M.R.O. 14—18000—27-9-24.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 373	Press ~~Misc.~~
238-27	
Dated 27. 3. ~~19~~ 1882.	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
27th March 1863.

No. 298. Read the following Proceedings of the Court of Wards, dated 31st October 1862, No. 7,202 :—

Read the following letter from G. S. FORBES, Esq., Collector of Ganjam, to W. HUDLESTON, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Chetterpore, 16th October 1862, No. 265.

SIR,

1. With reference to the Board's Circular, Miscellaneous No. 6,144 of the 15th ultimo, I have the honor to state that there are at present only three Zemindaries and one proprietary Estate under management of the Court of Wards.

2. Of the proprietors of these Estates, the Zemindar of Purla Kimedy and his brother are no longer Minors, as the Court are already aware. The Minor of Jaluntra is but an infant. The Minors of Beredy have not as yet completed their elementary course of instruction in English. When this Estate was taken in the year 1859 under the direct management of the Court of Wards it was burdened with debt, the liabilities amounting to 25,000 Rupees. Though all the reasonable claims have since been met, the balance in its favor on the 30th of September is only Rupees 1,041. Hitherto I have not sent the Minors either to the Zillah School of Berhampore or to Onslow institution at Chetterpore, owing to the deeply rooted pride of the Ooriya Zemindars which will not allow them to study with boys of lower rank.

In a year more the Estate will be able to afford the expense of educating the Minors at Madras, but if the arrangement is carried out it will be by force, no arguments will avail to induce the mother and other members of the family to resign them willingly. This subject is discussed at some length in paragraphs 6 to 8 of Mr. Knox's report to the Court of Wards dated the 15th December 1857.

3. The Barwah Minors have already been desired to attend Berhampore Zillah School, but at the earnest request of their mothers I have allowed them to study till the close of the monsoon in the Taluk School of Itchapoor. There is a balance on hand of Rupees 9,221 in favor of the Estate, but as a law suit is just now pending in the High Court (for the possession of the Estate itself) with the Zemindar of Jaradah, it will be best to await its termination.

4. The proprietor of the small Estates of Soosaram and Rajapoor, which are under the management of a relative, is still an infant.

5. I have sent a Circular to all the other Zemindars impressing on them the great advantages which may be derived by giving their sons and younger brothers a sound education, and sending them to Madras, but I have very little hope of their appreciating the advice.

ENCLOSURE, No. 1.

EXTRACT from a letter from the Acting Collector of Ganjam, to the Secretary to the Court of Wards, Fort Saint George, dated 15th December 1857, No. 180.

* * * *

6. The act in question is a most admirable one, and will I feel sure be most beneficial, but it is hard to make natives understand this, and I believe, I am fully justified in saying that were it fully carried out and a Minor Zemindar removed to Madras, it would give rise to universal discontent and would be met at least by passive resistance.

7. The Ooriya Zemindars are without exception, proud, ignorant, and bigotted; they never, if they can avoid it, leave their own Estates, and have but one wish to do as their fathers did and keep up a horde of retainers, flags, and flutes; they are in the hands of clever Brahmins whose great object is to prevent their learning anything or managing their own affairs; the idea that a Minor should be well educated is of course most distasteful to this class, and their powerful interest with the Zemindars, and with the people, would all be brought into play; the most unfounded stories would be propagated and believed, and the worst and most improbable designs would be attributed to Government; were the boys to be removed to Madras, no one would believe that an act of the sort was solely for the benefit of the Minor and of the property coming to him.

8. I very much lament all this, for it is sad to see men who from their place and position might so influence their people for good, throwing all their weight into the opposite scale, resisting the introduction of vaccination, tiled houses, in fact of every innovation on the customs of their forefathers; but we must be careful how we force reforms on those not ready for them, and endeavor to gain our point by leading them as children not driving them as animals.

* * *

(True Extract.)

(Signed) G. S. FORBES, *Collector.*

In Cons. 20th August 1862, No. 5,265.

1. Ordered to be submitted for the information of Government, with reference to their Proceedings dated 19th August 1862, No. 1,755.

2. The Collector will please to report what course he would recommend for the education of the Beredy Minors.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON, *Secretary.*

No. 299. ORDER THEREON, 27th March 1863, No. 593.

The Beredy and Barwah Minors must attend the Berhampore School for the present.

(Signed) J. D. SIM,
Secretary to Government.

No. 7,202.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE COURT OF WARDS, dated 31st October 1862.

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Secretary.

To A. J. Arbuthnot, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government.

Copy to G. S. Forbes, Esq., Collector of Ganjam.

Hxd. J. Wright.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

Dated 31st *October* 1862.
Despatched 3 *November* 1862.
Received. 4 *do.*

No. 7,903.

Submitting for the information of Government a letter from the Collector of Ganjam reporting on the education of the minors under the Court of Wards.