

No. 648.

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Under date the 5th April 1871.

Read the following letter from Col. C.

A. Orr, Royal Eng^r.

Requesting to lay certain
circumstances before Gov^t in
connection with the rent due on
his house on the Begumada hill.

(H.C. April 1871)

Under the circumstances

stated the Gov^t remit the
demand against Col. Orr.

L.B.

N.
J.O.S.
A.A.

1 To Col. C. A. Orr R.E. with an Encl. Dec^r 6.

14 — Mr. P. B. v.
6 — Mr. G. v.

10/10/71

Revenue 1871 Dec^r

N. 1081.

From
Colonel C. A. Orr R.E.

dated
Rec^d 5 April 71 E. I. Orr

Requesting to
lay certain circum-
stances before Gov^t
in connection with
the rent due on his
house on the Begumada
hill.

S. O. No 648. 5 April 71

No 90

Ms 90-91

Read place on left
Oris house & Bay
not a hill -

To

The Secretary to Government
Revenue Department

Sir,

I have the honor to request
that you will lay the following circum-
stances before His Excellency the Governor
in Council.

On being appointed to the
charge of constructing the Kistnah
Anicut I was compelled to provide
shelter for myself and family of the
substantial description suited to the
climate of Bezoarah. I accordingly
had to build a house at considera-
ble inconvenience and expense, and
selected as a site the summit of
a neighbouring rocky hill. The
hill being utterly barren there was
no probability of my title to the

possession of the ground I took up
ever being challenged, but in 1856
I was induced to apply, as a
matter of form, for a grant of it
from Government, having been given
to understand that, if a quit rent
were inserted, it would be a nominal
sum, merely in assertion of the pro-
prietary right of Govt., and would
not be demanded.

The title deed was
in due time issued to me from
Madras, but, instead of the
4 Annas per acre, nominal quit
rent recommended to be charged
by the Collector, Rs 1 per acre was
entered under, it seems to me, a
misapprehension of the character of
the ground occupied. As quit rent
at this unreasonable rate for land
which had never paid, and could
not possibly pay any assessment,

5B
was stipulated in the deed to be
payable only "when demanded";
I made no remonstrance at the time,
as I certainly should have done
had I believed that there was any
intention of requiring payment. That
there was no such intention is I
think clearly established by the
fact that payment was never de-
manded during fourteen years, and
that only in April 1870, two years
after I had sold the house for
a fraction of what it cost me,
was I suddenly called upon to pay
the whole of the arrears alleged to be due
amounting to Rs. 249-6-

Under these circumstances
I trust that, taking into consideration
the hardship and pecuniary losses I
was subjected to in having to pro-
vide myself with accommodation first
at Dowlaishwerum and secondly, at

Bezoarah, and seeing how great an
interval of time has been allowed
to elapse before any claim for quit
rent has been made against me,
the Government will relieve me from
the demand.

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your most obedient servant

Wm. A. M. Coll. P. E.

Madras
April 7/11