subsiding for the

order of 1st volume.

most of the Colonic

of Bellan on 11th

from the N.B. station

about 1st of May

Adverse of the 1st

Adverse of the 1st

Adverse of the 1st

Adverse of the 1st

Adverse of the 1st

Adverse of the 1st

Pressing a Foreigner
that left on 10th March
1877

Handwritten notes and signatures at the top of the page, including "The Board of Revenue" and "Proceedings of".