Archives 1—10,000—6-10-76.

(1) Number of pages 62

(2) Date of repair 11.11.86

(3) Initials of the Referencer

AMIL NADU ARCHIVES

VERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

PW DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. B.P. No.	2097 W	Press. Mis.
Dated	11.8.1879	197 .

be *folded or roughly handled*

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

11th August 1879, No. 2,097 W.

General.

Establishment.

Read the following papers:—

No. 63. Endorsement of the Under Secretary to Government in the Revenue Department, dated Ootacamund, 28th April 1879.

From Lieutenant-Colonel R. H. BEDDOME, Conservator of Forests, to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, dated Ootacamund, 3rd March 1879, No. 1,564.

No. 142 of 6th January 1879.

WITH reference to the G.O., Revenue Department, No. 3,016, dated 12th December last, communicating for my report paragraph 2 of the G.O., No. 4,488, Public Works Department, dated 25th November last, I have the honor to forward a letter of explanation from Major Jago, the Deputy Conservator in charge of the Nilgiri Division.

2. The Department of Public Works only pay this department 2 rupees per cubic foot for teak delivered at Ootacamund, and the rates are not remunerative to us, and certainly do not enable us to cover a profit of 8 annas per cubic foot, which should be about the value of seigniorage on teak. I have not noticed any falling off in the quality of the timber, and only sound logs are selected for transport to Ootacamund, so that I do not understand the assertion that for every foot of timber placed in a building quite two have to be cut up, and I expect that the carpenter's all-round-rates of 5 rupees for the timber wrought and put up must be in a great measure attributable to teak being brought up from Madras at great expense. The Mudumallai teak, which costs Rupees 2 per cubic foot, can be purchased in the forest depôts below (some 40 miles from Ootacamund) at Annas 12 or 14 per cubic foot, which is certainly cheap; but the Department of Public Works will not take it there, and of late years they have steadily refused to send any one to select their annual requirements, though they have frequently been requested so to do, and Major Jago complains that much timber which he carts up is rejected or not taken and paid for until after a long interval, which seriously affects his revenue, as he could readily sell it below, and there is no demand for it at Ooty beyond the Department of Public Works.

3. Burma teak could not be brought up the Coonoor Ghat and delivered at Ootacamund under, I think, 4 rupees per cubic foot, and Anamallai teak delivered by this route would cost more than 3 rupees per foot.

4. I would strongly recommend that the Department of Public Works should be obliged to select all their timber at our Forest Depôts below, placing their own mark on the logs so selected, so that this department may be released from the heavy loss of carting up timber which may not be required; if the Department of Public Works could then cart it up themselves, which I maintain is more their province than that of this department, they would only be charged a fair and fixed seigniorage rate plus the actual cost of felling, trimming and dragging and percentage on establishment,

but if we have to cart for them they must of course pay the carting expenses in addition.

From Major R. S. JAGO, Deputy Conservator of Forests, to the Conservator of Forests, dated Ootacamund, 6th January 1879, No. 142-331.

IN reply to your request attached to G.O., dated 25th November 1878, No. 4,488, for a reply on paragraph 2 of the order thereon, I have the honor to inform you that the Department of Public Works pay Rupees 2 per cubic foot for the teak from Mudumallai and Benni forests, delivered to them in our timber yard adjoining the Department of Public Works office. When the charges are considered of "felling," "draging to depôt," "carting up to Ootacamund," "often a distance of from 40—42 miles," "the pay" and "up-keep of establishment," &c., I cannot see how a smaller price could be placed on the timber delivered here.

The Department of Public Works should be fully aware that the teak in the forests named as always been able to be purchased in the forest at 12 and 14 annas per cubic foot, but you will on reference find that they have invariably preferred not buying the timber in the forest, nor lately even to selecting it themselves; indenting for a certain amount, annually, which has to be delivered in this yard, and is then never paid for by the Department of Public Works until actually sawn up.

This system I have several times brought to your notice as being most unfavorable to the Forest Department. The same timber that the Department of Public Works constantly reject would find a good market in the forest; but owing to the request of the Department of Public Works we are obliged to go through the heavy cost of carting timber to a place where there is no market after Government for teak, and in the last few years there has been annually a large stock of teak not taken, though indented for, and so naturally causing us to be heavily out of pocket.

I mention this because it would appear that Government imagine that the Forest Department benefit by selling to the Department of Public Works which, as far as I can give an opinion on, with reference to my Range, is not so. With reference to the quality of the teak, in the few years these forests have been under me I see no deterioration in the class of timber sent to the Department of Public Works here.

TRANSFERRED to the Public Works Department with the notes of the members of Government.

(Signed) L. A. CAMPBELL,
Under Secy. to Govt., Revenue Dept.

No. 63-A. Endorsement of the Acting Secretary to Government in the Revenue Department, dated 16th June 1879.

From Colonel R. H. BEDDOME, Conservator of Forests, to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, dated Ootacamund, 29th May 1879, No. 396.

I HAVE the honor to forward a letter* from Major Jago, the officer in charge of the Mudumallai forests.

2. Now that the tract of forest, which is and has been supplying Ootacamund with teak, is just being handed over to the Wynad† Forest Officer, I think it necessary that a distinct understanding should be come to concerning our relation with the Department of Public Works as far as the supply of timber at Ootacamund is concerned (*vide* my letter No. 1,564, of the 3rd March last).

* No. 24, dated 28th May 1879, from Major Jago, to the Conservater of Forests, with one enclosure.

† *Vide* G.Os., No. 1,887, dated 21st Nov. 1878, and No. 1,988, dated 10th Dec. 1878.

3. If the Wynad Forest Officer is to continue to deliver teak at Ootacamund he can only do so through Major Jago's forests and up the Seegar ghat; (the Neddivattam ghat, and that route to Ootacamund, is scarcely practicable for timber carts at any season, and will be a much more expensive route;) this will necessitate his often quitting his own division, and he would besides require a receiving establishment at Ootacamund, neither of which do I consider desirable, particularly as the demarcation and conservancy of the Wynad teak belt, the more important portions of which lie near Manantoddy, his head-quarters, (70 miles from Ootacamund,) will fully occupy his time for some years to come. It was comparatively easy for Major Jago to deliver this timber at Ootacamund, as he is constantly up there himself, and has an establishment there, as well as at Mudumalli, but the Wynad Forest Officer should sell the timber at his depôts to Mysore merchants, or to West Coast merchants. If therefore the Department of Public Works still require it, and are not willing to look to the Mysore merchants to supply their indents (which would probably greatly enhance the price of the article), I can only now suggest that they must select what they require at the Wynad Depôts, and that Major Jago must then take it over and arrange for carting it up, and I request explicit orders on this subject.

4. The present system besides appears to me most unfair to this department, the finest logs in our forest depôts, for which there would always be a demand on the spot, are selected for the Department of Public Works requirements, but they will not take them over when they reach Ootacamund; they lie probably for a year or more in the open enclosure near the Department of Public Works office, exposed to sun, frost and rain, and then they are often rejected if they are found to have split or cracked, an only too certain result of such exposure.

5. It appears now that there is a supply of 13,442 cubic feet of teak in the Department of Public Works yard belonging to this department, which they have not taken over; I request orders in regard to this. The Department of Public Works should, I think, be called upon to take over at once all they require of this, whether payment be made at once or deferred, and that the balance should at once be sold by auction or tenders.

From Major R. S. JAGO, Deputy Conservator of Forests, Nilgiri Division, to the Conservator of Forests, Ootacamund, 28th May 1879, No. 24-60.

As teak operations in this division will be greatly altered after the portion of Benni forest now being taken up by the Wynad Division, I have the honor to request you will give me instructions as to what you would wish done regarding the logs now in the yard at Ootacamund and those lying in the forests. In applying for instructions I would beg to lay before you the position the department has been placed in by the action of the Department of Public Works during the last three years. In 1876-77 the indent of the Department of Public Works was for 35,000 cubic feet, and the amount taken 19,796 cubic feet. In 1877-78 the indent was 19,200 cubic feet, and the amount taken 11,977. In 1878-79 the indent was for 20,000 cubic feet and the amount taken 5,590. There was a balance of 13,442 cubic feet in our yard on 1st April 1879. To bring this timber from the forests to the Ootacamund yard, I have annually to contract for its cartage. In doing so large advances have to be issued and an annual settlement made with the contractors.

2. The Department of Public Works do not pay for the timber that is carted up to our yard until they actually require it. On reference to the figures above given you will see that a large amount of timber still lays on our hands, which has been brought up for a special purpose and has received no market.

3. Teak lying in the yard here is subject to great sun-exposure, rains and frost, whereas, depôted in the forest with good shade, it has the best protection and but little opportunity of deteriorating.

4. In my letter to the Executive Engineer, dated 18th December last, No. 32-323, (a copy of which is herewith sent,) you will see I have said I will cart no more timber, and I beg repectfully to suggest that I should be permitted to make arrangements for selling what timber now remains in the forests, advertising to have sales at the end of the present monsoons; and with reference to the timber in the Ootacamund yard, I should suggest that it be notified that they are saleable to the public, which at present is not the case.

Awaiting your instructions.

From Major R. S. JAGO, Deputy Conservator of Forests, to the District Engineer, Nilgiris, dated Ootacamund, 18th December 1878, No. 32—323.

As there are alterations regarding the arrangements of the working between Department of Public Works and Forest Department (*vide* paragraph 3, G.O., dated 25th November 1878, No. 4,488 W., Public Works Department), I have the honor to inform you that, unless hearing from you to the contrary, no more teak logs will be carted to the timber yard after the 31st instant. There will be a sale of teak duly advertised in the Mudumallai Forests, information regarding which will be sent to you in due course.

TRANSFERRED to the Public Works Department in continuation of the Conservator's letter, dated 3rd March 1879, No. 1,564, forwarded with this office endorsement, dated 28th April 1879.

(Signed) J. H. GARSTIN,
Acting Secy. to Govt.

No. 63-B. From Major P. MONTGOMERIE, R.E., Superintending Engineer, Fourth Circle, to the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, dated Coimbatore, 15th July 1879, No. 459.

IN returning the enclosures which accompanied your memoranda No. 1,691, dated 6th May, and No. 2,281, dated 19th June 1879, I have the honor to submit the accompanying report by the Executive Engineer, Nilgiris, on the subject of the supply of teakwood by the Forest Department for public works.

One endorsement in the Revenue Department, on letter from the Conservator of Forests, No. 1,564, dated 3rd March 1879.

One letter from Conservator of Forests, No. 396, dated 29th May 1879, with enclosures.

One Report from Executive Engineer, Nilgiri, No. 317, dated 4th July 1879.

2. So far as this department is concerned, I fail to see any reason whatever why our relations with the Forest Department should differ in any respect from those of other purchasers.

3. The probable future extended range of the Executive Engineer of the Nilgiris will afford him an opportunity of personally inspecting and purchasing timber in the best markets, and if he is allowed to keep a sufficient stock of wood in hand he will always be prepared for any emergent work.

From Major J. L. L. MORANT, R.E., Executive Engineer, Nilgiri Division, to the Superintending Engineer, Fourth Circle, dated Ootacamund, 4th July 1879, No. 317.

WITH reference to your endorsement No. 24 N.G., dated 31st May 1879, on memorandum No. 1,691, of the 6th idem, from the Acting Deputy Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, and accompaniments herewith returned, and with reference to memorandum No. 2,281, dated 19th June 1879, from the same officer with accompaniments also herewith returned, I have the honor to report on the subject of the supply of teakwood to this department by the local Forest Officer.

2. With reference to paragraph 4 of letter No. 1,564, dated 3rd March 1879, from the Conservator of Forests, I have the honor to invite your attention to the following extract from my letter No. 350, dated 30th October 1876, to the address of the Secretary to Government in the Department of Public Works, printed with Public Works G.O., No. 829, dated 26th February 1877, paragraph 5 :—

"From the time when the Forest Department began to work in this district up to the year 1874 it was never the practice of this department to send any one down to the Mudumalai forests to select the timber required. On the 1st of September 1874, at the request of Colonel Morgan, I sent a very experienced Carpenter Maistry to select some timber for the Wellington Barracks. He was ordered to mark 300 logs. He returned on the 17th idem, having been able to select only 104 logs, from their being scattered all over the forest, and more or less covered with undergrowth. It thus took him seventeen days to choose and mark 104 logs, and ten months passed before the last of them reached Ootacamund. A second time, at the request of Major Jago, I sent the same maistry to select 400 logs. He could only choose 200 logs which occupied him twenty-eight days. Nine months elapsed before all the logs were delivered at Ootacamund. On both occasions the maistry on his return was attacked with fever and was *hors de combat* for six weeks each time."

3. From the above you will perceive that there are great difficulties in the way of carrying out the Conservator's proposals. Were the logs properly arranged in the forest so that they could be readily inspected by us, we might adopt the plan proposed by the Conservator. But such is not the case. The logs are so scattered about all over the forests, and are so completely covered with thick vegetation, that inspection of them is almost impossible.

4. On this point I beg further to invite attention to paragraph 2 of Public Works Department G.O., No. 1,721, dated 6th July 1876, which says: "The Forest Department is expected to supply at convenient depôts such as Railway stations NOT IN THE FORESTS."

5. With regard to paragraph 2 of Public Works Department G.O., No. 4,488 W., dated 25th November 1878, to which the Deputy Conservator of Forests refers, I have the honor to inform you that that paragraph was, I believe, written after a personal inspection of the Forest Department timber yard at Ootacamund by His Grace the Governor, who I understood was much impressed by the condition of the timber.

6. The remarks made by the Deputy Conservator of Forests in paragraph 1 of his letter No. 60, dated 28th May, are doubtless written in view of the complaint made in my letter printed with Revenue Department G.O., No. 829, of the 26th February 1877, (of which I beg kind perusal); and the excess supply of the past few years has doubtless been produced by my prior complaint of a deficient supply. Our actual demands on the Forest Department have been below our anticipations, partly owing to the restrictive Public Works Budgets of late years, and also to the local timber being too small: much of the timber we have lately used (and which we had hoped to have obtained locally) has had to be procured elsewhere. The Forest Department states that they had on 1st April 1879, 13,442 cubic feet in the yard not taken over. But between April and June we purchased from that department 1,450 cubic feet; so that the balance now in the yard is 11,992 cubic feet. Of this 140 logs or 4,000 cubic feet are the leavings of several years and not at all suited for Public Works, or indeed any other work. A very few of these are sometimes, I hear, sold occasionally to private parties at 1-6-0 per cubic foot. Moreover, the Forest Department pays, I believe, only 10 annas per cubic foot for carting its timber from Mudumallai up to Ootacamund. If its price at Mudumallai be 12 or 14 annas per cubic foot (as stated) then its price at Ooty should be only Rupees 1-6-0 or 1-8-0 per cubic foot. But I beg to bring to notice that for timber supplied to us for the bridge at Tippacadoo which is at the edge of the forest, and only seven miles from Mudumallai itself, we were charged Rupees 1½ per cubic foot; and this timber was obtained with difficulty and after much delay. The timber now in the Ootacamund yard is mostly of a very inferior quality. I believe much of it has been felled before arriving at maturity, and all of it is not fully seasoned. As it is reported to suffer from exposure, might I suggest that means be taken by the Forest Department to protect it?

7. Regarding the proposed sale to private parties I have no objection to offer. I believe private parties are supplied now. But I beg to point out that if sold by auction to the highest bidder the timber will probably be purchased at a low rate by merchants and then be resold to this department at the present high rate which we now pay to the Forest Department. There will hence be a double loss to Government. If the timber now in the Ooty yard be offered for sale to private parties at the same rate at which it is supplied to us, I feel sure that hardly any body will purchase it. Messrs. Groves and Wait once purchased timber from the Forest Department here and worked it up at a loss; they have since supplied themselves from elsewhere. No objection has been raised by us to private parties who now require the timber from purchasing it; some have done so.

8. I beg to invite perusal of Revenue Department G.O., No. 2,208, dated 4th July 1877.

9. May I also invite your kind reperusal of my letter No. 402, dated 30th December 1878, to your address.

No. 63-C. Endorsement of the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Ootacamund, 13th May 1879, No. 21.

Extract from letter from the Superintending Engineer, Fourth Circle, No. A.-C., dated 29th April 1879.

PARA. 5.—"Again, the anomaly of all Government buildings under construction on the Hills having to pay a seigniorage of Rupees 2 for every bandy load of fuel used in their construction has, I take it, merely to be properly represented to be removed. It is quite reasonable that the Forest Department should be credited in their account (if it is considered a matter of vital importance to do so) with the value of all firewood used on public works; even although the sholas from which the firewood is taken were in existence long before the Forest Department was thought of, and with the growth of which they have had nothing whatever to do. But I cannot think that it is the intention of the Madras Government that the grants for public works sanctioned from Imperial sources should be reduced by this seigniorage. If Government would allow firewood to be taken by the Public Works Department at there own expense (subject of course to all the Forest Rules), and if some slight improvements were introduced in the arrangement at the brick-fields so as to obviate the necessity of carrying the raw bricks up hill to the kilns, a further saving of at least 3 rupees for 1,000 bricks would be the result."

REFERRED, through the Revenue Department, to the Conservator of Forests for report.

(Signed) R. H. SANKEY, Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Govt., P.W.D.

To the Revenue Department.

FORWARDED accordingly to the Conservator of Forests.

OOTACAMUND,
10th June 1879.

(Signed) L. A. CAMPBELL,
Under Secretary to Government.

No. 63-D. Endorsement of the Under Secretary to Government in the Revenue Department, dated Ootacamund, 6th August 1879.

From Colonel R. H. BEDDOME, Conservator of Forests, to the Under Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, dated Camp at Tunacadavu, 27th July 1879, No. 691.

REFERRING to your endorsement of 10th June on a docket from Government, Department Public Works, No. 21, dated 13th May last, and to the G.O., No. 2,514 of the 12th July last, I have the honor to forward a letter of explanation from Major Jago, the Deputy Conservator of the Nilgiri Forest Division.

From Major R. S. JAGO, Deputy Conservator of Forests, Nilgiri Division, to the Conservator of Forests, dated Ootacamund, 22nd July 1879, No. 39.

WITH reference to your endorsement, dated 11th June 1879, No. 454, on a docket from Government, Department of Public Works, No. 21, dated 13th May 1879, referred to me for report, I have the honor to inform you that all our fellings now are plantations for coppicing and thinning out, it is therefore quite out of the question to allow Public Works Department to fell their own wood, as the work requires strict practical supervision, which could not be carried out by the Public Works Department. The whole of the indigenous forests have been reserved, and there is none from which the Department Public Works could be supplied. For the past five years the Department of Public Works have not taken a single bandy load of firewood at Ootacamund for burning bricks, although large works have been carried on during that period.

The wood having been supplied from private sholahs for which they paid from Rupees 3-6-0 to Rupees 3-8-0 per load. The Department of Public Works at Wellington are supplied with wood by the Forest Department, for which they are charged Rupees 2 per load, this includes felling charges.

No. 63-E. From Colonel R. H. BEDDOME, Conservator of Forests, to the Under Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, dated Camp at Tunacadavu, 30th July 1879, No. 697.

IN continuation of my letter No. 691 of the 27th instant, I have the honor to forward the enclosed documents,* which was delayed in Major Jago's office and only just returned to me.

* Docket from Government, Department Public Works, No. 21, dated 13th May 1879.

TRANSFERRED to the Public Works Department.

(Signed) L. A. CAMPBELL,
Under Secretary to Government.

No. 64. ORDER THEREON, 11th August 1879, No. 2,097 W.

THESE papers refer to the relations existing between the officers of the Forest and Public Works Departments in regard to the supply of teak timber for public works on the Nilgiris.

2097/4

2. On a full consideration of the circumstances of the case, the Government concur in the opinion expressed by the Superintending Engineer, Fourth Circle, that there is no reason why the relations of the Public Works Department with the Forest Department should differ from those of any other purchaser.

3. The instructions contained in paragraph 3 of G.O., No. 4,488, dated 25th November 1878, will therefore be acted up to for the future.

(True Extract.)

Major, R.E.,
Ag. Under Secy. to Govt., P.W.D.

To the Superintending Engineer, Fourth Circle.
Revenue Department.

Exd. S. T. Austin.
Spare Copies.

GENERAL.
ESTABLISHMENT.

Govt. of (1879) Madras,
PUBLIC WORKS.

To
The SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER,
FOURTH CIRCLE,
&c. &c. &c.

Dated August 11th.

Issued

Recd. Enc.

G. O., 11th August 1879, No. 2,357 W.

AUGUST.
Nos. 83-84.

The relations of the Public Works Department with the Forest Department to differ in no way from those of any other purchaser.

2097/9

No. 1564

Office of Conservator of Forests,
Ootacamund, 3rd March 1879,

From
Lieutt Colonel R H Beddome
Conservator of Forests

To
J. H. Garstin Esquire
Secretary to Govt.
Revenue Department

Sir,

No. 142 of 6th January 1879.

With reference to the G. O. Rev. Departt No. 3016 dated 12th December last communicating for my report para 2 of the G. O. No. 4488 P.W.D. dated 25th November last, I have the honor to forward a letter of explanation from Major Jago the Deputy Conservator in Charge of the Nilgiri Division.

2. The D.P.W. only pay this Department 2 Rs per cubic foot for Teak delivered at Ootacamund and the rates are not remunerative to us and certainly do not enable us to cover a profit of 8 As. per cubic foot

which should be about the value of Seigniorage on Teak. I have not noticed any falling off in the quality of the timber and only sound logs are selected for transport to Ootacamund so that I do not understand the assertion that for every foot of timber placed in a building quite two have to be cut up, and I expect that the carpenters all-round rates of 5 Rs for the timber wrought and put up must be in a great measure attributable to Teak being brought up from Madras at great expense. The Mudumullay Teak which Costs Rs 2 per cubic foot can be purchased in the forest Depots below (some 40 miles from Ootacamund) at Annas 12 or 14 per cubic foot which is certainly cheap but the D.P.W. will not take it there and of late years they have steadily refused to send any one to select their annual requirements though they have frequently been requested so to do and Major Jago complains that much timber which he carts up is rejected or not taken and paid for until after a long interval which seriously affects his Revenue as he could readily sell it below and there is no demand for it at Ooty beyond the D.P.W.

3. Burma Teak could not be brought up the Coonoor Ghât and delivered at Ootacamund under I think 4 Rs per cubic foot and Anamullay Teak delivered by this route would cost more than 3 Rs per foot.

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I have the honor to be,
Sir
Your most Obt. Servt.
R H Beddome Lt Colonel
Conservator of Forests.

1879 Revenue Forests No 20

From
The Conservator of Forests

To the Secretary to Govt
Rev. Departt

Dated 3rd March 1879
Received 8th do
No. 1364

Enclosures

Subject

With reference to G.O. No. 3016 dated 13th ... Reconciles last ... forwards a letter of correspondence from ... on the subject of supply of ...

P. 10

Transferred to the Public Works Department with the notes of the Members of Government.

Ootacamund
28 April 1879

Under Secy
Rev Dept

1542/79

No 142/331

Office of the Dy. Conser. of For
Ootacamund 6th January

2097

From

The Dy. Conser. of Nilgiri
Forest division,

To

The Conservator of Forests
Madras,

Sir,

In reply to your request attache to G.O. dated 25th November 1878, No 4,488, for a reply on para 2 of the ord thereon, I have the honor to inform you that the Department Public Works pay Rs 2 per cubic foot for the teak from Mudumallai and Benne forests, deliv to them in our timber yard adjoining the D.P.W office. When the charges are considered of 'felling', 'dragging to Depot,' 'carting up to Ootacamund,' often a dista of from 40-42 miles, the pay and upkeep of establishment &c I cannot see how a smaller price could be placed on the timber delivered here.

The D.P.W should be fully aware that the teak in the forests named, as always been able to be purchased in the forest at 12 and 14 annas per cubic feet, but you will on reference find that they have invariably preferred not buying the timber in the forest. nor lately even to selecting it themselves, indenting for a certain amount annually, which has to be delivered in this yard, and is then never paid for by the D.P.W. until actually sawn up.

This system I have several times brought to your notice as being most unfavorable to the Forest Department. The same timber that the D.P.W. constantly reject would find a good market in the forest, but owing to the request of the D.P.W., we are obliged to go through the heavy cost of carting timber to a place, where there is no market after Government for teak and in the last few years there has been annually a large stock of teak not taken though indented for and so naturally causing us to be heavily out of pocket

I mention

I mention this because it would appear that Government imagine that the Forest Department benefit by selling to the D.P.W., which as far as I can give an opinion on with reference to my Range is not so.

With reference to the quality of the teak, in the few years these forests have under me, I see no deterioration in the class of timber sent to the D.P. Works.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedient servant
Major
Dy Conr. of Forests

36
Forest Depart.
1878-79

From
The Dy. Conser. of Mgm Dn.
To
The Conser of Forests
Madras

Dated 6th
Despd
Recd } January/79

No. 142/331

Subject
Furnishing the report called for by Govt. in Para 2 of G. O. of 25th Novr. 78 No. 4488 W.

Enclosure I.

In a letter No. 1564 dated 3rd March 1879 from the Conser of Forests to the Secretary to Government R. D.

Recd 20/2/79

G. O. No. 2077 tr of 1879

En in No. 63

P13 5

No. 396.

Office of Conservator of Forests
Ootacamund, 29th May 1879

From,
Colonel R. H. Beddome,
Conservator of Forests.

To,
J. H. Garstin Esquire,
Secretary to Government,
Revenue Department,
Ootacamund.

Sir,

I have the honor to forward a letter* from Major Jago, the Officer in charge of the Mudumallay forests.

2. Now that the tract of forest, which is and has been supplying Ootacamund with Teak is just being handed over to the Wynad(a) forest Officer, I think it necessary that a distinct understanding should be come to concerning our relation with the D. P. W. as far as the supply of timber at Ootacamund is concerned, (vide my letter No. 1564 of the 3rd March last).

3. If the Wynad forest Officer is to continue to deliver Teak at Ootacamund he can only do so through Major

* No. 24, dated 28th May/79 from Major Jago to the Conservator of Forests, with one enclosure.

(a) Vide G.O.s No. 1827 dated 21st November 1878, No. 1988 dated 10th December 1878.

G.O. No. 2072/79

Major Jago's forests and up the Seegoor ghat, (the Neddivattam ghat, and that route to Ootacamund, is scarcely practicable for timber Carts at any season, and will be a much more expensive route,) this will necessitate his often quitting his own Division, and he would besides require a receiving establishment at Ootacamund; neither of which do I consider desirable, particularly as the demarcation and Conservancy of the Wynad Teak belt, the more important portions of which lie near Manantoddy, his head Quarters, (70 miles from Ootacamund) will fully occupy his time, for some years to come. It was comparatively easy for Major Jago to deliver this timber at Ootacamund, as he is constantly up there himself, and has an establishment there, as well as at Madumallay; but the Wynad Forest Officer should sell the timber at his Depots to Mysore Merchants, or to West-Coast Merchants. If therefore the D.P.W still require it, and are not willing to look to the Mysore Merchants to

supply

supply their indents (which would probably greatly enhance the price of the article) I can only now suggest that they must select what they require at the Wynad Depôts and that Major Jago must then take it over and arrange for Carting it up, and I request explicit orders on this subject.

4. The present system besides appears to me most unfair to this Department, the finest logs in our forest Depots, for which there would always be a demand on the spot, are selected for the D.P.W requirements, but they will not take them over when they reach Ootacamund, they lie probably for a year, or more in the open enclosure near the D.P.W Office exposed to Sun, frost and rain, and then they are often rejected, if they are found to have split or cracked, an only too certain result of such exposure.

5. It appears now, that there is a supply of 13,442 Cubic feet of Teak in the D.P.W Yard belonging to this Department; which they have not taken over, I request orders in regard to this, the D.P.W should

I

I think, be called upon to take over at once all they require of this, whether payment be made at once or deferred, and that the balance should at once be sold by auction or tenders.

I have the honor to be
Sir,
Your most obedt. Servt.
R. H. Beddome Colonel,
Conservator of Forests.

G. O. No. 2097 W of 1879

63 A

1145

No 32
323.

Office of the Dy Conser: of Forests
Ootacamund 18th Decr. 1879.

2087/11

From
The Dy Conser: of Forests
Ootacamund

To
The (Ex) District Engineer
Nilgiris,

Sir

As there are alterations regarding the arrangements of the working between D. P. W and Forest Department (vide para 3 G.O. dated 25 Novr. 1878 No. 4688 W Public Works Department) I have the honor to inform you that unless hearing from you to the contrary - no more teak logs will be carted to the Timber yard after the 31st instant. There will be a sale of Teak duly advertised in the Mudumallay forests, information regarding which will be sent to you in due course.

I have &c
(Signed) R. S. Jago Major
Dy Conser. of Forests.

(True Copy)

R. S. Jago Major
Dy Conser. of Forests

G O No 2097 A of 1879

No 16 8

2097/12

OOTACAMUND,

OFFICE OF DEPUTY CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS,

28th May 1879.

No. [redacted]
60

From

Deputy Conservator of Forests.
Nilgiri Division.

To

The Conservator of Forests
Ootacamund,

Sir,

As Teak operations in this Division will be greatly altered after the portion of Benni forest now being taken up by the Wynaad division, I have the honor to request you will give me instructions as to what you would wish done regarding the logs now in the yard at Ootacamund and those lying in the forests. In applying for instructions, I would beg to lay before you the position the Department has been placed in by the action of the D P W during the last 3 years.

In 1876-77, the indent of the D. P. W was for 35,000 cub ft., & the amount taken was 19,796 cft. In 1877-78 the indent was

19,200 cubic ft. and the amount taken 14,777. In 1878-79 the indent was for 20,000 c ft. and the amount taken 6570. There was a balance of 12,442 c ft. in our yard on 1st April 1879. To bring this timber from the forests to the Ootacamund yard, I have annually to contract for its cartage. In doing so, large advances have to be issued and an annual settlement made with the Contractors.

2. The Department of Public works do not pay for the timber that is carted up to our yard until they actually require it. On reference to the figures above given you will see that a large amount of timber still lays on our hands which has been brought up for a special purpose and has received no market.

3. Teak lying in the yard here is subject to great sun-exposure, rain and frost, whereas depôts in the forest with good shade, it has the best protection and but little opportunity of deteriorating.

4. In my letter to the Executive Engineer dated 1st December last No. $\frac{32}{320}$ (a copy of which is herewith sent) you will see, I have said, I will cart no more timber & I beg respectfully to suggest that I should be permitted to make arrangements for selling what timber now remains in the forests, authorizing to have sales at the end of the present monsoons and with reference to the timber in the Ootacamund yard I should suggest that it be notified that they are available to the public which at present is not the case.

Awaiting your instructions

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

Deputy Conservator of Forests,
Nilgiri Division.

Exd. by
Head Clerk

1879-80.

FOREST DEPARTMENT

From

The Dy. Conservator of Forests,

Ootacamund.

To

The Conr. of Forests

Dated 25th
Despatched
Received
May 1879

No. 24/80

No. of Enclosures. Nil

SUBJECT.

Applying for instructions as to the disposal of teak logs in Ootacamund yard and in the forests in the manner suggested within

Enclosure

In letter No. 396 dated 29th May 1879 from the Conservator of Forests to the Secy. to Govt. R.

G.O. No 2097 of 1879

En in No 61 A

Rev 4397

Revenue { 1879–80 } ~~[illegible]~~

25 March 1878 No 300–301
21 November — 288–289
10 December — 116–117

From, No 4397.
The Conservator of Forests

To The Secretary to Govt. R.D.

Dated 29th }
Despd 29th } May 1879
Recd [illegible] June

No: 396

(Enclo: One)

Subject

As the Forest tract from which the supply of Teak is and has been obtained, is just being handed over to the Wynaad Forest Officer, requests explicit orders as to the supply of timber to D.P.W. at Ootacamund, and also as to the disposal of the logs lying near the D.P.W. Office.

Transferred.

10½ P 18

Transferred to the Public Works Departmt. in continuation of the Conservator's letter dated 3 March 1879, No 1364 forwarded with this office endorsement dated 28 April/79

J. A. [illegible]
Actg Secretary to Govt.

No.
16 June/79

G. O. No 2977 of 1877

En in No 63 A

No 459 — Supg Engineer's Office 4th Circle
Coimbatore 15th July 1879.

P 15 2047/15

From.

The Supg Engineer
Fourth Circle

To.

The Chief Engineer
P. W. Department.
Madras.

Sir,

Enclosures 3
1 Endorsement in No. R.D. on letter from the Conservator of Forests No 1364 d/ 3d March 1879.
1 Letter from Conservator of Forests No 396 d/ 29 May 1879 with enclosure
1 Report from Ex Engineer Nilgiris No 317 d/ 14 July 1879

In returning the enclosures which accompanied your memoranda No. 1691 dated 6th May and 2281 dated 19th June 1879. I have the honor to submit the accompanying report by the Executive Engineer Nilgiris on the subject of the supply of teak wood by the Forest Department for Public works.

2 So far as this Department is concerned I fail to see any reason

whatever why our relations with the Forest Department should differ in any respect from those of other purchasers.

3. The probable future extended range of the Executive Engineer of the Nilgiris will afford him an opportunity of personally inspecting and purchasing timber in the best markets and if he is allowed to keep a sufficient stock of wood in hand he will always be prepared for any emergent work.

I have the honor to be
Sir,
Your most obedt. servant

R. Mongomerie
Supg. Engineer
4 Circle

G.O. No. 1721 — 6 — 7 — 76
Mem. No. 115 — 13 — 3 — 77
" — 1524 W — 21 — 7 — 77
G.O. No. 4488 W — 25 — 11 — 78
G.O. No. 1691 — 7 — 5 — 79

From
The Supg. Engineer
4th Circle

Dated 15th
Recd } July 1879

G.O. No. 2097 W of 1879

No. 459

Enc: 3

Teakwood:—

Submitting a report from the Executive Engineer Nilgiri Dn on the subject of supply of— by the Forest Department to P.W. Deptt.—

6 3 B

Recir 6-8-79. Rtt 8-8-79
Cir 31-7-79. Rtt 6-8-79
To Obts 29-7

Executive Engineer's Off
Ootacamund 4th July 187

2097/17

No. 317

From,
The Executive Engineer
Nilgiri Div

To,
The Superintending Engin
4th Circle
Coimbator

Sir,

With reference to your endorsemen No. 24 N.G. dated 31st May 1879 on Memo No. 1691 of the 6th idem from the Ag Dy Chief Engineer P.W.D and accompaniments herewith returne and with reference to Memo No. 2281 dated 19th June 1879 from the same Officer with accompaniments also herewith returned I have the honor to report on the subject of the supply of Teakwood to this Department by the local Forest Officer.

2. With reference to para 4 of
letter No. 1564 dated 3rd March 1879
from the Conservator of Forests I have
the honor to invite your attention
to the following extract from my
letter No. 350 dated 30th October 1876
to the address of the Secretary to
Government in the P. W. printed
with P. W. G. O. No. 829 dated 26th
February 1877 para 5:—

"From the time when the Forest Depart-
"ment began to work in this District
"upto the year 1874 it was never the
"practice of this Department to send
"any one down to the Mudumalay
"forests to select the timber required.
"On the 1st of September 1874 at the
"request of Colonel Morgan, I sent
"a very experienced Carpenter Maistry
"to select some timber for the Wellington
"Barracks. He was ordered to mark
"300 logs. He returned on the 17th
"idem having been able to select only
"104 logs, from their being scattered
all

"all over the forest, and more or less
"covered with undergrowth. It thus to
"him seventeen days to choose and
"mark 104 logs, and ten months pa
"before the last of them reached
"Ootacamund. A second time, at
"the request of Major Jago, I sent
"the same Maistry to select 400 log
"He could only choose 200 logs wh
"occupied him twenty eight days.
"months elapsed before all the log
"were delivered at Ootacamund. On
"both occasions the Maistry on hi
"return was attacked with fever an
"was hors de Combat for six weeks
"each time."

3. From the above you will per
that there are great difficulties in
the way of carrying out the Conser
-vator's proposals. Were the logs
properly arranged in the Forest
so that they could be readily
inspected by us, we might adopt
the plan proposed by the Conserv
But such is not the case. The lo
are

are so scattered about all over the Forests and are so completely covered with thick vegitation that inspection of them is almost impossible.

4. On this point I beg further to invite attention to para 2 of P.W.D. G.O. No 1721 dated 6th July 1876 which says "The Forest Department is expected "to supply at convenient depôts such as "Railway Stations not in the Forests"

5. With regard to para 2 of P.W.D. G.O. No 4488 W dated 26th November 1878 to which the Dy Conservator of Forests refers I have the honor to inform you that that paragraph was I believe written after a personal inspection of the Forest Department timber yard at Ootacamund by His Grace the Governor, who I understood was much impressed by the condition of the timber.

6. The remarks made by the Deputy Conservator of Forests in para 1 of his letter No 60 dated 28th May

are

are doubtless written in view of the complaint made in my letter printed with Revenue Department G.O. No 829 of the 26th Febry 1877 (of which I beg kind perusal); and the excess supply of the past few years has doubtless been produced by my prior complaint of a deficient supply. Our actual demands on the Forest Department have been below our anticipations partly owing to the restrictive Public Works budgets of late years, and also to the local timber being too small: much of the timber we have lately used (and which we had hoped to have obtained locally) has had to be procured elsewhere. The Forest Department states that they had on 1st April 1879 13442 Cft in the yard not taken over. But between April and June we purchased from that Department 1450 Cft; so that the balance now in the yard is 11992 Cft. Of this 140 logs or 4000 cft are the leavings of several years and not at all suited for Public Works or indeed any other work. A very few of these are sometimes I hear sold occasionally to private parties at 1-6-0 per cft. Moreover the Forest Department pays I believe only 10 annas per cft for carting its timber from Mudumallay upto Ootacamund. If its price at Mudumallay be 12 or 14 annas per cft (as stated) then its price at Ooty should be only Rs 1-6-0 or 1-8-0 per Cubic foot. But I beg to bring to notice that for timber supplied to us for the bridge at Tippu-cadoo which is at the edge of the Forest and only 7 miles from Mudumallay itself we were charged Rs 1½ per cft; and this timber was obtained with difficulty and after much delay. The timber now in the Ootacamund yard is mostly of a very inferior quality. I believe much of it has been felled before arriving at maturity; and all of it is not fully seasoned. As it is reported to suffer from exposure might I suggest that means be taken by the Forest Department to protect it.

7

7. Regarding the proposed sale to private parties I have no objection to offe
I believe private parties are supplied no
But I beg to point out that if sold by auction to the highest bidder the timber will probably be purchased at a low rate by merchants and then be resold to this Department at the presen
high rate which we now pay to the Forest Department. There will hen
be a double loss to Government. If the timber now in the Ooty yard be offered for sale to private parties at t
same rate at which it is supplied to u
I feel sure that hardly any body will purchase it: Messrs Groves and Wait
once purchased timber from the Forest Department here and worked it up at a loss: they have since supplied themselve
from elsewhere. No objection has been raised by us to private parties who now require the timber from purchasing it; some have done so.

8. I beg to invite perusal of Revenue

Department G. O. No. 2208 dated 4th
July 1877.

9. May I also invite your kind
reperusal of my letter No. 402 dated 30th
December 1878 to your Address.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your Most obt. Servant
J. L. L. Morant
Major R.E.
Executive Engineer

2097/21

2097/28

From

The Executive Engineer
Nilgiris

To

The Supdg Engineer
Coimbatore

No. 317

Dated 4th July 1879

Enclosures 4

G.O. No 2097 W of 1879

Supply of Fuelwood to this Depart by the Local Forest Officer. Submits the report called for on the subject of –

En. No 6313

Enclosures to letter No: 459 from the Supg Engineer 4th Circle dated 15th July 1879.

Extract from letter from the Supg Engr Fourth Circle, No 4/C dated 29th April 1879.

Para 5. Again the anomaly of all Government buildings under construction on the Hills having to pay a seigniorage of Rs 2 from every bandy load of fuel used in their construction has I take it merely to be properly represented to be removed. It is quite reasonable that the Forest Department should be credited in their account (if it is considered a matter of vital importance to do so) with the value of all firewood used on Public Works; even although the sholas from whic the firewood is taken were in existence long before the Forest Department was thought of and with the growth o which they have had nothing whatever to do. But I cannot think that it i the intention of the Madras Government that the grants for Public Works sanctioned from Imperial sources should be reduced by this seigniorage

If Government would allow firewood to be taken by the P.W. Dept. at their own expense (subject of course to all the forest rules) and if some slight improvements were introduced in the arrangement at the Brick fields so as to obviate the necessity of carrying the raw bricks up hill to the Kilns a further saving of at least three Rupees for 1000 bricks would be the result.

No. 21.

Referred through the Revenue Department to the Conservator of Forests for report.

R. W. Sankey
Col R.E.
Secy to Govt P.W.D.

A.S.
12/5

Ootacamund
13th May/79

To
The Revenue Department

Office of Consr. of Forests,
Camp, Tunacadavu
27th. July 1879.

No. 691

2097/25

From,
Colonel R. H. Beddome
Conservator of Forests.

To, Lorne, A. Campbell Esquire,
Under Secretary to Govemt.
Revenue Department,
Ootacamund.

Sir,

Referring to your endorsement of 16th. June on a docket from Government, D. P. W. No: 21 dated 13th. May last and to the Government Order No: 2,514, of the 12th. July last, I have the honor to forward a letter of explanation from Major Jago, the Deputy Conservator of the Nilgiri Forest Division.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most Obedt. Servt.
R H Beddome Colonel,
Conservator of Forests.

2097/26

P.W.D.
1879
No. 5866
2

~~1879-80~~ 1879-80
Revenue - Forests
No 5874

From
The Conservator of Forests
To
The Under Secretary to Govt. - Rev. Dept.
Ootacamund.

Dated 27th }
Despd. 27th } July 1879
Recd:

No: 691.
(Enclosure - One)

Subject

Forwarding explanatory letter from Major Jago on the subject of Govt. building under construction on the hills having to pay a charge of Rs. 2 per bandy load of firewood.

G.O. No 2097 Rev of 1879

632

Ootacamund
No: 39. Office of Depy. Conservr of Forests
22nd July 1879.

2097/[illegible]

From,
Major R. S. Jago,
Deputy Conservator of Forests
Nilgiri Division

To,
The Conservator of Forests.

Sir,

With reference to your endorsement dated 11th June '79 No: 454, on a docket from Government D.P.W. No: 21 dated 13th May 1879, referred to me for report, I have the honor to inform you, that all our fellings now are plantations for Coppicing and thinning out, it is therefore quite out of the question to allow Public Works Department to fell their own wood, as the work requires strict practical supervision, which could not be carried out by the Public Works Department. The whole of the indiginous forests have been reserved, and there is none from which the D.P.W. could be supplied. For the past 5 Years the D.P.W. have not taken a single bandy load of firewood at Ootacamund for burning bricks, although large works have been carried on during that period.

The wood having been supplied

from private Sholahs for which they paid from Rs: 3.6.0, to Rs: 3.8.0 per load. The D.P.W at Wellington are supplied with wood by the Forest Department, for which they are charged Rs: 2 per load this includes felling charges.

I have the honor &c.
sd/ R. S. Jago, Major,
Deputy Conr. of Forests

(True Copy)
R H Beddome Colonel,
Conservator of Forests.

R.V.D.
1879
No 5866
3

G. O. No 2097 Rev of 11. 8. 79

En in No 638

Enclosure
In letter No: 691 dated 27th July 1879 from the Conservator of Forests to the Under Secy: to Govt, Revenue Department

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Office of Conr. of Forests,
Camp, Ummacadavu
30th July 1879

No: 697.

From,
Colonel R. H. Beddome,
Conservator of Forests.

To,
L. A. Campbell Esquire,
Under Secretary to Govt,
Revenue Department,
Ootacamund.

Sir,

In continuation of my letter No: 691 of the 27th instant, I have the honor to forward the enclosed document*, which was delayed in Major Jago's Office, and only just returned to me.

I have the honor to be
Sir,
Your most obedt. Servt.
R H Beddome Colonel,
Conservator of Forests.

*Docket from Government, D.P.W., No: 21 dated 15th May 1879.

No. 2097 W Public Works Department. 2097/28 26

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

UNDER date the 11th Augt. 1879

Read the following :—

Endorsement of the Revenue Dept. on letter from the Conservator of Forests No. 1564 d/ 3rd March 1879.	(No. E — d/ 28th April 1879.)
Do Do Do No. 396 d/ 29th May 1879	(No. E. — d/ 16th June 1879)
From the Superintending Engineer Fourth Circle	(No. E. No. 459 d/ 15th July 1879)
Endorsement in the Rev: Dept.	(" — — " 6th Augt —)

These papers refer to the relations existing between the officers of the Forest and Public Works Departments in regard to the supply of Teak timber for Public Works on the Nilgiris.

2. On a full consideration of the circumstances of the case, the Government concur in the opinion expressed by the Superintending Engineer Fourth

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Revenue 1879/80 Dept.
No. 5875
From The Conservator of Forests.
To The Under Secy: to Govt Rev. Dept. Ootacamund.
Dated 3rd July 1879
Recd:
9 Augt
c No 697
(Enclosure One)
Subject
Returning certain documents with reference to his letter No. 691 of the 27 July 79.
Transferred

Transferred to the Public Works Department
Ootacamund 6 August 1879
Under Secy to Govt.

No. 5866

G.O. No. 2097 W d/ 11-8-79

3 c 9

Fourth Circle, that there is no reason why the relations of the Public Works Department with the Forest Department should differ from those of any other purchaser.

3. The instructions contained in para 3 of G.O. No 4488 dated 25th November 1878, will therefore be acted up to for the future.

31/7/79

49
3

To
The Supg Engineer Fourth Circle
" Revenue Department

Despd
19.8.79

Recd 6.8.79 8-8.79
Cir 31.7.79 6-8.79
29 29-7

Cr3866

Govt. of [1870] Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

✓

To

Dated

Issued

Recd. Encl.

G. O. 11 Augst 1870, No. 209

Nos. 62-64

The relations of the P. W.
with the Forest Dept
differ in no way from tha
of any other purchaser

8

1