M.R.O. 1—9,000—18-10-48.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. Press
Mis.

Dated 19

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 7th September 1869.

No. 121. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 26th July 1869, No. 5,416:—

Read the following letter from E. G. K. FANE, Esq., Collector of Madras, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Sydapet, 14th June 1869, No. 191.

With reference to the order of the Board of Revenue, dated 29th June 1868, No. 4,794, I have the honour to forward, herewith, a statement showing the extent of land held on full assessment, and not on the Tope Rule terms, but planted with casuarina and other firewood trees.

2. The total extent applied for was cawnies 1,071-8-10, but the extent planted at present is only cawnies 671-4-12, assessed at Rupees 770-10-5; the late ruling of Government, I imagine, will, therefore, apply only to that much of the land, and the remission to be granted will amount to Rupees 770-10-5.

3. I have, during the late Jummabundy, had several parties come forward, and claim remission upon their regular puttah lands, on the score of their having planted them with the prescribed number of standard trees to the acre, namely, forty. The extent ascertained to have been so planted is cawnies 447-4-2, assessed at Rupees 741-14-2, as shown in columns 5 and 6 of the statement. I have this year, as a special case, treated these lands as waste, the planters not having derived any benefit from them, and accordingly granted full remission; but, as I found that the trees so planted were either simply as hedge-rows, or not interspersed over the land to any considerable extent, but standing on unplanted ground that had hitherto been paying to Government rents, I would suggest that the order of Government should not be made applicable to such cases, and to meet such cases, I would recommend that the Tope Rules should prescribe—first, that not less than 200 trees to the acre should be planted, and those not as hedge-rows, but proportionally spread over the whole area of the ground; and secondly, that the land itself should be unfit for ordinary cultivation.

4. As regards the remission to be granted on the extent of land referred to in paragraph 2, which has been properly planted, I would recommend that they be granted on the usual exemption terms granted to Messrs. O'Brien and Turnbull's grant, namely, Fasly 1274.

5. This plan will avoid the inconveniences of making any refunds.

6. In connection, I beg to submit, with your No. 4th, details in triplicate of the whole establishment of the Collector's office, as ordered in Board's Proceedings, dated 29th June 1868, No. 4,794.

Read again the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 29th June 1868, No. 4,794:

Read the letter from the Secretary to Government, dated 30th March 1867, No. 2,915:

Read also the Board's order thereon, dated 9th April 1867, No. 1,600:

Read the report from the Collector of Madras, dated 14th June 1869, No. 191, and the statement accompanying:

Resolved that the Collector be informed that the Board are of opinion that the Tope Rules should prescribe that not less than 200 trees be planted to the acre, and that the trees be not planted in hedge-rows, but proportionally spread over the whole area of the ground, and that the land itself should be unfit for ordinary cultivation.

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the trees at the commencement are planted eight or ten feet apart, which represents 680 and 135 trees respectively to the acre, and ultimately the average distance is increased by thinnings and casualties to about 300 trees per acre. The Board suggest that the minimum accepted as *bona fide* firewood plantation be increased to 400 per acre for trees under five years' growth, and to 200 per acre for older trees.

10. The second condition proposed at the close of paragraph 3, that the exemption be restricted to land unfit for ordinary cultivation, does not commend itself to the Board. No reason is apparent for excluding the lands near Madras from the rules elsewhere in force. The remunerative character of these plantations is still doubtful, and there is abundance of waste in the district.

11. Out of the total area, namely, 1,118 cawnies, assessed at Rupees 1,514, shown in the statement to be planted, and referred to in paragraphs 2 and 3 by Mr. Paine, only cawnies 671, assessed at Rupees 770, appear to form regular plantations, to which the order of Government is immediately applicable, and the proprietors entitled to a remission of assessment for ten years.

12. The remaining area,

	Cs.	As.	As.	rs.	a.	p.
Total area planted	1,118	8	14	1,514	0	2
Regular plantation	671	4	32	770	10	5
Remainder	447	4	2	743	14	9

namely, cawnies 447, assessed at Rupees 743*-* is held on regular puttahs, and has been, the Collector reports, for the most part very irregularly planted, and only since the date of the Government letters. The Board consider that the proprietors of these lands also are entitled to a remission equally with those of the lands referred to in the preceding paragraph, if their holdings are *bona fide* plantations of firewood formed with a due regard to the minimum proposed in paragraph 9 above.

No. 122. Order thereon, 7th September 1869, No. 2,525.

Forests, No. 4.

The Right Honourable the Governor in Council is of opinion that the simplest course will be to declare the Tope Rules applicable to Casuarina and Corakapillay plantations in the Madras District from the Fasly 1277 (1867-68), with the understanding that the exemption from assessment is restricted to ten years.

2. The Government attach much importance to simplicity of practice, and they would be therefore averse to prescribing any special rule in regard to the number of trees to be planted to the acre in firewood plantations, as distinguished from topes of fruit-trees, or of trees planted for shade.

3. If the following provision is added to the existing Tope Rules, as printed in the Board's Standing Order No. 131, it seems to the Government that all requirements will be met, viz.

VIII. "When plantations for firewood are made of Casuarinas, Corakapilavy, or other quick-growing trees, the exemption from assessment will be limited to ten years."

IX. "Grantees of land under these rules, on gain of exemption under Rule VII, are required to plant out one-fifth at least of the whole extent in each year subsequent to the grant, so that the whole may be planted within the fifth year. The extent of planting adopted, the number of trees to the acre, and their position in relation to each other, must be such as will satisfy the Collector that the land has been planted *bona fide* and in a manner suitable for plantation and not cultivation.

X. "With these restrictions the Acting Collector of Madras and all other Collectors should be authorized to apply the Town Rules to all lands taken up for the sake of the garden or plantation.

XI. "The penalty of 15 rupees per acre mentioned in Section 4 of Mr. Hume's letter, to be levied on lands taken up for the Town's Gardens, is generally approved. But in the case of lands taken up for plantations, it should be left to the discretion of the Collector to levy the penalty or not, according as he may think that the grantee has or has not wasted his time.

XII. "Lands taken up for plantations will be subject to the usual assessment when they have been held by them for [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[

Govt. Of Madras
REVENUE.
To
THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

Dated September, 1869.
Read,
Sent.

G. O. No. September 1869. No. 2,625.

Copy of the Standing Orders of the Madras Government.

Rejections and Returns.

Rules applicable to Returns under certain restrictions.

Rejections and Corrections will be entered in the Register of Returns.

Mss. 1,121-122.

Rev. Department

No. 2625.

Proceedings of the Madras Government

Under date the 7th August 1869.

Read the following Report of the Bd. of Revenue.

(Rev. 26th July 1869 No. 5215)

The Rt Hon'ble the Govr. in Council is of opinion that the instructions will be to declare the Tope Rights applicable to Cancellation of Encroachments on the Banks of the Tanks (1867-68) in the Taluks of Tiruvallur & Ponneri. The encroachments were added subsequently to the Survey.

The first attempt towards enfranchisement to permanent ryotty of private land they owned by freeholders under the

work

each special rule or
by-law to the number
of trees to be planted
to the acre on farmwood
plantations as distinguished
from tops of fruit trees or
of trees planted for shade.

"(g) The following provisions
are enacted to the existing
Forest Rules as provided in
the Board's Standing
Rules (a) as to trees to
the first Plant, all re-
placements must be met

"VIII. "Trees planted for
farmwood are made of
Cedar posts and Snake fencing
or other fence growing
trees the exemption from
assessment will be limited

to 10 years"

IX "Owners of land
under these rules, on
pain of resumption under
rule VII, are required to
plant out one fifth, at least,
of the whole extent in
each year subsequent to
the grant, so that the
whole may be planted
within the fifth year. The
system of planting adopted,
the number of trees to
the acre, and their position
in relation to each other,
must be such as will
satisfy the Collector that
the land has been bonâ fide
planted for the purpose
of plantation and not
cultivation"

X "All these restrictions

å and re-imposed

The Ct Court of Common
Council in the Collection
thereof the Common Council
to apply the Poor Rate
in such Wards towards the
Salaries to be paid the Persons
duly appointed Collectors
of the Poor Rate in the Wards
aforesaid

The Collectors when elected
to serve for 3 Years & Collectors
Deputies to serve for 1 Year of the
Poor Rate & proceedings in Parochially
Appeals thereof for regulating the Duties
of Collectors which respectively
Shall be performed by Council
Wards the Assistants under the
Orders which may not have
effect for this Year.

Where there is no Common Hall
of Common Council to be called
in a Vacancy of any Collector may
have been found & then the Court of Aldermen