M.R.O. 14—10,000—21-4-22.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 736	Press / ~~Mis.~~
160 – 111	
Dated 8 – 5 – 18 69	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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

No. 110. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 21st April 1860, No. 1,943:—

Read letter from the Officiating Collector of Salem, dated 19th March 1860, No. 68.

(In Con., 22nd March 1860, No. 1,332.)

Resolved, that the above letter be submitted to Government with reference to their Order, dated 31st January last, No. 167, Revenue Department.

In Con., 2nd February 1860, *No.* 513.

2. The Pennagram Muttha of Salem comprised an area of 21,425$\frac{1}{16}$ acres, charged with a Peshkash of Rupees 6,200. It was sold in 1851, on account of an arrear of Rupees 1,720, and purchased by Government for Rupees 8,170. The deduction of the arrear reduces the actual purchase money to Rupees 6,450, from which probably some further deduction to a trifling extent was made for expenses of sale, &c.

Extract Minutes Consultation, No. 1,277, *R. D., 23rd December* 1851, *in Con. 19th January* 1852, *No.* 3,153.

3. Of the gross area stated above acres 938 g. 27 a. 5, assessed at Rupees 787-11-11, are held on Inám tenures, and a further extent of acres 9,776 g. 33, are waste and unfit for cultivation. The area productive of Revenue is thus reduced to acres 10,709 g. 20 a. 6, bearing an Assessment of Rupees 10,045-6-7.

Vide Statement 2, in Collector's letter.

4. The average receipts from the Muttha under Government management from Fasli 1261 to Fasli 1268 (both inclusive) have been Rupees 8,495 per annum, and the Establishment charges Rupees 642, leaving a net Annual Revenue of Rupees 7,853, or Rupees 1,653 yearly in excess of the old Peshkash, Rupees 6,200.

5. The average area under cultivation in the same period has been acres 8,693, leaving acres 2,016 available, much of which will doubtless be immediately taken up, in consequence of the recent reduction of Assessment whereby an addition will be ultimately made to the Revenue, though not, of course, to the amount of the old Survey Assessment.

6. Mr. Bain's proposal is to repay Government the purchase money, Rupees 6,450, and to farm the Muttha for the old Peshkash of Rupees 6,200 per annum.

7. Mr. Knox is opposed to this arrangement as adverse to the interests of Government and the people, and as likely to prove an unsuccessful speculation to Mr. Bain himself.

8. The latter question is matter for Mr. Bain's own consideration, and need not here be noticed.

9. As regards Government (apart from the people) the question is chiefly a pecuniary one. If they accept Mr. Bain's offer, they will receive a fixed annual sum of Rupees 6,200 and interest on a present payment of Rupees 6,450, which at 5$\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. would amount to Rupees 355, or in all Rupees 6,555 instead of a net Revenue, which, during the last eight years, has averaged Rupees 7,853. The difference between these sums is Rupees 1,298 which represents the amount Government will give up for a permanent in exchange for a Raiyatwári administration of the Muttha.

10. As regards the interests of the people, the Board prefer the Raiyatwári, as a system, in the circumstances of this Presidency. There is, however, no legal objection to Government transferring its rights to a Farmer or Zamíndár, provided care is taken to secure the rights of the Raiyatwári proprietors, and to ensure to them from the Farmer or Zamíndár the same liberal treatment as they might expect from the direct administration of Government.

11. If Mr. Bain's offer is accepted, the Board think it would be better to give him a permanent Sanad than to confer on him the less complete and somewhat indefinite rights of a Farmer on an Assessment fixed in perpetuity.

12. The Board trust that the information given in the above letter will suffice to enable Government to decide as to whether Mr. Bain's application should be complied with or not; their own opinion is that, as a general rule, it is not just to R iyats to make over their holdings to a middleman without their full consent, and that in the present instance it will not be to the interests of Government that such a course should be pursued.

(A true Extract.)

(Signed) J. D. SIM, *Secretary.*

No. 111. ORDER THEREON, 8th May 1860, No. 736.

The Government resolve to inform Mr. Bain, in reply to his letter of the 24th January, that they are unable to comply with his request.

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

IN CON. 22ND MARCH 1860, No. 1332.

From T. J. KNOX, Esq., Officiating Collector of SALEM,
dated Royacotta, 19th March 1860, No. 68.

In obedience to the Board's order, under date the 3rd February last, No. 603, conveying the Proceedings of Government, dated the 31st January last, No. 167, forwarding a copy of Mr. Bain's application for the Pennagaram mootah and requesting me to report on its revenue since its purchase, &c., I have the honor to state as follows :—

* Vide statement No. 1.

2. This Pennagaram mootah comprised 36 villages* and seven hamlets. Its area being 21,425 acres and 11 annas with a permanent peishcush of Rupees 6,200.

† Fasli 1260.

3. In 1850† the wet and dry cultivation was acres 8,266-23-10, assessed at Rupees 7,822-0-2 and the ready money collections on sundry accounts amounted to Rupees 124-8-3; thus the total receipts were Rupees 7,946-8-5, but after deducting the charges for the establishment the net revenue was Rs. 7,327-8-8, leaving after payment of the Government due about 1,100 Rs. for the mootahdar's own use. In 1850, there was an arrear in the peishcush against the mootahdar, Vencetram Chetty, of Rupees 1,720 for which it was attached and with the sanction of the Board, Mr. Phillips* put the mootah up to auction at Darampury on the 27th October 1851, and it was bought by him on behalf of Government for the amount of Rupees 8,170.

* Vide paragraph 3, 4, and 5 of Mr. Phillips' letter, dated the 6th November 1851, No. 137.

4. From the statements Nos. 2 and 3, the Board will see that the estate is steadily mproving under Government management, and I have just given the ryots the benefit of the recent rders of Government regarding remissions, which of course must be considered should the estate e handed over to a third party.

5. Having thus given a brief history of this estate and shewn that it has steadily nproved since it came under the direct management of the revenue officers of Government, I will ate my opinion regarding Mr. Bain's application.

6. I must commence by stating that I have viewed this matter from two points and having onsidered the interests of the Government, the people which I consider identical, and the terest of Mr. Bain, I am of opinion that Mr. Bain's application should not be comied with. However Government may wish to encourage European settlers, it has never et been believed that persons without hereditary claims acquiring an estate by purchase, are etter landlords than Government; and I confess I do not think it for the interests of the ryots at they should have a third party introduced between them and Government. I should be glad see Mr. Bain or any other energetic man with capital, taking up waste lands and converting em into gardens and becoming land-holders; and Mr. Bain in paragraph 8 of his letter seems have considered his future position as a tenant under Government farming waste lands rather an a mootahdar.

7. As regards Mr. Bain's own interest, I confess I feel great doubts of his ultimate success ; admits he is now doing a lucrative business and from a letter I have had from him, I am rsuaded he knows very little about the occupation he now seeks. There is in fact very little occupied land in the mootah fit for cultivation, he would have at once to commence with a avy outlay for clearing away jungles and has little chance of growing either coffee or wheat d would find a powerful rivalry in the cattle-breeding-system which at present exists.

8. The question, however, of acceding to Mr. Bain's request does not rest with me, while I pe I have given all the information necessary. I trust I may be excused if the opinion I ve given is founded on a mistaken view of the real interests of Government and its ryots.

ENC. 1.

ABSTRACT.—Statement shewing the villages comprised in the Pennagaram mootah.

ENC. 2.

ABSTRACT.—Statement shewing the extent of Pennagaram, late a mootah in the Darami taluq.

ENC. 3.

ABSTRACT.—Statement shewing the cultivation and beriz of each Fasli from 1261 to 1268, d establishment, &c.

Exd. J. Tulloch.

Enclosure No 1 in the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue to the Secretary to Government Revenue Department dated 21st April 1860 No 1943.—

E. 3. Encs 2

R 868/60.

Letter from the Officiating Collector of Salem to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue dated 19th March 1860 No 68 regarding Pennagaram Moorlah.

R 10 May 60

B 110—111

R. Pro. 31 Jany. 1860 to
134-135.
— 23 Dec. 57 to 62-63.

Rec. 1860 Dept
Proc. of Govt. & H. Mss.
No 868.
Proceedings of the
Board of Revenue

No 736.
The Government
resolved to inform Mr. Bain,
in reply to his letter of the
26th January, that they are
unable to comply with
his request.

For Sec. Govt
8th May 1860.

Ord. 21st
Disp. 25 } April 1860
Rec. 26th

E.I. with 3 Ol. Encls
& 2 Orig. Encls. Wtnd 9-12/62 by Casamajor
Madras.

No 1943

Submitting a letter from the Offg Coll. of Salem furnishing the information required by Govt to enable them to decide as to whether Mr. Bains application be complied with or not, with the Boards opinion that as a general rule it is not just to Ryots to make over their holdings to a middleman without their full consent.—

No 736-8th May
With and Order

1 Copy to N. R. Bain Esq. Dispg
1 — Bd of Rev
Disp. 26 Oct

No 110 & 111.

C 30 April R 4th May