M.R.O. 1—32,000—16-10-29.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 2445 Press ~~Mis.~~

431-32

Dated 30th August- 1933.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
30th August 1869.

No. 431. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 9th August 1869, No. 5,846:—

Read the following letter from the Commissioner of the Neilgherry Hills, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Ootacamund, 8th July 1869, No. 102.

Mr. Mullaly in 1862 applied for a piece of land in the Neeralley Valley in an out-of-the-way place on the southern slope of the Neilgherries. The land was put up to auction in 1863 previous to survey, and estimated to be 300 acres, which Mr. Mullaly bought for Rupees 2,250. Subsequently he sold to Mr. Herklots who sold to Mr. Murray the present proprietor.

2. The land was surveyed in 1867, and we got the plans the other day. In the meantime I was informed that Mr. Murray had felled the sholahs E. F. G. H., outside of the boundary, as defined by the survey plan enclosed.

3. I went to the ground last Saturday with the surveyor and the plan, and met Messrs. Mullaly, Herklots, and Murray. Neither Mr. Mullaly nor Mr. Herklots nor Mr. Murray was aware that a survey had been made and completed, and Mr. Mullaly (with whom alone, as the original purchaser, the Government have to deal) said that his original application was for 300 acres, and included all the plateau to the north towards the head of the valley where E. F. G. and H. are situated. He was not present when the Special-Assistant-Collector demarcated the land, and neither he nor Mr. Fraser (the surveyor) knows why the straight line between K. and L. was taken for the north-eastern boundary.

4. Messrs. Mullaly, Herklots, and Murray further alleged that after the forest had been felled up to B. and C., they found all the land south of the red line A. B. C. D. (shaded red) to be so inaccessible as to render planting impossible. I went with them to inspect this part of the estate, and there is no question about the correctness of their statement. To make a plantation of any part of it is utterly impossible. It is a precipitous gorge covered with dense vegetation through which the Neeralley river debouches into the plains. The only difference between the part shaded red and that denominated "Precipice" and "Rock" in the plan is, that the latter is a perpendicular rock standing out bare and uncovered from what appears to be forest all around; but the former is little else than perpendicular rock with scrub and trees growing on ledges, and is, as I have said, quite useless to the planter. I question whether a man could get down anywhere between B. and C. to the river.

5. Under the circumstances of the case, therefore, I would suggest that all the part south of A. B. C. D. be struck out of the estate, and that an equal area be given in a compact block to the north, so as to include E. F. G. H.

6. The Board are aware that very scanty records were kept in 1862 and 1863 of applications for land on these hills. All that I can discover is, that Mr. Mullaly bought at auction a piece of land estimated to be 300 acres for Rupees 2,250. The land according to the survey plan is acres 152·80

Deduct rock, acres 16·11

136·69

He has paid only Rupees 350 of the purchase-money. No quit-rent at all has yet been paid.

7. If the Board sanction the exchange I recommend, I will put the surveyor to work at once, and get the Title-deeds prepared, and the arrears paid up.

P.S.—Mr. Mullaly's account with Government for his purchase stands as follows:—

	RS.	A.	P.
Assessment from 11th January 1864 to 30th June 1869...	1,461	1	5
Amount of purchase-money	956	13	3

ENCLOSURE No. 1—Plan.

SUBMITTED for the orders of Government.

2. The Commissioner in this letter reports on a block of land purchased by Mr. Mullaly in 1863 for Rupees 2,250, and then supposed to contain 300 acres.

3. The land (which has since passed into other hands) was found on demarcation and survey in 1867 to include much rock and inaccessible precipice, which could in no way be utilized.

4. The Commissioner now proposes that this profitless area be excluded, and the plan revised so as to include certain land to the north in lieu of the barren and useless portions of land alluded to.

5. The Board approve of the proposal, and recommend its adoption.

No. 432. ORDER THEREON, 30th August 1869, No. 2,445.

Land Revenue.

THE exchange of land proposed by the Commissioner and recommended by the Board of Revenue is sanctioned.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) R. A. DALYELL,
Acting Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

Govt. of Madras Sill. Rec.
REVENUE.
No.
THE BOARD OF REVENUE
Dated August 1869.
Read
G. O. 30th Aug. 1869, No. 2,445.
AUGUST.
Nos. 431-432.
Land purchased by Mr. Mullaly on the Nilgherries.—Exchange of land proposed by the Commissioner in connection with it, sanctioned.

Revenue Department.

No. 2445.

PROCEEDINGS *of the* **MADRAS GOVERNMENT.**

Under date the 30th August 1869.

Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue.

Recommending to adopt Neilgherry Commissioner's proposal to exclude barren and useless portions of Lands in Keerally valley purchased by Mr. Mitchell in 1863 and now in possession of Mr. Murray, and revise plan so as to include certain land to North-

} *H.R. 9th August 1869 No. 5446.*

The exchange of lands proposed by the Commissioner recommended by the Board of Revenue, is sanctioned.

W.H.

N

14 Letter B. of Rev. with an Enclo. Desp. 81

Geo. Noble Bell
Sec. to Govt.