M.R.O. 1—89,000—16-10-99.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 519. Press ~~MIS.~~

3-4.

Dated 18th March 1869.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 8,367.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 27th November 1868.

Read the following letters:—

From J. W. BREEKS, Esq., Commissioner of the Neilgherries, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Ootacamund, 21st October 1868, No. 51.

WITH reference to paragraph 5 of Board's Proceedings, No. 6,941, dated 30th September 1868, stating that Major Hessey's proposal to dig a trench round each estate seems to be out of the question, and that the proprietors would with reason demur to the expense, I have the honour to forward a letter from Major Hessey requesting a reconsideration of the matter.

2. The cost, according to Major Hessey, does not seem to be so great as I should have thought it would have been. The digging of such a trench, however, takes up time, and, on the whole, I can hardly think a trench absolutely necessary, although for the reasons given it may be desirable.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From Major W. H. HESSEY, Deputy Superintendent, No. 1, Revenue Survey, to the Commissioner of the Neilgherries, dated Coimbatore, 15th October 1868, No. 896-311.

IN acknowledging the receipt of your letter, No. 34, of the 13th October, enclosing copy of Board's Order, No. 6,941, of 30th September 1868, regarding survey and demarcation of arrears of waste land blocks, etc., I have the honour, with regard to paragraph 5, stating that digging a trench round each estate seemed out of the question, and that the proprietors would with reason object to pay for the cost, to observe that (1,) experience has shown that stones alone are not respected; (2,) that purchasers of waste land are not good judges of a straight line between two points; (3,) that I have never yet known a purchaser of a waste land block who deviated from a straight line to his own disadvantage; (4,) &c., I have the honor, with regard to paragraph 5, st[illegible] per 100 running feet, or about by one foot broad can be, and is being cut at the [illegible] 13 Rupees per linear mile.

2. A trench once cut through grass land will last for ever, unless wilfully filled up from the unequal nature of the ground, water drains into the trench and scours it out. The tendency of the trench is to deepen, and not to become shallower.

3. I can have no possible personal interest in putting additional work on my men. I am interested in making the work I may do for Government as complete as possible.

4. I have had more opportunities of observing waste land blocks than most men. If I had brought to your official notice every case of encroachment, you would have had your hands very full indeed.

5. You have seen the mode in which the reserved sholahs within the settlement have been marked out; I think that you agreed with me that the mode I had adopted was what was absolutely necessary. If it be necessary to mark out land in this elaborate manner in places immediately under your own eye, how much more is it necessary to mark lands permanently in localities that may not, and probably will not, be visited by any Revenue Official once in ten years.

6. I have made a calculation of the cost of trenching waste land blocks of several sizes, and enclose a Statement for your information. I trust that you will have the goodness to re-consider the subject, and if you should see reason to agree with me, that you will be pleased to submit the matter to the Revenue Board.

7. If I am not mistaken, the upset price of the land is the cost of demarcation and survey, the cost being included in the purchase money. If the Government considers it necessary to protect its own interests by any particular mode of demarcation, the purchasers will have no reason to complain, since the cost will actually fall on the Government itself.

8. Trenching waste land blocks will, of course, be suspended till I again hear from you.

9. I have unfortunately been obliged to withdraw Mr. Fraser, my Sub-Assistant, from the Hills for a couple of weeks; but I have no reason to anticipate that work will suffer from his absence. Mr. Sub-Assistant Ross will be in charge while he is away.

10. I purpose visiting the Hills very shortly. I will hasten my visit should you think it necessary.

(To accompany letter, No. 896-311, of 15th October 1868.)

Average cost of digging a trench one foot deep and one foot wide round a waste land block of 10 Acres, at four Annas per 100 feet... ... ... Rupees 7

Do.	do.	round a block of 50 acres ...	,,	16
Do.	do.	round a block of 100 acres ...	,,	23
Do.	do.	round a block of 150 acres ...	,,	29
Do.	do.	round a block of 200 acres ...	,,	33
Do.	do.	round a block of 250 acres ...	,,	37

(Signed) W. H. HESSEY, Major,
Deputy Supt., No. 1, Revenue Survey.

From Lieutenant-Colonel F. J. B. PRIESTLEY, Superintendent of Revenue Survey, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Chepauk, 6th November 1868, No. 1,790-66.

MAJOR Hessey, the Officer in charge of the Demarcation and Survey of the Hill Settlements, has sent* me the copy of a letter, addressed by him to the Commissioner of the Neilgherry Hills, strongly urging the necessity of trenching the boundary of waste land blocks, to which practice exception was taken in the Board's Proceedings, dated 30th September 1868, No. 6,941.

* In his letter 16th October 1868, No. 897-308.

2. I have the honour to state that I share Major Hessey's opinion as to the value of this method of defining properties, and as the cost† is after all or the system more especially considering the efficacy in preventing encroachment, I trust the Board will not object to its being carried out.

† Memo. appended furnished by ...

Average cost of digging a trench one foot deep and one foot wide round a waste land block of ten Acres, at four Annas per 100 feet ... ... Rupees 7

Do.	do.	round a block of 50 acres	,,	16
Do.	do.	round a block of 100 acres	,,	23
Do.	do.	round a block of 150 acres	,,	29
Do.	do.	round a block of 200 acres	,,	33
Do.	do.	round a block of 250 acres	,,	37

COIMBATORE,
15th October 1868.

(Signed) W. H. HESSEY, Major,
Deputy Supt., No. 1, Revenue Survey.

THE Board see no reason for any alteration in their decision, referred to in the foregoing papers.

2. The boundary stones should be in sufficient proximity to each other to lead fairly to the inference that encroachment beyond them is wilful, or the result of culpable negligence; and prosecutions for trespass should be instituted to repress such conduct.

3. As the cost of demarcation and survey forms the upset price of land, any increase therein virtually falls on the purchaser; and, it must be remembered, that he will have to pay, not only the cost of digging the trench, but also the expense of keeping it in order ever afterwards; and the expense of surveying and demarcating waste is already very heavy.

4. In special cases, such as lands within the stations, lands adjoining forest which it is an object carefully to preserve, and the like, a trench may be dug; but this should be regarded as a

Exd. J. Wright.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 1st March 1869.

No. 3. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 27th November 1868, No. 8,367 :—

Read the following letters :—

From the Commissioner of the Neilgherries, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Ootacamund, 21st October 1868, No. 51.

1. With reference to paragraph 5 of Board's Proceedings, No. 6,941, dated 30th September 1868, stating that Major Hessey's proposal to dig a trench round each estate seems to be out of the question, and that the proprietors would with reason demur to the expense, I have the honor to forward a letter from Major Hessey requesting a re-consideration of the matter.

2. The cost, according to Major Hessey, does not seem to be so great as I should have thought it would have been. The digging of such a trench, however, takes up time, and, on the whole, I can hardly think a trench absolutely necessary, although for the reasons given, it may be desirable.

From the Deputy Superintendent, No. 1, Revenue Survey, to the Commissioner of the Neilgherries, dated Coimbatore, 15th October 1868, No. 896-311.

In acknowledging the receipt of your letter, No. 34, of the 13th October, enclosing copy of Board's Order, No. 6,941, of 30th September 1868, regarding survey and demarcation of arrears of waste land blocks, &c., I have the honor, with regard to paragraph 5, stating that digging a trench round each estate seemed out of the question, and that the proprietors would with reason object to pay for the cost, to observe that (1,) experience has shewn that stones alone are not respected ; (2,) that purchasers of waste land are not good judges of a straight line between two points ; (3,) that I have never yet known a purchaser of a waste land block who deviated from a straight line to his own disadvantage ; (4,) that the cost of trenching is not exorbitant, that in fact a trench one foot deep by one foot broad can be, and is being cut at the cost of four Annas per 100 running feet, or about 13 Rupees per linear mile.

2. A trench once cut through grass land will last for ever, unless wilfully filled up, from the unequal nature of the ground, water drains into the trench and scours it out. The tendency of the trench is to deepen, and not to become shallower.

3. I can have no possible personal interest in putting additional work on my men. I am interested in making the work I may do for Government as complete as possible.

4. I have had more opportunities of observing waste land blocks than most men. If I had brought to your official notice every case of encroachment, you would have had your hands very full indeed.

5. You have seen the mode in which the reserved sholas within the settlement have been marked out ; I think that you agreed with me that the mode I had adopted was what was absolutely necessary. If it be necessary to mark out land in this elaborate manner in places immediately under your own eye, how much more is it necessary to mark lands permanently in localities that may not, and probably will not, be visited by any Revenue Official once in ten years.

6. I have made a calculation of the cost of trenching waste land blocks of several sizes, and enclose a Statement for your information. I trust that you will have the goodness to re-consider the subject, and if you should see reason to agree with me, that you will be pleased to submit the matter to the Revenue Board.

7. If I am not mistaken, the upset price of the land is the cost of demarcation and survey, the cost being included in the purchase money. If the Government considers it necessary to protect its own interests by any particular mode of demarcation, the purchasers will have no reason to complain, since the cost will actually fall on the Government itself.

8. Trenching waste land blocks will, of course, be suspended, till I again hear from you.

9. I have unfortunately been obliged to withdraw Mr. Fraser, my Sub-Assistant, from the Hills for a couple of weeks; but I have no reason to anticipate that work will suffer from his absence. Mr. Sub-Assistant Ross will be in charge while he is away.

10. I purpose visiting the Hills very shortly. I will hasten my visit should you think it necessary.

(To accompany letter, No. 896-311, of 15th October 1868.)

Average cost of digging a trench one foot deep and one foot wide round a waste land block of 10 Acres, at four Annas per 100 feet ... ... Rupees 7

Do.	do.	round a block of 50 acres...	,,	16
Do.	do.	round a block of 100 acres...	,,	23
Do.	do.	round a block of 150 acres...	,,	29
Do.	do.	round a block of 200 acres...	,,	33
Do.	do.	round a block of 250 acres ...	,,	37

(Signed) W. H. HESSEY, Major,
Deputy Supt., No. 1, *Revenue Survey.*

From the Superintendent of Revenue Survey, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Chepauk, 6th November 1868, No. 1,790-66.

1. Major Hessey, the Officer in charge of the Demarcation and Survey of the Hill Settlements, has sent* me the copy of a letter, addressed by him t[illegible] Commissioner of the Neilgherry Hills, strongly urging the necessity of trenching the boundary of waste land blocks, to which practice exception was taken in the Board's Proceedings, dated 30th September 1868, No. 6,941.

* In his letter 16th October 1868, 897-308.

2. I have the honor to state that I share Major Hessey's opinion as to the value of this method of defining properties, and as the cost† is after all trifling, more especially considering the efficacy of the system in preventing encroachment, I trust the Board will not object to its being carried out.

† Memo. appended furnished by Major Hessey.

Average cost of digging a trench one foot deep and one foot wide round a waste land block of 10 Acres, at four Annas per 100 feet ... ... Rupees 7

Do.	do.	round a block of 50 acres	,,	16
Do.	do.	round a block of 100 acres	,,	23
Do.	do.	round a block of 150 acres	,,	29
Do.	do.	round a block of 200 acres	,,	33
Do.	do.	round a block of 250 acres	,,	37.

COIMBATORE,
15*th October* 1868.

(Signed) W. H. HESSEY, Major,
Deputy Supt., No. 1, *Revenue Survey.*

THE Board see no reason for any alteration in their decision, referred to in the foregoing papers.

2. The boundary stones should be in sufficient proximity to each other to lead fairly to the inference that encroachment beyond them is wilful, or the result of culpable negligence; and prosecutions for trespass should be instituted to repress such conduct.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 1st March 1869.

3. As the cost of demarcation and survey forms the upset price of land, any increase therein virtually falls on the purchaser; and, it must be remembered that, he will have to pay, not only the cost of digging the trench, but also the expense of keeping it in order ever afterwards; and the expense of surveying and demarcating waste is already very heavy.

4. In special cases, such as lands within the stations, lands adjoining forest which it is an object carefully to preserve, and the like, a trench may be dug; but this should be regarded as a special and exceptional protective measure, needing invariably the previous sanction of the Commissioner.

No. 4. ORDER THEREON, 1st March 1869, No. 519.

Land Revenue.

Ordered to be recorded.

(True Extract.)
(Signed) R. A. DALYELL,
Acting Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.

Ex*d.* G. A. Turton.

Revenue Office
No. 3813.

BOARD OF REVENUE, MADRAS.

1868.

PROCEEDINGS, 27TH NOVEMBER 1868, No. 8,367.

Encl

NOVEMBER.

No. 8,367.

Demarcation on Neilgherries.—Board's decision against proposal to dig a trench round each estate for purposes of, will not be altered.

Govt. of {1869} Madras.

REVENUE.

To

THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

Dated March, 1st.

Recd. Encl.

G. O., 1st *March* 1869, *No.* 519.

MARCH.

Nos. 3-4.

Waste land blocks on the Neilgherries.—Board's Proceedings objecting to the proposal of trenching the boundaries, recorded.