

## MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

*Revenue* DEPARTMENT.

|               |               |
|---------------|---------------|
| G.O. No. 2103 | Press<br>Mis. |
| 500. 511      |               |
| Dated         | 27. 9. 1862.  |

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,  
27th September 1862.*

No. 510. Read the following letter from G. S. FORBES, Esq., Collector of Ganjam, to J. D. SIM, Esq., Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Fort Saint George, dated Ganjam, 20th March 1862, No. 53:—

SIR,

1. I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of copy of Government Orders No. 433, dated 27th February 1862, with a draft of the Rules for the sale of waste lands in the Presidency of Madras.

2. As the subject is one of universal interest and importance, I take the liberty of offering the accompanying suggestions in reference to some of the proposed Rules.

Rule 2—Directs Collectors to prepare lists of lands which being required for timber or firewood reserves or for pasture or building purposes, are not to be sold. These lists are intended for the guidance of applicants, but it would perhaps be of more service to such persons to publish a list describing in a general way the situations in which extensive tracts of waste are to be found in each Taluq.

It would be a work of great labor to prepare a list of grazing land in every village, and it is not necessary to do so, because these lands are effectually protected by the Clause which provides that all objections to the sale shall be first disposed of. The Ryots will not be found wanting on these occasions.

Rule 9—To enable a Collector to carry out these instructions, it will be desirable to attach, at least, two qualified Surveyors to each District and fix the rates at which they are to be paid.

Rule 17—Is likely to give rise to much embarrassment. It is very undesirable to put it in the power of a greedy applicant to retain during five years the refusal of lands which he may never perhaps be able to purchase. Speculators may thus keep out of the market for this period, twice the quantity of land they may eventually be able to pay for.

Rule 24—Forbids the acquisition of land at hill stations without competition. It is not clear what object is gained by this, as Rule 16 provides for a public sale in case more than one applicant is seeking the land.

Rule 31—Decides a case which seems to be the special provision of a Court of Law. Proprietary rights can scarcely be set aside by a local rule.

Rule 32—Is open to the same question.

P. S.—The operation of the above Rules will impart an unprecedented stimulus to the trade and general prosperity of the country, but I would respectfully urge on the Government that the important measure now inaugurated is in danger of being neutralized by the repeal of the laws which formerly operated to check the exportation of laborers, and by the encouragement now given to the Cooly trade, even with foreign Colonies which have hitherto drawn no laborers from this country. It is of little use to place vast tracts of waste land at the disposal of European and Native capitalists if the means of clearing and cultivating their lands are rendered scarce and costly by enactments which place the laborers of this country at the disposal of every distant Colony which can afford to bribe them away. No real emigration in the usual acceptance of the word takes place from India, it is simply a Cooly trade, and there can be no more reason to permit it than there would be to suffer Regiments to be recruited for foreign countries among our rural population.

No. 511. ORDER THEREON, 27th September 1862, No. 2,103.

Referred to the Board of Revenue for their consideration, with reference to the Order of Government dated 24th September 1862, No. 2,080.

(Signed) P. P. HUTCHINS,  
*Acting Deputy Secretary to Government.*

Proprietary rights can scarcely be set aside  
by a local rule -

Rule 32 Is open to the same question  
I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Yours most Obedient Servant

E. J. J. J.

Collector -

P.S. The operation of the above rules will impart  
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*Sturges*  
Collector

Referred to the Board of Revenue for  
their consideration with reference to the order of  
Govt. dated 24<sup>th</sup> September 1862 No 2080.

24 February 1862 No 543.

27<sup>th</sup> April 1862  
J. M. George

14 April 1862

*[Signature]*

Recd 27<sup>th</sup> April 1862  
Office of Customs & Excise  
No. 893.

The Collector  
to the Secretary  
to Government

to the Secretary  
to Government

28<sup>th</sup> April 1862

No 53. 8

Offering certain sugar  
... in reference to ...

of the ... for the sale  
of waste lands in the  
Madras Presidency

No 2103 24<sup>th</sup> April

With order

*[Signature]*

Recd 27<sup>th</sup> April