

Political (1898) Department.

ORDINARY MS.

G.O., No. 782

DATED 13-10-98

15.10.

[Despatch Abstract.]

Coming to the Resident in To
Cochin letter from the Lt of Port Blair for
copy of letter from the Dy Conservator of forests, Port
Blair, & certain extract paras from the Forest
Admin Report of the Headman for 1890-91 furnishing
information regarding the facilities for the extraction
of timber from forests there.

T
10/10/98

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

[Poll.]
7
500-29-7-96.

Political (1898) Department.

CURRENT No. 1315

From

The Supt. Port Blair,
Sent Sept.

C.S.
Order
No 732 D/3.10.98
Comm? in continuation of
G.O. No 612 Pt. 7 29.8.98 & the
Resdt. in Travancore & Cochin

No. 1097

C.M.S.
12.10.98

Dated 29th Sept.
Received } 10th Oct. } 1898.
Registered }

Recd. in T. & C. (aoo) Despt
Rev. Despt (in original for perusal
and return)

Enclosures 2
Spare copies. -

SUBJECT.

Forwarding copy of certain
correspondence re. the
method of extracting
timber from the forest.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
6123	29.8	28-11-11	

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Copy of Letter No 1351, dated 26th September 1898, from the Deputy Conservator of Forests, Andamans Division, to the Superintendent, Port Blair.

Sir,

In reply to your letter No 1076 dated 23rd instant I have the honor to state that the method of extracting timber from the forests of the Andamans is by means of elephants, by tramways and by water carriage.

2. In regard to the extraction by tramways reference may be made to the annual Forest Administration reports of the Andamans for 1890-91 the year in which tramways were introduced into Port Blair especially to facilitate the extraction of timber.

3. The plant adopted was Fowler's System C.I. portable railway consisting of steel rails, 18 lbs per yard, with trough-section sleepers, for 24" gauge, costing, with fish plates, fish plates, bolts and nuts, complete, Rs. 7750/- per mile.

4. The timber waggons were a specially strong kind, type H.H., to take logs 30 to 40 feet long and up to 5 tons in weight with forks 4 feet wide; Rs. 330/- each.

5. Mr Buchanan, Extra Deputy Conservator of Forests, compiled, at my request, a Memorandum on the Forest tramways of the Andamans.

This work, it is understood, is now in the press. When printed a copy of the pamphlet might be forwarded to the Resident in Travancore and Cochin for information.

6. The timber shoot referred to in the Resident's letter is a straight slide moistened with water down which logs are passed from the train terminus to water. The train termini are usually brought to the water's edge; but in this case it was found necessary to commence the alignment about 500 feet above the deep water depôt, in order to surmount a ridge intervening between the Depôt and the objective of the line.

7. The aqueducts referred to are used in the North West Provinces and Punjab. Full reports regarding them may be obtained from the Inspector General of Forests to the Government of India, Simla.

I have etc.

(Signed). R. L. Heinig
Deputy Conservator of Forests
Andamans.

True copy

W. J. J. J.

Head Clerk

16
Extract paragraphs 12 and 13 from the
Forest Administration Report of the Andamans for
1890-91

Communications & Buildings.

12. The purchase of the tramway alluded to in last year's Report was sanctioned by the Government of India during the year under Review, and at the end of December 1890 the material, consisting of $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles Fowler's Patent System L.I. portable railway, 2.4" gauge, with steel rails weighing 18 lbs. per yard and trough section sleepers, was received, the cost, including that of 10 trucks, switch crossings and tools for laying, amounting to Rs 14,725.

The line was laid from the tidal creek of Dhani Fihari along one side of an existing road for about a mile, and then round a hill and across paddy fields to a depôt in the forest, up to which the logs are now dragged by elephants. Until the opening of the line, the elephants had to drag over this additional distance of $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles. The cost of a narrow raised road over these fields and of erecting two bridges made the total cost of purchase of material and laying the line Rs 15,683. The road and bridges having been prepared in advance, the tramway

which was landed at Port Blair on 24th December, was working on the 10th of January.

13- Even before the tramway was opened, the timber felling operations had receded some distance from the terminus, and this distance is continually being increased as the nearer forests are exhausted of the padouk and other timbers in demand. As much timber as can be dragged in a day to the forest depot by the elephants available is now railed the following day to the creek or to the portable Sawmill, the trucks making, if necessary, two trips daily, and even supposing the elephants to drag over a distance of $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles to reach the forest depot (a day's work with a good load), the tramway enables the Department to extract a given quantity of timber with half the number of elephants that would otherwise be necessary. Taking as a daily average only 12 truck-loads each of $1\frac{1}{2}$ tons or 18 tons, the tramway does the work of 18 elephants.

The cost of dragging was estimated in the Reports for 1887-88 and 1888-89 at Rs 6.23 and Rs 4.5 per ton respectively, and the distances were then shorter than now. The present cost of railing is merely 4 men per truck per day, or for the 18 tons 24 men, say

Rs 1.3 per ton, and the cost of repairs to the road and interest on the capital outlay.

An extension of one mile has recently been sanctioned.

On repairs to the roadway a sum of Rs 122 was expended.

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True extract
W. J. J. J.
Head Clerk

1000
CURRENT NO. 1315

No. 1097

FROM

LIEUT.-COLONEL G. W. ANSON,

OFFG. SUPERINTENDENT OF PORT BLAIR.

TO

GENERAL
DEPARTMENT.

THE *Chief Secretary to the Govt of Madras,
Pottacamund, Madras.*



29th September, 1898.

SIR,

As requested in your letter N^o C 613, dated 29th Ultimo, I have the honour to enclose copy of letter N^o 1351, dated 26th Instant, from the Dy Conservator of Forests, Port Blair, and extract paragraphs 12 and 13 from the Forest Administration Report of the Andamans for 1890-91. A printed copy of Mr Buchanan's Memo: on the Forest-Thoroughways of the Andamans will be forwarded to you as soon as received.

2. The timber shoot in the Andamans has been a great saving in expense and labour, and is still worked as described by Colonel Temple. There are similar slides in the North West Provinces, in the Sivaliks, and in the lower ranges of the Himalayas of much larger size than the one in the Andamans; full information regarding them could be without difficulty

*enclos 1097
Pottacamund*

When given for copying 15/10
 When copied 3/17.10 } 189
 When examined
 When signed

READ AGAIN G.O., No. , DATED
 189

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURES TO C. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT. A A A A A A A

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO

PAPERS NOT FILED UP, BEING MEANT FOR DESPATCH
 IN ORIGINAL.

N.B.—

- A = Copy in full.
- B = Not to be copied.
- P = Copy abstract only.
- Q = Copy heading only.

obtained from the Government of
 India.—

I have the honour to be,
 Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Johnson Lieut-Colonel
 Offg Superintendent, Mt. Blair.—

B