M.R.O. 14—18,000—27-9-24

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 1920 Press Mis.

295. 296

Dated 17. 8. 1865.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 17th August 1865.

No. 295. Read the following letter from Mr. H. L. STERNE, to His Excellency SIR WILLIAM DENISON, K. C. B., Governor of Madras in Council, Fort Saint George, dated 26th July 1865 :—

HUMBLY SHEWETH,

1. That your Memorialist has had six years' experience as a Gold digger, having been engaged in that business in Australia from the year one thousand eight hundred and fifty-two to one thousand eight hundred and fifty-eight.

2. That in the year one thousand eight hundred and fifty-nine your Memorialist, with five other persons, petitioned the then Viceroy and Governor General of India in Council, for leave to dig, mine or search for gold and other metals within the British territories in India; and permission for that purpose was granted to them some time about the month of May or June following, and a copy of the Order granting such permission was directed to be forwarded to the different Presidencies.

3. Your Memorialist and Mr. Cheyne, one of the others to whom such permission was granted, proceeded to mine for gold in Assam; but Mr. Cheyne shortly afterwards died, and the other parties having withdrawn from the undertaking, your Memorialist was obliged to abandon further proceedings.

4. Your Memorialist is now desirous of renewing his application for leave to mine for gold and other metals in the Presidency of Madras; but as professional gentlemen and others have from time to time given it as their opinion, that gold is not to be found in remunerative quantities, and as experiments and companies made and formed at various times have all failed, your Memorialist humbly prays that, in consideration of the great outlay and expense it may entail, during a course of perhaps two or three years before any prospect of success may be attained, a monopoly be granted to him, giving him and any company he may form for the purpose the sole right for a certain term of years to dig, search, and mine for gold and other metals within such district in the Presidency of Madras, or such circle or circuit thereof, as he may select as likely to repay the cost of working.

5. Your Memorialist would be prepared, during the term of the monopoly, to furnish periodical returns to Government of the quantity of gold and other metals that might from time to time be found; and would also be willing to pay to Government such sum or per-centage on the net profits by way of royalty, as might reasonably be reserved.

6. Your Memorialist, therefore, prays your Excellency in Council to take your Memorialist's proposal into your favorable consideration, and to pass an order granting your Memorialist such monopoly as above prayed for, or in such modified form as to your Excellency shall seem fit.

And your Memorialist shall ever pray.

No. 296. ORDER THEREON, 17th August 1865, No. 1,920.

Miscellaneous.

1. The Government are perfectly willing to permit Mr. Sterne to search for gold in any Government land in the Madras Presidency, and will not grant permission to any other applicant to prosecute any similar search in the same District in which Mr. Sterne may be working.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 17th August 1865.

2. They are not prepared to grant any further monopoly than is conveyed by the above assurance.

3. Copy of this Order will be furnished to the Collectors of Coimbatore, Malabar, Canara, Tinnevelly, and Madura, and to any other Collector in whose District Mr. Sterne may at any time desire to "prospect" for gold.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Acting Secretary to Government.

To Mr. H. L. Sterne.
To the Collector of Coimbatore.,
" " Malabar.
" " South Canara
" " Tinnevelly.
" " Madura.
To the Board of Revenue.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

3

Revenue Department

No. 1920.

Proceedings of the Madras Government

Under date the 17th August 1865.

Read the following

letter from Mr. H. L. Sterne

Requesting, under the circumstances stated, to grant him and to any Company he may form a monopoly, giving him the sole right for certain years to dig, search, and mine for Gold and other metals, within this Presidency, and stating that he would pay to Govt. such sum or per centage, on the net profits, by way of royalty.

(Here enter 26th July 1865.

The Government are perfectly willing to permit Mr. Sterne to search for Gold in any Govt. land in the Madras Presidency, and will not grant permission to any other applicant to

prosecu

prosecute any similar search in the same District in which Mr. Sterne may be working.

They are not prepared to grant any further monopoly than is conveyed by the above assurance.

Copy of this order will be furnished to the Collectors of Coimbatore, Malabar, Canara, Tinnevelly and Madura and to any other Collector in whose District Mr. Sterne may at any time desire to "prospect" for Gold.

J. H.

To

Mr. A. L. Sterne &c &c &c

The Collr. of Coimbatore
" " Malabar
" " Canara
" " Tinnevelly
" " Madura
" " Board of Rev

23/7/68

Revenue 1865 Dispatch
Treasury Augusts
No. 2100.

From
Mrs H. L. Sterne

Dated 26th July.
Received 31st 1865.

Re.

Requesting under the circumstances stated to grant him & to any Company he may form a monopoly giving him the sole right for certain years to dig, search and mine for Gold and other metals within this Presidency, & stating that he would pay to Govt such sum or percentage on the net profits by way of Royalty

Sanction by Govt
Vol

Mr Sterne's application for a monopoly of what has yet to be sought for and may never be found, is clearly undesirable but there would be no harm, I think, if an order were passed similar to that issued in the case of the Superior Gold Co from the Secretariat in 1863 to the late Mr Theyne — Mr Sterne seems to have been

WDL

WDL

c 12 Aug/65

23/7/65 — 1865

18/Aug.

Memo 1865 Default

Prof Goldst. August

No 1920

Prof the Hon Gen Gen

8/17 August 1865

From Mr Sterne dated 21 Aug 1865

C No 2295.

Granting certificate
to Mr Sterne to Register
his gold in any Government
Land in the Madras
Presidency.

No 1795 1796