No. 366. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 22nd September 1871:—

Read the following letter from the Collector of South Arcot, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, Madras, dated Cuddalore, 11th September 1871, No. 298.

THE plaintiffs' counsel in Original Suit No. 43 of 1866* on the file of the Principal Sudder Amin has moved the Court to issue a Commission to the Commissioner of the Nilgiris to examine Mr. Reade in connection with the suit, and the Court has issued it accordingly.

* The Paloor Water Suit.

2. I do not know whether the Board think it advisable to retain counsel to watch the case in Mr. Breeks's Court on behalf of Government, but one of the plaintiffs' counsels is going up to Ootacamund to cross-examine Mr. Reade.

3. The object of examining that gentleman is, I believe, to extract admissions from him as to the superiority of the right of the villagers of the 18 villages to the disputed water over those of Paloor; but as I do not know of any fact to which Mr. Reade can depose, which cannot be proved equally well by documentary evidence, I do not see the necessity for any notice being taken of the Commission, which I am informed will commence its sittings on the 9th proximo.

4. Mr. Reade appears certainly to have altered his views of the merits of the case between 1866 and 1870, and some of his letters are inconsistent with each other; but I think that after the Commission has closed, if a copy of the evidence given is at once applied for and sent to me, all that need be done will have been done.

5. Mr. Reade's opinions are not of any value now, and are not binding on me; nor do I see of what value any statement made by him can be to the plaintiffs, unless it relates to a matter of fact.

6. No interrogatories have been framed, because counsel is going in person to conduct the examination, so I am unable to say positively on what points Mr. Reade will be questioned.

SUBMITTED for the orders of Government.

2. If Mr. Handley should happen to be at Ootacamund on the date set down for examining Mr. Reade, it would be as well for him to attend; but if not, the Board think it will be sufficient if a copy of the evidence is applied for at once.

No. 367. ORDER THEREON, 26th September 1871, No. 1,689.

Miscellaneous.

COMMUNICATED to the Government Pleader with the request that should he be at Ootacamund when Mr. Reade's

examination is held, he will attend and watch the proceedings on behalf of Government, or otherwise will take the necessary steps to obtain a copy of the evidence recorded.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Secretary to Government.

Rev. 1871 Dept.

No. 3081

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue.

Dated 22nd September 1871.

Desp 22

Rec 25

No. 1689 26th September 1871

Mr. Reade

Submitting for orders letter from Collector of South Arcot regarding examination of Mr. Reade, late Collr, in connection with O.S. No. 43 of 1866

No. 366-367

No. 1689

Grant. Let Mr. Reade be informed that Mr. be at liberty to turn Mr. Reade's examination is held. He will attend at such time & place as may be necessary for the purpose of the Enquiry

3 to the Government Gl. Dept
14 to the Board of Rev.

26 Sept/71.

Govt. of {1871} Madras

REVENUE.

To

THE GOVERNMENT PLEADER,

&c., &c., &c.

Dated September 26th.

Recd.

G. O., 26th September 1871, No. 1,689.

SEPTEMBER.
Nos. 366-367.

Paloor water Suit in South Arcot.—Government Pleader (if at Ootacamund when the late Collector Mr. Reade's examination is held) requested to attend and watch the proceedings on behalf of Government, or otherwise to take the necessary steps to obtain a copy of the evidence recorded.