M.R.O. 14—10,000—21-4-22.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 2362 — Press Mis.

242-243

Dated 24 - 12 - 1861.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 242. Read the following letter from Major F. J. B. PRIESTLEY, Superintendent of Revenue Survey, to J. D. SIM, Esq., Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Fort Saint George, dated Chepauk, 2nd December 1861, No. 1,017 :—

SIR,

1. I have the honor to state I am informed by the Civil Paymaster that I must obtain the sanction of Government to an advance of Rupees 100, made to a Head Surveyor named Overbury being written off the books, and therefore request that this sanction may be granted, the advance having been made under the following circumstances.

2. Mr. Albert Overbury applied to me for employment, producing extremely good certificates of his employment in the Royal Navy, in which he attained the rank of passed Midshipman (or Mate) after a service of several years, and also of his service on board several merchant vessels. On examination I found him to possess a good knowledge of Surveying and Survey instruments, Trigonometry, &c. He had evidently been well educated, and there appeared no reason to doubt his own account that he was of respectable family, but was compelled to leave the Navy from want of means and interest, I therefore appointed him a Head Surveyor in the Wainád Survey party then temporarily employed at Salem, where he was directed to join forthwith. He signed an agreement to serve, but stated his inability to leave Madras without an advance, which was granted him to the extent of Rupees 100, the usual equipment allowance to men of his grade.

Letter dated 7th November 1860, No. 972.

3. He, however, failed to present himself at Salem and demanded from me a further advance, stating he had been robbed. This was refused, and it was intimated to him that a Magistrate would be applied to unless he immediately quitted Madras and performed his part of the contract. I requested the Master Attendant to prevent him obtaining employment on board any vessel in the Roads, and referred to Colonel Boulderson who informed that he could not interfere, but that I had better apply to the Magistrate at Salem.

4. I therefore laid information before Mr. Brett, but on the issue of a warrant it was discovered he had entered on board the steamer "Dalhousie" of the Indian Navy and left for Bombay.

5. I may mention that being at a loss how to act I referred for instructions to the Secretary Revenue Board, and through him obtained the opinion of the Advocate General.

6. I trust Government may consider that all due caution was observed by me and see fit to permit this advance to be written off as requested.

No. 243. ORDER THEREON, 24th December 1861, No. 2,362.

Major Priestley is requested to give fuller particulars of Albert Overbury's entry on board he "Dalhousie," in order that application may be made to the Government of Bombay for the ecovery of the advance if Overbury is in the service.

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

Rec'd 1861 Dec 31

Pro: of Govt for Decr

No 2817

The Superintendent Rev: Survey

To

The Secy to Govt R.D.

Dated 2nd Dec 1861

Rec'd 3rd Dec

No 1017

Enclosure

No 2362. 24th December

Subject

Requesting that the advance for equipment of Rs 100 - - made to Mr. Head Surveyor Overbury may be written off the books for the reasons stated

With an order

From Supt of Revs Survey dated 24 Dec 62

Encl 137.

Copy to the Govt of Bombay - 7 Feb 63.

No 329.

No 242 & 243

No 2362

Major Prestley is requested to give fuller particulars of Albert Overbury's entry on board the Dalhousie in order that application may be made to the Govt of Bombay for the recovery of the advance if Overbury is in the service.

Post Lt George 24 Dec 62

7 Copies. Supt of Rev: Survey. Pisp 26