

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	1884	Press ~~Mis.~~
425-26 Dated	29-11-1880	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

12

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
29th November 1870.*

No. 425. Read the following letter from the Acting Collector of North Arcot, to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Fort Saint George, dated Chittoor, 25th November 1870, No. 96:—

I HAVE the honour to report that Messrs. Oakes & Co., Auctioneers and General Dealers of Madras, are now advertising for sale to the highest bidder, at public auction on the 30th instant, at their sale-rooms in Madras, a large extent of land situate in the town of Arconum and taluq of Wallajah in this district, and which I consider it would be advisable to acquire on behalf of Government.

2. The land in question is Government Punjab, assessed at Rupees 1-6-0 per cawny per annum, and is now held on Puttah by Sadagopa Charry of Ammanur. The extent is 135 cawnies 6 acres, and most of it has been held by him ever since 1864. In 1868, he applied for a small quantity of land, and a Puttah was accordingly then issued to him, making up his holding to the total extent above specified. The land lies along the south-west line of rail to the west of a row of huts which the Madras Railway Company have erected for their Pointsmen. It has no *inexhaustible well* upon it, as alleged in the advertisement; its water-supply being two small tanks capable of holding only three months' water.

3. The Government are aware that, owing to the junction at Arconum of so many lines of rail, land in the vicinity is rapidly becoming very valuable, and at this moment Government have, at their disposal, *no waste lands whatever* in the limits of Arconum, so that when sanctioning, a few months ago, the grant of some waste land for the endowment of a Chuttrum at Arconum, Government were obliged to order me to allot waste land situated within the limits of some adjacent village.

4. Arconum is a town that is extending itself very rapidly, and there can be no doubt, that in the course of a short time, when there is through-railway communication with Bombay and the Southern Railway to Cuddalore and Tanjore has been constructed, it will be a place of great importance. It is, therefore, I consider extremely advisable that the Government should allow no opportunity to pass for the acquisition of all available land in the limits of Arconum, which should, for the present, be retained, until the requirements of the State are more fully known than they are at present.

5. Mr. Wilkinson, the Head Assistant Collector in charge of the Wallajah Taluq, to whom I have made a reference on this subject, informs me that he does not think this land, now to be sold by Messrs. Oakes & Co., will be required for the Soldiers' Rest-house, in regard to a site for which the Military authorities are now in correspondence with me, as it is too far from the railway station. This may, possibly, be the case, so far as the Rest-house is concerned; but the time may come when large bodies of troops are being moved by rail, and it will be then extremely convenient to have so large a block of land as 135 cawnies, adjoining the line of rail, belonging to Government, and available for a camping ground. It may also very possibly some day be required for public offices. Under any circumstances, however, I think it would be well to secure this land, and I, therefore, request that, if Government concur in this view, I may either be instructed by telegraph, as the date of sale is so near at hand, to attend in

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
29th November 1870.*

person at the sale, or that some officer in Madras may be specially deputed to buy the land in on account of Government.

6. I have forwarded a Notification to Messrs. Oakes & Co., for publication at the time of sale, warning intending purchasers that the land is sold subject to all the right and title at present held therein by Government.

7. I was informed, soon after I joined this district, that a good deal of Government land in the limits of the town of Arcotum has been taken possession of by parties who have no right to it whatever. Lutchmiah Naidu, the late Tahsildar of the taluq, having himself set the example by taking possession of a quantity of land on which he has built two bungalows, and for which he paid nothing whatever. About two months ago, I issued instructions for the preparation of a Map, showing the number of each plot of land in the limits of the town, both waste and occupied, and as soon as I receive it, I intend to go carefully into the title of the occupant of each plot of land, and shall address Government, in due course, with regard to the steps that may be necessary to oust parties improperly in possession.

No. 426.

ORDER THEREON, 29th November 1870, No. 1,884.

Miscellaneous.

THE Government do not consider
the purchase of the land in question
necessary.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Secretary to Government.

To the Acting Collector of North Arcot.
,, the Board of Revenue.

