207-41/34

Dec 1869 MH

M.R.O. 14—10,000—21-4-22

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1709 Press / Mis.

163 164

Dated 13. 8. 1862

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 143. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 2nd August 1862, No. 5,031 :—

Read the following letter from P. GRANT, Esq., Collector of Coimbatore, to W. HUDLESTON, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, Madras, dated Ootacamund, 21st July 1862, No. 149 :—

SIR,

Dated 4th, 7th, and 9th July 1862.

1. I beg to forward an original letter from Messrs. Wilson & Co., Ootacamund, and two original letters from Mr. Smith, Mettapoliem; both parties make proposals to take the Coimbatore, Mettapoliem, and Coonoor Public Bungalows on rent from Government as Hotels. I may state that when Mr. Bill, a partner in Wilson & Co.'s Firm, spoke to me about the Bungalows, I told him that I did not think it was contemplated to change the principle of the present arrangements at Coonoor. Mr. Smith will not, I think, be prepared to take the Coimbatore Bungalow, unless he gets the Coonoor one also. Messrs Wilson & Co. are opening a travellers' rest house at Mettapoliem, where meals, &c., are to be provided. They have applied for a License to sell Europe Spirits, &c., there, and to this there can be no objection. I believe I am correct in the conclusion, that the object of Government in any arrangements made in regard to the Bungalows, is to meet the convenience of the public, and not to make money by them. In order to attain this end it has to be considered whether Mr. Smith or Messrs Wilson & Co. are most likely to carry it out satisfactorily. The Government is already pledged to Mr. Smith, so far as the Mettapoliem and Coimbatore Bungalows are concerned. The former has been made over to him, and that his management of it has been successful, a perusal of the accompanying book* will show.

Vide Government Order, dated 6th June 1862, No, 1,249.

* Return requested.

2. Before Messrs. Wilson & Co. came forward, and when there was no prospect of getting any competent person to take it, Mr. Smith was encouraged to undertake the Coimbatore Bungalow, and he has been preparing mats, &c., for it. There remains then but the Coonoor Bungalow. I feel confident that if made over to Mr. Smith it would be well managed, and give satisfaction to the public.

3. Messrs. Wilson & Co. might feel aggrieved that their offer had been refused, and no doubt it would be more agreeable to suggest a course satisfactory to all parties; but this I fear cannot be done. The point to be kept in view is the public convenience, and this to my mind will be best done by placing the Coonoor Bungalow in Mr. Smith's hands.

4. Messrs. Wilson & Co. have an extensive Posting Establishment at Coonoor, so that it is their interest to keep any competing party out of that field, and it is equally Mr. Smith's interest to get a footing there in order that he may be able to compete with Messrs Wilson & Co. in making arrangements to post parties down the Ghaut. Mr. Smith, however, was first in the field; his management of Mettapoliem Bungalow short as it has been, has proved successful; his efforts have already led to a reduction in the charges for transit between Coimbatore and Coonoor; he has a knowledge of medicine; and can professionally assist sick travellers. It is for these reasons that I advocate his claim, and I feel sure that he will give satisfaction to the public at Coonoor as he already has done at Mettapoliem, where the change since he took charge of the building only a month ago, has been most striking.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

ABSTRACT.—Letter from Messrs. Wilson & Co.

ENCLOSURE. No. 2.

ABSTRACT.—Letter from Mr. Smith.

ENCLOSURE No. 3.

ABSTRACT.—Letter from Mr. Smith.

ENCLOSURE No. 4.

ABSTRACT.—Testimonials in favor of Mr. Smith's management of the Mettapoliem Bungalow.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
13th August 1862.

1. Ordered to be submitted to Government, with the Board's recommendation that the Collector be authorized to let the three Bungalows at Coimbatore, Mettapoliem, and Coonoor to Mr. Smith for conversion into Hotels, at such annual rent as the Collector and District Engineer in communication may deem fair *with reference to the value of the buildings*, the lease being terminable by Government on six months' notice, and by Mr. Smith on three months' notice, and the amount of rent being subject to confirmation by the Board.

2. The Board are glad to perceive from the opinion recorded in the Book forwarded by the Collector, that Mr. Smith's management at Mettapoliem has given general satisfaction to the public.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON, *Secretary.*

No. 144. ORDER THEREON, 13th August 1862, No. 1,709.

Agreeably to the recommendation of the Collector of Coimbatore and the Board of Revenue the Government sanction the letting of the three Bungalows at Coimbatore, Mettapoliem and Coonoor to Mr. Smith, for conversion into Hotels on the terms proposed by the Board. They will request the Government Solicitor to draw up the necessary documents and furnish him with the information he may require for the purpose.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

Viewed.

I think that the Board's suggestion may be adopted — Mr Smith has already the Mettapolliam Bungalow for months and has been found that at Coonoor I stopped at the Bungalow at Mettapolliam on my way down & found it very much improved — I would have

ENCLOSURE No. 3.
ABSTRACT.—Letter from Mr. Smith.

ENCLOSURE No. 4.
ABSTRACT.—Testimonials in favor of Mr. Smith's management of the Metoopoliem Bungalow.

nothing to do with Wilson
Co or any firm = Wilson
himself is generally half
boozy - and trips and la
- to his assistant Mr Bi
Who is a cheeky sort of a
chap & not much to be
depended on

J P

- I concur - Mr Smith has been first in
field & has done much to make travel
more comfortable & reduce former ex
high charges -

E C

W H

No. 5,031.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 2nd August 1862.

Read the following letter from P. GRANT, Esq., Collector of Coimbatore, to W. HUDLESTON, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, Madras, dated Ootacamund, 21st July 1862, No. 149:—

Dated 4th, 7th, and 9th July 1862.

1. I beg to forward an original letter from Messrs. Wilson and Co., Ootacamund, and two original letters from Mr. Smith, Metoopoliem; both parties make proposals to take the Coimbatore, Metoopoliem, and Coonoor Public Bungalows on rent from Government as Hotels. I may state that when Mr. Bill, a partner in Wilson and Co.'s Firm, spoke to me about the Bungalows, I told him that I did not think it was contemplated to change the principle of the present arrangements at Coonoor. Mr. Smith will not, I think, be prepared to take the Coimbatore Bungalow, unless he gets the Coonoor one also. Messrs. Wilson and Co. are opening a travellers' rest house at Metoopoliem, where meals, &c., are to be provided. They have applied for a License to sell Europe Spirits, &c., there, and to this, there can be no objection. I believe I am correct in the conclusion, that the object of Government in any arrangements made in regard to the Bungalows, is to meet the convenience of the public, and not to make money by them. In order to attain this end it has to be considered whether Mr. Smith or Messrs. Wilson and Co., are most likely to carry it out satisfactorily. The Government is already pledged to Mr. Smith, so far as the Metoopoliem and Coimbatore Bungalows are concerned. The former has been made over to him, and that his management of it has been successful, a perusal of the accompanying book* will show.

Vide Government Order, dated 6th June 1862, No. 1,249.

* Return requested.

2. Before Messrs. Wilson and Co. came forward, and when there was no prospect of getting any competent person to take it, Mr. Smith was encouraged to undertake the Coimbatore Bungalow, and he has been preparing mats, &c., for it. There remains then but the Coonoor Bungalow. I feel confident that if made over to Mr. Smith it would be well managed, and give satisfaction to the public.

3. Messrs. Wilson and Co. might feel aggrieved that their offer had been refused, and no doubt it would be more agreeable to suggest a course satisfactory to all parties; but this I fear cannot be done. The point to be kept in view is the public convenience, and this to my mind will be best done by placing the Coonoor Bungalow in Mr. Smith's hands.

4. Messrs. Wilson and Co. have an extensive Posting Establishment at Coonoor, so that it is their interest to keep any competing party out of that field, and it is equally Mr. Smith's interest to get a footing there in order that he may be able to compete with Messrs. Wilson and Co. in making arrangements to post parties down the ghaut. Mr. Smith, however, was first in the field; his management of Metoopoliem Bungalow short as it has been, has proved successful; his efforts have already led to a reduction in the charges for transit between Coimbatore and Coonoor; he has a knowledge of medicine; and can professionally assist sick travellers. It is for these reasons that I advocate his claim, and I feel sure that he will give satisfaction to the public at Coonoor as he already has done at Metoopoliem, where the change since he took charge of the building only a month ago, has been most striking.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

ABSTRACT.—Letter from Messrs. Wilson and Co.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.

ABSTRACT.—Letter from Mr. Smith.

ENCLOSURE No. 3.

ABSTRACT.—Letter from Mr. Smith.

ENCLOSURE No. 4.

ABSTRACT.—Testimonials in favor of Mr. Smith's management of the Metoopoliem Bungalow.

1. Ordered to be submitted to Government, with the Board's recommendation that the Collector be authorized to let the three Bungalows at Coimbatore, Metoopoliem, and Coonoor to Mr. Smith for conversion into Hotels, at such annual rent as the Collector and District Engineer in communication may deem fair *with reference to the value of the buildings*, the lease being terminable by Government on six months' notice, and by Mr. Smith on three months' notice, and the amount of rent being subject to confirmation by the Board.

2. The Board are glad to perceive from the opinion recorded in the book forwarded by the Collector, that Mr. Smith's management at Metoopoliem has given general satisfaction to the public.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

Secretary.

To A. J. Arbuthnot, Esq., Acting Chief Secretary to Government, with 4 original enclosure.

Copy to P. Grant, Esq., Collector of Coimbatore.

Exd. J. Wright.

Agreeably to the recommendation of the Collector of Coimbatore and the Board of Revenue the Govt. sanction the letting of the three Bungalows at Coimbatore, Metoopoliem and Coonoor to Wm. Smith for conversion into Hotels on the terms proposed by the Board. They will request the Govt. Solicitor to draw up the necessary documents and furnish him with the information he may require for the purpose.

From 1st to 31st August 1862
14 Copies to Board of Revenue with Mr. Ch. Secy's Endt. dated 13th Augt.

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue.

Dated 2nd August 1862.

Despatched 2 do

Received 4 do

No. 5,031.

Recommending that Mr. Smith's offer to rent the Bungalows at Coimbatore and Coonoor may be acceded to.

From the Board of Revenue, 6th August 1862 Pp. 83586

Rec'd 1862 Department.
Revg Dept for Augt.
No. 2189

From Board of Revenue 22nd Nov 62 Encl 22nd

Pp. 1709.

From 1st to 31st August 1862
14 Copies to Board of Revenue with Mr. Ch. Secy's Endt. dated 13th Augt.

Pp. 3744.

Rec'd 18 Augt

Pp. 3744.