M.R.O. 14-5,450—22-10-25.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1569 Press Mis.

Dated 26-6- 1866

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 26th June 1866.

No. 563. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 12th June 1866, No. 4,046.

Read the following letter from the Acting Sub-Collector, in charge of Bellary, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 9th June 1866, No. 115:—

1. With reference to the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 5th instant, cancelling the sale of the Abkarry Farm of the Bellary Cantonment, I have the honor to report that Mr. Wedderburn has not yet arrived. I have not the least idea when he will be here; but I am sorry to say there is a rumour that he will not arrive till the 15th or 20th of this month. I shall be glad when he does arrive, as the work of Collector and Sub-Collector is rather tiring for one man, in this District.

2. I think it right to mention to the Board Mr. Wedderburn's non-arrival up to this date, as every day's delay may cause inconvenience about the Abkarry sale.

3. I am sorry to have exceeded my powers, but notwithstanding the distinct orders expressed by the Board in the Proceedings, I must say that I think it would be unwise to put up the Farm for sale again; and I would beg to assure the Board that I am not writing in a spirit of contention, from a pure wish to argue with them, or to try and prove myself right and them wrong.

4. The year before last was the first year in which the Farm under reference was sold by the Collector; it was put up for sale at Rupees 60,000, and was knocked down for Rupees 1,32,000; but there were exceptional circumstances that year; there were two chief competitors, determined to outbid each other: one had had the Farm for many years, and the other had come out from England on purpose to take it. It was natural that these two should run the risk of some loss for the first year or two, as they thought that let one party get the Farm that year, and there would be no competition at future sales, when they would be able to buy the Farm for a small sum. The person who came from England won the Farm. I do not know what he lost: rumour says 30,000 or 40,000 Rupees, and I hear that he would be willing to take a place for Rupees 150 a month. I know that his loss has been serious. There was thus very little competition this year. Nor do I think there will be more, if the Farm is put up again for sale. Formerly, when the Abkarry Farm of the Cantonment was under the Commissariat Department, there was more competition as very little loss could accrue, whatever was paid for the Farm; this arose from the Commissariat Officers giving remissions, in case of loss. These remissions are not now given. I even think it is most probable there will be less competition, if the Farm is again sold, and that it will, consequently, be sold for less than Rupees 91,000.

5. The fact of remissions having been given, prevents one telling the exact amount paid for the Farm to Government each year; but even the average of the nominal amount (the amount bid) paid to Government for a number of years only came to Rupees 60,000: the sum for which it has this year been sold is Rupees 91,000: thus in four years, the price has risen fifty per cent. The last time was an exceptional year, and so should not be taken into consideration; besides, serious loss has occurred to the last Contractors, a circumstance which always deters many people from competing.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 26th June 1866.

6. The net increase over the whole District is four lacs of Rupees: it is too much to expect every single Farm is to increase in price every year. I, therefore, request that the Board will be good enough to re-consider their order cancelling the sale, and allow the sale to stand.

Under the circumstances now reported, the Board confirm the sale of the Bellary Cantonment Abkarry Farm for Rupees 91,000 per annum.

No. 564. ORDER THEREON, 26th June 1866, No. 1,569.

Separate Revenue, No. 18.
Abkarry.

Ordered to be recorded.

(True Extract.)

(Signed). J. GROSE,
Under Secretary to Government.

to the Board of Revenue

Rev. 1866. Department.
Pro of Govt for June

No. 1780

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

Dated 12th *June* 1866.
Despatched 20
Received 20

No. 4,046.
N°1569
26 June 1866

Confirming sale of Bellary Cantonment Abkarry Farm for Rupees 91,000 per annum.

RECORded.

N°363-564-
e 22d June 1866

Exd. S. T. Augustin.