M.R.O. 14—10,000—21-4-22

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 894 Press ~~Mis.~~

346-347

Dated 19 4 1864.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 19th April 1861.

No. 346. Read the following letter from H. NEWILL, Esq., Director of Revenue Settlement, to J. D. BOURDILLON, Esq., Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Fort Saint George, dated Madras, 8th April 1861, No. 577 :—

SIR,

1. I have the honor to submit a letter and its accompaniments from the Superintendent of Revenue Survey, dated 5th instant, No. 362, with which he forwards a letter from his Deputy in the Wainád, Captain Searle, requesting that the same may be forwarded to Government with the correspondence relating to the censure passed by Captain Priestley upon him, and his justification of himself as regards the conduct of his duties.

2. Captain Priestley observes that "a perusal of letters written to Captain Searle will show "the frequent occasions on which he has had to animadvert on his want of judgment both in "managing his Establishment and in conducting Survey operations." This was brought to my notice from time to time.

3. After the expression of the Superintendent's opinion that Captain Searle "has evinced "such an entire want of that tact and discretion necessary to control a body of men, and has "apparently so utterly failed in infusing zeal and energy into the members of his Establishment, "that it seems to him to be his duty not to advise his retention in the Department," the Government will probably concur in the conclusion arrived at, that the interests of the Department will be best promoted by Captain Searle's disconnection with it.

No. 347. ORDER THEREON, 19th April 1861, No. 894.

The Honorable the Governor in Council has attentively considered the papers submitted with this letter, and he is of opinion that it is not expedient that Captain Searle should continue in the Survey Department. His services will therefore be placed at the disposal of the Provincial Commander-in-Chief; and Captain Priestley will take measures to relieve him of his present charge without delay.

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

Memo.

It is requested that the original letter, with enclosures, from the Superintendent of Revenue Leeward dated 5th April 1861 No 362, which accompanied the letter from the Director of Revenue Settlement of the 8th idem No 577, may be returned, as the subject was disposed of in Reor: of Govt 19th April 1861 No 894. It would be a great convenience if in accordance with Rule 5 of the Proc of Govt 5th May 1859 P. D. No 801 original papers were returned when no longer required

W P Williams
Manager

Rec'd at Office
Nassau 7th May 1861.

Memo

3

With reference to the Memo: from the Manager of the Office of the Director of Revenue Settlement dated 7th Instant, the undersigned has the honor to return the documents* therein alluded to.

*sixteen in number

(Signed) G. Muttusawmy Chetty
Registrar

Fort St. George
8th May 1865

To
The Manager of the Office
of the Director of
Revenue Settlement

In his report on the Survey operations for 1860, Capt Priestley, the Superintendent Revenue Survey, ~~[illegible]~~ made some remarks on the work performed by Capt. Searle, Deputy Superintendent Revenue Survey, which the latter officer considered to be detrimental to the character he had ever borne in the service for zeal and energy, and he has ×now begged that his reports &c. for the year 1860, may be submitted to Govt., with a view to that censure being recalled.

×26 March 1861. No. 50.

The papers in question are accordingly forwarded by Capt. Priestley ⊙through the Director of Revenue Settlement, with the remarks & recommendations of both of these officers.

×5 April 1861. No-362.
⊙8 April 1861 No. 577.

Capt: Searle is at the head of the Wynaad Survey party, which has, during the greater portion of 1860, been employed in the District of Salem, on the survey of the Bazipur Valley. From one of his reports it appears that he first joined the Department at Trichinopoly on 13 January 1860, and after remaining there a short time to become acquainted with the work, joined the Wynaad party at Kann-

×28 Jan/61

just before its departure thence to Salem on 12 March 1860. It remained there until nearly the close of the year, when it again returned to the Wynaad.

*16 April 1860. Captain Searle's first report relates to the operations of the party from September 1859 to 12 March 1860. i.e. for the time of its Irish employment in the Wynaad, but as the whole of this period was previous to Capt: Searle's arrival, and he, therefore, not responsible for the work, no further notice of it is required.

*11 Oct. 1860. His second report relates to the work performed from date of arrival at Salem till the end of September. Though they arrived on 1 April, nearly a whole month was lost before work could be commenced, in consequence, it was stated, of the delay of the Deputy Director in furnishing necessary records. The Razipur Taluq, containing 145 square miles, and 155 villages of which 134 had to be surveyed, was given over to them, and by the end of September, or in 5 months, the out-door Establishment, which consisted of the persons marginally noted, had completed 9 Grand circuits, and 128 village circuits, leaving 2 grand circuits and 9 village circuits to be done. The Amins had measured 128.73 square miles, leaving 16.27 sq. miles to be completed. Maps were in course of preparation. Slow progress

*1 Prov. Asst. Supt.
2 Head Surveyors
2 Deputy Do.
2 Detail Ds.
10 Amins.

ascribed principally to bad demarcation of the village boundaries not having been properly cleared of jungle. Season had also been unfavourable & much sickness about.

28 Jan[y] 1861 His third report brings up the account of progress made to December 1860. Little progress seems to have been made in the last three months.

		From May to September	From Oct[r] to December	Total.
1	Main Circuits.....	9	2	11
2	Village Circuits....	128	7	135
3	Minor Circuits...	.....	.....	57
4	Area of villages compiled by Amins. (20. miles..	128·73..	18·31	147·4
	Square acres measured..	82,387	14,697	94,084
5	Village Boundary plotted.	.....	.....	135
6	Village Fields plotted.	.....	.....	126
7	Villages proved	.....	.....	44
8	Villages Topographical detail surveyed	.....	.....	9

Capt: Searle however describes the party as "finishing up work and "receiving instruction in the various "branches of surveying"

The expenditure for the 1st Rolle year 1860 was as follows.

1 January to 11 March	6,715 " 1 " 10
12 March to 30 September ...	17,490 " 8 " 3
1 October to 31 December	9,534 " 0 " 0
	33,739 " 11 " 1
Add Travelling allowances & supplemental contingent charges:	3,114 " 4 " 0
	36,853 " 15 " 1

carried over .... 36,853 " 15 " 1

Deduct salary of Mr Leggatt a
party detached for a time to
do duty under Capt Heaney ... 2,679 " 2 " 10

actual charges for the year ... 34,174 " 12 " 3

Deduct charges before arriving
at Salem ..... 6,715 " 1 " 10

Expenditure in Salem .... 27,459 " 10 " 5

But Capt: Searle wd also deduct
the cost of Establishment
for the time it was idle
from 1 to 20 April ... 1,546-12-8
And also cost for the
time it was travelling .. 2,114-15-7

3,661 " 12 " 3

Remainder 23,797 " 14 " 2

which sum divided among the 147 square
miles stated to have been completed wd
give Rs. 161, odd as the cost per square mile.

It was with reference to the rate
of expenditure thus incurred that Capt:
Priestley in his letter to the Director of Rev-
enue Settlement of 28 November 1860, when
commenting on Capt: Searle's proposal
to remain in Salem instead of going to the
Wynaad, remarked that this party had
completed "about 100 square miles of
"country at a cost of perhaps Rs. 20,000;"
which Capt: Heaney's party cd have per-
formed it in a month for about Rs. 5000.
and that making every possible allowance
for the many disadvantages under
which Capt: Searle's party labored, its per-
formance has fallen far short of what

might have been anticipated.

In consequence of these remarks Capt: Searle devoted the greater portion
* 28 Jan. 1801. of his general report* to a recapitulation of the various hindrances he had met with during the year, and to a defence of his character generally. A compliance with the suggestions made by him (f. 5) wd have remedied the slow progress in the last quarter. The letters addressed by him to Capt: Priestley (f. 8) were constant, but the suggestions and applications so made elicited but little attention, details again (f. 9) the delays wch occurred on (f. 10) first arrival at Salem, and alludes to an application which he had made to be allowed to demarcate himself. Complains (f. 11) of the want of knowledge in his Amins, who had been given over to him as perfect in their work, and of their incorrect measurements: alludes to the great aversion in which the Ryuaad is held, and which renders the Establishment indifferent to their duties: also (f. 14) to the drawback caused by sickness, all the members of the Establishment having been victimized either by cholera or fever: also (f. 15) to the difficulty of getting persons. Remarks that situated as he was, he was unable to ascertain the qualifications of his men, till after their work had been put up: on the whole considers that under the circumstances, no party could

have succeeded better than his hav.
Objects (p. 18) to the mode in which Capt: Priestley made his calculation that 100 square miles were completed for 20,000 Rupees. Explains that his gunnies had not enough work to do, ~~though~~ upon which he applied for a fresh Talay, wh. however was refused: the blame of short work cannot therefore rest with him: alludes (p. 19) to Capt: Priestley's personal request that he sh.d not be hard upon the settlement party, but sh.d rather make the training of hands for the Wynaad the chief object to be attained: & adverts (p. 21) to his want of power and executive authority to effect measures which appeared advantageous.

Capt: Priestley's remarks are written in red ink on the margin of the ~~[illegible]~~ report alluded to above. The principal "suggestions" alluded to by Capt Searle & wh. were not complied with, were (1) that he sh.d commence the measurement of another Talay, leaving Capt Kessey to bring up all the arrears in Rayapur & wh. were considerable: and (2) that he (Capt S.) sh.d remain at Salem, & not proceed to the Wynaad, quite losing sight of the original intention of his appt.: & (3) that he sh.d be allowed to demarcate for himself, when Capt Priestley had no authority to allow him to do so, & when neither the progress made in his own work, nor his success in the administration of his own establishment were

such as to include the Superintendent to increase his responsibilities. The frequency of Capt. Searle's reports and their being on many occasions unnecessary, induced the Superintendent to intimate that fewer would do. In Capt. Priestley's opinion Capt. Searle might have learnt the qualifications of every man under him in a month with a very small amount of activity and personal exertion. The remarks of Capt. Searle regarding Capt. Priestley, expressed wish not to be too hard upon the Settlement party &c. are based upon the latter's desiring that every trivial complaint by the amins about demarcation shd not be taken notice of: and that some extra surveyors shd be properly instructed. This party, it must be noticed, had double the usual proportion of the higher ranks. i.e. European Officers and surveyors. Capt. Searle's powers are the same as the other Deputy Superintendents who have always found assistance rendered them when necessary.

Capt. Priestley in his present letter (5 April 1861) considers the remarks noticed above as sufficient answer to Capt. Searle's protest. But if more were required, he forwards a letter & statement from Capt. Heaney, (by whom apparently the records &c of the Kazipur Taluq survey were sent on Capt.

*24 January 1861 No 6.

Searle's departure for Nanaimo did
which shew that the work reported by
Capt: Searle was completed was. In
reality not so. Capt S.'s "104 villages found
correct" turned out to be "17 tested & found
perfect" - His 122 villages with their fields
plotted were found by Capt: Hennessy & he
only 85 in number: and in 54 villages
out of 135; 100 minor circuits remain
to be taken.

Both the Superintendent of
Revenue Survey and the Director of
Revenue Settlement are of opinion
that no advantage will be gained
by Capt: Searle's retention in the
Dept.

Yrs

Nota - Capt - Searle was
attached to the Survey
Dept in Dec. 1859.

+ It seems to me useless & undesirable to retain
Capt. Searle in the Survey Dept. - Yrs

Duncan

Will

Telegram from Capt. Scarle
d. 26th April 1861 Rec. 27th

From Capt. J. Dick Scarle. d/25
April 1861 Rec. No. 1088.

No 346 & 347.

Rec. 13th April 21st

Recd 1861 Sept.
~~Secty of 1861~~
Pro: of Govt. Nos. 891 & 894.
From No 861.
The Director of
Revenue Settlement
To
The Secretary to Government
Revenue Department
Fort Saint George

Dated 8th April 1861

Received 9th " No 577
Rec: 16th " Returned 8-5-61

Submitting a correspondence forwarded by the Superintendent of Revenue Survey respecting the Censure passed by that officer upon Captain Scarle and his justification of himself as regards the Conduct of his duties.

No 894. 19th April.
With an order

Fort St. George
19th April 1861

Recd 19th Sept. Pro: of Govt. No 894.
Copy of Letter from Director of Revenue Settlement & Survey dated 8th April 1861 with its Enclosure.

No 894.

The Honble. the Govr. in C. has attentively considered the papers submitted with this letter; & he is of opinion that it is not expedient that Capt. Scarles should continue in the Survey Deptt. - His services will therefore be placed at the disposal of the Provincial Comdr. in Chief; & Capt. Priestley will take measures to relieve him of his present charge without delay. —