M.R.O. 14—10,000—21-4-22.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1425 Press / Mis.

241 242

Dated 18 - 7 - 1861.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 18th July 1861.

No. 241. Read the following letter from E. B. THOMAS, Esq., Collector of Coimbatore, to J. D. SIM, Esq., Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Fort Saint George, dated Coimbatore, 4th July 1861, No. 33:—

SIR,

1. I am sorry to trouble Government with any further reference on Mr. McIvor, but, as Government will observe, it is so very difficult for me, for Major Babington, or any other official, to deal with Mr. McIvor (however courteous we may be), that I deem it due, to Major Babington, to Government, and to myself, to send on the correspondence.

2. My object in asking Major Babington, in his proper capacity,* to inspect the forests, was that Mr. McIvor had already so wantonly, in defiance of Government, felled and planted 100 cawnies; and I had heard that he meant to *fell* and *plant* with Coffee, as much as possible, before December next, while his case was pending; intending then, if he found he had no better grounds to stand on, to offer to give up all his "uncleared" (and worst) land, and be allowed to *keep* all actually "planted," which would include much then just done.

* In charge of Hill Forests.

3. Mr. McIvor has acted throughout in so unfair and evasive a manner, after the very liberal Government grant to him in the first instance, that I can only recommend that Government, if possible, resume the whole grant and put it in better and more trustworthy hands.

No. 242. ORDER THEREON, 18th July 1861, No. 1,425.

The Government do not see what object would be gained by now inspecting Mr. McIvor's land, and desire that the Collector will abstain from all interference (not specially ordered by Government) with Mr. McIvor pending the result of the legal proceedings instituted against him.

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

No 30 Coimbatore Collector's Office

From Coimbatore 7th May 1861

S. B. Thomas Esqr

Collector of Coimbatore

To

Major S.W.R. Babington

Asst Conservator of Forests

Sir,

I request the favor of your inspecting and reporting to me for the information of Government about what quantity of (Forest) forest land Mr. A Dickson has at Moolicul, under Coffee, planted and how much has been filled but not yet planted. An approximation is all that is at present required.

I have &c &c

(Signed) S. B. Thomas

Collector

No 107

Ootacamund 10th May 1861

To

The Collector of Coimbatore

Sir,

With reference to your letter No 30 of the 7th Instant I have the honor to inform you that Lieut Col Sir James Hudson this morning and enquired of him when he would be at home at his Plantation near Kaitaing to obtain the information desired by you, and in reply he stated that he would not permit me to inspect the ground, unless furnished him with a Copy of the Government Order on the subject. During the discussion Major General Gunter and Capt Wilgibson were present.

2 You are aware of the treatment you once met from Lieut Col Hudson on visiting what he pleases to term his land, we should Government require me to visit it I am of opinion I may be accompanied by a couple of Police Peons as Lieut Col Hudson allowing me also on the ground unless I am attended

I have &c &c

(Sd) S. B. Babington

Asst Conservator of Forests

Dy No ... Coimbatore Collrs Office 3

From Ootacamund 21st May 1861

S. B. Thomas Esqr

Collector of Coimbatore

To

Hon Lieut Col Hudson

Ootacamund

Sir,

Not having heard from you since I delivered the notice to you, I requested Major Babington of the Forest Department to visit the forests last cut by you, with a view to reporting to Government their present condition. I enclose Major Babington's reply and beg to know if it is your intention to resist or decline any inspection by a Government Officer of the land granted to you by Government. That I may duly report the same.

I have &c &c

(Sd) S. B. Thomas

Collector

No 6 Ootacamund 29th May 1861.

To

The Collector of Coimbatore

Sir,

Mr Simon Dickson having stated to You that he memorialized me for permission to visit the ground near Kadaiey now occupied by him, I have the honor in confirmation of the statement to that effect made by me in my letter to You of the 10th Instant to forward a statement of what passed at the interview alluded to, made by Captn Gib - General Director was also present, but states that he paid no attention to what took place.

I have &c &c

(Signed) W. Babington Major
Asst Conservator of Forests

I was present on morning (in this month I do not remember the exact date) when Major Babington entered into conversation with Mr. Dickson relative to his Major Babington's visiting him, Mr Dickson stated at Kadaiey and I distinctly heard the latter state that unless Major Babington could produce some special

order from Government he would not allow him on his land.

(Signed) W. A. Gib Captn
Asst Conservator of Forests.

4

Ootacamund 31st May 1861.

To

S. B. Thomas Esqr
Collector of Coimbatore

Sir,

In reply to your letter of 21st Instant and its enclosure, I beg to state that I would have no objections to Major Babington calling at my plantation, but since the period in the notice dated 28th March last for the forfeiture of my lease does not expire till the 31st December next, I do not see that Major Babington can demand as of right to inspect my plantation against my will, I have however no objections to his doing so. Meanwhile I should be glad to see the special authority which Major Babington says he holds from Government.

I have &c &c

(Signed) S. Dickson

No 41. Coimbatore Collector's Office
From Ootacamund 7th June 1861.

S. B. Thomas Esqre
Collector of Coimbatore

To

Major S.W.B. Babington,
Asst Conservator of Forests

Sir,

I beg to forward an original letter of Mr Anderson's, for perusal and return, and to request you will visit and inspect me, as before requested, as to what quantity of Teak has been felled, but not yet planted, by Mr Anderson. Mr Anderson now states that he has no objection to your so doing.

I have &c &c
(Signed) S.B. Thomas
Collr.

No 35 Ootacamund 21st June 1861.

To The Collector of Coimbatore

Sir,

In reply to yours No 41 of the 7th Instant forwarding letter from Mr A. Anderson stating that he had no objection to my visiting the land rented by him, I have the honor to send you the correspondence between me on the subject.

2 The enclosures I consider sufficiently explicit, but only beg to point out that Mr A. Anderson apparently perseveres in his position to make a false accusation against me, the groundlessness of which must be well known to You.

3 Should you think the matter of sufficient importance to forward to Government, I trust the whole Correspondence on the subject may be sent so that Government may see the Character of the person they have to deal with.

I have &c &c
(Signed) S.W.B. Babington Major
Asst Conservator of Forests.

No 36 Ootacamund 10th June 1861

To

Mr. A. Anderson

Sir,

With reference to yours of the 31st ultimo to the Collector of Coimbatore, I have the honor to request you will be good enough to let me know whether it would be convenient for you to shew me what ground of Poodikul you have cleared, and have under cultivation &c to enable me to report thereon.

I

Thane 8th 58

(Signed) W.H. Babington Major
Asst Conservator of Forests

No Ootacamund 15th June 1858

Major Babington
Asst Conservator of Forests
Ootacamund

Sir,

I have to acknowledge receipt of your letter No 26 dated 10th instant, and beg to say that I am not unwilling you should inspect any grounds, but for the meantime request you will be so good as to comply with the requisition made in my letter of 31st ultimo, which you appear to have lost sight of in sending the communication under acknowledgment, and would also draw your attention to Standing Consultation No 674 dated 2d March 1858.

I have &c &c

(Signed) A. Sinclair

No 29
To Ootacamund 17th June 1858.

Wm. A. Sinclair
Ootacamund

Sir

In replying to your note of the 15th instant

I have the honor to forward a copy of the letter from the Collector on the subject of your forest lands under cultivation, and shall feel obliged by your informing me, when it may be convenient for you to permit me to inspect the said lands.

I have &c &c

(Signed) W.H. Babington Major
Asst Conservator of Forests

No Ootacamund 21st June 1858.

Major Babington
Asst Conservator of Forests
Ootacamund

Sir,

In acknowledging receipt of your letter of 17th instant enclosing a copy of a letter from the Collector requesting you to visit and report what lands I had under cultivation &c. In reply I beg to state that I cannot understand the Collectors motive in asking you to report upon lands he declares forfeit and to be resumed by Government on the 31st December next, whether I cultivate or otherwise: When you first mentioned this subject to me I understood you to say your authority was a special request from

the Madras Government to report upon the points to which I had pointed, but from the letter above alluded to, from the Collector, it would appear to be a land question, the subject of which I have already laid before Government, and I consider any steps taken, either until the time given me expires, or the opinion of His Excellency the Governor in Council to be known to premature.

2. In conclusion I regret to remark, the ways you have taken to answer me in this very trifling matter first, your offering and subsequently refusing to supply me with your Authority for inspecting any Lands. Secondly, that previous to any Correspondence with me on the subject, you endeavoured to make the Mr Authorities retain from me of Mr a Mandate requesting them to furnish you with an Account of Sales, thirdly your Circulating confidentially of course, that you and the Collector had laid your heads together to deprive me of my land, and I conclude it was to assist in attaining this object, that you adopted the above unbecoming measures, in order to persuade my proceedings

as to enable you to report unfavorably of my demeanour to Government, should your future conduct confirm me in these suspicions, I intend at once to bring the matter to the notice of Government, as I am convinced that they will not allow the fair name of their administration to be tarnished by their Servants using their official power to the gratification of their private feelings.

Adam 18th 81

(Signed) J. Thomson

(True Copies)

(Signed) J. W. Babington Sub Major
Asst Conservator Forest Duties

True Copies

J. B. Thomson

Collector

G. W. Clerk

Isaac Mc Kenzie Esq

&c.

Grand Jury Mo Kenzie

P. D. Mc Cord

Collector

In a letter from the Collector of Customs dd 4th Jan 1817 ch: 33-

Pa 1635/62

Copy of Correspondence between the Collector Sir James Mc Donald & Major Babington

Recd 18th July 1861 Delagoa Bay
From Govt Nº 1635 July
The Collector of Customs

To,
The Secretary to Govt
Norfolk Island

Dated 4th July 1861
Recd 10th
Nº 33.
With one enclosure.

Forwards Copy of Correspondence between Mr James McIvor and Major Babington to show how difficult it is to deal with the former and recommends that his grant may be resumed and put in better and more trustworthy hands.

Nº 1425. 18th July
With an Order

Nº 1425

The Government do not see what object would be gained by now inspecting Mr McIvor's land and desire that the Collector will abstain from all interference with Mr McIvor pending the result of the legal proceedings instituted against him.

W ~~Sorell Geo~~
~~18th~~ July 1861

J. R. S

~~Fwd for Govt Platten Esq 18~~
14 Recd 18
1 Coll of Customs

Nº 241 + 242.

C. 12th July. @ 16