M.R.O. 14—13,000—27-9-24.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 2266 Press / Mis.

289-294

Dated 23 — 10 — 19 24

Not to be folded or roughly handled

1526/54.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 23rd October 1862.

Read the following papers :—

No. 289. Read the following letter from H. D. RAE, Esq., to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, with the Governor, dated Ootacamund, 9th October 1861, No. 36 :—

SIR,

1. I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the Order of Government of the 5th instant, on the subject of the lease which I am required to sign for the land granted to me for the experimental culture of Tea on these hills. The said Order was accompanied by copy of a letter of the Acting Government Solicitor, Mr. Miller, of the 26th August last.

2. The concluding paragraph of the Government Order would appear to preclude me from again addressing Government on this subject; but there is one particular brought to light in Mr. Miller's letter of so extraordinary a nature and a material feature of the question, which, I respectfully submit, has been so overlooked by the Government that I venture again to make a communication to His Excellency in Council, in view to appeal alike to his justice and his sense of fair dealing between the independent public and the Government subordinates.

3. Upon the first point; Mr. Miller dwells largely, in paragraph 6 of his letter, on certain Proceedings of Government of date the 4th February last, No. 270, which he concludes were communicated to me through the Collector of Coimbatore; indeed the tenor of his remark shows his conviction that they were so communicated. And as a copy of this letter has been sent to me without remark, I must presume that the Government remain under the same impression. But the actual fact is that these Proceedings have never been in any way, or at any time, communicated to me by the Collector! I have been, on the contrary, kept in utter ignorance of the views enunciated in these Proceedings, and been left to dwell alone on the Order of the 12th April, which seemed to me simply to carry out the previous (telegram) Order of Government upon my letter of the 11th September 1860 (and to which letter I shall presently have to allude). Had it been otherwise a great deal of correspondence might have been avoided, and I should have had the opportunity of placing the matter in such a light before Government as might have induced the modification I still hope and look for. I must take for granted that the Collector was ordered to communicate the Proceedings of the 4th February (No. 270) to me, and I appeal to the Government against his neglect to do so.

4. Upon the second point; I cannot but think that the Government have overlooked the full force of its assent to my proposals of the 11th September 1860.

5. I beg the favor of the Government, referring specially to this letter, and I think it will be admitted that it supersedes all former negotiations and terms. If first discussed the question of the removal of fallen timber and brushwood by the forester, and pointed out how greatly this would be to *my* advantage, as involving the necessity of a road being made to the place at Government expense, and clearing the forest largely for my operations equally at the Government expense, this last item alone would have cost Government nearly Rupees 1,500, but I was willing to forego all this, as my avowed object was "*immediate* possession." In reference to this question of fallen timber lying in the forest at that time, I may observe that, even supposing the existence of a cart road to convey it into Ootacamund, the whole might have realized 70 to 100 Rupees at the forest; but that, in the actual absence of any such road, it would have realized *nothing*. And I may further observe that very little timber of any use as firewood has been left in the forests there, owing to charcoal burners from the neighbouring village having been in the habit of using it freely without any restraint from the Revenue authorities.

6. But to proceed with my letter of the 11th September 1860. Its fourth paragraph expressed a clear objection to the terms at that time laid down by Government, and asked *as a new proposal*, to be allowed "to enter upon the land" (and, 2nd paragraph, "to have "freedom of action in the forty acres of forest") simply upon these terms "to pay full assess- "ment upon it after seven years and WITHOUT ANY OTHER RESTRICTION than my engagement

"to devote the land exclusively to purposes connected with Tea cultivation during that term, "such land being made over to me at once without being put up to auction." I solicited a reply by telegraph, and with this I was favored: it was an *unqualified* assent on the part of Government! On this telegram Government reported to the Secretary of State that "a liberal grant" had been made to me, and they published this in the newspapers.

7. Now I humbly submit that, in proposals thus made and thus acceded to, all antecedent and subsequent conditions not contained within this letter of the 11th September 1860, are simply beside the question. I asked to be relieved from *all other restrictions* save an engagement on *my* part to cultivate Tea during the seven years of exemption, and the Government replied: we agree. On the faith of this I did proceed to immediate action, and I have been ever since prosecuting the cultivation of Tea. Surely then, in so plain a question, I cannot be required to go to the probable heavy expense of getting legal opinions as to whether, (1) *allowed* "freedom of action" in a forest is consistent with a restriction as to what timber I should cut (paragraph 7 of Mr. Miller's letter); whether (2) an absence of all restriction, save my engagement to cultivate Tea, is to be found in domiciliary visits for the purpose of ascertaining my mode of cultivation and with the power of directing it authoritatively or altering it (paragraph 9 of same); whether (3) restrictions against sub-letting are not a *new* importation into the conditions; and an obligation to hand over my buildings in good repair in a lease of land for *agricultural* purposes, and when nothing but a ruinous failure to the cultivator could cause an abandonment of the land, is not severe and onerous and an equally novel feature? And whether (lastly) a power of re-entry in case of *any* default, not alone in payment of kist but in any of a series of conditions which are greatly dependent on the capricious view of some local Officer, is not a severity of penalty wholly inconsistent with the spirit of encouragement which has hitherto been manifested by the Government and has led me on, at considerable expense and labor, to the present stage of this undertaking?

8. I do not wish to comment further upon such remarks in Mr. Miller's letter, as that I seem to wish not to pay any seigniorage on timber if removed by me for sale from the land, that I would probably wish to hold the land without being bound to Government in any way, &c., than to say that I am not aware of any passages in my former letters that can bear such an interpretation. Seigniorage on timber removed for sale I am ready to pay. Inspection by a public Officer to see that Tea is actually cultivated, I admit to be a necessity of my engagement. But what I respectfully object to is all *restrictions*, covenants and conditions that are *at variance* with my accepted proposals of the 11th September 1860, a copy of which is herewith appended extracted from the *Madras Times* newspaper of the 10th October 1860.

9. When, however, Mr. Miller considers that I ought to accept the lease offered me, because of its terms contrasting favorably with those of other cultivators on these hills, I can only say that I am aware of "Cowles" having been granted by the Collector of Coimbatore for the purpose of cultivating Coffee, in which the terms are five years rent free, the sixth year quarter rent, the the seventh half rent, the eighth three-quarters rent, and the ninth full assessment of Rupee 1-2 per cawnie, and that the holder is not even bound to cultivate Coffee! And this same description of "Cowle" I believe has been enjoyed by Coffee cultivators at Coonoor, Kotagherry, Seegoor, &c., and all these are in much more favorable land than mine. Cannot Tea then, an entirely novel and as yet doubtful culture, claim to be put at least upon an equal footing with Coffee, an established and new one? The Government may be pleased to remember that at the outset I asked for simply this Coffee "Cowle" of nine years.

10. But I am compelled immediately to quit these hills, and to leave my interests in the hands of others. I cannot afford to sacrifice all I have hitherto carried out; and, therefore, if I should still have failed to convince the Government that I rightfully claim to have every condition struck out of the lease which is not strictly in accordance with the terms proposed by me, and agreed to by Government, according to my letter of the 11th September 1860, then I ask that a simple "Cowle" may be given me for the land, binding me to pay the full assessment on

it at once in proportion to my actual area of cultivation, and after any brief term of years the Government may think fit to lay down that I shall pay the same on the whole holding, subject to redemption by the purchase of the Fee Simple at whatever may be the rate obtaining.

11. I beg the favor of all future communications to me being addressed to the care of Captain Daly, Ootacamund.

No. 290. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 4th November 1861, No. 6,010.

Read the following letter from E. B. THOMAS, Esq., Collector of Coimbatore, to W. HUDLESTON, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, Chepauk, dated Coimbatore, 10th October 1861, No. 217.

SIR,

1. I am compelled to make a further reference in Mr. Rae's case, as I do not expect *any* decision I might arrive at, would satisfy that gentleman.

2. Mr. Rae lost, as he informs me, my first letter, (rather carelessly I think), I sent him, however, another copy. In reply to it he now quotes cases and illustrations. If I understood aright the Board's order and intention, it is, that Mr. Rae should have the 240 Acres *he applied for in the Sholoor* valley. I went with the Surveyor, Mr. Williams (inviting Mr. Rae who did not however attend), some months back, specially to point out the site (asked by Mr. Rae himself) to be surveyed, this is the *third* time I have been; on one occasion Mr. Rae was there, and fully discussed all points, the Surveyor is of opinion, as I also am, that the *full* 240 *acres* can be found there. I beg therefore to know, is Mr. Rae to confine himself to the Sholoor valley, his own original application, or is he to be allowed to have other land elsewhere, either in excess of, or in lieu of, the Sholoor grant (the 210 being found available there); and if so, on what terms.

If sufficient be found there.

3. I understood that Mr. Rae was to have elsewhere, *only* the *balance* of any land not *found* sufficient at Sholoor; but as 210 acres *are* to be found *there*, I do not consider him *entitled* to any other. Mr. Rae seems to think he can leave his own original application, and select land where he likes.

4. I have also to inform the Board that the Executive Engineer, Captain Farewell, informs me, Mr. Rae declines to mark out any boundaries at Sholoor, or allow Mr. Williams, the Government Surveyor, to survey it, but is employing a private Surveyor, to survey as Mr. Rae may point out, this of course cannot be officially recognized.

5. I also enclose copy of Mr. Rae's *last* letter, stating that he is proceeding to "occupy* land at Marlymund," close to Ootacamund, and quite inadmissible. It is very desirable that these discussions which Mr. Rae seems to wish to keep open, should be settled by a distinct order, one way or other, at present Mr. Rae shows no intention of yielding their old right of way, nor of giving any compensation, to the burghers, who still complain loudly of the appropriation of their land, and refuse to give it up.

* Witho t any authority.

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1. Ordered to be submitted for the decision of Government.

Proceedings of Government, 23rd August 1860, No. 1,422. Do. 21st September 1860, No. 1,685.

2. Mr. Rae was granted 240 acres of land including forty acres of forest in a locality selected by himself in which he now alleges that there is a deficient area of forest land which he desires to supplement at Marlymund, and to do the same in regard to the grass land should that also fall short of the extent in his grant.

3. The Sholoor valley contains, it is believed, the full extent of land asked for, but Mr. Rae apparently claims to select such plots as suit him there, and the balance elsewhere if necessary as he has declined to mark or point out for the District Engineer, the boundaries of the land he wishes to occupy in the Sholoor valley, and has refused to allow the Government Surveyor to survey the land, its actual area cannot be ascertained. The Board, therefore, are not prepared to recommend that he be permitted to occupy any land elsewhere under his special grant, and they are further of opinion that if he does occupy, as he threatens to do in his letter to

Mr. Thomas, land at Marlymund or in any other locality other than Sholoor, steps should be immediately taken to proceed against him for trespass. The Board observe that Mr. Rae continues to address the Collector in a style and tone wholly unbecoming, and are of opinion that he should be warned that a repetition of such a proceeding will lead to his communications being returned to him.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON, *Secretary.*

No. 291. From H. D. RAE, Esq., to J. D. SIM, Esq., Secretary to Government, Revenue Department Fort Saint George, dated Surat Districts, Bombay Presidency, 11th March 1862.

SIR,

1. With reference to my letter (No. 36 of the 9th October last) to the address of Mr. Secretary Pycroft, begging that the land granted to me for the experimental cultivation of Tea on the Neilgherries may be on a lease as favorable as that enjoyed by Coffee Planters, and with reference to the Order of Government (No. 2,068 of the 29th idem) refusing me an extension for the same cultivation of 500 acres of land near Mail Koondah till a settlement on the above lease had been arrived at and till my experiment proved successful, I beg now to be permitted to purchase both tracts of land in Fee Simple according to the orders of the Governor General of India on the subject.

2. Regarding the success or otherwise of my experimental culture I beg herewith to append in original two letters to and from the Secretary to the Bombay Chamber of Commerce. The favorable opinion of a competent Chinaman, his "chop," the highly remunerative price offered me by two Bombay merchants, and the qualities of strength and flavor assigned to my Teas in these papers will, I trust, be deemed sufficient proofs that I have now led my experiment beyond the highly promising stage officially reported of it by the Madras Chamber of Commerce to the Board of Revenue about a year ago.

3. The grant already made to me of 240 acres absorbs the whole of the available land, below 7,000 feet, that is fit for the cultivation of Tea in "Sholoor valley." No further extension in that quarter beyond the grant already made is possible.

4. The boundaries of the 500 acres in the direction of Mail Koondah have been officially pointed out by me to the Conservator of Forests.

5. I would beg most respectfully to remind His Excellency in Council of the opinion which His Excellency himself expressed to me on visiting my plantation, that "I appeared to "have Tea seedlings sufficient to cover 5 or 600 acres," and to add that my original application was for 200 *cawnies with power of extension on the same terms otherwise for* 500 *cawnies at once,* and the total I seek only amounts to the (240 acres plus 500 acres) 500 cawnies originally asked for.

6. In conclusion, I may mention that I have lately taken a partner into the plantation and am about to get a brother out to supervise the undertaking.

7. If possible may I beg that this letter may be allowed to lie over till Mr. E. B. Thomas, the Collector of Coimbatore, retires from the service, as you are already acquainted with the obstructions I have met with at his hands?

P. S. May I beg that the purport of the appended letters may not be made public in the newspapers till Chinese manipulators are available.

No. 292. From H. D. RAE, Esq., to J. D. SIM, Esq., Revenue Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated Surat, 25th March 1862.

SIR,

1. With reference to my letter to you of the 11th instant, I beg to observe that I have just been informed that General Dowker has applied for a tract of land for Tea cultivation in the selfsame forest as myself in the Mail Koonda direction, known, I believe, as Dévie's Shola.

2. As this forest is an enormous one, stretching into the Mail Koonda valley with a probable area of some 5,000 acres, with abundance of room for ten such plantations as the one I desire to have there, I trust that the present competition for Tea land, which the success of my endeavors has raised, may not now be allowed to have a solitary *retrospective* effect on me regarding a tract conditionally promised to me by Government* *prior* to Lord Canning's Fee Simple Order.

* G. O. No. 2,068, 29th October 1861.

3. I have the honor herewith to append rough sketch of the land in question, that (where colored blue) is what I had applied for. It lies all below the remains of an old abandoned ghá tract that was never passable to carts and has been long impassable to cattle or foot traffic. Nearly the only sound portion of this old road from Coimbatore to Ootacamund is the part in this forest, and this I desire to be my boundary:

4. The richest portions of this forest comprise very extensive areas at C and D (see Appendix); but with a view to interfere as little as possible with the advent in this quarter of other Tea planters I seek for no land *above* this road. If the area below the road should be in excess of 500 acres, I shall be prepared to give up the excess by cutting off a slice (at A) on the Ootacamund side; but any deficiency in the area I would desire to make good by straightening or more or less curving my boundary in the steep fern waste land at B.

5. On a reference to me regarding a deficiency in the area of the grant to me at Sholoor I only yesterday telegraphed to my Attorney, Captain Daly, to absorb in Sholoor valley all land below 7,000 feet deemed available by the Collector, which may not in greater part be too barren or steep or otherwise self evidently unfit for my cultivation. And as, by my own measurements, I am aware that the area (240 acres) already granted to me exactly absorbs all the waste land of that valley (Sholoor); that is fit for Tea any extension to my grant beyond the 240 acres is no longer possible *in that quarter.* Hence, in applying for the 500 acres at Dévie's Shola towards Mail Koonda I desired to *forego* the extensions accorded to me in paragraph 7 of Government Order No. 1,422 of 23rd August 1860, in favor of this one extension of 500 acres on whatever may be the terms of the Sholoor grant: and I think the Government Solicitor during the last five months would have tendered me for signature a covenant (as per Government Order No. 1,685 of the 21st September 1860) that I could have agreed to, were it not that he most probably considered that the terms of Freehold and of redemption of land tax offered by the Governor General were so much superior to the light and favorable terms on which I hold my land that I would prefer taking action under Lord Canning's Fee Simple Order to awaiting a covenant from him; but this order has now been long out, and I have nevertheless waited patiently for the covenant, and I only applied for the Fee Simple of Sholoor and of the tract in Dévie's Shola when rumours (verified to-day) reached me (1) that others hearing of *my* selection of Dévie's Shola were taking advantage of Lord Canning's proffered terms by applying for land in the selfsame forest, and (2) that consequently if I did not move in the matter also now I might perhaps lose the tract I applied for in Dévie's Shola by its possibly being unwittingly made over by the Collector to some subsequent applicant under the existing order of things. *Otherwise I am still ready to hold these* 500 *acres on the same terms*† *and covenant as the Shooloor grant.*

† G. O. No. 1,685, 21st September 1860.

6. Should His Excellency in Council feel unable to now accord me these 500 acres either in Fee Simple without auction at the Governor General's rates, or on the Sholoor terms, I trust at least that that measure of encouragement which the Madras Government have always strived to extend to me as the developer of a new industry will still be held out to me by this tract being ordered to be carefully "*reserved*" for me in accordance with the spirit and "*two conditions*" of paragraph 31 of the aforesaid Fee Simple Order of the Governor General.

7. On second thoughts I beg now to be permitted to withdraw the reservations I lately expressed to you, regarding non-publicity of my success in the newspapers and regarding Mr. E. B. Thomas' resignation of the service.

P. S. Since writing this letter I have read in the Bombay "Times of India" of the 24th instant, that more land has been lately applied for on the Neilgherries than there are *acres* there.

Mr. Thomas, land at Marlymund or in any other locality other than Sholoor, steps should be immediately taken to proceed against him for trespass. The Board observe that Mr. Rae continues to address the Collector in a style and tone wholly unbecoming, and are of opinion that he should be warned that a repetition of such a proceeding will lead to his communications being returned to him.

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(Signed) W. HUDLESTON, *Secretary.*

No. 291. From H. D. RAE, Esq., to J. D. SIM, Esq., Secretary to Government, Revenue Department Fort Saint George, dated Surat Districts, Bombay Presidency, 11th March 1862.

SIR,

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3. The grant already made to me of 240 acres absorbs the whole of the available land, below 7,000 feet, that is fit for the cultivation of Tea in "Sholoor valley." No further extension in that quarter beyond the grant already made is possible.

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2. As this forest is an enormous one, stretching into the Mail Koonda valley with a probable area of some 5,000 acres, with abundance of room for ten such plantations as the one I desire to have there, I trust that the present competition for Tea land, which the success of my endeavors has raised, may not now be allowed to have a solitary *retrospective* effect on me regarding a tract conditionally promised to me by Government* *prior* to Lord Canning's Fee Simple Order.

* G. O. No. 2,068, 29th October 1861.

3. I have the honor herewith to append rough sketch of the land in question, that (where colored blue) is what I had applied for. It lies all below the remains of an old abandoned ghát tract that was never passable to carts and has been long impassable to cattle or foot traffic. Nearly the only sound portion of this old road from Coimbatore to Ootacamund is the part in this forest, and this I desire to be my boundary:

4. The richest portions of this forest comprise very extensive areas at C and D (see Appendix); but with a view to interfere as little as possible with the advent in this quarter of other Tea planters I seek for no land *above* this road. If the area below the road should be in excess of 500 acres, I shall be prepared to give up the excess by cutting off a slice (at A) on the Ootacamund side; but any deficiency in the area I would desire to make good by straightening or more or less curving my boundary in the steep fern waste land at B.

5. On a reference to me regarding a deficiency in the area of the grant to me at Sholoor I only yesterday telegraphed to my Attorney, Captain Daly, to absorb in Sholoor valley all land below 7,000 feet deemed available by the Collector, which may not in greater part be too barren or steep or otherwise self evidently unfit for my cultivation. And as, by my own measurements, I am aware that the area (240 acres) already granted to me exactly absorbs all the waste land of that valley (Sholoor); that is fit for Tea any extension to my grant beyond the 240 acres is no longer possible *in that quarter.* Hence, in applying for the 500 acres at Dévie's Shola towards Mail Koonda I desired to *forego* the extensions accorded to me in paragraph 7 of Government Order No. 1,422 of 23rd August 1860, in favor of this one extension of 500 acres on whatever may be the terms of the Sholoor grant: and I think the Government Solicitor during the last five months would have tendered me for signature a covenant (as per Government Order No. 1,685 of the 21st September 1860) that I could have agreed to, were it not that he most probably considered that the terms of Freehold and of redemption of land tax offered by the Governor General were so much superior to the light and favorable terms on which I hold my land that I would prefer taking action under Lord Canning's Fee Simple Order to awaiting a covenant from him; but this order has now been long out, and I have nevertheless waited patiently for the covenant, and I only applied for the Fee Simple of Sholoor and of the tract in Dévie's Shola when rumours (verified to-day) reached me (1) that others hearing of *my* selection of Dévie's Shola were taking advantage of Lord Canning's proffered terms by applying for land in the selfsame forest, and (2) that consequently if I did not move in the matter also now I might perhaps lose the tract I applied for in Dévie's Shola by its possibly being unwittingly made over by the Collector to some subsequent applicant under the existing order of things. *Otherwise I am still ready to hold these* 500 *acres on the same terms*† *and covenant as the Shooloor grant.*

† G.O. No. 1,685, 21st September 1860.

6. Should His Excellency in Council feel unable to now accord me these 500 acres either in Fee Simple without auction at the Governor General's rates, or on the Sholoor terms, I trust at least that that measure of encouragement which the Madras Government have always strived to extend to me as the developer of a new industry will still be held out to me by this tract being ordered to be carefully "*reserved*" for me in accordance with the spirit and "*two conditions*" of paragraph 31 of the aforesaid Fee Simple Order of the Governor General.

7. On second thoughts I beg now to be permitted to withdraw the reservations I lately expressed to you, regarding non-publicity of my success in the newspapers and regarding Mr. E. B. Thomas' resignation of the service.

P. S. Since writing this letter I have read in the Bombay "Times of India" of the 24th instant, that more land has been lately applied for on the Neilgherries than there are *acres* there.

I trust sincerely that this state of things will not prevent Government from fulfilling sooner or later the promises of extension made to me on the 23rd of August 1860 (Government Order No. 1,422), and again on the 29th of October 1861 (Government Order No. 2,068).

No. 293. From H. D. RAE, Esq., to J. D. SIM, Esq., Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Fort Saint George, Madras, dated Surat, 5th July 1862.

SIR,

1. I have the honor to inform you that I am in receipt of a letter om the Secretary to the Bombay Chamber of Commerce, transmitting to me an opinion from a L. don broker on a sample of Neilgherry Tea manufactured by me which had been forwarded Home to him for report.

2. I am informed that my manufacture is perfectly "marketabl ." and a value is assigned to it considerably in excess of the minimum laid down by Messrs. . . and Jameson, below which the cultivation in the Himalayas would not pay. But it is fur . dded that the leaf is evidently of superior quality to which neither my mode of packing nc . ufacture do justice, in short, I am told that I have done little more than spoil an apparentl g. l article.

3. I may here state that the Neilgherry Tea mentioned by the .ate . ollector, Mr. E. B. Thomas, as palatable and occasionally procurable at Captain Mann's plantation at Coonoor, is due to tuition having been carefully imparted by me to the Native Superintendent in charge there. *That* Tea may be fairly taken as a sample of what I sent Home.

4. The cost of labor on the Neilgherries is 50 per cent. in excess of that obtaining in the Himalayas, Assam, Silhet and Cachar; and fuel for manufacture with us is both scarce and dear, in place of being as elsewhere a drug in the market. The Bengal Tea Districts (*vide* page 91 of Selections from the records of the Government of India, No. 23) are situated in about the most pestilential jungles of India. But the undoubted advantage of the great salubrity of the Neilgherry plateau is met, as already shown, by the working expenses of an Estate being on the Neilgherries at least *double* of that obtaining elsewhere. This disadvantage of cost could, of course, be met as at Home by cultivation by steam and manufacture by machinery; but, till the real value of the leaf in the hands of competent manipulators is actually determined, future capitalists will prefer investments of a more certain nature.

5. I have already stated at considerable length (*vide* Proceedings of the Board of Revenue No. 2,215 of the 4th April last) the reason and nature of the aid I seek at the hands of the Madras Government; and I trust most sincerely that the voluntarily tendered promise of the then Governor of the Presidency, Sir Charles Trevelyan (which led me to take up the cultivation), will now be meted out to me in developing this new industry in Southern India.

6. I have lately heard from Dr. Cleghorn, who states that he has visited the Himalayan Tea Districts, and that I have nothing to fear in point of climate. As I shall have several thousands of plants fit to pick on the first fall of rain in April 1863, and have already one thousand at Kulhutty which were ready last spring, I humbly hope the opportunity, which now so propitiously offers itself of Dr. Cleghorn's presence in Dr. Jameson's neighbourhood in the Punjaubic Himalayas will be speedily availed of in a manner which I am quite ready to leave entirely to the discretion of these two gentlemen or of the Madras Government.

No. 294. ORDER THEREON, 23rd October 1862, No. 2,266.

1. The Government are satisfied that Mr. Rae is, so far as his means permit, fairly trying the experiment, the growth of Tea on grass land, in consideration of which they granted him the land which he now holds at Sholoor. They resolve therefore in modification of their previous orders to offer him a permanent Title Deed on the following terms:—

I. That during the seven years free tenure allowed to him the land shall be *bonâ fide* devoted to Tea culture failing which he shall pay the full assessment of the land, viz., 1 Rupee per acre *ab initio*.

II. That at the end of the seven years he shall have a permanent title free of all other conditions than the regular payment of the assessment, viz., 1 Rupee per acre, with the option of redemption at twenty years' purchase according to the rules in force when the grant was made.

III. That the Collector or any Officer specially deputed by him, shall have free right of entry at all times within the first seven years of the lease with or without notice in order to inspect Mr. Rae's proceedings, but no right of interference with the mode of culture, &c.

IV. That Mr. Rae shall maintain boundry marks.

V. That any differences connected with Mr. Rae's occupation of the land that may arise between him and Government shall be settled by arbitration; Government and Mr. Rae each appointing one arbitrator and the two nominating an umpire; their decision to be final and bar all legal proceedings.

2. The Government Solicitor will be directed in supersession of all previous instructions to draw a form of lease giving Mr. Rae the land, 240 acres, at Sholoor rent free for seven years, and thereafter subject to an assessment of Rupee 1 per acre, but with no further conditions than the five above specified. The lease should be as short, simple and free from technicalities as possible.

3. In their Order of 23rd August 1860, Revenue Department, No. 1,422, paragraph 7, the Government acceded to the request of Mr. Rae that he should be allowed to extend his holding at Sholoor on the same terms if successful. The success of Mr. Rae's experiment has not yet been established, when it has been, he may again address Government. Meanwhile the Collector will be instructed not to grant or sell Government land adjoining Mr. Rae's Tea plantation at Sholoor without express orders. The promise of Government applied only to land at Sholoor and none can be given on those terms elsewhere.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

Official Paper.

TEA CULTIVATION.

The following is Mr. H. D, RAE'S letter to Government asking for a modification of the terms on which the grant of land for the purposes of the cultivation was originaly made the letter is dated 11th September.

Sir,—1. With reference to the Proceedings of Government, (No. 1,422) dated 23rd ultimo, regarding an application from me for a giant of land for the cultivation of Tea, I hope to be excused addressing Government direct on the subject for there is now such emergency—from the advanced period of the season, and this being the latest month in which a seed nursery can be formed—that, unless an immediate decision can be come to, this year will be altogether lost, and I risk being wholly precluded from the experiment of Tea planting.

2. My request, through Dr. Cleghorn, to the Board of Revenue, was to have 40 acres of forest, and 200 of grass land; thus making about 240 cawnies, the amount of my original application through the Collector. The reason for such quantities being required is that 40 acres of forest would be *requisite* (see Memorandum appended herewith), to raise sufficient plants to cover the 200 acres of grass land, and I trust the Government will still sanction this amount being granted. The forests in the neighborhood of Shelcer are so extensive (some 2,000 acres) that they would not be effected by the diminution consequent on making over 40 acres to me. Further, the distance away of locality from this, considered to be 12 miles, and the absence over half of it of even a footpath practicable by a laden pack-bullock render the brushwood of the place valueless. I would be quite willing to agree to the proposition of Government, that the Forester should remove the brushwood and fallen timber of the locality ere I am granted possession, as this would save me the expenses of clearing, and entail on the State the making of a wheel track to the Estate over six miles across hill country; but time presses, there in foregoing the really liberal offers of Government on this head, I beg to ask for the freedom of action in the 40 acres of forest, not as a mere *quid pro quo* for resigning these great advantages, but because I am obliged to crave for *immediate* possession.

3. With the *necessity* that exists for raising my own seed to plant out the proposed holding it is impossible for a general crop to be had from the plantation in less than seven years. My exemption from taxation for that term would then practically put me on no better footing than in the cultivation of Coffee, as shown in the Memorandum herewith attached.

4. Seeing that the terms actually laid down by Government would some of them involve me in considerable difficulty, while others are undefined, and inasmuch as every day's delay is now of vital consequence, I would beg to be allowed to enter upon the land I have asked to take up simply on the above terms, viz., to pay full assessment after seven years, and without any other restriction than my engagement to devote the land exclusively to purposes connected with Tea cultivation during that term. Such land being made over to me at once without being put up to auction.

5. It will be apparent to the Honorable the Governor in Council that I here ask no more than what, in both principle and practice, has been conceded to Coffee cultivation; while mine is an experiment of no certain success, and which must involve all the extra labor and difficulty that attend an experiment.

6. May I take the liberty of asking for a reply by telegraph, as there is not a day to be lost in putting down seed to give them a prospect of success.

MEMORANDUM.

Coffee.

1. Land for this cultivation was freely accorded, prior to the freehold tenure rules, at an exemption from assessment for the first five years; and thenceforward at the waste land rate of one Rupee per acre. In effect this same rate still exists.

2. For this cultivation seed for forming a plan-

N. 26 of 1861

Calacummum d. 2nd September 1861

To

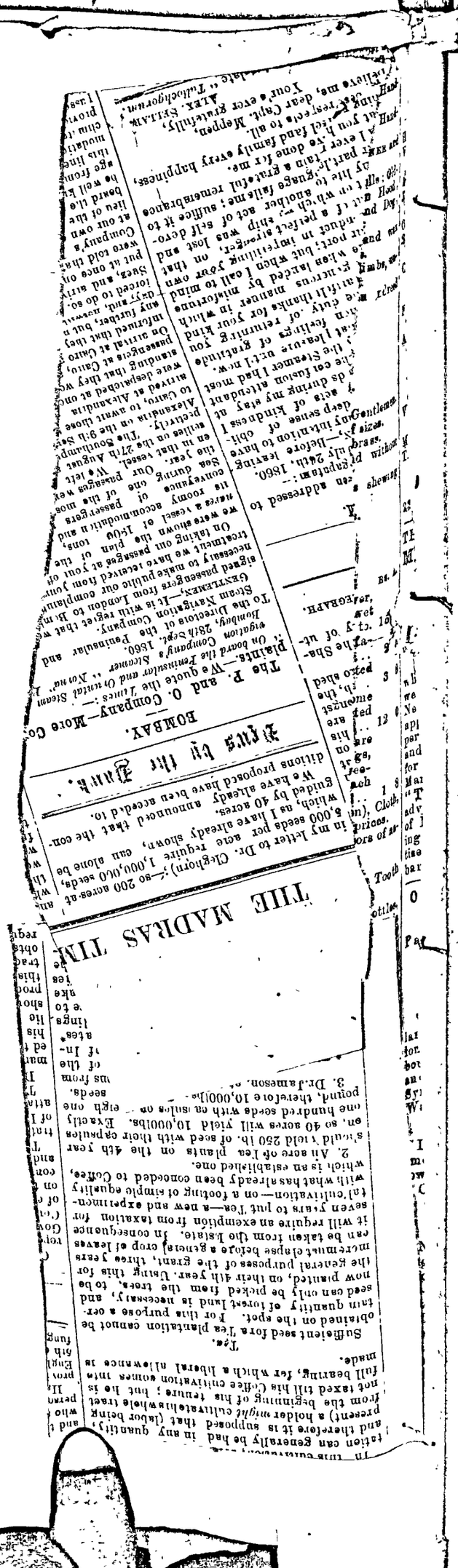
E. B. Thomas Esqre

Collector of Coimbatore

Sir,

In reply to your letter N° 2930 of the 16th ultimo, I beg to state that the position and direction of the pathway are given in my last letter, i.e. running down near the centre of the valley.

2 The "bandy road" you allude to is incomplete. From the lowest beds, halfway down the valley it turns off at right angles, and does not hold the direction of Sholoor, but runs up hill, neither is it in the centre of the valley. This road, of my making, does not possess the characteristics you think it has; further, it is but A fair and just that the convenience of the Kotahs and Todas, and more especially of myself, should be studied by you, in


THE MADRAS TIM-

Tea.

Sufficient seed for a Tea plantation cannot be obtained on the spot. For this purpose a certain quantity of forest land is necessary, and seed can only be picked from the trees, to be now planted, on their 4th year. Using this for the General purposes of the Grant, three years must elapse before a general crop of leaves can be taken from the Estate. In consequence it will require an exemption from taxation for seven years to put Tea—a new and experimental cultivation—on a footing of simple equality with what has already been conceded to Coffee, which is an established one.

2. An acre of Tea plants on the 4th year should yield 250 lb. of seed with their capsules on, so 40 acres will yield 10,000lbs. Exactly one hundred seeds with capsules on weigh one pound, therefore 10,000lbs. seeds.

3. Dr. Jameson, [illegible]

In this cultivation can generally be had in any quantity, and therefore it is supposed that (labour being present) a holder might cultivate his whole tract from the beginning of his tenure; but he is not taxed till his Coffee cultivation comes into full bearing, for which a liberal allowance is made.

Items by the Bank.

BOMBAY.

The P. and O. Company—More Co

plaints.—We quote the Times:—Steam

"On board the Peninsular and Oriental Company's Steamer "Nor

nigation Company, 28th Sept. 1860.

Monday, Directors of the Company.

To the Directors of the Company.

Steam Navigation.—It is with regret that we

GENTLEMEN,—It is with regret that

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treatment we have received from you on

On taking our passages at the

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more roomy accommodation and

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Alexandria on the 9th Sept

to Cairo, to await those

arrived at Alexandria at one

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standing that they were

passengers at Cairo,

on arrival that they

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any further, however

Company's

were told that

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Copyright Reserved

N. 26 of 1861

Calacummum d. 2nd September 1861

To

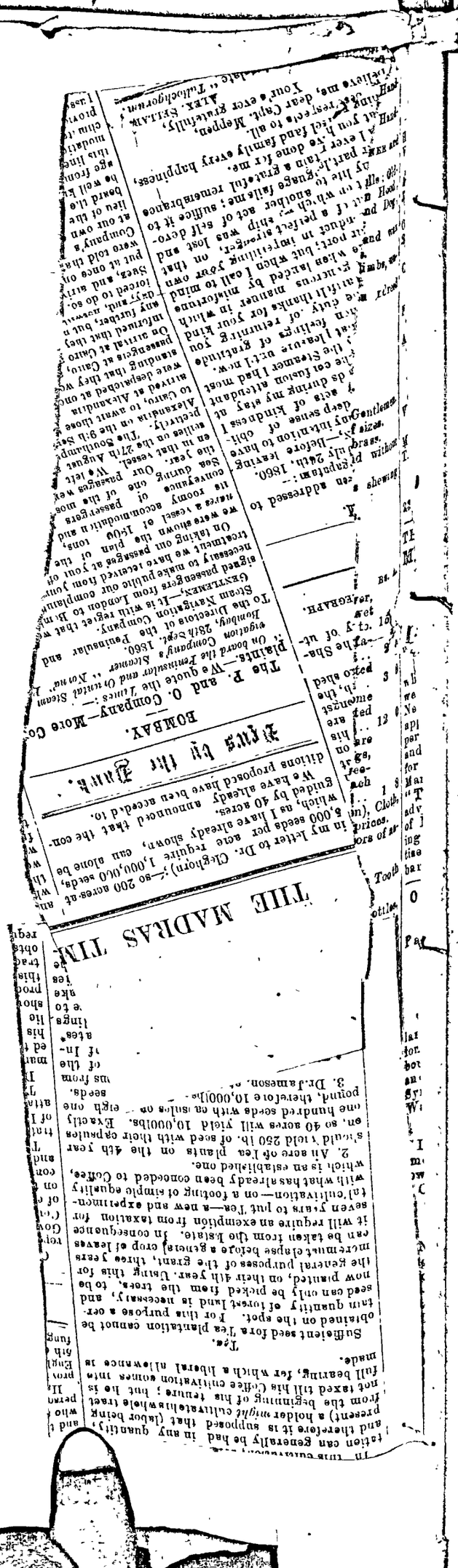
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day's rest, however

at our own

lieu of the

board the

be well be

age from

this line

modation

plaints

I was

Copyright Reserved

in place of sacrificed in order that the
Burghers should have the use of a
cart road within land where a
right of footway was alone and
voluntarily conceded by me. as this
concession of a footway emanated
in the first instance from myself,
and as I well remember your stipu-
=lating that I should not cross the
stream to the block mentioned
by Mr Nesbitt unless I accorded right
of Cattle way. I fail to observe the
force or grounds of the remarks con-
=tained in para 2 of your letter under
reply.

3. I requested you in my last
letter to issue a circular, notifying
to the villagers in the neighbourhood
of the Grant, that they were not to
drive herds of Cattle through it. In
reply

B

D

E

F

G

kindly you gave me to understand that
you had forbidden grazing there.
I desire to keep on good terms with
my village neighbours; and as I
have all along held, there is next
to nothing to graze upon there. In a
large unenclosed piece of ground
stray cattle are occasionally to be
expected. The reason I requested
you to issue the circular in question
was because the Burghers actuated
by dummus, owing to my refusal to
compensate their absurd claims, had
more than once seized an opportunity
to purposely and wilfully drive their
cattle over my plants and beds, and
also to walk over them themselves.
Till then I had (during about the
last 10 months) raised no objection
though I could have done so, to the
Burghers

Burghers here and there using the bund
road as a footway as much as and where H
they liked meaning not to make the
special pathway till I had the men
and time and more convenient weather
to devote to it. But on the occurrence
of the above I wrote you my last
letter unfortunately stating that I
would soon carry out my original
intention of laying down a special
path for the Hill tribes, while beg-
-ging you would oblige me by warn-
-ing my village neighbours against
their having right of cattle way through
the Grant: but on both these points
I have only met with opposition
and even sarcasm from you.
4. This is the second time now
that I have had to record wilful
trespass; on the part of the Burghers
maliciously designed, to cause
injury

2)

injury and loss to my property. The
very fact of your having "forbidden grazing"
shows how necessary is the circular
I have asked you for, in as much as
these Burghers have clearly set your
order at naught. On both occasions
of trespass, not desiring to make a
fuss, I left out the cause of complaint
and simply requested the Revenue
authorities to oblige me by adopting
ordinary remedial measures by a
word of warning, and you best
know how I have been met on
both occasions.
5. The original pathway ran
into nullahs, and behind knolls and
clumps of jungle, it was anything
but straight, and at all imaginable
gradients the results not of convenience
but of accident. The short-cut from

Estate around

(Dotacamund to the nearest Cheap
Ryaee village in the plans would be
through my valley of Snoolitull (not
Soolloor, as you call it,) the path I
design across this, it would also if any
thing lessen the distance between
Sholoor and Dotacamund, it would
be more convenient to the Natahs
and Todas in the vicinity and would
be more convenient to myself, and
should take care that the maliciously
disposed should not behind knolls,
&c., as before occurred, commit de-
=predations unseen. Besides, the
line has the merit of having been
originally offered by me and accep-
=ted by yourself and the Board.
But if you will insist upon ignoring
all these considerations in trying most
partially, to secure for the Burghers

J

* to which they
were entitled &
entitled

* is called by
the natives

the use of a Bandy road to which they
have no right or title whatever (any more
than to the land itself,) all that I have
got to say is that in such a case, I shall
simply withhold all right of way
have what was offered, and accepted
or forego one as the case may be.

Regarding the Surveyors opinion,
which you give me, or the probable
number of acres to be found within
a valley which has its origin in the

K

Koondahs and its local termination at
Seegoor, I beg to state in addition
to previous letters, that in the area
required by me, as most suitable,
all things considered, for any cultu-
=vation, if I find (on a Survey of the
latter and not of the whole valley,)
that if the necessary number
of acres of forest does not there exist
within

within the limits I point out, then
I shall claim (under paras of the
Proceedings of the Board, N°2814 of the
1st June last) the balance of the
forest at the locality near Marlimund
which you and Dr. Leghorn
originally recommended should be
granted to me, and to my having
which, you stated, no objection
existed.

be subject
corrected or
cancelled.

Only said 6.
acres + if defici
ent as Tolson.

7. Should the survey show a balance
deficient both of grass and of forest
land at my valley of Knockhull near
Sholoon, then I will endeavour to
make up both as far as I can in the
land Marlimund locality, which
was my first choice of all and was
only foregone because the amount
of forest land I wanted could not
all be conveniently spared meat
that particular spot, such being

K

3/

the case I could not of course ask for
more forest at that spot than the
outside there recommended by
Doctor Leghorn, Viz. 10 Caunies;
and I would ask for any remaining
balance of grass land at Mr. Laseron's
neighbourhood, because at the
latter there is unfortunately no forest.
Should there however be only a deficiency
solely of grass land as I said before
I shall adhere to Mr. Laseron's neigh-
-bourhood.

Five lots grass
+ three of forest
in Tolson.
Viz. 240. Cauni.

Insert A. three
Tolsons 3rd
different
places

8th In past correspondence about
making up any deficiency near
Mr. Laseron's the possibility of a
forest deficiency was overlooked
and unprovided for, hence these
remarks.

I have &c.

(Signed) H. D. Rae.

Remarks on Mr Rae's Letter

the contents

Mr Rae's style, and quoting, is ~~rude~~ A
throughout all his correspondence.

Burghers have no Carts - and none B
was asked - they want no Cart Road

The path, ~~and~~ an old immemorial C
one, was demanded, and justly, by all
the Tribes.

Which of course means the D
same, a quibble of Mr Rae's own words -

Plenty, a fine grazing valley. - E

Not absurd, but just - and admit- F
-ted by the Board.

The assumes "Mr Rae disputes, G
and asserts, is his own - not the poor
Burghers, tho' he has ousted them -
their Cattle may have strayed, as
was likely, but have not been
driven to Mr Rae's limits -

Seems an intent to shut H
them out altogether -

I Mr Rae may Record, but there is
no proof or truth, of any intentional
trespass - if he thinks so, he should fence

J Mr Rae is wandering: the Hill
Tribes only want their old Path - not
a "Bandy Road" which is Mr Rae's
own making and name.

K About 30 Miles! ~~[illegible]~~
a specimen of Mr Rae's
Statements - if the valley as
there asserted by Mr R. be 30 miles
in length, 240 acres =
Need be granted!

L Mr Rae's original application and his preferences to
direct to Gout-mere from 240 acres in Soolcoon only - In his letter dated
3d May 1861 he requested that any deficit in Soolcoon valley (50 acres) may be
made up by the grant of a similar quantity near Mr Laserons - again in his letter
of 10 May 1861 he withdrew his request for the immediate

* Inspection of the balance of the Grant (First 50 acres).

I request due
Indulgence, for these Remarks.
as a brief, but necessary, comment
on Mr Rae's Statements - which I do
hope may be taken, to the
utmost as made

No 31 of 1861

To,
E. C. & B. Thomas Esqre
Collector of Cumbatore

Do Licenmund 22d Novr
1861

Sir,

Have the honor to inform you that
by measurement I find that there is a deficiency
deficiency of Acres Roods Poles
which deficiency I now proceed to occupy, at
this deficiency
Should any person claim
claim to the land
the land named (in
the possession of this land named Cumbi (in
communicate with that of soldier) Malabar excise
communicate with that of soldier
one year from
one year
quit this Jeudly commencing to defer possession
quit this Jeudly
longer of the whole of the 240 acres which
longer of the whole
granted to me now measuring more or
granted to me
I have, my orders
I have, my orders now daily proceeding
this operation for want of instructions

Copy in a Letter to England
dated February No 12 of 63

In a letter from the
Collr of Coimbatore
10th Octr 1861 No 217

From H. D. Rae Esqr
Collr Cammd

To The Collector of
Coimbatore

Enclosure No 1

Stating that if the
result of a Survey shows
that there is a deficiency
in his land near the boun-
he will endeavour to
make up the same in a
locality known as
Kiarkimund

Rev 2696/62
Inf 6621/1861
Rel 21 Oct
R 23 Oct 1862 No 2266
12-290

lessays-

Name illegible

Signed T. D. Rose

(True Copy)

T. B. Thomas Esq.

Collector-

Copy in a letter to England
Office Collectorate N. Arcot 1861

Coimbatore 3rd October, 1861

No. 33 of 1861.

To,

T. B. Thomas Esqre.

Collector of Coimbatore-

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letters Nos. 320 and 326, of the 23rd ultimo and 1st instant respectively-

2. In reply to the former of these I beg leave to observe, that no occupation has taken place at Marlymund, as I am awaiting the result of the survey now being instituted at my land near Sholoor (provided always that that survey is in accordance with my boundaries), when, if I find a forest deficiency, I shall, as I told you in a former letter, require the land at the Marlymund site, which has been pronounced unobjectionable by both Dr. Cleghorn and you, and my taking possession of which will be in accordance with the ruling of the Board of Revenue, twice and emphatically set down in their Proceedings Nos. 2814, of the 1st June last, and in accordance with the orders of Government (dated 21st September 1860) in which I am "allowed to take possession" (without reference to you) of the 240 acres of land for the cultivation of Tea, the concession of

Not to

which to me had been recommended by you -

3. I am granted the power by Government to help myself to a fixed area of waste land, and the Board rule regarding it, that if the necessary area, suitable, as I deem it, for my culture, is not found by me in one locality, I am at liberty to have the balance or balances in any other locality that may be pronounced unobjectionable by you; I therupon (knowing the treatment to expect at your hands), forthwith fixed on a site, (regarding a fresh deficiency), which had been pronounced unobjectionable by you; but the more I try to prevent your raising fresh objections the more do you manage to complicate matters and the more and more do utterly stultify yourself -

4. If you will refer to my letter, to which yours No. 320 is a reply, you will find that I stated the occupation of Marlymund site as* mere one of contemplation and not one of accomplishment. My object in writing this being to precipitate action on your part regarding the survey. A precipitation since proved to have been very necessary, as I now find you were the means of causing a delay in the survey with the view to being able to lay down incorrect boundaries to my estate, after my departure from the Presidency. A line of conduct on your part, which you are still bent on pursuing in spite of the representations to the contrary regarding your "error"

* not do. see his own letter

which have lately been addressed to you by both Captain Farewell and myself - You have been asked and thereby been given the opportunity by Captain Farewell of clearing up this matter on the spot in his and in my presence, and you have refused, therefore do you now leave me no option but to warn you that if you do not forthwith countermand the incorrect survey now being proceeded with and desire the estates to be surveyed according to the boundaries which were officially pointed out by me to Mr. Nesbitt 2 months before you ever visited the locality, (and also subsequently officially to Captain Morgan, Major Babbington, and Mr. Williams, besides private persons and partially to His Excellency the Governor) I shall then deem it my paramount duty to report you to Government as attempting further to complicate matters while actually trying now to defraud me of a portion of my estate -

* a pure misstatement I have been 3 times to the land, & was unable to do a 4th time, once on a Canoe -

5. I wholly fail to understand your writing (in No. 320) that I have no authority to hold any land save "such as may be granted to me at Sholoor" by the survey, as I hold both your own and numerous other papers both from Government and the Board to the direct contrary -

6. The Surveyor from tomorrow will continue his operations on my land and in its neighbourhood on your responsibility—

I have the honour to be

Sir

Your most obed.t Servant

"Signed" F. D. Rae

"True Copy."

S. B. Thenhote a.s.

Collector

S. B. Thenhote of this Settlement can be summoned if the Bd think it necessary. Thereto I really have not time—and the time & letter specify be for themselves.

S. B. T.

Copy of a Letter to Govt Land Office dated 12th January 1863

Sir

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of a letter from the Chief Commissioner of Coorg dated 10th Octo last 1861 Cl. No. 2170 Rev 260 of 61 from F. D. Rae Esqr Deputy Commissioner

To The Collector of Land Revenue & Paicavaud

Sir

I am directed by the Chief Commissioner to request that you will cause enquiry to be made and report whether the ground applied for by F. D. Rae Esqr for Tea cultivation on the Nelliserry Hills is available for the purpose, and if so, whether the grant of it would be objectionable in any other respect.

I have the honour to be

Sir

Your most obedient Servant

Sd/ Illegible

Asst to the Commissioner

Memo of correspondence on the land applied for by F. D. Rae for Tea cultivation on the Nelliserry Hills—

From	To
F. D. Rae Esq.r 17th April 1860 No. 3.	2 F. D. Rae Esq.r 5th Sept.r 1860 No. 258.
3. — Do. — 12th September 1860	6. — Do. 22d September 1860 No. 275
4. — Do. — 19th — Do. — Do.	8 — Do. — 4th Oct.r 1860 No. 295
5 — Do. — 21st — Do. — Do.	10 — Do. — 6th November 60 No. 336.
7. — Do. — 28th — Do. — Do.	12 — Do. — 28th January 1861 No. 26.
9. — Do. — 16th October — Do.	14 — Do. — 16th March 1861 No. 62
11 — Do. — 13th November — Do.	15 — Do. — 10th April 1861 No. 85
13 — Do. — 2d February 1861 No. 4	17 — Do. — 25th Do. No. 112.
16 — Do. — 12th April 1861 No. 7.	19 — Do. — 29th Do. No. 119.
18 — Do. — 29th Do. — No. 10	21 — Do. — 6th May 1861 No. 130
20 — Do. — 3d May 1861 No. 11	24 — Do. — 13th — Do. No. 153.
22 — Do. — 10th May 1861 — No. 12	26 — Do. — 13th June 1861 No. 187.
23 — Do. — 10th — Do. — No. 13	28 — Do. — 25th June 1861 No. 205
25 — Do. — 24th Do.	30 — Do. — 9th July 1861 No. 232.
27. — Do. — 22d June 1861.	32 — Do. — 18th July 1861 No. 246
29 — Do. — 5th July 1861 No. 21	34 — Do. — 16th August 1861 No. 293
31 — Do. — 12th Do. No. 22	
33 — Do. — 13 August 1861 No. 23	
1. The Conservator of Forests 1st May 1860 No. 1	
2 — Board 31st May 1860 No. 2616.	1 To Board 12th May 1860 No. 55
4 — Do. — 24 August 1860 No. 3894.	3 — Do. — 29th June 1860 No. 88
7. — Do. 27th Sept.r 1860 No. 4413.	5 — Do. — 19th September 1860 No. 162

From

9 — Board 13th Novr 1860 No 5286.
11 — Do — 12th February 1861 No 803.
13 — Do — 25 — Do — No 1010.
15 — Do 12th April 1861 No 1936.
16 — Do 15 — Do — No 1963
20 — Do 1st June 1861 No 2814.

To

6. To Board 29th Sept 1860 No 168.
8 — Do 2d November 1860 No 204
10 — Do 8th February 1861 No 31.
12 — Do 4th March 1861 No 47
14 — Do 13th April 1861 No 73
17 — Do 30th April 1861 No 89.
18 — Do 8th May 1861 No 101
19 — Do 14 — Do — No 105.

1. To Government 8th Oct 1860 No 55

Coimbatore
10th October 1861

C. D. Le Cras
Collector

To show the Board how much Correspondence Mr. Rae has caused, and enable them to refer, passim if necessary, I annex this Memo:—

C. D. L.
Collector.

Encl 1.

Copy in a Letter to Engr
Dated 16th February No. 12 of 63

In a letter from the
Collr of Coimbatore dd
10th Octr 1861 No. 217.

Rec 26th/61

Encls 4.

Claims of Correspondence
on the land applied for
by Ellis Rae for Tea
Cultivation on the —
Sheiglery Hills.

Ansd 6th/62

has put his Chop
on back
J.B. Fr

My dear Rae

Bombay 6 March
1862

I am glad to be able to send you a very good report on your tea— Tea not being a mercantile commodity in Bombay, it is only my submitting it to the Chamber of Commerce as practically speaking, the Mercantile opinion knows nothing about tea— I believe I know more about Tea than any Merchant in Bombay as Tea was a part of our business in London, and my opinion is decidedly favorable— but not to depend upon my own opinion I had asked Forman of Leckie & Co to try it and get his Chinaman's opinion tested to do so too and enclosed I hand you his note— Our united opinions may be summed up as follows

That the tea is remarkably strong, of good flavour and as regards strength and flavour may be considered No 1 but the manufacture is, as might naturally be expected, inferior & the Tea therefore presents a broken and dull appearance— It is not possible to value it as there is no market for Tea, but both Forman & myself agree that we would willingly give Rs 1½ ℔ lb for it for private use and at that

rate. I believe it would be cheaper than the China Tea we get here -

In order to obtain an idea of its real commercial value I have asked Forman to send it home to Gladstanes & who does a large business in tea with China, and he has promised to do so - meanwhile if you would send it officially to the Chamber of Commerce the Committee will endeavour to get you the best valuation in their power - You must send a fresh sample, as I have sent those I had to Forman

You are at liberty to make any of this letter, as I feel sure that the reports from England will fully bear out my remarks & entirely confirm my opinion of its quality

Remain, My dear Rae
Yours very truly
H Brooke

16 MR 12 PAID

The Hon'ble
Chief Secretary to Govt.
Ootacamund

below 7,000 feet, that is fit for the cultivation of tea in "Sholoor valley". No further extension in that quarter beyond the grant already made is possible.

4. The boundaries of the 500 acres in the direction of Mail Hoordah have been officially pointed out by me to the Conservator of Forests.

5. I would beg most respectfully to remind His Excellency in Council of the opinion which His Excellency himself expressed when on visiting my plantation, that I "appeared to have tea seedlings sufficient to cover 500 or 600 acres," & to add that my original application was for 200 coolies with power of extension on the same terms otherwise for 500 coolies at once - & the total I seek only amounts to the (240 acres plus 500 acres) 500 coolies originally asked for.

6.

6. In conclusion I may mention that since I have taken a partner into the plantation & am able to get a Brother out to supervise the undertaking.

7. If possible may I beg that this letter may be allowed to lie over till Mr. E. B. Thomas, the Collector of Coimbatore, retires from the service, as I am already acquainted with the circumstances

Line not with Lt. Land's E. & W. Road

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your most obedient servant

A. D. Rae.

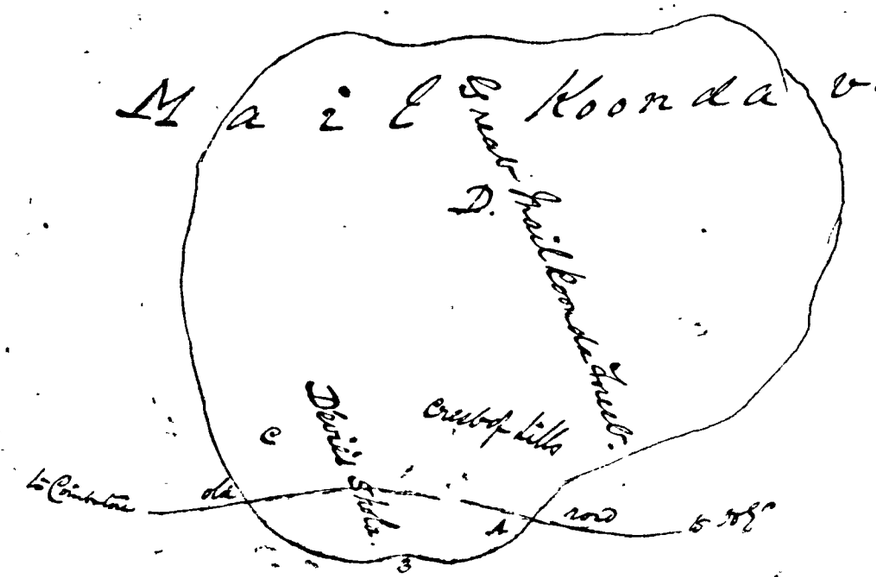
P.S. May I beg that the purport of the appended letters may not be made public in the newspapers till Chinese manipulators are available.

Lateral view.



Bird's eye view.

Mail Koonda valley



Copy of sketches sent by A. D. Rae.

Copy in a Letter to England
of 16th February ft 12 of 1863

Rec: 1003/62.

situated in about the most pestilential jungles of India. But the undoubted advantage of the great salubrity of the Neilgherry plateau is met, as always elsewhere, by the existing difficulties of an estate lying on the Neilgherries at least double of that obtaining elsewhere. This disadvantage in cost could, of course be met as at home by cultivation by steam & ~~consequently by reducing the~~ the difficulties of the labour in the lands of comparatively moderate ~~is actually determined upon~~ future expectation with the prospect of a more certain return.

5. I have also stated that considerable complaints (vide Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, No. 2, 215 & 216 of April last) the reason & nature of the failure to work the lands of the Nilgherry Co., & I trust most sincerely that the ordinance which I have framed & to the Governor of the Presidency, Sir Charles Trevelyan (which will be taken up for cultivating will soon be enacted & set the whole thing in motion in Southern India.

6. I have also stated, learnt from Dr. Cleghorn & Mr. Waterhouse that the best cattle to the Himalayas are those which come from Hissar & Nagore, & that the Hissar cattle are the largest & strongest of the plains cattle. I have also stated that the Nilgherry cattle are the smallest & weakest of the plains cattle, but that they are the most symmetrical & hardy. I hope the opportunity which now presents itself of Dr. Cleghorn's proceeding to the Himalayas will be taken advantage of to procure some of the best cattle for the Nilgherries, which I am sanguine will be found to be the best cattle for the Himalayas.

[illegible] to Lord Stanley [illegible]

Note.

I went yesterday in company with the Collr. & Shelvr to inspect Mr Rae's Tea plantation.

Mr Rae has now about 210 Acres almost entirely grass land and Mr Grant tells me there will be no difficulty in getting him the 30. Still wanting to make up his allotment of

of 240 acres - the
Extent for which
he applied in
the beginning -

From what
I saw of the plan-
-tation I entertain
no doubt of Mr
Rae's correctness -
About 35 acres have
been planted out -
about 100,000 seedlings
are in the nurseries,
roads are in progress
& temporary buildings
erected. During Mr
Rae's absence an
European superintendent

is in charge -

Mr Rae's means,
I should say, are
limited - judging
from the style of
cultivation, but there
is a great improve-
-ment in this, as
regards those portions
which are now being
cleared & planted
& the whole of the
plants, though small
looked healthy -
Still I saw quite
enough to satisfy
me that he is bona
fide working the Es-

permanent of cultivating Lands or pasture land.

One of the conditions of his grant there that he should sign a deed prepared by the Govt Land Officers. The deed prepared however was such a formidable deed that Mr Rae demurred and I think naturally & reasonably.

There can I submit be nothing more impolitic than to make a gift and then reduce its value

by Ex post facto Regulations. No doubt the Govt can compel Mr Rae to sign the deed or be ejected but I fail to see what they would gain by such a step.

It seems true that every settler Govt would be secured by giving Mr Rae a simple deed with only these conditions.

I That during the 21 years pre-emption allowed to him the

here. he shall
have land shall be
bona fide devoted
to tea culture
failing which he
shall pay the full
assessment of the
land viz 1R per
acre ab initio.

II. That at the End
of the 10 years he
shall have a per-
manent title free
of all other conditions
than the regular pay-
ment of the assess-
ment viz 1R per Acre
with the option of
redemption at 20
Years purchase, acc-

III. That the Collr
or any Officer specially
deputed by him, shall
have free right of
entry at all times
with or without notice
in order to inspect
Mr Rae's proceedings
but no right of in-
terference in the the
mode of culture &c

Mr Rae will
I am told, agree to these terms and
really I cannot see
what more [illegible] need

IV. Mr Rae to
maintain the
boundary marks.

cording to the rules in
force when the grant
was made -

for them security -
Perhaps it would
be well to stipulate
that all disputes
be settled by Arm.
Chaytor - Pte & Mr.
Rae each abbointing
an arbitrator & the
2 an umpire - the
decision of the final
& bar all legal
proceedings -

There is no timber
on the property worth
mentioning -

Mr. Rae's suggestion
to me that neighbours
about there would

be about 10,000 Planks
fit to pick - I should
doubt whether so many
could be ready, & that
there will be enough
for testing - I would
suggest that Govt.
should afford Mr.
Rae the same ad-
vantage as has
been given to Messrs
Graham & Cowan, in
the way of getting
a good trained Mas-
ter Sawyer from Engd.
Sir Lacy Lis C. Rendall
reminded him this

said that however
this may be, it is
I think worth while
to give it - Unlike
Major Mann, he is
cultivating, on flats
land - for which it
is an object to find
a profitable use - &
he is cultivating
practically - i.e a,
a mercantile &c.
-culation from the
outset.

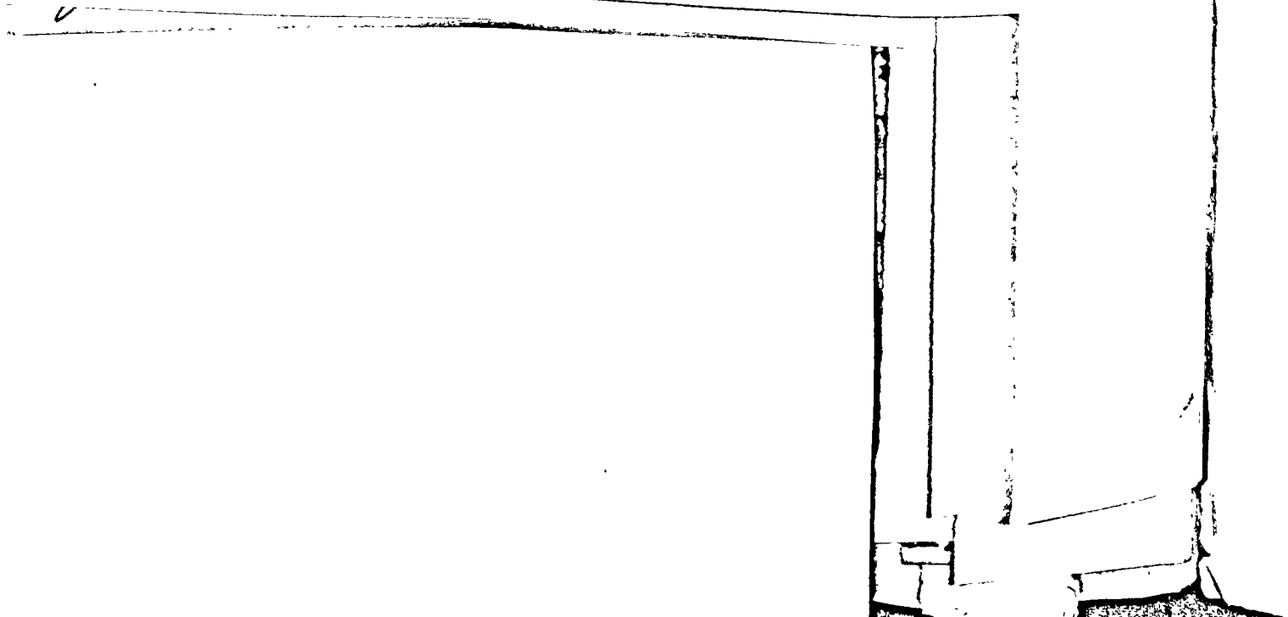
There is only
one point on which
I anticipate any
upon

difficulty - Mr Rae
originally asked for
four Cottages & when
the land he knows
Fields was given to
him, first said they
would allow him
if his experiment
succeeded, to extend
this holding - There
can be no doubt but
first meant the Ex.
tension & he ask
Shelton - but Mr
Rae maintains
that he has to let
it there or elsewhere

The Govt. are only bound to fulfil what they promised & the success of the Experiments in such like establishment. I would instruct the Collr. not to grant or sell Govt. Lands adjoining or near his Ryot's place without special orders - Hereafter, when Mr Rae can claim fulfilment of the promise Govt. can decide finally -

L D.S.

C16 Oct/62 Dept. 19/9.



Revenue Department

No. 2266.

Proceedings of the Madras Government

Under date the 23d. October 1862.

Read the following papers.

From Mr. H. D. Rae. (Here enter 9th October 1861 No 36)

Pro. of the Board of Revenue. (Here enter 4th Novr " " 6040)

From Mr. H. D. Rae (Here enter 11th March 1862)

From Mr. H. D. Rae. (Here enter 25th — " — ")

From Mr. H. D. Rae (Here enter 5th July ")

The Government are satisfied that Mr. Rae is, so far as his means permit, fairly trying the experiment of the growth of Tea on grass land - in consideration of which they granted him the land which he now holds at Sholoor. They resolve therefore in modification of their previous orders to offer him a permanent

Title

Title Deed on the following terms.

I. That during the 7 years free tenure allowed to him the land shall be bona-fide devoted to Tea culture failing which he shall pay the full assessment of the land viz 1 Rupee per acre ad initio.

II That at the end of the 7 years he shall have a permanent title free of all other conditions than the regular payment of the assessment viz 1 Rupee per acre with the option of redemption at 20 years purchase according to the rules in force when the grant was made.

III That the Collector or any Officer specially deputed by him, shall have free right of entry at all times with

~~within~~ the first seven years of the lease

or

or without notice in order to inspect Mr. Rae's proceedings, but no right of interference with the mode of culture &c.

IV That Mr. Rae shall maintain boundary marks.

V That any differences connected with Mr. Rae's occupation of the land that may arise between him and Government shall be settled by arbitration, Government and Mr. Rae each appointing one arbitrator and the two nominating an Umpire, their decision to be final and bar all legal proceedings.

2 The Government Solicitor will be directed in supersession of all previous instructions to draw a form of lease giving Mr. Rae the land 240 acres, at Shoolor rent free for 7 years, and thereafter subject to an assessment

assessment of Rupee 1 per acre.
but with no further conditions
than the five above specified.
The lease should be as short,
simple and free from techni-
calities as possible.

3 In their order of 23rd
August 1860 Revenue Depart-
ment No 1422 para 7, the Govern-
ment acceded to the request
of Mr Rae that he should
be allowed to extend his hold-
ing at Shaloor on the same
terms if successful. The suc-
cess of Mr Rae's experiment
has not yet been established,
when it has been, he may
again address Government.
Meanwhile the Collector
will be instructed not to
grant or sell Government
land adjoining Mr Rae's
tea

tea plantation at Shaloor
without express orders. The
promise of Government ap-
plied only to land at Sha-
loor and none can be given
on those terms elsewhere.

4 Copies to the Govt Solicitor & Sec PWD 24
14 " " B of Revt
4 " Mr Conr of Forests
1 " E. H. D Rae Esqre care of Captn Daly
Ootacamund
6 " Commr for Hemts
H. D. Rae Esqre care of
Captain Daly Ootacamund.

12
15
8

Note. In the last para of the
letter Dy Secy dated 1860
No 30 Revenue
all further communication
on this may be addressed
to the care of Captain Daly
Ootacamund.

46
for 12

Copy in a Letter to Govt
Dy 12th February No. 12 of 1863

Grant of land to
Mr Rae.
Revenue 1862 Deptt.
Pro: of Govt for October.

No. 2266.

Pro: of the Madras Govt
Dy 23d October 1862.

From H D Rae Esq 8/8 Dec/62
Rec 5/1/63.

29-12-61
4-2-61

No. 284-285
23-8-60

No. 404-405
21-9-60

No. 354-355
29-10-61

No. 460-468
25-2-62

No. 543
27-2-62

No. 195-196
12-4-61

C.No. 984/62
C.No. 2514/61

83A+82B
5-10-61

Offering to Mr Rae
a permanent Title Deed
on certain terms, for the
land granted to him for
Tea Cultivation on the
Neilgherries -

No. 289 @ 294-

15-10

C 16 Oct 62 R 18