1469

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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public works DEPARTMENT.

Ar. 17/6/59

G.O. No. 1469	Press / Mis.
58.59 Dated 15-6--	1859.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

5/38

No. 58. Read the following letter from Lieutenant-Colonel C. WOODFALL; to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, dated Coonoor, 6th May 1859.

I have the honor to forward a Memorial addressed to the Right Honorable the Governor in Council by myself and other Proprietors and Residents at Coonoor, interested in question of a permanent and sufficient supply of water, which I request you will have the goodness to submit for consideration of Government.

To the Right Honorable the Governor in Council, Fort St. George.

The Memorial of the undersigned House-holders and Residents of Coonoor.

Respectfully Shewth,

i. That they suffer much inconvenience, at times, from the want of a sufficient supply of water; and therefore beg leave to state particulars in regard to a matter so essential to the health and comfort of themselves and families; and pray that the measures they propose may meet with your favorable consideration.

ii. There is at present a stream of water which, nominally, supplies the greater number of the houses during the year. From the best information your Memorialists are able to obtain it appears that it was originally brought from a distance by the company of Sappers and Miners employed by Government to open the Ghaut in the year 1834. That Major Murray, Commanding the company led the water into the premises which afterwards became the property of the late General B. Kennett; and now owned by Mrs. Hayne. A Sergeant, who had a hut near the house now called Glenview, the property of Lieutenant-Colonel Woodfall, also led the water on for his use, thus causing the stream to flow the whole length of the Church Hill. When the Sappers' Camp was removed to a station further down the Ghaut, a Major Underwood appears to have taken possession of the stream, and altering its course to suit his purpose, carried the water into his own premises; now owned, and occupied as an Hotel, by Mr. Davison. Major Underwood, in transferring this property, gave a certificate to the purchaser to the effect that the stream belonged *exclusively* to these premises, and those of the late General Kennett, now Mrs. Hayne's, which was not strictly correct, if as your Memorialists have reason to believe, the water before he altered its course, had also supplied those now known as Glenview. According to the present arrangement the *whole of the water* flows first into Mr. Davison's premises, the nature of w[illegible]e establishment necessarily requires the consumption of a very large quantity, in addition to which he claims the right of irrigating his extensive garden, when the absence of rain renders it desirable to do so, under the above named certificate now in his possession. As the flow of water during, and for some time subsequent to, the rainy season is abundant, no inconvenience, at such times, is felt by the other Inhabitants who are dependant on this stream. But in the dry months, when water is most requisite for domestic and horticultural purposes, and the springs are greatly affected by the drought, the whole quantity they supply to it is not, perhaps, sufficient for his needs, and all others are compelled to obtain what is absolutely indispensible by employing bullocks, or coolies, to bring it from a distance at considerable expense and great inconvenience.

iii. Your Memorialists believe that a quantity of water sufficient to supply the wants of all could, at a comparatively small expense, be confined near the sources which fill the present stream. Your Memorialists therefore pray that Government will help them in their difficulty by taking the distribution of the water under its own management, and levying a rate on each house for its use; and that, with this view, an Engineer may be sent to examine, and report on, the feasibility of the measure proposed, and the expense of carrying it out.

iv. Your Memorialists, having heard that it is already under the consideration of Government to introduce some such system as they have suggested for the supply of this necessary of

life to the Inhabitants of Ootacamund, respectfully submit that the trial, on a small scale, at Coonoor, would prove a valuable test as to its practicability.

(Signed) C. WOODFALL, Lieut.-Col.,
Proprietor of "Glenview" and "Milford Lodge."

(„) F. E. ARBUTHNOT.

(„) J. H. HAYNE, for Mrs. Hayne,
Proprietor of "Warcohero" and "Home Wood."

(„) W. NAGLE, Chaplain.

(„) W. U. STANES,
Trustee for the German Mission property.

(„) E. B. CURETON, Major.

(„) J. GERRARD, Captain,
Proprietor of "Hilgrove."

Coonoor, 30th March 1859. }

(„) WALTER A. LESLIE,
Medical Officer, Coonoor.

No. 59.

ORDER THEREON, 15th June 1859, No. 1469.

Ordered that the Memorial which accompanied the above letter, be referred to the Chi Engineer in continuation of paras. 5 and 6 of the order of Government dated 11th Decer ber 1858.

(Signed) W. C. SIM,
Ag. Dy. Secretary to Government.

34

To

The Right Honorable The Governor
in Council Fort St. George.

The Memorial of the under-
signed Householders, and Residents, of Coonoor
Respectfully Sheweth

That they suffer much
inconvenience, at times, from the want of a sufficient supp-
ply of water, and therefore beg leave to state particulars in
regard to a matter so essential to the health and comf.
fort of themselves and families, and Pray that the
measures they propose may meet with Your favourable
consideration.

There is at present a Stream of Water which,
annually, supplies the greater number of the Houses during
the Year. From the best information Your Memorialists are
able to obtain it appears that it was originally brought from
a distance by the Company of Sappers and Miners employed
by Government to open the Ghaut in the year 1834. That
Major Murray Commanding the Company led the Water
into the Premises which afterwards became the property of
the late General B. Kennett, and now owned by Mrs. Hayne.
A Sergeant, who had a hut near the House now called Glen
view, the property of Lieut.t Col.t Woodfall. also led the water
on for his use thus causing the Stream to flow the whole
length of the Church Hill. When the Sappers Camp was
removed to a Station further down the Ghaut, a Major
Underwood, appears to have taken possession of the Stream
and, altering its course to suit his own purpose, carried
the Water into his own Premises, now owned, and occupied
as an Hotel, by Mr. Dawson. Major Underwood, in

transferring this property, gave a Certificate to the Purchaser to the effect that the Stream belonged exclusively to these Premises - and those of the late General Kennett - now Wm Haynes: which was not strictly correct; as Your Memorialists have reason to believe, the Water, before he altered its Course, had also supplied those now known as Glenview. According to the present arrangement the Whole of the Water flows first into Mr Davison's Premises the nature of whose Establishment necessarily requires the consumption of a very large quantity; in addition to which he claims the right of irrigating his extensive Garden, when the absence of Rain renders it desirable to do so, under the above named Certificate now in his possession. As the flow of Water during, and for some time subsequent to, the rainy Season is abundant; no inconvenience, at such times, is felt by the other Inhabitants who are dependant on this Stream. But in the dry months, when Water is most requisite for domestic, and horticultural purposes, and the Springs are greatly affected by the drought, the whole quantity they supply to it is not, perhaps, sufficient for his needs - and all others are compelled to obtain what is absolutely indispensible by employing Bullocks, or Carts, to bring it from a distance, at considerable expence, and great inconvenience. -

iii Your Memorialists believe that a quantity of Water sufficient to supply the wants of all could, at a comparatively small expence, be confined near the sources which fill the present Stream - Your Memorialists therefore pray that Government will help them in their difficulty by taking the distribution of the Water under its own management, and levying a rate on each House for its use; and that, with this view, an Engineer may be sent to examine, and report on, the feasibility of the measure proposed, and the expence of carrying it out.

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Requiring the question of Water?

iiii Your Memorialists, having heard that it is already under the consideration of Government to introduce some such system as they have suggested for the supply of this necessary of Life to the Inhabitants of Ootacamund, respectfully submit that the trial, on a small scale, at Coonoor would prove a valuable test as to its practicability.

Coonoor
30th March
1859.

Wm Goldfinch. Lt. Col. &c
Proprietor of "Glenview" &
"Belford Lodge"

Frederick Brooks

J H Haynes for Wm
Haynes proprietor of
"Wauchope" & "Stone Wood"

Thos Knight Captain
W H Staines
Trustee for the German Mission
Property

Charleston Thayer.

Gerrard Cahlon Proprietor
of Hillgrove

Walter Adams
Medical Officer, Coonoor

From
Lieut.-Col. C. O. Hartgill.
7 Encl.

To
J. C. Lynch Esqre
Chief Secretary to
Government.

Sir,
I have the honor to forward
herewith a Memorial addressed to His
Excellency the Governor in Council
by certain Householders & Residents
of Cavanagh
and its vicinity, praying that
measures may be taken for supplying
them with water from the ground
in the neighbourhood of their
Town.
I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedient humble
Servant
Cavan
6 May
1859
C. O. Hartgill Lieut.

The Right Honorable
The Governor in
Council.

The
Memorial of certain Householders
and
Residents
of
Cavanagh
regarding the supply
of
Water.

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Dft. Comm. 29 July 56 No. 22 & 23.

Notes.
Public 1839 Dft. 1st
Pro: of Govt. 1st Dtto.
No. 1 & 3.
From
Lieut. Colonel
C. Wedgall

Dft. 6th } 2 Jany 1859
Dft. 10th }
12th

Encls 1.

Submits for the consideration of Govt a Memorial addressed by himself and other Proprietors and Residents at Coonoor, interested in question of a permanent and sufficient supply of water.

With an Order
No 169 = 15th June 59

(Endorsed) Memorial of the Inhabitants of Coonoor, praying for a permanent supply of water.

Recd 15th June 1859.

Chief Engineer's Office, Nilgherries, 29th June 1859.

Sir,

I have the honor to forward, for the information of Government, the accompanying letter, dated the 2nd instant, from Lieut. Colonel C. Wedgall, Deputy Commissioner of Coimbatore, with its enclosure, a memorial addressed to him by the Proprietors and Residents of Coonoor, praying for a permanent supply of water for that station.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient Servant,
[illegible]
Chief Engineer.

To the Secretary to Government,
Public Department,
Ootacamund.

No 58 A 59.
Dated 29th June 59.