

(1) Number of Pages.....4
(2) Date of repair.....5-8-68
(3) Initial of the Referencer.....*31.1.69*

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. 1882
B.P. No.

~~Press~~
Mis.

Dated 10-9-1825 196 .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Woodlands Estate 23rd August 1875.

Ld.

The Secretary to Government
Revenue Department.
Colombo.

Sir,

About the beginning of this year, I learnt that Mr. J. D. Beresford, has made an application to the Commissioners of the Nilgiris, for a block of 100 acres of land, immediately adjoining the Woodlands Estate, (on the Thymallu side), of which I am the agent and joint Proprietor.

The land applied for contains (2) two small streams flowing through our property, which supplies the Estate Bungalow with drinking water and are also the only sources of water supply we have, for the preparation of our crops.

We applied for the same block in 1872 under the Waste Land Rules, our object being to reserve the land with the forest on it, for the preservation of the streams in question, but our application was refused to us on the ground that it was covered with heavy forest, and that it was reserved for

for Government purposes.

Nearly the whole of the area now applied for by Col. Beresford, did form part of the Woodlands Estate, since it was opened up to the year 1870. When on the report of the late Mr. Brooks that it was an encroachment, it was deemed from our property.

If the land was put up to auction on my application in 1872. When so much demand for land as now did not exist and therefore there was no fear of competition at the time of sale we would have purchased it for a very trifling amount.

It is unnecessary for us to point out to Government the great injury that will be done to our property, from the land being allowed to become the private property of another person, or by doing so, the forest on the land will be cleared, thereby necessitating a decrease in the quantity of water in the streams, and the already scanty supply of water to our estate will be entirely stopped.

I may mention here that I addressed a letter to the Commissioner of the Pilgrimage in April last and had also a personal interview with him, protesting against the grant of the land in question, but, strong as were my grounds of objection, he informed me that he saw no reason for refusing the application of Col. Beresford and that he would send it to Government for sanction, forgetting altogether that I applied for the same land in 1872 and was refused.

1882/2
Finding now no alternative left, I have taken the liberty of addressing this letter to Government and respectfully request that they will be pleased to note the subject of this letter, when Col. Beresford's application is laid before them for consideration and to direct the cancellation of the same. In case they should feel inclined to order the alienation of the land referred to, I beg they will be pleased, in consideration of our having applied for it and been refused in 1872, of the great value of the two streams to our extensive property, and of the fact of the land having formed part of our estate for many years, to order its assignment to us on a valuation, or under the new rules which I have all shortly introduced on the hills in suppression of the existing ones.

I have the honor
to be, Sir,

Your Most obedient Servant
Geo. Vaggie

Woodlands Estate
Cotacambou

N^o 1882 10 Sept/95

For The application in question has now
been for the time withdrawn should
it be renewed the Commission will
report, with reference to para 5 of his letter
of the 23rd June, as to the alleged
application of Mr Higgins. Any particulars of
the application referred to

Recd: 10/95: 24/95
W. 33332

From

Mr J. S. Higgins
Woodlands State

Victoria

Recd 23rd 25th 30th 1/95

application referred to

Respecting that Mr.
Higgins' application for a lease of
land adjoining the Woodlands
State, which was refused on the
ground that it was not a bona fide
application for a lease of land
under the provisions of the
Land Act 1894.

Dec 1892: 10th Sep 1895

With order

- 1. To the Board of Officers 11th Dec
- 1. The Commissioner of the
- 1. Mr J. Higgins, Melbourne
- Woodlands State, Victoria