M.R.O. 1—39,000—16-10-29.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 1864 Press
672-673 Mis.

Dated 29th. June 19 1869

Not to be folded or roughly handled

1864

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
29th June 1869.

No. 672. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Public Department.

Making inquiries as to what area of land round the Pothanore Railway station should be kept free from private buildings. } (Here enter 16th June 1869, No. 814.)

No. 673. ORDER THEREON, 29th June 1869, No. 1,864.

Miscellaneous.

COMMUNICATED to the Revenue Board.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) H. WELLESLEY,
Acting Under-Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue, with Proceedings Public Department, No. 814.

Exd F. R. Bantleman.

Govt. of Madras, Public Dept.

REVENUE.

To

THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

Dated June, 1869.

Rcd.

C. O., 29th June 1869, No. 1,864.

JUNE

Rec. 6th July.

Land round Pothanore Railway Station.—Order regarding the area to be kept free from private buildings, communicated to Revenue Board.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,

16th June 1869.

No. 81. Read the following letter from the Acting Collector of Coimbatore, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Coimbatore, 29th May 1869, No. 30.

I have the honour to bring the following circumstances to the notice of Government.

2. The Acting Deputy Consulting Engineer for Railways, in his letter dated 15th April 1869, No. 213, called my attention to the fact that a village consisting of thatched houses was springing up to the east of the timber yard attached to the compound of the Railway station at Pothanore, and requested that orders might be issued for its removal.

3. I have personally inspected the locality. The land on which the houses are built is private property, and is distinct from the site on which the village formerly removed* was situated. There are twenty-two houses, yielding the owner a monthly rent of Rupees 7-8-0 on the land. The owner estimates the value of the houses at Rupees 302, and offers to sell twenty-one of them and the site to Government for Rupees 1052. He also engages to refrain from building on the rest of the land. He makes a reservation regarding one house, but this is not a material point.

* Under orders of Government, dated 28th October 1868, No. 1649.

4. I believe that, as the land is not required for railway purposes, it cannot be included in any of the classes in which all lands taken up for railways have to be entered. If the removal of the village is necessary, the land must be taken up for public purposes. I am at present unable to order the removal of the houses, or to prevent others being built.

5. If compensation were paid to the owner, and his guarantee given that no other houses would be built on the rest of his land, I doubt if we should be able to enforce its fulfilment in the event of the land changing hands.

6. There is no doubt that the erection of houses in the locality mentioned is objectionable both on sanitary and other grounds. The houses are thatched and adjoin the Railway fuel yard, and consequently any fire breaking out in the village would greatly endanger the safety of the railway fuel.

7. I am not aware whether similar cases have occurred in other districts. When a station may be situated within municipal limits, the regulation of new buildings is easy. I do not, however, anticipate that Pothanore will ever become of sufficient importance to warrant the introduction of the Municipal Act; and if any real improvement in the vicinity of railway stations is to be made, the hands of the Collector must be strengthened. Houses of any class and in any order can be built so long as the land is private property, and the only manner in which this nuisance can be put a stop to is by Government becoming the purchaser of all land in the vicinity of the larger railway stations.

8. I have the honour to enclose copy of the letter from the Acting Deputy Consulting Engineer for Railways, and of a communication received from the owner of the land alluded to.

No. 82. ORDER THEREON, 16th June 1869, No. 814.

In his letter above recorded, the Acting Collector of Coimbatore brings to notice that several huts have been erected on private land (distinct from that on

which the village removed in 1868 was situated) at the Pothanore Railway Station, which are likely to prove a nuisance to the station, and, from being thatched and near the Fuel Depôt, dangerous to Railway property. The owner of the ground is, it is stated, willing to accept Rupees 1052 as compensation for the huts and their site, and to engage not to build on the rest of his property. But, as pointed out by the Collector, it is doubtful if this engagement would be binding on future purchasers of the land in question.

2. Before taking any further steps in the matter, the Government resolve to forward the present letter and its enclosures to the Public Works Department, with a view to the Consulting Engineer for Railways being called upon to furnish, after communication with the Acting Collector of Coimbatore, a detailed report as to what area around the Railway station requires to be kept free from private buildings, and also the probable expenditure, &c., involved in securing this area.

(True Extract).

Actg. Secy. to Govt.

To the Public Works Department, with three enclosures.
" Acting Collector of Coimbatore.
" Revenue Department.

Exd. A. S. Rodgers.

Revenue Dept. 2048.

Govt. of [illegible] Madras.

PUBLIC.

To

THE [illegible] PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

&c., &c., &c.

Dated 30th June, 1864.

Sir, I am 21st ____ Dept.

G. O., No. 1507, dated 15th, No. 811.

JUNE.

Nos. 31-33.

Do

Utth Order

No 1864-29 June