M.R.O. 1—89,000—16-10-29.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 1642 Press ~~Mis.~~

87-86

87-88

Dated 14. 12. 1860 ~~19~~ .

4/5

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department, 14th December 1860.

No. 87. Read the following Proceedings of Government in the Revenue Department, dated 5th December 1860, No. 2,311.

Communicating the Order passed on a letter from the Acting Conservator of Forests, regarding the extensive waste and spoliation committed in the forest on the border of Mysore and Wainad by 2 Devastanums which claim to have rights in that forest and suggesting that the robbery thus complained of, be put a stop to until a certain time.

(Vide Proceedings Revenue Department, dated 5th December 1860, Nos. 53 & 54.)

No. 88. ORDER THEREON, 14th December 1860, No. 1,642.

Communicated to the Inspector General of Police.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

Exd. T. O'Connor.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following letter from Lieutenant R. H. BEDDOME, Officiating Conservator of Forests, to J. D. BOURDILLON, Esq., Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Fort Saint George, dated Madras, 9th November 1860, No. 247:—

SIR,

1. Adverting to paragraph 14 of Dr. Cleghorn's report to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, dated 1st May 1858, No. 337, you will perceive that two Dévastánams hold Inám land in the Wainád and Heggadevinkotta teak forest.

2. Captain Gib who has been appointed to the charge of this range of forest, reports to me that the limits of this Inám land is not yet defined, and that these Dévastánams are consequently carrying on wholesale robberies of teak, felling teak both within the Mysore boundary and on Government land in Wainád, and carting it out of the forests as timber felled within the limits of the Inám land.

3. As the Revenue Survey Department are now employed in laying down the Government boundaries in Wainád, may I request that you will urge upon Government the necessity of authorizing the Superintendent of Astagram and the Deputy Collector of Wainád, to stop all felling of timber by these Dévastánams until the boundaries of the Inám land are satisfactorily defined.

From Captain W. GIB, Assistant Conservator of Forests, to Lieutenant R. H. BEDDOME, Officiating Conservator of Forests, dated Manantoddy, 31st October 1860, No. 3.

SIR,

1. I have the honor to report that the limits of the Inám land claimed by two Dévastánams in the north of Wainád and mentioned by Dr. Cleghorn in his report to Government 1st May 1858, No. 337, paragraph 14, have not yet been defined.

2. I would therefore beg to suggest your recommending to Government that until the limits of the land originally granted to those Dévastánams have been ascertained and marked out, they should be prohibited by order of Government from felling timber. Unless this is done it appears to me impossible to prevent their felling beyond their own limits.

3. I have conferred with the Superintendent of Astagram and the Deputy Collector of Wainád on the subject, and they are both of opinion that great robbery has been carried on by these Dévastánams felling timber within the boundary of the Mysore territory and Government land in Wainád.

4. The Deputy Collector of Wainád has already received two applications for tracts of land for the cultivation of Coffee, on or adjoining the land claimed by the Dévastánams; but it will be impossible to comply with these requisitions until the boundaries are decided, and this is an additional reason for their speedy settlement.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) R. H. BEDDOME, Lieutenant,
Officiating Conservator of Forests.

ORDER THEREON, 5th December 1860, No. 2,311.

1. In this letter the Acting Conservator of Forests brings to the notice of Government the extensive waste and spoliation committed in the forest lately placed under charge of Captain Gib, on the border of Mysore and Wainád, under cover of passes given by two Dévastánams, which claim to have rights in that forest. Lieutenant Beddome supports Captain Gib's recommendation that all felling under such passes should be prohibited, until the rights of the Temples shall have been proved and defined.

2. The subject thus brought forward has already been twice under the consideration of Government. On the first occasion action was postponed until the boundary then in dispute between Mysore and Wainád should be settled; but Government expressed the opinion that when that was done there would be no difficulty in prohibiting all cutting until the

representation of the Dévastánam should prove their title. They also signified their willingness to consider Dr. Cleghorn's proposal that an Officer should be appointed to the charge of this forest, as soon as the boundary should be determined.* The boundary question has now been settled; and an Officer has been appointed to the charge, in the person of Captain Gib.

* *August 5th* 1858, *No.* 1,086, *paragraph* 11.

3. On the second occasion the Government saw reason to believe that the claims of the two Temples were wholly invalid; but they directed the Collector of Malabar to call on the representatives of the Temples to produce proof of their title to the forest rights which they claimed, and to report on the subject for the information of Government.† Mr. Grant's inquiries led him to the conclusion that the Temples never possessed forest lands; but on his recommendation the final decision of Government on the matter was deferred pending the completion of the Revenue Survey of Wainád.

† *July 12th* 1859, *No.* 925, *paragraph* 10.

Order, 31*st January* 1860, *No.* 166.

4. The Government now consider it necessary to put a stop to the waste and robbery complained of; and they resolve to pass an order to the effect recommended by Lieutenant Beddome. They accordingly direct the Collector to give notice to the representatives of the Dévastánams, and to all persons holding passes from them, that no further cutting whatever will be permitted under such passes, until proof shall be produced of the possession of forest rights, and of their extent. Parties acting in breach of this prohibition will be dealt with as trespassing on Government property. Captain Gib will be able, with the Peons at his disposal, to uphold this order; and the Police will be instructed to aid him in doing so.

5. As respects the portion of the forest lying on the Mysore side of the boundary, this Government need pass no orders; but they resolve to transmit copy of the present correspondence and of this order to the Commissioner of Mysore, for such notice as he may consider fit.

(True Extract,)

(Signed)

Acting Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.
" Director of Revenue Settlement.
" Superintendent of Revenue Survey,
" Conservator of Forests.
" Collector of Malabar.
" Judicial Department.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

Judicial/1860/Sept

Nos: 05 Sports in the
Year: 9c 2311.
No. 53-54.

9/5 5 1/3 2 Sept 1860.
12/5 6 1/3 3

2 opposite copies

9c 2023.

Copy the order passed on a letter from the Conservator of Forests regarding the extensive waste & spoliation committed in the Forest on the border of Tinnevelly & Travancore by 2 Devastanam Pricelain to lease rights in that Forest and suggesting that the robbery thus committed be put a stop to within a certain time.

With an order

Order thereon 11th December 1860. No 1642.

Communicated to the Inspector General of Police.

J.P.

To the Inspector General of Police. 3 dispatch 14th

Dupl 21 Dec/60

97 188.

57/188