No. 44. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 2nd April 1873, No. 504 :—

Read the following letters :—

From J. R. COCKERELL, Esq., Commissioner of the Nilgiris, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Oc[illegible]und, 7th December 1872, No. 127.

CAWNIES 762, equivalent to 1,009 a[illegible] of forest land on the Seegoor G[illegible]aut were granted to Mr. F. A. Groves, now c[illegible]oonoor, in Fasli 1272 on cowle. The terms were that the land was to be held r[illegible]nt free for five years, and that in the sixth year a quarter of the full rent was to be paid, in the seventh year half the rent, in the eighth year three-fourths of the rent, and in the ninth year and thereafter the full rent of Rupees 1-2-0 per cawny.

2. Mr. Groves took up the land for coffee. The lease is dated the 26th January 1865, and was granted by a late Collector of Coimbatore. The lease slipped out of notice, and no demand for assessment has ever been made on Mr. F. Groves. Lately Mr. F. Groves brought the subject to my notice—

	RS.	A.	P.
The arrears due up to the 1st October 1872 amount to.	3,004	5	0
Road Cess	120	11	2
	3,125	0	2

Mr. Groves informs me that he and the other gentlemen concerned are totally unable to pay these arrears, and, I believe this is no more than the fact as respects at all events Mr. Groves's family. One of the gentlemen interested is Colonel Dobbie and another Mr. Hodges, late Inspecting Postmaster of Ootacamund. When Mr. Groves obtained the land he divided it into four plots ; plot A comprises 350 acres, and is called the "Northernhay Estate." It was opened in 1862-63, and 180 acres were planted up at an outlay of Rupees 72,000. The property belongs to a co-parcenary consisting of—

	RS.
Mr. F. Groves...	24,000
His brother, Mr. K. Groves	24,000
Mrs. Groves, widow of Mr. John Groves	8,000
,, Groves, mother of Mr. E. K. Groves	8,000
Mr. Hodges	8,000
Total...	72,000

3. Mrs. Groves, the widow, is in England, and is stated to be entirely dependent on the dividend from the Northernhay property. The land on which the estate is formed consisted of open forest on couch-grass. The estate did not answer, and the part under coffee is now reduced to 50 acres. Mr. Gordon, lately a land-viewer, residing at Ootacamund, reported of the Northernhay estate on the 21st March 1867 that the soil was poor and choked with Illok grass, and the coffee plants stunted. He recommended, as the capital of the co-parcenary was at an end, only 50 acres of the estate should be kept, and suggested a mode of cultivation, stating it was an experiment which might fail, but that, if it succeeded, it would prove a great success. The land is capable of irrigation from hill streams. Mr. F. Groves informs me that the 50 acres gave a first dividend of 4 per cent. in July

1869, and this dividend has been maintained half yearly. Except in 1871, when the dividend for the year was 4 per cent., Rupees 10,000 were borrowed to carry on the estate, and half the debt was paid off in 1871. The remaining half is unpaid. Every year small additions are being made to the 50 acres.

4. The second plot consists of 100 acres, and is termed the Leighwood estate. It was opened in 1864-65, and 60 acres were planted up. The area maintained is 33 acres. Rupees 30,000 are stated to have been sunk on this estate, and as yet only the working expenses have been recovered. The estate belongs to Messrs. L. W. and F. Butcher, having been transferred to them in 1864. They paid Rupees 1,500 for the property.

5. The third plot is named the Woolbrook estate, and was sold to Colonel Dobbie in 1865 for Rupees 15 an acre. Rupees 11,000 or 12,000 were sunk in planting up 50 acres, but the estate was abandoned in 1867 on account of the unfavourable results on the Northernhay and Leighwood estates.

6. The fourth plot is known as the Saling estate, and belongs to Colonel Dobbie who abandoned it without attempting to plant it up.

7. Mr. F. Groves has addressed me for himself and on behalf of the others interested in the land, and prays—

(1.) That, in consideration of the heavy losses sustained and the failure of anticipated results, the Government will be pleased to waive all claim to arrears of assessment for land not at present under cultivation.

(2.) That Government will be pleased to allow the proprietors to hold four times the area at present cultivated on Northernhay and Leighwood on a grazing tenure, and to bring any portion of the land under coffee, paying on the extensions.

(3.) That the proprietors of Leighwood and Saling be permitted to hold these estates on a grazing tenure for three years, and to throw up the land at the end of that time if they find themselves unable to plant it, or that they be allowed to throw up the land now.

8. If the requests of Mr. Groves are granted, there will have to be paid on the 50 acres planted in the Northernhay estate up to 30th June last :—

From 1272 (1862-63) to 1276 (1866-67) free—	Rs.	A.	P.
6th year 1277 (1867-68), quarter rent, or	10	10	10
7th ,, 1278 (1868-69), half rent, or	21	5	8
8th ,, 1279 (1869-70), three-fourths rent, or ...	32	0	6
9th ,, 1280 (1870-71), full rent, or	42	11	4
10th ,, 1281 (1871-72), ...	42	11	4
Total...	149	7	8

and on the 33 acres of the Leighwood estate :—

From 1272 (1862-63) to 1276 (1866-67) free—	Rs.	A.	P.
6th year 1277 (1867-68), quarter rent, or	7	0	9
7th ,, 1278 (1868-69), half rent, or	14	1	6
8th ,, 1279 (1869-70), three-fourths rent, or ...	21	2	3
9th ,, 1280 (1870-71), full rent, or	28	3	0
10th ,, 1281 (1871-72), ...	28	3	0
Total ..	98	10	6

9. The demand will be in all Rupees

10. Mr. Groves, in speaking of a graz t, means an assessment of two Annas an acre. The estates are in a neigh to which the Waste Land Rules do not apply, and they come under the Durkhast Rules.

11. I would suggest, under all the circ a favourable consideration of the prayer of Mr. Groves. If the esta t up to auction, they would realize a trifle.

From the same officer, dated Ootacamu February 1873, No. 16.

With reference to the official memoran the Board, No. 51, dated 20th ultimo, in regard to the coffee land held l oves at Seegoor, I have the honour, in reply to the first question put by l, to state that the land is not on the plateau or slopes of the Hills—the p d by the Waste Land Rules—but on the flat at the foot of the Seegoor sl

2. With reference to the succeeding quiring why the land was

No. 2,427 of 11th April 1862.	no
,, 3,297 of 22nd May ,,	re
,, 7,816 of 11th Dec. 1863.	th
,, 1,982 of 4th April 1864.	to

for by Durkhast, I beg to oard to the Proceedings in which detail the steps taken e land and the issue thereof. s have slipped out of notice, ie Revenue Inspectors have unnoticed estates anywhere

3. In reply to the question whether o I have to state that I do not know of any been directed to inquire specially whether t on the Hills.

These papers will be submitted for the Government.

2. In 1857, it was deemed advisable to rish Seegoor jungles, and favourable cowles were offered to planters.

3. Mr. F. A. Groves applied for land u erms, but it was not granted to him till 1865.

4. He then obtained 1,009 acres,*

	Acres.	
* Northernhay	350	s
Leighwood	100	l
Woolbrook } Saling..... }	559	la
	Under Coffee.	a
† Northernhay	50, Groves.	v
Leighwood	33, Butcher.	h
Woolbrook } Saling..... }	0, Dobbie.	5

all but 350 acres have been er planters. The enterprise otal failure. After sinking of money, the Grove family who purchased from them, tchers and Colonel Dobbie, 83 acres† under coffee, and ve been abandoned.

5. The lease was overlooked until M orought the subject to notice last year.

6. The planters request that the a on land not under Coffee (Rupees 3,125 *minus* Rupees 99, or Rupee y be remitted, and that they may be allowed to retain a lien in perpetu cres (besides the area under coffee), paying a grazing rent of 2 Annas it is brought under cultiva- tion, and on "the Saling estate" (a portion doned 559 acres, how large is not stated) for three years on the same r

Proceedings of the M

7. The Board resolve
arrears, though large, appear
planters who have already a
Ghaut by granting the lib
planters to the spot.

No. 45. ORDER

Land Revenue

2. For the future, the
wish to retain, and must pa
3. The remaining l
responsible for its assessm

overnment, Revenue Department,
y 1873.

overnment to grant this indulgence. The
overable. It may be possible to keep these
n the forest land at the foot of the Seegoor
ions, but even this would not tempt new

May 1873, No. 460.

UNDER the peculiar circumstances detailed in the Board's Proceedings, the Government resolve to remit the arrears due.

must determine what extent of land they
regular assessment.
ust formally relinquish, or they will be

Extract.)

(Signed) R. A. DALYELL,
Acting Secretary to Government.

Revenue Dept

No 1032

Read Proceedings of the Board of Rev. dated 24/5/73 No 504.

The case under consideration is briefly detailed in the Bd's Proceedings - Their recommendation is in accordance with the policy which has been adopted of late years by Govt in dealing with the agricultural pioneers of the

under the circumstances of the case, I think Govt. may reasonably waive the claim to arrears. For the future the parties should determine what rent is to be paid they will retain - and

Revenue Department.

No. 4

Heirships and others on it they
think are waste lands. I would beg
a parallel case in the explanation
regard to Lands assessment.
in the same locality All buy and
have favourably dealt they should
settle with L. O. 27 Oct/68 from allg
No 2234 which is not fair sale - when
up, and it is submitted it will be
that the Bd's recom as will also be
Merit claim may be taken -
as needed to.

J. D. S.

26/4/73.

Revenue Department.

No. 460

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Under date the 7th May 1873.

Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue.

Submitting request of Mr. Groves & other Coffee Planters that Govt. may waive all claims to arrears of assessment on certain Forest land on Seegoor Ghaut not at present under cultivation -

R. G. 2 April 1873, No. 504.

Under the peculiar circumstances detailed in the Board's Proceedings, the Govt. are pleased to waive their claim to the arrears due which may be written off as irrecoverable.

2. For the future, those interested must determine what extent of land they wish to retain, and must

pay on that the regular
apsfoment-

3. The remaining
land they must formally
relinquish or they will be
responsible for its apsfoment
also- Lut

To the Bd of Rev Decr 18 May 73-

Ly-D

Remission of remains of
Payment on certain fixed
land on Leeward Coast not
under cultivation

Le. 44-45