M.R.O. 14—18,000—27-9-24

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1874 Press ~~Mis.~~

125-126

Dated 12-10-1864.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

TRANSLATION.

No. 125. Read the following letter from Bishop BUGNION, to His Excellency Sir W. DENISON, Governor of Fort Saint George, dated Salem, 1st October 1864:—

EXCELLENCY,

1. On the 21st June last, Your Excellency was pleased to decide in Council that I could acquire some Government waste land, to establish a German Swiss Colony, "under the rules for "the sale of waste land, on application to the Collector of the District in which it is situated."

2. Believing, from information communicated to me, that the Shervaroy Hills, near Salem, offered a suitable climate for Europeans, I paid into the Salem Treasury for the acquisition of the first lot, a very small one, for myself in order to lay the first stone of the Colony. However, although I made the payment on the 7th July, and although the land pointed out by the Tahsildar of the Shervaroy Hills was selected two months ago, nothing has up to this time been settled, not even the preliminary publication in the Gazette, after which, according to Section IX of the "Rules," adopted by Your Excellency, under date the 5th March 1863, three months must still elapse before the "purchase."

3. Now, if it is borne in mind that more than half a year is taken up in proceedings and formalities, Your Excellency will perceive what heavy charges, being pure loss, will be sustained by the European Colonists, when they arrive, for instead of being able to utilize at once their labor and their small capital, they will be obliged to consume a part of their resources unprofitably.

4. On receipt of Your Excellency's decision of the 21st June, I had the substance of it communicated to the Swiss Newspapers, for the guidance of those interested, without then foreseeing that such delays would be possible, and as it may be presumed that some families are *already en-route* for India, I request Your Excellency, if it be possible, to exempt the land selected (called Yellaur Karala near Yercaud) from the formality of the three months required by Section IX of the "Rules," that is to say, to apply to this wild and uninhabited nook of land Section XXII of the said "Rules," *viz.*, "It shall be competent to the Government to except the "whole *or any part* of any District from the operation of these Rules."

5. But if the Government do not consider it proper to do this, it might at least consent, as regards the first lot of *twenty acres only*, and for which I have already paid, in order that I may be able immediately to erect there a large shed to shelter the new comers as soon as they arrive, and save them at least lodging expenses, which of itself will be a great consolation to them, and much more so, if they should bring with them, seeds and plants, and the implements of husbandry from their countries, and perchance also some bulls and cows of the Swiss Alps, in view to introducing this breed here and the manufacture of cheese, while engaged in diffusing around them, by their example and by their word, the knowledge of God the Saviour.

6. As a proof of the urgency of this matter, Your Excellency should consider, as I have already said, that it was on your decision of the 21st June that I gave the intelligence to the Swiss Newspapers, not supposing them, that there would be such delay, and that it is possible that some families are already *en-route*.

My address at present is the Right Reverend Bugnion, Salem.

No. 126. ORDER THEREON, 12th October 1864, No. 1,874.

Land Revenue.

1. Forwarded to the Collector of Salem for immediate report, through the Board of Revenue.

2. The Collector will also explain the cause of delay in advertising the land for sale.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Collector of Salem.
" the Board of Revenue.

MISSION DE
L'ÉVÊQUE BUGNION
aux Indes.

Salem le 1er Octobre 1864

Excellence !

Le 21 de Juin écoulé, Votre Excellence a bien voulu décider en Conseil que je pouvais acquérir, pour y établir une colonie germano-suisse, des terrains vacants du Gouvernement, "under the rules for the sale of waste "land, on application to the Collector of "the District in which it is situated".

Considérant, dès lors, par suite de renseignements qui me furent communiqués que les monts Shervaroys, près Salem, offrent un climat convenable pour des Européens, j'ai payé à la Treasury de Salem pour l'obtention d'un premier lot, très petit, et pour moi-même afin de poser ainsi la première pierre de cette Colonie. — Cependant, quoique j'aie payé le 7 de Juillet déjà, et quoique le terrain ait été choisi il y a aujourd'hui 2 mois, sur les indications du tahsildar des Shervaroyhills, il n'y a jusqu'ici rien de terminé, pas même les publications préparatoires dans la Gazette, après lesquelles, d'après les Six

des "Rules" adoptées par V.E. en date du 5 Mars 1863, il doit s'écouler encore 3 mois jusqu'à la "purchase".

Or si on considère que plus d'une demi année s'écoule ainsi en démarches et en formalités, Votre Excellence comprendra quels frais considérables en résulteraient à pure perte pour les colons européens qui arriveront, car au lieu de pouvoir utiliser de suite leurs bras et leur petit capital, ils seront obligés de consommer une partie de leurs ressources inutilement.

Or comme, à la réception de Votre décision du 21 Juin j'ai fis communiquer le contenu aux journaux (Newspapers) de la Suisse pour la gouverne des intéressés, sans prévoir alors que de tels retards fussent possibles, et qu'il est à présumer que quelques familles soient déjà en route pour l'Inde, je ~~vous~~ demander à Votre Excellence s'il ne serait pas possible d'exempter le terrain choisi (appelé Yellaur Karala) près de Yercaud de la formalité des 3 mois indiqués dans le § IX des "Rules", c'est-à-dire d'appliquer à ce petit coin de terre, sauvage et inhabité, le § XXII des dits "Rules" portant: "It shall be competent to the Government to except the whole or any part of any District from the operation of these Rules." —?

Mais pour le cas où le Gouvernement ne jugerait pas à propos de le faire, que veuille du moins y consentir pour le premier lot, de 20 Acres seulement, et pour lequel j'ai déjà payé, afin que je puisse immédiatement y faire ériger un vaste hangar pour y abriter les nouveaux venus, au fur et à mesure et leur éviter ainsi au moins les frais de logement, ce qui serait déjà un grand soulagement pour eux, et d'autant plus nécessaire qu'ils appr-

devront avec eux des semis, plantes, instruments aratoires, de leurs contrées, et peut être même quelques boeufs et vaches des alpes suisses, en vue d'introduire ici cette race bovine et l'industrie du fromage tout en cherchant à répandre autour d'eux, par leur exemple et par leur parole, la connaissance de Dieu-Sauveur.

Pour justifier l'urgence de cette démarche Votre Excellence voudra bien considérer, comme je l'ai dit plus haut, que c'est sur Votre décision du 21 Juin que l'avis fut donné aux journaux suisses, ne supposant pas, alors, qu'il put y avoir de tels retards, et qu'il est probable que quelques familles déjà soient en route.

De Votre Excellence
le très obéissant Serviteur en Christ
Evêque Bagnion

Mon adresse momentanée est:
The Right Rev'd Bagnion
at Salem. —

Sept. 1874.

For immediate Colln. to Salem for immediate despt thro' the W.d to Rue

The Colln. with also application the cause of delay in address the land for sale

L. D.V.

Mont St. Georges
12 Oct. 64
1 F.C.B. Colleg. Salem Oct 13 64
11 the Board Rue S

Pro: 24 June/64 Nos 322-323 Recd 1864 Sept 16th
Pro: of Govr for Octr Letter.
No 2662.

From
The Right Revd
Bagueion,
Salem
Dated 1st October
Recd 8th " 1864.
Pro: Bt of Rect 2 Nov/64 6.d. 2915.

Requesting that orders may be issued for the grant to him of the lot of 20 acres of waste land which he has already paid for on the Shevaroy Hills as also some more land for establishing a German Swiss Colony.

Nos 125 & 126.

1874. 12 Oct 7

W Sharwood