GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 19th March 1883, No. 809 :—

Read—the following letter from Major J. C. WALKER, Conservator of Forests, Southern Circle, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Coimbatore, 10th March 1883, No. 2533 :—

I have the honor to submit copy of a letter, No. 645, dated 17th February, from the Deputy Conservator of Forests, Malabar, with an endorsement by the Collector regarding the erection of a Forest Ranger's house in the Chedleth Forests, which would appear not even to have been commenced by the Public Works Department, though the plan and estimate (amounting to Rs. 4,080) were sanctioned and funds made available in 1881—*vide* G.O., Public Works Department, No. 67-W, dated 12th January, and Revenue Department, No. 206, dated 27th January of that year.

2. Under the circumstances I have no hesitation in supporting the proposal of the District Forest Officer and Collector to take the matter out of the hands of the Public Works Department and erect a suitable building ourselves, which I have no doubt can be done quickly and cheaply.

If the Board and Government approve and will cancel the orders and allotment in the Public Works Department, I shall have a proper plan and estimate submitted by Mr. Morgan, and the work put in hand early next official year.

3. As the Collector remarks: "we cannot afford to experiment any longer with Ranger's health in the present quarters," which has already cost us the life of a good man. From plans and estimates recently submitted for other districts, I think the sum of Rs. 2,000 mentioned by Mr. Morgan should suffice for what we want, though building is very dear in Wynaad.

——

ENCLOSURE.

Letter from R. MORGAN, Esq., Deputy Conservator of Forests, Malabar, to the Conservator of Forests, Southern Circle (through the Collector of Malabar), dated Manantoddy, 17th February 1883, No. 645.

I have the honor to bring to your notice that it is now five years since the construction of a new house for the Ranger at Chedleth was sanctioned by Government. I pointed out the site for the house to the Public Works Officer. Nothing whatever has been done up to date. I have drawn attention to this matter repeatedly and in the strongest manner possible—*vide* my letters, No. 88, dated 5th July 1878, and No. 117, of the 16th August 1878.

2. I now suggest that I may be permitted to put up a building departmentally.

3. I propose entirely changing the plan of the house, which I consider unnecessarily costly.

4. A small house of five rooms, viz :—

One Dining-room, 12′ × 14′,
Two Bed-rooms, 12′ × 12′ each,
Two Bath-rooms, 6′ × 10′ each,

will be ample.

5. The walls can be made of burnt brick set in clay and pointed with lime.
6. The floor of burnt brick on edge set in mortar.
7. The roof to be of galvanised iron.
8. A verandah 6′ wide all round on teak pillars to keep the walls dry.

Such a building as this can be put up for Rs. 2,000.

9. To keep the iron roof cool in the hot weather, a creeper of *Ipomea tuberosa* trained over it would answer well.
10. It could be completed in three months.
11. If my proposal is approved of, I will furnish a plan, specification and estimate.

Note by Collector.

I do not know how this matter at present stands in regard to Department of Public Works' action; but from conversation with Mr. Morgan, I should say it would be best to put up an inexpensive house such as Mr. Morgan proposes, and after experience of the healthiness or otherwise of the site selected to make a permanent and suitable substantial dwelling; for we cannot afford to experiment any longer with Ranger's health in the present quarters.

This should ordinarily have come from my office, but Mr. Morgan has not yet effected his transfer to Calicut.

COCHIN, (Initialled) W. L.
23rd February 1883.

Resolution—dated 19th March 1883, No. 809.

Submitted for the orders of Government. The Government Orders referred to by the Conservator do not appear to have been communicated to the Board.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) J. A. DAVIES,
Acting Sub-Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
Copy to the Conservator of Forests, Southern Circle.
Copy to the Deputy Conservator of Forests, in charge of Central Office.

Endorsement dated 14th April 1883, Mis. No. 1514, Revenue.

Referred to the Department of Public Works, for remarks.

(By Order,)

(Signed) J. D. REES,
Acting Under-Secretary.

Endorsement by the Public Works Department on the above paper, dated 20th April 1883, No. 829-C.

Referred to the Superintending Engineer, Fourth Circle, for early remarks.

2. Return requested.

(By order,)

(Signed) C. BOWEN, Major, R.E.,
Under-Secretary to Government, P.W.D.

READ—the following letter from the Superintending Enginer, Fourth Circle, dated 26th April 1883, No. 172.

In reply to Memorandum No. 829-C of 20th instant, I have the honor to inform you that there is nothing on record to show why the Ranger's House at Chedleth, sanctioned $2\frac{1}{4}$ years * since (not five as stated by the Deputy Conservator) has never been commenced; but while this has probably been due to want of establishment in the Wynaad to supervise the work, another cause of nothing being done has doubtless been that no allotment appears ever to have been given for it (as incorrectly stated by the Conservator †). The original order stated that funds would be placed to the credit of the Executive Engineer by the Conservator, and I am not aware that he ever did this; of course, until funds were placed to his credit, the Executive Engineer was not in a position to take any steps towards having the building commenced.

*G.O., No. 67 W of the 12th January 1881.

† *Vide* paragraph 2, clause 2 of his letter, No. 2533, of 10th ultimo.

2. However this may be, it is very desirable in the present state of the establishment of the Nílgiri Division that any Department requiring buildings in the Wynaad should be encouraged to make their own arrangements; and I consider therefore that the offer of the Conservator to provide fresh plans and estimates and have the building erected by his own officers, should be approved.

No. 957-C, dated 15th May 1883.

Copy of the above forwarded to the Revenue Department for information, with advertence to its endorsement, No. 1514, dated 14th April 1883, which is herewith returned.

2. There is no objection in the Public Works Department to the transfer of the work to the Forest Department.

(By Order,)

(Signed) C. BOWEN, Major, R.E.,
Deputy Chief Engineer, P.W.D.

To the Revenue Department, with one enclosure.
,, ,, Superintending Engineer, Fourth Circle.

ORDER—dated 28th May 1883, No. 672, Revenue.

Forest, No. 44.

The execution of the work will be transferred to the Forest Department.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) E. F. WEBSTER,
Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.
,, Public Works Department.
,, Accountant-General.

Exd. W. H. French.

80 Copies.

13

No. 1727 & 9/19th June 1883.

Comd & the Supt Engineer
4th Circle.

Fwd C. B.

Govt. of {1883} Madras.

REVENUE.

Issued

Recd. *Encl.*

G.O., 28th May 1883, No. 672.

No 1727 Wdy 19-6-83

MAY.

Supt. 4th Circle
Exor. P. Wks Accts.

Ranger's house

in the Chedleth Forests, Malabar District.—Execution of the work of the —, ordered to be transferred to the Forest Department.

With Order

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Deputy Chief Engineer, P.W.D.

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„ Accountant-General.

Exd. W. H. French.

80 Copies.

B B

Rec. No. 1727 & d/19th June 1883.

Cond to the Supt Engineer
L & L " Circle.

Pl of C.B.

Govt. of {1883} Madras.

REVENUE.

Issued

Recd. *Encl.*

G.O., 28th May 1883, No. 672.

No 1727 Wdy 19-6-83

MAY.

Ranger's house

in the Chedleth Forests, Malabar District.—Execution of the work of the —, ordered to be transferred to the Forest Department.

L. & L. Circle
Exec. P.W. Accts

With Order