

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 60

Press
~~Mis.~~

132-133

Dated

16-1-1865.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
16th January 1865.*

No. 132. Read the following letter from W. G. McIVOR, Esq., Superintendent Government Chinchona Plantations, to J. D. SIM, Esq., Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Fort Saint George, dated Ootacamund, 9th January 1865, No. 191 :—

SIR,

1. I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the Order of Government, under date 8th November 1864, No. 2,058A, and with reference to paragraphs 11 and 12 beg to express my regret for any expression in my letter of the 11th October last, which may be considered insubordinate, and solicit the favor of being permitted to withdraw the same, and beg most respectfully to explain that in writing the letter above noted, I had not the most remote intention of offering any insubordination, or placing myself in opposition to the Government authority, although at that time I felt I had been injured, and that representations had been made to Government, calculated to impede the development of this important undertaking, and to this impression only is to be attributed the tenor of my letter.

2. The Order of Government under reply effectually removes all misconception of their Order of 28th September last, tending to impede the progress of the Chinchona operations, and is thus highly gratifying to my feelings, although I am still unable to see the justice of Government ruling that I disobeyed their orders in felling the avenue in question. I am aware that I deviated from the plans proposed in my letter of the 7th January 1863, in as far as I converted the road into an avenue, but, at that time, I had not the experience of a wet season, and the consequent annoyance to our establishment from the leeches, which necessitated this alteration in my plans, in order to get rid of them; but this deviation, I respectfully submit, was no infringement of the Government Order, inasmuch as it did not interfere with the fringe on the banks of the river, or cause felling within sight of the falls—had it done this, I would have submitted the deviation for the sanction of Government, as personally it was immaterial to me whether the avenue was formed or not.

3. I would respectfully bring to the notice of Government that, in carrying out an undertaking of this kind, when constant variations are necessary to meet circumstances and seasons, it may be shewn that any given Order of Government had been violated in the letter, although strictly carried out according to the spirit and intention—as an example, the Government in their Order under reply sanction the alteration of the water-courses as may be necessary for the benefit of the plantation, stating at the same time that “not another tree is to be felled on any account;” yet the bringing of the water-courses necessarily involves the removal of the few trees that come directly in the way, and as the felling of these cannot be seen, or be productive of any injury, I would submit that the Order of Government sanctions the removal of trees to this extent only, this being subordinate to the benefit to be obtained from the water.

4. The avenue is being replanted and prepared for planting during the spring, and I feel confident that the Government need not be under any apprehension as to the scenery about the falls being in any way permanently injured, for although this may be a matter of opinion at the present moment, in two years hence when our plants are grown up, the improvement will be such as will not admit of a difference of opinion.

5. With reference to paragraph 14, in which I am called upon to re-consider my letter, I have the honor to withdraw my resignation, as it would have been with the deepest regret that I detached myself from this interesting undertaking, in which I have labored with all the zeal and ability I possess—as in fact it is the height of my ambition to bring it to a most successful issue, and especially as I distinctly see the means of attaining this, for not only can the plants be made to grow luxuriantly, but I am convinced that by a judicious system of cultivation, it is quite possible to increase the average per-centage yield of alkaloids in our Neilgherry barks by at least four or five times the average product of South American barks.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
16th January 1865.

No. 133.

ORDER THEREON, 16th January 1865, No. 60.

Miscellaneous.

The Government accept Mr. McIvor's apology and withdrawal
of his letter and resignation.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. D. SIM,

Secretary to Government.

To W. G. McIvor, Esq.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

necessarily involve the removal of the few trees that come
directly in the way, and as the falling of these cannot
be said to be productive of any injury, I would submit
that the order of Government directing the removal of
trees to this extent only, this being subordinate to the
benefit to be obtained from the water.

4 The Ormeau is being replanted and prepared
for planting during the spring, and I feel confident
that the Government need not be under any apprehension
as to the scenery about the Falls being in any way
permanently injured, for although this may be a matter of
opinion at the present moment, in two years hence when our
plants are growing up, the improvement will be such as will
not admit of a difference of opinion.

5. With reference to para 11 in which I am
replied upon to reconsider my letter, I have the
honor to withdraw my resignation, as it would have
been with the deepest regret that I detached myself
from this interesting undertaking in which I have
labored with all the zeal and ability I possess, as in
fact it is the height of my ambition to bring it to a
most successful issue, and especially as I distinctly see the
means of attaining this, for not only can the plants be made
to grow luxuriantly, but I am convinced that by a judicious
system of cultivation it is quite possible to increase the average
percentage yield of alkaloids in our Khatbany bark by at least
four or five times the average produce of South American bark.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most Obedt. servant

W. G. McIvor

Superintendent of the Khatbany

