M.R.O. 14—10,000—21-4-22.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 733 Press ~~Mis.~~

600-105.

Dated 8—5— 1860.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 100. Read the following Despatch from the Right Honorable Sir C. WOOD, Bart., Secretary of State for India, to His Excellency the Honorable the Governor in Council, Fort Saint George, dated India Office, London, 20th February 1860, No. 12:—

1. In your Excellency's letter of the 7th October last, No. 54, in reply to the Military letter of the Court of Directors, dated the 3rd September, No. 94, 1856, you state that you "cannot "recommend that any *special* inducements should be held out to Military persons of any rank to "become Settlers in India, and the more so as persons of every class who are likely to succeed as "Colonists, have, under recent arrangements, every necessary facility for acquiring land on a "secure freehold tenure in those parts of the South of India which are best suited to the health "of Europeans, and to the industrial pursuits ordinarily carried on by them."

2. The arrangements to which you refer are obviously those authorized in your Resolution of the 5th August last, and approved in my despatch of the 7th October (No. 18) 1859.

3. The advantages held out by these Rules may offer sufficient inducements to retired Commissioned Officers to lead those who may be so inclined to establish themselves on the Hills; but as regards Non-Commissioned Officers and Soldiers of good character, I think that the suggestions of the Board of Revenue in their Proceedings of the 24th September 1858, for encouraging persons of this class to settle in the country are deserving of more consideration than they appear to have received, and I would wish you to enquire and report to me, whether it may not be desirable and practicable to offer to such persons some greater inducements than are afforded by the Rules in question.

No. 101. MINUTE BY THE HONORABLE THE PRESIDENT.

1. In the letter from the Secretary of State, dated the 20th of February last, we are instructed to inquire and report whether it may not be desirable and practicable to offer to Non-Commissioned Officers and Soldiers of good character some greater inducements to establish themselves as Settlers in the Hill regions of this Presidency than are afforded by the Regula ions of this Government of the 5th of August last, for granting land in those regions on a freehold tenure.

2. I sincerely desire to promote the settlement of Europeans in this country; but the expectations I entertain of extensive and lasting public benefit from this change, make me the more desirous to avoid any false step which would oppose a serious obstacle to it. In this case we also owe a duty to our Soldiers, who would be the first sufferers by any mistake.

3. There is no need for further enquiry on the subject. The apparent facility with which large results may be speedily obtained by Military colonization has always made it an attractive project. The experiment has already been repeatedly tried in the British Colonies, and it has invariably failed. It was tried on a large scale in Canada when Lord Hardinge was Secretary at War. Non-Commissioned Officers and Soldiers were encouraged to emigrate by free grants of land, and by paying to them, in commutation of their Pensions, sums of money which were intended to furnish them with small capitals to commence with. The great majority of these so called "Military Settlers," almost immediately after their arrival in Canada, fell into a state of destitution; and "subsistence allowance" had to be given to them to the end of their lives to prevent them from starving. The experiment has been twice made at the Cape of Good Hope—the last time when the German Legion were sent out as Military Settlers—and both times it failed. The results of the "Military Pensioner" Settlements in Tasmania and New Zealand have been the same; but the failure was less striking, because the experiment was on a smaller scale and was supported by a lavish expenditure. The general observation in all the Colonies was that the rising generation in the Military Settlements, instead of being remarkable for their attachment to the British Crown, were more than usually discontented and disaffected, for the obvious reason that these settlements were among the least thriving. I confidently appeal to the Records of the Public Offices at Home and the experience of officers who have served in the Colonies, for the proofs of these statements.

4. The causes of these effects might easily have been predicated. The life of a Soldier, and especially of a British Soldier, is not favorable to resource and self-reliance. He is accustomed to do only what he is ordered to do, so that he may form a unit of a well compacted machine. These habits are the least favorable to a Settler's life, which is a constant struggle with new and unexpected difficulties. The knowledge which a Soldier acquires out of his own profession, is also not of a kind to help him. If he is an industrious man, he may improve himself in some handicraft, but he never learns agriculture. The *whole* truth, however, is that the qualifications required for success as a Settler are of a very special kind, and that there would be certain to be extensive failure and consequent distress if persons of any class, however well suited for the kind of life as a general rule, were indiscriminately encouraged to go into this line.

5. All these reasons apply with double force to this country. Even the Hill Districts of India are not places where individual Settlers can clear a few acres of ground and live by the labor of their hands upon the produce of it. The slopes of the Hills, which alone are fit for Coffee, require considerable capital for their cultivation. The Plateau yields only coarse grass, and could not be converted either to Grazing or Produce Farms without a still greater application of capital. There is scope for persons who have the command of capital combined with skill and intelligence. There is also an increasing demand for trustworthy European or East Indian Overseers; but the laborers must always be, except in rare exceptional cases, Natives of the country.

6. This Government has lately resolved upon two measures singularly adapted to promote the d rogress of European Colonization in a manner suited to the circumstances of the country.

7. One of these is the transfer of the Male and Female Military Orphan Asylums to the Hills. The habits of the Mountain regions are totally different from those of the Plains; and if these children are brought up to a Hill life, the great majority of them will permanently settle in the Nilgiris and adjoining Plateaus. They will furnish a large supply of precisely the kind of trustworthy and intelligent, yet docile and acclimated agency which is most required; and as they are in nearly equal proportions of males and females, they will multiply and occupy the land. Many of them will begin life as domestic servants according to the English practice. Respectable servants are in great demand on the Hills.

8. The other measure is the conversion of the Barrack at Wellington into a Sanitarium for the European Force in the South of India. In the course of their service, nearly all the European Troops will visit the Sanitarium—many of them more than once—and they will then have an opportunity of becoming acquainted with the peculiar conditions of Hill life, and of judging whether it would be for their advantage to settle there. Through the medium of this Convalescent station, the whole European Force of this Presidency will form intimate relations with the Hill regions; the young will be left at school there; the sick and old will naturally look to it as a place of retirement; and all will be in a position to avail themselves of any openings there may be as Tradesmen, Artisans, Market Gardeners, Overseers, or in any other suitable capacity.

(Signed) C. E. TREVELYAN.

Gindi Park, 19*th April* 1860.

No. 102. MINUTE BY HIS EXCELLENCY SIR P. GRANT.

1. I am quite satisfied that Military Colonization never will be successful in any part of India, Hill or Plain. The habits and previous training of British Soldiers are all opposed to their succeeding as colonists; they have no capital, and, as a general rule, Soldiers detest the Hills. The lamented Sir Henry Lawrence made the most liberal and enticing offers to the old Pensioners at Chunar (the hotest hole in India and one of the most disagreeable in all respects) to remove with their families to the Hills and settle there, and in no one instance with success—Not a man consented to move.

2. Even Regiments fresh out from England dislike the Hill Stations, and to old stagers it is a positive punishment to be quartered on them. Even Invalids, if they had a choice, would take their chance of recovering in the Plains rather than be sent to a Hill Sanitarium for health All this seems very unaccountable, but I know it to be a fact both in this Presidency and in Bengal.

(Signed) P. GRANT, Lieut.-Genl.,
Commander-in-Chief..

Madras, 19*th April* 1860.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, for the month of May 1860.

No. 103. MINUTE BY THE HONORABLE W. MOREHEAD.

1. I quite agree in the opinions expressed in the above Minutes.

2. As Settlers old Soldiers will never succeed. At Bangalore, where the climate is such as they like, every facility should be afforded them to obtain cottages to live in. Much has been done already by Sir Mark Cubbon, and the number of old Soldiers residing at Bangalore is considerable.

(Signed) W. MOREHEAD.

No. 104. MINUTE BY THE HONORABLE E. MALTBY.

I concur in the above views, and have no hope of Military Colonization succeeding at our Hill Stations.

(Signed) E. MALTBY.

No.105, ORDER THEREON, 8th May 1860, No. 733.

Ordered that these Minutes be forwarded in reply to the despatch of the Home Government of the 20th February last, as containing the sentiments of this Government after a careful consideration of the subject.

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

I am quite satisfied that Military Colonization never can be successful in any part of India, Hill or Plain. The habits and previous training of British Soldiers are all opposed to their succeeding as Colonists - they have no Capital, and, as a general rule, Soldiers detest the Hills! The lamented Sir Henry Lawrence made the most liberal and enticing offers to the old Pensioners to Charee, the Cadet Hill in India and the most desirable to remove with their families to the Hills and settle there, and in no one instance with success - not a man consented to move.

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All this seems very unaccountable,
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Lt Genl Sir Grant Jr Grant.
Commander in Chief
India

Simla
April 1860.

Received 30th April 1860
Answered 1st May 1860
Secret & Political Department
No 1860

Minute by the Honorable the President.

In the Letter from the Secretary of State dated the 20th of February last we are instructed to inquire and report whether it may not be desirable and practicable to offer to Non Commissioned Officers and Soldiers of good character some greater inducements to establish themselves as Settlers in the Wild regions of this Presidency than are afforded by the Regulations of this Government of the 5th of August last for granting land in those regions on a freehold tenure.

I sincerely desire to promote the Settlement of Europeans in this Country; but the expectations I entertain of Extensive and lasting public benefit from this Change, make me the more desirous to avoid any false step which would oppose a serious obstacle to it. In this case we also owe a duty to our Soldiers who would be the first Sufferers by any mistake

There is no need for further enquiry on the subject. The apparent facility with which large results may be speedily obtained by Military Colonization have always made

Revenue 1806 Dec.r 4th
Rec.d from Govt. Secretary
No 848.

Minute by His Excellency the Commander in Chief

Dated } 4th Dec.r 1806.
Recd } 4th Dec.r 1806.

Sundry Letters
received relative
to Military Colonization
Extracts from which were
transmitted to the Secretary
to Government in the Revenue
Department on the 27th ultimo

No 849.

Minute by the Hon.ble the Pres.t
and Proceedings

Dated } 4th Dec.r 1806.
Recd } 4th Dec.r 1806.

Minute by His Excellency
the Commander in Chief

Dated } 4th Dec.r 1806.
Recd } 4th Dec.r 1806.

Extract from a Letter from
Captain Sutton Sugden
Bombay 1st Dec.r 1806
No 837
Minute by the Hon.ble
and Proceedings
No 102 at 104.

Extract from a Letter from
Captain Sutton Sugden
Bombay 1st Dec.r 1806
No 837
Minute by the Hon.ble
and Proceedings
No 102 at 104.

No 833-8th Dec.r Revenue

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in all the Colonies, was that the rising generation in the Military Settlements, instead of being remarkable for their attachment to the British Crown, were more than usually discontented and disaffected. I confidently appeal to the records of the Public Offices at Home for the proofs of these statements.

The causes of these effects might easily have been predicated. The life of a Soldier, and especially of a British Soldier, is not favorable to resource and self reliance. He is accustomed to do only what he is ordered to do, so that he may form a Unit of a well compacted Machine. These habits are the least favorable to a Settlers life, which is a constant struggle with new and unexpected difficulties. The knowledge which a Soldier acquires out of his own profession, is also not of a kind to help him. If he is an industrious man, he may improve himself in some handicraft, but he never learns agriculture. The whole truth, however, is that the qualifications required for success as a Settler are of a very special kind, and there would be certain to be extensive failure and consequent distress if persons

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of any class, however well suited for the kind of life as a general rule, were indiscriminately encouraged to go into this line.-

All these reasons apply with double force to this Country.- Even the Hill Districts of India are not places where individual Settlers can clear a few acres of ground and live by the labor of their hands upon the produce of it.- The slopes of the Hills, which alone are fit for Coffee, require considerable Capital for their Cultivation.- The Plateau yields only coarse grass, and could not be converted either to Grazing or Produce Farms without a similar application of Capital. There is scope for persons who have the command of Capital combined with skill and intelligence.- There is also an increasing demand for trustworthy European or East Indian overseers; but the Laborers must always be, except in rare exceptional cases, natives of the Country.-

This Government has lately resolved upon two measures singularly adapted to promote the progress of European

Colonization in a manner suited to the circumstances of the Country.-

One of these is the transfer of the Male and Female Military Orphan Asylums to the Hills.- The habits of the Mountain Regions are totally different from those of the Plains; and if these Children are brought up to a Hill life, the greater majority of them will permanently settle in the Nilgiris and adjoining Plateaus. They will furnish a large supply of precisely the kind of trustworthy and intelligent, yet docile and acclimated agency which is most required; and as they are in nearly equal proportions of Males and Females, they will multiply and occupy the land.-

The other measure is the conversion of the Barrack at Wellington into a Sanitarium for the European Force in the South of India.- In the course of their service, nearly all the European Troops will visit the Sanitarium- many of them more than once- and they will then have an opportunity of becoming acquainted with the particular conditions of Hill life, and of judging whether it would be for their advantage to settle there. Through the

the medium of this Convalescent Station, the whole European Force of this Presidency will form intimate relations with the Hill Regions; the young will be kept at school there; the sick and old will naturally look to it as a place of retirement; and all will be in a position to avail themselves of any openings there may be as Tradesmen, Artisans, Market Gardeners, Overseers, or in any other suitable Capacity.—

Lt Col Thuriyan

Guindy Park
19th April 1860

Revenue Dept

No 733

Proceedings of the Madras Government

Under date the 8th May April 1860.

Read the following papers.

From the Rt Honble the Secretary of State

Minute that the Rules of the 5th August 1859 may offer sufficient inducements to retired Commissioned Officers to settle in India, but as regards Non Commissioned Officers and Soldiers, that the suggestions of the Board of Revenue are deserving of more consideration. Desire to be informed whether it may not be desirable and practicable to offer such persons greater advantages than are offered by the Rules.

Here enter 20th February 1860 No 121

Minute by the Honble the Pres[illegible]

Here enter 19th April 1860

Minute by His Ex: the Comr in Chief

Here enter - 19th " — " —

Do by the Honble Mr Morehead

Here enter

Do by the Honble Mr Maltby

Here enter.

Ordered that these Minutes will be forwarded in reply to

Revenue 1860 Sept
No 733
Read 20 Feby

Minute

Dated 9th April 1860.
Recd 9 " "

Minute

Taken into consideration in connection with the Secretary of State's Despatch regarding the Settlement of Non-Commissioned Officers & Soldiers on the Retirement of the Royal Forces.

No 733. 8th May.

Copy in a Letter dated 8th May 1860 No 41 to Secretary of State

the Dispatch of the Home
Government of the 20th February
last, as containing the sen-
timents of this Government
after a careful consideration
of the subject.

I