M.R.O. 1-20,002—12-8-65

(1) Number of Pages 12

(2) Date of Repair 31-12-66.

(3) Initials of the Referencer

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. 1133 Press
~~B.P. No.~~ Mis.

Dated 4-9-1874 ~~196~~ .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 59. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 31st July 1874, No. 2,032:—

Read the following letter from A. MACGREGOR, Esq., Collector of Malabar, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Calicut, 9th June 1874, No. 138.

I HAVE the honor to report, in accordance with Circular Order No. XIX. of 1867 (Standing No. 151-2), that an application under the Waste Land Rules has been made by Mr. Ryan for a block of land situated near Sultan's battery, which, there is reason to believe, contains a considerable quantity of gold.

2. A gold-bearing quartz reef is known to run from Devala, near the head of the Nelambur valley to Sultan's battery and thence northward.

3. A great deal of attention has recently been directed to this reef at a point where it runs through private property. Experienced gold-miners believe that the ore is present in sufficient quantities to prove remunerative, and one company has been started with the intention of setting up the necessary machinery.

4. The application now made is avowedly for coffee planting. The land, however, is situated at a distance from other properties of the applicant, and is on three sides surrounded by native coffee gardens and on the fourth by a rocky hill.

5. No man would select such a site, and it so happens that the applicant is one of the few men who are at work prospectively for gold and trying to float companies.

The promoters of the company, known as the Alpha, to which this man belongs, obtained a small block of land, some 16 acres I think, from the Nelambur Rajah, and at once proposed to sell it to the embryo company for Rupees 45,000.

6. The block now under reference being adjacent to some Government forests, I requested the Deputy-Conservator to report on it after inspection. He considers the land not worth reserving for forest, and in this I agree with him; but he informs me that there are indications of gold, and I have no doubt that it is with this object that the application is made.

7. I know of two gentlemen who propose soon to apply for some land avowedly with a view to quartz-crushing, and there are several applications for coffee land at present pending in places where there are prospects of gold-finding.

8. I suggest that, in future, in selling land in Wynaad, a proviso be introduced into the sale-deed stipulating that in the case of gold works being set up a certain per-centage of the gross outturn of gold be paid as royalty.

SUBMITTED for the orders of Government.

2. It appears that applications are being made for land in the Wynaad ostensibly for coffee planting, but really for gold-mining, and the Collector recommends that in all cases where land is sold a proviso shall be introduced into the sale-deed stipulating that if gold is raised a certain per-centage of the gross outturn shall be paid to Government.

3. The Government of India [illegible] expressed an opinion that when waste land is sold *for cultivation* no special reservation of a Government right to share in mineral wealth should be made [illegible] at that land known or strongly believed to contain mineral wealth should be [illegible]ed to applicants only on special agreement and not for agricultural purposes.

G. O., dated 3rd April 1867, No. 779.

4. Accordingly, the Board think [illegible] in cases occurring in the Wynaad where land fit for coffee cultivation and only [illegible]pected to contain gold is applied for, it should be sold under the rules without [illegible] reservation.

5. The particular case which pr[illegible]ts the Collector's letter is of a different character. The land is not fit for co[illegible] cultivation, and there is good reason to believe it contains gold.

6. The Board have no means of [illegible]ing whether gold-mining in the Wynaad is likely to be an extensive business [illegible]d it is probably impossible to be certain on this point at present; but if the b[illegible]ss should be extensive Government will be put to expense in protecting those [illegible]gaged in it, etc. The Board think that whenever land is applied for under [illegible]umstances which the Collector believes to show it is wanted for mining pu[illegible]es, the right of Government to levy a royalty, if they choose to do so at an[illegible]ture time, should be reserved.

No. 60. ORDER THEREON, 4th [illegible]ptember 1874, No. 1,133.

Miscellaneous.

THE land is obviously sought for mining and not for agricultural purposes, and the application is, therefore, inadmissible under the orders quoted.

2. Mr. King, it is observed (G. [illegible] 29th July 1874, No. 833, Public Department), will probably visit the Wynaad in [illegible]ctober, and this particular locality should be pointed out to him with the object of a [illegible]rough investigation of the neighborhood.

3. Pending this inquiry, the Coll[illegible]r should not alienate any land believed to be of value for mining purposes.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) C. G. MASTER,
Acting Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.
" the Public Department.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

1133
2

22/10/10

Fenton Cr 684/75

Govt. of 1874 Madras.

REVENUE.

To

The BOARD of REVENUE.

Dated September 4th.

Rect.

Encl.

G. O. 4th September 1874, No. 1,133.

No. 5340.

Waste Land in Malabar District—Declining to grant certain —— applied for by Mr. Ryan as it is obviously sought for mining and not for agricultural purposes; directing that this particular locality be pointed out to Mr. King when he visits Wynaad with the object of a thorough investigation of the neighborhood, and ordering the Collector not to alienate any land believed to be of value for mining purposes pending this inquiry.

1133

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

No. 2770

From Pres. Bd of Rev:

Dated 31st July 1874.

FOR ORDERS.

I would reserve the
last until the [illegible]
the report of the forest
Officer on Wynaad
When is the Report likely
to be received?
The Section?
he had better Enquire
there in Council
This can be done

and that particular locality
should

1133
4.

Case of Lands [illegible] for mining
purposes and therefore unmarketable
And the Legislature unwilling to
the Geological department will be
forced to take no time to bestow on
examining the whole neighbourhood
Pending this inquiry the Colo
does not alienate any Land believed
to contain Coal & to be of value for mining
1860 1861

FOR ORDERS.

1133

all agreed

C 14th Augt 1874

Revenue Department.

No. 1133

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Under date the 4 August 1874.

READ the following Proc. of the Board of Revenue.

Submitting for orders Letter of Collector of Malabar submitting application from one Vor. Nyand for a piece of waste land for Coffee planting near Sultans Battery, which is believed to contain gold.

H. E. 31st July 1874 No. 2032.

2718

Keller says - The land is suitable enough for coffee planting but for coffee only

Dost

MP 2118

The land sought for is obviously not suitable for mining purposes and the application is therefore inadmissible under the orders quoted.

Mr. King, it is observed (G.O. 29 July 1833 Public Depart.) will probably visit the Wynaad in October and this particular locality should

should be pointed out to him with the object of a thorough investigation of the neighbourhood.

Pending this Enquiry the Collector should not alienate any land believed to be of value for mining purposes.

C M

7 14 B offices
5 Pub Dep^ts } 12/9/74

Note. Is any order necessary on the last part of paragraph 6 of the Board's Proceedings? Reference is requested to G.O. 11 January 1872 No 68 and the letter to the Govt of India of the same date No 69.

C M

Spec

Worksheet

Down

79

R/7/9/04
D/12/9/74

C 21st August 1974 R1st Sept