M.R.O. 14—10,000—21-4-22.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1696 Press
~~Mis.~~

427-428

Dated 24-9— 1869.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Rev 24 9-1860 : 1696

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
24th Septemeber 1860.

No. 427. Read the following letter from W. GREY, Esq., Secretary to the Government of India, to J. D. BOURDILLON, Esq., Secretary to the Government of Fort Saint George, dated Fort William, 31st August 1860, No. 1,810 :—

SIR,

1. In continuation of my letter, No. 1,136, dated 28th May, I am directed to transmit for the information and guidance of the Government of Fort Saint George the accompanying copy of a Despatch No. 36 of 1860, dated the 24th ultimo, from the Secretary of State, declining to sanction any relaxation of the rule which prohibits Officers in the Public Service from holding land for Agricultural purposes in India.

2. I am to draw attention to the modification of the existing rules which is allowed in favor of Grantees generally, expressed in the concluding part of the Despatch.

From the Right Honorable Sir C. WOOD, Bart., Secretary of State for India, to His Excellency the Right Honorable the Governor General of India in Council, dated India Office, London, 24th July 1860, No. 36.

MY LORD,

1. In your letter of the 2nd April last, (No. 6), you have referred for the consideration and orders of Her Majesty's Government "the general question of Government servants holding "lands in India."

2. In the opinion of the Governor General, in which all the other Members of your Government concur, "it would be quite sufficient to rule, as regards Military Officers, that "they might acquire and hold lands anywhere, unless, as in the case of Government grants, "residence be made a condition of ownership; but that they should not be employed in any Civil "situation in which their influence could, on any reasonable supposition, be brought to bear "unduly on their own personal interests as land holders. His Excellency is further of opinion "that Officers of the Civil Service might be permitted to hold lands anywhere out of their "own Presidency."

3. I am very desirous that all due encouragement should be given to the settlement of Europeans as landed proprietors in India, but, as regards Officers in the Public Service, whether Civil or Military, I am of opinion that it is inexpedient that they should be permitted to engage in pursuits by which their time and attention would be diverted from their proper duties, to which their entire energies should be devoted. I am, therefore, unable to sanction the relaxation of the rules recommended by your Government; and I desire that it may be clearly understood that no Officer, so long as he remains in the actual service of the Government, can be permitted to acquire and hold lands for agricultural purposes in any part of India. I think it, however, desirable to take this opportunity of withdrawing the prohibition in the Despatch of the 9th May 1838, against the grant of land to any European, unless he shall undertake to reside on it, and cultivate it himself within a specified period, and that it will be sufficient if in all cases the Governor in Council or the Lieutenant Governor should be satisfied, previously to making the grant, that the applicant has the means and intention of bringing into cultivation the land applied for, without insisting on the condition of actual residence.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) W. GREY,
Secretary to the Government of India.

No. 428. ORDER THEREON, 24th September 1860, No. 1,696.

Ordered that this letter and the previous one of the 28th May last, No. 1,136, together with their enclosures be communicated to the Board of Revenue, Military Department and Director of Revenue Settlement.

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

India Office,
London, 24th July 1860.

Revenue,
No. 36.

To His Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor General of India in Council.

MY LORD,

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I have, &c.,
(Signed) CHARLES WOOD,
Secretary of State for India.

(True copy)

Secy. to the Govt. of India.

No. 1810

FROM

W. GREY, ESQUIRE,
Secy. to the Govt. of India,

To

The Secretary to the Government of
Fort St. George

SIR,

Dated Fort William, the 31st August 1860.

HOME DEPT. Revenue. IN continuation of my letter No. 1136 dated 26th May, I am directed to transmit for the information and guidance of the Government of Fort St. George the accompanying copy of a Despatch No. 36 of 1860, dated the 24th ultimo, from the Secretary of State, declining to sanction any relaxation of the rule which prohibits Officers in the public service from holding land for Agricultural purposes in India.

2. I am to draw attention to the modification of the existing rules which is allowed in favor of Grantees generally, expressed in the concluding part of the Despatch.

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

Secy. to the Govt. of India,

Revenue 1860 No. 1 part B.

Pro. of Govt. for September.

No. 1946.

From the Secretary to the

Govt. of India.

Dated 31st August 1860.

Rec'd 13th September 1860

1 Encl.

Forwarding copy of a Home despatch declining to sanction any relaxation of the rule which prohibits Officers in Public Service from holding lands for agricultural purposes in India, and drawing attention to the modification of the existing rules which is allowed in favor of planters generally.

No. 1696. 7th September.

William Muir

22nd for June 1860 Re 251-2

No. 427 + 428.

20-3-08

No. 1946. Forwarded with reference to the Government order of the 28th May last No. 1136 together with their enclosures the communication of the Board of Revenue, Military Dept. & Director of Revenue & Settlement.

Public Letter from the Govt. of India, Home Dept. dated 31st August 1860.

Letter from the Secretary to the Govt. of India, Home Dept. dated 31st August 1860.

427-428

Original

Revenue Dept

29-9-1873

Go 24-9-1860 no 1696

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