1619

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 9th October 1873.

No. 60. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 15th September 1873, No. 1,840 :—

Read the following letter from J. R. COCKERELL, Esq., Commissioner of the Nilgiris, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Ootacamund, 5th September 1873, No. 78 :—

I HAVE the honour to submit an application, with sketch appended, from Mr. H. P. Hodgson, of Coonoor, for 200 acres of land situated in the Mekanad Taluq between the estates of Woodlands and Thaymullay. Mr. Hodgson requires the land for coffee.

2. The land is of a park-like character with clumps of trees and scattered trees upon it. The trees are common jungle-trees with a few vengay intermixed. I have been on the spot.

3. Some years ago it was in contemplation to throw a bund across the Bhowany below Thaymullay and to form a reservoir for irrigation. At that time the trees on the land now applied for and all the jungle in the vicinity were reserved in order to being utilized when the reservoir should be finished by means of a timber shoot. The idea of forming a reservoir has long been abandoned, and with it, of course, the idea of a shoot.

4. The Forest Officer informs me that his department has no objection to Mr. Hodgson's application.

5. In forwarding the application I deem it right to submit a letter to me on the subject from Colonel Scott, the owner of the Thaymullay Estate. Colonel Scott objects to the application on the grounds that—

(1.) Land on the borders of the Thaymullay Estate was refused to a Mr. Sanderson in 1863, to himself and Dr. Day in 1864, and to Mr. Stanes and Colonel Hodgson later.

(2.) That clearing the land applied for will affect the rainfall.

(3.) That if the land is bared of wood the Thaymullay Estate will became exposed to winds.

6. No doubt in 1863-64 land was refused in the vicinity of Thaymullay to applicants on the ground of scarcity of forest in that part of the district; but at that time the ease with which plantations of *Eucalypti* can be raised had not been demonstrated. At the present time the Forest Officer can cover any bare spot on the hill plateau in a few years with a plantation of gums if wood is wanted.

The application of Colonel Hodgson and Mr. Stanes was withdrawn. The Manager of Woodlands Estate applied for land near Thaymullay subsequently. The Forest Officer informed him that his department had no objection, but the Manager withdrew his request.

7. With regard to the second objection advanced by Colonel Scott the answer is—

(1.) That, if it is thought desirable at any time, a plantation of *Eucalyptus* can be run up to compensate for the loss of the trees on the land under consideration.

(2.) That, if the rainfall was likely to be affected, as Colonel Scott fears, this result would be as apparent to the present applicant as to Colonel Scott and the application would not be made.

8. As to Colonel Scott's third objection it is clear that if felling will expose Thaymullay Estate to wind the land applied for will become much more exposed, and, if the exposure in the latter case was seriously prejudicial, Mr. Hodgson, who has had some years of experience in coffee planting, would not apply for the land at all.

But apart from this ground altogether I cannot discover that Colonel Scott has any just claim on the Government to refrain from disposing of land in the neighbourhood of his estate in order that the estate may remain sheltered as it now is.

9. I cannot support any of the objections urged by Colonel Scott in face of the advantage to Government of a fresh settler in the vicinity of Thaymullay.

10. I beg that if Mr. Hodgson's application is entertained with favour the Board will be so good as to obtain early orders in view to the land being sold at once and the coming season not be lost. I should observe that the purchaser will wish to commence felling directly after the north-east monsoon.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.—Application from Mr. H. P. Hodgson.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.—Sketch.

ENCLOSURE No. 3.—Letter from Colonel Scott to the Commissioner of the Nilgiris, dated 16th July 1873.

SUBMITTED for the orders of Government with reference to G. O., dated 30th January 1868, No. 259.

2. The Board do not consider that Colonel Scott's objections to the grant of the land are entitled to weight, and they see no reason against its being disposed of by auction in the usual way. The Board observe that the Commissioner states that the Forest Department do not object to the assignment of the land.

No. 61. ORDER THEREON, 9th October 1873, No. 1,079.

Land Revenue, No. 3.

THE Government see no objection to the sale of the land by auction in accordance with the rules.

2. Colonel Scott should be informe is open to him to buy the land at auction if he thinks fit.

(True E

(S R. A. DALYELL,
Acting Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

No. 2948.

En. 3

From Sec. W. of Revenue Dated 15 September 1873 No. ~~187~~ 1320.

FOR ORDERS.

There seems to be no objection to the sale of the land by auction in accordance with the rules - Col Scott should be informed that it is open to him to buy the land at auction, if he desires it. D.S.

FOR ORDER

10

Under

Order accord

c. 26. Sep. 73 & 29 Sep.

Revenue Department. 74

No. 1079

Proceedings of the Madras Govt.

Dt. 9 Oct. 73

Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue

Submitting application of Mr. H. P. Hodgson of Coonoor for 200 acres of land in Mekanad taluq on Nilgiris together with certain objections advanced by Colonel Scott. } H. E. 15th September 1873, No. 1840.

The Govt see no objection to the sale of the land by auction in accordance with the rules.

2. Colonel Scott should be informed that it is open to him to buy the land at auction if he thinks fit.

To 14. Bd of Rev: Despd 15 with 3 Encs.

Sent from Orders

3/40

G O
On Mrs Hodgson
cation for land on

Des Soon