M.R.O. 1—77,006—8-6-37.

(1) Number of pages 12.

(2) Date of repair 10-7-43

(3) Initials of the Referencer

CONCERNS BOTH BRITISH INDIA
AND INDIAN STATES.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 1757-58 Press
Mis.-
1-2-3

Dated 22-9- 1857.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 1. Read the following letter from Colonel C. E. FABER, Chief Engineer; to H. FORBES, Esq., Acting Secretary to Government, dated 5th September 1857, No. 3485.

SIR,

1. I have the honor to forward for the consideration of Government the original correspondence noted in the margin (to be obligingly returned) on the subject of the timber to be supplied by certain Contractors to the District Engineer of Bellary.

From the District Engineer Bellary, No. 183, 20th August 1857, with enclosures in the above, viz.
1 Letter from the District Engineer, to the Commissioner of the Nuggur Division, No 93, dated 5th June 1857.
1 Do. from Sub Engineer Chedumbrum Moodeliar, to District Engineer with translation of Urzee, dated 30th May 1857.
1 Do. No. 412, dated 15th June 1857, from Secretary to Mysore Commissioner, to District Engineer.
1 Do. No. 443, dated 15th July 1857, from District Engineer, to Secretary to Mysore Commissioner.
1 Do. No. 516, dated 28th July, from Secretary Mysore Commissioner, to District Engineer.
1 Do. No. 566 dated 1st August, from District Engineer, to Superintendent Nuggur Division.
1 Do. No. 36, dated 12th August 1857, from Lieutenant Drever, to District Engineer.

2. The District Engineer in para. 1 of his letter No. 183, of the 20th Ultimo, states, that all this correspondence is in consequence of Extract from my Proceedings No. 1774, dated 4th July 1857.

3. In the Extract in question, the District Engineer's attention was called to Extract Minutes of Consultation No. 1938, dated 22nd October 1853, in which Government authorized the purchase of the surplus timber cut by the Contractors in the Nuggur Jungles, and he was requested to furnish to the Mysore authorities a Memorandum, shewing the quantity of timber authorized by Government to be purchased, the number of logs already supplied, and the number remaining to be supplied, when I observed, that I had no doubt permission would be given to the Contractors to remove the same.

4. In accordance with these instructions, the District Engineer addressed a letter No. 443, dated 15th July 1857, to Captain Cunningham, Secretary to the Mysore Commissioner, and that Officer in his reply No. 516, of the 28th Idem, referred the District Engineer to Major Porter the Superintendent of the Nuggur Division, observing at the same time, that there was nothing to prevent the Contractors from purchasing timber at the periodical sales about to be established.

5. No reply from Major Porter has been forwarded to the Central office, but as there appears to be some misapprehension on the part of the Mysore authorities, as to the permission originally given to the Contractors for supplying the timber, and that permission having subsequently been confirmed in Extract Minutes of Consultation No. 1285 of the 2nd July last, I consider it my duty in consequence of the present urgent demand for timber, to request that Government will obligingly address the Mysore authorities on the subject.

Letter from Lieutenant J. F. FISHER, District Engineer of Bellary; to Colonel C. E. FABER, Chief Engineer, dated 20th August 1857, No. 183.

SIR,

I have the honor to forward copy of a letter from Lieutenant Drever together with copies of letters addressed by me to the Commissioner of Mysore and the replies received from Mr. Secretary Cunningham and copy of a letter addressed by me to Major Porter Superintendent of the Nuggur Division; all this correspondence is in consequence of Extract of your Proceedings No. 1774, dated 4th July 1857, and no step has been gained since I addressed you in a letter No. 81 dated 18th June 1857, which gave rise to those proceedings.

2. The Commissioner of Mysore positively declines allowing the contractors to take away the quantity of wood due by them to the Bellary works, and authorized by Government in Extract of Minutes of Consultation No. 1938, dated 23rd October 1856 to be purchased, but directs that these contractors should attend periodical sales of timber, about to be established, no date being given, to buy the wood they have contracted to supply.

3. The contractors have already advanced Rupees 15,000 for this wood more than half the sum required for its purchase, the wood is already cut and can be floated down in a few days whilst the freshes in the Toongabudra prevail, but as these cannot always be relied on in October and November and thus there would be great difficulty in obtaining the wood after September, I deem it my duty once more to address you on the subject and trust the urgency of our wants will induce you to address the Commissioner of Mysore or the Madras Government on the subject.

4. The complaint made against the contractors for flagitious conduct is hardly sufficiently strong I should think for such stringent measures being necessary, had there been no laxity or connivance on the part of the natives in charge of the forests this flagitiousness could hardly been existed, it seems therefore very hard that an absolute injury must be done to the works of the country to expiate the offence against which precautions should have been taken at first.

5. My proposition is I consider a very simple one, I ask merely to be allowed to take away such timber as is due to us, and I propose for the future that those people who contract to supply us with timber shall be instructed to attend the periodical sales, no flagitious conduct can occur here, the quantity authorized by the Madras Government to be purchased is given and the number of logs required to make up this quantity are also given, no greater quantity need be allowed to pass.

6. I fully understand and appreciate the flagitiousness complained of by the Mysore authorities, under pretence of supplying wood to the Public Works in Bellary these contractors have floated whole rafts of wood down the river and sold it at immense profits in the bazars but this should have been brought forward as a Civil complaint and punished as a fraud and not the works made to suffer in consequence.

7. The large European Hospital now constructing at Bellary will be entirely stopped if this supply of wood is longer detained and as there is every reason to believe that a large European force will be stationed at Bellary, and it is of the highest importance that the progress of so large a work should not be retarded if possible, I trust this second appeal from me will not meet with the same unfavorable reception accorded to the former one.

Letter from Lieutenant J. F. FISHER, District Engineer of Bellary; to the Commissioner of the Nuggur Division, Mysore Shernogah, dated Bellary 5th June 1857, No. 93.

SIR,

I have the honor to forward copy of a letter from the Sub Engineer of this District, together with translation of an Urzee addressed by some contractors who have agreed to supply timber for the use of the Government buildings in the District and to request you will be good enough to grant them permission to float the timber down this season, otherwise the Public service will be seriously inconvenienced.

Letter from A. CHEDUMBARUM, Moodely, 2nd Class Sub Engineer; to Lieutenant J. F. FISHER, District Engineer of Bellary, dated Ramandroog, 30th May 1857.

SIR,

I beg to enclose a translation of a Teloogoo Urzee received from the wood Contractors to Government, and beg that their requests may be complied with, as this season seems to be the most favourable one for floating the wood in the Toombudra river.

Translation of an Urzee from the Timber Contractors Buttapauty Kristnapah, Sukkary Curdapah of Bellary, to the address of the Sub Engineer.

We beg to say that we both contracted to supply the Nuggur Red and Teak wood for the verandah work of European Barracks at Bellary, we have requested the Superintendent of the Division to cut down 3220 beams of which we have already supplied half the number what we contracted to Captain Barrow who ordered us to deliver the remainder of the wood due, with

the object of fulfilling our engagements, we have taken measures to have a greatest supply of wood worth Rupees 15,000 in the Nuggur Division where we have been to bring down the wood, the authorities of that Division have prevented us from bringing them. This is a proper season to float them down in the river, otherwise it will be difficult to get them. We request that you will cause a letter to be written by the District Engineer to the Superintendent of the Division not to prevent us from taking away the wood as these four months being a fitting season.

We further beg to state that a delay in writing a letter to the authorities of that Division will accrue great loss to us and request a speedy measure may be adopted to meet our prayer.

Bellary, 10th May 1857.

(A true Translation)

(Signed) A. CHEDUMBARUM. Moodely.
Sub Engineer.

(True Copies.)

(Signed) J. F. FISHER, Lieutenant,
District Engineer of Bellary.

Letter from Captain F. CUNNINGHAM, Secretary to the Commissioner for the Government of the Territories of His Highness the Rajah of Mysore; to Lieutenant J. F. FISHER, District Engineer Bellary, dated Bangalore, 15th June 1857, No. 412.

SIR,

I have the honor by desire of the Commissioner for the Government of the Territories of His Highness the Rajah of Mysore to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 93 of the 5th Ultimo, which came direct to him, although it would appear to have been intended for the Superintendent of Nuggur.

2. In reply I am directed to refer you to the records of your own office, by which it will be seen that the proceedings of these contractors were so flagitious, that the Madras Government deemed it proper to bring their conduct to the notice of Mysore authorities; and it has been principally in consequence of this, that the Commissioner has considered it necessary to prohibit contractors from having access to the Forests of Nuggur. Henceforth, the Superintendent of the Division will be directed to hold periodical sales of timber at Shemogga, Benkeypoor and Hurrihur, of which public notice will be given, when your agents can make their purchases like private individuals, or like the Mysore Public Works Deparnment.

Letter from Lieutenant J. F. FISHER, District Engineer of Bellary; to Captain F. CUNNINGHAM, Secretary to the Commissioner for the Government of the Territories of His Highness the Rajah of Mysore, dated Camp Balagooppa, 15th July 1857, No. 413.

SIR,

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter No. 412 dated 15th June 1857 and to request you will be good enough to lay the following circumstances before the Commissioner for the Government of the Territories of His Highness Rajah of Mysore.

2. On receipt of your letter I forwarded a copy of it to the Chief Engineer Madras, requesting him to be good enough to move the Commissioner of Mysore to allow these contractors to go into the Nuggur Jungles to bring down the surplus timber they had contracted to supply for the use of the works in Bellary, the Chief Engineer referred me to the proceedings of the Madras Government in October last, in this Extract from Minutes of Consultation the Madras Government sanctioned the purchase of the timber and desired me to take charge of it as soon as it was brought down.

3. I now beg to inform you that 1620 logs or about 38,880 cubic feet of timber are still due to the Madras Government and that these contractors have already advanced Rupees 15,000 from their own mony towards the purchase of it; under these circumstances, I trust the Commissioner of Mysore will grant them permission to proceed to Shemogga and bring down the

wood, it is, I am given to understand already cut and lying there, if this be allowed the contract for supplying the timber for the Military buildings at Bellary will have been worked out and on any further occasion people who contract to supply timber for this District can attend the regular sales.

4. The public service in Bellary is seriously inconvenienced for want of this wood and will be more so immediately as under existing circumstances European Troops may be shortly expected in India and as yet there is no Hospital built for the Barracks at that station, I trust therefore sympathy for his own country-men will move the Commissioner of Mysore to grant the permission I have now the honor to solicit.

Letter from Captain F. CUNNINGHAM, Secretary to the Commissioner of Mysore; to Lieutenant J. F. FISHER, District Engineer of Bellary, dated Bangalore, 28th July 1857, No. 516.

SIR,

I have the honor by desire of the Commissioner for the Government of the Territories of His Highness the Rajah of Mysore to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 443, of the 15th Instant.

2. In reply I am directed to inform you that there is nothing to prevent the contractors to whom you allude from purchasing timber at periodical sales about to be established in the same manner as other individuals. Your best plan is to put yourself in communication with Major Porter the Superintendent of the Nuggur Division to whom a copy of your letter under reply has been sent.

Letter from Lieutenant J. F. FISHER, District Engineer of Bellary; to Major PORTER, Superintendent of the Nuggur Division Mysore, dated 1st August 1857, No. 566.

SIR,

By desire of the Commissioner of Mysore as conveyed in Mr. Secretary Cunningham's letter No. 516, dated 28th July 1857, I do myself the honor to forward a Memo. shewing the quantity of timber sanctioned by the Madras Government for the use of this District, the greater part of which I am given to understand is ready to be brought down the river Toombudra as the wants of this District are emergent, I request you will be good enough to permit the contractors for supplying this Timber to bring it down at once, on any future occasion the contractors for Timber for this District can attend the periodical sales but as the dates of these have not yet been fixed and I am in great want of Timber I trust you will oblige me by allowing it to pass.

Memo.

150	Beams of red and black wood remaining at Vullabhapoor and Cooroovully.
30	Teakwood Beams at Vullabhapoor.
180	Total. These beams are available at present for the Civil Engineer.
1620	Beams are detained between Hurryhur and Shemogah for want of water.
1800	Beams or about 43,000 cubic feet.

Bellary, 17th December 1856.

(Signed) D. BARROW, Captain,
Superintending Executive Military Buildings.

Letter from Lieutenant W. S. DREVER, 4th Class Executive Engineer; to Lieutenant J. F. FISHER, District Engineer of Bellary, dated 12th August 1857, No. 36.

SIR,

1. As the new European Hospital has been ordered to be built and other important works in Bellary are almost at a stand still for want of timber, it is of the greatest importance that the question

whether we are or are not to receive the surplus timber from the Bellary Barracks, should be settled as speedily as possible; you are aware that the Madras Government authorized in Minutes Consultation under date 22nd October 1856 No. 1938, the purchase of this timber for the general purposes of the District, of the wood thus ordered to be bought, the Contractors have only been permitted by the authorities in Mysore to remove 330 logs, the remaining 1620 logs still lying at various places on the banks of the Toombudra. For this timber the Contractors have laid out upwards of Rupees 15,000 and it seems to me to be a great hardship that they should have been kept out of their money so long. They came forward in 1855 at Captain Barrow's requisition to take the contract for the supply of wood for the Bellary Barracks and European Hospital, but as the latter building had not then been commenced and Captain Barrow had no money to give them they advanced their own capital. Had they failed in their contract measures would doubtless have been taken against them, and I think it therefore but just that steps should be immediately taken to prevent their sustaining further loss and I cannot see any other way of doing so than by the Mysore authorities at once granting them permission to remove the timber already felled. Because if the Mysore Government are averse to this timber being removed by the Contractors, they must purchase the wood from them at the cost price and as this price will have been considerably raised by the interest on the Contractors sunk Capital and various other causes, I should scarcely suppose the Mysore Government would be inclined to buy these logs when they could fell timber in the same places at a less cost to themselves.

2. If further delay takes place in granting the Contractors permission to remove the wood, I would beg to point out that we shall lose the freshes in the Toombudra and be thrown back a full year in all our Bellary works.

3. If we are not however to get this timber the Madras Government will be considerable losers as the Contractors are bound to deliver wood to us at Bellary as per margin* The prices at Bellary are now much higher as per margin† and if for our new works we have to pay at the latter rates the estimates will evidently be much exceeded. In addition however to this, wood is now excessively scarce and if we enter the Bazar as buyers the prices will still further rise.

* Nuggur red wood 13 Annas per cubic foot.
Teak wood 1-4 per cubic foot.
† Nuggur red wood 1-2 per cubic foot.
Teak wood 1-12 per cubic foot.
N. B. Nuggur wood of all description is however scarcely procurable.

4. There is yet one point I must advert to viz. the great advantages it will be to us to receive wood of this kind in which has been lying cut so long. The bad effects of using improperly seasoned wood, are already becoming apparent in the new Barracks and it was to obviate this that Captain Barrow made the arrangements above alluded to with these Contractors.

5. As I am given to understand that the Mysore authorities are averse to the timber being removed by our people, I would beg to urge upon your consideration the desirability of the circumstances being laid before Government with a view to obtaining a speedy decision on the subject.

6. If we are not to get our supply of wood from Nugger what are we to do unless we revert to Palmyra Trees.

No. 2. ORDER THEREON, No. 1757; dated 16th September 1857.

Ordered that the following letter be dispatched, and that a copy of the same be furnished to the Chief Engineer for his information.

To the Commissioner for the Territories of His Highness the Rajah of Mysore.

(Here enter 16th September 1857, No. 1758.)

(Signed) H. FORBES,
Acting Secretary to Government.

No. 3. Ordered in consequence that the following letter be despatched.

From H. FORBES, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Government of Fort Saint George; to Lieutenant General Sir MARK CUBBON, K. C. B., Commissioner for the Government of the Territories of His Highness the Rajah of Mysore, dated 16th September 1857, No. 1758.

SIR,

1. I am directed by the Right Honorable the Governor in Council to communicate the accompanying correspondence submitted by the Chief Engineer, regarding certain timber cut by contractors under permission in the Myscre jungles, for the use of the Military works at Bellary, but which the Contractors are now prevented from removing by the Mysore authorities; and to request that you will be good enough to issue orders for the necessary permission being accorded for the removal of the wood, in order that no impediment may be offered to the commencement of a new Hospital at Bellary, a work of necessity that has been ordered for immediate execution.

Dated 5th September 1857, No. 3485, and its enclosure.

2. Captain Cunningham remarks in his letter to the District Engineer of Bellary, dated 15th June 1857, No. 412, that the proceedings of the Contractors were so flagitious, as to have been made the subject of notice by the Madras Government, and that this circumstance had chiefly led to the introduction of the present rule, under which Contractors are prohibited from having access to the Nuggur Forests. On referring to the records of this office however, the only communication upon the subject has been Mr. Pycroft's letter of the 22nd October 1856, No. 1939, in which the fact of the Contractors having cut wood for the Military buildings at Bellary, through the intervention of the Mysore authorities, was brought to your notice, with the intimation that no further supply of timber was required by this Government at the time. This caution was deemed desirable, to provide against a possible contingency, as the Contractors had already cut on favorable terms a larger quantity of wood than was then actually required by Government, and it was not improbable that, if unchecked in their operations, they might continue cutting on the same terms for their own special profit.

3. In the present case, the wood has been already cut under the permission originally accorded by the Superintendent of the Nuggur Division, and is *de facto* the property of Government. I am here directed to draw your attention to Extract Minutes Consultation of the 22nd October 1856, communicated with Mr. Pycroft's letter of that date, in which a brief resumé is given of the circumstances under which timber was allowed to be cut in Mysore, and removed from time to time for use on the Military works at Bellary; and from it, it will be observed that the quantity now lying in the Mysore jungles is but a balance of the supply originally applied for by the Executive Officer at Bellary, and is thus actually due to the Government. Lieutenant Fisher reports that the Contractors have advanced 15,000 Rupees for this timber, that it is already cut, and may be floated down in a few days while the freshes continue in the Toongabudra; but that delay beyond the present month may render this impracticable this year, as the existing facility cannot be relied upon in the months of October and November.

4. I am desired to submit that it is of *great* importance, in the present certainty of a large European force shortly arriving in and garrisoning different parts of this country, that the Bellary Hospital should not be delayed a whole year, as it will be, if the wood required for its construction cannot be brought down the river in this month; and that it is important also that the estimate for the work should not be exceeded, as it will be, if the Government be now compelled to purchase timber in the bazaar, while at the same time, the wood lying cut and ready in the Mysore jungles, as being seasoned, is doubly valuable for the important Military work in hand. The rule now laid down by the Mysore authorities, prohibiting free access to the forests, and requiring Contractors and Agents to attend the periodical sales of timber about to be established, is doubtless a wholesome one; and one with which the Madras Government would not wish on any future occasion to interfere, I am directed to press the position in which this Government is placed with reference to the necessity for the immediate erection of the Bellary

Hospital; and to request that no stoppage may be put to the fulfilment of a contract already made; but that on consideration of the circumstances I have pointed out, you will permit the Contractors to make use of the present season, to transport to the Bellary District, the remaining quantity of timber they have contracted to supply, which is reported to be 1620 logs, or 38,880 cubic feet.

5. A copy of this letter will be sent to the District Engineer of Bellary, and I am directed to request that that Officer may be furnished with a copy of your reply, in order that he may take action on the orders which the Government have requested you to give.

Central Office of P.W.
No. 3465 Fort St. George 5th September 1837

From The Chief Engineer

To The Secretary to Government
P.W. Department.

Public
Supply of
Timber.

Sir.

1.- I have the honor to forward for the consideration of Government the original correspondence noted in the margin (to be obligingly returned) on the subject of the timber to be supplied by certain contractors to the District Engineer of Bellary.

2.- The District Engineer in para 1. of his letter No. 1831 of the 20th Ultimo states, that all this correspondence is in consequence of Extract from my Proceedings No. 1774, dated 4th July 1837.

3.- In the Extract in question the District Engineers attention was called to Extract Minutes of Consultation No. 1938, dated 22d October 1836, in which Government authorized the purchase of the surplus timber cut by the contractors in

No. 3 Letters & 1 Draft Letter on the Subject & Enclosure.

From the Distt. Engineer Bellary No. 183-20: August 1837 with Enclosures in the above Letter from the Distt. Engineer to the Commissioner of the Nuggur Division No. 93 dated 5th June 1837.

1st Enclosure Lieut. Engineer Chedumbrum Moodeliar to District Engineer with Translation of Urzee dated 31st May.

1st Letter No. 412 dated 15th June 1837 from Secy. to Inspecting Commissioner to Govt. Engrs.

1. Do. 443 - 15th July 1837. from Dy. Engr. to Secy. to Inspecting Commissioner.

1. Do. 516 - 28th July from Secy. Inspecting Commr. to Distt. Engineer.

1. Do. 566 - 1st August from Distt. Engineer to Superintendent Nuggur Division.

1. Do. 36 - 12th August 1837 from Superintendent Nuggur Division to District Engineer.

in the Nuggur jungles and he was requested to furnish to the Mysore authorities a memorandum, shewing the quantity of timber authorized by Government to be purchased, the number of logs already supplied, and the number remaining to be supplied, when I observed, that I had no doubt permission would be given to the Contractors to remove the same.

4. In accordance with these instructions, the District Engineer addressed a letter No. 443, dated 13 July 37 to Captain Cumming, and Secretary to the Mysore Commissioner and that Officer in his reply No. 516, of the 28 idem referred the District Engineer to Major Porter the Superintendent of the Nuggur Division observing at the same time that there was nothing to prevent the Contractors from purchasing timber at the periodical sales about to be established.

5. No reply from Major Porter has been forwarded to the Central Office but as there appears to be some misapprehension on the part of the Mysore authorities as to the permission originally given to the Contractors for supplying the timber, and that permission having subsequently

subsequently been confirmed in Extract Minutes of Consultation No. 1285, of the 2d. July last. I consider it my duty, in consequence of the present urgent demand for timber, to request that Government will obligingly address the Mysore Authorities on the subject.

I have the honor to be
Sir.
Your most obed.t Servant
A. Cotton Colonel
Chief Engineer

Central Office of R.to
Fort St. George
5th September 1837

A. Rpt Engr H.C.

Pour

X.13

Cons: 1st Sept/57 to 2nd Oct
& 28 October/56 — 142.

CONCERNS BOTH BRITISH INDIA AND INDIAN STATES.

Copy with Encls: to Govt of Mysore —
16 Sept/57 —
No: 1758.

No: 142.

C 8 Sep. R. 10th

Public Works 1857 Sept 11
Rd to Cons: 22nd Sept.
No: 1775.

From The Chief Engineer
To The Secretary to Government
P. W. Department

Dated 7th September 1857
Rec'd 7th "

No: 2458

Encls. 2.
Further Cons: 20th Oct 1857
No 4476 —

Forwards for the consideration of Government a correspondence on the subject of the timber to be supplied by certain contractors to the District Engineer of Bellary.

Northern Circle
No: 1757. 16 Sept.

No 1757

Ordered that the following letter be dispatched, and that a copy of the same be furnished to the Chief Engineer for his information. —

Fort St George
16th Sept 1857 —

Recd enter 16 Sept/57 —
No: 1758.

Copies to the Chief Engr with Encls: 17
Chief Engr with Encls: & Copy of the Re: to the Comr of Mysore.