Roncone Consultation

No. 670 dy 16-5-1859

Back nos 43-44

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, from 11th to 17th May 1859.

No. 43. Read the following (Circular) from W. GREY, Esq., Secretary to the Government of India; to the Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Fort William, the 27th April 1859, No. 844.

With reference to the accompanying Extract (paragraph 4) of a Despatch No. 1, dated the 16th March 1859, from the Right Honorable the Secretary of State for India, I am directed to request that, with the permission of the Right Honorable the Governor in Council, steps may be taken to procure accurate information in regard to the extent and nature of the culturable land which is at the absolute disposal of the Government, within the limits of the Madras Presidency and also as to the conditions on which such lands might properly and expediently be disposed of to persons desirous of bringing them into cultivation.

Extract from a Despatch from the Right Hon'ble the Secretary of State for India, in the Revenue Department, No. 1, *dated the* 16*th March* 1859.

Para. 4.—I observe it stated in the papers which accompany your letter under reply, that the extent of culturable land in the Punjab at the absolute disposal of the Government is very limited. With reference to applications which may be made in this country for grants of land under such conditions as, after considering my Despatch of the ~~22nd~~ December last, No. 2, you may be prepared to recommend, it is very desirable that Her Majesty's Government should be informed of the extent of land capable of cultivation at the disposal of the Government, not only in the Punjab, but throughout British India: and I desire that you will take such steps as may be necessary for obtaining that information. You will then submit it to me in a condensed form, accompanied by a statement of the conditions which, having regard to the difference in the system of revenue administration prevailing in the respective localities, you would recommend for disposing of such lands, either for terms of years, or in perpetuity, to persons desirous of bringing them into cultivation. Your report should distinguish, as far as possible, the present state of these culturable tracts; whether they are covered with timber forests or consist of grass plains interspersed with jheels capable of being drained; or if they are tracts, requiring expensive artificial means to make them productive. Her Majesty's Government will then be enabled to afford to applicants in this country an amount of information respecting the facilities offered to persons proposing to settle in India for agricultural purposes, which they are not now in a condition to furnish. All such applicants will of course be required to make their arrangements, with regard to the occupation of land, with the local authorities.

(Signed) R. B. CHAPMAN,
Under Secy. to the Govt. of India.

Ordered in consequence that the following reply be despatched.

No. 44. From J. D. BOURDILLON, Esq., Secretary to the Government of Fort Saint George; to W. YOUNG, Esq., Secretary to the Government of India; dated 16th May 1859, No. 670.

I am directed by the Honorable the Governor in Council to request that you will, with the permission of the Government of India, furnish this Government with a copy of the Despatch* alluded to in the enclosure which accompanied your Circular of the 27th April 1859, No. 844.

* *Dated Dec.* ~~22d~~ 1858, *No.* 2.

Rev. Depart.

Dated 22nd Dec. 1858 No 2

Rec'd 16th May 1859

No 670.

To

W. Young Esqre

Secretary to the Government of

India

Sir

I am directed

by the Honorable the

Governor in Council to

request that you will,

with the permission

of the Government of India,

furnish this Government

with a copy of the

dispatch alluded to

in the enclosure which

accompanied your circular

of the 27th April 1859, No 844.

Dated Dec. 22nd/58 No 2.

Rec'd Dec 22/58

No 2.

Rec'd 16th May 1859.

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Revenue 1859 Dept.
Cons: 17th May.
No 670.

To the Secretary to the
Government of India.
D/ 16th May 59.

From Government of India
D/ 2d June 59 C No 1107 in Cs 1st July 59
From the Secty to the Govt of India
D/ 1st augt 1859 - Ltr No 1503 in Cs.

Copy of the Despatch alluded to in the enclosure which accompanied the Circular calling for information regarding the extent and nature of the Culturable land at the absolute disposal of this Govt. requested.

No 43 & 44.

C 18 Lmo

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