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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No.

521

Press
~~Mis.~~

Dated

2h

4

19/1869

Not to be folded or roughly handled

in my opinion
Capt. Mitchell is
sufficiently paid.

A. S.

Dr. Henshaw is paid as Capt. - 300 Rs. per month.
Henshaw receives Rs. 300. Captain Mitchell works
in a laboratory, must be paid 30 Rs. and a house
rent 10 Rs. he gets 40 Rs. a month.
Calcutta. Think enough of a similar appointment
curator appointed in 1866. on a
salary of 530 rising yearly by
50 Rs. to a maximum of 1000. Draws
now 700, + temporary allowance for house
rent 150. Has an assistant on 500, and
a Taxidermist on 300. -

Memo for orders

In this letter Captain Mitchell
the Superintendent of the
Museum pleads for an
increase to his present salary.

as Capt. - 300 Rs. per month.

Captain Mitchell works.

This small allowance with

that given to the officer holding

a similar appointment

at Calcutta.

The question of improving

Captain Mitchell's salary

was raised in 1866, (I think)

by W. Denison proposed.

Raising the salary to 450, but the Govt decided that the moment was not propitious for the submission of this proposal to the Govt of India.

The disproportion between the salaries given at Calcutta & Madras is so great that it seems hardly possible that they would refuse a moderate increase.

The salary of the appointment

Captain Mitchell's wages are a poor case, I think. The maximum at Calcutta may be much larger & of more complicated superintendence than our here. but the difference in the rate of salaries when compared with that of Captain Mitchell's would perhaps an application for an increase to justify the allowance. I think, by far. W.D.

Submit
Should be 400 rising yearly 50 Rs. to a maximum of say 800
In Captain Mitchell's case his salary might fairly be now made 500 as he is not likely to hold the appt much longer & has had no increase since 1863.

W.D.

If the Govt are disposed to make the application the number of specimens added since 1863, the no. of visitors &c may be furnished.

No. 1.

From Captain J. Mitchell
Superintendent of the Central Museum

To the Hon^{ble} Secy. of War, U.S.

Chief Secretary

I have the honor to request that you will do me the favour of submitting my claims to an augmentation of my allowances as Superintendent of the Central Museum for the favourable consideration of the Right Honorable the Governor in Council.

I have hitherto refrained from bringing these claims forward in the hope that I should receive the reward of my long service in a mode more congenial to the feelings and natural ambition of an old soldier.

That hope as it is settling in Council is now, has been disappointed, and painful as it is thus to have the dream of a life-time destroyed, I feel that I must regard the decision of Her Majesty's Government as final and receive it with all submission.

My connection with the Civil branch of the Administration has doubtless tended to weaken my claim to the Military honor I sought as the reward of 46 years of Military service in India, but I venture to hope this circumstance will induce His Excellency in Council to view my present application for a more adequate remuneration for my civil duties with all the more consideration.

My connection with the Central Museum commenced in May 1859, I was then Superintendent of the Mounted Police, which force I raised in June 1857.

addition to my Staff allowance of Rupees 200 for the command of the Police Troop.

In 1863 it was considered advisable to make the Museum a separate charge and I was nominated to it; the salary being made equal to the sum I was receiving at the time for both appointments, viz. Rupees 500, and this has since remained unaltered.

The work connected with the Museum has largely increased year by year, and is rendered more onerous by the Staff comprising no one who can relieve me of any part of the Scientific observations, correspondence, and research, which the sole charge of a general Museum entails. My correspondence on subjects of Natural History is often very heavy, and the reading and study necessary in a Museum where every branch of the Science is represented and entrusted to a single individual are extensive and onerous in the extreme. I have also been required to make laborious Microscopical examinations in cases quite unconnected with the Museum.

I respectfully submit that with such largely increased duties and after nearly ten years service I may reasonably claim an addition to my salary which, small as it is, is further reduced by increased local taxation and the rise in price of every commodity.

I beg leave to contrast my position with that of the Curator of the recently established Indian Museum at Calcutta.

The Curator of that institution was engaged in September 1866 on a salary of Rupees 550 per mensem, rising yearly by 50 Rupees to the maximum of Rupees 1000. He now draws Rupees 700 besides a temporary allowance of Rupees 150 for House rent. He has an Assistant on Rupees 500 per mensem. A Head Sapidemist on Rupees 300 per mensem, and an

Office establishment costing Rupees 150. The Budget estimate for the Indian Museum for 1868/69 aggregates Rupees 47,464.0.0. and the Museum is not yet built.

Now on the other hand I receive Rupees 500 after nearly ten years service. I have no Assistant, and an Office establishment costing only Rupees 100, which includes the pay of the Curator and Assistant Curator and the Librarian. The total of my Budget estimate for 1868/69 was Rupees 15,24.8.6, and this included a special grant of Rupees 600 for Books.

I have the honor to be

Yours

Madras
April 1869

Your Most Obedient Servant

J. Mitchell Captain
Superintendent of the
Central Museum

Spokane, W. Va. 1884-1885

1884

History

History of the Museum

1885

as part of the Central Museum

any increase in Central Museum's collection

The gift is not material to government

No 521-22 April 29

1884-1885

Public 1884 April
from the Superintendent
of the Post Museum

To the Chief Secretary to
Government

No 532
Regarding this affair

for an increase in his
Civil salary may see
the kind consideration
of Government

Respectable 29 April

Received 23rd

With an Order