

Revenue Dep^t

E.M.C. dated 13th Jan 1857

Back No A 53-54

[Order No. 53 of 13th Jan 1857]

பாதுகாப்பு பிரிவு-1

செயல்புரிபவர் பெயர் *M. சுவாமிநாதன்*

செயல்புரிபவருக்காக
எடுத்துக்கொள்ளப்பட்ட நாள் *06/06*

செயல்புரிபரு முடித்த நாள் *08/06*

சென்னை 27/6/06

சரிபார்க்கும்	<i>சரிபார்க்கும்</i>	<i>ஆரம்பித்த</i>
முதல் மு.நி.பா.ஏ.	2ம். நி.பா.ஏ.	உதவியாளர்
கையொப்பம்	கையொப்பம்	கையொப்பம்

Fort Saint George, Revenue Consultation of 13th January 1857.

No. 53. Read the following Extract from the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 5th January 1857, No. 44.

Read Extract Minutes Consultation dated 2nd December 1856, Revenue Department.
(Here enter No. 1271.)

In the above Extract Minutes Consultation the Board are requested to offer any observations they may wish to make on the suggestion of the Home authorities that encouragement should be held out to the European Officers and soldiers of the Honorable Company's Army to settle on the Hill tracts of this Presidency.

2. The Board are fully sensible of the advantages which would result from the permanent location of such parties in this country. They fear however that in regard to officers at least there is some misapprehension both as to the extent of land available for their occupation and the other considerations which induce such persons to emigrate to the Colonies of England. The localities suited for this purpose are the Neilgherries, the Palneys, the Shervaroys and portions of the Hill ranges in Canara, Malabar and Tinnevely. A great portion of these however, except the first, are within Fever range, and this consideration alone would, the Board fear, prevent their being generally selected for permanent residence by this class of persons. Of the area available on the Neilgherries the Board have no exact knowledge, but they apprehend it is not sufficient for settlement on any large scale, particularly as many portions are unfit for culture, and the native inhabitants have rights of occupancy and pasturage over others.

3. In the other inducements which have so great weight with settlers of this class, such as the facility of educating and providing for a family, this Presidency is greatly wanting at present and these are the considerations which, next to that of climate, most influence such persons in the selection of a permanent place of settlement on withdrawing from a career of active service in this country.

4. At present the rule in granting land for other than building purposes on the Hill tracts is to sell it at (usually) not less than 8 years assessment, subject moreover to its annual assessment, and a number of minor reservations and restrictions. The whole or a portion of the former may be remitted, and the annual assessment might be reduced. This latter measure however is attended with this difficulty, that it would probably be necessary to attach conditions as to occupancy and cultivation, and to restrict the Proprietors power of alienation to parties possessing similar claims on Government. Such terms however would tend to discourage permanent improvements, and greatly lessen the value of such grants. Besides a remission of the purchase money, the Board consider that it would also be necessary either to give the fee simple of the land, or at least to grant long leases, at present, leases cannot be granted for more than 30 years ordinarily; at the end of that period the land is liable to re-assessment, and waste portions of lands leased cannot be alienated by the lessees.

5. As regards European soldiers the case is somewhat different, and they are a class who possess strong claims on the Government. Such parties would not require large holdings, and a sufficiently extensive area could perhaps be secured to give the experiment a fair trial. It would be desirable generally to locate such settlers in the neighbourhood of places like Ootacamund, Coonoor, &c. where they would find a ready market for their agricultural produce, medical aid and an opportunity of engaging in any trade or profession, to which they may have been accustomed in early life, or for which they may possess aptitude. In such situations moreover they would enjoy facilities for educating and providing for their families, and the society of others would exercise a beneficial influence on their habits and conduct.

6. In proposing that a sufficient area should be secured for such settlers, the Board do not intend that they should be debarred from selecting their place of residence or be located in townships by themselves, any attempt to isolate them in this manner would, the Board think, lead to failure: all the Board propose is to secure what appear eligible sites at once; for such land, on the Neilgherries in particular, is now much sought after.

Fort Saint George, Revenue Consultation of 13th January 1837.

7. The encouragement held out would necessarily be of the same nature as suggested in the case of Officers in para. 4.

8. There are other places such as Palmanai, Ramamaly &c. &c. where a limited number of such settlers could be located and in these as well as, if necessary, on the Neighbourhoods, Shervaroys, Palneys &c., Government could extend additional encouragement by affording medical aid and contributing towards religious and educational objects.

9. It will of course rest with the Military authorities to determine the class of persons and the other conditions on which grants such as those contemplated shall be made.

10. The Board resolve to circulate these Proceedings and the Extract Minutes Consultation under acknowledgment to the several Collectors, with a view of ascertaining what localities in their Districts are suitable for such purposes, and what extent of land is known or believed to be available. They will also be glad to receive any suggestion the Collectors may wish to offer on the subject.

11. The Collectors of Combatores and Salem will be requested to furnish a return of the lands occupied by settlers (other than natives) for agricultural purposes, and the terms in regard to payments, length of lease &c.

Cuddapah.

Bellary.

North Arcot.

Salem.

Madura.

Tinnevely.

Madurai.

Quana.

Ordered also that a copy be submitted for the information of Government, and to the Collectors noted in the margin, for their information and any observations they may wish to offer.

(A true Extract.)

(Signed) J. D. SIM, Acting Secretary.

No. 54.

ORDER THEREON, No. 54; dated 13th January 1837.

Ordered to be communicated to the Military Department, with reference to an Extract from the Minutes of Consultation in that Department dated October 28th, 1836 No. 2770.

(Signed) J. D. BOURDILLON,

Secretary to Government.

Revenue Department
Extract from the Proceedings of the
Board of Revenue dated 5 January 1837.

Read & Extract Minutes
Consultation dated 2^d December 1836 Revenue
Department.

(Here enter App.)

In the above Extract
Minutes Consultation the Board are
requested to offer any observations they
may wish to make on the suggestion of
the Home Authorities that encouragement
should be held out to the European
Officers and Soldiers of the Honourable
Company's Army to settle on the Well
Tracts of this Presidency.

The Board are fully
sensible of the advantages which would
result from the permanent location of
such parties in this Country. They fear
however that in regard to Officers at
least there is some misapprehension
look

both as to the extent of land available
for their occupation and the other con-
siderations which induce such persons
to emigrate to the Colonies of England.
The localities suited for this purpose
on the Selkwhines, the Dalrymple, the
Sheranays and portions of the Hill
ranges in Canada, Alabama and Tennessee.
a great portion of these however, except
the first, are within Indian range, and
this consideration alone would, the
Board fear, prevent their being generally
selected for permanent residence by this
class of persons. Of the area available
on the Selkwhines the Board have no
exact knowledge, but they apprehend
it is not sufficient for settlement on
any large scale, particularly as many
portions are unfit for cultivation, and the
Native inhabitants have rights of
occupancy and pasturage over others.

In the other inducements
which have so great weight with settlers
of this class, such as the facility of
educating and providing for a family,
this Presidency is greatly wanting at
present

present. and these are the considerations,
which next to that of climate, most
influence such persons in the selection
of a permanent place of settlement, or
withdrawing from a career of active service
in this country.

At present the rule in
granting land for other than building
purposes on the Hill Tracts is to sell
it at (usually) not less than 8 years
reversionment, subject moreover to its annual
assessment, and a number of minor
reservations and restrictions. The whole
or a portion of the former may be remitted,
and the annual assessment might be
reduced. This latter measure however
is attended with this difficulty, that
it would probably be necessary to attach
conditions as to occupancy and cultivation,
and to restrict the Proprietor's power of
alienation to parties possessing similar
claims on Government. Such terms however
would tend to discourage permanent
improvements, and greatly lessen the value
of such grants. Besides a remission
of the purchase money, the Board consider
that

that it would also be necessary either
to give the fee simple of the land, or at
least to grant long leases. at present,
leases cannot be granted for more than ^{see C.O. Bd. 1. Page 586.}
30 years ordinarily, at the end of that
period the land is liable to reversion,
and waste portions of lands leased
cannot be alienated by the lessees.

5. As regards European
Soldiers the case is somewhat different,
and they are a class who possess strong
claims on the Government. Such parties
would not require large holdings, and
a sufficiently extensive area could
perhaps be secured to give the experiment
a fair trial. It would be desirable
generally to locate such settlers in the
neighbourhood of places like Cochin and
Cannor where they would find a
ready market for their agricultural
produce, medical aid and an opportunity
of engaging in any trade or profession
to which they may have been accustomed
in early life, or for which they may
possess aptitude. In such situations
moreover they would enjoy facilities
for

for educating and providing for their families,
and the society of others would exercise
a beneficial influence on their habits
and conduct.

6. In proposing that a definite
vacant area should be secured for such
settlers the Board do not intend that
they should be debarred from selecting
their place of residence or be located
in townships by themselves. Any attempt
to isolate them in this manner would,
the Board think, lead to failure. All
the Board propose is to secure what
appears to be the best site at once for each
land, in the Nilgherries in particular,
as now much sought after.

7. The encouragement held
out would necessarily be of the same
nature as suggested in the case of
officers in India.

8. There are other places
such as Palanai, Namakkal &c. &c.
where a limited number of such settlers
could be located, and in these as well as
if necessary in the Nilgherries, the
Railway for Government could extend additional
facilities.

9. Annual encouragement by affording medical aid and contributing towards religious and educational objects.

10. It will of course rest with the Military authorities to determine the class of persons and the other conditions in which grants such as those contemplated shall be made.

11. The Board resolve to circulate these Proceedings and the Extract Minutes Consultation under acknowledgment to the several Collectors, with a view of ascertaining what facilities

the Collectors are enabled to for each purpose, and what extent of land is known or believed to be available. They will also be glad to receive any suggestion the Collectors may wish to offer on the subject.

12. The Collectors of Fort St. John and Salween will be requested to furnish a return of the lands occupied by settlers (other than natives) for agricultural purposes and the terms on regard to payments, length of lease &c.

Ordered also that a Copy
be

Chaddapah
Bellong
North West
Salween
Madura
Sinnawelly
Molabur
Canara.

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to be submitted for the information of Government and to the Collectors noted in the margin for ^{their} information and any observations they may wish to offer.

(I Am Sir)

Sp. Secy
ay Secretary

To
J. P. Bowdillon Esq.
Secretary to Government
Revenue Department.

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