

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	903	Press <u>Mis.</u>
	36.37	
Dated	3 - 5 -	1868.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
3rd May 1865.*

No. 36. Read the following letter from Lieutenant-Colonel F. J. B. PRIESTLEY, Superintendent of Revenue Survey, to J. D. SIM, Esq., Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Fort Saint George, dated Chepauk, 16th January 1865, No. 62-4 :—

SIR,
1. I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the Order of Government, dated 12th December 1864, No. 2,243, and beg respectfully to point out the manner in which it will affect certain of the Military Officers employed in the Department.

2. Captains Hessey and Barber would, under the former rules, be in receipt of pay of Major (Rupees 225 in excess of that at present drawn by them) about the middle of 1865. During their service in the Department, I have never had reason to mention them but with approbation, and I believe Government is fully sensible of their value as zealous and efficient public servants.

3. Lieutenants Shortt and Cloeté, by the Order under acknowledgment, will be precluded from ever obtaining any increase of salary beyond an addition of Rupees 69 per mensem when promoted to Deputy Superintendent. The former Officer in 1866 and the latter in 1869 would otherwise without any increase of departmental rank have an addition of Rupees 160 per mensem on promotion to Captain.

4. The 2nd Assistant Superintendents, Lieutenants Baynes and Clay, will gain nothing by promotion to 1st Assistant, and being raised to Deputy Superintendent, will only give them Rupees 169 additional. The Military Probationary Assistant, Lieutenant Freeth, in like manner, gains nothing by promotion to 2nd Assistant, and Rupees 95 when he rises to 1st Assistant. That the sudden withdrawal of the prospect of promotion, carrying with it an increase of pay, will be highly detrimental to the Department I feel it my duty to point out.

5. The success of this Department depends mainly on the individual characters and exertions of the Officers, and though I believe them to be as little actuated by purely interested motives as any body of Officers in the Presidency, it is impossible to deny that totally withdrawing almost all material advancement must influence (whether consciously or not) the performance of the duties required of them.

6. The results I anticipate are :—

I. A disinclination to accept promotion, which will entail (more especially when Demarcation is transferred to the Survey) additional labor and responsibility, whilst it carries with it no substantial advantage.

II. Acceptance of other employments either Military or Civil. This is the more probable if, as is rumoured, a number of well paid Regimental appointments will shortly be filled up.

III. Finally, that the Survey Officers will be without exception Uncovenanted Servants. To this no objection could be offered were it possible to obtain the services of gentlemen as well qualified as those now filling the higher grades.

7. I respectfully submit that it is desirable to retain the services of the present Deputy Superintendents as long as possible.

8. In the Police, though the prospect of succeeding to the post of Deputy Inspector General forms no small inducement to continue in the Department, yet it has been, I believe, found difficult to retain Officers as Superintendents after promotion to the rank of Major.

9. I beg permission to submit a scheme for the payment of Officers, similar to that in force in the Department of Public Works.

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10. I presume that the rates of pay mentioned in the G. O. are intended to be exclusive of travelling allowance:—

<i>Deputy Superintendent.</i>		Salary.		Travelling Allowance.
		RS.		RS.
If in the receipt of Military pay ...	...	400	+	150
If a Civilian...	...	750	+	150
<i>1st Assistant Superintendent.</i>				
If in the receipt of Military pay ...	...	300	+	120
If a Civilian...	...	550	+	120
<i>2nd Assistant Superintendent.</i>				
If in the receipt of Military pay ...	...	200	+	120
If a Civilian...	...	425	+	120

11. I am far from wishing to uphold the anomaly dwelt on in the Government Order, and have advocated an increase to the pay of the Uncovenanted Officers. I would, however, with all deference observe, that by this order the funds for the increase to the pay of Uncovenanted Officers are found by diminishing the prospects of Military Officers; also that whilst some Officers who are not, in my opinion, particularly deserving, receive a large addition present and prospective, others; to whom the successful working of the Department is in the main attributable, are placed in a worse position prospectively than they have hitherto been.

12. Should it be thought impossible to make the changes I have suggested, or to permit the Military Officers already in the Department to continue during the rest of their service on the same footing as heretofore, with regard to pay and allowances, I earnestly beg that they may be granted the benefit of the next step they may gain in Military rank.

13. I have endeavoured to lay before Government as briefly as possible what appears to me likely to prove the effect of the Order above quoted. I considered it my duty to do so, not only in the interest of the Officers who will thereby be the sufferers, but also in the interest of Government, which I fear will be injured. The Department is an exceptional one in many ways, and especially in being considered temporary.

No. 37. ORDER THEREON, 3rd May 1865, No. 903.

Miscellaneous.

The Government are willing to adopt the suggestion contained in paragraph 12 of the foregoing letter, and thus present incumbents will not be prejudiced. In other respects they see no cause to modify their Order of the 12th December 1864, No. 2,243.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. D. SIM,

Secretary to Government.

To the Officiating Superintendent of Revenue Survey.
„ the Officiating Director of Revenue Settlement.
„ the Civil Paymaster.
„ the Accountant General.
„ the Board of Revenue.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

orders.
Every change of this kind must
at first fall hardly on some - but
the principle of giving a fixed salary
according to the work - without reference
to the profession of the incumbent, is
the just and convenient. The pro-
posed rates are carefully considered
& I do not understand Col Priestley
to imply that they are too low for the
they may not secure him Military
Officers of high rank. I do not see
therefore that there is any reason for
a change.
But his draft, put at starting, the
Department suffer by losing such
men as Capt Halsey & some others - and
I think therefore that the suggestion
in para 12 might be adopted with ad-
vantage in the case of Officers who
have been for some years in the Dept
& the duty is special & demands J. D. S.
S. T. Augustin
I rather than
make present
incumbents
suffer
S. T. Augustin
1865.

[Signature]

10 To be supplied Dec 14 1864
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 3 1/2 Philadelp Bay Bridge
 3 1/2 Sheplett Penna
 13 1/2 Sheplett Penna

Superintendent Revenue Survey

Spicentley Scott-Hol

Your Most Obedt Servant

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Shewell (spelled) being in his office

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Pro: 12th December 1864. N^o 2243

36-37.

N^o 903.

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the respect of
see no cause to
justify their order
of the 12 Decr 1864.

No 2243
to 15-20

Revenue 1865 Sept
Pro: of Govt for May
1865

The Superintendent of the Army

(1)

The Secretary to Government

Dated 16th January 1865
Received 17th

N^o 62

Enclosure none

N^o 903 - P May
with order

Pointing out his faultfully the manner
in which G.O. N^o 2243 of 1864 affects
certain of the Military Officers
employed in the Army of the East
making a scheme for the payment
of Officers.