19-12-4411

M.R.O. 14—10,000—21-4-22

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 970 — Press / ~~Mis.~~

79.80

Dated 3 5 1862.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 79. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 7th April 1862, No. 2,279 :—

Read the following letter from Captain H. R. MORGAN, Officiating Conservator of Forests, to W. HUDLESTON, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, Chepauk, dated Ootacamund, 22nd August 1861, No. 599.

SIR,

1. In accordance with the orders of the Board of Revenue, number and date as per margin, I have the honor to forward the accounts marginally noted, of the Mudumallai Forest, exhibiting all transactions from the commencement of the work to the handing over of the Forest to the Conservancy Department.

No. 3,76S, dated 16th July 1861.

No. I. Account-current.
No. II. Memorandum showing the value of Timber supplied to Wellington Barracks and Gundulpet Workshop.
No. III. Memorandum showing the market value of Timber on hand not disposed of on the 31st October 1860.
No. IV. List showing the value of Provisions on hand on 31st October 1860.
No. V. List of Plant on 31st October 1860.
No. VII. Memorandum of sums remained to be recovered on 31st October 1860.
Memorandum A. Abstract of salary of the Officer in charge from 1st June 1857 to 31st October 1859.
Memorandum B. Abstract of Establishment from 1st April 1856 to 31st May 1858.
Balance Sheet.

2. The Account-current No. I, shows the total sums drawn from all sources, and the total expenditure.

3. Memorandum No. II, shows the value of the timber supplied to the Barracks and Workshops inclusive of carriage and wood sold at auction.

4. Memorandum No. III, shows the value of the wood on hand on the 31st October 1860, amounting to Rupees 39,012-8-0. Memorandum No. IV, the value of Provisions. Memorandum A, the allowances drawn by the Officer in charge from the Public Treasury ; and Memorandum B, the Abstracts of his Establishment. Memorandum V, List of Plant. Memorandum* VI, Gundulpet Workshop Plant ; and Memorandum VII timber sold to private individuals and amount to be recovered.

* Applied for but not received.

5. A Balance-sheet showing all the sums received from the Barracks, and the market value of the wood delivered to the Barracks is appended ; from this it appears that the Barracks are indebted to the Forest in the sum of Rupees 4,240-3-7.

6. The apparent discrepancy that has arisen between the two accounts is due to the fact that the Barracks never credited the Forest with the market value of the timber ; hence in closing the accounts it appeared from the Barrack Ledger, that the Forest owed the Barracks Rupees 48,379-2-4, whereas had the Forest been from first to last credited with the market value of the timber, it would have been shown, as per the present Balance-sheet, that the case was the reverse, and a sum of Rupees 4,240-2-7, was due by the Barracks to the Forest.

7. I would now bring to the notice of the Board the financial position of the Forest on its being handed over to the Conservancy Department. The value of the timber on hand was Rupees 39,012-8-0 ; the value of plant, Rupees 13,000-0-0 ; debt due by the Barracks, Rupees 4,240-2-7 : total Rupees 56,252-10-7, in favor of the Forest.

8. The financial results of working the Forest are as follow :—In the year 1856, the Barracks were much pressed for timber ; the Ootacamund market could supply next to nothing ; the principal timber came from the Annamalais at an average cost of Rupees 4 the cubic foot, and much loss of time. To obviate this state of things, I obtained a lease of the Mudumallai Forest, introduced improvements in the system of working the Forest, and supplied the Barracks with upwards of 1,50,000 cubic feet of timber at the Ootacamund market rates. If it is considered, that had not the Mudumallai Forest been worked, at least one-third of this timber must have come from the Annamalais at a cost of Rupees 4 the cubic foot instead of only Rupees 1-7-0, it will be seen that the real saving effected to the Barracks is 50,000 + Rupees 2-9-0 (the difference between Rupee 1-7-0 and Rupees 4), equals Rupees 1,28,125, or at least one lac twenty-eight thousand one hundred and twenty-five Rupees, to this must be added the building of the Bar-

racks expedited by at least two years. As it is difficult to place even an approximate money value on this, I would merely take the two items, *viz.*, the saving effected on the Ootacamund market rates and the Annamalai rates, which shows a clear gain to Government of two lacs of Rupees.

9. It may be said that the whole charges for superintendence have not been entered against the Forest in the Balance-sheet, amounting to some Rupees 15,000. I have to explain that for some time my superintendence was given to the Barracks, Segúr Ghát and road with the Western trace, and the amount is fairly chargeable to the Barracks direct. I would enter into a further explanation on this head, were I not apprehensive that the report might be thought tedious.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

ABSTRACT.—Account-current of the rented Mudumallai Forest of the Malabar District, prepared from 1st March 1856 to 31st October 1860, as per orders conveyed in paragraphs 5 and 6 of Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 16th July 1861, No. 3,768.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.

ABSTRACT.—Memorandum showing the value of Mudumallai timber supplied to Wellington Barracks and Gundulpet Workshop inclusive of the cost of the carriage and also the value of timber sold at public auction and privately up to 31st October 1860.

ENCLOSURE No. 3.

ABSTRACT.—Memorandum showing the market value of the timber on hand not disposed of on 31st October 1860.

ENCLOSURE No. 4.

ABSTRACT.—List showing the value of provisions which remained in hand on 31st October 1860.

ENCLOSURE No. 5.

ABSTRACT.—List of Plant remaining on 31st October 1860, showing in one column the original value and in another the value as estimated on 31st October 1860.

ENCLOSURE No. 6.

ABSTRACT.—Memorandum of sums remained to be recovered on 31st October 1860, on account of timber sold to private individuals and at public auctions.

ENCLOSURE No. 7.

ABSTRACT.—Abstract of Captain H. R. Morgan's salary and allowances drawn from the Public Treasury on Bills passed by the Civil Auditor of Fort Saint George, from 1st January 1857 to 31st October 1859.

ENCLOSURE No. 8.

ABSTRACT.—Abstract of the salary drawn from the Public Treasury by the Office Establishment of Captain Morgan on Bills passed by the Civil Auditor of Fort Saint George, from 1st April 1856 to 31st May 1858.

ENCLOSURE No. 9.

ABSTRACT.—Balance-sheet showing the financial results of the Mudumallai Forest with Wellington Barracks up to 31st October 1860.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
3rd May 1862.

1. With this letter Capt. Morgan submits the accounts of the Mudumallai Forest called for by the Board in their Proceedings, dated 16th July 1861, No. 3,768. These accounts relate to the working of this Forest Establishment for the entire period from 1st March 1856, the date of its first entertainment, to 31st October 1860, the date in which it was taken charge of by the Conservancy Department. The accounts now furnished give the necessary particulars, but some of them have not been prepared according to the principles laid down by the Board.

2. The Account-current No. 1 is intended to show the actual receipts and disbursements on account of the working of the Forest. In this a sum of Rupees 11,144-14-5, is included both on the debit and credit sides as the value of Gundulpet plant received back by the Forest from the Barracks on closing the Gundulpet Workshop. This had been noticed by Government, and Captain Morgan himself admitted that this transaction was in reality a transfer of materials from Gundulpet Workshop to the Forest, and that it should not have been entered in the account. Captain Morgan appears to have lost sight of this when he passed the Account-current. The transactions would have been properly included in an account with the Barracks, but is out of place in an Account-current of cash receipts and disbursements ; and should have been omitted altogether.

3. In the balance on 31st October 1860, a sum of Rupees 401-1-9 is included as stock of provisions in store, but these articles having been once paid for should have been included in the charges on the credit side as in the case of all other stores, any provisions or stores remaining on hand being made over to the new Department and their value being exhibited in the Stock account.

4. As corrected above, the receipts and charges will be as follow :—

Receipts.

				RS.	A.	P.
Amount drawn from the Public Treasury on account of Establishment				15,050	6	8
Amount drawn from the Collector's Treasury and Barracks for the operations of the Forest				1,72,746	5	6
Amount realized by the sale of timber, stores, and other sundries				31,621	1	5
				2,19,417	13	7
Charges.						
Establishment and Superintendence	31,499	15	7			
Contingent charges for the operations of the Forest	1,85,760	12	6			
Amount written off on account of Cash stolen from the Chest.	1,611	6	8			
				2,18,872	2	9
Balance on 31st October 1860				545	10	10
Actual cash	16	14	8			
Advance outstanding against Wellington Carriage Contractor and against workmen	528	12	2			
				545	10	10

5. In paragraph 6 of his letter, Captain Morgan states that a sum of Rupees 4,240-3-7 is due by the Barracks to the Forest as shown in his Balance-sheet. The value of timber supplied to the Wellington Barracks and the Gundulpet Workshop amounts to Rupees 2,07,676-4-10. To this he adds a sum of Rupees 1,611-6-8 written off to Profit and Loss on account of cash stolen from the chest. This sum should not be charged to the Barracks, and it has been properly included in the contingent charges. The sums drawn from the Barracks and the credits given by them for plant received back and timber supplied, give a total of Rupees 2,05,407-7-11, and this being deducted from the value of timber supplied, there is a balance of Rupees 2,628-12-11, which should be recovered from the Public Works Department, out of the amount sanctioned for the construction of the Barracks. It appears from Captain Morgan's letter that the Barracks have not credited the Forest with the market value of the timber, but the Board consider that this ought to be done for a fair adjustment of the transactions between the two Departments.

6. From the papers now received, the Board obtain the following Abstract showing the financial result of the working of the Forests for the entire period from its commencement up to 31st October 1860 :—

	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
Value of Timber supplied to Barracks an Gundulpet Workshop.....	2,07,676	4	10			
Value of Timber on hand as per Memorandum No. 3...	39,012	8	0			
Value of Provisions remaining in hand as per Memorandum No. 4.....	401	1	9			
Value of Plant as per Memorandum No. 5.....	13,000	0	0			
Value of sum remaining to be recovered on account of timber sold to private individuals and at public auctions as per Memorandum No. 7.....	532	0	0			
				2,60,621	14	7
Charges as particularized in paragraph 4 of these Proceedings.....				2,18,872	2	9
Actual profit...				41,749	11	10

7. This sum may be fairly assumed as the profit derived by the working of the Forests. In paragraph 8 of his letter, Captain Morgan, while speaking of the financial results of the working of the Forest, shows two lacs of Rupees as a clear gain to Government by comparing the Ootacamund rates with those of Annamalai. This may probably be the case, but what the Government wanted is the profit derived by the operations of the Forest, and the abstract given in the preceding paragraph fairly represents this.

8. For the final closing of the transactions the Barrack works should pay to the Forest Department the sum of Rupees 2,628-12-11, due by them as mentioned in paragraph 5, and the Barrack accounts should be closed. The Conservator of Forests should credit in his accounts of 1860-61 the cash balance of Rupees 16-14-8 and realized the following sums, and credit them in his accounts as they are realized, showing them in the meantime in his Stock account.

	Rs.	A.	P.
Advance outstanding against Wellington Carriage Contractor and against workmen.	528	12	2
Amount to be recovered from the Barracks on account of timber supplied..... ...	2,628	12	11
Value of timber made over.....	39,012	8	0
Value of provisions made...	401	1	9
Sum remaining to be recovered on account of timber sold to private individuals.	532	0	0
	43,103	2	10

9. The value of plant amounting to Rupees 13,000 should be exhibited by the Conservator of Forests in his Stock account. If any part of it be sold, the same should be written off in the Stock account, and the value carried to the Cash account. The Conservator of Forests is requested to take early measures for the recovery of the sums specified in the previous paragraph and to notice them fully in his annual reports for the information of the Board and Government.

10. Resolved that the foregoing Proceedings be communicated for the orders of Government, with reference to their Order, dated 12th October 1860, No. 2,132, Public Works Department.

In Cons. 29th October 1860, No. 5,531.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) R. A. DALYELL, *Sub-Secretary.*

No. 80. ORDER THEREON, 3rd May 1862, No. 970.

The accounts noticed in these Proceedings relate to the period during which the Mudumalai Forests were worked for the Public Works Department. These papers will, therefore, be referred to that Department for the necessary orders.

(Signed) J. D. SIM,

Secretary to Government.

23 August 1862 No 3367
337

Rev= 1862. Department.
Proc: of Govt for May.

No. 1174-

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

Dated 7th April 1862.
Despatched. 23 do
Received. 24 do
E-g Ol. Encl

Pro: of the Bd: of Rev: dated 26th April 1862
& No 2788

No. 2,279.

Communicating for orders letter from the Officiating Conservator of Forests forwarding certain accounts of the Mudumalai Forest, with the Board's observations thereon.

No 79 to 80-

No 970. 3 May
With an order

P. 970.

The accounts noticed in these Proceedings relate to the period during which the Mudumalai Trusts were worked for the Public Works Department. These papers will therefore be referred to that Department for the necessary orders.

Fort St. George
3d May 1862

J. W. S

No 1 Encl
Ret: Dept with 9 Encls Dispd
1174 Bd of Revs