M.R.O. 14—10,000—21-4-22

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 1133 — Press / Mis.

13 - 14

Dated 16 - 1861.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 13. Read the following letter from Captain F. J. B. PRIESTLEY, Superintendent Revenue Survey, to J. D. SIM, Esq., Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Fort Saint George, dated Chepauk, 18th May 1861, No. 506:—

SIR,

1. The experience of more than seven years has proved, that without any exception the class of men in every way best fitted for employment as Surveyors is that of Ordnance Artificers who have received instruction at the Gun Carriage Manufactory School. This opinion I have frequently expressed, and indeed when drawing up the original scale of Establishment I calculated on filling the rank of Head Surveyor from this class; latterly however their services have not been obtained for this Department, and consequently to meet the rapid extension of the Survey ordered from time to time by Government, we have been compelled to fill up the numerous vacancies thus caused as best we could from amongst the Candidates that offered.

2. The result has been that within a short period no fewer than five men trained here as Surveyors with a view to complete the District Establishments have failed to fulfil their engagement after receiving an advance; one refused to proceed to join at Salem, the rest were given a free passage by sea to the northern ports and declined doing work on their arrival; others after receiving instruction for some time withdrew, and I understand seek situations under the Irrigation Company where the rates of pay are far higher than those in the Survey Department. Besides those sent from head-quarters several enlisted in the Districts have resigned just as they became useful.

3. The demands caused by the mutiny in Bengal having long ago ceased, and reductions in Military Establishments having been I understand enjoined of late, I applied for the services of an Artificer employed in the Arsenal at Trichinopoly who was desirous of joining the Survey and whose Commanding Officer had no objection to his being removed.

James Tully.

4. In reply to my application the Inspector General of Ordnance and Magazines informs me, that the transfer of Artificer Tully's services cannot be made, the number of these men on Staff employ being above the prescribed proportion. He also adds that the transfer of an Ordnance Artificer to other Departments occasions additional expense to Government, and burthens the Ordnance Department with extra charges.

5. Of course I cannot doubt that this statement is correct with regard to most Departments, but at the same time venture to point out that the Military pay of Ordnance Artificers ceases to be drawn by those employed in the Survey, and that therefore it is difficult to conceive that their transfer to it can cause additional expense to Government, the more so when it is taken into consideration that the native workmen* by whom their places are supplied receive less pay, and that for the salary given to Ordnance Artificers in the Survey Department equally efficient Surveyors cannot be elsewhere procured.

This is I believe not the case with Artificers holding subordinate appointments in the Department Public Works.

* Whose work I believe is not inferior.

6. Should Government be of opinion that it will be for its advantage (as it is undoubtedly for that of the Survey) I trust permission will be granted to six Ordnance Artificers who have learned Surveying at Colonel Maitland's School to join the Survey.

A list of fit men is appended, who if they are willing and can be spared, might be transferred.

7. I have the honor to state in conclusion, that I have ventured to make this request in opposition apparently to the wishes of the Inspector General of Ordnance only because I do not see in what other way I can carry out the orders of Government for the last augmentation to the Survey, and because of the repeated applications of the Survey officers for Ordnance Artificers.

N. B.— I observe in the Gazette of the 17th instant that Ordnance Artificer Thomas Yates has been allowed to join the Department Public Works Nagpore.

Fredk. J. B. Priestley Captain
Superintendent Rev. Survey

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
1st June 1861.

List of Ordnance Artificers for employment in the Survey Department.

Names.	Station.	Age.	Remarks.
James Tully.....	Trichinopoly.....	.....	His Commanding Officer has no objection.
A. Alderton.....	Arsenal Secundrabad.	28 Years.	Formerly employed on the Pegu Survey.
J. Gilson.....	Madras.....	27 do.	Employed temporarily for three months under the Civil Engineer at Madras.
G. M. Dorsey.....	Arsenal Rangoon.....	28 do.	
W. B. Mason.....	Do. Secundrabad.	24 do.	
E. Bennet.....	Madras.....	24 do.	Teacher in the School at the Gun Carriage Manufactory.
J. Dring.....	Do.	22 do.	Do. do.

REVENUE SURVEY OFFICE,
CHEPAUK, 18th May 1861.

(Signed) F. J. B. PRIESTLEY, Captain,
Superintendent Revenue Survey.

No. 14. ORDER THEREON, 1st June 1861, No. 1,133.

Referred to the Military Department for consideration.

(Signed) J. D. SIM,
Secretary to Government.

5 Of course I cannot doubt that this Statement is correct with regard to most Depts but at the same time venture to point out that the Military pay of Ordnance Artificers ceases to be drawn by those employed in the Survey & that therefore it is difficult to conceive that their transfer to it can cause additional expence to Govt the more so when it is taken into consideration that the native workmen by whose places are supplied receive less pay and that for the Salary given Ordnance artificers in the Survey Dept equally efficient Surveyors cannot be elsewhere procured

This is I believe not the case with artificers holding Subordinate rank in the D.P.W.

Those work I believe is not inferior.

6 I should Govt be of opinion that it will be for its advantage (as it is undoubtedly for that of the Survey) I trust permission will be granted to Six Ordnance artificers who have learned Surveying at Cal. Chaillands School to join the Survey

A list of fit men is appended who if they are willing & can be spared might be transferred

7 I have the honor to state in conclusion that I have ventured to make this request in opposition apparently to the wishes of the Supt. Gen. of Ordnance only because I do not see in what other way I can carry out the orders of Govt for the last augmentation to the survey & because of the repeated applications of the Survey officers for ordnance artificers

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obed. Servant
Redmk. F. J. B. Priestley Captain
Superintendent Rev. Survey

20 May

Recd 1867 Sept 6th
Prov. Govt. Fort Sumter
From No 1238.
The Supt. to Purchase
To
the Secy. to Govt.
Re Depts

Dated 18th May 1867
Recd 23d " "

No. 506.

Enclosed

Prov. Govt. Chief Engr. Dept. 20 June 67
Ord. Dept. 27 June
Enclosed No 1272

Requesting for reasons assigned permission of Govt. for the employment of six ordnance officers in the survey.

No 1133 - Ord. Dept.
With an order

No. 1133.

Referred to the Military Department for consideration

Brevet Lt Col. U.S.A.
14th June 1867

J. D. L.

Copied to the Engr Dept Prov 18

To copy Supt Rec Survey
of 21 June 64 & No 1852

N.B. Dept Rec in the Gazette of the 17th Instant
the ordinance Artificers & Mechanics Orders has
been issued to join the St. P. Sp. Naffore

No 13 & 14