M.R.O. 14—13,000—27-9-24

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 2175 Press ~~Mis.~~

324. 325

Dated 29—11—1864.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 344. 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, 8th November 1864, No. 894-32 :—

SIR,

1. I have the honor to bring to the notice of Government an improved description of a Circumferentor, which Captain Barber, Deputy Superintendent Revenue Survey, has had made up at his own expense, under his own superintendence by a Native workman at Tinnevelly, and for which I may observe a reward of Rupees 30 was awarded by the Committee of the last District Exhibition.

2. It consists of a plate with a graduated edge, above which work two arms with Vernier's reading to 3'. The latter carry at right angles to them folding sights, in one of them is a slit, and in the other a wire is stretched as in the ordinary Surveying Compass. In the centre is placed a circular Compass removable at pleasure. The whole folds up into a box a few inches square.

3. I have examined the instrument, and am of opinion that if well graduated and with Vernier's reading to 1' it will possess the following advantages :—

I. Its cost will be one-seventh of that of a Theodolite, and little more than half that of a Prismatic Compass or ordinary Circumferentor.

II. It is as portable as a Compass, and much less likely to be damaged.

III. For short distances it will read as accurately as a Theodolite, and far more so than any Surveying Compass.

		Cost.
25 Theodolites	... ...	5,250
100 Compasses and Circumferentors	... ...	5,500
5 Do. with telescope	... ...	800
	Total ...	11,550
130 Circumferentors, Captain Barber's pattern ...		4,550
		7,000

4. For part of the work on which small Theodolites are now used in the Revenue Survey, and in almost all cases for Prismatic Compasses and Circumferentors this instrument might be substituted, at a saving in first cost of Rupees 7,000.

5. I have now to solicit the permission of Government to have twenty of these instruments made up by the Government Instrument-maker. The one constructed at Tinnevelly is badly graduated, and has other instrumental defects, which will be corrected in those made here. Mr. Doderet informs me that their cost will be about Rupees 35 a piece.

6. If the sanction now sought is accorded, I propose to send a few to each survey party for trial and report, and also to the Civil Engineering College and Department of Public Works if thought advisable. Should the experiment prove successful the Department will be under obligation to Captain Barber, to whom I think great credit is due for his endeavour to adapt our Survey instruments to the work required and to the persons using them.

No. 345. ORDER THEREON, 29th November 1864, No. 2,175.

Miscellaneous.

1. On the recommendation of the Superintendent of Revenue Survey, the Government grant permission for twelve Circumferentors of the kind mentioned being made up by the Government Instrument-maker, at the estimated cost of Rupees 35 each. The result of the trial of these instruments should be reported in due course.

2. Colonel Priestley will state how he proposes to meet this charge, also whether the present sanction will admit of his dispensing with any of the Circumferentors included in his last* Indent on England.

* G. O. 20th May 1864, No. 868.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) C. G. MASTER,
Under Secretary to Government.

To the Superintendent of Revenue Survey.
„ the Public Works Department.
„ the Accountant General.
„ the Civil Paymaster.
„ the Military Department.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

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From Fort St. George
29th November 1866

To The Superintendent Revenue Survey, Deputy Engineer
" " Public Works Department
" " Accountant General
" " Civil Paymaster

Ld. 20th May 1864. No. 868.

Copy mem letter to Lieut
of 31 January 1865 No 4 Misc

From Secrets of R Soc
of 16 Dec 1864 exc 3253

No 344 & 345.

Rec'd 1864 Returned
No: of Govt Letters
No. 2924.

From The Superintendent Port

To The Secretary to Govt
Pen Lap

Dated 8th November
Despatched 8th do
Received 10th do

Enclosures, No. None

No 894/32

Subject.

Bringing to notice of Govt
an improved description of
percussion tube & requesting
permission of Government
to have twenty of the same
made up by the Govt
Instrument maker

No 2175. 29 Nov
with answer.