M.R.O. 14—10,000—21-4-22.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 2129 — Press / Mis.

226-227

Dated 13 — 11 — 1860.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
13th November 1860.

No. 226. Read the following letter from Captain F. J. B. PRIESTLEY, Superintendent Revenue Survey, to J. B. BOURDILLON, Esq., Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George dated Chepauk, 24th October 1860, No. 895:—

SIR,

1. In forwarding as requested the accompanying letter from Mr. Plumbe, I have the honor to remark that his statement regarding the troublesome nature of the Survey in which he is employed and the care he has to the best of my belief bestowed on it are correct.

2. As to my having twice declined to take charge of the Survey Mr. Plumbe has been misinformed. Had I had the option I should certainly have done so, as the task of examining and reporting on work that has been in progress for six years and under the superintendence of various Engineer Officers is far from agreeable. Mr. Plumbe probably refers to the query that was sometime ago put by the Revenue Board, as to whether I had leisure to examine and report on the work already performed, and which I answered in the negative.

3. I venture to suggest that giving Mr. Plumbe Rupees 70 per mensem additional and permitting him to find his own Assistant and Writer might meet the present case as the pay now drawn by him is hardly adequate, more especially when the arduous nature of his duties and the increased cost of living that has taken place in Madras are considered.

4. Nothing that is urged by Mr. Plumbe, however, appears to me sufficient to exonerate either him or his son from blame in concealing or not intimating the fact of Mr. Plumbe, junior, being employed in studying at the Civil Engineering College whilst actually engaged in the Revenue Survey.

No. 227. ORDER THEREON, 13th November 1860, No. 2,129.

1. The Superintendent Revenue Survey forwards a letter from Mr. M. G. Plumbe, in charge of one of the parties of the Madras Town Survey, submitting (with reference to the orders of Government of the 5th September last No. 1,524) an explanation of his conduct in allowing his son to prosecute his studies at the Civil Engineering College while holding employment under him in the Survey Department, and representing the nature of his duties, his want of Office accommodation, and the inadequate remuneration he draws. Captain Priestley recommends in consideration of the arduous nature of Mr. Plumbe's duties the grant to him of an additional sum of Rupees 70 per mensem, with the permission to find his own Assistant and Writer.

2. The Honorable the Governor in Council finds nothing in Mr. Plumbe's letter to modify the opinion already expressed by Government on his conduct. His Honor in Council will not permit any of Mr. Plumbe's sons to be employed as his Assistant, nor can he consent to modify the prohibition against his appointing his own Assistant. But, should Captain Priestley recommend it, the Government will apply to the Government of India to increase Mr. Plumbe's salary from 170 Rupees to 200 Rupees a month. To support such a recommendation full reasons must be produced by Captain Priestley.

3. With respect to the want of Office accommodation the Superintendent Revenue Survey will be requested to find room in the portion of the Chepauk Palace occupied by him, for Mr. Plumbe's Office.

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

Madras October 22nd 1860

To

J. D. Bourdillon Esqre

Secretary to Government.

Sir, I crave permission to say a few words in reference to the decision of Government regarding myself and assistant. No other arrangement than the one adopted could have been made. I took up the survey with permission to make such selection of my subordinates as would most facilitate the work. The survey itself is very troublesome in more senses than one, and I had to train my first assistant for some time before he became efficient, and I should have taken some other assistant instead of my son, had one been procurable, which is not the case, notwithstanding an advertisement for one. I think two or three who had been in the Engineer College, but such work was quite novel to them, and it took them from half to one hour to compute and plot what I do in five minutes and, after all, incorrectly done. The truth is that surveyors competent to do the combined topographical and revenue survey of a taluk are not to be had, and I do not believe there is one available who has ever done such work before, being something more difficult than open field work, and the more difficult part is over commencing. Taking my son as assistant was a matter of expediency, and his attending the College had nothing to do with his efficiency, consid-

ering

considering what work my assistant really does; preferring to do most of the work myself, simply because I am responsible: and from the difficulty of getting the real outline of property in a town, a few oversights would bring the lines into great confusion: and, if the owners know their own rights, I imagine it would not be easy to demand expenses into their dwellings; often leading conflict with the expectations of the act. The cause of referred to evidence being the incorrect work of the Surveyor, I would also observe, Sir, that I did strongly consider the detail shown as a temporary one, which the bills for former candidates did not apply; and I found the more conformed to the practice, from the Superintendent of Surveying having, as I understood, been desired to take charge of it about coinciding with the proximate Parliamentary Returns. In regard to the Surveyor's duty I have merely said in contingent bills for testing statements, charges for which my self. In the Act of the Session of Legislature printed and Enfield under Schedule A only one, and I hope to satisfy you that no other was intended, which for Surveyor's letter would be adopted, and was displeased with the same with the Surveyor. I do not mention this as any right based to Government, but as indicating the spirit in which we are to be treated, nothing to do with the arrangement, knowing as I do the intentions of the Government thereon, I do not think I can [illegible] acted otherwise, considering his relationship and position. I took him because he was the only available useful help; as I knew it would be for a short time only I considered myself perfectly justified in the course pursued. What I did was a matter of unavoidable expediency. No abuse or culpability, Sir, was intended, or can reasonably be imputed to me under existing circumstances. I would also respectfully observe, that I receive neither horse, nor office allowance; and I cannot be expected to subject myself to the inquisitorial surveillance of a stranger in my bedroom, which is the only office I can afford. Mr Walker in this respect had a great advantage over me, drawing Rs 140 additional as Conductor "Employed on other duty". To me there is nothing very consolatory in 20 years service and 170 Rs salary.

I trust, Sir, you will accept my humble apology for this statement; as, had the opinion of Government involved only that of simple negligence, I should not have presumed to trust myself upon your notice.

I beg to remain,
Sir,
With great respect,
Your most obedient
and humble Servant
W. J. Plenderleath
Revenue Surveyor

Par. 2376

On the 5th Sept. the Govt. passed an order on the conduct of Mr Plenke, one of the Landros Town surveyors, in connection with his unauthorized attendance at the Engineering College, whilst drawing pay as his assistant. Capt. Priestley was made aware of the letter from Mr Plenke, addressed to Govt. Beijing by the order. [illegible] There is nothing in the letter which attempts to alter the circumstances, or

to work it better to allow the
Plaintiff to enter on the ore
on his own land
& in case the Plaintiff refuses to
work, that the Defendant may
enter on & work the same
pursuant to the order &
the order to be
Capt. Pinnell's
report in
suggestion in Para 3.
that Plaintiff
shall have an appeal,
found for him in Capt.
Pinnell's favour
Chehalis Palace

I want to be Boundaries
that the Indian Reserve was to
run down to the Sheepath
& Ranch not to the Chehalis
if the Reserve is too low -
as it is at present I would
be willing to give up Spinster, more
Office - Capt. Pinnell knows the Reserve
& finds how he likes it

Rev.e Dep.t

No. 2129

Proceedings of the Madras Government
Under date the 13th November 1860.

Read the following letter
from the Supt. Rev.e Survey.

Forwarding letter
from Mr. Plumbe Revenue
Surveyor and suggesting an ad-
dition to his pay.

(Here enter 24th Oct.r 1860 No. 395)

The Superintendent
Revenue Survey forwards
a letter from Mr. M. G.
Plumbe, in charge of one of
the parties of the Madras
Town Survey, submitting
(with reference to the orders
of Government of the 5th Sept.r
last No. 1524) an explanation
of his conduct in allowing
his son to prosecute his
studies at the Civil Engi-
neering College while hold-
ing employment under him

in

in the Survey Dept.t, and repre-
senting the nature of his
duties, his want of office ac-
commodation, and the in-
adequate remuneration
he draws. Captain Priestley
recommends in consideration
of the arduous nature of Mr.
Plumbe's duties the grant to
him of an additional sum
of Rupees 70 per mensem,
with the permission to find
his own Assistant & Writer.

2. The Honorable the
Governor in Council finds
nothing in Mr. Plumbe's letter
to modify the opinion already
expressed by Government on
his conduct. Their Honor in
Council will not permit any
of Mr. Plumbe's sons to be em-
ployed as his Assistant, nor
can he consent to modify the
prohibition against his appoint-
ing his own Assistant. But
on Captain Priestley's recommend-

ation

-ation, the Govt will recom-
-mend to the Government of
India that his salary should
be raised from 130 Rupees
to 200 Rupees a month.

3. With respect to the
want of office accommodation
the Superintendent Revenue
Survey will be requested to
find room in the portion of
the Chepauk Palace occupied
by him, for Mr. Plumbe's Office

13 Copies
To the Dr. of Rev Settt. Dispt.
To the Supt. of Rev Survey
7 " "

81/10

Increase of Pay &c &c
Plumbe one of the Town Surveyors

15th July 1860 No 194 p.
24th July No 255-256.
2nd July No 305-306.
1st August No 3-6
5th Sept. No 777
Y.

Revenue 1860 Dept.
Pro: of Govt for Nov.

No 2129.

Pro: of the Madras Govt.
Dt 13th November 1860.

From the Dr of Rev. & Mint
Dt 23d Nov. 60 No 2705
in Pro. Dest. No 2336.

Passing orders on a letter from the Supt. of Revs. Survey forwarding one from Mr M. G. Plumbe in charge of one of the parties of the Madras Town Survey: applying for an increase of Pay and for permission to fund his own Asst. & Writer.

No 226 & 227.

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