

C.S.

SCIENTIFIC

(Naturalist)

1923

No. 813/23

Govt. Naturalist

SUBJECT.

1923

29th October

Previous Paper.

GOVERNMENT NATURALIST.

Applies for an assistant during visit to South Shetlands.

MINUTES.

Minute from Govt of Naturalist of 29th Oct 1923 — Encl ①

*23 June 24
12 Dec. 24*

*J.P. Submitted
G.N. by
D.C. Sec
29 Oct 1923*

Will you please send the following telegram to the S.O.P.

" Government Naturalist requests that he may have the services of an assistant for scientific work South Shetlands this season. Total cost to Government will be £120. I recommend this for favour of approval and earliest possible reply by telegram"

ttttt

note I discussed this at length with G.N.

Subsequent Paper.

Telegram to S. of S. 30th Oct. 1923. Encl (2)

Telegram from S. of S. 2nd November 1923 Encl (3)

Letter to Mr. Turner 5th November 1923 Encl (4)

Letter to Govt. Naturalist 5th November 1923 Encl (5)

V.P. Mr. Turner reported his arrival this afternoon. He is making arrangements to leave for the South Shetlands on the 'Pythia'.

G.P.H. 17
D.C.S. 14 Nov 1923

Will draft despatch

11/11 5 Dec. '23

Despatch to S. of S. no. 148 of the 30th of November, 1923. — Encl (6)

Minute from Govt. Naturalist of 31st March 1924 — (7)

V.P. Submitted
G.P.H. 17
D.C.S. 9 April 1924

Seen with pleasure

11/11 11 April 24

V.P. Mr. Turner reported his return to Stanley this morning. With Your Excellency's approval he will now be paid at rate of £11 a month

from 14 November to 27th April from
 I Dependence's Item 18. The total
 amount so payable is £60. 2/8. His
 stop chest expenses will also be defrayed
 from this vote, when he produces
 necessary vouchers. Vide Encl ⑧

Mr Turner has asked if there is
 any likelihood of his being re-employed
 in the near future with the Govt.

g.h. 17
 D.C. Sec
 28 April 1924

Mr. Turner will be required
 for further work in connection
 with the specimens brought
 back from the South Shetlands
 Subject to any ~~or~~ service that
 may under Mr. Bennett's
 direction be immediately re-
 quired of him he may have
 an extension of employment
 until at all events the
 14th of May with three
 days leave to the 1st of May.

g.h. 17 28 April 24

List of Articles supplied to Mr. Turner

Mr A. G. Bennett,
Assistant Naturalist.

To wife. Will you please
inform Mr Turner, will you
also please tell him that vouchers
in respect of his services to the
end of April have been passed
to the Treasury for payment to
him.

M.L. 13
D.C.S.
28 April 1924

D in C.

C.S.O.

Noted, thank you, Mr Turner informed

A.G. Bennett
29.4.24.

Asst. Naturalist,

Will you please report
the extent to which Mr. Turner's
services can be further employed
and whether such employment would
be no work in respect of Colony
or Dependencies specimens

~~W.L.~~ 15 May '24

Hon Col Secy.

There does not appear to be much that Mr Turner can do for the present

A fair amount of labour will be necessary on the two larger whale skulls including the removal, + pickling of the Right whale baleen. The latter operation should be commenced as soon as weather conditions permit.

This work would come under whatever heading the skulls are ultimately consigned to.

W Bennett
asst Nat
20/5/24.

Asst. G.W. Lakin Esq

It is not clear whether you recommend the continuous employment of Mr. Turner and whether there is sufficient ^{work to hand} work for justifying employment and if so for how long

W Bennett 20 May 24

Hon: Col: Secy:

With the immediate work
necessary on the two whale skulls
I ask that Mr Turner may be kept
on until the middle of June.

ag Bennett
29.5.24

Yr.
Submitted for approval

ttttt 20 May '24
H.
30 May 1924

Vouchers passed.
20. June 1924

Asst. Naturalist

For note and to inform
Mr Turner. A further recommendation
should be made before the 14: June
if there is sufficient reason for
retaining his services after that
date.

ttttt 31 May '24

Hon. G.S.

Noted, Mr Turner informed by attached
letter

enc 10

ag Bennett
5.6.24

Hon: Col: Secy:

The preparation of the Right whale-bone
will occupy much longer than I had
anticipated. I have inspected the progress

this morning. In view of the work yet to be done. I beg to ask that Mr Turner might be employed for the remainder of the month.

Rgt Bennett

12. 6. 24

Y.S.
 Submitted for approval but as there seems no justification for continuing Mr. Turner's employment in Stanley he should return to the farms after this month?

~~TTTTT~~ 13 June '24
 J.A.
 13 June 1924

Harbour leader

Accordingly
 One relief will be required at the farms on the next visit of the Afterglow I think?

~~TTTTT~~ 16 June '24

Hon. Col. Secretary.

Submitted.

F. Bouse left Stanley for Jason Guard duties on 9th February 1924.

2. I would suggest that he be relieved, for a period of leave, on the next visit of the "Afterglow".

Colin E. Hoedley.
 Harbour Master
 16. 6. 24

Harbour Master

L. Bann is the friend who is
due for relief. Will you please speak
about the leave question.

~~W.H.H.~~ 17 June 24

Hon. Col. Secretary.

Spoken.

Colin E. Stoddley.
Harbour Master.
18. VI. 24.

Ant. Gort Naturalist

Will you please notify Mr.
Turner accordingly

~~W.H.H.~~ 20 June 24

Hon. Col. Secretary.

Mr. Turner informed

Em (11)

W. Bennett
asst. Nat.
20.6.24

Please have enclosed certificate of
service filled in and typed and sent to
Mr. Turner

~~W.H.H.~~ 20 Dec. 24

Certificate of Service, 12th Dec. 1924.

(12)



1527

①

Stanley.

29th October 1923.

Sir,

With reference to my approaching visit to South Island and for the whaling season, and to the continuation of research on whaling, I would beg to submit a request that I may be permitted to have an assistant in order to facilitate the research.

2. From my experience of such work, both alone and in company of another investigator I am able to state that the presence of a second person very greatly increases the amount of work which can be accomplished.

One of the principal reasons for this is that the great bulk of the material renders it difficult or impossible to handle, even alone, while even two persons find the work sufficiently arduous.

3. It may be objected that it is

always

always possible to borrow labour from among the whaling crew, but I would submit that this method can scarcely be regarded as desirable if it can be avoided since it makes the investigator largely dependent on the whalers and may produce an appearance of interfering with the progress of the work on the factory or station thus tending to cause irritation.

4. If it is proper to do so, may I mention the name of Mr. John Turner of the Jason Seal Guard in this connection.

He was employed in my department for over a fortnight in September and displayed intelligence and energy, and has no aversion to engaging in work which would be repellent to many people.

I beg to state that my suggestion with reference to Mr. Turner's employment

in this

in this capacity is of course, subject to the absence of interference with the guarding of the Faron Rookery

5. The total cost of an assistant for six months at £11 per month, plus a messing allowance to the whalers of 5/- per day and a small allowance, say £10 for clothing would be about £120.

6. May I urge that the great importance of the industry and the necessity of accumulating as much information as possible on the subject is the reason for making this statement.

7. The assistant would not, of course, act as whaling officer, but the experience during the coming season might act as a preparation for the eventual exercise of that function if the person proved to be otherwise suitable.

I have the honour to be,

The Honorable
Colonial Secretary
Stanley.

Sir,
Your obedient servant
J. H. Hamilton,
Government Naturalist

TELEGRAM.

From : His Excellency the Acting Governor
To : The Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Dispatched : 30th October, 1923. *Time.* 4.15 p.m.

Received : 19 *Time.*

CHAPELRIES

LONDON

YALODIHLEW ZARKALEKEX PHRUTIPYEB RIKJLAMOMO
AKROYHIEOT PYZAOUXAVO SDUNYRCSFY TISEDRAERO
IBYTATYGVIV TREEIHLEW USIEGWANUK VYHOMICEXO
OXEYNTISED HIEOTGOPJI ARIEBBAMRIP FAZAWPAUEN
GUVNE

Meaning:

30th October. Government Naturalist requests that he may have the services of an Assistant for scientific work South Shetlands this season. Total cost to Government will be £120. I recommend this for favour of approval and earliest possible reply by telegraph.

Governor.

TELEGRAM.

From : The Secretary of State for the Colonies.

To : The Acting Governor.

Dispatched : 2nd November.....19 23 *Time.* 10.40 a.m.

Received : 3rd November.....19 23 *Time.* 9.46 a.m.

YOLJUUCGOK NAUTA ? PYZAO UXAVOCORUZ ARFAEGEWGO
WAPPAONIOD ODWYPOXFOW SECER.

Meaning With reference to your telegram of the 30th October,
unaware of (nature of ?) scientific work but
approve expenditure £120 on your recommendation.

Secretary of State for the Colonies

813/23

5th November,

23.

Sir,

I am directed by the Acting Governor to inform you that it is His Excellency's wish that you should return immediately to Stanley by the "Afterglow" in order to accompany Mr. J. E. Hamilton, Government Naturalist to the South Shetlands to assist him in his scientific work. While so employed you will be paid at the rate of £11 a month and your maintenance provided.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

G. R. L. Brown,

for Colonial Secretary.

Mr. J. Turner.

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N~~o~~ 813/23

MINUTE.

(It is requested that, in any reference to this letter, the above Number and the date may be quoted.)

..... 5th November, 19 23

To..... Government Naturalist,

Stanley.

From

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY,

Stanley, Falkland Islands.

With reference to your letter of the 29th of October, I am directed by the Acting Governor to attach a copy of a letter which has been addressed to Mr. J. Turner, instructing him to return to Stanley in order to accompany you to the South Shetlands. The "Afterglow" will leave Stanley on the 6th inst., and should return with Mr. Turner not later than the 14th.

G. R. L. Brown,
for Colonial Secretary.

6

LAND ISLANDS.

148.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,
STANLEY,

30th November, 1923.

My Lord Duke,

Telegram to
Secretary of State
dated 30th
October, 1923.

Telegram from
Secretary of State
dated 2nd
November, 1923.

With reference to the
correspondence noted in the margin, I have
the honour to thank Your Grace for approval
of the engagement of an Assistant to the
Government Naturalist during the present
whaling season.

In duplicate.

2. I attach a copy of the letter in
which Mr. Hamilton applied for the services
of Mr. John Turner. There were in my
opinion several considerations, which
rendered it of importance to the whaling
industry that compliance should be given
with the request of the Naturalist.

3. From a scientific standpoint, it
is uneconomical that an abnormal proportion
of the Naturalist's time should be taken
up in comparatively unskilled work which can
be equally well done by an assistant. Large
quantities of material have to be handled
and the work of the assistant can be utilized
to an extent which will leave Mr. Hamilton

free/

HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF DEVONSHIRE,
P.C., K.G., G.C.M.G., G.C.V.C.,
SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES.

free for the practical examination of scientific problems under favourable conditions. To put it briefly in that officer's own words, two men can do three times as much work as one. I may add the view that the ground work that can be done this season for the Discovery Expedition will be well repaid. There are also several questions of deep concern to the whalers requiring early investigation. I mention here the small blue whale, known to the Norwegians as the Marsh Bear. It has apparently all the characteristics of the blue whale and the gunners get the bonus paid for that species, but there is, I understand, the possibility that it may be a new species, and a number of measurements have to be taken for the examination of the problem.

4. The personal aspect of the engagement of Mr. Turner for administrative reasons is also a factor. He is well educated and a member of a local family of standing. He was educated in South America and England, and he served through the war in France; he returned to the Colony last year to obtain work, and he has been employed for the past twelve months as a seal reserve guard at the Jason rookery. He is essentially the exceptional type of man whom it is desirable to train in this Colony for service in the Dependence

Dependencies; he is engaged for the whaling season on labourer's wages of all a month, and he has been instructed to learn Norwegian. It seems scarcely worth while mentioning that it would be difficult to ensure the *preparation of adequate material* for the Dependencies' representation at the British Empire Exhibition, were it not for the engagement of Mr. Turner.

I have the honour to be,

My Lord Duke,

Your Grace's most obedient,

humble servant,

H. Henniker-Heaton.

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ENCLOSURE TO FALKLAND ISLANDS DESPATCH No. 148 of
the 30th of November, 1923.

Stanley,

29th October, 1923.

Sir,

With reference to my approaching visit to South Shetland for the whaling season, and to the continuation of research on whaling, I would beg to submit a request that I may be permitted to have an assistant in order to facilitate the research.

2. From my experience of such work, both alone and in company of another investigator I am able to state that the presence of a second person very greatly increases the amount of work which can be accomplished.

One of the principal reasons for this is that the great bulk of the material renders it difficult or impossible to handle, when alone, while even two persons find the work sufficiently arduous.

3. It may be objected that it is always possible to borrow labour from among the whaling crew, but I would submit that this method can scarcely be regarded as desirable if it can be avoided since it makes the investigator largely dependent on the whalers and may produce an appearance of interfering with the progress of the work on the factory or station thus tending to cause irritation.

4. If it is proper to do so, may I mention the name of Mr. John Turner of the Jason Seal

Guard/

Guard in this connection.

He was employed in my department for over a fortnight in September and displayed intelligence and energy, and has no aversion to engaging in work which would be repellent to many people.

I beg to state that my suggestion with reference to Mr. Turner's employment in this capacity is of course, subject to the absence of interference with the guarding of the Jason Rookery.

5. The total cost of an assistant for six months at £11 per month, plus a messing allowance to the whalers of 5/- per day and a small allowance, say £10 for clothing would be about £120.

6. May I urge that the great importance of the industry and the necessity of accumulating as much information as possible on the subject as the reason for making this statement.

7. The assistant would not, of course, act as whaling officer, but the experience during the coming season might act as ~~an~~ a preparation for the eventual exercise of that function if the person proved to be otherwise suitable.

I have etc.,

(Sgd.) J. E. Hamilton,

Government Naturalist.

The Honourable
The Colonial Secretary.
Stanley.

Minute.

(7)

Stanley

31st March 1924.

To The
Honourable Colonial Secretary.

Sir,

I have the honour to make
the following statement with reference
to Mr. J. G. Turner, who was my
assistant in scientific work in South
Shetland during the months of
December, January and February
of 1923 and 1924.

During the whole of his time
Mr. Turner exhibited qualities
which indicated that he was very
suitable for his kind of work
(Whaling research). He was industrious
and intelligent, as well as being
obedient to all orders and showed
much keenness in the execution of
his duties. He was never deterred
by length of hours, severity or un-
pleasantness of work.

I would wish to add that
personally I found Mr. Turner a very
pleasant associate, his most
marked characteristics being an
evenness of temper and cheerful

disposition.

I may state that his
presence undoubtedly assisted
in alleviating conditions which
could not but have had a depressing
influence on my own spirits.

I have the honor to be,
Sir
Your obedient servant
J. E. Hamilton.

C.S.O. No. _____

(8)

Inside Minute Paper.

Sheet No. _____

Mr. J. Turner will be
granted an allowance of
not exceeding £10 for
purchase of kit for the
North Shetlands and food
may be ordered accordingly

ttttt 14 Nov. 28

List of articles purchased for Mr. J. Turner.

From Ronald.

	Kr.
1 pair mittens	8.50
2 canvas jumpers	23.00
1 pair boots	35.00
3 pairs socks	9.00
1 Icelander	11.00

From Falk.

1 windproof jacket	25.00
1 pair sea boots	55.00
1 pair leather gloves	6.50
1 pair socks	3.50
1 jersey	14.50
1 Oilskin Coat	15.00
1 pair woollen gloves	3.50

209.50 Kr.

Cost at 138 Kr to £.....£7 9s 7d.

(10)

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

No. 813/23

Naturalist's Office,
Stanley,
5th June, 1924.

Sir,

I am directed to inform you that you will continue to be employed in the Naturalist's Department, in any case, until the 14th of June, but that, subject to the requirements of the Department, your services may be retained beyond that date.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

A. G. Bennett,

Assistant to the
Government Naturalist.

Mr. J. Turner,
Stanley.

Naturalists Office,
Stanley.

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20 June 1924.

C/S 813/23

Sir,

I am directed to inform you that your employment in this Department will cease at the end of this month.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant.

A. S. Bennett

Asst to Gov Naturalist.

Mr J. Turner.

Stanley.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE.

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that JOHN TURNER was in the employment of the Government of the Falkland Islands for a period of two years and twelve days from the 20th of November, 1922, to the 30th of November, 1924.

For six months of the above time he was employed on special work as an assistant to the Government Naturalist. For the remainder of the time he was a seal fishery guard.

He gave full satisfaction to the Government during the period of his engagement. The Government Naturalist reported that he was industrious, intelligent and zealous. He is sober in his habits.

His employment ceased on the withdrawal of the seal fishery guard.

H. Henniker-Heaton.

Colonial Secretary.

COLONIAL SECRETARY'S OFFICE,
STANLEY, FALKLAND ISLANDS,
12th December, 1924.