M.R.O. 1—38,000—16-10-29.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 328 Press ~~Mis.~~

71-72

Dated 28-3-~~1972~~

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Fort St. George, Judicial Consultation, 12th March 1858.

No. 71. Read the following letter from W. KNOX, Esq., Acting Agent to the Governor in Ganjam; to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated Chetterpore, 18th February 1858, No. 59.

SIR,

Para. 1. I have the honor to submit for the consideration of Government, the accompanying letter from Captain Smith, and though I fear in the present position of affairs there may be some difficulty in obtaining an increase of allowance, yet I trust I shall be excused for forwarding it, knowing how liberally Government is disposed to act by its servants, though I admit I do not agree with Captain Smith in his supposition that the increase is more than temporary, and therefore I cannot support his application on this ground, but I think that the reason given in the last para. of his letter is one that cannot be gainsaid. Nothing is more calculated to check zeal and breed discontent than the feeling that promotion is barred, that do what an officer may, he must leave his appointment if he wishes to better himself, and if this want of promotion is bad for the officer, it is equally bad for the office and district, for it leads good men to seek employment in other departments and thus their experience and knowledge are thrown away, a very serious evil where knowledge and experience of the people are as valuable as in the Goomsur hills. Had there been any prospect of promotion open to Captain Macdonald, I feel sure he would not have left this Agency.

I may add that Mr. Ricketts wrote to me some time back, proposing, in consideration of his duties and the responsibility of his position, to increase the pay of the Military Assistant very largely, and I beg leave to send an extract from my reply pointing out that it was most desirable, in fact it was necessary that the Principal Assistant Collector should be a Civilian, but that I fully agreed that the holding out some prospect of an increase of pay would be a great stimulus to exertion, and showing that an Assistant after 3 years' revenue service, got such an increase, and that a similar rule in this case might be advantageously observed.

Captain Smith has, as Government are aware, obtained a step of rank since he joined the appointment, but he gets no extra pay and Government gain the difference between his Captain and Lieutenant's pay; besides the increase in the Sibbundies, he has had much extra work owing to there being no senior Assistant, and he has always done this cheerfully and zealously. I trust therefore his claim will not be overlooked.

From Captain C. SMITH, Assistant Agent; to W. KNOX, Esq., Acting Agent to the Governor of Fort St. George in Ganjam, dated Russelcondah, 1st February 1858, No. 10.

SIR,

1. I have the honor to submit the following observations for your consideration, and should they meet with your approval, beg that they may be forwarded for the orders of the Government of Fort Saint George.

* 14th December 1857, No. 1621.

2. With reference to your letter to Government, number and date as per margin,* it appears to me that your proposal to Government for an increase of 100 men to the Ganjam Sibbundies was intended solely as a temporary measure: but as the Government have ordered 150 men to be added, I am induced to believe that the increase has been sanctioned permanently, or as long as the Agency in the hill tracts of Orissa † continues; under either view of the case, be the increase temporary, or be it permanent, the duties which will now involve upon me will be greatly increased.

† Extract from a Despatch from the Honorable Court of Directors 14th July No. 10 of 1857.

3. On a former occasion, when an increase to the Sibbundies took place, I forwarded an application through you to Government for a stipulated Command Allowance being granted; this application was however then considered inadmissible, but I trust the augmentation that has now taken place will be considered sufficient grounds for my re-agitating the question.

4. The strength of the Ganjam Sibbundies will now be *four hundred men*, equal to the average strength of a Wing of Native Infantry Regiment; the raising and disciplining these men have involved upon me in addition to my Civil and Magisterial duties; therefore I trust Government will not consider me unreasonable in again soliciting such remuneration as they may be pleased to grant.

5. I would at the same time bring prominently to notice, that this Agency is not on the same footing as formerly, nor is it similar to the various Commissions and Agencies in which Military Officers are employed: that is, I now see no prospects of rising to the superior grades of this department; but, not conceiving it to be in my province to enter into minute particulars, I now leave it entirely in your hands, should you concur with me in opinion, to offer to Government any suggestions you may deem expedient, with reference to my present position and prospects.

(True Copy)

(Signed) W. KNOX,
Acting Agent to the Governor.

Extract from a letter from W. KNOX, Esq., Acting Agent to the Governor of Fort St. George in Ganjam; to H. RICKETTS, Esq., Commissioner for the Revision of Civil Salaries and Establishments throughout India, dated 10th June 1857, No. 238.

Para. 6. With respect to the salaries of the two Assistants, the rate of pay for both as shown in the accompanying Extract Minutes of Consultation,* was originally the same, viz., 6,700 per annum, but as a Head Assistant when he had served 2 years in the revenue line and had been 6 years in the service, was entitled to a higher rate of allowance, Rupees 8,800, this latter became the average rate of the appointment as it was and is most desirable that the Assistant should be a young man of character and standing, his duties being onerous and much more responsibility devolving on him than in more quiet districts; and I must say that I think it will be bad policy to reduce his allowances.

* 19th December 1839.

7. I hope I shall be excused in saying that it appears to me, you have somewhat over-estimated the responsibility and duties of the Military Assistant in Goomsur, whose return is much fuller and goes more into particulars than that of the Senior Assistant whose charge of Salt, Sea Customs, Treasury, Stamps, Talook Post and Post Office Stamps received in the Revenue Department, would more than equal Captain Smith's duties. I may also remark, Goomsur is not now what it was and if common prudence and caution be exercised, I see no reason to suppose that it will be more troublesome to manage than any other part of the district, and the Assistant who has charge of the Chinna Kemedy, Collicote and other Zemindaries has, I submit, no easy charge, it is often as difficult to prevent rival Zemindars from settling their disputes *vi, et armis* as it is to interfere between two hostile villages on the hills, both are however responsible posts and should be filled by good men, and all inducements to change should as far as possible be withdrawn; to effect this, I would suggest that some allowance should be made to the officer holding the appointment on his getting a step of Regimental rank or that at the end of every 3 or 4 years the incumbent's pay should be increased. I would also recommend that his extra tentage be the same as a Principal Assistant Collector when he is on circuit through the hills, as the expense of these trips is very heavy.

8. With regard to the Command allowance, an application for 100 Rupees a month was made by Captain Smith, which I could not support, as the orders of Government were so cogent against increased establishments. I was of opinion that there was no change since he accepted the appointment to warrant it the trouble involved by the increase of men from 150 to 250, being more than counterbalanced by the appointment of a Serjeant Major; still Captain Smith must have more to do since the increase, and as I am bound to bear testimony to his zeal and anxiety to do his duty, I shall be glad to hear you think him entitled to Command allowance, the more so, as I have in the absence of the Senior Assistant, been obliged to make over the Police of Moherry and Poobaconda to him.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) W. KNOX,
Acting Agent.

No. 72. ORDER THEREON, No. 323; dated 10th March 1858.

The Acting Agent in Ganjam forwards an application from his Assistant Captain Smith for increased allowances.

2. A similar application was preferred in May last, and considered by Government in Extract Minutes Consultation 2nd June No 647, in which they pointed out that there was no essential disparity of emolument between Captain Smith's allowances and those drawn by other Military Officers with like duties.

3. Nothing has since occurred to affect Captain Smith's position except that 150 men have been ordered to be added to the Goomsoor Sibbundies for service in Sumbulpore and for the protection of the District. But then 38 Sibbundies are in Sumbulpore already—30 more are in Boad—40 have been offered to Captain Bird, 40th M. N. I., now at Russelcondah recruiting for the Sumbulpore levy, and it has been proposed to make over 110 to Mr. McNeill, thus, as would appear, much reducing Captain Smith's former charge.

4. The Golconda Sibbundies in Vizagapatam have lately been more than doubled and their Commandant Captain Owen has been made an Assistant Magistrate, but the Government have found themselves unable to support a request for increased allowances recently made in his favor by the Agent, and they are equally unable to recommend Captain Smith's case to the Government of India.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

Exd. F. Cartledge.

Judicial Depart^t 46

No 323

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation
Dated 16 March 1858.

The Acting Agent in
Jamaica forwards an
application from his
Assistant Capt. Smith
for increased allowances.

2. A similar applica-
tion was preferred in
May last and consider-
ed by Govt in Desp 2 June
No 647 in which they
pointed out that there was
no essential disparity
of emolument between
Capt. Smith's allowances
and those drawn by
other Military Officers
with like duties.

3- Nothing has occurred to affect Capt Smith's position except that 150 men have been ordered to be added to the present Sibbundies for service in Santhalpore and for the protection of the District- But then 30 Sebbundies are in Santhalpore already

To meet an Order has been offered to Capt Reid 40 Rohilcund Russilcondah recruits for Santhalpore - and it has been proposed to make up 110 - for Mr Keith - thus as would appear must reducing Capt: Smith's former charge -

4- The Golcondah Sibbundies in Vizagapatam have been more than doubled and their Commandant Capt Olpherts has been made an Assistant Magistrate but the post has found themselves unable to support a requisite allowance for incurred and accordingly made in his favor by the Agent- and they are equally unable to recommend Capt: Smith's case to the favor of Government.

Acting Agent- Jeypore 12th Sept 1840

J.P.

240/57

In Dyte Cons. 12th March
Judicial 1858. Defendt

No. 393

Extract Mins. of Cons

2/10 March 1868.

Judt. Stated Engd. 30th June
1859 & 1858 - Pena 15-

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