M.R.O. 14—10,000—21-4-22

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 238 — Press / Mis.

477-478

Dated 30-1- 18 6.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 30th January 1861.

No. 477. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 7th December 1860, No. 5,733 :—

Read the following letter from E. B. THOMAS, Esq., Collector of Coimbatore, to J. D. SIM, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, Fort Saint George, dated 8th November 1860, No. 210.

SIR,

1. I have the honor to forward copy of a letter from Mr. A. C. Campbell, dated 21st September 1860, applying for land on the Annamalli Hills for Coffee cultivation, and to request the Board of Revenue will be good enough to obtain the sanction of Government for putting up the land to public auction in the same manner as Coffee lands are sold on the Neilgherries under orders of Government noted in the margin.*

* *Sir Charles Trevelyan's Minute, dated 23rd February* 1860, *paragraph* 30.
Government Order, 4th April 1860, *No.* 517.

2. The tract of land applied for, is stated to be above the Poonachee waterfall, and between the elevation of 3,500 and 5,200 feet. Its area is estimated at about 600 acres, and Mr. Campbell states that even if it were more than this computation, he will be willing to take the excess to the extent altogether of one thousand acres, or as much of it as lies between the elevation of 3,500 and 5,200 feet.

3. Mr. Campbell before sending in his application to me, made a reference to the Conservator of Forests. Lieutenant Beddome's reply is enclosed.

4. Under these circumstances there seems no objection to the land being granted, and I accordingly recommend its sale by public auction.

5. This being the first attempt towards any thing like the establishment of a plantation by Europeans on the Annamallies, and considering the difficulties which Mr. Campbell will have to contend with in his experiment, he requests, should he become the purchaser of the land, that he be allowed to hold it rent free for the first five years, and pay from the sixth year at the rate of 1 Rupee per acre. Ir equest the Board's order on this point, and I think *some* indulgence, whether of 3, 4, or 5 years, would be fair.

6. Copies of letters between Mr. Campbell and the Conservator of Forests are enclosed for the Board's information.

Ordered to be submitted to Government, with the Board's recommendation that excluding a sufficient belt of jungle on either side of the stream to guard against diminution of its volume, the Collector be authorized to mark off the boundaries of the land applied for, and to put it up for sale at auction to the extent of not more than 800 acres, on the terms for land applied for on the Neilgherries for Coffee planting, viz., bearing an assessment of 1 Rupee per acre after the trees come into bearing. This term is generally calculated, it would seem, at three years from planting. The present application being, however, for land situated in a new, and not inviting locality, where the establishment of Settlers is likely to be beneficial to the State and the community, the Board recommend that the land be offered for sale free of assessment for four years.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON, *Acting Secretary.*

No. 478. ORDER THEREON, 30th January 1861, No. 238.

The Board of Revenue submit an application from Mr. A. C. Campbell for some land on the Annamalli Hills for Coffee cultivation. The area of the tract applied for is estimated at 600 acres, but Mr. Campbell is willing to take any excess there may be "to the extent "altogether of 1,000 acres, or as much of it as lies between the elevation of 3,500 and 5,000 feet." He prays remission of assessment for five years.

the elevation of 3500 feet and 5200 feet

2. The Conservator of Forests stated generally that he had no objection to the land being granted, provided a belt of wood were reserved on each side of the stream which runs through it, and which is considered "an important feeder of the Coimbatore irrigation," and provided also that all teak were made over to Government. Dr. Cleghorn had only a general knowledge of the locality; but Lieutenant Beddome who knows it well considers the grant desirable, and states that there is no teak or black wood on the land; which, he adds, is "peculiarly adapted for the cultivation of Coffee."

The Collector and the Board both support the application; the latter recommending exemption from tax for four years, and thereafter a quit-rent of 1 Rupee an acre.

3. The Government are quite willing to allow the land to be occupied for the purpose stated; but they see no reason to grant exceptionally favorable terms. The land is expressly stated by Lieutenant Beddome to be peculiarly well suited to Coffee; and Coffee planting is no longer an experiment on the hills of South India.

4. The rules approved by Government in paragraph 7 of the Order of April 4th 1860, for the grant of land in the hill tracts, Wainád only excepted for special local reasons, direct the sale by auction of land applied for, subject to an assessment or quit-rent of 1 Rupee an acre on the whole extent occupied, without any period of grace or exemption. The land in question will be dealt with accordingly. Mr. Campbell wishes for the whole tract described above and the Board recommend as much as 800 acres. But the Governor in Council deems it inexpedient to put up the land in such a large block; he thinks the best plan will be to divide the whole tract into suitable lots of about 250 acres each, and put up each lot separately under the rules above referred to.

5. The lots should be carefully marked off by permanent boundaries, at Government expense, the cost being recovered out of the sale proceeds. Captain Brine, who is in the neighbourhood, will be able to assist the Collector in having all this done without difficulty or delay.

6. As proposed by the Conservator and the Board of Revenue, a belt of wood will be reserved on each side of the stream running through the land. It is not stated what means are to be taken to ensure the preservation of this strip of forest, bounded on both sides by private properties. But it appears to Government that the best course will be to make its preservation a condition of the tenure of the contiguous properties; as the owners of those properties are the only persons likely to encroach on it, and are at the same time the best able to preserve it.

7. It is not stated either what width the belt on each side of the stream should be; but this can be determined by the Board of Revenue in communication with the Acting Conservator; and the boundary should be defined and marked, and excluded from the lots sold.

(Signed) J. D. BOURDILLON.
Secretary to Government.

Ootacamund 21st Septr. 1860.

To,

E. B. Thomas Esqre
Collector of Coimbatore.

Sir,

I have the honor to lay before you copy of a letter addressed by me to the Acting Conservator of Forests respecting a Track of land above the Poonachee Waterfall on the Annimally Hills.

I am desirous of opening a Coffee Plantation in that direction, and in the event of there being no objection on the part of the Conservator's Department to its transfer, I beg that the Track of land therein specified viz. that portion of Forest land lying above and around the Poonachee waterfall and through which said Forest land the stream that supplies the waterfall flows, may be made over to me on the terms by which lands is now sold by the Government for the purposes of Coffee planting. I believe that the Forest land in question is of the extent of about six hundred acres. but even if it were more than this computation, I should be willing to take the excess to the extent altogether of one thousand acres or as much of it as lies between the elevation of 3500 feet and 5200 feet.

I shall do myself the honor of forwarding the Acting Conservator's reply on receipt and begging your favorable consideration to my application-

I have &c
"Signed" A. C. Campbell-

Ootacamund 22nd October 1860-

No 1

E. B. Thomas Esqre
Collector of Coimbatore-

Sir
1

I have pleasure to enclose copy of a letter addressed by me to Lieut Beddome Offg Conservator of Forests together with the reply thereto-

Lieut Beddome is fully aware of the spot and knows from personal inspection that no Teak Timber grows on the land I have applied for. There is Teak Forest below the waterfall, but the land for which I have made application is above it, and on both sides the stream that approaches it-

Begging for a reply at your earliest convenience-

I have &c
(Signed) A. C. Campbell-

Ootacamund 5th November 1860.

E. B. Thomas
Collector of Coimbatore

Sir
1

In continuation of my application for a Grant of land on the Anmimalai Hills, I do not think that it would be unreasonable in me to ask for a remission of Rent for the first four years of my occupancy thereof, Considering that the Estate I propose to open will be the first in those parts and that from the absence of roads and local labor heavy preliminary Expenses must of necessity be entailed-

The season for planting has now passed and for the next season as there are no neighbouring Estates from which mature plants could be procured, I should be again retarded in my operations and obliged to wait until the seedlings that I had myself reared on the spot should be fit to be planted out- thus if a nursery be prepared and seed sown in January 1861, the plants would be ready for placing out in June 1862, and the first small crop taken from the trees at the close of 1865-

Begging your favorable consideration to my petition—

I have &c.
(Signed) A. C. Campbell—

"True Copies."

P. B. Hennessy
Collector—

Esq. H. Clerk

Colombo 21st September 1860

5

To

The Acting Conservator

of Forests

Sir

Being desirous of forming a Coffee Estate on an extensive scale on the Ambomalla Hills I have ascertained that land well suited to my purpose is available above and around the Waler-fall at Kinnachie above the village of that name.

The land I allude to is now occupied by a dense Shola through which the stream runs that feeds the waterfall and with which I doubt not you are acquainted. Its elevation from 3500 to 3200 feet. I would beg you to state whether there will be any objection on the part of your Department to my occupying this land, if not I beg that you would certify the same in order to my making application to the Revenue

Copy with a Letter to D° dated 21st September 1860

1860 Department

Inwd letter from the Colr of Caminhalond dated 8th November 1860 No 210-

Copies of letters from Mr Campbell offering for land on the Ambomalli Hills for cultivation of Coffee -

Colombo 22nd Nov 1860

Ceylon 12th Nov

Authorities for the same.

I have &c.

Signed A C Campbell

No 190

Office of Conservator of Forests

Madras 26th September 1860

To

A C Campbell Esqre

Coluccumund

Sir

In reply to your letter I beg to state generally that there is no objection to giving you the land sought. It will be necessary to reserve a sufficiently wide belt of forest on both sides of the stream, as it is an important feeder of the Coniba- lore irrigation.

2. Government will certainly reserve all the teak about Vonachy. This is all that I can say at present until you furnish particulars of extent, locality &c.

I have &c.

Signed W. Cleghorn

Conservator of Forests

No of 21st September 1860

Coluccumund 8th October 1860

To

Lieut. Beddome

Acting Conservator of Forests

Madras

Sir

I have the honor to address you on 21st ultimo regarding a Tract of land on the Amicumallu Hills above the Vonachee Waterfall, and adjoining the stream that flows thereto, preparatory to requesting a grant thereof from the Revenue Authorities.

This Communication was replied to by Dr Cleghorn who did not consider the description I gave of the land sufficiently indicative of the spot I alluded to. Presuming from your personal knowledge of the locality in question that you will be well able to judge whether my description of the land is sufficient, being myself under the impression that it is so, might I beg in reply that you will express your opinion on this point, shewing me what additional description is wanting, and also whether there will be

any objection on the part of your Department to the grant being made. I believe there is no Teak Timber growing on the Forest land I am desirous of obtaining.

I have &c.

Signed A C Campbell

Office of Conservator of Forests

No 231 Madras 16th October 1860

From

Lieut R H Beddome

Officiating Conservator of Forests

&c

A C Campbell Esqre

Collectorate

Sir.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Your letter of the 8th of October 1860 regarding a Tract of Shola Forest situated about Monachy on the Anamallai Hills.

I have myself as You are aware visited the spot in question and I consider it peculiarly adapted for the Cultivation of Coffee. As there is no Teak or black wood on the land that You require, there can be no objection on the part of the Conservancy Department to the grant being made, and I may also add that I anticipate great advantages from a road being opened out to that part of the Anamallais

There is a large quantity of Teak in the Monachy Valley below the Water-fall, and on the slopes, this would be conserved by any Department, and if You obtain the land in question, I shall communicate with Capt Brine the Superintendent of the Anamallais as to what arrangements will be made for its Conservancy.

I have &c.

(Sd) R H Beddome Lieut

Offg Conservator of Forests

(True Copies)

L. A. Ward.

Collector.

Ex. Wd Works

- I concur with Mr Sims - It is best to put up the land to sale in blocks of about 200 acres - & I would grant no special exemption, but follow the general course which I believe is to levy the full assessment on all the land in the 3rd year. Ellis

I would do as suggested by Mr Sims - but
the terms I would be the same as those
for Hills - Ellis

& the land being granted
provided a belt of
Reserved
on each side of
the streams running
through it and considered
"as an important feeder
of the Coimbatore ir-
rigation" - and pro-
vided also that all
Teak here made over
to Govt. Dr. Clapham
had only a general
knowledge of the loca-
lity - but Dr. Bidie
who knows it well
considered the Reserve
desirable and stated
that there was no Teak
or Blackwood on
the land which he add
is "peculiarly adapted
for the cultivation of
Coffee".

The Collr. forwards
the applications and
recommends "some in-
dulgence" as to rent.

The Bd. recom-
mend that after re-
serving a belt of wood
on each side of the
streams, a block of
not more than 800
acres be put up to
sale, free of assess-
ment for 4 years &
thereafter paying 1 Rs
per acre - The remission
of the rent is claimed
& recommended on
the score of the locality
being new & unfortuna-
of the difficulties to be
encountered by the
first settler & so forth.

I beg to submit
the following observations.

I. No rule has yet been
laid down as to remission
of rent for the first few
years of Coffee cultivation.
Neither do such lands lose
always bear comple-ca-

-ture remittens at
first and partial
cultivation of the soil
ast. By the law dela
all land required for
cultivation is put up
to auction at a pric
lent of 1 Rs per Acre
but no limit any up-
set price — In Myso
knows the ast. of the
Estates was declared
Kay ate in the 3d year.
then the Coffee begins to
bear, thus I believe, it
very plentifully — I am
myself averse to these
Coolies and believe that
their only effect is to in-
duce men with the indif-
ficient capital & com-
mence ~~and~~ operations — It
is known that 250 Acres
is as large a plantation
as a man can manage.
two years assessment
on that extent is 500 Rs
or 50 £ — a man who is
prevented by such a

y. sum from taking an
Estate cannot have the
necessary capital &
do not think that it
is for the public good
that he should be en-
couraged to do so by a
remittal in such as that
allowed in Mysore — Even
a 5 year remittal would
amount only to 125 £ —
Many Coolies think
these remittals not
necessary — There is no-
thing in this particular
Code calling for special
encouragement — Mr.
Bedome considers the
locality peculiarly well
adapted for Coffee & Dr.
Clapterton told me that
the finest Coffee land
in India was in that
province — Mr. Campbell
cannot therefore claim
better terms than others.
If remittal is granted
it should be on the whole
stock — i.e. the whole

the upland attachment in & after a certain year - & that each acre be assessable in the 3d. year after being planted: the latter of course is the most favorable to the owner but it involves measurement & official interference & pt. may see its past duty for an indefinite period - As already stated I consider the best course always is to fix a fair & moderate ass.t in the lands & allow no remission, believing that such a course deters no person whose enterprise it is desirable to encourage - The Tea Cultivation of Mr. Rae has always been a different affair - being really an expensive & hazardous Experiment - promising, if successful, great national advantage -

II. Mr. C. establishments the whole tract - and the

Bd. recommend as for as 800 Acres - To part of such a block as one lot seems to me indispensible - for there would be little of any competition - The best plan would probably be to divide the whole tract into suitable blocks of about 250 Acres each & put up each lot separately under the Rules - on such terms as to remission as pt. may decide - The blocks should be carefully marked off by permanent boundaries, at pt. et pense - The cost being recovered out of the sale proceeds - Capt Brine, who is in the Neighbourhood can have all this done without difficulty -

III. A belt of wood as proposed round & 9

on both sides of the
stream which runs
through the land - It
is not state how far
are to preserve a strip
of forest bounded
on both sides by
private properties - &
it may be desirable
to enquire about this.
It would perhaps be
preferable to make the
preservation of this strip
a condition of sale - the
adjoining proprietors are
the only persons who are
likely to encroach on
it and both ought to
preserve it -

J. D. S

(13)

706.

Circulation

Yes Ela W. M

Copy in a letter to C.
dy 6th April 61 No 47

R30-3
to 6

Revenue 1861 Departt
Pro: of Govt for January.

No 238.

Pro: of the Madras Govt.
D/30th January 1861.

From Bd of Rev 2d Dec 60 Cr 2871.
(Capt Campbell declines to take land)
24 June 62 No 1383

On the application of
Mr A. C. Campbell for some
land on the Annamalli Hills
for Coffee Cultivation.

No 477 & 478.

Rev Dept

No 238.

Proceedings of the Madras Government
Under date the 30th January 1861
Read the following
Proceedings of the Board of
Revenue.

Submitting a letter from the
Collector of Coimbatore forwarding
an application from Mr A C Campbell,
for land on the Annimalli Hills
for Coffee Cultivation and recommend-
ing that the land be offered for
sale free of assessment for four
years.

(Here under 7th Dec/60 No 6733)

The Board of Revenue submit
an application from Mr A.
C Campbell for some land on
the Annamalli Hills for
Coffee cultivation — —
— — The area of the tract
applied for is estimated at
600 acres but Mr Campbell
is willing to take any excess
there may be" to the extent also
together of 1000 acres, or as
much of it as lies between
the elevation of 3500 and 5000
feet." He prays remission of
assessment for five years

2 The Conservator of Forests stated generally that he had no objection to the land being granted, provided a belt of wood were reserved on each side of the stream which runs through it, and which is considered "an important feeder of the Coimbatore irrigation". and provided also that all Teak were made over to Government. Dr Cleghorn had only a general knowledge of the locality; but Lt Beddome who has a thorough knowledge of it, well considers the grant desirable, and states that there is no Teak or Black wood on the land; which he adds, is peculiarly adapted for the cultivation of Coffee."

The Collector and the Board both support the application; the latter recommending exemption from tax for four years, and thereafter a quit rent of one rupee an acre.

3. The Govt are quite willing to allow the land to be occupied for the purpose stated; but they see no reason to grant exceptionally favorable terms. The land is expressly stated by Lieutenant Beddome to be peculiarly well suited to coffee; and coffee planting is no longer an experiment on the Hills of South India.

4. The rules approved by Govt in Para 7 of the order of April 1st /60, for the grant of land in the Hill Tracts, Wynaad only excepted for special local reasons, direct the sale by auction of land applied for, subject to an assessment or quit rent of one Rupee an acre on the whole extent occupied, without any period of grace or exemption.

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The land in question will be dealt with accordingly. Mr. Campbell wishes for the whole tract described above and the Board recommend as much as 800 acres. But the Governor in Council deems it inexpedient to put up the land in such a large blocks; he thinks the best plan will be to divide the whole tract into suitable lots of about 250 acres each, and put up each lot separately under the rules above referred to.

5. The lots should be carefully marked off by permanent boundaries, at Govt. expense the cost being recovered out of the sale proceeds. Captain Brine, who is in the neighbourhood, will be able to assist the Collector in having all this done without difficulty or delay.

6. As proposed by the Conservator and the Board of Revenue, a belt of wood will be

be reserved on each side of the stream running through the land. It is not stated on what means are to be taken to ensure the preservation of this strip of forest, bounded on both sides by private properties. But it appears to Govt. that the best course will be to make its preservation a condition of the sale of the contiguous ~~land~~ properties; as the owners of the ~~adjoining~~ properties are the only persons likely to encroach on it, and are at the same time the best able to preserve it.

7. It is not stated either what width the belt on each side of the stream should be; but this can be determined by the Board of Revenue in communication with the Acting Conservator; and the ~~c~~ boundary

boundary should be defined
and marked, and excluded
from the lots sold.

Mr Campbells application
for land on the Anamallais

10 Copies
Board of Revenue Dist. 3 1852
with 2 Plans
Conservator of Forests

List ordered in
Council - June 18 -