

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1693	Press Mis.
226.227	
Dated	14-9-1864.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
14th September 1861.*

No. 226. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 9th August 1861.

Read the following letter from P. GRANT, Esq., Collector of Coimbatore, to W. HUDLESTON, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Coimbatore, 22nd June 1861, No. 132 :—

SIR,

I have received Proceedings of Government, Revenue Department, and their Order thereon, dated 10th May 1861, No. 807, directing the Conservator of Forests and myself to report what land in the vicinity of the Coonoor Ghât should be reserved, and what land made available for sale under the new rules; the report, it is said, is to be accompanied by the sheets of the map on which the reserved portions of land are to be marked. The map exhibits only the land on the plateau of the hills, and as the reserved portions in the vicinity of the Ghât lie below the plateau, the orders of the Government on the subject cannot be complied with. I may, however, remark that with very few exceptions all the unoccupied waste land near Coonoor has passed into the hands of private individuals. Within the last few days I have ridden in various directions about Coonoor, and it is astonishing to find how little land of the most inferior description even remains undisposed of. Major Morgan and myself have agreed as to the forest lands in the vicinity of the Coonoor Ghât which should be reserved with regard to their effects on the rain-fall and to the beauty of the Ghât. Major Morgan being more intimately acquainted with the localities than myself, drew up a report on the subject. I coincide with him as to the selection of forest lands to be reserved, but as he has not supplied me with a copy of his report, I can now only state that most of the reserved forest land lies below the plateau of the hills in the Coonoor valley and in the next valley to the east of it, in which are one or two Coffee estates, and for forest land in which applications have been made by gentlemen at Coonoor. With reference to the land applied for by Colonel Woodfall, I beg to submit the following remarks as well as a rough sketch of the locality which may perhaps assist the Board in forming an opinion as to the propriety or otherwise of granting the land. The grass land marked A with rocky grass land running up the hills to the westward, forms that portion of land wished for by Colonel Woodfall, but I doubt very much whether there are 100 acres of land available in the locality, as the Government forest and Mr. Mann's Tea plantation lie on three sides of it. Mr. Reilly, Colonel Woodfall's Manager, who accompanied me to Lamb's Rock on Wednesday, the 15th instant, to point out the grass land wanted by Colonel Woodfall, told me that unless Colonel Woodfall got the land marked A, which lies between Lamb's Rock on the east and the zig-zag road and double dotted lines on the west, the land in fact which forms the promontory, the extreme end of which is called Lamb's Rock and which is famous for the view from it, and is one of the pic-nic places near Coonoor, he would not care to have the upper part of the hill. I most certainly would urge Government not to part with the land in question, for, if they do, they will thereby deprive residents and strangers of one of the most beautiful and enjoyable spots near Coonoor. This very land marked A I have already refused on public grounds to Major Sweet who visited it with me, and he never, that I am aware of, questioned the propriety of my decision. I must state that when I refused it to Major Sweet, I was not aware that it formed a portion of the land asked for by Colonel Woodfall; my idea then was that the land Colonel Woodfall wished for was that marked in the sketch B and C, about which as they came within the prohibition ordered in the Government Proceedings, dated 16th May 1863, No. 221, I did not enter into any minute enquiry as to whether there were any public or private vested rights in them; had I known that Colonel Woodfall wanted the land marked A, about 15 acres in extent, I certainly would have refused it at once. Burglars bring forward claims to this same land, but these I can dispose of without troubling Government or the Board. As some of the members of Government are to be on the hills ere long, I would suggest that one of them be requested to visit the locality, and say whether the land A is to be reserved, for I am confident that no decision of mine, if adverse to his interests, will satisfy Colonel Woodfall.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
14th September 1864.

1. Submitted to Government with reference to the order quoted by the Collector.
2. The Board concur in opinion with the Collector that the small plot of grass land about 15 acres on the promontory leading to "Lamb's Rock" should not be made over to any individual in private right.

No. 227. ORDER THEREON, 14th September 1864, No. 1,693.

Miscellaneous.

The Government concur with the Collector and Board that the land referred to in paragraph 2 of the Board's Proceedings should be reserved. The Collector will take care that this decision is duly observed.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue.
,, the Collector of Coimbatore.
,, the Officiating Conservator of Forests.

Exd. S. T. August 1864.

the land Col. Woodfall wished for, was that marked in the Sketch B and C, about which as they came within the prohibition ordered in the Government Proceedings dated 16th May 1863 No. 221, I did not enter into any minute enquiry as to whether there were any public or private vested rights in them. Had I known that Col. Woodfall wanted the land marked A, about 15 acres in extent, I certainly would have refused it at once. Burghers bring forward claims to this same land, but these I can dispose of without troubling Government or the Board. As some of the members of Government are to be on the hills ere long, I would suggest that one of them be requested to visit the locality, and say whether the land A is to be reserved, for, I am confident that no decision of mine, if adverse to his interests, will satisfy Col. Woodfall.

Coimbatore,
Collector's office,
22nd June 1864

I have &c.
Signed P. Grant
Collector.
Submitted

Submitted to Government
with reference to the order quoted by
the Collector.

2- The Board concur in opinion
with the Collector that the small plot
of grass land about 15 Acres on the
promontory leading to "Lamb's Rock"
should not be made over to any in-
dividual in private right.

Perfectly so. The
land should be preserved
as a public place.

(True Copy and Extract)

J. A. H. Smith
Secretary.

To
J. D. Smith Esq.
Secretary to Government
Revenue Department.
With a Sketch.

[Signature]
Capt. L. C. Govindarao

[Faint vertical text on the right margin]

No. 8th August 1883 of 83-84
No. 10th May 1884 No. 113-114

1883-84

Recd 1300th Debut
for 1884
No. 2091.

Proceedings of the
Board of Revenue

Dated 9th
Decr 1883 } August 1884.
Re 24th Decr 1883.
C. 1-82. 1883.

No.

Re 24th Decr 1883

Submitting letter from

the Coll^r of Comptrol^r for =

= verifying the information =

called for in Govt. Pro: dated

10th Aug 1884. of: 807 regarding

the land to be reserved in

the vicinity of the Conner

Plate.

For R. Decr

22264227.

1883-84

No. 1093.

Therefore must consent

with the Collector and Board

that the land referred to

in para 2 of the Board's

proceedings should be reserved

The Collector will take

care that this decision

is duly observed.

14th Decr 1883

14th Decr 1883

14th Decr 1883

14th Decr 1883
14th Decr 1883
14th Decr 1883