(9½)

Read again

1. G.O. 3 Feb 188
157 Revenue

e Omit para 4 of Mr
tin's letter & para 2
the G.O.

printed

2. Letter from Govt
India d/ 9 Novem
ber 1883, No 1659
(Home Department
Public)

Omit latter part
of para 2 beginning
"The parties to the con-
cession were not
shareholders &c. &c.
and para. 3

Printed in
Rev. Lr 1393
of 21/11/84

3. Letter to Govt of
India d/ 5 April 84
No 473 Rev

printed

4. G.O. 4 August 84
No 1722 Public

Printed with
Boards Pro. No 2767
of 11 Aug/84. C No 2929

Read also

5. Boards Pro 11
August 1884 No 2767

C No 2929

6. Letter from Mr
Garstin C.S.I. d/ 11
August 84

C No 2838

7. Board's Pro:
d/ 29 August 84
No 811 Mis.

C No 3049

Depa
MENT
followin
The

Public Dep

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT

READ the followin

(vide paper attached)

Order 23 Septr 84 No 2085.

ecc 3/9

The Government understand that shares in the North Travancore Land, Planting and Agricultural Society, in the Anaimudis, in the Ootacamund Cinchona Planting Association & in the Taliar Valley Planting Company are held by the following members of the Madras Civil Service.

North

	Shares	acres
Stokes	10.	100
D. B. Gribble, as Executor (retired)	7	...
H. B. Gregg	10.	...
A. T. Arundel	5	...
G. Stokes	3	...
R. S. Benson	7	...
H. G. Turner	62	...
J. H. Garstin	25	... 500
H. E. Stokes	5	
~~J. D. Rees ... ...~~	~~1~~	
J. F. Smith	5	

North Travancore Land Planting and Agricultural Society

	Shares.	acres
J. Sturrock	25	
H. B. Gregg	25	
A. T. Arundel	25	
R. S. Benson	25	
H. E. Stokes		
G. Stokes		

Taliar Valley Planting Company.

	Shares.	acres
L. A. Campbell	10	
H. B. Gregg	10	
G. Stokes	12	

Ootacamund Cinchona Planting Association

	Shares.	acres
R. Davidson retired	20	
H. E. Stokes	34.	
H. A. Sim	20.	
H. W. Bliss	40.	
H. B. Gregg	40	
A. T. Arundel	20	

The Anaimudi Planting Company.

2. In view of the very decided opinion expressed by the Government of India in regard to the Taliar Company, H. E. in

in Council consider
no time should be
by those concerned ^
~~getting rid~~ disposing of the sha
which they now possess-
A report ^on the subject, should be
submitted within on
month.

3. The information desired by the Govt. of India in regard to the latter part of the eighth and in the ninth paragraphs of their letter should also be supplied. Mr. Gregg will be requested to report on the tenth paragraph.

J.W.

^ who are still in active service

Since this draft was circulated my Hon'ble Colleague has suggested that in view of the shares being practically unsaleable an endeavor should be made by the gentlemen of the service interested, to get the Articles of Association altered so as to prevent shareholders having any voice in the management – This w'd meet the views of the G. I. & commends itself to me.

H.S.

I think we should have to ask the Govt of India if this would meet its views.

If it would much private inconvenience would be saved & no harm done I apprehend to public interests.

M.G.
Septr 9/84

HON'BLE MEMBER.

+ Messrs H. G. Turner
J. Sturrock
H. A. Sim

* Board Pro: 11 August 84
No 2767

Bd Pro 29 August 84
No 8117

Letter d/ 11 August 84

2. Three
these gentl 84
have been
of the remarks
made by the Go
of India in the
letter of 10th July
last No 1080 - Mr
Sturrock's reply
relating to the Tal
Company is recorde
above - Mr Garstin
has also given the
information asked
for in paragraphs
8 & 9 of the letter
from the Govt of India
so far as he is con-
cerned -

3. The Government
think it desira-
ble that all con-
cerned should be
put in possession
of the views expressed
by the Govt of India

th the
spondence
h has already
ssed. The pa
ers recorded
above will be
accordingly com-
such of
municated to the ~~[illegible]~~
gentlemen named
in paragraph
as are still in active service
1 above and they
will be desired to
furnish at an
early date such
information as
may be in their
possession on the
various points
noted in the letter
from the Government
of India - Mr. H. G.
Turner will pro-
bably be able to
supply the inform
ation asked for
at the end of para
graph 9, of Mr. Mac
kenzie's letter - if
he has not already

+ Surgn. Genl. Turner
[illegible]
[illegible]

* Bom. Ltr. 11 August 84
No 2767

these details would be [illegible]
[illegible]

Bd. Ltr. No 22 [illegible]
No 81

done so orde
to Rev Bom 84
d/ 11 August
2767 - Mr. G.
will be requested
to report on pa
graph 10.

4 It seems to
the G. in C. - after the
decided opinion
expressed by the
Govt. of India in
regard to the Talim
Company - that
it is essential for
those servants of
Government who
are concerned in
this & other similar
Cos. to take ~~the~~ action
in the way of alter
ing the terms of
association so as
to preclude all
interference by
shareholders
the managem
(not exclud

…ters men-
…in paragraph
…letter to India
…April 1884 No
…73 Rev) — or
…this is imprac-
…ticable — and no
other method
suggests itself
of divesting them-
selves of responsi-
bilities inconsis-
tent with the Rules
— to sever their
connection with
the Companies as
soon as possible.

5. Gentlemen
who, like Mr Garstin,
have acquired bonus
land under No 87
of the North Travan-
core Land Planting
Agricultural Soci-
ety's Articles of
Association will
…ove that
…ke…ation of such
…e …

× G.O. 3 Feb 83 No 157 Rev
Letter to India 5 April
1884 No 473 Para 4

land is …
objections … 84
der the Rules …
must cease …
once.

JW 20/1

To
H. J. Stokes Esqr
2 H. B. Grigg Esqr
8 A. T. Arundel Esqr
9 G. Stokes Esqr
10 R. S. Benson Esqr
11 H. G. Turner Esqr
6 J. H. Garstin Esqr
1 H. E. Stokes Esqr
3 J. Sturrock Esqr
5 L. A. Campbell Esqr
7 H. A. Lim Esqr
12 H. W. Bliss Esqr
4

Despd 7/10

The Rev Dept. 5
- Bd. of Rev - 5

Despd 24/2/85

Modified draft
suggested by office

Case

23rd September 1884, No. 2085, Public.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

Read—again the following papers :—

G.O., dated 3rd February 1883, Nos. 157, 157-A, Revenue.

Read—the following letter from J. H. GARSTIN, Esq., C.S.I., Acting Second Member of the Board of Revenue, to the Secretary to Government, Revenue department, dated 26th January 1883 :—

In reply to your demi-official letter of yesterday's date, calling on me to reconcile my action in having acquired 500 acres of land in Travancore with the rules and especially with that part of them just circulated which terminates with the Government of India notification of August 21st, 1863, No. 5263, I have the honor to state that before I received a copy of G.O. of December 1st, 1882, No. 1357 (about a fortnight ago on my return from furlough), I had never seen that notification and was not aware of its existence. Had the case, however, been otherwise, I beg respectfully to submit that the terms of that notification have been superseded by the resolution of the Government of India, dated February 13th, 1874, No. 13-467, which contains the most recent orders passed on the subject of the holding of land in India by covenanted civil servants. That resolution lays down that covenanted civil servants and military officers in civil employ and all persons holding civil offices ordinarily held by covenanted or commissioned officers of the two classes aforesaid are prohibited henceforward from acquiring or holding land in the province with the administration of which they are concerned whether that connection be permanent or temporary, but it in no way prohibits the holding of land in India by covenanted civilians beyond the limits of the presidencies to which they may respectively belong. I therefore considered that, when about three years ago, I bought some land in Travancore, I was committing no breach of any rule, otherwise, I need hardly say, I should not have purchased any.

2. In 1861* the Secretary of State for India distinctly authorized the acquisition and possession of land by covenanted civilians anywhere out of the presidency to which they are attached, but forbad their holding any within its limits, and though it is true that on a reference from the Government of Madras, through the Government of India, he subsequently† so far modified his sanction as to "agree with your Government in viewing with disapproval the holding of lands by covenanted civil servants in Native States," yet he did not specifically forbid it. The Government of India thereupon published extracts from the correspondence in the *Calcutta Gazette*, and about seven months afterwards issued the notification (No. 5263 of August 21st, 1863) to which you allude. Thus it happened that that notification found no place in the proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue department, of the 12th February 1863, No. 320, in which are printed the notification ‡ of the Government of India containing the extracts from the above correspondence and a resolution

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* *Vide* despatch, dated 10th August 1861, No. 22.

† *Vide* despatch, dated 25th November 1862, No. 22.

‡ Dated January 16th, 1863, No. 383.

summarizing it. Now, it is a curious fact that, while in that resolution the Secretary of State is declared to have communicated instructions (among other matters) "in regard to a Madras civilian holding land in Mysore, Coorg, Cochin or Travancore, or becoming a shareholder in a company formed for holding or cultivating land in those territories," the notification, No. 5263, of the 21st August following, goes much further, and, after alluding to the above correspondence with the Secretary of State, prohibits all public officers in India from holding lands in territories like Mysore, Coorg, Cochin and Travancore which are not under the direct sovereignty of the Crown. The issue of this notification, as worded, seems to have been a mistake, and it is, I believe, a fact that it was never published in the *Fort St. George Gazette;* at least a careful search through all the files between August and December 1863 has failed to discover it. This will fully account for my not being aware of its existence.

3. That the issue of this notification complicated matters and created doubts and inconsistencies is clear from a perusal of the despatch of the Government of India to the Secretary of State, dated 16th June 1873, in which, after setting out in the clearest language what was the literal meaning of the general rules which alone, at that time, curtailed the right of covenanted and commissioned civil officers to acquire land, viz., that the land must not be within the limits of the presidency to which they were first appointed, and after expressing their determination to remove the doubts and inconsistencies then existing by *amending the rules so as to bring them back into direct correspondence with their original objects and motives,* they set forth their proposals which were approved by the Secretary of State and are embodied in the resolution which I have quoted and on which I rely as justifying my action.

* * * * *

Order—dated 3rd February 1883, No. 157, Revenue.

Miscellaneous.

While entirely accepting Mr. Garstin's assurance that he was unaware of the rule prohibiting his holding land in Native States, the Right Honorable the Governor in Council cannot admit the validity of the arguments directed to show that the rule is not obligatory. When the Secretary of State said that he "viewed with disapproval the holding by civilians of lands in Native States," this was tantamount to a prohibition of the practice. As for the contention that the rule was superseded by the despatch of 1873, the only point discussed in that despatch was to what "provinces or presidencies" the rules against the holding of land in British territory extended, to the province or presidency to which an officer originally belonged, or to all those with which he might subsequently become connected. Native States did not in any way come under consideration, and there is nothing to show that the Secretary of State intended to abrogate the rule, which he had himself laid down with regard to them, by merely approving the conclusions at which the Government of India had arrived on a different question.

* * * * *

(True Extract.)

(Signed) P. P. HUTCHINS,
Ag. Secy. to Govt., Rev. dept.

To J. H. Garstin, Esq.
" J. D. B. Gribble, Esq.

No. 157-A.

Copy to Government of India, Revenue and Agricultural department.

(Signed) P. P. HUTCHINS,
Ag. Secy. to Govt., Rev. dept.

Read—the following letter from A. MACKENZIE., Esq., C.S., Secretary to the Government of India, Home department (Public), to the Secretary to the Government of Madras, dated Simla, 9th November 1883, No. 1659:—

With reference to the despatch of the Government of Madras to Her Majesty's Secretary of State, No. 2, dated the 30th January last, relating to the promotion of Gold Mining Companies by Government officials, I am directed to forward copies of the correspondence with the Resident in Mysore, noted on the margin, and to communicate the following observations.

From Foreign department, No. 936, dated 13th April 1883.
From Resident, No. 1312, dated 12th September 1883, with enclosures.

2. The Governor-General in Council is unable to concur in the opinion of the Madras Government, as given in the despatch under notice, to the effect that those civil and military officers of Government, who were parties to the Kolar concession in Mysore, did not transgress the rules in force with reference to the holding of land by Government servants. The parties to the concession appear to have clearly infringed both the orders of the Secretary of State, contained in his despatch of 25th November 1862, prohibiting the holding of land in Native States by the civil and military servants of the Government for any purpose whatever (and not merely for agricultural purposes as assumed in paragraph 12 of the Madras Government's despatch to the Secretary of State); and also those in his despatch of 26th August 1873, approving the views of the Government of India which were directed not merely against habitual speculation (as assumed in paragraph 14 of the Madras Government's despatch), but against all transactions connected with land which are in themselves of a purely speculative character.

* * * * *

4. With reference to the statement appended to the despatch, I am to request that further and complete information may be furnished in regard to the "North Travancore Land Planting and Agricultural Society," and the nature of its provisions. This information should be accompanied by a copy of the Society's deed of incorporation and its rules of business. In entry No. 24 of the same statement Mr. Grigg, a civil servant, is shown as holding ten shares of Rs. 500 each in the Ootacamund Cinchona Planting Association. As Ootacamund is understood to be Mr. Grigg's head-quarters for half the year, he is apparently prohibited by the rules from holding these shares. The Government of India would be glad to have some information on this point. A few civil servants are also shown as connected with a company described as the "Taliar Planting Company." I am to desire that inquiries may be instituted by the Government of Madras as to whether the connection of these officers with the company is an infringement of the standing orders or not.

5. With reference to the case of Mr. Garstin, disposed of in the proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue department, No. 157, dated 3rd February 1883, a copy of which was forwarded to the Department of Revenue and Agriculture with your endorsement, No. 157-A, of the same date, I am to observe that the decision therein arrived at is, in the opinion of the Government of India, in accordance with the orders on the subject.

Letter—to the Secretary to the Government of India, Home department, dated Fort St. George, 5th April 1884, No. 473, Revenue.

Miscellaneous.

In continuation of my letter of the 21st January last, No. 94, I am directed to forward copies of the deeds of incorporation and articles of association of the three* companies referred to in paragraph 4 of your letter of the 9th November last, as also of another company called "The Aneimudi Planting Company," in which, from returns received subsequent to the compilation of the statement trans-

* North Travancore Land Planting and Agricultural Society.
Taliar Valley Planting Company.
Ootacamund Cinchona Planting Association.

mitted with this Government's despatch to the Secretary of State, dated 30th January 1883, it has been ascertained that some of the civil servants hold shares. The operations of all these companies, with the exception of the Ootacamund Cinchona Planting Association, are carried on outside the limits of this presidency.

2. These documents contain complete information regarding the rules under which the business of the several companies is carried on. His Excellency the Governor in Council is not prepared to say that the exercise by the civil servants who hold shares in the several companies of the right of voting for (1) the board of directors or the managing committee, (2) the admission of new members, (3) the increase of capital and further issue of shares, (4) the extension of the scope of the enterprise, or (5) the settlement of the annual programme of operations, constitutes "taking part in the management of such institutions" within the meaning of paragraph 2 of the Secretary of State's despatch of 31st May 1862, No. 46. The phrase there used seems to refer to the practical and executive management of the business; but this under the articles is vested in the consulting and managing directors.

3. It appears to His Excellency in Council that it is impossible for any one to hold a share in a company without having a potential power of affecting the management, and that the prohibition of voting in the deliberative capacity of members of a corporate body in matters of the nature above described would be a virtual revocation of the permission granted in the Secretary of State's despatch of 25th November 1862, No. 22,* under which covenanted civilians may hold shares in agricultural or other companies, subject to the sole restriction that they shall take no part in management and shall not be employed in the districts where the operations of such associations may be carried on.

* To be read with that of 31st May 1862.

4. The articles of association of the North Travancore Land Planting and Agricultural Society contain a clause which provides for a member taking up and holding a certain extent of land on his own account. Such occupation is clearly objectionable under the rules, and is covered by the prohibition to acquire or hold land in Native States (paragraph 4 of the despatch last quoted). As the decision of this Government embodied in proceedings, dated 3rd February 1883, No. 157, which has been concurred in by the Government of India, leaves no room for doubt on this point, the Governor in Council sees no need to issue any further instructions on the subject.

5. The case of Mr. Grigg, who holds shares in the Ootacamund Cinchona Planting Association, does not seem to come under the restrictive rule, that "public servants shall not be employed in the districts where the operations of the company be carried on." His head-quarters are not on the Nílgiris, but in Madras, though he is permitted to repair to the hills for a few months in each year. His duties as Director of Public Instruction, which are not restricted to any single district but embrace the whole presidency, cannot bring him into any official relation to the association in question, and he is moreover precluded by the articles of the association (clause 29) from taking any part or interfering in the management otherwise than by voting in respect of such matters as may be brought before a general meeting or brought to his notice by a circular.

6. The Right Honorable the Governor in Council does not think that the connection of civil servants with these agricultural companies is necessarily mischievous, and, while he desires to enforce existing rules, is averse to their being extended and additional restraints being thus placed on freedom of action, without some clear reason of policy.

(Signed) H. E. STOKES,
Secy. to Govt., Rev. dept.

G.O., dated 4th August 1884, No. 1722, Public.

Read—the following letter from A. MACKENZIE, Esq., C.S., Secretary to the Government of India, Home department (Public), to the Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras, dated Simla, 10th July 1884, No. 1086:—

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 473, dated the 5th April 1884, forwarding copies of the deeds of incorporation and articles of association of four land companies in which it has been ascertained that certain officers of the Madras Civil Service hold shares. The names of these companies are—

(1) The North Travancore Land Planting and Agricultural Society;
(2) The Taliar Valley Planting Company;
(3) The Ootacamund Cinchona Planting Association; and
(4) The Aneimudi Planting Company.

The operations of all these companies, with the exception of the Ootacamund Cinchona Planting Company, are understood to be carried on in the Native State of Travancore.

2. Under existing rules, certain Government servants in India are required—

(1) to abstain from speculative investments;
(2) to abstain from any investment which interests them privately in affairs or undertakings with which their public duty is connected;
(3) not to acquire or hold land * within the province with the administration of which they are concerned;
(4) not to acquire or hold land * in a Native State.

They may hold shares in mining and other companies (including agricultural companies) having for their object the development of the resources of the country, subject to the following two restrictions:—

(*a*) they must not take part in the management of any such company;
(*b*) they must not be employed in the districts where the operations of the company may be carried on.

3. The question which arises in the present case is whether the letter or spirit of these rules has been violated. The Governor-General in Council is of opinion that the spirit, as well as the letter, must be considered, for it is obvious that the first two of the rules above mentioned can only be treated as general guides to conduct. The extent to which the officers concerned have infringed the letter of the rules is one which cannot be fully or satisfactorily dealt with without further information on the points indicated further on. I am, however, to observe that, in the case of these companies, there appears to have been, in several respects, a manifest disregard of the spirit and object of the rules.

4. In the first place, although the prohibition against taking part in the "management" of a company cannot, taken literally, be held to debar an officer from taking part as a promoter, or as one of the applicants for registration in the memorandum of association, yet it seems obvious that the danger against which the prohibition was aimed, namely, that of official influence being abused or official trust betrayed, is, under such circumstances, not much less than if the officer took part in the management after the company was started. Moreover, the Secretary of State has condemned speculative investments, and the launching of a new company is *cæteris paribus* more a matter of speculation than taking shares in a working company.

5. Again, when companies of so small a size as those under notice are formed among persons between whom from the constant recurrence of the same names, there appears to be clearly some close connection, and especially when in the articles of association of these companies there are stringent provisions for the exclusion of outsiders, it is almost inevitable that individual members, even if legally excluded from

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* This prohibition does not extend to land occupied merely by buildings for residence and their usual appurtenances.

the management by the constitution of the company, would practically have a share in it. In the case of certain of the officers concerned, the disregard of the spirit and object of the rules is more striking, inasmuch as they appear as original members of several of these companies, and thus put themselves in a prominent position as promoters of schemes of this nature. When the same person appears as a subscriber to the memoranda of association of several companies started about the same time, he lays himself open to the charge of having made a trade or business of promoting or launching companies. This is not a charge to which any officer of Government should expose himself.

6. There is another point in which it appears to the Government of India that the spirit of the rules has not been observed. The rules forbid the employment of an officer in any district where the operations of a company in which he is interested may be carried on. The reasons which dictated this particular prohibition must be held to apply, sometimes with less, sometimes with greater force, to certain officers connected with the central administration, such as members of the Local Government, members of the Board of Revenue, and their Secretaries, and to indicate the necessity of great circumspection on the part of such officers as to the undertakings with which they may become connected in any part of the province in which they are employed.

7. For the above reasons the Government of India, apart from any question of the infringement of the letter of the rules, are of opinion that the conclusion arrived at in paragraph 6 of your letter that the connection of Government officers "with these agricultural companies is not necessarily mischievous" is not a satisfactory defence of the practices to which objection is taken.

8. Turning now to the question as to how far there may be a breach of the letter of the rules, I am to observe that if by the statement in paragraph 2 of your letter it is meant to be understood that, except to the extent therein specified, no Government servant has ever taken part in the management of any of these companies, the Government of India regret that they are not satisfied that this conclusion is borne out by the facts. As regards the Taliar Valley Planting Company, for instance, it appears that each member of the company has an equal vote in the management. The members may appoint one or more consulting members to administer the affairs of the company and operate upon the Bank account. But a consulting member can only act in accordance with the wishes of the majority of the members, which he is bound to ascertain in all important matters, and in all matters involving expenditure not provided for in the year's programme, which is settled by the members. Under the constitution of this company the management is, therefore, virtually in the hands of the members, and the rules have been clearly violated in letter as well as in spirit. With regard to the other companies, while the Governor-General in Council, so far as the information before him enables a judgment to be formed, agrees with the Madras Government that the letter of the prohibition as to taking part in the management is concerned does not appear to have been violated, His Excellency in Council is of opinion that some of the matters mentioned in paragraph 2 of your letter are of such a nature that it is clearly undesirable that an officer serving in the province should be prominently concerned with them. At the same time, it is requested that specific information may be furnished as to whether any of the civil servants who appear as shareholders in these companies have, in fact, taken any part in the management.

9. As regards the North Travancore Land Planting and Agricultural Society, it would appear that, under article 81 of the articles of association, each shareholder is entitled to acquire in his own proprietary right a certain extent of land out of the company's concession. It is not clear from your letter whether the shareholders have, in fact, acquired the right to which the article in question entitles them. I am, therefore, to request that it may be stated whether any officers have acquired land under the provisions in question, and if so, whether they continue to hold it, or how, and on what terms they have disposed of it. Further, the memorandum and articles of association of this company give some ground for supposing that one of the objects of the company is to realize for the shareholders a return, not from the profits of cultivation, but from the resale and letting of land in plots, and thus to deal in a more or less speculative manner in land. On this point the Government of India desire to be furnished with full information as to the nature and extent of the grant referred to in clause (*a*), paragraph 3 of the memorandum. It should, at the same time, be clearly stated whether any further grants or purchases have since been acquired, and how the property has been dealt with hitherto, that is to say, whether it has been used for planting or been sold or leased.

10. Lastly, as regards the Aneimudi Planting Company, the names of the promoters are not given either in the memorandum of association or in the articles of agreement; and I am, therefore, to ask for a list of those officers who subscribed the memorandum and the number of shares taken by them.

11. I am to ask for an early reply to this letter.

Order—dated 4th August 1884, No. 1722, Public.

Communicated to the Board of Revenue for very early inquiry and report with reference to the last three lines of the 8th paragraph and 9th and 10th paragraphs.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) E. F. WEBSTER,
Chief Secretary.

To the Board of Revenue.

READ—also the following papers :—

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 11th August 1884, No. 2767.

Read—G.O., dated 4th August 1884, No. 1722, Public.

Resolution—dated 11th August 1884, No. 2767.

The Board are not in possession of full information as to the names of the civil servants concerned in these companies. They are, however, aware that Mr. H. G. Turner, Collector of Vizagapatam, is interested in the North Travancore Society, and from the returns furnished by the officers subordinate to them, it appears that Mr. J. Sturrock is concerned in the Taliar Company and Mr. H. A. Sim in the Aneimudi Company. Thus it would seem that only three officers subordinate to the Board are interested in these societies, and to these gentlemen the proceedings of Government will be communicated, with the request that they will furnish, without delay, the information called for so far as it may be in their power to afford it.

2. The information asked for in the latter part of paragraph 9 of the Government of India letter can probably best be obtained from the Secretaries and Treasurers of the North Travancore Company, who, it is believed, are Messrs. Stanes and Co.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) E. GIBSON,
Secretary.

To the Chief Secretary to Government, Public department.
" H. G. Turner, Esq., Collector of Vizagapatam.
" J. Sturrock, Esq., Collector of South Canara.
" H. A. Sim, Esq., Madras Civil Service.

From J. H. GARSTIN, Esq., c.s.i., Second Member, Board of Revenue, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Madras, 11th August 1884.

Referring to the concluding sentence of paragraph 8 of the Government of India letter, No. 1086 of 10th July 1884, I have the honor to state that, though I hold shares in the North Travancore Land Company, I have never at any time taken any part in the management.

2. With reference to paragraph 9 of the same letter, I still hold the land which I acquired as a bonus shareholder some years ago. The details of this are given in my last annual report on lands owned by me forwarded to Government in January last.

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 29th August 1884, Mis. No. 8117.

Read—the following letter from J. STURROCK, Esq., Collector of South Canara, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 24th August 1884:—

In reply to Board's proceedings, dated 11th August 1884, No. 2767 (confidential) received this day, I have the honor to point out that the Government of India seem from paragraph 8 of their letter to consider that they are already in possession of sufficient information regarding the Taliar Company, and that consequently that company is not referred to in the last three lines of paragraph 8 with regard to which a report is now desired.

2. I may add, however, that I have approved the programme of each year's expenditure of the Taliar Company, and occasionally recorded a vote on a proposal circulated for the consideration of the members.

Resolution—

Submitted to Government with reference to G.O., 4th August 1884, No. 1722, Public.

2. At paragraph 8 of the letter from the Government of India, printed with the foregoing Government order, the right of members to interfere in the management of the Taliar Company is recited as part of the constitution of the Society; but the Board understand the inquiry whether any of the civil servants who appear as shareholders have in fact taken part in the management, to apply to all the companies referred to.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) E. GIBSON,
Secretary.

To the Chief Secretary to Government, Public department.
Copy to the Collector of South Canara.

Order—dated 23rd September 1884, No. 2085, Public.

The Government understand that shares in the North Travancore Land Planting and Agricultural Society, in the Aneimudi, in the Ootacamund Cinchona Planting Association and in the Taliar Valley Planting Company are held by the following members of the Madras Civil Service:—

	Shares.	Acres.	
H. J. Stokes	10	100	North Travancore Land Planting and Agricultural Society.
J. D. B. Gribble, as executor (retired).	7	..	
H. B Grigg	10	..	
A. T. Arundel	5	..	
G. Stokes	3	..	
R. S. Benson	7	..	
H. G. Turner	62	..	
J. H. Garstin	25	500	
H. E. Stokes	5	..	
J. F. Snaith	5	..	
J. Sturrock	25	..	Taliar Valley Planting Company.
H. B. Grigg	25	..	
A. T. Arundel	25	..	
R. S. Benson	25	..	
H. E. Stokes	..	..	
G. Stokes	..	..	
L. A. Campbell	10	..	Ootacamund Cinchona Planting Association.
H. B. Grigg	10	..	
G. Stokes	12		
R. Davidson (retired)	20	..	The Aneimudi Planting Company.
H. E. Stokes	34	..	
H. A. Sim	20	..	
H. W. Bliss	40	..	
H. B. Grigg	40	..	
A. T. Arundel	20	..	

2. Three * only of these gentlemen have been informed † of the remarks made by the Government of India in their letter, dated 10th July last, No. 1086. Mr. Sturrock's reply‡ relating to the Taliar Company is recorded above. Mr. Garstin has also given the information asked for in paragraphs 8 and 9 of the letter from the Government of India so far as he is concerned.

* Messrs. H. G. Turner.
J. Sturrock.
H. A. Sim.

† Board's procs., 11th Aug. 1884, No. 2767.

‡ Board's procs., 29th Aug. 1884, No. 8117.
Letter, dated 11th August 1884.

3. The Government think it desirable that all concerned should be put in possession of the views expressed by the Government of India and with the correspondence which has already passed. The papers recorded above will be accordingly communicated to such of the gentlemen named in paragraph 1 above as are still in active service, and they will be desired to furnish at an early date such information as may be in their possession on the various points noted in the letter from the Government of India. Mr. H. G. Turner will probably be able to supply the information asked for at the end of paragraph 9 of Mr. Mackenzie's letter—if he has not already done so in reply to Revenue Board's proceedings, dated 11th August 1884, No. 2767. Mr. Grigg will be requested to report on paragraph 10.

4. It seems to His Excellency the Governor in Council—after the decided opinion expressed by the Government of India in regard to the Taliar Company—that it is essential for those servants of Government who are concerned in this and other similar companies to take action in the way of altering the terms of association so as to preclude all interference by shareholders in the management (not excluding the matters mentioned in paragraph 2 of letter to India, dated 5th April 1884, No. 473, Revenue)—or if this is impracticable—and no other method suggests itself of divesting themselves of responsibilities inconsistent with the rules—to sever their connection with the companies as soon as possible.

5. Gentlemen who, like Mr. Garstin, have acquired bonus land under No. 81 of the North Travancore Land Planting and Agricultural Society's Articles of Association will observe * that occupation of such land is clearly objectionable under the rules and must cease at once.

(True Extract.)

Chief Secretary.

To J. H. Garstin, Esq.
,, H. J. Stokes, Esq.
,, H. E. Stokes, Esq.
,, H. W. Bliss, Esq.
,, J. Sturrock, Esq.
,, H. G. Turner, Esq.
,, L. A. Campbell, Esq.
,, H. B. Grigg, Esq.
,, A. T. Arundel, Esq.
,, G. Stokes, Esq.
,, R. S. Benson, Esq.
,, H. A. Sim, Esq.

Exd. J. Wright.

---

* G.O., 3rd February 1883, No. 157, Revenue. Letter to India, 5th April 1884, No. 473, paragraph 4.

Govt. of (1884) Madras.

PUBLIC.

Issued

Recd. Encl.

G.O., 23rd September 1884, No. 2085.

SEPTEMBER.

Land Companies.

Communicating to certain members of the Madras Civil Service possessing shares in — correspondence containing the views expressed by the Government of India on the subject, and requesting them to furnish information on certain points.

2.

Copy

Vizagapatam, 10th A

Sir,

In reply to your official me
randum of the 31st July, I have th
honor to state that the land in que
tion belonged to me and my brothe
having been allotted to us as Bonus
lands on certain shares we hold in th
North Travancore Land Planting &
Agricultural Society Ld. –

The Bodenaikunu Zemindar boug
the land from my brother, who negotia
ted the sale with my knowledge and
consent.

2. I beg that I may be informed why
the Board have made this enquiry an
by making it, they would seem to tak
some sort of exception to the transac
tion, which, to the best of my knowledg
was a perfectly bonâ fide one –

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedt: servan
(Signed) H.G. Turner.

(a true copy)
Uibrn.
Secretary
Board of Revenue

2nd Member, Board of Rev

Copy

3.

Revenue Board
Chepauk, Ma
18th August

Dear Sir,

In reply to your note of t 10th Instant I am directed to state that while the Board do not for a moment doubt that the sale of the land referred to was perfectly bonâ f the question they asked about it wa prompted by the consideration that, if the sale had really taken place, it was a violation of the orders of Government; and they are of opinion that, whether this is so or not, the fact of the sale must act as a bar to your employment in the Madura District at least. — To this end therefore they consider it their duty to report the matter demi-officially to Government.

Yours faithfully,
(Signed) E. Gibson
Secretary

Revenue Board

To H. G. Turner Esq^re
Collector of Vizagapatam.

(a true copy)
Gibson
Secretary,
Board of Revenue

2d. Member, Board of Rev

Madras, 11th August 1884.

From

J. H. Garstin, Esquire, C.S.I.
2nd Member, Board of Revenue

To

The Chief Secretary to Government
Public Department

Sir,

Referring to the concluding sentence of Para: 8 of the Government of India letter No. 1086 of July 18th 1884 I have the honor to state that though I hold shares in the North Travancore Land Company I have never at any time taken any part in the management.

With reference to para 9 of the same letter I still hold the land which I acquired as a bonus shareholder some years ago. The details of this are given in my last Annual report on lands owned by me forwarded to Govt: in January last.

I have the honor to be
Sir,
Your Most obedient Servant

J H Garstin
2d Member, Board of Rev

1

D.O. from Secretary
Revenue Board of
18 August 1884

It is desirable
that officers of
Government
who have acquired
bona lands in
the Travancore
Land Company
should get rid
of them as soon
as possible. de

native plan & bury our savings under the
dining room floor W.S.

aspect the
le now reported
appears unobjectionable.

As however the acquisition of this property was contrary to order (Notification of Govt of India 21 August 1883 No 5263 [page 41 Madras Civil Service Manual. 1883]) it would I think have been better if Mr Turner had reported the transaction

and wh
to the spirit of
Rules relating to the disposal of property to Natives of the Country (pp: 32 & 33 Madras Civil Service Manual) have sought prior sanction for the sale

E.W.
19/9

Note India's remark in para 9 letter 10 July 84 (G.O. 4 August 84 No 1722 Public) on realizing "for the shareholders a return not from the profits of cultivation but from the resale .... of land... & thus to deal in a more or less speculative manner with land,"

a.s. there is very much
sense in the arguments
contained in Mr Turners
d.o. letters – Speculation there
must be to a certain extent
in all pecuniary transactions
even in investing your money
in govt paper – A wise man
would not buy in just as a loan
was going to be paid off but
he does so when it was opened
and he could get 100 worth of
stock for £90 – of course he specula
on selling for more than he
gave – The despatch of the
S.S. was directed not against
profitable investments
but against gambling transac-
-tions such as took place in
Bombay some years ago
I think we should say a word
on this point or as Turner says
we shall have to follow the

– Vizianagaram –
28th August.

My dear Webster

The Board have just sent me
Mackenzie's letter about the
Land Companies and I want to
ask your attention to the point that,
in this letter, Mackenzie has gone
far beyond anything which has
yet been laid down either by the
Sec of State or by the Govt of India.
Take for instance his dictum
about speculation. He K
we are required to ab India

Madras, 1st August 1884.

...aster Esquire, ...
...Member, Board of Revenue

...Chief Secretary to Government
Public Department

...concluding portion of Para 8
...letter No. 1080 of July 1st 1884 I
...though I hold shares in the
I have none at any
...in the management.

...with reference to para 9 of the same letter I st...
...hold the land which I acquired as a bona shareholder
...seven years ago. The details of this are given in my last
...annual return already forwarded to Govt.
...in January last

I have the honour to be

---

a ...
...se in the
'Contr... speculative in-
-vestments'. They have never gone
as far as this before — what they
have prohibited is habitual
speculation, or as they all put it:
"habitually buying and selling
securities of a value notoriously
fluctuating"
I don't understand how any
investment in a ~~paying~~ running concern
can be entirely free from the
element of speculation — It
... come to this that we

---

must tie in a [illegible]
napkin like the slothful
corrupt servant —
Then as to investments in land
Sir C. Wood laid it down ex-
-pressly, and his definition was
adopted by the G. of I. in their Res.
of 1874, that the prohibition
only extended to land holding
for the "profits of cultivation" & the
G of I. set out their reasons for
thus restricting the application
of the prohibition at length
with much care —
Mackenzie ignores this, and
now says that we are to under
any circumstances in India

a
... old land for any
Govt. except to build ourselves
house, whereas it is perfectly
clear that we may invest in land
provided it is neither for the purpose of
cultivation nor for habitual specu-
-lation —
It was plain to Sir C. Wood & the
Govt. of India of 1874 that an in-
-vestment in land & an investment
in Govt. paper or Bank shares
were, caeteris paribus, in all forms
the only thing against the former in-
-vestment being that to look after
cultivating ~~it~~ land involved various
objection~~able~~ which they duly
set forth — Stripped of these objections
no logical mind could differ-
-entiate between them, unless

292

some inexpen
-ence attached itself to the
possession ~~pre~~ of a lot of waste lands,
which I fancy none of Sir C. Wood's
school would be the last to
admit.
If they intended to restrict us
from this sort of investment
why did not they say so. It would
have been easy to have written
it down, & in point of fact
much simpler to have said
that our govt. Civilians shall
not hold land at all under
any circumstances in India

[illegible] as [illegible] [illegible] any
see in [illegible]
Cost of [illegible]
[illegible] - [illegible] some
them to go about, as they
went, to restrict the definition
of land holding to land held
for the purposes of cultivation –

I suppose, in point of fact,
that they felt that the whole thing
is an archaism, proper & right
in former times no doubt, but
now if not to be supported
except of course in so far as
the necessity exists for preventing
[illegible] [illegible] looting

1 292/6

Natives under their Chiefs
I am answering the Board
officially & have made use
of these arguments to vindicate
our rights – It seems to me
that the G of I are inclined to
bully us and I hope you
will let them have one in
the eye in return –
Neerami here for two days –

Yours sincerely
H.G. Turner

The papers on this subject are in circulation

Let us wait for the official letter Mr Turner is sending

CHIEF SECRETARY
6 SEP 84
GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

C.P.s 2838. 29/

Dear Webster

I have been thinking in regard to that question of Civilians holding shares in certain land Companies it will be absolutely impossible to dispose of their shares all at once however much they might desire it for few have any saleable value. Co we modify the draft substituting a suggestion that steps be at once taken to alter the terms of association so as to preclude shareholders having any voice in the management? please send this note on to Sulbourne

Jenning
Lancaster

5th Sept. 1884

I think it will be difficult to arrange this. The Govt. of its own motion could not do it & it is open to doubt whether all shareholders would agree to the change —
would it not be better to give a really reasonable time to our men to rid themselves of the shares they hold? — say a year
FW

The Companies are going & so are the plantations — it will be all outgoing & no return

[illegible] some years to come
And in these circum-
:stances it is unlikely that
the shares will have a
more saleable value in
a years time than now

The Civilian shareholders
might be asked D.O. what
arrangement they sug-
gest and if they cannot
suggest any method for
divesting themselves of the
rights of management conferred
by the articles they must
be told to sell – though how
they are to do this when
there are no purchasers
I know not

H.S.
6/9.

M.J.
please [illegible]
others [illegible]

CHIEF SECRETARY
9 SEP 84
GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

9th Septr.

Dear Mr. Webster

Will you very kindly have my name struck off the list of shareholders in the N. Travancore L. P. Company which appears in the draft G.O. which goes back to office today.

I have long since sold ~~it~~ the share I held & have no sort of interest in the Company.

Yours very sincerely
J.D. Rees.

Public

1884 C. No. 2838

From

J. H. Garstin, Esquire, C.S.I.
2nd Member, Board of Revenue

To

The Chief Secretary
to Government
Public Department

Dated 11th August 1884.

CHIEF SECRETARY
13 AUG 84
GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

7/13

~~Submitting Annual report of lands held in his name.~~

Confidential

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue.

Dated 29th August 1884.

No. 8117 mis:

Dist READ the following letter from J. Sturrock Esqr. Collector of South Canara, to the Secretar to the Board of Revenue, dated 24th August 1884, No. —

In reply to Board's Proceedings dated 11th August 1884, No. 2767 (Confidential) received this day, I have the honor to point out that the Government of India seem from para 8 of their letter to consider that they are already in possession of sufficient information regarding the Taliar Company and that consequently that Company is not referred to in the last 3 lines of para 8 with regard to which a report is now desired.

I may add however that I have approved the programme of each years Expenditure of the Taliar Company and occasionally recorded a note on

roposal circulated for the
deration of the Members.

---

solution:—

Submitted to Government with reference to G.O. 4th August 1884, No. 1722 Public.

2. At para 8 of the letter from the Government of India, printed with the foregoing G.O. the right of members to interfere in the management of the Tallian Co. is recited as part of the Constitution of the society - but the Board understand the inquiry whether any of the Civil servants who appear as shareholders have in fact taken part in the management, to apply to all the Companies referred to.

(True Copy and Extract)

E. Fisher
Secretary.

To, The Chief Secretary to Govt P.D.
Copy to " Collector of South Canara

to Clk

Confidential

Public 1884. Departt

Board of Revenue,

MADRAS.

To

Cue 3049

The Chief Secretary to Govt.
Public Department

Proceedings, dated 29th August 1884.
No. 8117 mis.

Subject.

Submitting letter from the Collector of South Canara reporting on letter from the Govt. of India regarding shares held by officers of the Madras Civil Service in Land Companies.

1

(Copy.)

MEMORANDUM.
~~TELEGRAM~~.

[Office-Copy.]

Dated 31st July 1884, No.

~~Read~~

To H. G. Turner Esqr.
Collector of
Vizagapatam.

It has been brought to the notice of the Board that you are reported to have sold, either directly or through an Agent, to the Zemindar of Bodinakaram in Madura District a piece of land situated at Devikulam in Travancore – and the undersigned is directed to enquire whether this report is correct.

(Signed) E. Gibson
Secretary
Board of Revenue

(a true copy)

E. Gibson
Secretary
Board of Revenue

Subject :—

For Member

Despatch Abstract :—

Desired by C.S
to lie over pending
disposal of "Civilians
holding land"
22.8.83.

Read again the following papers:—
G.O., 83

1P

3rd February 1883, Nos. 157, 157A, Revenue.

Rev. 2055 of 23 Sept 84

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

2 Vol

Read—the following letter from J. H. GARSTIN, Esq., C.S.I., Acting Second Member of the Board of Revenue, to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, dated 26th January 1883:—

In reply to your demi-official letter of yesterday's date calling on me to reconcile my action in having acquired 500 acres of land in Travancore with the Rules and especially with that part of them just circulated which terminates with the Government of India Notification of August 21st, 1863, No. 5263, I have the honor to state that before I received a copy of G.O. of December 1st, 1882, No. 1357 (about a fortnight ago on my return from furlough) I had never seen that Notification and was not aware of its existence. Had the case, however, been otherwise, I beg respectfully to submit that the terms of that Notification have been superseded by the Resolution of the Government of India, dated February 13th, 1874, No. 13-467, which contains the most recent orders passed on the subject of the holding of land in India by Covenanted Civil Servants. That Resolution lays down that Covenanted Civil Servants and Military Officers in Civil employ and all persons holding Civil Offices ordinarily held by Covenanted or Commissioned officers of the two classes aforesaid are prohibited henceforward from acquiring or holding land in the province with the administration of which they are concerned whether that connection be permanent or temporary, but it in no way prohibits the holding of land in India by Covenanted Civilians beyond the limits of the Presidencies to which they may respectively belong. I therefore considered that when, about three years ago, I bought some land in Travancore, I was committing no breach of any rule, otherwise, I need hardly say, I should not have purchased any.

2. In 1861* the Secretary of State for India distinctly authorized the acquisition and possession of land by Covenanted Civilians anywhere out of the Presidency to which they are attached, but forbad their holding any within its limits, and though it is true that on a reference from the Government of Madras, through the Government of India, he subsequently† so far modified his sanction as to "agree with your Government in viewing with disapproval the holding of lands by Covenanted Civil Servants in Native States," yet he did not specifically forbid it. The Government of India thereupon published extracts from the correspondence in the *Calcutta Gazette*, and about seven months afterwards issued the Notification (No. 5263 of August 21st, 1863) to which you allude. Thus it happened that that Notification found no place in the Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, of the 12th February 1863, No. 320, in which are printed the Notification‡ of the Government of India containing the extracts from the above correspondence and a Resolution summarizing it. Now, it is a curious fact that, while in that Resolution the Secretary of State is declared to have communicated instructions (among other matters) in regard to a Madras civilian holding land in

---

* *Vide* Despatch, dated 10th August 1861, No. 22.

† *Vide* Despatch, dated 25th November 1862, No. 22.

‡ Dated January 16th, 1863, No. 383.

Mysore, Coorg, Cochin or Travancore, or becoming a shareholder in a Company formed for holding or cultivating land in those Territories," the Notification, No. 5263, of the 21st August following, goes much further and, after alluding to the above correspondence with the Secretary of State, prohibits all public officers in India from holding lands in territories like Mysore, Coorg, Cochin and Travancore which are not under the direct sovereignty of the Crown. The issue of this Notification, as worded, seems to have been a mistake, and it is, I believe, a fact that it was never published in the *Fort St. George Gazette*; at least a careful search through all the files between August and December 1863 has failed to discover it. This will fully account for my not being aware of its existence.

3. That the issue of this Notification complicated matters and created doubts and inconsistencies is clear from a perusal of the Despatch of the Government of India to the Secretary of State, dated 16th June 1873, in which, after setting out in the clearest language what was the literal meaning of the general rules which alone, at that time, curtailed the right of Covenanted and Commissioned Civil officers to acquire land, viz., that the land must not be within the limits of the Presidency to which they were first appointed, and after expressing their determination to remove the doubts and inconsistencies then existing by *amending the rules so as to bring them back into direct correspondence with their original objects and motives*, they set forth their proposals which were approved by the Secretary of State and are embodied in the Resolution which I have quoted and on which I rely as justifying my action.

Omit

4. Among the papers communicated to me with G.O. of December 1st, 1882, I see an extract from the Proceedings of the Government of India of the 17th March 1882, No. 11, laying down the rule that "members of the Native Civil Service"* may, with the previous sanction of the Government under which they are serving, be allowed to purchase lands (for agricultural purposes) within the limits of the Presidency to which they belong, and I trust I shall not be considered to be going out of my way on this occasion if I request that the Secretary of State be solicited to extend the same privilege to the European members of the same service.

---

*I understand this expression as equivalent to "Native Members of the Covenanted Civil Service."

ORDER—dated 3rd February 1883, No. 157, Revenue.

Miscellaneous.

While entirely accepting Mr. Garstin's assurance that he was unaware of the rule prohibiting his holding land in Native States, the Right Honorable the Governor in Council cannot admit the validity of the arguments directed to show that the rule is not obligatory. When the Secretary of State said that he "viewed with disapproval the holding by Civilians of lands in Native States," this was tantamount to a prohibition of the practice. As for the contention that the rule was superseded by the Despatch of 1873, the only point discussed in that Despatch was to what "Provinces or Presidencies" the rules against the holding of land in British territory extended, to the Province or Presidency to which an officer originally belonged, or to all those with which he might subsequently become connected. Native States did not in any way come under consideration, and there is nothing to show that the Secretary of State intended to abrogate the rule, which he had himself laid down with regard to them, by merely approving the conclusions at which the Government of India had arrived on a different question.

Omit

2. With regard to the last paragraph of Mr. Garstin's letter, it is observed that, as the rules prescribed by the Government of India stand at present, Local Governments are competent to sanction the acquisition and holding of land by members of the Native Civil Service only, but are not empowered to relax the prohibition laid down in the case of European Civil Servants. The matter will however be brought to the notice of the Government of India and the Secretary of State.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) P. P. HUTCHINS,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

To J. H. Garstin, Esq.
,, J. D. B. Gribble, Esq.

No. 157A.

Copy to Government of India, Revenue and Agricultural Department.

(Signed) P. P. HUTCHINS,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

Exd. W. H. French.

100 Copies.

Govt. of {1883} Madras.

REVENUE.

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 3rd February 1883,
Nos. 157, 157A.

FEBRUARY.

Land.

Orders passed on Mr. Garstin's explanations relative to the acquisition of — by him in Travancore.

[illegible]

---

3 P

21st January 1884, No. 93, Revenue.

CONFIDENTIAL.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

9th

Read—the following letter from A. MACKENZIE, Esq., C.S., Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department, (Public,) to the Secretary to the Government of Madras, dated Simla, 9th November 1883, No. 1659 :—

From Foreign Department, No. 936, dated 13th April 1883.

From Resident, No. 1312, dated 12th September 1883, with enclosures.

With reference to the despatch of the Government of Madras to Her Majesty's Secretary of State, No. 2, dated the 30th January last, relating to the promotion of Gold Mining Companies by Government officials, I am directed to forward copies of the correspondence with the Resident in Mysore, noted on the margin, and to communicate the following observations.

2. The Governor-General in Council is unable to concur in the opinion of the Madras Government, as given in the Despatch under notice, to the effect that those civil and military officers of Government, who were parties to the Kolar concession in Mysore, did not transgress the rules in force with reference to the holding of land by Government servants. The parties to the concession appear to have clearly infringed both the orders of the Secretary of State, contained in his Despatch of 25th November 1862, prohibiting the holding of land in Native States by the Civil and Military servants of the Government for any purpose whatever (and not merely for agricultural purposes as assumed in paragraph 12 of the Madras Government's Despatch to the Secretary of State); and also those in his Despatch of 26th August 1873, approving the views of the Government of India which were directed not merely against habitual speculation (as assumed in paragraph 14 of the Madras Government's Despatch), but against all transactions connected with land which are in themselves of a purely speculative character. The parties to the concession were not shareholders in a Mining Company formed for the development of the resources of the country, but were originally merely the joint and several proprietors of the land itself, the subject of the concession, in connection with which Mining Companies might or might not be formed. The terms on which the land was acquired from the Government of Mysore appear no doubt to have been fair and reasonable. But the object of the concessionaires in thus securing a tract of country believed to be auriferous was purely speculative. It cannot be pretended that it was their intention to open or work mines in the land. Their sole object was to dispose of the land, the monopoly of which they held, to Companies which they trusted would be formed and promoted for the purpose of acquiring it, and it was their interest to induce such Companies to purchase the land at extravagant prices and to secure for themselves a profit on the transaction exceeding that obtainable on ordinary investments. Operations of this sort cannot be characterised as other than speculative, and officers in the actual service of the Crown are distinctly prohibited from engaging in such transactions by the orders already cited. The fact that the concessionaires have since registered themselves as a Company does not, in the opinion of the Government of India, make any material difference in the position of those shareholders who are servants of Government.

Omit

Omit

3. The Madras officials engaged in these transactions, and who are still in active service, are understood to be Colonel Shaw-Stewart, Secretary in the Public Works Department, Mr. Gribble, of the Civil Service, and Mr. Shaw, the Inspecting Veterinary Surgeon; and I am to request that, under the orders of His Excellency the Governor in Council, instructions may be issued to these officers and to any others concerned, if such there are, to dispose of their interest in the concession within three months from the receipt of these orders.

4. With reference to the statement appended to the Despatch, I am to request that further and complete information may be furnished in regard to the "North Travancore Land Planting and Agricultural Society," and the nature of its provisions. This information should be accompanied by a copy of the Society's deed of incorporation and its rules of business. In entry No. 24 of the same statement Mr. Grigg, a civil servant, is shown as holding ten shares of Rs. 500 each in the Ootacamund Cinchona Planting Association. As Ootacamund is understood to be Mr. Grigg's head-quarters for half the year, he is apparently prohibited by the rules from holding these shares. The Government of India would be glad to have some information on this point. A few civil servants are also shown as connected with a company described as the "Talliar Planting Company." I am to desire that inquiries may be instituted by the Government of Madras as to whether the connection of these officers with the company is an infringement of the standing orders or not.

5. With reference to the case of Mr. Garstin, disposed of in the proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, No. 157, dated 3rd February 1883, a copy of which was forwarded to the Department of Revenue and Agriculture with your endorsement No. 157A, of the same date, I am to observe that the decision therein arrived at is, in the opinion of the Government of India, in accordance with the orders on the subject.

Order—dated 21st January 1884, No. 93, Revenue.

Miscellaneous.

Ordered that the following be despatched :—

(Here enter, No. 94, dated 21st January 1884.)

(True Extract.)

(Signed) H. E. STOKES,
Secretary to Government.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

Govt. of {1884} Madras.

REVENUE.

Issued

Recd. *Encl.*

G.O., 21st January 1884, No. 93.

JANUARY.

Gold Mining Companies.

Ordering despatch of letter to the Government of India inquiring whether, under the circumstances explained, it is still desired that instructions should be issued to certain Madras officers to dispose of their shares in certain — of Mysore, within the period specified.

Copy File

5th April 1884, No. 473, Revenue.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

4

Letter from—

The SECRETARY to the GOVERNMENT of
FORT St. GEORGE,

To

The SECRETARY to the GOVERNMENT of INDIA,
Home Department.

Sir,

Miscellaneous.

In continuation of my letter of the 21st January last, No. 94, I am directed to forward copies of the deeds of incorporation and articles of association of the three* Companies referred to in paragraph 4 of your letter of the 9th November last, as also of another Company called "the Aneimudi Planting Company," in which, from returns received subsequent to the compilation of the statement transmitted with this Government's despatch to the Secretary of State, dated 30th January 1883, it has been ascertained that some of the Civil Servants hold shares. The operations of all these Companies, with the exception of the Ootacamund Cinchona Planting Association, are carried on outside the limits of this Presidency.

2. These documents contain complete information regarding the rules under which the business of the several Companies is carried on. His Excellency the Governor in Council is not prepared to say that the exercise by the Civil Servants who hold shares in the several Companies of the right of voting for (1) the Board of Directors or the Managing Committee, (2) the admission of new members, (3) the increase of capital and further issue of shares, (4) the extension of the scope of the enterprise, or (5) the settlement of the annual programme of operations, constitutes "taking part in the management of such institutions" within the meaning of paragraph 2 of the Secretary of State's despatch of 31st May 1862, No. 46. The phrase there used seems to refer to the practical and executive management of the business; but this under the articles is vested in the consulting and managing Directors.

3. It appears to His Excellency in Council that it is impossible for any one to hold a share in a Company without having a potential power of affecting the management, and that the prohibition of voting in the deliberative capacity of members of a corporate body in matters of the nature above described would be a virtual revocation of the permission granted in the Secretary of State's despatch of 25th November 1862, No. 22,† under which Covenanted Civilians may hold shares in Agricultural or other Companies, subject to the sole restriction that they shall take no part in management and shall not be employed in the districts where the operations of such Associations may be carried on.

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* North Travancore Land Planting and Agricultural Society.
Taliar Valley Planting Company.
Ootacamund Cinchona Planting Association.

† To be read with that of 31st May 1862.

4. The Articles of Association of the North Travancore Land Planting and Agricultural Society contain a clause which provides for a member taking up and holding a certain extent of land on his own account. Such occupation is clearly objectionable under the rules, and is covered by the prohibition to acquire or hold land in Native States (paragraph 4 of the despatch last quoted). As the decision of this Government embodied in Proceedings, dated 3rd February 1883, No. 157, which has been concurred in by the Government of India, leaves no room for doubt on this point, the Governor in Council sees no need to issue any further instructions on the subject.

5. The case of Mr. Grigg, who holds shares in the Ootacamund Cinchona Planting Association, does not seem to come under the restrictive rule, that "public servants shall not be employed in the districts where the operations of the Company be carried on." His head-quarters are not on the Nílgiris, but in Madras, though he is permitted to repair to the Hills for a few months in each year. His duties as Director of Public Instruction, which are not restricted to any single district but embrace the whole Presidency, cannot bring him into any official relation to the Association in question, and he is moreover precluded by the Articles of the Association (Clause 29) from taking any part or interfering in the management otherwise than by voting in respect of such matters as may be brought before a general meeting or brought to his notice by a circular.

6. The Right Honorable the Governor in Council does not think that the connection of Civil Servants with these Agricultural Companies is necessarily mischievous, and, while he desires to enforce existing rules, is averse to their being extended and additional restraints being thus placed on freedom of action, without some clear reason of policy.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

(Signed) H. E. STOKES,
Secretary to Government.

Fort St. George,
5th April 1884.

Exd. A. Raitt.

25 Copies.

1884.

HOME DEPARTMENT.

From the Government of
Fort St. George.

Issued

Recd. *Encl.*

Letter, 5th April 1884, No. 473.

APRIL.

Agricultural Companies.

Forwarding papers relating to certain — and observing that the Government do not think that the connection of Civil Servants with these Associations is necessarily mischievous, and that, while desiring to enforce existing rules, they are averse to their being extended and additional restraints being thus placed on freedom of action, without some clear reason of policy.

OOTY RECORD

BOARD OF REVENUE, 11TH AUGUST 1884, No. 2767.

CONFIDENTIAL.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

~~READ—the following~~ G.O., dated 4th August 1884, No. 1722, Public ;—

Read—the following letter from A. MACKENZIE, Esq., C.S., Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department (Public), to the Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras, dated Simla, the 10th July 1884, No. 1086 :—

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 473, dated the 5th April 1884, forwarding copies of the deeds of incorporation and Articles of Association of four land companies in which it has been ascertained that certain officers of the Madras Civil Service hold shares. The names of these companies are—

(1) The North Travancore Land Planting and Agricultural Society ;
(2) The Taliar Valley Planting Company ;
(3) The Ootacamund Cinchona Planting Association ; and
(4) The Aneimudi Planting Company.

The operations of all these companies, with the exception of the Ootacamund Cinchona Planting Company, are understood to be carried on in the Native State of Travancore.

2. Under existing rules, certain Government servants in India are required—

(1) to abstain from speculative investments ;
(2) to abstain from any investment which interests them privately in affairs or undertakings with which their public duty is connected ;
(3) not to acquire or hold land* within the province with the administration of which they are concerned ;
(4) not to acquire or hold land* in a Native State.

They may hold shares in mining and other companies (including agricultural companies) having for their object the development of the resources of the country, subject to the following two restrictions :—

(*a*) they must not take part in the management of any such company ;
(*b*) they must not be employed in the districts where the operations of the company may be carried on.

3. The question which arises in the present case is whether the letter or spirit of these rules has been violated. The Governor-General in Council is of opinion that the spirit, as well as the letter, must be considered, for it is obvious that the first two of the rules abovementioned can only be treated as general guides to conduct. The extent to which the officers concerned have infringed the letter of the rules is one which cannot be fully or satisfactorily dealt with without further information on the points indicated further on. I am, however, to observe that in the case of these companies there appears to have been, in several respects, a manifest disregard of the spirit and object of the rules.

(* *Note*.—This prohibition does not extend to land occupied merely by buildings for residence and their usual appurtenances.)

4. In the first place, although the prohibition against taking part in the 'management' of a company cannot, taken literally, be held to debar an officer from taking part as a promoter, or as one of the applicants for registration in the Memorandum of Association, yet it seems obvious that the danger against which the prohibition was aimed, namely, that of official influence being abused or official trust betrayed, is, under such circumstances, not much less than if the officer took part in the management after the company was started. Moreover, the Secretary of State has condemned speculative investments, and the launching of a new company is *cæteris paribus* more a matter of speculation than taking shares in a working company.

5. Again, when companies of so small a size as those under notice are formed among persons between whom from the constant recurrence of the same names, there appears to be clearly some close connection, and especially when in the Articles of Association of these companies there are stringent provisions for the exclusion of outsiders, it is almost inevitable that individual members, even if legally excluded from the management by the constitution of the company, would practically have a share in it. In the case of certain of the officers concerned, the disregard of the spirit and object of the rules is more striking, inasmuch as they appear as original members of several of these companies, and thus put themselves in a prominent position as promoters of schemes of this nature. When the same person appears as a subscriber to the Memoranda of Association of several companies started about the same time, he lays himself open to the charge of having made a trade or business of promoting or launching companies. This is not a charge to which any officer of Government should expose himself.

6. There is another point in which it appears to the Government of India that the spirit of the rules has not been observed. The rules forbid the employment of an officer in any district where the operations of a company in which he is interested may be carried on. The reasons which dictated this particular prohibition must be held to apply, sometimes with less, sometimes with greater force, to certain officers connected with the central administration, such as members of the Local Government, members of the Board of Revenue, and their Secretaries, and to indicate the necessity of great circumspection on the part of such officers as to the undertakings with which they may become connected in any part of the province in which they are employed.

7. For the above reasons the Government of India, apart from any question of the infringement of the letter of the rules, are of opinion that the conclusion arrived at in paragraph 6 of your letter that the connection of Government officers "with these agricultural companies is not necessarily mischievous" is not a satisfactory defence of the practices to which objection is taken.

8. Turning now to the question as to how far there may be a breach of the letter of the rules, I am to observe that if by the statement in paragraph 2 of your letter it is meant to be understood that, except to the extent therein specified, no Government servant has ever taken part in the management of any of these companies, the Government of India regret that they are not satisfied that this conclusion is borne out by the facts. As regards the Taliar Valley Planting Company, for instance, it appears that each member of the company has an equal vote in the management. The members may appoint one or more consulting members to administer the affairs of the company and operate upon the bank account. But a consulting member can only act in accordance with the wishes of the majority of the members, which he is bound to ascertain in all important matters, and in all matters involving expenditure not provided for in the year's programme, which is settled by the members. Under the constitution of this company the management is, therefore, virtually in the hands of the members, and the rules have been clearly violated in letter as well as in spirit. With regard to the other companies, while the Governor-General in Council, so far as the information before him enables a judgment to be formed, agrees with the Madras Government that the letter of the prohibition as to taking part in the management is concerned does not appear to have been violated, His Excellency in Council is of opinion that some of the matters mentioned in paragraph 2 of your letter are of such a nature that it is clearly undesirable that an officer serving in the province should be prominently concerned with them. At the same time, it is requested that specific information may be furnished as to whether any of the civil servants who appear as shareholders in these companies have, in fact, taken any part in the management.

9. As regards the North Travancore Land Planting and Agricultural Society, it would appear that, under Article 81 of the Articles of Association, each shareholder is entitled to acquire in his own proprietary right a certain extent of land out of the company's concession. It is not clear from your letter whether the shareholders have, in fact, acquired the right to which the article in question entitles them. I am, therefore, to request that it may be stated whether any officers have acquired land under the provisions in question, and if so, whether they continue to hold it, or how, and on what terms they have disposed of it. Further, the Memorandum and Articles of Association of this company give some ground for supposing that one of the objects of the company is to realise for the shareholders a return, not from the profits of cultivation, but from the resale and letting of land in plots, and thus to deal in a more or less speculative manner in land. On this point the Government of India desire to be furnished with full information as to the nature and extent of the grant referred to in clause (*a*), paragraph 3 of the Memorandum. It should, at the same time, be clearly stated whether any further grants or purchases have since been acquired, and how the property has been dealt with hitherto, that is to say, whether it has been used for planting or been sold or leased.

10. Lastly, as regards the Aneimudi Planting Company, the names of the promoters are not given either in the Memorandum of Association or in the Articles of Agreement; and I am, therefore, to ask for a list of those officers who subscribed the Memorandum and the number of shares taken by them.

11. I am to ask for an early reply to this letter.

Order—dated 4th August 1884, No. 1722, Public.

Communicated to the Board of Revenue for very early inquiry and report with reference to the last three lines of the 8th paragraph and 9th and 10th paragraphs.

(True Extract.)

Read – the papers

(Signed) E. F. WEBSTER,
Chief Secretary.

To the Board of Revenue.

Read also the following papers –

Pro. of the Bd of Rev. dt 11 Augt 1884 No. 2767 –

Read – G.O. dated 4 Augt 1884 No 1722 Public.

RESOLUTION—dated 11th August 1884, No. 2767.

The Board are not in possession of full information as to the names of the civil servants concerned in these companies. They are, however, aware that Mr. H. G. Turner, Collector of Vizagapatam, is interested in the North Travancore Society, and from the returns furnished by the officers subordinate to them, it appears that Mr. J. Sturrock is concerned in the Taliar Company and Mr. H. A. Sim in the Aneimudi Company. Thus it would seem that only three officers subordinate to the Board are interested in these societies, and to these gentlemen the Proceedings of Government will be communicated, with the request that they will furnish, without delay, the information called for so far as it may be in their power to afford it.

2. The information asked for in the latter part of paragraph 9 of the Government of India letter can probably best be obtained from the Secretaries and Treasurers of the North Travancore Company, who, it is believed, are Messrs. Stanes and Co.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

Secretary. Sd

To the Chief Secretary to Government, Public Department.
,, H. G. Turner, Esq., Collector of Vizagapatam.
,, J. Sturrock, Esq., Collector of South Canara.
,, H. A. Sim, Esq., Madras Civil Service.

C. No 2929

1884.

Board of Revenue,

MADRAS.

Printed   th August.

Proceedings, dated 11th August 1884,
No. 2767.

35.0

Recd 20/8/84

Reporting on G.O., embodying Government of India letter regarding shares held by officers of the Madras Civil Service in *land* companies.

To the Accountant General
Madras.

Sir,
I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of
an order on the Bangalore Resident Treasury for
half the amount of salary due to me from 1st to 14th July,
the date of my retirement from the Service. I am
also informed that, until I have purchased and
paid for, certain shares bought by me for an Estate
of which I was Executor, together with 12 per cent
interest for 3 1/2 years, the Govt. will not sanction
the payment of the other half, and will only disburse
half of my pension.

Against this order I beg to protest. The Govt.
have sanctioned my retirement on a certain fixed
pension; I am in no way indebted to Govt.; and for
the payment of that pension, which has been
sanctioned in G.O.s No 1409 25 June, and No 1730
dated 5th Augt. 1884 I must hold you responsible.

As to regards the purchase of the shares alluded
to, that is an entirely private matter between me and

Accountant General.

AB

the Estate, with which the Govt. can have no concern. At the same time, I have expressed my willingness to purchase the shares and have sent a formal application to the Supreme Govt., through the Local Govt., requesting that a portion of my pension equivalent to a sum of £750 may be capitalised for that purpose. The utmost the Govt. can do is to deduct the amount of this commutation from my pension; though even this they have, I submit, no legal right to do until the commutation has been sanctioned. As regards the amount of interest to be paid on the shares, I also protest against the Govt. fixing an arbitrary amount greatly in excess of any interest which the ~~estate~~ money could have yielded had it been invested in Govt. paper.

My pension is due to me for service rendered; I owe nothing to the Govt.; the payment of my pension has been sanctioned and I only applied to retire on the condition of receiving a fixed proportionate pension. In paying to me only one half of the pay due to me, and one half of the pension sanctioned the Govt. are breaking the conditions, under which I retired, and I repeat that I must hold you as the disbursing authority responsible for whatever the consequences may be

I beg that a copy of this protest may be forwarded to the Supreme financial authority in Calcutta.

I remain Sir
Your most obedient Servant
J. D. B. Gribble

Bangalore. Aug. 21. 84.

of India letter regarding shares held by officers
of the Madras Civil Service in *land* companies.

Accountant General.

NB

Gazetted Audit: DEPARTMENT.

Fort St. George,
Accountant-General's Office,
22nd August 1884

No. 2604

From
H. F. Clogstoun Esqre.,
ACCOUNTANT-GENERAL
TO THE GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS,

To
THE Chief Secretary to Government,
Financial Department

SIR,

I have the honor to forward in Original a letter received by me this day from Mr J. D. B. Gribble protesting against the deduction of 50 per cent made from his pay for July, in part satisfaction of the public demand declared to be outstanding against him in Government Order dated 27th June 1884 No. 1433 Public Department.—

× Confidl.

2. I have informed Mr Gribble, with reference to the last para of his letter, that his letter has been forwarded to Government and that if he desires a copy of it to be forwarded to the Supreme Financial authority in Calcutta he should address Government direct.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your obedient Servant

H. F. Clogstoun
Accountant General

MB

Pub: 2964/6/84

Revenue Board Office,
Chepauk, Madras,
18th August 1884

CHIEF SECRETARY
20 AUG 84
GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Dear Sir -

I am directed to forward for the information of Government copies of the correspondence noted below, which has passed between the Board and Mr H. G. Turner, Collector of Vizagapatam; and to say that, for the reasons given in my letter addressed this day to Mr Turner, the Board consider it their duty to report the matter. As the rules now stand (vide p. 33. Madras Civil

C No 2220

Service Manual) it does not seem to the Board that Mr. Turner has violated any order of Government, as the Zemindar never was under his jurisdiction or within the limits of the District in which he was serving.

Yours faithfully

E. Gibson

Secretary

Hon. E. F. Webster
Chief Secretary to Government.

Copies

C. M. from Secretary Revenue Board to Mr. Turner of 31 July 1884.

Mr. Turner's reply of 10 August 1884.

Letter from Secretary Revenue Board to Mr. Turner of 18th August 1884.

25/6/84 [illegible] 5/8/84 No. 1700 [illegible]

G.O. 27/8 Circulate

Order :—

Ordered to be recorded

F.W.

Acct. Genl.
J. D. B. Gribble Esqre.

24/8 Is it quite certain that we are within our rights? — There does not seem to be any public demand against Mr. Gribble — He is no longer a public servant and I think we ought to satisfy ourselves ~~[illegible]~~ that our action is legally sustainable — [illegible]

H. S.

By all means make sure that Mr Gribble has no legal right. I suspect from what I hear that he has done wisely to retreat before we received orders to take severe action against him
M. S.
24/8

Council

G.O. 919

~~Financial~~ Public (188 .) DEPARTMENT.

2964

From

THE ACCOUNTANT-GENERAL,
Madras,

To

THE Chief Secretary to Government Finl. Depb.

No. 2604

Dated 22nd } August 1884.
Received 24th }

No.

Subject.

Forwarding letter from Mr. Gribble protesting against the deduction of 50 per cent made from his pay from July in part satisfaction of the public demand declared to be outstanding against him in G.O. No 1433 Public Dept d/ 27 June 84.

With order

Public Department.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

READ ~~the following~~

Cur. 2964.

Dispatched 11/9/84

G.O. 919

Letter No. 2012 Fin.
To. d/ 10 Sep/84.
The Secy to the Govt. of India
Dept of Finance Commerce

Sir,

I am directed to request a ruling on the following point.

An officer of the Madras Civil Service, without having previously obtained the sanction of the Govt. accepted the position of trustee to the estate of one Bhujanga Rao & subsequently tra

25/6/84

Public

nsferred to that state for valuable onsideration certain shares belonging to him in his private capacity. For doing this he was severely reprimanded and directed to take back the shares repaying to the estate the sum he has accepted for them.

On the 14th June 1884, this officer tendered his resignation of the service.

On the 25th June, the Government accepted his resignation and admitted him to a proportionate pension under the recent orders of the Secretary of State No. 25, 27th March 1884, with

with effect from July following.

On the 27th June the Government having learnt that this officer had failed to make the repayment, again required him to make it; and on the 10th July (four days before his actual retirement from the public service) they instructed the Accountant General to regard the unpaid sum as a public demand ~~against this officer~~ who now protests against the consequent retrenchment on the ground that being a retired officer he is entitled to d the whole of the

stet

which the length of
is service entitled
him. It appears to
this Govt., however, that
if this officer had
continued in the service
they would clearly
have had the power
to enforce obedience
to their orders;
and
they are unable to
admit that the fact
of 's subsequent
retirement in any way
alters the circumstances.
I am accordingly to request
to be informed whether
the instruction to the
Accountant General
and his action thereon
e considered to be
of
est.
No. 2

JW 9/9

DISPOSED OF
10th SEP 84
BY ~~G.O.~~ Letter No. 2012 Mis

Thrown out of Compd?

HON'BLE MEMBER.

18

Public DEPARTMENT.

Despatched -11-8-84

Ack sent 19/8

No. 1696

d 31 July/84.

To

The Secretary to the Government
of India,
Home DEPARTMENT.

Madras Office
Print or now
revised to base
Lithog present
copies
9/8
+ done 15/8

Sir,

Mir Shujáat 'Ali Khán, appointed a probationer for the Madras Civil Service in 1881, entered upon his duties on the 15th December of that year, and has since (July 1883) passed the departmental examination by the lower standard prescribed for Covenanted Civilians appointed in England.

2. In the terms of the notification, dat
August 1879, No. 15

now directed to state that the probationer has acquitted himself satisfactorily, and to recommend that the Governor-General in Council will confirm his admission to the Madras Civil Service.

FW
8/8/84

187 DEPARTMENT.

No.

To

The Secretary to the
Government of
Department.

Dated 187

Care

Copy

31st July 1884, No. 1696, Public.

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

Letter—from
The CHIEF SECRETARY to the GOVERNMENT of
FORT ST. GEORGE,

To
The SECRETARY to the GOVERNMENT of INDIA,
Home Department.

Sir,

Mír Shujáa't Alí Khán, appointed a probationer for the Madras Civil Service in 1881, entered upon his duties on the 15th December of that year, and has since (July 1883) passed the departmental examination by the lower standard prescribed for Covenanted Civilians appointed in England.

2. In the terms of the notification, dated 22nd August 1879, No. 1534, I am now directed to state that the probationer has acquitted himself satisfactorily, and to recommend that the Governor-General in Council will confirm his admission to the Madras Civil Service.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

E. F. WEBSTER,
Chief Secretary.

Ootacamund,
31*st July* 1884.

Exd. J. Wright.

Regr. No.

HOME 1884 DEPT.

[ ]

From the Government of
Fort St. George.

Issued

Recd. *Encl.*

Letter, 31st July 1884, No. 1696.

JULY.

Native Civil Servants.

Requesting, for reasons stated, that Mír Shujáa't Alí Khán's admission to the Madras Civil Service may be confirmed.