C 12

Revenue

E.M.C. dated 6th Feb

Back No 64 to 66

Order no 138 dated 5th Feb ...

Read the following papers.

No. 64. *Minute by the Right Honorable the President.*

The short visit which I have lately paid to the Neilgherry Hills has enabled me to form an opinion of the value of the stations, which have been established on them in a sanitary point of view.

Their importance appears to me to be beyond calculation, and therefore that every endeavour should be made by this Government to render them agreeable places of residence for Europeans.

To effect this, some remedies may be applied to the existing state of things which so far as I was able to make myself acquainted with them, are capable of early improvement.

The first point which would naturally attract the attention of settlers is that of the means of procuring land and the conditions on which it can be obtained.

The arrangements at present in force on this head are susceptible of improvement.

1. The rights of the Todars should be defined, this has never yet been done, and in consequence they claim rights in the soil which do not appertain to them, and impede the sale and transfer of property.

2. The sale and leasing of land should be made under clear and prescribed rules, and there should be no delay on the part of the Government officers in furnishing the documents, which are required for these purposes from their offices.

3. The rule now in force for sales of land by auction is liable to objection, and places the European settler at a needless disadvantage.

4. The properties which are now in the possession of private individuals at Ootacamund, have, I believe, never been properly surveyed and their boundaries laid down, this leads to great confusion and constant disputes.

5. Closely connected with the subject of lands is that of water, the right of procuring a supply of this necessary of life is now a very important matter for every proprietor on the hills, and it is absolutely necessary that some definite rules should be laid down for its distribution; at present, great impediments occur to the improvement of water-courses, from the license which is allowed to natives to squat on lands bounding the streams after they have been rendered serviceable.

6. Some stringent rules are required to enforce some degree of order on the public roads; at present the natives in going up from the low country are in the habit of picketting and of lighting fires almost in the centre of the road, often obstructing the traffic and rendering the passage dangerous.

7. Some regulations are required for protecting and planting the forests, and for affording at the same time an ample supply of firewood.

8. A branch Treasury has lately been established at Ootacamund, and I think this should be continued; great inconvenience has been felt generally by those who are dependent on their official salaries, in consequence of having to obtain the payment of their salaries from Coimbatore.

I have mentioned these different points very cursorily, because I think it advisable that Government should in the first place gain correct information as to the rules and regulations in force, with any suggestions which may be made by the Collector with respect to them.

I would propose, therefore, that the Board of Revenue be directed to call on the Collector for a report on the several heads above mentioned.

1. As to what are supposed to be the rights of the Todars in the soil.

2. The rules in force for the sale and leasing of lands, and the process of purchase and the delivery of deeds.

3. The rules in force respecting the sale of lands by auction, and the occupation of land by small settlers.

4. Whether the boundaries of the estates at the several cantonments of Ootacamund, Kotagherry and Coonoor have been properly surveyed and defined.

பாதுகாப்புப் பிரிவு-1

செப்பமிடுபவர் பெயர் :

செப்பனிடுவதற்காக எடுத்துக் கொள்ளப்பட்ட நாள் :

செப்பனிட்டு முடித்த நாள் :

சரிபார்க்கும் முதல் மு.தி.பா.எ. கையொப்பம்

சரிபார்க்கும் 2-ம்-மு.தி.பா.எ. கையொப்பம்

உதவியாளர் கையொப்பம்

5. Whether any rules respecting the rights to water-supply are in existence, and what they are, if any.

6. What laws or rules are in force for preventing obstructions on the roads.

7. What respecting the care of the forests, and the provision of a present and future supply of firewood, sufficient for the requirements of the Natives.

8. Whether there are any objections to the continuance of the branch Treasury.

On the required information being procured, Government will be able to consider what alterations may be adopted.

5th Nov. 185[illegible]

(Signed) HARRIS.

---

63 *From G. L. PRENDERGAST, Esq., Accountant General; to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated 10th January* 1857, *No.* 341.

SIR,

1. The Principal Sudr Ameen at Ootacamund on the 27th August last applied to me to arrange for the early payment of his establishment, I referred the matter to the Collector with the view of meeting the wishes of the Principal Sudr Ameen if they could be met without inconvenience.

2. The Collector of Coimbatore then represented to me, in September last, that an increase was requsite to his establishment of one Shroff and three Peons on Rupees 25* per month. He explained that "the demand on the Neilgherries is (on 12 months average) 85,000 Rupees, the receipts there only about 3,7000 Rupees" and he urged that Funds to the extent of Rupees 50,000 should always be retained in the talook Treasury at Ootacamund, to meet the constant demands on that Treasury from European officers for salaries due to them and for Bills drawn in their favor.

**One Shroff Rs.*	... ...	10
3 *Peons*	,, ...	...15
		—
		25

3. I stated in reply that, from all the circumstances stated by him, I could not gather sufficient grounds for such a large sum being retained in the talook Treasury of Ootacamund, I also pointed out to him that under the orders of Government dated 21st July 1854, No. 852, payments from the talook Treasury may be made for specified sums and authorized disbursements, which gave him great latitude for arrangement. I invited him if he had *Public* grounds (his present grounds being apparently more of a private than of a public nature) of sufficient importance to demand a change in the existing practice of supplying Funds to the Ootacamund Treasury, to state them: when I would give further consideration to the subject.

4. He has now again addressed me stating that he has arranged to keep out less than ten thousand Rupees in the talook Treasury at Ootacamund, "to meet the rapidly increasing demands upon it, and that public convenience requires this and that it is quite imposible for the one Shroff, formerly sufficient, now to perform the duties of the Ootacamund Treasury." He has been compelled to employ the Shroff temporarily pending sanction. I have the honor to enclose the usual form of application received from the Collector soliciting an increase of Rupees 10 only, on account of this second Shroff, and, concurring in the Collector's opinion that this increase is necessary, I request that it may be brought to the favourable notice of Government for early sanction.

In his letter dated the 5th December 1856.

No. 66. ORDER THEREON, *No.* 138; *dated 5th February* 1857.

In the Minute above recorded, the President notices some defects in the existing arrangements at the stations of the Neilgherry Hills on certain points, and proposes measures with the view of remedying those defects. Many of the points adverted to have been already provided for since it was written, and there are only a few which at present require notice, viz. the sale of lands when applied for by auction; survey of private properties; obstruction of Public Roads and the maintenance of a branch Treasury at Ootacamund.

2. Applications to the Revenue authorities for lands upon the Hills are now disposed of under the rules sanctioned by Government on the 19th December 1849. Land when so applied for is with the approval of the Board of Revenue and after due notice put up to auction under Rule VII. at an upset price and knocked down to the highest bidder or to the original applicant at the upset price if there be no advance upon it. This practice appears to be liable to objection and to place European settlers at a disadvantage. The Board will be good enough to report in communication with the Collector whether some better system cannot be adopted.

Vide page 583 *Board's Circular Order Book Vol.* 1 *page* 583.

3. Many of the properties at Ootacamund have never, the Government believe, been properly surveyed and their boundaries laid down, a defect which leads to great confusion and constant disputes. The Government presume that the surveyor appointed under the orders of Government noted in the margin will be able to undertake this work in addition to his more immediate duty of surveying lands newly applied for.

Mins. Cons. 1*st May* 1855, *No.* 512
Do. 31*st July* 1856, ,, 1316

4. The Right Honorable the Governor has had under his notice, that natives going up from the low country are in the habit of picketting cattle and of lighting fires almost in the centre of the road, often obstructing the traffic and rendering the passage difficult. The Magistrate will be requested to adopt measures for the prevention of such irregularities.

5. Great inconvenience is understood to have been formerly experienced by residents on the Hills dependent on their official salaries, having to obtain payment from Coimbatore. A branch Treasury appears to have been lately established at Ootacomund in 1855 on the occasion of the Governor General's visit; but the Government are not informed whether it still continues. The Board of Revenue will be pleased to obtain information from the Collector as to the mode in which payments on the Hills are now conducted, and what degree of punctuality has been attained in the payment of salaries and other demands. The Governor in Council resolves at the same time to transmit to the Board of Revenue the letter from the Accountant General above recorded, recommending the employment of an additional shroff at Ootacamund. The Board will report on this proposition in connection with that referred to in the early part of this para; and to enable Government to judge as to the propriety of allowing another shroff, they will state the usual monthly amount of disbursements at Ootacamund, in comparision with that at Collectors' Treasuries and Talook Treasuries generally.

(Signed) H. FORBES,
Acting Secretary to Government.

No 64 Minute Book of the Gunnery

Royal Hospital Haslar 1st Jan. 1755.

The short visit, which I have lately paid to the Neighbouring Ports has enabled me to form an opinion of the value of the Statutes, which have been established in them, as a sanitary code of laws.

This is of importance upon the Coast beyond calculation, & therefore that any alteration should be made by this Board before them upon proper grounds of knowledge for Improvement.

To effect this same Remedies may be applied to the existing state of things: which so far as I was able to make myself acquainted with them, are capable of only improvement.

The first point which would naturally attract the attention of settlers is that of the means of procuring land & the conditions on which it can be obtained -

The arrangements at present in force on this head are susceptible of improvement -

1. The Survey should be defined - this has never yet been done - & hence arises many claims & rights to the soil which do not appertain to them - & impede the sale & transfer of property.

2. The sale & leasing of land should be made under such regulations & forms as to give the Govt officers in providing the documents which are required for these purposes some other guide -

3. The public roads in force for sale of land by auction is little to gain & places the European settler at a needless disadvantage -

4. The properties which are now or shall hereafter become the property of Europeans should be clearly laid down - & their boundaries laid down - this has given rise to numerous disputes -

5. Closely connected with the subject of land is that of water - the right of procuring a supply of this necessary thing is now a very important matter for many properties in the hills - & it is also totally wrong - that some definite rules should be laid down for its distribution - at present great impediments arise where improve-

bryant of water-courses from his
house - which is ~~ordered~~ to natives
to plant on lands bounding ~~the~~
streams after they have been
ordered irrigable.

6. Some stringent rules are required
to ensure same degree of order in his
public, roads. at present the natives
in going up from his own country
are in the habit of pitching off
lighting fires almost in the centre
of the road - often obstructing the
traffic - & entering his garden
damages.

7. Some regulations are re-
quired for protecting plantations
of his forests - & for affording at
his own time an ample sup-
ply of fire-wood -

8. As branch Treasury has lately
been established at Batticaloa
& I think this should be continued
for convenience has been
felt generally by those who re-
sident in their official
salaries - for the convenience
of having to obtain payment
of their salaries from Trincomalee.

I have mentioned these
different points only cursorily -
because I think it advisable
that Govt shd in the first place
have correct information
as to the rules & regulations in
force - with any suggestions
which may be made by the
Collector ~~with~~ to amend & to them

I should propose, tomorrow, that the Board of Revenue be directed to take an estimate for the supply of Water to the Arsenal Grounds also

to what extent the supply of the Water Works is

4. Whether any Rules respecting the Right to water-supply are in existence & what they are - if any -

5. What Rules are in force for preventing obstructions in the roads.

6. What Rules are in force respecting Nuisances by unauthorized Trades by unauthorized erection of Sheds by unauthorized Signs Letters -

7. What Regulations are in force for preventing Obstructions in the Roads.

8. What Regulations are in force respecting the Cleaning of Lamps & the purchase & the delivery of Oil.

9. The Rules in force respecting Nuisances by Cattle straying

10. Whether the Boundaries of the Estates at the several Entrances of Kotaiwaud Cantonments have been properly surveyed. Ascertained

11. Whether there are any objections to the continuance of the Branch Tramway.

In the required information being procured - Govt will be able to consider what alterations may be adopted -

Agreed

Dec. 10 Comd. 6. February 1857.

No. 1480

Admitted for the Crown
Admitted for Defendants.

Sealed 5th November 1855
Post 6th

Ex. No. 138. 5th Feb.

No 64.

States that his late wife the
plaintiff by this action
has by reason of the
cruelty and adultery
Ground to render them separated
Prays to be divorced from
the bonds of matrimony
and that the Court
may make such
other order in the
premises as to the
Court may seem meet

25 January 1857

8 A K

8

Year	Revenue		Charges		Totals		Net	
	Ordinary	Extraordinary	Ordinary	Extraordinary	Revenue	Charges	Surplus	Deficit
1853/54	29781	252	5579	"	30033	5579	24454	"
1854/55	35243	70	3961	1400	35313	5361	29952	"
1855/56	35578	2870	4680	640	38387	5320	33068	"
1856/57 estimated	35000	2500	5766	600	37500	6366	31134	"

Extract from Home Department	Office to which the Proposition refers.	Nature of Charge: Present Scale	Proposed Scale	Proposition: Permanent Increase ₹ per month	Permanent Decrease ₹ per month	Temporary Increase ₹ per month	Temporary Decrease ₹ per month	Casual or Extraordinary	Grounds of Proposition	Local Government recommendation	Orders of Government of India: Home Department	Financial Dept.: Remarks	Financial Dept.: Orders
	Cotacamund Inhabitants of Gudalore	1	100 " "	1	100 " "				Large and numerous payments for public works				
	Gomastahs	2	21 " "	2	21 " "				Public Salaries Civil, Military, Ecclesiastical, Medical, Contingent, Genl Bills, to a large sum, and other large demands, being now frequent on the Cotacamund Toy Loot, with an unusually small Establishment, and only Two Clerks Shroff available, a Head Shroff is absolutely required.				
	Shroff	1	7 " "	2	17 " "	10 " "							
	Duffadar	1	7 " "	1	7 " "								
	Peons	24	119 " "	24	119 " "								
	Mussalgee	1	5 " "	1	5 " "								
		30	259 " "	31	269 " "	10 " "							

E. B. Thomas
Collector

Coimbatore
Collr's Office
15th Decr 1856

(GK)

A. Genl's Off.
No 1438
Encls in a letter from
the Accountt Genl
No 341
Dated 10th January 1857

GK

GOK

Fort Saint George
No 341 Accountt Genl's Office,
10 January 1857

From

The Accountant General

To

The Chief Secretary
to Government

Sir,

1 The Principal Sudr Ameen at Coleroonnund on the 27th August last applied to me to arrange for the early establishment of his Establishment. I referred the matter to the Collector with the view of meeting the wishes of the Principal Sudr Ameen if they could be met without inconvenience.

2 The Collector of Cuddalore then represented to me, in September last, that an increase was requisite to his Establishment of one Sheriff and three Peons on Rupees 25 per Month. He explained that "the Income on the Neilgherries is (on 12 Months average) "85,000 Rupees- the receipts there only about "37,00 Rupees" and he urged that 6 Serishtadars to the extent of Rupees 50,000 should be always

Sheriff Rs 10.
2 Peons " 15.
25.

be retained in the Talook Treasury at
Cotacammund to meet the constant demands
on that Treasury from European Officers
for Salaries due to them and for Bills drawn
in their favor.

I stated in reply that, from
all the circumstances stated by him, I could
not gather sufficient grounds for such a large
sum being retained in the Talook Treasury
of Cotacammund. I also pointed out to him
that under the orders of Government dated
21st July 1851, No 832, payments from the
Talook Treasury may be made for special
times and authorized disbursements, which
gave him great latitude for arrangement.
I invited him if he had Public grounds
(his present grounds being apparently
more of a private than of a public nature)
of sufficient importance to demand a change
in the existing practice of supplying Funds
to the Cotacammund Treasury, to state them:
when I would give further consideration to
the subject.

He has now again addressed me in his letter of the 15th Dec stating that he has arranged to keep out of less

less than ten thousand Rupees in the Talook Treasury at Cotacammund, "to meet the rapidly "increasing demands upon it, and that public "convenience requires this - and that it is quite "impossible for the one Shroff, formerly sufficient "now to perform the duties of the Cotacammund "Treasury." He has been compelled to employ the Shroff temporarily pending sanction. I have the honor to enclose the usual form of application received from the Collector soliciting an increase of Rupees 10. only, on account of this second Shroff, and concurring in the Collector's opinion that this increase is necessary. I request that it may be brought to the favorable notice of Government for early sanction.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant
J Prinsep Mt
Accountant General

Comptr's Office 15th Dec 1852

(1)K Revenue Dept.

No 138

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation

Under date the 5th January 1857

Read the following

papers.

Minuted by the Rt Honble the President

/Here enter 5th November 1851/

From the Accountant General

/Here enter 15th January 1857/

No 341

4

In the Minute above, recorded the President notices some defects in the existing arrangements at the Stations of the Neilgherry Hills on certain points, and proposes measures with the view of remedying those defects. Many of the points adverted to

Rec'd 25th July/57 Rd 5/12/13

Read 12th January 1858

No 138. of Consultation

Rec'd 3rd Sept 1857

Rec'd 10th Aug 1857

Read 12th Aug 1857

No 138. of Consultation

Rec'd 3rd Sept 1857

Rec'd 15th Sept 1857

No 65.

Copy Rep

(to have been already provided since it was written)
for, and there are only a few which at present require notice. viz the sale of lands when applied for by auction; Survey of private properties; obstruction of Public Roads and the maintenance of a Police Treasury at Colaccamund.

2 Applications to the Revenue Authorities for lands upon the Hills are now disposed of under the rules sanctioned by Government on the 19th December 1849. Land when applied for is with the approval of the Board of Revenue and after due notice put up to auction under Rule VII at an upset price and knocked down to the highest bidder or to the original applicant at the upset price if there be no advance upon it. This practice appears to be liable to objection and to place European settlers at a disadvantage. The Board will be good enough to report in communication with the Collector whether some better system cannot be adopted.

3 Many of the properties at Colaccamund have never, the Govt believe, been properly surveyed and their boundaries

Vide page 583 Board's circular order Book Vol 1 page 583.

boundaries laid down, a defect which leads to great confusion and constant dispute. The Government presume that the surveyor appointed under the orders of Government noted in the margin will be able to undertake this work in addition to his more immediate duty of surveying lands now applied for.

Minute Cons. 1st May 1855 N. 512
— do — 31st July 1856 — 1316.

4. The Right Honble the Governor has had under his notice that natives going up from the low Country are in the habit of picketting Cattle and of lighting fires almost in the centre

(13)

centre of the Roads, often obstructing the traffic and rendering the passage difficult. The Magistrate will be requested to adopt measures for the prevention of such irregularities.

5. Great inconvenience is understood to have been formerly experienced by Residents on the Hills dependent on their official salaries, having to obtain payment from Coimbatore. A branch Treasury appears to have been lately established at Ootacamund in 1855 on the occasion of the Governor General's

General's visit; but the Government are not informed whether it still continues. The Board of Revenue will be pleased to obtain information from the Collector as to the mode in which payments on the Hill are now conducted, and what degree of punctuality has been attained in the payment of salaries and other demands. The Governor in Council resolves at the same time to transmit to the Board of Revenue the letter from the Accountant General above recorded, recommending the employment

of

(14K)

two additional Shroffs at Ootacamund. The Board will report on this proposition in connection with that referred to in the early part of this para; and to enable Government to judge as to the propriety of allowing another Shroff, they will state the usual monthly amount of disbursements at Ootacamund, in comparison with that at Collectors' Treasuries and Talook Treasuries generally.

Copies to the Sec. of Rev. with the Accountant's letter. Disp.

14 4

Rec.d 25 July/54/No. 12443.

2d 1104

Revenue 1857 D.o part
D.o to Cons.o 6th February.

No 138.

Extract Minute of Bus.
Dy 5th February 1857.

1109
R. Chief Sec.y 30th May 57 6.th Lgn. 6.
Ecclesiastics halls on the Cinnamon Ground
and 16 June
Rem.d 12th June 57 6 N.o 120 enclos.
awards of halting places for Cattle on the
upper part. in C. 30 June
in the Rev.d 4th 15th of Revenue dated
Augt 57. C. N.o 907. to Cons.o Sept
regarding an application from Mappalmt
300 Coconuts of land on the Neligherries
the cultivation of Coffee.

Noticing defects in the
arrangements at the stations of
the Neilgherry Hills, on the Sale
of Lands when applied for by en
quatory survey of private properties, e
bstruction of Public Roads, and the mai
tenance of a branch Treasury at
Ootacamund; & proposing measures
to remedy those defects, and regarding
the Bd to report on the proposition
of the Accountant General of employing
an additional sheriff at Ootacamund.

Extract from the Pro. of the Board of
Rev.d 4th Sept.r 57 C. N.o 1082 in 4th Rev

No 64 at 66.

15.K