M.R.O. 14-5,450—22-10-25.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1832 Press ~~Mis.~~

Dated 20.7. 1866

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 445. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 16th July 1866, No. 4,861 :—

Read the following letter from the Collector of the Godavery District, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Cocanada, 23rd June 1866, No. 141 :—

At the request of Mr. E. F. Webster, I have the honor to forward, for the Board's information, copy of his letter to my address, under date the 19th instant, No. 107, regarding the piece of waste land he obtained in the town of Tripatore, int he Salem District, as a site for a village tope.

From the Acting Sub-Collector, to the Collector of the Godavery District, dated Narsapur, 19th June 1866, No. 107 :—

1. With reference to paragraph 2 of the Proceedings of Government, dated 28th May 1866, forwarded this day to my office, I have the honor to inform you, that in 1864, when Head Assistant to the Collector of Salem, I applied for and obtained, as a site for a village tope, a piece of waste land in the town of Tripatore, measuring a little more than twenty-two acres.

2. The whole of this land was carefully plotted out for me by the Public Works Department; pits were dug at proper distances a yard deep, and filled with suitable soil; and a number of young trees, of various kinds, removed from my garden, where I had sown the seeds, and transplanted in the tope.

3. I then called together some of the leading men of Tripatore, informed them of the wishes of the Board and Government regarding village topes, told them that I was doing all in my power to carry out those wishes, and called on them to assist me. This they did at once, and right well; they dug up, out of their own gardens, numbers of fine young Mango, Tamarind, Jack, and Cassia trees, and brought them to the tope, and, before long, nearly the whole site was planted.

4. The money placed at my disposal from the Local Funds was only 150 Rupees.

5. The readiness of the people in coming forward with their trees, and the interest they took in watching the daily planting under my personal superintendence, convince me that the people of Salem, at all events, will come forward and assist in planting topes, if they are requested to do so by the Revenue Officers of the District, and assisted by them personally.

6. Before the Tripatore tope was finished, I was ordered to join another District, but I have no doubt that, under Mr. Brandt's superintendence, the work has long ago been completed.

7. I have laid this statement before you, because I cannot but feel hurt on finding myself included in the censure contained in the paragraph of the Proceedings of Government, which I have quoted above, while I know that I have taken a warm interest in the matter, and have, I venture to think, interested myself to some purpose.

8. If you see no objection, I beg you will be good enough to lay this letter before the Board of Revenue.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) J. FRASER,
Collector.

The Board have read, with pleasure, Mr. Webster's successful efforts to establish a tope at Tripatore, and they concur with him, in opinion, that the people of the Salem District would come forward to assist in planting topes, if urged to do so by the Revenue Officers; but this isolated instance does not invalidate the Board's observation, that the Officers of the Salem District had been generally unsuccessful in inducing the people of their District to establish a common tope in every village of the country.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
20th July 1866.

No. 446. ORDER THEREON, 20th July 1866, No. 1,832.

Miscellaneous.

1. The Government are indebted to Mr. Webster for his efforts to carry out their instructions for the formation of village topes.

2. The Board should require an annual report from each District as to the progress made in this matter. A tabular form shewing area planted since date of G. O. and since last report, number of trees put down from commencement and since last report, and number living, would suffice. The Government fear that very improper use is made of the accumulated Planting Fund.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue.

Rev. 1866. Department.
Proc of Govt for July

No. 2149.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

Dated 16th July 1866.

No. 4,831.

Passing remarks on letter from Collector of Godavery district forwarding one from Mr Webster, Acting Sub Collector, reporting on success of efforts made by him to establish a village tope at Tripatore in Salem district.

No. 1882.