M.R.O. 14—10,000—21-4-22.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No.	1692	Press ~~Mis.~~
39-40		
Dated	14 — 12 — 1859.	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 39. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 28th November 1859, No. 4857.

Read letter from the Collector of Coimbatore, dated 24th October 1859, No. 193, requesting instructions on certain points in the recent orders of Government, for the redemption of the assessment on hill lands and building sites.

(In Con. 28th October 1859, No. 5341.)

Resolved that the above recorded letter be submitted for the consideration and orders of Government, with reference to their proceedings in the Revenue Department, No. 1053, dated 5th August 1859, and No. 1271, dated 21st September 1859.

In Con. 9th August 1859, *No.* 3998.
In Con. 22d September 1859, *No.* 4751.

2. In the foregoing letter the Collector of Coimbatore raises the following three points in the application to the Nilgiri Hills of the rules recently promulgated for the redemption of the assessment, viz. first, whether it is imperative that all lands for agricultural purposes should be sold by auction at an upset price of 20 years' assessment; or whether it is optional with intending settlers, &c., to apply for lands on the condition of paying the annual assessment, until such time as they may wish to convert the property so held into freeholds by redemption of the land tax; secondly, whether the preliminary sanction of the Board is necessary for the disposal by public auction of all building sites applied for; and, thirdly, whether the rules apply to land now occupied or that may be hereafter required by *Burghers and other hill tribes.*

3. As regards the first and second points, it appears to the Board that no option is left by the rules regarding the redemption of the land tax on lands newly acquired, and that future applicants must be prepared to pay down a sum equal to at least 20 years' quit rent, which will entitle them to free certificates or title deeds in the form A appended to the second order of Government quoted above, and that paragraph 5 of the same order requires that all applications for the classes of land affected by the rules must for the present be submitted for the consideration of Government through the Board.

4. On the third point the Collector will see that the rules do not contemplate any compulsory alteration of the terms on which the lands are already occupied, whether by Burghers and other hill tribes, or by settlers, and that no distinction is made between these several classes in the future appropriation of land. As, however, the want of some distinction in the latter respect, is likely to bear hardly upon the Natives of the hills who are engaged in agricultural pursuits, the Board of Revenue resolve to submit the Collector's letter and these proceedings for the consideration of Government.

(A true Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON, *Acting Secretary.*

No. 40. ORDER THEREON, 14th December 1859, No. 1692.

With this proceeding the Board of Revenue submit a letter from the Collector of Coimbatore, asking for instructions on certain points in connection with the application of the freehold order of the 5th August 1859, (No. 1053) to the Nílgiri hills. Those points are stated in the second paragraph of the Board's paper.

2. On the first point the Board have rightly judged that the Government intend to allow no deviation from the course laid down for disposing of Government land applied for by settlers on the Nílgiris for any purpose. All such land must be put up to public auction free of quit-rent; the upset price being the equivalent of twenty years quit-rent.

3. The second question is fully answered by paragraph 5 of the order of September 21st, No. 1271, as the Board point out.

4. On the third point the Collector has rightly understood the intentions of Government. The rules are not intended to affect the terms on which the hill tribes have hitherto been considered to be entitled to obtain land for ordinary agricultural or other purposes.

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

Rev. Dept.

No. 1692

Proceedings of the Madras Govt.

Under date the 14th Decr. 1859

Read the following

Proceedings of the Board of Rev:

Submitting with the Boards observations a letter from the Collector of Coimbatore request=ing instructions on certain points in the application to the Nilgiri Hills of the rules pre=cently promulgated for the redemption of the Assessment

(Here. refer. 28 Novr. 57 No. 4857)

With the Proceedings the Board of Revenue submit a letter from the Collector of Coimbatore, asking for instructions on cer=tain points in connec=tion with the application of the freehold order of the 5th August 1854 (No. 1053) to the Nilgiri Hills. Those points are stated in the second paragraph of the Board's Proceedings.

On

2 On the first point the Board have rightly judged that the Govt intend to allow no deviation from the course laid down for disposing of Government land applied for by settlers on the Nilgiries for any purpose - All such land must be put up to Auction free of quit-rent, the upset price being the equivalent of twenty years quit-rent.

3 The second question is fully answered by Para 5 of the order of September 21st No. 1271, as the Board point

point out.

4 On the third point the Collector has rightly understood the intentions of Govt. The Rules are not intended to affect the terms on which the Hill tribes have hitherto been considered to be entitled to obtain land for ordinary agricultural or other purposes.

6 Copies
To The Board of Revenue - Dispt 15

Revenue 1859 Dept.
Pro: of Govt. 20th Decr.

No. 1692.

Pro: of the Madras Govt.
Dy 14th December 1859.

Reviewing the Boards observations on a letter from the Collector of Coimbatore regarding certain points in connection with the application of the freehold order to Nilgiri Hills.

Go Nos 47 Revenue 8-8-1859
" " 33-34 " 23-9-59

No 39 & 40

15 December 1859