

Marine (1899) Department.

G.O., No. 183 Marine

DATED ⁱⁿ 27 Feb - 1899.

[Despatch Abstract.]

For Botanist

*From: Rev. Dept. passing orders on papers
relating to the appointment of Mr. A. Barber
as _____ in the Dept. passing instructions
regarding the scope and conduct of the
Botanist's work, recorded.*

Passing orders on papers relating to the appointment of Mr. C. A. Barber as — in this Presidency and issuing general instructions regarding the scope and conduct of the Government Botanist's work.

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GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

READ—again G.O., No. 990, Revenue, dated 26th November 1897.

ABSTRACT.—Stating that a letter will be despatched to the Government of India for obtaining a qualified Botanist from England for the future administration of the Botanical Department in the Madras Presidency.

LETTER—from the Secretary to the Government of Madras, to the Secretary to the Government of India, No. 991, Revenue, dated 26th November 1897.

ABSTRACT.—Requesting that the sanction of the Right Hon'ble the Secretary of State may be obtained to the appointment of a Botanist for the Madras Presidency, and that His Lordship may be requested to select and appoint a suitable person for the place at as early a date as possible.

READ—again the following G.O., Mis. No. 248, Revenue, dated 17th January 1898:—

Read—the following telegram from the Secretary to the Government India, Revenue and Agricultural Department, to the Secretary to the Government of Madras, Revenue Department, dated Calcutta, 12th January 1898, No. 95:—

Your letter No. 991, Revenue, dated 26th November last regarding Government Botanist. Government of India propose to recommend to Secretary of State entertainment of whole-time officer for five years with following duties to complete Botanic Survey, Madras, to have charge herbarium and to examine in Botany for University, but not to lecture; lectures likely to interfere with survey work as was recognised by Government of Madras (see paragraph 4 of their letter, No. 92 of 15th February 1897). They might be entrusted with extra allowance if necessary to Bourne who would take over herbarium when survey was finished. Does Governor in Council consider pay now proposed for Botanist necessary over and above examining fees. Government of India consider that botanic survey should be completed in five years if systematic performance of work is laid down. Government of India hope His Excellency in Council will be able to concur in these modifications of his proposals. In view of Secretary of State's telegram that delay is inconvenient, early decision is necessary.

Read—the following telegram from the Secretary to the Government of India, Revenue and Agricultural Department, to the Secretary to the Government of Madras, Revenue Department, dated Calcutta, 14th January 1898, No. 135:—

My telegram, No. 95, dated 12th instant. Government of India presume Local Government have satisfied themselves that no competent native can be found for appointment of Government Botanist.

Order—G.O., Mis. No. 248, Revenue, dated 17th January 1898.

The following telegram will be despatched to the Government of India:—

Your telegrams Nos. 95 and 135. It will be arranged that Bourne lecture on Botany, therefore Botanist not required to lecture. No extra allowance necessary for Bourne. This Government does not consider pay offered too large, but if Secretary of State can procure services of thoroughly competent Botanist for less Government will agree. No suitable native as Botanist is available."

2. Orders will issue in the Educational Department as to Dr. Bourne's delivering a course of lectures on Botany.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) G. S. FORBES,
Secretary to Government.

To the Educational Department.

READ—again G.O., Mis. No. 3136, Revenue, dated 26th July 1898.

ABSTRACT.—Informing the Government of India by telegram that this Government agrees to the nomination of Mr. Barber as Government Botanist on the pay proposed.

READ—again the following G.O., Mis. No. 4096, Revenue, dated 13th October 1898:—

Read—the following letter from E. MACONCHIE, Esq., I.C.S., Under Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Revenue and Agriculture (Economic Products), to the Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras, dated Simla, the 16th September 1898, No. 2507-17-11:—

With reference to the correspondence ending with the telegram from the Government of Madras, dated the 26th July

1. Telegram from Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India, dated 31st August 1898.
 2. Telegram to Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India, dated 5th September 1898.
- information of the Governor in Council, a copy of the correspondence marginally noted, from which it will be seen that the Government of India have agreed to a proposal made by Her Majesty's Secretary of State to give Mr. C. A. Barber a permanent pensionable appointment.

2. This proposal has, however, been accepted on the condition that Mr. Barber's services will not be given permanently to Madras, but that he will be available for appointment elsewhere in India on completion of the Botanical Survey of the Madras Presidency, which, it is anticipated, should take about five years. On the withdrawal of Mr. Barber, the office of Botanist to the Government of Madras would be brought under reduction.

ENCLOSURES.

Copy of telegram from Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India, to the Viceroy, Simla, dated London 31st August 1898.

In reply to your Revenue despatch, 27th January last, Barber will only accept permanent pensionable appointment. In view of special qualifications, I propose, if you agree, adopt this footing.

Copy of telegram from the Viceroy, Simla, to Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India, dated 6th September 1898.

Your telegram of 31st August last. Madras Botanist. We agree to permanent appointment of Barber on the understanding that he will be available for service elsewhere in India on completion of Madras Survey.

Order—Mis. No. 4096, Revenue, dated 13th October 1898.

Recorded.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) G. S. FORBES,
Secretary to Government.

To the Educational Department.

„ Financial Department.

„ Accountant-General.

READ—again the following G.O., No. 4747, Revenue, dated 3rd December 1898:—

Read—endorsement of the Government of India, Revenue and Agricultural Department, No. 2858—17-12, dated 20th October 1898, forwarding in continuation of letter No. 2507—17-11, dated 16th September 1898, despatch from the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for India, No. 172, Revenue, dated 22nd September 1898.

ENCLOSURES.

Despatch from the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for India, to His Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor-General of India in Council, dated London, 22nd September 1898, Revenue No. 172.

With reference to your letter, No. 6 (Economic Products) of the 27th January last, regarding the appointment of a Government Botanist in Madras, and to my telegram of the 13th of July and of 31st ultimo, I have now to inform your Excellency that I have appointed Mr. C. A. Barber to the vacant post on the terms stated in my aforesaid telegrams, and agreed to by your Government. Mr. C. A. Barber is an M.A. of Cambridge, and obtained a first class in both parts of the Natural History Tripos. He was formerly also Demonstrator of Botany at Cambridge, and from 1891 to 1895 Superintendent of the Agricultural Department of the Leeward Islands, and he is at present Lecturer on Botany at the Royal Engineering College at Cooper's Hill. He has therefore, as regards both scientific training, and practical experience as an economic botanist, exceptional qualifications for employment in India.

2. I enclose a copy of Mr. Thiselton-Dyer's letter of the 30th June last, recommending Mr. Barber, and of the India Office letter of the present date notifying to him his appointment.

Copy of letter from W. T. THISELTON-DYER, Esq., to Sir HORACE G. WALPOLE, K.C.B., India Office, Whitehall, S. W., dated Royal Gardens, Kew, 30th June 1898.

I have the honour to acknowledge your letter of June 21st (R. & S. 950), asking me to submit to the Secretary of State in Council the name of a duly qualified botanist willing to undertake the duties of the office. I observe that his Lordship is of opinion that the candidate should be a systematic botanist of the highest scientific training who has also had experience as an economic botanist more especially in tropical countries.

2. While I entirely concur in the desirableness of these qualifications I must observe that they considerably enlarge the scope of the appointment as defined in the letter of the Government of India of January 27th last. I presume it was offered to Mr. Bourdillon on the more restricted terms. I do not know on what grounds he declined it but think that it is not improbable that he regarded the remuneration as insufficient.

3. I have now the honour to submit, after very careful consideration, the name of Mr. C. A. Barber, Lecturer on Botany at the Royal Indian Engineering College, Cooper's Hill, who is willing to accept the appointment subject to the salary being fixed at Rs. 700 per mensem. Mr. Barber is an M.A. of Cambridge, formerly a scholar of Christ's College and Demonstrator of Botany in the University. He obtained a first class in both parts of the Natural Science Tripos at Cambridge. He has also studied at the Universities of Bonn and Heidelberg. As to his scientific qualifications there can therefore be no doubt.

4. With regard to experience as an economic botanist, Mr. Barber held from 1891 to 1895 the appointment of Superintendent of the Agricultural Department of the Leeward Islands. This ceased in the latter year, the post being abolished by the local legislature, not because Mr. Barber was in any way at fault, but because the finances of the Colony were seriously embarrassed.

5. On the whole it would be impossible for the Secretary of State to find a man better suited in every way for the Madras appointment. I may further add that India is menaced with a sugar-cane disease. This is not improbably the same as that of which Mr. Barber has had ample experience in the Leeward Islands.

6. Mr. Barber is now 38 years of age and married. Looking at all the circumstances of the case I do not think his disinclination to accept the post except at the maximum salary offered is unreasonable.

7. In conversation with me he has raised a further point. Examination work for the University would require his occasional presence in Madras. But having regard to his duties in connection with the Botanical Survey of which the new Government Botanist would be an officer, and the necessity of his visiting various parts of the Presidency in order to assist planters and others, I apprehend that Madras itself would not be the most convenient position for his permanent residence.

8. In conclusion I may observe that the matter has been pending since 1895 and that it would now be very desirable to arrive at a final settlement.

From Sir HORACE WALPOLE, K.C.B., India Office, to C. A. BARBER, Esq., c/o Director Royal Gardens, Kew, dated 15th September 1898, R. and S. No. 2102.

I am directed by the Secretary of State for India in Council to inform you that the Medical Board at this office have reported favourably as to your health, and that his Lordship is pleased to appoint you to the post of Government Botanist at Madras, on a salary of Rs. 700 per mensem, with free quarters, beginning from the date of your arrival in India.

The appointment as originally proposed was for five years, a period which it is estimated should suffice for the systematic botanical survey of Madras the main object for which you are appointed; but in view of the increasing attention that is being given by the Government of India to the development of the vegetable productions of that country, and of your special experience as an economic botanist, Lord George Hamilton has, with the concurrence of the Government of India been pleased to make the appointment in your case permanent, and pensionable, on the understanding that on the completion of the botanical survey of Madras your services will be available elsewhere in India. It is contemplated that you should have charge of the herbarium at Madras, and you will be at liberty to undertake examination work for the university there.

You are requested to put yourself at once in communication with the Legal Adviser at this office, with a view to the preparation of your agreement.

Order—Mis. No. 4747, Revenue, dated 3rd December 1898.

Communicated to the Accountant-General through the Financial Department.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) G. S. FORBES,
Secretary to Government.

To the Financial Department with two copies.

READ—also endorsement of the Government of India, Revenue and Agricultural Department, No. 3311—17-13, dated 30th November 1898, forwarding for information in continuation of endorsement No. 2858—17-12, dated 20th October 1898, despatch from the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for India, dated 10th November 1898, No. 207-Revenue.

ENCLOSURE.

Despatch from the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for India, to His Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor-General of India in Council, dated India Office, London, 10th November 1898, No. 207-Revenue.

In continuation of my Despatch of the 22nd September last, No. 172, Revenue, I forward a copy of the Agreement entered into by Mr. C. A. Barber, on his appointment as Government Botanist at Madras.

2. The twelfth paragraph of the Agreement embodies a concession, in respect of years qualifying for superannuation pension, which was granted to Mr. Barber, on the ground of special qualifications and in view of his appointment at a mature age.

3. Mr. Barber is expected to sail for Bombay from London on the 17th November per S.S. "Rome."

Read—also letter from C. A. BARBER, Esq., Government Botanist, No. 1, dated 19th December 1898.

ABSTRACT.—Reporting his arrival in Madras on the forenoon of Saturday the 17th instant.

ORDER—No. 102, Revenue, dated 8th February 1899.

Miscellaneous.

The above papers relate to the appointment of Mr. C. A. Barber as Government Botanist in this Presidency.

The terms on which the appointment has been made by the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for India are contained in the articles of agreement entered into by Mr. Barber. The Government will now issue general instructions regarding the scope and conduct of the Government Botanist's work.

2. The duties of the Government Botanist will consist mainly in the prosecution of the systematic botanical survey of the Presidency. He will be also the constituted adviser of Government in regard to all questions and enquiries in economic botany that may be referred to him.

3. Officially the Botanist will be placed under the immediate control and orders of the Board of Revenue in the Agricultural Department.

4. The Board will, in communication with Mr. Barber, draw up at an early date a tentative programme of work and submit it for the orders of Government. The Board will bear in mind that the Government of India contemplate the completion of the survey within the term of five years. In deciding the order in which the districts should be taken up annually it may be convenient to arrange for districts in different parts of the Presidency being placed in the rota with reference to the monsoon or climatic conditions prevalent at different times of the year, so that field work may be prosecuted for as long a period of the year as practicable in the most favourable conditions. For working up the collections made in the field, the Botanist will enjoy a recess of three or four months at Ootacamund which will be considered his official head-quarters.

5. The Herbarium being a necessary adjunct to the Botanist's work will for the present be removed from the museum and placed in the Botanist's charge at Ootacamund. Mr. Barber will make arrangements to this end in communication with the Superintendent of the Government Central Museum. The more important books which formed the official botanical library of the late Mr. Lawson are now in charge of the Superintendent, Central Museum, and should also be transferred to Mr. Barber.

6. Under the terms of his agreement Mr. Barber is entitled to free quarters or an allowance for house-rent in lieu thereof. Until arrangements can be made to provide him with a house at Ootacamund, Mr. Barber will be granted an allowance of Rs. 125 per mensem.

7. The establishment to be attached to the Government Botanist is at present under consideration and orders thereon will issue shortly. In the meantime the Board of Revenue will furnish Mr. Barber with any necessary help in matters of official routine; and will make timely application for any funds which the Botanist may require for any purpose not provided for in the estimate sanctioned in G.O., No. 1225, dated the 14th December 1898. Mr. Barber should also be supplied with the equipment of tents prescribed for a District Forest Officer (elsewhere than in Malabar or South Canara) in G.O., No. 450, Revenue, dated 10th September 1896; he may however, if he so wishes, substitute a hill tent 14' x 14' for the one 12' x 12' prescribed by the scale.

8. The Botanist will submit to the Board an annual report of his work. This report should be incorporated in Part IV of the annual report of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture. Any special reports of the Botanist on matters of general and scientific interest should be issued as bulletins of the department.

(True Extract.)

Secretary to Government.

To the Government Botanist, with a copy of the lists of the books in G.O., No. 1094, dated 24th February 1897.

„ the Superintendent, Government Central Museum.

„ the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement).

„ the Accountant-General, with copy of the agreement.

Copy to all other Departments of the Secretariat.

the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue).

the Director of Government Cinchona Plantations, Nilgiris.

Exd C. Parthasarathy.