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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

REY DEPARTMENT

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Not to be folded or roughly handled

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
31st May 1875.*

No. 368. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 24th March 1875, No 736 —

Read the following letter from A. MACGREGOR, Esq, Collector of Malabar, to H. E. STOKES, Esq, Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Calicut, 15th March 1875, No. 76:—

I HAVE the honor to forward an application from Mr. Minchin for certain concessions in regard to gold mining.

2. The area within which he desires the exclusive right of selecting 50 acres after search may be estimated at some 500 acres.

3. There is a conspicuous hill near the high road, where a large quartz reef shows on the surface, and the remains of old workings indicate with certainty that the reef is auriferous. I am not aware that any other reef in Government land is known for certain to be auriferous.

4. I am not prepared to advocate the acceptance of this proposal, and would rather advise that the report of the Superintendent of Geology, after next year's work, should be awaited before deciding to alienate the Government rights.

5. The principle of establishing a share of profits in place of a royalty on ore raised seems objectionable. A royalty goes to cover the increased expenses of Government incident to gold mining, which must be incurred whether the enterprise is finally remunerative or not.

6. Besides, if Government makes itself as it were a shareholder, it may with some justice be called in to participate in losses.

ENCLOSURE No 1.

From Mr J. W MINCHIN, of Devala, Wynaad, to A MACGREGOR, Esq, Collector of Malabar, dated Devala, 7th February 1875

I SHALL be obliged by your forwarding to the Government of Madras the following application for land for gold-mining purposes

2. I have got up a prospecting Company to examine and try the quartz reefs in Wynaad, and we are able to collect a very considerable capital to put up crushing machinery hereafter if we find payable stone.

The terms I am prepared to offer are the following:—

1st.—That, for a space of twelve months, I may be at liberty to enter upon a tract of land belonging to the Government, particularly described in the schedule hereunder written, for the purpose of prospecting and examining for gold the quartz reefs running through the said tract of land, driving or sinking shafts, &c., as may be advisable

2nd.—That all the money necessary for this purpose shall be found by me, but that I shall not be required to pay rent or royalty for the said twelve months

3rd.—That, during the said twelve months, I shall be at liberty to select and mark out and survey 50 acres of land out of any part of the land comprised within the boundaries specified in the said schedule, which I shall consider suitable for mining for gold, and that, at the end of the twelve months, a mining lease of the said 50 acres of land shall be granted to me

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
31st May 1875.*

4th—That the said lease shall contain the following provisions:—

- (a) The lease shall be in duplicate, lease and counterpart
- (b) The lease shall grant to me, my executors, administrators, and assigns, exclusive right to mine in the said 50 acres of land for a term of 50 years
- (c) That I shall pay a royalty of ten per cent on the net profits derived from all ores found in the said land. The royalty to be paid on the first day of each year, the first payment in 1877.
- (d) The said lease to contain provision for entry and distress upon said land, in default of payment for 90 days, from date of falling due.
- (e) That I shall deliver to the Government samples of all auriferous quartz and metallic ores found by me, when desired.
- (f) That I shall furnish returns of all sales of gold and ores found by me, with prices and names of purchasers.
- (g) That the Government shall, at all times during the said term, have free access to the books of account kept by me showing the nature of the operations carried on.
- (h) That I shall have the right to dam up and divert the water running through the said land
- (i) That I shall be allowed to fell and use any timber growing on the said land

Schedule above referred to.

All that tract of forest and waste land, situated in the Wynaad, in the Collectorate of Malabar, in the Sub registration District of Goodalore, in the Registration District of Calicut. Bounded on the north by the Charambady District road, on the south by the demarcation stones on the northern boundary of the Glewrock Coffee Estate, on the east side thereof by the demarcation stones on the western boundary of Mr. Alexander Wright's Carolina Estate, on the west side thereof by the eastern boundary of Captain Cox's late application, and all which said tract of forest and waste land contains together in the whole by estimation 300 acres or thereabouts, and is now and has been in the possession of the Government of Madras as Moonaad escheated land

As quartz mining in India is in its infancy it is impossible to calculate as yet what will be the cost of working. I cannot, therefore, make any offer of royalty except upon the net profits. As I have everything ready to commence work, and have engaged the services of a Mining Engineer, I shall be glad to receive an early answer to this application.

SUBMITTED for the orders of Government.

2. The Board would recommend that the concession be granted, provided that the parties agree to a royalty upon the quantity of ore raised, and that the 50 acres be selected in one block.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) H. E. STOKES,
Acting Secretary.

No. 369.

ORDER THEREON, 31st May 1875, No. 854.

Miscellaneous.

THESE Proceedings are lying over pending the receipt of the Board's reply to G O, dated 2nd April ultimo, No. 512, on the general question As some time may elapse before that reply is received, and as the present applicant is understood to represent a responsible body of projectors, the Governor in Council in anticipation of the disposal of the general question is

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
31st May 1875.*

pleased to grant permission to Mr. Minchin to prospect as proposed. A definite area will be assigned to him in due course, and there will be every desire to deal liberally with him. The terms of rent and royalty will be determined hereafter.

(True Extract)

(Signed) A. MACGREGOR,
Acting Secretary to Government.

To the Collector of Malabar
J. W. Minchin, Esq.
the Board of Revenue

Exd J. Wright.

854/3
 Devala
 7th February 1875

To
 Athol Macgregor Esq.
 Collector of Malabar
 from Mr J. W. Minchin
 of Devala - Wynaad.

Sir
 I shall be obliged by
 your forwarding to the Govern-
 ment of Madras the following
 application for land for gold
 mining purposes. I have got up
 a prospecting Company to ex-
 mine and try the Quartz reefs
 in Wynaad; and we are able
 to collect very considerable
 capital to put up crushing
 machinery hereafter if we
 find

23/2/85

1875/2/19

And for gold mining purposes, I have got up a prospecting Company to examine and try the Quartz reefs in Wynaad; and we are able to collect very considerable capital to put up crushing machinery hereafter if we find

MAX.
 SEC. SEC.

G O, 11/10/1875, No 574

THE COLLECTOR OF MALABAR,

ATTENTION.

TO THE

SECRET

SECRET

Vide C No 1135 From Mr
 Minchin D 13 March/78
 (40 309 mch/76 No 440).

fund payable stone.

The terms I am prepared to offer are the following -

1. That for a space of twelve months, I may be at liberty to enter upon a tract of land belonging to the Government particularly described in the schedule hereunder written for the purpose of prospecting and examining for gold the Quartz reefs running through the said tract of land driving or sinking shafts &c as may be advisable.

2. That all the money necessary for this purpose shall be found by me, but that I shall not be required to pay
and

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rent or royalty for the said twelve months.

3. That during the said twelve months I shall be at liberty to select and mark out and survey fifty acres of land out of any part of the land comprised within the boundaries specified in the said schedule, which I shall consider suitable for mining for gold. And that at the end of the twelve months a mining Lease of the said fifty acres of land shall be granted to me.

4. That the said Lease shall contain the following provisions.

(a) The Lease shall be in duplicate, Lease & Counterpart.

The

(b) The Lease shall grant to me, my executors administrators & assigns, exclusive right to mine, on the said fifty acres of land for a term of fifty years.

(c) That I shall pay a royalty of ten per cent. in the net profits, derived from all ores found on the said land. The royalty to be paid on the 1st day of each year. The first payment in 1877.

(d) The said Lease to contain provision for entry and distress upon said land, in default of payment for 90 days, from date of falling due.

That

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(e) That I shall deliver to the Government samples of all auriferous Quartz and metallic ores found by me, when desired.

(f) That I shall furnish returns of all sales of gold & ores found by me, with prices and names of purchasers.

(g) That the Government shall at all times during the said term, have free access to the Books of account kept by me shewing the nature of the operations carried on.

(h) That I shall have the right to dam up and divert the water running through the said land.

(i) That I shall be allowed to fell and use any timber growing

(Growing on the said land -
- schedule above referred to -
All that tract of forest and
waste land, situated in the
Mynaad, in the Collectorate of
Malabar in the Sub Registration
District of Goodaloor, in the Regis-
tration District of Calicut Bounded
on the north by the Charambady
District road, on the south by the
demarcation stones on the northern
boundary of the Glenrook Coffee
Estate - On the East side thereof
by the demarcation stones on the
Western boundary of Mr Alexander
Wright's Caroline Estate - On the
west side thereof by the Eastern
boundary

boundary of Captain Cox's late
application - and all which
said tract of forest and waste
land contains together in the
whole by estimation three hundred
acres or thereabouts, and is now
and has been in the possession
of the Government of Madras as
Mynaad reserved land.

As Quartz Mining in India
is in its infancy it is impossi-
ble to calculate as yet, what
will be the cost of working.
I cannot therefore make any
offer of Royalty except upon
the net profits - as I have
everything ready to commence
work

work and have engaged the
services of a Mining Engineer.
I shall be glad to receive an
early answer to this application.

I have to

(Sd) John William Minchin.

(True copy)

H. K. M.

By Secretary

E. W. H. H.
Secretary

Revenue Department
 Proceedings of the Board of Revenue
 Dated 24th March 1845
 Read the following

From A. Mac Gregor Esquire
 Collector of Malabar
 To W. C. Stokes Esquire
 Secy Secretary to the
 Board of Revenue
 Madras.

Sir,
 I have the honor to forward an
 application from Mr. Minchin for
 certain concessions in regard to gold mining
 2. The area within which he desires
 the exclusive right of searching 50 acres,
 after search, may be estimated at some
 500 acres.

3. There is a conspicuous hill near
 the

Enclosure in Proceeding
 of the Board of Revenue
 to the Secretary to
 Government. No. 8.
 dated 24th March
 1845.

Rev 1079/75

Copy of letter from Mr
 Minchin of Malabar
 to Secy of Government
 dated 20th July 1845.

8/13/45. No. 784

the high road, where a large quartz reef
shows on the surface: and the remains of old
workings indicate, with certainty, that
the reef is auriferous. I am not aware
that any other reef in Government land
is known, for certain, to be auriferous.

4. I am not prepared to advocate
the acceptance of this proposal, and would
rather advise that no report of an expert
intendant of Geology, after next year's
work, should be awaited, before deciding
to alienate the Government rights.

5. The principle of establishing
a share of profits in place of a royalty
on ore raised, seems objectionable. A
royalty goes to cover the increased expenses

of Government, incident to gold mining, which
must be incurred whether the enterprise is
finally remunerative, or not.

6. Besides, if Government makes itself
as it were, a shareholder, it may with some
justice, be called in to participate in losses.
Malabar collector's office I have &
filed - 15 March 1875 Signed / A. Macgregor
Collector.

Submitted for the consideration of
the Board.

2. The Board would recommend that the
concessions be granted provided that the parties
agree to a royalty upon the quantity of ore
raised and that the 50 acres be selected in
one block.

True Copy & Extract

H. A. M.

Acting Secretary

To The Secretary to Government, Revenue
Department with copy of Enclosure

Copied

Dear General:
 Mr. Minchin's
 grant has been the
 the most an apph:
 intm & his mining
 land is agreed. But
 it to Macdonald Feb
 last. He accompanied
 the draft. Has any
 report come from the
 yet? I think he'll soon

Board of Revenue

Dated 24th
 Aug 24th March 1895
 No. 325
 1895

1000 364 - 21 March 1895

Submitting with some
 for review of your letter from
 Collection of Malabar from
 arising out of the Malabar from
 the Malabar for the
 purposes of the Malabar to the
 grant of the Malabar to
 request -
 To the Malabar to the

h-368

22/7/1895

Most desirable & start
ways of present state
here - final work on
the paper I of the
Sud. & Hadlesbriand
at the house.

Very
Yours
G. W. W. W.

No 854

Rev. Secy

31st May/55

Read Prop. Bd Rev.

26/5-55

These Props are lying over pending
 the receipt of the Bd's reply to
 G.O. 2^d April ulto No 512 on the
 general question. As it has some
 time may elapse before that reply is
 recd, and as the present applicant
 is understood to represent a responsible
 body of proprietors, & help. in. C. in antici-
 pation of the disposal of the general
 question is pleased to grant per-
 mission to Mr Murchin to prospect
 as proposed. A definite area will
 be assigned to him in due
 course, & there will be every desire
 to deal liberally with him. The terms
 of rent & royalty will be determined
 hereafter.

D. T. 31/5/55

In Reply to Mr Murchin's letter of 26th May
 as to Mr Murchin's proposed area } in reply
 as to Book 5
 Proposed Cape Coast Dec 11/Jan 1855

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