

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 357

Press
~~Mis.~~

361. 362

Dated 18-2-1865.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
13th February 1865.*

No. 361. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 23rd September 1864, No. 6,281.

Read the following letter from V. H. LEVINGE, Esq., Collector of Madura; to W. HUDLESTON, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Kodaikanel, 2nd September 1864, No. 210:—

1. I have the honor to request the orders of the Board of Revenue as to the disposal of certain waste lands on the Pulney Hills in the village of Shembaganoor, attached to the Pereyakolam Talook.

2. Shembaganoor village comprised a large extent of land on the summit of the Hills; only a small portion of which was cultivated up to Fusly 1269. The villagers were few in number, consisting of four families; in Fusly 1269 the male members of two of the families died in Shembaganoor of Cholera contracted in the low country which so terrified the remainder of the inhabitants that they deserted Shembaganoor and settled in another village called Vellygary on the Hills, where they have ever since resided; and their old houses at Shembaganoor have fallen into complete ruin, and the site of the deserted village and all the old cultivated waste have become overrun with a dense low jungle.

3. A Major Mitchell at present residing at Kodaikanel applied to me for the whole of the waste which had formerly been cultivated, including the site of the old village, and for some small sholas around the formerly cultivated but now waste land.

4. I informed Major Mitchell the old inhabitants should have the prior option of occupying their old village, and the Government rules regarding the redemption of the land tax and sale of waste land; finally Major Mitchell agreed, he at present wanted only 15 acres of the cultivated waste on Puttah at the rates of assessment fixed for the village.

5. In person I ascertained from the survivors amongst the former cultivators that they did not want the lands, and therefore gave the 15 acres to Major Mitchell.

6. The rates prevailing in the village are as under:—

	Tax per Acre.		
	RS.	A.	P.
Dry land cultivated with Raghi, &c., with a hoe ...	0	5	10
Do. ploughed and cultivated with do. Coffee, &c. ...	0	11	8
Do. do. with coarse Wheat ...	1	1	5
Do. do. Garlic, Potatoes, Wheat, &c., ...	2	2	9
Do. do. Turmeric ...	3	9	10
Do. do. Plantains ...	3	9	10
Do. do. with Paddy ...	1	7	1

7. There is no Register of the formerly cultivated lands; no vestige of the former cultivation left; and therefore it is impossible to know what rates prevailed on the different small fields when they were given up; and there were no village servants attached to the village.

8. The lands were all terraced for cultivation, having large separating banks left between the fields; the Curnum of the village of Vadakarrai in the plains, distant 14 miles, occasionally was sent up to measure the lands, he only measured the area of the fields and left out the measurement of the separating banks, which are in many places unnecessarily wide, thus leaving a large portion of unassessed waste mixed up with the cultivated land.

9. Major Mitchell has again intimated to me his wish to get on Puttah the whole of the remainder of the cultivated waste and the sholas he first applied for.

10. Overrun with jungle as the lands are, my Revenue subordinates could not possibly ascertain with any thing like accuracy the area of the cultivated waste; and the trouble and cost of surveying the separating banks, and describing and showing them in a survey plan to sell them as unassessed waste under the Freehold rules, would be excessive, and cause a very profitless expense to the purchaser; besides the old system of measuring, yearly inspection of crop, and alteration of rate of assessment according to the description of crop, is not suited to a European

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
18th February 1865.*

occupant, and I therefore beg to be allowed to treat the whole of the lands as unassessed waste, and to dispose of them according to the new Freehold rules, the bits of shola which there is no objection to sell at 10 Rupees per acre, and the cultivated waste with its dividing banks at 5 Rupees an acre, all to be regularly surveyed before being put in auction.

Submitted for the sanction of Government. The prices proposed are those sanctioned by Government for unassessed waste on the Pulneys; and under the circumstances stated by the Collector the Board see no reason to object to the proposed arrangement. The Collector should, however, take a statement in writing from the villagers who abandoned the site, in token of their relinquishment of all claims to it.

No. 362.

ORDER THEREON, 18th February 1865, No. 359.

Miscellaneous.

1. The sale by auction of the land on the Pulneys applied for by Major Mitchell is, under the circumstances reported, sanctioned at the upset prices mentioned by the Collector.
2. The Government see no necessity for taking a Deed of relinquishment from the former residents of Shembaganoor, who have for several years abandoned the lands.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue.

Exd. T. O'Connor.

No. 6,231.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 23rd September 1864.

Read the following letter from V. H. LEVINGE, Esq., Collector of Madura; to W. HUDLESTON, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Rodaikanel, 2nd September 1864, No. 240:—

1. I have the honor to request the orders of the Board of Revenue as to the disposal of certain waste lands on the Pulni Hills in the village of Shembaganoor, attached to the Pereyakolam Taluk.

2. Shembaganoor village comprised a large extent of land on the summit of the Hills; only a small portion of which was cultivated up to Fasli 1269. The villagers were few in number, consisting of four families; in Fasli 1269 the male members of two of the families died in Shembaganoor of Cholera contracted in the low country which so terrified the remainder of the inhabitants that they deserted Shembaganoor and settled in another village called Vellygary on the Hills, where they have ever since resided; and their old houses at Shembaganoor have fallen into complete ruin, and the site of the deserted village and all the old cultivated waste have become overrun with a dense low jungle.

3. A Major Mitchell at present residing at Kodaikanel applied to me for the whole of the waste which had formerly been cultivated, including the site of the old village, and for some small sholas around the formerly cultivated but now waste land.

4. I informed Major Mitchell the old inhabitants should have the prior option of occupying their old village, and the Government rules regarding the redemption of the land tax and sale of waste land; finally Major Mitchell agreed he at present wanted only 15 acres of the cultivated waste on Puttah at the rates of assessment fixed for the village.

5. In person I ascertained from the survivors amongst the former cultivators that they did not want the lands, and therefore gave the 15 acres to Major Mitchell.

6. The rates prevailing in the village are as under:—

		Tax per Acre.		
		Rs.	A.	P.
Dry land cultivated with raghi, &c., with a hoe...	...	0	5	10
Do. ploughed and cultivated with do. coffee, &c...	...	0	11	8
Do. do. with coarse wheat...	...	1	1	5
Do. do. Garlic, potatoes, wheat, &c...	...	2	2	9
Do. do. Turmeric...	...	3	9	10
Do. do. Plantains...	...	3	9	10
Do. do. with Paddy...	...	1	7	1

7. There is no Register of the formerly cultivated lands; no vestige of the former cultivation left; and therefore it is impossible to know what rates prevailed on the different small fields when they were given up; and there were no village servants attached to the village.

8. The lands were all terraced for cultivation, having large separating banks left between the fields; the Curnum of the village of Vadakarrai in the plains, distant 14 miles, occasionally was sent up to measure the lands, he only measured the area of the fields and left out the measurement of the separating banks, which are in many places unnecessarily wide, thus leaving a large portion of unassessed waste mixed up with the cultivated land.

9. Major Mitchell has again intimated to me his wish to get on Puttah the whole of the remainder of the cultivated waste and the sholas he first applied for.

10. Overrun with jungle as the lands are, my Revenue subordinates could not possibly ascertain with any thing like accuracy the area of the cultivated waste; and the trouble and cost of surveying the separating banks, and describing and showing them in a survey plan to sell them as unassessed waste under the Freehold rules, would be excessive and cause a very profitless expence to the purchaser; besides the old system of measuring, yearly inspection of crop, and alteration of rate of assessment according to the description of crop, is not suited to a European

Handwritten notes in the right margin:
The only difficulty is that the lands are so much overgrown with jungle that it is impossible to ascertain the area of the cultivated waste with any accuracy. The only way to get on Puttah the whole of the remainder of the cultivated waste and the sholas he first applied for is to sell them as unassessed waste under the Freehold rules. This would be excessive and cause a very profitless expence to the purchaser. Besides the old system of measuring, yearly inspection of crop, and alteration of rate of assessment according to the description of crop, is not suited to a European.

Submitted for the sanction of Government. The prices proposed are those sanctioned by Government for unassessed waste on the Pulnis; and under the circumstances stated by the Collector the Board see no reason to object to the proposed arrangement. The Collector should, however, take a statement in writing from the villagers who abandoned the site, in token of their relinquishment of all claims to it.

L. Knowlton.
Secretary.

Exd. R. H. Lee.

[illegible]

No. 359 -

Proceedings of the Madras Government

Under date the 18th February 1865.

Read the following
Proceedings of the Board
of Revenue.

Submitting for sanction
letter from the Collector of
Madras requesting orders, to
dispose of certain waste lands
in the Pulni Hills in the vil-
lage of Shembaganoor.

(Here enter 23rd Sept^r/64
Rs. 6281)

The sale by auction
of the land on the Fulneys
applied for by Major
Mitchell is under the cir-
cumstances reported, sanc-
tioned at the upset prices
mentioned by the Collector.

The Gov^t. see no
necessity for taking a deed
of relinquishment from the
former

Handwritten signatures and initials. At the top left is a large, stylized signature that appears to be 'M. S.'. Below it and to the right is another signature, possibly 'J. F.'. At the bottom right are the initials 'W. H.' followed by a long, curved line.

Revenue 1865 & 1/2
No of 500 for Italy

No 359

No of the medals
Government of
18 February 1865

Board of 20: 72 April 1868 C 182
1244

Sanctifying
the sale by auction of
the bonds on the
Italy's in structure.

No 361 & 362