M.R.O. 14—13,000—27-9-24

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 1697 Press ~~Mis.~~

395.396

Dated 22-7-1865.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 395. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 11th July 1865, No. 3,900.

Read the following:—

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following Despatch from the Right Honorable Sir C. WOOD, Bart., Secretary of State for India, (Revenue), to His Excellency the Honorable the Governor in Council, Fort Saint George, dated India Office, London, 28th February 1865, No. 9:—

SIR,

1. The Despatches from your Excellency in Council, respectively numbered 10 and 41, and dated the 8th August and 31st December 1864, on the management of the estates and the education of minor proprietors under the charge of the Court of Wards, have been under my consideration in Council, together with your later Proceedings in the Educational Department of the 3rd October, Nos. 6 to 10.

2. I postponed an answer to the first of the letters now replied to, inasmuch as the information was not complete until the second letter was received.

3. The report of the Court of Wards under review, is only that for 1862-63, and was not made to you until the end for June 1864. You have justly censured this delay, and have suggested alterations in the form of the report, which, as you remark, is "susceptible of great improvement." I cordially concur with you in your remarks on these points. In my Despatches of the 5th February, No. 10, and the 8th December, No. 58 of 1862, I was forced to make the same complaint of the late period at which these reports from the Court of Wards were sent in; and I trust that you will take care that your present instructions are duly attended to.

4. The number of estates in the year under review, was 19 instead of 17 in the previous year; the estates of Bodinaiknoor in Madura, and Oorkad in Tinnevelly, having since been under management.

5. Your Excellency in Council has sufficiently noticed the different points in regard to the management of these estates by the Court, and I have only to express my concurrence in your instructions, which do not seem to call for further remark from me, except as to those upon the education of the minors.

6. Her Majesty's Government regret to perceive that this important question is still in a very unsatisfactory state, and it seems scarcely possible to expect improvement so long as the charges for the management of the estates are so high as they appear to be, and in most cases so very small a proportion of those charges is devoted to maintenance and education. I dwelt especially upon this circumstance in paragraph 6 of my Despatch of the 8th December 1862, No. 58, and from the tone of your orders on this subject under review, I gather that you entertain the same opinion. A striking instance of this injudicious parsimony occurred with reference to the estates of the minor of Cassimcottah and Melloopauka in Vizagapatam. In October 1863, these estates were given back to the proprietor on his attaining his majority, and you observe with satisfaction, that the management had resulted in a surplus of Rupees 66,000, after clearing off a debt of Rupees 87,623. This, no doubt, testifies to a careful administration of the property. But remembering the lamentable account given by the Court of the extreme ignorance of this minor the year before, I cannot forbear expressing my regret that a larger sum was not allotted for the minor's education than the sum annually given for that purpose, although that sum in 1861 and in 1862 was larger than that given in the majority of cases. I am glad to learn that there has been a general increase of charges under the head of maintenance and education, but, as you remark, several of the estates are not

are enjoined to act in a liberal spirit. It will occur to Government, however, that the actual cost of education at a Government school for instance is, to the individual, of a very trifling nature, and that when a boy is progressing fairly under such circumstances, additional expenditure in money is simply uncalled for, while the best and most efficient and most expensive system of teaching can do little in advancing the improvement of lads incorrigibly idle or stupid.

3. The Court of Wards would also observe that they are fully alive to the responsibility which rests upon them in regard to their Wards, and that they have always evinced an earnest desire to avail themselves of the advice of Government or the assistance that the Government place at their disposal in procuring for their Wards the best means of education and training possible.

4. It is not always in their power to provide what they may consider the best means of education, but they have never failed to avail themselves of the best procurable.

5. In regard to the remarks of the Right Honorable the Secretary of State upon the circumstances of Royempettah and Poliavanum, the Court beg to refer to paragraphs 34 and 39 of their report, dated 14th June 1865, No. 3,224. In the case of the former estate it will depend upon the result of the claims now in course of adjustment whether their is any probability of the minor being free before he comes of age. As regards Poliavanum it will be seen that the proprietor has been put in possession of his estate, and that the realization of the debts due has been left to him.

6. Collectors will be requested to report specially and at once as to the arrangements adverted to in paragraph 8 of the Government Order.

7. The Collectors of North Arcot and Salem will cause the Poligar of Bungary and the Muttahdar of Royacottah respectively, to be made acquainted with the terms in which the Secretary of State has spoken of their willingness to obtain the benefits of a Presidency education for their sons; and all Collectors who have the charge of Wards will convey to the Minors the assurance that their conduct is carefully watched by the Supreme Authority in England.

No. 396. ORDER THEREON, 22nd July 1865, No. 1,697.

Miscellaneous.

Ordered to be recorded.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. GROSE,

Acting Under Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

Rec'd 12th June 65 N°713-744
" 744A. 744B
" 745.

Reported to England
by 5th June N°27 of 1866
Mis:

Rev: 1865. Department
Pros of Govt for July -

No. 1918.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

Dated 11th July 1865.
Despatched 14 Do
Received 15th.
To Bd of Rev. by 10 Nov 65
61 N°3387 - No. 3,900.

Stating that care will be taken to submit future Reports on the estates of minor proprietors under wardship as early as possible, and requesting Collectors to act in a liberal spirit as to their education, and to report what arrangements are made for their care out of School hours.

21-1062

RECORDED.

22d July 1865

N° 395 to 396