

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 993

Press
Mis.

Dated 26-4-1866

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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

No. 438. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 19th April 1866, No. 2,736 :—

Read the following letter from the Collector of Salem, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 7th April 1866, No. 50.

1. I have the honor to submit, for the orders of the Board, the enclosed copy of a letter from Captain R. Shaw, late 7th Hussars (with its enclosures), requesting permission to buy, under the Rules for the sale of unassessed waste, one hundred and seventeen acres of assessed waste land on the Mailgherry Hills, in the Ossoor Talook.

2. The lands referred to by Captain Shaw, though assessed, have been lying waste for several years. Some of them have, I believe, never been brought under the plough. Captain Shaw wishes to try barley cultivation on the Mailgherries, and I myself see no objection to the lands being sold under the rules above alluded to, and I beg, therefore, to recommend that Captain Shaw's request may be complied with.

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From Captain R. SHAW, late 7th Hussars, to the Collector of Salem, dated Ossoor, 10th March 1866.

1. I have the honor to enclose copy of a letter from the Sub-Collector, in answer to a communication from me regarding the purchase of certain tracts of land on the Mailgherry Hills near Denkenikotta.

2. In paragraph 2 of the Sub-Collector's letter he states, that "assessed waste lands are not purchasable, unless it be in occupation as building sites, or as plantation or garden," and quoted my letter where I state I want the land for "*general farming purposes*;" but this, it must be admitted, is a wide term, and would embrace "*plantations*" as understood in husbandry, and it was not my intention, when I first applied for the land, to confine myself to growing grain or tubers, but to utilize it, or parts thereof, to the growth of tea, coffee, chinchona, or any other plantation product that I thought the soil capable of producing; but as this can only be ascertained by actual experiment, I hold the term "*general farming purposes*" to come within the meaning of the Board's order; at the same time I must candidly admit the growth of barley is at present my chief consideration, and you are yourself aware I am building a brewery, which I hope before long to be able to show to Government that good wholesome beer can be made from malt and hops, in this country as is imported from England, and I think such a desirable undertaking should be met with every assistance from Government.

3. According to the plan and numbers furnished me by the Sub-Collector, I find 117-21-2 acres "*assessed waste lands*," and 33-24-4 acres "*unassessed*," and am told the distinction is meant to imply land that have been formerly under cultivation, but subsequently abandoned, in distinction to land set apart, but hitherto not taken up.

5. I am under the impression, from inquiries I have made, that nearly the whole assessed lands included in the numbers furnished me, have been for years abandoned, yielding no revenue to Government; but I am prepared to purchase it *bona fide*, outright in *perpetuity*, on the terms of sale by public auction of "*unassessed waste lands*."

5. I find, from experiment, that barley will not grow in this neighbourhood without irrigation, and as the supply is so precarious, it would never answer to trust the fickleness of the seasons for my supply of malt, and as Government would probably be the great consumers on behalf of the British Troops, I feel *confident* they would not, on a proper representation, stand in the way of a private enterprize likely to prove such a public benefit.

6. It is true I could take up the land on the Ryotwary tenure, but as it would be my wish to permanently settle on these Hills, I would very much rather buy the land outright, on

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the terms, of "unassessed waste lands," than be a yearly tenant. Should it be beyond your province to grant my request, I beg you will be good enough, with as little delay as possible, to refer the question to Government, who, I trust, will be able to give me a decided answer one way or the other, so that I may be able (if in the affirmative) to take advantage of the earliest rains to commence operations.

Recommended for the sanction of Government.

No. 439.

ORDER THEREON, 26th April 1866, No. 993.

Land Revenue.

The Board will ascertain what assessment the land bears, how long it has been waste, and whether it contains Sandalwood or other timber worth reserving. The Collector should not have omitted to give these necessary particulars.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. D. SIM,

Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.

Exd. S. T. Augustin

*7th 993.
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*L. D. S.
26th April 1866
26438-432*

*Rev. 1866. Department:
Pr of Govt for S. T. Augustin*

*No. 1176.
PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE,*

Dated 19th April 1866.

*25th April 1866
Rev. 264.*

No. 2,736.

Recommending for sanction apply
Captain Shaw, late of the 7th Hussars,
waste land on Mailgherry Hills, in Oot
Salem district.

26th April 1866

W. H. H. H.

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