

Revenue (1899) Department.

MISCELLANEOUS SERIES.

G.O., No. 56-564

DATED 5th January 99

[Despatch Abstract.]

Recording letter from the Govt. of India forwarding for the consideration of the Govt. of Madras a despatch from Her Majesty's Secy. of State for India No. 198 d 3.11.98 re: the grant to Messrs. Turner & Macfadyen of concessions in the Salem iron field.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

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Revenue (1898) Department.

CURRENT No. 8543

From

The Government of India -
Revenue & agri: Dept.

No. 3382-62-6

Dated 8 December 1898

Received

Registered 14/12

Enclosures 5

Spare copies.

SUBJECT.

Forwarding for consideration
copy of a despatch from the
Secy. of State re: the grant
to Messrs. Turner and Macfadyen
of concessions in the Salem iron
fields.

Order Mis. No. 5675-4 Jan. 1899

Recorded.

16/11/98

Order No. 117-4 Jan. 1899

Copy with copy of G.O. 728 & 80.11.98
of the Govt. of India Dept. of Revenue
Note.

The Govt. has already
refused to entertain Messrs.
Turner and Macfadyen's
protest against its deci-
sion to give Messrs. Best and Co.
the first choice of half the
Kanjumalai Hill to be covered by
the latter's prospecting license.
(Vide para 3 of G.O. No. 728 d
30.11.98-Flagged P).

15/12/98

Secy
16/12/98

15/12/98

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
Ex	728	Rev	30.11-98
Ex	395	Rev	18.7-98

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

No. 3382-62-6.

FROM

E. MACONOCHE, Esq., I.C.S.,

Under-Secretary to the Government of India,

TO

The Secretary to the Government of Madras,

Revenue Department.

Calcutta, the 8th December 1898.

Department of Revenue
and Agriculture.
(Geology and
Minerals)

SIR,

In continuation of Mr. Holderness' letter No. 3097-62-4 dated 5th November 1898, I am directed to forward for the consideration of the Governor in Council a copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Secretary of State No. 198 dated 3rd November 1898 and enclosures regarding the grant to Messrs Turner and Macfadyen of concessions in the Salem iron field.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

E. Maconochie

Under-Secretary.

INDIA OFFICE,
LONDON, 3rd NOVEMBER 1898.

REVENUE,
NO. 198.

TO HIS EXCELLENCY THE RIGHT HONOURABLE
THE GOVERNOR GENERAL OF INDIA IN COUNCIL.

My Lord,

In continuation of previous
correspondence, I forward for the
consideration of your Excellency's
Government copy of further papers
received from Messrs. Turner and
Macfadyen regarding concessions in
the Salem iron field.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) George Hamilton

Letter from Messrs. Turner
and Macfadyen, dated
17th October 1898, and
two enclosures.

Reply to the above, dated
1st November 1898.

* via letter from the 4.17.9.
Printed at p. 27.50 m
395 Rev. d. 18.7.98.

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WINCHESTER HOUSE,

Old Broad Street,

LONDON, E.C.,

17th October 1898.

To

The Under Secretary of State for India,

India Office, Whitehall, S.W.

Sir,

It is with some hesitation that we have the honour to forward for the perusal of the Secretary of State the accompanying copies of correspondence which narrate an incident which has occurred in connection with our enterprise in Indian Iron Ores.

We do not wish to make too much of what may be due to the Madras Government being unacquainted with our action on this side, action which is known to the India Office.

The correspondence shows that we have reason to complain of an encroachment on the rights which our priority of application, our outlay and our work entitle us to.

It does not appear that the advantage of selection accorded to our friends Messrs. Best and Company was sought for by them, and we cannot but feel that our susceptibilities have been treated in an undeserved way.

We are quite aware that there is sufficient ^{the} Iron Ore in Kamjamalai mountain for Messrs. Best and Company and for ourselves provided that the quantity has

not

*yes - it was - vide the
last para of their letter
d. 19-4-98 printed at
pp. 3-4 of file no.
395 d. 18.7.98*

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not been overestimated in the official Reports in the way that the quality has been minimised as we think erroneously. But as we were first in the field we ought to be allowed to chose our half first, and we respectfully beg that the Secretary of State may be pleased to testify to the Madras Government that our position is as we state it to be in our letter to the Collector of Salem.

We have no doubt that the Madras Government will do us justice and we shall be ready to agree to any practical compromise.

We have, &c.,

(Sd) H.G. Turner,

(Sd) R. Macfadyen.

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B. B. D.

Salem Collector's Office,

19th September 1898.

No. 444.

B. & G.

From

Robert B. Clegg, Esquire.,

Acting Collector and District Magistrate,
Salem.

To

Messrs Best and Company,
Madras.

Gentlemen,

With reference to the correspondence ending with your letter dated 23rd May 1898 to the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue) requesting that you may be granted the preferential right of selecting a concession of five square miles in the iron ore bearing tracts of this District in case you succeed in finding coal in the Chingleput District, I have the honour to inform you that an application has also been received from Messrs H.G. Turner and P. Macfadyen, London, for the grant of a license for two years to prospect for iron throughout the whole of the Kanjamalai Hills covering an area of 10 square miles. The Board of Revenue thereupon recommend that a license to prospect over one half of the Hills might be granted to you, and a license for the other half to Messrs Turner and P. Macfadyen, the first choice being given to you as you have undertaken to prospect thoroughly for coal in the neighbourhood of Arkonam. The Local Government has approved the Board's recommendation.

In

x at p. 67 20
395
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In view therefore to determine the division of the hills between you I request that you will be good enough to select the area you require and submit a plan shewing the boundaries of the selection, which should be an integral block and not formed of detached portions.

2. As regards a subsequent mining Lease the Government considers that a promise may be entered in the prospecting licenses allowing the licensees to select immediately on the expiry of the prospecting license any two square miles in a block.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) Robert B. Clegg,

Acting Collector.

(True copy) , , ,

for Acting Collector.

To Messrs H.G. Turner and P. Macfadyen, Winchester House,

Old Broad Street, London, in continuation of this

Office letter Ref. No. 444, dated 28-6-98.

B. & G.

WINCHESTER HOUSE,

Old Broad Street,

LONDON, E.C.

October 14th 1898.

To

The Collector and District Magistrate of Salem,
Madras Presidency, India.

Sir,

We have the honour to acknowledge receipt of the copy of your letter to Messrs Best and Company, dated 19th September 1898.

We are very much surprised at being put second to these gentlemen.

Ours was the first application, more than a year ago under, indeed the auspices and encouragement of the Secretary of State.

We have unremittingly, and at considerable expense, pursued the subject, first as to the fuel question - next as to the Ore question.

We have been in continual consultation with the India Office, with the Imperial Institute and with some of the Iron Masters of England, and of the Continent.

As to the fuel question, which we understand to be the reason of putting us behind Messrs Best and Company, we had over some Singareni coal which we personally watched through Messrs Coppee's ovens in Belgium. We then submitted, at the special instance of the India Office, a scheme for using imported coal, and now we

learn

This protest has already been under the consideration of Govt. No. 728 30/10/98

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learn that a scheme for using fuel as yet undiscovered is preferred to ours.

As to the Ore question - thrown back by the selection as we believe, of an unconcentrated sample which was reported on officially as good for nothing - we declined to accept the verdict as final.

We sent an Engineer to Sweden, who was furnished with letters of introduction by the Secretary of State, Mr. Turner himself went to that Country, visited the principal mines and consulted many experts on the problem.

All this has been done at our own expense.

Our Engineer is now on his way to Madras to inspect the deposits and we have arranged for analyses being made of samples on the spot.

This gentleman again furnished with credentials from the Secretary of State to the Government of Madras, will now apparently have to wait till Messrs Best and Company make their selection. The work will have to be done twice over, by them and by us.

We respectfully, but most emphatically protest against this treatment, and we can find no adequate reason for departing from the old rule of first come first served.

We beg that you will forward a copy of this remonstrance to the Government of Madras. We are ourselves sending a copy of the correspondence to the Secretary of State.

We have, &c.,

(Sd) P. Macfadyen.

(Sd) H. G. Turner.

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INDIA OFFICE,

1st November 1898.

R. & S. 2471.

To

Messrs Turner and Macfadyen,
Winchester House,
Old Broad Street.

Gentlemen,

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I am directed by the Secretary of State for India to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated the 17th October 1898, concerning the grant to Messrs Best and Company, of a prospecting license with a promise to give them hereafter a mining lease over a part of the Salem iron field. Lord George Hamilton has not received from India any information on the subject of Messrs Best and Company's application but he has forwarded copy of your letter and enclosures to the Government of India for consideration.

I am, &c.,

(Signed) J. A. Godley.

True copies,

J. M. Schofield
for Registrar,

Department of Revenue and Agriculture.

B. B. D.

When given for copying _____
 When copied _____
 When examined _____
 When signed _____

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READ AGAIN G.O., No.
 189 ,

DATED

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURES TO C. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT A A A A A A A

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

PAPERS NOT FILED UP, BEING MEANT FOR DESPATCH
 IN ORIGINAL.

N.B.—

A = Copy in full.
 B = Not to be copied.
 P = Copy abstract only.
 Q = Copy heading only.

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