M.R.O. 14—18,000—27-9-24

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 1334 — Press Mis.

197-198

Dated 13 — 6 — 1857.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 13th June 1867.

No. 197. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 1st June 1867, No. 3,366.

Read the following letter from the Collector of Tanjore, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 1st May 1867, No. 86 :—

1. I have the honour to forward herewith, for the perusal of the Board, a letter to my address from Sashiah Sastry, the Treasury Deputy Collector in this district, in which he explains fully all the circumstances connected with the purchase of the lands entered in the Register forwarded with my letter, dated 23rd January 1867, No. 22.

2. As I know that Sashiah Sastry has been much distressed at the want of ingenuousness which the Board have ascribed to him, and his letter, in my opinion, fully clears up the whole matter, I trust that the Board will agree with me on this point, and will kindly say so, as Sashiah Sastry is a public servant of the highest character, and would not, I am sure, have wilfully done anything to deceive the Board to the smallest extent.

Enclosure No. 1.

From A. SASHIAH, Deputy Collector, in charge of the Treasury, Tanjore, to the Collector of Tanjore, dated 30th April 1867, No. 91.

1. Having noticed, with much concern, a remark in paragraph 2 of the Board's Proceedings, dated the 9th instant, No. 2,270, in which a want of ingenuousness is imputed to me in the return of lands which I submitted to you on the 19th January last, I feel it necessary to submit a few words of explanation regarding the purchase of the land in question.

2. The land was acquired not in 1866, as incorrectly stated in my own return, but in 1865. I was gazetted to this district on 21st November 1865, and the purchase of the land, as I have since learnt, took place on the 21st December 1865.

3. I had personally nothing to do with the transaction at the time it took place. My brothers residing in my native village had for years been desirous of, and negociating or the purchase of a piece of village site ground adjoining the patrimonial cottage, with a view to enlarging it to meet the wants of an increasing family. But, as the owner of this piece of ground was not willing to part with it unless his whole share, or pungu in the village was bought with it, my brothers at last purchased the whole in the name of one of them as the eldest of the family, for the exorbitant sum of Rupees 2,500, or thereabouts, which they borrowed in a neighbouring village. I did not become aware of the purchase till called upon for the money, which I had to borrow for the occasion. As this took place in January 1866, I was under the impression that the purchase had taken place then, and this impression led to the error in my return in stating the year as 1866.

4. In stating that the land was acquired before I joined the district, I had not the remotes idea of concealing from the Board the fact of the purchase having taken place subsequent to the date of my appointment to this district, for this point, I can truly say, was entirely absent from my mind at the time; and could I have, by any possibility, foreseen that the omission would call forth such a serious remark, I would have without hesitation inserted that fact also in the return.

5. I feel deeply the remark of the Board, because after a spotless career of nearly twenty years in the public service it cannot but be humiliating to find my candour called into question, in a most insignificant matter in which I could have had no possible motive to have acted disingenuously, for, even supposing the land had been purchased by myself, which, however, was not the case, the circumstance of one who has long filled the highest appointments in the Uncovenanted Service, being able to purchase six acres of land can awaken no suspicion whatever, and I could, therefore, have had no difficulty in obtaining the previous sanction of the Board and Government to this paltry acquisition.

6. I beg of you, therefore, the favour of your submitting this explanation for the reconsideration of the Board of Revenue, together with such remarks as your knowledge of my character might suggest or justify.

---

1. The Board readily accept Sashiah's assurance that he had no intention of withholding any of the facts of the case.
2. They are also gratified to receive such favourable testimony to his character from the Collector.
3. A copy of his letter will be submitted to Government.

No. 198. ORDER THEREON, 13th June 1867, No. 1,334.

Miscellaneous.

The Government exonerate Seshaya from all blame in this matter.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

1. The Board readily accept Sashiah's assurance that he had no intention of withholding any of the facts of the case.

2. They are also gratified to receive such favourable testimony to his character from the Collector.

3. A copy of his letter will be submitted to Government.

(True Copies and Extract.)

Secretary.

To the Collector of Tanjore,
with original enclosure returned.

Copy to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

Exd. J. Wright.

No. 1334.

The Govt. Exonerate Seshaya from all blame in this matter. V.K.

13th June 67.

No Copies of the Orig. Rec'd 14th

residing in my native village had for years been desirous of, and negociating for the purchase of a piece of village site ground adjoining the patrimonial cottage, with a view to enlarging it to meet the wants of an increasing family. But, as the owner of this piece of ground was not willing to part with it unless his whole share, or pungu in the village was bought with it, my brothers at last purchased the whole in the name of one of them as the eldest of the family, for the exorbitant sum of Rupees 2,500, or thereabouts, which they borrowed in a neighbouring village. I did not become aware of the purchase till called upon for the money, which I had to borrow for the occasion. As this took place in January 1866, I was under the impression that the purchase had taken place then, and this impression led to the error in my return in stating the year as 1866.

4. In stating that the land was acquired before I joined the district, I had not the remotest idea of concealing from the Board the fact of the purchase having taken place subsequent to the date of my appointment to this district, for this point, I can truly say, was entirely absent from my mind at the time; and could I have, by any possibility, foreseen that the omission would call forth such a serious remark, I would have without hesitation inserted that fact also in the return.

5. I feel deeply the remark of the Board, because after a spotless career of nearly twenty years in the public service it cannot but be humiliating to find my candour called into question, in a most insignificant matter in which I could have had no possible motive to have acted disingenuously, for, even supposing the land had been purchased by myself, which, however, was not the case, the circumstance of one who has long filled the highest appointments in the Uncovenanted Service, being able to purchase six acres of land can awaken no suspicion whatever, and I could, therefore, have had no difficulty in obtaining the previous sanction of the Board and Government to this paltry acquisition.

6. I beg of you, therefore, the favour of your submitting this explanation for the reconsideration of the Board of Revenue, together with such remarks as your knowledge of my character might suggest or justify.

To the Board of Revenue.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

Ro. 24th April 67 No. 323-4

1334

13/6/67

Rev. 1867. Department.

Pro. of Govt. for Sum

No. 1466.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

Dated 1st June 1867.

Dep. Sec.

Rev.

Extr.

Pro. of the Bd of Rev. 21 Jun 67

No. 2148 No. 3,366.

Accepting assurance of A. Sashia Treasury Deputy Collector of Tanjore that he had no intention of withholding facts relating to certain land entered in Return of lands possessed by Deputy Collectors expressing gratification at favorable testimony borne by Collector to his character and submitting copy of Proceedings to Government.

No. 1334-13 June

A. 197 & 198

To the Board of Revenue.

Ext. S. T. Augustin.