M.R.O. 14—10,000—21-4-32.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 797 Press
Mis.

149-150

Dated 10.4.1868.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 10th April 1861.

No. 149. Read the following Despatch from the Right Honorable Sir C. WOOD, Bart., Secretary of State for India (Revenue), to His Excellency the Honorable the Governor in Council, Fort Saint George, dated India Office, London, 2nd March 1861, No. 14:—

SIR,

1. I have had under my consideration in Council your letter of the 10th October last, (No. 108), in which you inform me that you have sanctioned a grant of land on the Neilgherries to Mr. H. D. Rae for the purpose of establishing thereon a tea plantation.

2. The terms generally applicable to grants in this locality for farming and planting purposes, are that the land shall be put up to auction without any upset price, subject to a redeemable quit-rent of one Rupee an acre. The cultivation of tea under your Presidency has as yet been only experimental, and the result of any undertaking for producing it in large quantities as a commercial speculation is very problematical. You have accordingly resolved to relax these terms so far as to grant to Mr. Rae 200 acres of grass land and 40 acres of forest land at a distance of twelve miles from Ootacamund, with immediate possession, and rent free for seven years, that term being required to stock the land with tea plants in full bearing. Mr. Rae undertakes to devote the land solely to tea cultivation for that period, and, at its expiration, the quit-rent of one Rupee an acre will become payable, to be redeemed at any time on payment of twenty years' purchase.

3. Considering the great importance of the object in view, and that Mr. Rae is the first person who has proposed to undertake the cultivation of tea on an extensive scale, I am of opinion that he was entitled to some indulgence in the terms offered to him; and, relying on Dr. Cleghorn's opinion that he is well qualified to prosecute the experiment successfully, and on your assurance that he is a *boná fide* applicant, and intends to make the trial fairly, I have to convey to you my approval of your Proceedings.

No. 150. ORDER THEREON, 10th April 1861, No. 797.

Ordered to be communicated to the Board of Revenue with reference to the Orders of 23rd August and 21st September 1860, Nos. 1,422 and 1,685.

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

Rev Dept

No 797

Proceedings of the Madras Government
Under date the 10th April 1861

Read the following
Despatch from the Right
Hon. the Secy. of State for India

With reference to letter from the
Govt of 10th October last No 108 conv-
eying his approval of the proceed-
ings of Govt in the grant of land on
the Neilgherries to Mr H D. Rae
for establishing a Tea plantation

Here enter 2nd March /61 No 114

Ordered to be com-
municated to the Board of
Revenue with reference to the
orders of 23rd August and 21st
September 1860 No 1142 & 1685.

13 Copies
To The Board of Rev. Cuttack

Order on Rev. Dep. 6 Mar. 1861

11. 2. 111

Revenue 1861 Depart.
Pro: of Govt for April.

No. 797.

Pro: of the Madras
Government

of 10th April 1861.

Home Despatch, approving of the terms of the grant of land to Mr Rae on the Neilgherries for the Cultivation of Tea, communicated to the Board of Revenue.

No 149 & 150.

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