M.R.O. 14—13,000—27-9-24.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 469 Press ~~Mis.~~

125-126

Dated 13-8-~~19~~ 1863

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 13th August 1863.

No. 125. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Educational Department:—

Sanctioning the grant of the compensation recommended by the Collector of Coimbatore on account of the land occupied by the Burghers and required for the Lawrence Asylum at Ootacamund. (Here enter 8th August 1863, No. 199.)

No. 126. ORDER THEREON, 13th August 1863, No. 1,495.

Communicated to the Board of Revenue.

(True Extract.)

Deputy Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue with Proceedings Educational Department, No. 199.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following letter from P. GRANT, Esq., Collector of Coimbatore; to the Honorable A. J. ARBUTHNOT, Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated Coimbatore, 26th June 1863, No. 53.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the Proceedings of the Madras Government, and their Order thereon, dated 4th ultimo, No. 126, regarding the land required for the Lawrence Asylum at Ootacamund.

2. The total extent of ground entered in the plan lately submitted by the Executive Engineer amounts to 430 acres, of which 333 acres are Government waste, and 97 are occupied by Burghers. With a view to ascertain whether, as remarked by Government, the portion occupied by the Burghers had been left uncultivated for many years previous to 1859, and whether it was only in the year 1860 that the Burghers were allowed to cultivate it, and that on the express understanding that their doing so was not to confer on them any title to it, should it be required by Government, a careful reference was made to the records of my office and the Tahsildar's Cutcherry, but such does not appear to have been the case. On the contrary it is evident that the Burghers have been in possession of their lands for lengthened periods as detailed below :—

On full rent.			Assessment.			Settlement.		
			RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.
From Fusly 1240 (1830-31).....	Acres	4- 4¾	1	5	3	1	5	3
„ „ 1251 (1841-42)...	„	3-13¼	2	5	8	2	5	8
„ „ 1252 (1842-43)..... ...	„	7-10¼	2	15	0	2	15	0
„ „ 1264 (1854-55)...	„	15- 4½	6	11	7	6	11	7
„ „ 1266 (1856-57)...	„	12- 6½	3	13	1	3	13	1
„ „ 1267 (1857-58)...	„	14 5	6	2	9	6	2	9
„ „ 1269 (1859-60)..... ...	„	1-14½	0	14	1	0	14	1
„ „ 1271 (1861-62)...	„	10- 7¾	4	13	6	4	13	6
		70- 2½	29	0	11	29	0	11
On grass rent.								
„ „ 1240 (1830-31)..... ...	„	11- 7¼	3	8	5	0	14	1
„ „ 1253 (1843-44)...	„	15- 4½	4	11	3	1	2	10
		26-11¾	8	3	8	2	0	11
		96-14¼	37	4	7	31	1	10

3. It appears that in 1860 a piece of land measuring about four Bullahs or 15 acres, not included in the above 97 acres, was marked out by Mr. Sub-Engineer Williams as being required for the site of the proposed Lawrence Asylum. It was then held by certain Burghers on grass rent, and Mr. Thomas subsequently excluded it from their puttahs. So far as I can ascertain, I learn that with the exception of the above four Bullahs, no other land was then set aside or marked out for the proposed Lawrence Asylum site.

4. With regard to the remark in the Government Order under reply, that the site in question was long talked of as a suitable one for a Government house in the event of such a building being erected on the Neilgherries, I have failed to find any thing on the subject on record, but the waste portion retained by Mr. Thomas may probably have been referred to.

5. As already stated 97 acres out of 430 entered in Major Farewell's plan, have been held on puttahs by the Burghers for several years past. They have according to their means invested their capital in improving the land, and have regularly paid assessment on it. It is situated conveniently at no great distance from their village (Kaity), and is highly valuable to them. They were informed both personally and through the Tahsildar that the land is required for Government purposes, and would have to be given up. At first they were disinclined to part

with their lands, but they eventually agreed to do so on condition that they receive full compensation. Government are aware that when lands were required at Wellington for the construction of the Sanitarium Depôt and for other public works, compensation for the same was paid to the Burghers at the rate of 70 Rupees per cawny for some lands, whilst for others it amounted to 100 Rupees per cawny. The land now required for the Lawrence Asylum site, time and other circumstances considered, is, I believe, almost if not equally valuable, so that its owners are entitled to full compensation. I therefore recommend that compensation be given at the rate of 50 Rupees per cawny for all land under cultivation, and 25 Rupees per cawny for the portion held on grass tenure. The Burghers from whose puttahs Mr. Thomas excluded four Bullahs of 15 acres of grass land, have all along I understand claimed compensation, their claim I think deserves every consideration, I therefore recommend that they be paid at the rate of 15 Rupees per cawny. The Burghers demanded higher terms than those proposed above, and it was with much difficulty that I prevailed upon them to accept them if sanctioned by Government. These rates it will be observed are much more moderate than those paid on former occasions. Lower terms cannot I think be expected. In addition to the value of land, the Burghers are entitled to compensation for the loss of seed and labor expended by them in preparing a portion of the land for cultivation this year, from which they cannot expect to reap any advantage. The aggregate amount of compensation due and of the payment of which the sanction of Government is requested, is Rupees 3,609-5-2 as per particulars given below:—

	RS.	A.	P.
$70\frac{2}{16}$ acres or 53 cawnies, 2 grounds 1,176 square feet under cultivation, at 50 Rupees per cawny.....	2,655	2	10
$26\frac{11}{16}$ acres or 20-5-1,248 held as "Ain" grass at 25 Rupees per cawny.....	505	12	0
$15\frac{4}{16}$ acres or 11-13-1,056 of grass land excluded by Mr. Thomas in 1860 from the Ryot's puttahs at 15 Rupees per cawny.....	173	6	4
For loss of seed and labor incurred by the Burghers in preparing a portion of the 97 acres for cultivation for this year.....	3,334	5	2
	275	0	0
	3,609	5	2

ORDER THEREON, 8th August 1863, No. 199.

Under all the circumstances of the case, the Governor in Council is pleased to sanction the grant of the compensation recommended by the Collector of Coimbatore on account of the land occupied by the Burghers and required for the Lawrence Asylum at Ootacamund, amounting to Rupees (3,609-5-2) three thousand, six hundred and nine, Annas five and Pice two.

(True Extract.)

G. J. Lushington

Chief Secretary.

To the Collector of Coimbatore.
" Deputy Auditor and Accountant General.
" Civil Paymaster.
" Revenue Department.

Nr. 1495.

Comn. to the Bd. of Revn.

Exd. T. McMootry.

Fort St. George
13th. August 1863

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