M.R.O. 14—10,000—21-4-22.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1497 Press Alis.

141-142

Dated 9 — 7 — 1862.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 9th July 1862.

No. 141. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 30th October 1861, No. 5,946:—

Read the following letter from E. B. THOMAS, Esq., Collector of Coimbatore, to W. HUDLESTON, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, Chepauk, dated 9th October 1861, No. 213.

SIR,

1. With reference to the sale of *Forest* lands, for Coffee or otherwise, still applied for (several being now before me), I would suggest for the consideration of the Board and Government, that such saleable *Forest* land, should be put up at 5 Rupees per acre (not like open grass waste, at *nil*), besides the usual competition. The land should still be liable to the payment of annual quit-rent at 1 Rupee per acre per annum, redeemable on the payment of 20 years' quit-rent, when the purchaser wishes.

2. The timber is a valuable right and property of Government; when once bought at auction, the purchaser does what he likes with it, either fells and keeps on the estate, as most valuable vegetable manure; erecting all his buildings also from the best wood, or sells it for firewood, as is now doing on more than one estate on the Hills, and so carry on the estate expenses, which is no doubt a latent object with some who apply. To sell valuable Forest at the same rate as open grass land (the *soil* in the Forest being *also* much finer), is a needless waste of Government property.

3. The amount realized by the sale of Forest, should be given to the Forest Department, as a valuable fund, for planting and reproduction of timber.

Resolved that the above letter be submitted to Government, with the Board's recommendation that the Collector's proposal to fix an upset price of 5 Rupees per acre on all Forest land put up to public competition be sanctioned. No remission of the annual assessment of 1 Rupee per acre levied under the present rules is contemplated, and the Board approve the Collector's suggestion that the sale proceeds obtained by fixing the above upset price be appropriated towards the formation of new plantations and the restoration of old ones.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON, *Secretary.*

No. 142. ORDER THEREON, 9th July 1862, No. 1,497.

Ordered to be recorded.

(Signed) P. P. HUTCHINS,

Acting Deputy Secretary to Government.

No. 5,946.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 30th October 1861.

Read the following letter from E. B. THOMAS, Esq., Collector of Coimbatore, to W. HUDLESTON, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, Chepauk, dated 9th October 1861, No. 213 :—

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(A true Copy and Extract.)

Secretary.

To J. D. Sim, Esq., Secretary to Government, R. D.

Copy to E. B. Thomas, Esq., Collector of Coimbatore.

Exd. J. Wright.

1861 Department.
Rev: & Govt for July.
No. 2628

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

Dated 30th *October* 1861.
Despatched.
Received.

No. 5,946.

Submitting a letter from the Collector of Coimbatore, and recommending that his proposal to fix an upset price of 5 Rupees per acre on all Forest land put up to public competition be sanctioned.

No 11497 9th July

For Order

No 1461 & 142.

C. H. Boor. Rig.

No 11497.

It seems undesirable to make any change in the rules at present, as the final resolution of the sale of lands is under consideration. The first and second rules require to refuse to sell waste Forest if they do sell it, the minimum price is equivalent to 20 Rs per acre. The proposal of the Collr & Bd would make the minimum Rs 25 - No upset price has been fixed for agricultural allotments, because it was expected that the competition at the sale would ensure for the real value of the land, over and above the annual assessment.