

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
31st March 1871.*

No. 499. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 24th February 1871, No. 857 :—

Read the following letter from the Commissioner of the Neilgherries, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Ootacamund, 28th January 1871, No. 8.

In Proceedings of the Board, 10th February 1870, No. 979, paragraph 4, I was desired to report how I proposed to deal with the land which Mr. Hunter still holds in excess of the original puttah assignment.

2. After receipt of Proceedings of the Madras Government, 5th May 1870, No. 642, confirming the Proceedings of the Board abovementioned, and sanctioning the grant of 200 Rs. to Mr. Hunter in satisfaction of his No. 2 claim, I communicated the result to Mr. Hunter. Subsequently, Mr. Hunter sent up his claims for re-consideration in connection with a letter from Mr. Grant (late Collector of Coimbatore), dated March 25th, 1870. This reference was disposed of in Proceedings of the Board, 1st October 1870, No. 5,945, declining to re-consider the matter.

3. On the 30th September Mr. Hunter informed me that he declined to receive the 200 Rs. compensation, and desired that the land on which the road was made should be restored to him "as per plan." On the 10th October (No. 369), I replied that the road had been made for years, and to unmake the road and restore the land to him in *status quo* was hardly possible, but that he still had his remedy at law if he was dissatisfied with the 200 Rs. tendered.

4. Afterwards I had a personal interview with him, the result of which, as far as I could understand him, was that he was weary of the business, and was willing to be guided by what I advised. On the 17th October I wrote to him to the effect that if he would withdraw his claims Nos. 1, 3, and 4, and receive the 200 Rs. as acquittance in full for claim No. 2, I would recommend Government to confirm him in possession of all the land which he now holds as per Survey Plan A. herewith sent. To this I got a reply, dated 18th October, that he could not approve of my recommendation, as it was in the nature of a bargain with Government, that he had no more right to compensation for claim No. 2 than for his other claims, and so forth, arguing the whole question *de novo*.

5. On the 4th November 1870, when Mr. Davidson was acting for me, Mr. Hunter wrote, in reply to a second formal tender of the 200 Rs., that Mr. Davidson had misunderstood "the whole case," that he did not "make a free concession but that under compulsion; and if Government persist in repudiating

* Captain Ouchterlony's plan.

"their own engineer's* plan, and the
"promise of compensation made me by

"their own Collector, and insist on my limiting myself to 12½ Cs. or thereabouts,
"that then, rather than have the further annoyance of going to law, and seeing how
"they have broken faith with me, I will make them a present of my claims, and
"give them up more land on the southern side of the river, if they can justly claim
"it agreeably to my plan and title-deeds, and in accordance with their settlement
"of all old puttah rights on their bills. At the same time, I decline to make any
"bargain with them, etc."

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6. Mr. Hunter has been informed that the 200 Rs. will remain in deposit for his acceptance till the 8th of February, after which, if not claimed by him, it will be carried to the credit of Government.

7. This is the "situation" at present, and I have to state how I propose to deal with the excess holding.

8. It will be observed that the block $\frac{A}{87}$ on which Mr. Hunter's houses are built, measures C. 12, G. 11, Sq.-feet 276, the exact area of the original puttah assignment according to old puttah and to my office Land Registers. On this area alone has assessment ever been paid by Mr. Hunter or his predecessors. The remaining block $\frac{A}{88}$ between the road and the river measures C. 5, G. 15, Sq.-feet 0. The two blocks together are at present in Mr. Hunter's possession, and measure C. 18, G. 6, Sq.-feet 270, and not 19 as stated in paragraph 14 of my letter to the Board, dated 17th December 1869, No. 184.

9. As I am fully persuaded that Mr. Hunter has no intention of further urging his claims, I would recommend that a permanent puttah for the C. 18, G. 6, Sq.-feet 276 and plan, in form A. enclosed, be granted him on condition that he surrenders the old Title-deeds and Plan, and pays assessment from the 1st June 1870 on the C. 18, G. 6, Sq.-feet 276 at the same rate per cawny that he now pays on the C. 12, G. 0, Sq.-feet 276.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.—Survey Plan.

SUBMITTED for the orders of Government.

2. The Board support the Commissioner's recommendation.

No. 500.

ORDER THEREON, 31st March 1871, No. 600.

Miscellaneous.

THE Commissioner's proposal at paragraph 9 of his letter, which is supported by the Board, is sanctioned by Government.

(True Extract.)

(Signed)

W. HUDLESTON,

Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

Rev. Rept.

W-500-
Pros of the Madras Govt.
Under date the 31st March 1871.

Read the following
Pros of the Bd. of Rev.

Subm. letter from Commr.
of Nilgiris reporting that Mr.
Hunter refuses to accept Rs. 200
as compensation for his land taken
up for a road, &c.

H. E. 24. Feb. 1871. No. 85.

The Commissioner's

proposal, at para 9 of
his letter, which is sup-
ported by the Board,
is sanctioned by Govt.

14 Feb 1871 with an Encl. D. 1871

No 4991800

Compensation to
M. Hunter for
Land on Milghem
taken up for
a road.

Care

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