M.R.O. 14–5,450—22-10-25.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 1890 Press ~~Mis.~~

Dated 30. 7- 1866.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 30th July 1866.

No. 560. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 21st July 1866.

Read the following letter from the Collector of Coimbatore, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Ootacamund, 16th July 1866, No. 181 :—

1. In pursuance of the instructions conveyed in the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 22nd February last, No. 1,283, I have the honor to submit the special season report for the fortnight ending the 15th June last.

2. Partial showers have fallen of late, and as there is a prospect of more rain it is hoped that the condition of the eastern portion of the District will improve.

3. Where rain has fallen forage is becoming more plentiful, but there is still a greater want of it, and cattle and sheep suffer accordingly.

4. The prices of all kinds of grain have risen much. In places they are at famine rates almost. At Ootacamund rice was sold at 2½ Madras measures per Rupee, and grain at 5 or 5½ ditto. In Suttimungalum Talook grain was sold at 5 measures per Rupee. This part of the country, it is to be remarked, supplies the Hills with much grain.

5. Cultivation is being proceeded with in many parts of the District. If rain becomes general, all will be well; but if it fails, the coming season will be a trying one.

6. With reference to the remark by the Board of Revenue in their Proceedings dated 5th July, regarding the number of deaths on the road between Neddivuttum and Ootacamund, I beg to state that it is except at Neddivuttum and Pycara, where commodious and comfortable Chuttrums have been erected for native travellers, exposed to the full force of the south-west monsoon, and the deaths which have taken place are to be attributed solely to the great cold generated by the high wind and rain. Up to the present time twenty-five deaths have been reported. A greater mortality than has ever yet been known. The erection of two more Chuttrums, one midway between Neddivuttum and Pycara, and another between the latter place and Ootacamund would, I think, prove a great boon to native travellers, and tend to the preservation of life. Two small Chuttrums would suffice, especially if the localities around them were well planted out with Australian Acacias, which would soon grow up and break the force of the wind and drifting rain. Indeed, the formation of plantations at some of the most exposed parts along the south side of the road would protect travellers. The attention of the Conservator's Department might, with advantage, be directed to the formation of plantations as above described. The trees when full grown would, from their vicinity to the road, find a ready market, especially as by the time the trees are full grown there will be bandy traffic on the road, which will be the great highway between Wynaad and Ootacamund.

Submitted for the information of Government, with the Board's recommendation that instructions be issued to the Department Public Works and Forest Department on the subject of the Collector's suggestions in paragraph 6.

drawn to the Board

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
30th July 1866.

No. 561. ORDER THEREON, 30th July 1866, No. 1,890.

Miscellaneous.

1. The Governor in Council remarks that although the report contained in these Proceedings is dated the 16th July, it refers to the state of the season up to the 15th June only, and the Collector is silent as to the scarcity and distress which now prevail in many parts of Coimbatore.

2. The attention of the Government has, however, been drawn to the starving and destitute condition of the people by a letter from the Acting Sub-Collector, dated the 14th July, which was communicated demi-officially to the Chief Secretary by Mr. Grant, and they have already taken measures for affording immediate relief.

Vide Government Proceedings Revenue Department, 25th July 1866, No. 1,861.

3. With reference to paragraph 3 of the Collector's letter, the Governor in Council observes that the road from Ootacamund to Neddivuttum is almost exclusively used by coolies belonging to Coffee plantations in the Wynaad, that the Government have already gone to the expense of erecting two Chuttrums, one at Pycara and the other at Neddivuttum, and that the planters may fairly be expected to provide the additional shelter which certainly seems to be urgently required. Mr. Grant will communicate with the Southern Wynaad Planters Association, through their representatives at Ootacamund, and inform them of the views of Government on this point.

4. The suggestions as to forming plantations of trees on the southern side of the road are too vague to be disposed of in their present shape. Mr. Grant should at once place himself in communication with the Conservator of Forests, and after arriving at a definite conclusion as to their proper position and probable cost, he should submit a separate report on the subject to Government through the Board of Revenue.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Collector of Coimbatore.
" the Board of Revenue.
" the Officiating Conservator of Forests
" the Editor's Table.

Erd. S. T. Augustin.

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Revenue Department
Vol 1890.

Proceedings of the Madras Government
Under date 30th July 1866
Read the following Proc^s of the Board of Revenue.—

Submitting special season Report for the fortnight ending 15th June last of the Coimbatore District & recommending that instructions be issued to the Public Works and Forest Depts for the creation of Chuttrums and formation of plantations

(Revenue Jud^l 20th July 1866 No 181)

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With reference to
para 3 of the Collectors'
letter the Gov^t in Council
observes that the
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to Needlewutturn is
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longing to coffee Planters

Vide Gov. Pro. Rev. Dep.
25 July 1855 No 1251

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Grant will communi-
cate with the Southern
Wynaad Planters Asso
ciation through their
representatives at
Ootacamund, & inform
them of the views of
Gov^t on this point.

The suggestions a
to forming Plantation

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too vague ~~to be~~ to be disposed of in their
present shape. We
think ~~should~~ from one
self in communication
with the Conservator
of forests, before arri
ving at a definite conclusion as
to what should be done
~~with~~ with the ~~trees~~ trees
~~on the~~ on the ~~road~~ road
~~side~~ side ~~and~~ and ~~to~~ to
~~what~~ what ~~extent~~ extent ~~they~~ they
~~should~~ should ~~be~~ be ~~cut~~ cut
off as to them proper so
orders upon probable cost
he should submit a supp
mentary report on the
subject to Govt through
the Bd of Rev.

Copy to the Collector Coimbatore
" " Bd of Revenue
" " Offg Conservator of Forests

Revenue 1866 Dept

Pro. of Govt for July

A. 3590.

Pro. of the Madras Govt.
D/30th July 1866.

Pro. of the Board of Rev.
D/25th January 1868.

From the Collector of
Coimbatore D/21st September
1866 A. 3394.

From Bd of Rev. 11 January 69
No. 88

Season Report from
Coimbatore for the first
fortnight of June 1866.

N. 560-561.