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**MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.****Government of Madras.***Public works* **DEPARTMENT.**

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| G.O. No. | 403  | Press |
| 211-12   |      | Mis.  |
| Dated    | 8-2- | 1869. |

**Not to be folded or roughly handled**

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,  
8th February 1869.*

No. 211. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the  
Revenue Department:—

*Railway fuel reserves in Cuddapah.*—Pass-  
ing orders on the subject of their being taken } (Here enter 28th January 1869, No. 248.)  
up by the Forest Department.

No. 212. ORDER THEREON, 8th February 1869, No. 403.

RAILWAY, No. 13.

Communicated to the Consulting  
Engineer for Railways, who will submit  
the report called for in paragraph 4.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R. E.,  
*Secretary to Government.*

To the Consulting Engineer for Railways.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

3d  
G.O. of 1869; Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

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THE CONSULTING ENGINEER FOR

RAILWAYS

Dated February, 1869.

Recd.

No.

G. O. of February 1869, No. 473

FEBRUARY.

Nos. 211-212

*Railway Fuel Plantations.*—Proceedings Revenue Department in orders on the 1st Feb. to the Conservator of Forests re: have to the selection of sites for Railway fuel plantations between Cuddapah and the banks of the Toombudra, communicated to the Officer concerned.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,  
28th January 1869.*

No. 516. Read the following letter from the Officiating Conservator of Forests, to the Acting Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Fort St. George, dated Camp at Coimbatore, 4th November 1868, No. 1,006 :—

1. Agreeably to the Government Order, No. 949, of the 8th April 1868, I have the honor to inform you that I have inspected the country between Cuddapah and the banks of the Toombudra, through which the North-West Line is soon to be opened, with a view to selecting sites for Railway fuel plantations.

2. The tract between Cuddapah and the Papugnee river mentioned by Major Shaw Stewart, is not available, as will be seen from the enclosed letter\* from the Collector of Cuddapah; all that

\* No. 243 of the 18th April 1868.

is not in occupation has been or is being planted by the Collector.

3. There is a large tract of land about 500 Acres, near the Gooty Station, of this, some 250 Acres are Government waste land, and the remainder is composed of small plots of Inam on Puttah land. The soil is sandy or of a light clay, and it is well watered, as there are channels, and water is near the surface; it will answer well, I think, for planting Casuarina and Babool. I have forwarded the Collector of Bellary a plan of the whole tract, and he thinks that the small plots of Inam, &c., can be bought up at a trifling cost; I would strongly recommend that this tract should be secured for a Railway fuel plantation without delay.

4. There is also a large tract of land suited for the same purpose in the Jamal-madagu Talook of the Cuddapah District, on the north bank of the Chittravatty river and close to the bridge of that name, it extends for some distance on both sides of the line, and is traversed by irrigation channels. The Collector of Cuddapah informs me that this is available. Mr. Elwin had applied for it, for planting on behalf of the Railway, but does not wish to take it up if our Department will plant it; there are some petty rights which the Collector says can be purchased for 70 or 80 Rupees, I would recommend that this tract be also secured without delay.

5. There are a good many small tracts of waste land throughout the Talooks of Tadpatry, Alur, and Adoni, but they are generally of small extent, only 50 or 60 Acres each. They are in almost every case poor red soil, which will not I think pay to plant, and there would be great difficulty about water, and in many cases they are too distant from the line. The Collector of Bellary agrees with me, that if planting is to be attempted on a large scale, it will be better to buy up large tracts of black cotton soil on which the Babool grows well, but even then, there will be considerable difficulty as to water, and planting will undoubtedly be very expensive. Some of the best of these tracts, not too distant from the line, might be planted as an experiment by the Tahsildars and Native Revenue Officials under the supervision of the Collector, and if we have an Overseer appointed for the tracts I recommend for Departmental planting, he would be able to give advice and assistance.

6. To the north of Adoni as far as the Toombudra, there is no good land available for planting near the line, there are some wastes of poor red soil on which the Babool would hardly thrive, but all the black cotton soil is taken up.

7. By the copy of a letter (herewith enclosed) from Mr. Wright, the late

No. 131 of the 2nd June 1868.

Locomotive Superintendent, Government will perceive, that he states the Railway

Company could only afford to give 2½ Rupees per 1,000 lbs. for firewood delivered

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,  
28th January 1869.*

at the Stations north-west of Cuddapah, this will only be a little more than 5 Rs. per ton, and if planting is to cover expenses, I do not think that we could sell at less than 10 Rupees per ton. Coal, however, costs the Railway at all the Stations beyond Cuddapah 35 or 36 Rupees per ton, and I believe that they can afford, and will be glad at some future date, to take wood at one-third the price of coal.

8. I would recommend as a commencement, that the two tracts alluded to in paragraphs 3 and 4, should be taken up by our Department, and operations commenced without delay. A First Class Overseer will be required; the line is at present open to the Chittravatty site, and in April it will be opened as far as Gooty, so that the Overseer could be placed under Mr. Yarde, the Assistant in charge of the Cuddapah District, who has had great experience in planting; the Overseer will require a short training in our North Arcot and Cuddapah plantations, or Mr. Brougham, the North Arcot Overseer, who is well trained in planting might be offered the post. A permanent Establishment of several Maistries will be required, but the coolies should be at first paid from working charges.

No. 517.

ORDER THEREON, 28th January 1869, No. 218.

Forests, No. 20.

1. The Government are of opinion that the three large tracts referred to in paragraphs 2, 3, and 4, of the Acting Conservator's letter, should be taken up by his Department as Railway fuel reserves. That situated between Cuddapah and the Papugnee river, which is stated to have been already planted under the orders of the Collector, will accordingly be handed over to the Forest Department, and the Collectors of Cuddapah and Bellary will take the necessary steps to obtain the other two tracts, recovering any outlay which may be incurred from the Forest Department, on transfer of the lands.

2. The experiments suggested in paragraph 5 of Major Beddome's letter, should at once be undertaken under the orders of the Collector of Bellary, and periodical reports of the success of the plantations should be submitted.

3. The appointment of an Overseer for the charge of these plantations is sanctioned. When the lands have been transferred to the Forest Department, Mr. Brougham should be nominated to this duty as proposed by Major Beddome, another Overseer being appointed to succeed him in North Arcot.

4. The question raised in paragraph 7 will be referred through the Public Works Department, to the Consulting Engineer for Railways, for consideration and report.

(True Extract.)

*R. H. A. L.*

Acting Secretary to Government.

To the Officiating Conservator of Forests.  
,, the Board of Revenue.  
,, the Collector of Cuddapah.  
,, the Collector of Bellary.  
,, the Public Works Department.  
,, the Accountant General.

Exd. G. A. Turton.

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REVENUE.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER  
OF FORESTS  
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JANUARY.

Nos. 516-517.

No. 103-8-1869/69

Railway fuel reserves in Calcutta --  
Orders on the subject of their being taken  
up by the Forest Department

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R. L. P.

No. 413  
Communicated to the  
Consulting Engineer for Railways,  
who will submit the  
report called for in  
para 4 -

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8-1869/69

To the Consulting  
Engineer for Railways -

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Nos. 211-212

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Railway fuel plantations  
Gov. Rev. Secy's paper  
order on the letter from  
the Conservator of Forests  
relative to the selection of  
sites for fuel plantations  
between Cuddalore and  
the