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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public works DEPARTMENT.

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
5th May 1868.*

No. 111. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the
Revenue Department:—

Sanctioning a grant of Rupees 5,000 for the }
proposed road from the foot of the Anamallays } (Here enter 28th April 1868, No. 1,141.)
to the head of the timber-slip.

No. 112. ORDER THEREON, 5th May 1868, No. 1,404.

CIVIL WORKS, No. 14.

Communicated to the Superintend-
ing Engineer of the 7th Division, who
will report whether he can spare the
services of an Overseer for employment on the road in question.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) CHARLES A. ORR, Colonel, R. E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the Superintending Engineer, 7th Division, with Revenue Proceedings, No. 838 of 1868.

28.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
1st April 1868.*

No. 25. Read the following letter from the Officiating Conservator of Forests, to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Fort St. George, dated Camp at Ootacamund, 25th March 1868, No. 629:—

1. Lieutenant Gosling, the Deputy Conservator, is anxious to undertake the construction of a rough cart-road from the foot of the Annamallays up to the head of the timber slip. He states that if he is allowed the services of a Corporal and six Privates from the Sappers, or, if there is any objection to this, an Overseer from the Department Public Works, he can construct the road for a sum of Rupees 5,000.

2. A renewal of the lease of these forests for a period of ninety-nine years has just been concluded, and I am of opinion that a cart-road up to the forests, in the place of the present rough slip, is very desirable, even though the cost was four times the estimate of the Deputy Conservator. The present timber slip is nothing but the rugged rocky slope of a mountain, and the timber is often much injured in being dragged and slipped down by elephants. A cart-road would make the forests much more accessible, and would be a great saving of elephant labor. A few years ago the ghaut was inspected by Mr. W. Fraser, who was then Superintending Engineer of the Coimbatore District; he was, however, of opinion that a road would cost about 20,000 Rupees. Application would then have been made to Government for sanction for this scheme, only the lease had not long to run, and its renewal was uncertain.

3. I would suggest that the Deputy Conservator should be allowed at once to commence the road, and that, for the present, Rupees 5,000 should be sanctioned to enable it, and that he be allowed the services of the Sappers, or the Overseer, from the 1st of June, when the forests are healthy, and the regular working season commences. I am not sanguine that a fair road can be completed for the sum mentioned, but a rough one, just practicable for carts, might be opened out, and a further sum might hereafter be sanctioned, if necessary.

4. The Superintending Engineer, or the Executive Engineer of the district, might report upon the scheme, if Government thought it necessary.

5. The importance of the Annamallays as a Teak reserve, fully authorizes the expenditure necessary for a good ghaut road, and Teak plantations on these mountains might then be commenced, as we have at present plantations only in the plains, and there can be no doubt that the growth of Teak is far superior on the mountains.

No. 26. ORDER THEREON, 1st April 1868, No. 858.

Forests, No. 3.

The Officiating Conservator will report whether the proposed expenditure of Rupees 5,000 can be provided for from his Budget provision.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Secretary to Government.

To the Officiating Conservator of Forests.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

3h

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
23th April 1868.*

No. 628. Read the following letter from the Officiating Conservator of Forests, to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Fort St. George, dated Camp at Ootacamund, 17th April 1868, No. 692 :—

With reference to the Government Order No. 858, of the 1st instant, I have the honor to inform you that the 5,000 Rupees required for the ghaut road up to the Anamallay forests can most probably be met from the sum sanctioned for working charges for that range; but if there is any difficulty in paying the amount from the Anamallay allotment, the whole or a portion of it can be met by a transfer from the estimate for the Wynaad range.

No. 629. ORDER THEREON, 28th April 1868, No. 1,141.

Forests, No. 23.

1. The Government authorize the Acting Conservator of Forests to place Rupees 5,000, from the source indicated, at Lieutenant Gosling's disposal for the proposed road from the foot of the Anamallays to the head of the timber slip.

2. It will be determined in the Department Public Works whether the services of an Overseer can be spared for the work.

(True Extract.)


Secretary to Government.

To the Officiating Conservator of Forests.

„ the Public Works Department, } With G. O. No. 858.
„ the Accountant General,

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

