M.R.O. 14—13,000—27-9-24.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 2318 Press ~~Mis.~~

307 308

Dated 17—12—~~19~~1863

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 3,524.

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 16th June 1863.

Read the following letter from P. GRANT, Esq., Collector of Coimbatore, to W. HUDLESTON, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Ootacamund, 6th May 1863, No. 83:—

1. Adverting to the Board's Proceedings of the 9th June 1862, No. 3,680, I beg to report that a careful reference to, and examination of, the Neilgherry old records transferred to this District from Malabar Collectorate in the year 1813, as well as the subsequent correspondence in my Office show that the two properties alluded to in my predecessor's communication to the Board of the 10th April 1862, No. 83, have not been and are not now held under any Title Deeds from Government as many other properties on these Hills are, though liable to quit-rent according to bills issued annually.

2. One of the above two properties is known by three different names, viz., Home's House, Tudar Hall and Tiger Hall. The land belonging to the house in question was formerly owned by Sir James Home, who acquired it before these Hills were transferred to this District from Malabar. Captain Poulson subsequently became the owner of it, and he was succeeded by Lieutenant Heffernan, who transferred it to Major Hutton, and he to Major Morgan. The other property is a piece of swamp land purchased by Lieutenant Heffernan in public auction in 1856, and was transferred to Major Hutton, and by him to Major Morgan. For neither of these properties has any Title Deed been obtained from Government in the shape of a grant, lease or Puttah. Major Morgan has now redeemed the quit-rent on the first mentioned property by the payment of 25 years' quit-rent, and wants a freehold conveyance as will appear from a separate letter of this date.

3. In reference to that part of the Board's Proceedings wherein the Board direct me to explain wherein lies the difficulty of putting in force the law for the collection of the Land Revenue in the cases alluded to in Mr. Thomas' letter in the same manner as is done in ordinary cases of [illegible] under Government [illegible] the transfer of lands between native The Ryots are made fully aware of their liabilities, and in default of payment the law is put in force without difficulty; whereas in the case of properties held by Europeans on the Neilgherry Hills, the transfers have not in many instances until lately been reported upon in due time, and the practice obtained in the collection of quit-rent was that each individual proprietor was called upon to pay for such number of days or months as he had been in possession of a property during the year. In many instances parties transferring properties have left the Hills (as Lieutenant Heffernan and Major Hutton have done) before information of the transfer had been received at the Collector's Office, and they could be called upon to pay for the period during which they had possession of them; whilst on the other hand the purchasers have pleaded that they should be called upon to pay only from the date of purchase according to the practice which obtained for many years. Hence the difficulty in putting the law in force. This difficulty will, I hope cease ere long by the orders given in the Board's Proceedings of the 18th October 1862, No. 6,953, with reference to which I have published a notice to the effect that the practice of issuing bills for broken periods of the year in the names of the several parties who have successively been in possession of a property, will be abandoned from the year 1862, and that whoever is in a possession of a property at the end of the year or at the time the demand is made, will be held responsible for the full amount of quit-rent due; he being left to make his own arrangements with the previous owner, and that on failure of payment the amount will be recovered by attachment and sale of the property under Act XXXIX of 1858.

	Due by Lt. Heffernan.			Due by Major Hutton.			Total.		
	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
On Tiger Hall property ...	9	13	5	9	11	9	19	9	2
On Swamp land	4	6	10	1	9	0	5	15	10
	14	4	3	11	4	9	25	9	0

4. The arrears due by Lieutenant Heffernan and Major Hutton on the properties now owned by Major Morgan, appertain to a period during which the old practice obtained, and consequently Major Morgan cannot fairly be called upon to pay the same, nor the law be put in force in this case. I will, therefore, include the balance in my next Jamabundy Report with the irrecoverable arrears to be recommended for remission. Major Morgan has duly paid the quit-rent due on those properties from the date of their purchase by him.

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1. Under the peculiar circumstances of the case and without in any way admitting the non-liability of the property for the realization of balances due to Government, the Board approve of the Collector's intention to include the arrears due by Lieutenant Heffernan and Major Hutton in his application for remission of irrecoverable arrears.

2. They request the Collector to fix and notify widely and periodically in his District Gazette, and occasionally in the "Fort Saint George Gazette," at what periods of the year the quit-rent will be held to fall due and will be collected, and to warn intending purchasers and tenants that the demand will be made on the party in possession and will be realized, in default of payment, by distraint or attachment and sale as by law provided.

3. The Collector should without delay take steps to clear his accounts of all arrears which cannot properly be enforced against present owners of property on the Hills.

4. The Board trust that the rules they have prescribed will prevent any future accumulation of arrears.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTO

Exd. J. Wright.

Approving of his intention to include the arrears due by certain proprietors of lands on the Neilgherries in application for remission of irrecoverable arrears.

No. 3,524.

Dated 16th June 1863.

1863. Department.

No.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

Rev - 3,524/63

No. 7,783.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 10th December 1863.

Read the following letter from P. GRANT, Esq., Collector of Coimbatore, to W. HUDLESTON, Esq., Secretary the Board of Revenue, dated 25th November 1863, No. 219:—

1. Adverting to paragraph 3 of the Board's Proceedings of the 16th June 1863, No. 3,524, and to paragraph 60 of my Jamabundy Report for Fasli 1272, dated 31st ultimo, No. 204, I have the honor to submit a Statement showing the arrears of quit-rent, &c., outstanding on the Neilgherry Hills, which cannot properly be enforced against present owners of property, or are irrecoverable from other causes.

2. The total arrears which, on careful examination of the records, are now found irrecoverable, amount to Rupees 834-3-1, up to Fasli 1271, as particularized in the margin, and the circumstances under which they are considered hopeless, are detailed in the column of remarks in the Statement. To this amount must be added a sum of 15 Annas 11 Pice found irrecoverable from the demand of quit-rent for Fasli 1272, making in all Rupees 835-3-0, for the remission of which I request the Board of Revenue will be good enough to obtain the sanction of Government.

	Land Revenue. Ryotwar.			Quit-rent.			Total.		
Fasli 1267..	104	13	9	110	13	0	215	10	9
„ 1268...	59	8	0	60	2	6	119	10	6
„ 1269...	69	3	7	199	0	6	268	4	1
„ 1270...	.....			170	0	9	170	0	9
„ 1271...	.....			60	9	0	60	9	0
Total..	233	9	4	600	9	9	834	3	1

3. The aggregate amount of arrears outstanding on the Neilgherry Hills up to Fasli 1271, amounts to Rupees 1,807-5-4 as previously reported. Deducting therefrom Rupees 834-3-1 now recommended to be struck off the accounts, there still remains a balance of 973-2-3. With a view to ascertain what portion of it is really hopeless, further inquiries are necessary, and when they are completed, I will again write to the Board on the subject.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

ABSTRACT.—Statement showing the arrears of Revenue outstanding on the Neilgherry Hills, and recommended to be struck off the accounts.

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1. Ordered to be submitted for the sanction of Government with copy of Board's Proceedings No. 3,524, dated 16th June 1863.

2. The Board have no doubt that the lands in question could legally be held liable for the arrears, but the amount is trifling and its realization would cause disproportionate trouble and excessive annoyance, and the arrears accumulated under a lax system which afforded much excuse for the defaulters, but which the Board trust will disappear under their Orders herewith submitted.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

Secretary.

To J. D. Sim, Esq., Secretary to Government, R. D.,
with Statement and copy of Board's Proceedings dated 16th June 1863, No. 3,524.

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

Exd J. Wright.

No. 2318.
Sanctioned.
The law must
in future be
strictly enforced.
The Collr. should
satisfy himself
by purchasers of
properties can al-
ways ascertain
from his office that
rents are due or
not.
L. D. S.
3rd Vice Chairman
17th December
1863.
No 307 & 308.

Rev. 1863. Department.
Proc. of Govt for Deer.

No. 3876.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

Dated 10th December 1863.

No. 7,783.

Submitting with remarks a Statement of the arrears of quit-rent &c, found irrecoverable on the Neilgherry Hills.

No 2318 of Deer
Write an Order

11 Copies to the Bd of Rev with an Extract or Copy