

ORDINARY, MS.

Public	DEPARTMENT.
G.O., DATED	16-11-98
No.	919.

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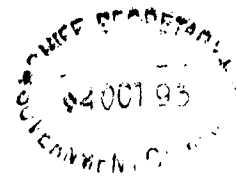
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[Despatch Abstract.]

Recording letter from
the Hon Secy Nilgiris
Game Association sub-
mitting a copy of the
report of the association
for the year ending
30 June 1898.

Ostacmund
September 93
3rd October

From.



Rhodes Morgan Esquire

Honorary Secretary

Nilgiri Game Association

To

The Chief Secretary to Government
Public Department

Sir,

I have the honor, by order of the Committee
of the Nilgiri Game and Fish Preservation
Association, to submit herewith for the
information of Government a copy of the
annual report of the Association for the
year ending 30th June 1893.

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your most Obedient Servant

Rhodes Morgan

Honorary Secretary

Nilgiri Game & Fish Preservation Assn.

88

Public Dept
CUMMINS 2672

Put go. N^o 788 25/6-11-92

From.

The Honorary Secretary
Nilgiri Game Association

circulated for
information.

To.

The Chief Secretary
to Government
Public Department

7.5.13.
6/10
248 Received
15/10/93
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order 16 Nov 93 N^o 919

Recorded.

Dated 3rd } 3. October 1893
Recd 4th } " " "

7.5.13.
13/11

14/11/93

No.

Encls. 1.

Subject.

Submitting a copy of the Annual
Report of the Nilgiri Game Asso-
ciation for the year ending 30th
June 1893.

WITH ORDER

27.10.
1.13/10

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Nilgiri Game Association

FOR THE

Year ending the 30th June 1893.

"OBSERVER" PRESS—OOTACAMUND.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
Nilgiri Game and Fish Preservation Association,
FOR THE
Year ending the 30th June, 1893.

The Committee consisted of the following gentlemen during the year:—

C. F. MACCARTIE, Esq.	H. WAPSHARE, Esq.
N. G. BEADNELL, Esq.	G. OAKES, Esq.
W. L. EDMISTON, Esq.	E. E. KINDERSLEY, Esq.
W. C. DEANE, Esq.	H. V. CORB, Esq.
COLONEL THE HONBLE A. B. DE MONTMORENCY.	F. J. HILL, Esq.
E. G. WINDLE, Esq.	H. D. WILBRAHAM, Esq.
MAJOR THE HON. R. T. LAWLEY.	H. P. HODGSON, Esq.
MAJOR R. KEKEWICH.	L. C. LIEBENROOD, Esq.
	W. O. DAVID, Esq.

Mr. RHODES MORGAN was the *Honorary Secretary* and the Collector, for the time being, (Messrs. J. D. Rees and O. WOLFE-MURRAY) the *President* of the Association.

The Committee met 7 times as follows:—

31st August, 1892.
4th October "
31st "
29th November "
31st January, 1893.
21st February "
25th April "

Besides the above, there was a general meeting on the 4th October, 1892 and a Special Meeting on the 31st January, 1893.

The rules of the Association were altered during the year under report and form an appendix to this report.

CHAPTER I.

GAZETTE NOTIFICATIONS RELATING TO PROTECTION OF GAME.

The following notifications were published during the year:—

NOTICE.

The public is informed that the destruction of insectivorous birds in all reserved forests and lands without the special permission of the Collector, is prohibited by law and that such permission will only be given for scientific or other reasons of the like nature.

* * * *

13th July 1892.

NOTICE.

The following notice will be substituted for the one, dated 27th May 1892, published in the *Nilgiri District Gazette*, dated 1st June, 1892, Forest sheet, page 2:—

Under the authority vested in him by rule 5 of the rules under Section 21 (h) and rule 16 of the rules under Section 26 of Act V of 1882, the Collector of the Nilgiris hereby declares that the following blocks of reserved forests and reserved land will be closed against shooting for one year, from the 1st June, 1892:—

Ootacamund Range.

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Cairn Hill. | 8. Chutti Burray. |
| 2. Sigur Peak and Konabettu Forest. | 9. Avalanche Burray. |
| 3. Aramby. | 10. Singara Burray. |
| 4. Snowdon, East. | 11. Hankin Burray. |
| 5. Tarnadmund Burray. | 12. Madimund Burray. |
| 6. Coke Burray. | 13. Waterfall Burray. |
| 7. Mukurti Burray. | 14. Simon Burray. |

Coonoor Range.

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Sim's Park reserve. | 4. Madanad Burray. |
| 2. Rallia reserve. | 5. Pakasura Burray. |
| 3. Rangasami Mullay Burray. | |

Note:—The shooting of Ibex *alone* is prohibited in the 13 Burreys referred to *supra*, which include the whole of the Nilgiri Ibex cliffs.

8th October 1892.

NOTIFICATION.

Under Section 21 of Act V of 1882.

It is hereby notified for the information of the public that the blocks of forests described in the schedule below, have been

opened to hunting, shooting and fishing, on payment of a fee of Rs. (30) thirty, from 1st November, 1892:—

District.	Name of reserved forest.	Boundaries.	Remarks.
Coimbatore, Eastern slopes of the North.	Nilgiris.	Same boundaries as notified in the <i>District Gazette, Forest sheet</i> , dated 27-5-86, pages 1 and 2, Coimbatore.	

NOTIFICATION.

It is hereby notified, for general information, that the following reserved forests, which are situated in the south Coimbatore Division and included within the Nilgiri Game limits and which had hitherto been closed against shooting, are now thrown open for shooting and hunting on payment of a fee of Rs. 30, from the date of the publication of this notification in the *Coimbatore District Gazette*:—

1. The Sundapatti reserved forest.
2. The Odanthorai " "
3. The Mothur " "

Whereas there is reason to believe that the rules under which alone persons are allowed to shoot in that part of the Coimbatore District which is included within the Nilgiri Game limits, *viz.* (1) the Eastern slopes reserved forest, (2) Sundapatti reserve, block VII, (3) Odanthorai reserve, block VIII are not sufficiently understood, the following notice is hereby published:—

All the reserved forests of the Coimbatore District, situated on the Nilgiri side of the Moyar and Bhavani rivers, fall within the Nilgiri Game Act limits and the shooting rules in force in other parts of the Coimbatore District which allow shooting on a license of Rs. 5, are not applicable to such tracts. The rules relating to these forests are the special rules sanctioned by Government under Section 21 (h) of the Forest Act and published at page 1117 of the *Port Saint George Gazette*, dated, 21st December, 1886, Part I. The substance of the rules is that persons desiring to hunt, fish or shoot within the reserved forests included within the limits in which the Nilgiri Game Act is in force, shall be bound to pay Rs. 30 to the Collector of Nilgiris and take out a license for each fasli year, *i.e.*, from 1st July to 30th June. Non-commissioned officers and soldiers of Her Majesty's forces, however, can have a license at

the Collector's discretion, at a reduced rate of Rs. 5 for *bona-fide* shooting purposes. No one can shoot, kill, capture, pursue or sell, between the 1st of June and 31st October, inclusive, in every year, any description of large game referred to in the Nilgiri Game Act II of 1879, viz., Bison, Sambhur Ibex, Jungle-Sheep and Deer of all kinds and small game, comprising hares, jungle fowl, pea fowl, partridges, quail, spur fowl, snipe and woodcock, shall not be shot at, killed, captured, pursued or sold between the 15th of March and the 15th September, inclusive, in every year. The Collector can close by notification, in the District Gazette, any particular reserved forest for the whole or part of a year against shooting or fishing and no person then, even if he possesses a license, can hunt, shoot, or fish in such reserved forest. The poisoning of water or the setting of traps or snares for game in any reserved forest, is absolutely forbidden. Whoever contravenes any of the above rules is punishable with imprisonment up to 6 months or with fine up to Rs. 500, or with both.

It is the duty of village officers as well as of Police Officers and forest subordinates to bring to the notice of the authorities offences against the law which are believed to be very frequent. Rewards will be granted by the Game Association, when deserved, to persons bringing such offences to light.

Fort St. George, February 28th, 1893.

No. 128. Under the provisions of Section 4 of the Nilgiri Game and Fish Preservation Act II of 1879, the Governor in Council hereby notifies that the pursuit, killing or capture of trout in the undermentioned lakes and rivers in the District of Nilgiris, is prohibited altogether till the 1st April, 1894.

Avalanche River.
Emerald Valley River.
Pykara River.
Marlammund Reservoir.
Dodabetta do.
St. Lawrence's Lake.
Ooty Lake and Sandynulla Stream.

NOTICE.

In supersession of the Collector's notification, dated 24th December, 1892, prohibiting the hunting or shooting in the Mudumalai and Kumbarakolli reserved lands or forests during any part of the year, certain specified animals, it is hereby notified that licenses to shoot the undermentioned game and other animals will be issued by the Collector from and after the 1st April, 1893, for the Mudumalai and Kumbarakolli forests.

2. The payment for such license shall be Rs. 15 but any person holding a license to shoot Game under Act II of 1879 and the Forest Act for the plateau shall be exempted from taking out a special license for the above tracts though these rules will apply to the license held by such person.

3. The license will entitle the holders to shoot the following animals and no others:—

- 1 Sambhur and axis stags in hard horn above 20 inches in direct length from burr to tip.
- 2 Mature bull bison with horns exceeding 16 inches in girth at the base.
- 3 Muntjac.
- 4 Tigers.
- 5 Bears.
- 6 Panthers.
- 7 Wild pigs.
- 8 Wild dogs.

4. Any person found shooting at, killing or wounding any females of deer or bison or hornless or immature males of deer with horns under 20 inches in length or stags in velvet or young bull bison with horns under 16 inches in girth, will be held to have been shooting without a license and will be liable to the following penalties:—

Prosecution and, on conviction, imprisonment of either description for a term which may extend to one month or to fine which may extend to Rs. 200 or both.

5. In addition to the above penalty, the license (if any) held by the offender will be liable to be immediately cancelled and his guns confiscated.

Ootacamund 24th March 1893.

NOTICE.

Under the powers conferred on him by rule 4 of the rule sanctioned by Government under Section 26 of the Forest Act for Todapatta lands on the Nilgiris, published at pages 399 to 402 of the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 11th April, 1893, Part I, the Collector of the Nilgiris hereby notifies that, from and after the publication of this notice, the following will be the close seasons for game in the above lands:—

Large game, including sambhur, ibex, jungle sheep and deer of all kinds, shall not be shot at, killed, captured, pursued or sold between the 1st of June and 31st October inclusive, in every year. Small game, which comprises hares and all feathered game, shall not be shot at, killed, captured, pursued or sold between the 15th of March and 15th of September inclusive, in every year.

Ootacamund, 23rd June, 1893.

CHAPTER

PROSECUTIONS UNDER THE FOREST,

The following statement of prosecutions undertaken

Statement of prosecutions under the Forest, Arms and Game

Serial No.	Offence under what Act and Section Committed.		No. of persons	
			Charged.	Convicted.
1	Shooting in Kulear 2 Sambhurs without permit	Forest Act under Sec 21 (h)	10	10
2	Shooting a deer in Benné	Do.	1	...
3	Fishing in Muthinad reserve	Do.	3	...
4	Shooting a Bison, Neilgai &c. in the Eastern slopes Reserved Forest.	Do.	2	2
5	Shooting a Bison, and a Sambhur in Do. without a license	Do.	1	...
6	Fishing in Sandynulla river by a net with a mesh below 1½ in.	Sec. 5, Act II of 1879	4	2
7	Fishing in Ooty lake with Do.	Do.	3	3
8	Do. Marliamund reservoir	Do.	3	3
9	Offering a spurfowl for sale in Coonoor during close season	Sec. 3 Do.	1	1
10	Delivering a gun to a man not owning a license	Arms Act XI of 1878 Section 22	1	1
11	Being in possession of a gun without a license	Sec. 13 of Do.	1	1
12	Being in possession of a gun without a license and failing to give notice of sale to Police or Magistrate	Sec. 19 (a, b, c) of Do.	1	1
13	Going armed without a licence	Sec. 19 (c) of Do.	1	1

II.

ARMS AND GAME ACTS.

during the year, gives details of each case.

Acts for the fasli year ending 30th June 1893.

By what Magistrate	Sentence.	Remarks.
2nd Class magis- trate Coonoor	Acquitted	Pending case of last year.
...	Compounded by District Forest Officer for Rs. 30	
...	Case withdrawn by the District Forest Officer as it was subsequently found that the fishing was in unreserved stream	
District magis- trate Coimbatore.	Acquitted	
...		Pending reply to a reference made to the Board of Revenue
2nd Class magis- trate Ootacamund.	2 accused fined 20 Rs. each, in default, 20 days simple imprisonment	
Do.	Fined 10 Rs. each, in default 1st accused to undergo 1 month and the 2nd and 3rd 20 days simple imprisonment	
Do.	Convicted and sentenced, 1st accused to pay a fine of Rs. 5 and each of the others Rs. 3 in default 15 days simple imprisonment each	
Do. Coonoor...	Fined Rs. 6, in default 15 days rigorous imprisonment	
Head Assistant Magistrate	Discharged under Section 25 of the Criminal Procedure Code	
Do.	Do.	
Do.	Fined Rs. 15	
Do.	Do.	

It may be remembered that, in the previous year, Badagas shot a Brocket in Hira Shige Forest during the close season and were each fined 40 Rs. This sentence has had such a wholesome and deterrent effect that very few offences of a similar character have been committed this year.

The Committee regret to report that the prosecution of Mr. Prager resulted in failure. The charges against Mr. Prager were (1) that he had shot down, on various occasions specified several cow-bisons at Kullampalayam, in the eastern slopes reserved forest, and had sold the hides, Mr. Prager at the time having no license and the forest having been closed against shooting (2) that he had lent guns to Irulars, had aided and abetted them in shooting sambhur, &c., hinds in the said forest: (3) that he had shot other game in the said forest: (4) that he had shot a cow-Neilghye, and cow-bison in the Tullamallai Forest in violation of the conditions of the Coimbatore District license which prohibits the shooting of females. Mr. Prager was not tried at all on charges (1) and (2), the evidence regarding which was ample and conclusive, but on charges (3) and (4). The 3rd charge failed owing to the lapse of time, 8 months that has occurred, which resulted in the witnesses' contradicting one another on minor points. The fourth charge was so framed as to ensure his acquittal, for he was charged with shooting *without a license* in the Tullamallai Forest. He then produced the license which had been given him by the prosecutor (the District Forest Officer) and was promptly acquitted!

Mr. Gage was reported to have shot a sambhur and a bison in the Eastern slopes reserved forest, Coimbatore District without taking out a license from the Collector of Nilgiris. A difference of opinion having arisen between the Collectors of the two Districts as to whether the Coimbatore District Forest Officer should prosecute or the Honorary Secretary, Nilgiri Game Association, the matter has been referred to the Board for decision.

CHAPTER III.

VERMIN.

During the year rewards were disbursed for the following:—
9 Otters, 35 Mongoose, 37 Wild cats and 1 Wild dog
Rs. 173-6-0.

The scale of rewards was altered by the Committee on the 25th March, 1893 and a fresh and more liberal scale provided and one more suited to the requirements of the Association. The following is the new scale.

Wild dogs	... Rs. 3-0-0	Mongoose, (3 species) ...	Rs. 1-0-0
Wild cats	... " 3-0-0	Horned owls ...	" 0-8-0
Leopard cats	... " 2-0-0	Bonellia-Eagle (Bhyri) ...	" 3-0-0
Civet cats	... " 2-0-0	Otters killed in Pykara River ...	" 0-8-0

The list of vermin killed, above, by no means represents the total number killed, for most sportsmen do not claim rewards for vermin shot by them and it is only when beaters kill vermin they are allowed to claim the rewards.

No traps having been received from Messrs. Oakes & Co., the Honorary Secretary, by order of the Committee, remitted £ 12-10-0 to W. Burgess & Sons of Malvern Wells for a supply of their 'Humane vermin traps.' On receipt of these traps the necessary establishment (*viz.* a trapper, assistant and pony to carry traps about) will be employed, and trapping systematically carried out. The traps are expected daily. All rewards for vermin will be discontinued after the trapping system is in full working order.

INCREASE OF VERMIN.

Mongoose and wild cats of all species are still numerous. There has been a very serious increase of wild dogs and Jackals. Panthers are not nearly so common as they used to be, which is fortunate, as they are most destructive to ibex and have caused many a sportsman to lament the loss of his most valuable dogs. Porcupines are a great curse and appear to increase rapidly. As they carry a strong scent, dogs will follow them and get seriously speared. Poison is the only effective means of destroying them.

CHAPTER IV.

INCREASE OF GAME AND RESULTS OF PROTECTION.

Sambhur.—There is still a great scarcity of good stags and such scarcity must continue so long as license-holders and others butcher small brockets. In the deer forests of Scotland, on Exmoor, in Germany Newfoundland and many other places, none but "warrantable" stags are allowed to be shot. On these hills, there is nothing whatever to restrain anyone but his own feelings of humanity and sport.

For the Mudumalai Forest, however, special rules have been published, which prohibit the shooting of brockets. These rules have been in force from 1st July, 1892 and have worked satisfactorily.

Ibex.—The Association has to announce, with great regret, that the small herd of 5 ibex which existed in Tarnad Burray, has totally disappeared and the only buck left on Konabettu was killed by a landslip last February. It is to be hoped that one of the 2 kids, born last year, may be a buck; otherwise, this small herd of 7 (including the kids) must become extinct.

Elsewhere on the Kundahs and at Pakasuramalai the ibex are slowly increasing. As already remarked, ibex are much preyed on by panthers, and a small herd cannot make head against their depredations: a larger herd of 20 or 30 may continue to increase in spite of such losses.

Bison.—A few young bulls are still with the herds in the Mudumalai Forest. Though there were 6 sportsmen shooting in these forests during the year and every inch of the ground was gone over by them, only one black bull was seen. The herds, too, have decreased in number since last year.

Spotted deer.—The wild dogs have done much damage to these deer during the year. A pack of over 40 dogs appeared in the Sigur Forests and killed deer every day for some months, when the pack suddenly broke up into twos and threes. Nine dogs were found lying dead in the forests. Mr. Liebenrood also reports that he found 3 wild dogs lying dead in the forests near Nellakotta. The presumption is that distemper or some other disease broke out in the pack. Some such cause must operate in keeping wild dogs in check or they would rapidly increase and overrun the whole country.

Antelope.—These will increase, no doubt, in time with efficient protection. There are 3 or 4 small herds of 5 or 6 in each in the Sigur forests.

Small Game.—Woodcock have been scarce. Hares fairly plentiful, except in places where jackals are abundant. There is a satisfactory increase in jungle-fowl in all the large sholas, but, in the small sholas, they are shot down every season and have but a poor chance of breeding.

CHAPTER V.

EXOTIC AND INTRODUCED GAME.

Chikore.—Single birds are occasionally seen and a covey of 15 was reported in the neighbourhood of Billikal.

Pheasants.—Those turned out in Lovedale are occasionally seen; others have been seen in Governor's shola, Marliamund plantation, Tudor valley and elsewhere. The birds have apparently scattered widely, as is their habit. Of the 12 pheasants originally imported, there are 8 alive; also 3 chickens hatched out. The eggs do not appear to be fertile in the hot climate of Kartéri and the chickens do not live long when hatched. Mr. G. Oakes, who spent over a thousand rupees in importing pheasants from England, at his own expense, came to the same conclusion and removed his birds to Ootacamund, where, to his great disappointment, and the lasting regret of all sportsmen, they were destroyed to a bird by a marauding jackal, which gained entrance into the pen at night.

Rabbits.—The game watcher reports that he occasionally sees rabbits but they have probably scattered and are not likely to increase very fast in such a vermin-infested district as Kartéri.

Peafowl.—The Honorary Secretary has not relaxed his efforts to obtain *pardees* to captured peafowl. After sending men over the Mysore District, a gang was found, but they declined to enter the Government forests even though offered an advance of Rs. 10 as they imagined it was only a ruse to entice them away and put them in jail! The forest Department hunted them out of the forests before, and this is really the reason why it is so difficult to get hold of them now. However, it is to be hoped that when the season commences for capturing peafowl, the Association will be able to obtain the assistance of these men.

Partridges.—The Association is under great obligations to those gentlemen who have, at their own expense, endeavoured to further sport and benefit the District by the introduction of game and fish or who have assisted the Association by donations for the furtherance of the same good objects.

Mr. H. P. Hodgson has been instrumental in introducing partridges, at his own expense, at Kartéri, where they have bred successfully.

Guineafowl.—The Honorary Secretary obtained 6 Guineafowl a pea hen and 2 partridges at his own expense, which are doing well. The guineafowl have increased to 13.

Mr. Naher of Kartéri has also introduced guineafowl and he is getting black partridges from Northern India at his own expense.

In former years, many sportsmen spent considerable sums of money in introducing guineafowl, partridges, peafowl, Himalayan pheasants, &c. and letting them loose; but, as no protection was then afforded by the law, the birds let loose were all either shot down or trapped within a few months.

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CHAPTER VI.

IMPORTED AND INDIGENOUS FISH.

Trout.—The four large fish at Dodabetta were transferred to the Snowdon troutponds. The two females spawned in February but, as the male were in milt in November, the ova could not be fertilised. 40,000 ova were obtained from Mr. Silk (Marquis of Exeter's Manager). They were put into the ice-house and were, of course, at once frozen to death. The money spent and trouble taken about the matter were wasted. A telegram was despatched to Mr. Silk to send out 20,000 more ova and, instead of sending them at once on receipt of the telegram, Mr. Silk delayed a whole month and then sent out the ova. They arrived on the 4th March, the hottest time of the year. The high temperature of the water destroyed the fry as fast as they were hatched out and only 83 of the strongest survived. These were put into the frypond at Snowdon and are now fine strong young fish, 3" in length. Out of the fry, 10 were retained in the large hatching box of these 6 survived and are quite equal in size to the fry put out in the pond. All the fry have been daily fed with sheep's brains and chopped earth worms and young white ants.

Stockponds.—A stockpond of 1,000 cubic yards capacity and a fry pond of smaller dimensions have been excavated in Marliamund plantation, with two silt pits, the whole surrounded with wire netting. The adjoining ground has been tastefully laid out with flowers, ferns, &c., at a total cost of Rs. 279.

A site has been chosen on the banks of the Pykara river for a stock pond for breeding fish, where a natural depression in

the soil has lent itself to the formation of an artificial dam. The surrounding soil has been excavated to a depth of 3 feet, and the earth, thus obtained, thrown up across the neck of the depression. The dam is 54 yards in length by 51 feet in diameter, with a puddlewall of clay, 4 feet wide in the centre. The total length of the pond is 93 yards and the average width 30 yards. The depth varies from 12 feet near the dam to 3 feet near the upper end of the pond. The capacity of the pond is 5,800 cubic yards. About 700 tons of granite have been collected for facing the dam, lining the calingula and building a wall round the pond. The necessary iron standards, galvanised wire fencing, cement and other necessary materials have been purchased. From 20 to 40 laborers are daily employed by the contractor and the work will probably be finished by October. The pond will be capable of holding 500 trout, which, in so limited a body of water, must necessarily be daily fed with chopped crabs, earth worms, &c. Mahamed Cassim is in charge of the pond and, as he lives within 50 yards of it and as he takes great interest in the work, may be entrusted to look after the place properly. An artificial waterfall will be constructed 12 feet high, the water (diverted from a neighbouring stream) will fall on to a gravel redd, with a trapdoor 14 feet from the fall. The trout will ascend the redd to spawn, when the door will be let down, the fish stripped of their ova, which will be fertilised and then despatched to the hatching boxes in Snowdon, which are most excellently situated for the purpose and in charge of Mahamed Ghouse, who has been taught and thoroughly understands everything connected with the management of ova. He deserves great credit for the manner in which he has supervised and carried out the last experiments.

Trout turned out in the Pykara and other Rivers.—The Association is indebted to Mr. Marsh for the first successful attempt made to introduce trout ova and hatch them out on these hills. Encouraged by the success of Mr. Marsh's experiment (which cost him some Rs. 200 and much personal trouble), the Association imported ova, which Mr. Edmiston kindly took charge of on the voyage out and which proved a success. The fry were introduced into the Emerald Valley Stream, the Pykara River, the Ootacamund Lake, Dodabetta and Marliamund reservoirs and Dr. Ross's Lake.

Mr. Wapshare also went to considerable private expense, amounting to several hundred rupees in importing ova, which he placed in the Pykara River. Mr. M. A. Lawson aided the Association with his personal assistance and a donation and the Association is not a little indebted to him for the successful

results attained. Trout have been seen in the Dodabetta reservoir, the Emerald Valley Stream and the Pykara River, but, unless the Association systematically hatches out ova and turns the fry into the Streams and Rivers, no real success can be hoped for, as all ova are devoured by the legions of crabs infesting the rivers as soon as they are laid. Natural reproduction is not therefore to be expected but the fish kept in the Association ponds must be annually stripped and the ova artificially hatched in boxes and the fry turned out. Three men have already been well trained for the work.

The Trout ponds at Pykara will probably cost Rs. 1,200 when properly completed, but this will be very cheap compared to the cost of similar work executed at home.

Perch fry.—Mr. Silk has kindly promised to present the Association with some perch fry, which Mr. H. P. Hodgson will probably bring out with him on his return shortly.

Carnatic Carp, Tench, Mahseer, &c.—Though the Honorary Secretary proposed that some attention should be devoted to the introduction of valuable indigenous fish, more especially Mahseer, the Committee did not sanction his proposals. There is no doubt, however, that some of the reservoirs might be stocked with *Barilius bola* (the Indian Trout), *Barilius bakeri*, striped mountain Carp, Mahseer, Rosy perch, Labeos, Rohus, &c., instead of being, as they are now, full of the worthless golden carp, which afford no sport and are worthless for food on account of their numberless bones. The Honorary Secretary (at his own expense) introduced during the year 28 Mahseer, two mountain Carp one Labeo, twenty-four Carnatic Carp and sixteen common Barilius. All these fish are doing well and promise to succeed but the Barilius, which were only caught last year, have already increased to about two or three thousand and the fry are now nearly full-grown. Some Mountain carp were obtained from the Kollimalais by the Honorary Secretary in 1872 and successfully brought up to the hills, but an otter destroyed them all. These and other experiments connected with Pisciculture, cost the Honorary Secretary nearly Rs. 900 and Mr. Wapshare and other gentlemen have also spent money freely on similar experiments, which on the whole, have been sufficiently encouraging to warrant further perseverance.

Enemies of fish.—Horned owls, Water snakes, Otters, Crabs, the larvae of the dragonfly and mildew (*Suproligneus ferox*) are

the most deadly enemies to fish on these hills. The Owls hook the fish out with their talons when they come into shallow water at night and are exceedingly destructive. The Honorary Secretary trapped several owls that had become confirmed depredators, with gins. No doubt the two male trout which died were injured by owls seizing them. Water-snakes, fortunately, are not found above 6,000 feet, but they swarm at lower elevations and it is impossible to keep fish in any small pond if they once obtain entrance.

Twenty-eight Black spots, which the Honorary Secretary brought all the way from Tellicherry, were eaten in a week by 5 snakes, all of which were shot as they appeared. Each snake had 2 or 3 fish in it. They do not hesitate to attack and kill fish of even half a lb. in weight.

Otters kill large quantities of crabs, and dragonfly larvae but very rarely kill fish, unless they find them in a confined pond. Crabs, and Dragonfly larvae are so destructive to fish ova that it is hopeless to expect trout to increase where these pests are abundant.

CHAPTER VII.

FINANCIALS.

The Receipts during the year amounted to Rs. 2,846-0-0 or Rs. 33-0-0 in excess of the receipts of the previous year, and the Expenditure to Rs. 3,115. It is hoped that even greater support will be accorded to the Association than before and more licenses will be taken out. Those who are unable to give the Association so large a subscription as Rs. 30 by taking out a license, can send a donation instead. However small the amount, it will be thankfully accepted! There is yet much work to be done and funds are necessary. A statement showing the financial results is appended.

CHAPTER VIII.

GENERAL REMARKS.

Other Societies.—The Dehra Dún Fishing Association has been very unfortunate. After the expenditure of Rs. 900 and

infinite trouble, only 4 fry out of 10,000 ova were put out into the ReNadi. May they have greater success next time!

In Ceylon, the trout fry put out into the Newara Eliya streams seem to have thriven but do not increase. These fish are of considerable size and come into the runs to spawn on the gravel, when it is found necessary to have guards put on to prevent them being netted and stolen. No trout fry has been seen in the streams. This is doubtless due to the crabs devouring the ova at night. If the fish are stripped and the fertilised ova put into the hatching boxes, those interested ought to have no reason for complaint.

Messrs. Crossley and MacTaggart on the Pulneys have collected Rs. 700 already, and are making active preparations to introduce trout into the pretty lake at Kodaikanal, in which spirited endeavour, all must heartily wish them success.

Ootacamund.
1st August, 1893.

From

RHODES MORGAN, Esq.,

Honorary Secretary,

Nilgiri Game Association.

To

THE COMMITTEE of the

Nilgiri Game Association.

GENTLEMEN,—I have the honor to submit the following report on the Audit of the Nilgiri Game Funds for the fasli year ending 30th June, 1893, executed by the Head Clerk of the District Forest Office, under my direction.

2. *When last audited and for what period.*—The account, were last audited in August, 1892 by the Local Audit Clerks Collector's Office. The period then dealt with was from 1st July, 1891 to 30th June, 1892.

3. The following table shews, at one glance, the receipts and expenditure during the year under report:—

Opening balance on the 1st July 1892.			Receipts during 1892-93.			Total including the balance.			Expenditure during 1892-93.			Closing balance on the 30th June 1893.			REMARKS
Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.	
1879	8	10	2846	4	0	4725	12	10	3115	2	8	1610	10	2	

4. *Check of receipts.*—The total number of licenses issued during the year was 113, of which 90 licenses were at Rs. 30 each and 23 at Rs. 5 each for soldiers. The receipts from this source amounted to Rs. 2,815.

Mr. M. A. Lawson paid a donation of Rs. 25 towards the trout experiment. Out of the sum of Rs. 1-14-0, noted in the

last Audit Report as due from certain gentlemen on account of discount on their cheques, a sum of Rs.1-8-0 was recovered and credited during the year and, as General Hogge paid three annas instead of two annas due on his cheque, the excess was credited to the Association; out of the balance of seven annas, Captain Marsh remitted five annas due by him with his letter, dated 5th May, 1892, which was credited on the 16th August, 1893.

There is nothing in the correspondence to shew that Major Grant was asked to remit the two annas due by him.

Out of the discount of annas eight due for the year under report, as per account-current submitted herewith, Messrs. Hodgson and McVittie were asked on the 5th October, 1893 by the Collector to remit one anna each, but no reply seems to have been received from either of them owing to their having left the District. Mr. Edmiston remitted one anna on the 7th August, 1892 and Mr. J. H. M. Davie five annas on the 9th January, 1893, but these sums have been credited on the 16th August, 1893. The delay in crediting these petty sums is due, it is said, to the changes of Game Clerks in the Collector's Office.

The license book shows only 112 licenses as having been issued during the year, whereas, the number actually issued was 113. The excess of one is due to the non-issue of a printed license to School-master, P. D. Rodgers, to whom a manuscript temporary license was issued on the 26th September, 1892. As no office copies of temporary licenses issued was kept and the dates on which the fee received for each license was credited into the Bank were not noted on the back of the licenses, the excess was discovered only with great difficulty.

The chalan or remittance book was checked with the Bank pass book and the entries corresponded with each other, except in one case, where a sum of Rs.30, credited on the 15th December, 1892, did not appear in the chalan book. A separate letter of advice of payment has, however, been received from the Bank on the 15th December 1892. On the 3rd December 1892, Mr. G. A. Marsh sent a bill for Rs.22-4-0 for pheasant's food supplied by him and also remitted Rs. 38, requesting that two shooting licenses might be issued, one to him and the other for his brother. The Collector drew a cheque for Rs. 22-4-0 in favor of the Treasurer and asked him to remit the full amount of Rs. 60. In the Remittance book on the back of chalan, dated 28th

October 1892, there is an entry "by Collr. in favor of treasurer Rs.22-4-0" and no particulars are given. Again, on the 18th October 1892, the balance of Rs. 37-10-0 was credited in the Bank from Mr. Marsh for a game license. As each license costs only Rs. 30, the excess of Rs 7-10-0 could not easily be traced till after the correspondence from the record room was gone through, which showed that the sums were received for the two licenses. Had the chalans relating to the two sums contained more particulars, much trouble would have been saved. There was no cashbook kept and this is a great defect. The number and amount of each license were not noted in certain cases on the back of each chalan as suggested in former years.

Mr. Carr remitted Rs. 32 for a license on the 28th October, 1892 and, as the cost of his license was only Rs 30, the balance ought to have been returned to him then and there, but it was credited in the Treasury as receipts and then refunded by a cheque.

Check of charges.—The counterfoils of the cheques were checked with the Bank book, and they agreed except in one case, viz., on the 23rd September, 1892, a cheque was issued to Messrs. Oakes & Co. for Rs.12-8-0. It was cancelled on the 27th September, 1892 for some reason or other but no corresponding entry has been made on the counterfoil. The result was that it did not appear in the Bank book and, after some trouble the cancelled cheque was found. In the absence of a cash book such omissions are apt to cause great confusion in the accounts. The Honorary Secretary has kept a cashbook from March, 1892, and has got full particulars of all sums passing through his hands entered in it. As the whole of the game business has since been transferred to him and a clerk on Rs.10 sanctioned, it is hoped the accounts will be kept in a satisfactory manner.

The expenditure during the year amounted to Rs.3,115-2-8, and the year closes with a balance of Rs 1,610-10-2.

I have the honor to be,
Gentlemen,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) RHODES MORGAN,

Hon. Secy., Nilgiri Game Association.

Proceedings of a General Meeting of the Nilgiri Game Association, held at the Collector's office, Ootacamund, on the 23rd August 1893.

PRESENT :—

F.D'A.O. WOLFE-MURRAY, Esq., <i>President.</i>	E. G. WINDLE, Esq.
COLONEL THE HON'BLE A. B. DE MONTMORENCY.	N. G. BEADNELL, Esq.
W. C. DEANE, Esq.	E. R. KINDERSLEY, Esq.
L. C. LIEBENROOD, Esq.	W. L. EDMISTON, Esq.
	RHODES MORGAN, Esq., <i>Honorary Secretary.</i>

I. Read—Annual report and accounts for the year ending 30th June, 1893. The report is adopted and will be printed for distribution to the Members of the Association. The Meeting resolves on a vote of thanks to the Honorary Secretary for the very interesting details he has contributed. Accounts passed and approved.

II. Read—Notice, dated 20th July, 1893, from the Honorary Secretary of the Association, proposing certain alterations in rules 4, 5 and 11 of the Association rules. Alteration in rule 4, as follows, approved. At the end of rule 4 add "Such Membership shall cease on the expiry of the license." The alteration of the date, "May 15th," in rule 5, to "July 15th or such subsequent date as may be fixed by the President," is approved. The substitution of "yearly" for "half-yearly," in rule 11, is also approved.

Rev III. G. O. No. 580, dated 1st July, 1893, containing revised rules for hunting, shooting and fishing in the Nilgiri District. The Meeting resolves to appoint a Sub-Committee to prepare a Memorial to Government, pointing out the results that will be likely to obtain if Rule No. I is not altered in accordance with its wishes. A limit of size is absolutely necessary, and also with regard to the withdrawal of the funds from the Association. The Sub-Committee will be the President, Mr. Edmiston, Captain Beadnell, Col. The Hon'ble A. B. De Montmorency and the Honorary Secretary.

(Signed) O. WOLFE-MURRAY, *President.*
(") RHODES MORGAN, *Hony. Secy.,*
N. G. & F. P. Association.

The Rules of the Nilgiri Game and Fish Preservation Association as amended at the General Meeting held on the 23 August, 1893.

1. The name of the Association shall be "the Nilgiri Game and Fish Preservation Association."
2. The objects of the Association are the preservation of the existing indigenous game and the introduction of game birds and animals and fish, either exotic or indigenous to India.
3. Any person taking out a license under the Game Act shall be eligible for membership.
4. Any licensee, desirous of becoming a member of the Association, shall submit a written request to the Honorary Secretary to that effect and, if elected a member, an entrance fee of Rs. 5 must be remitted to the Honorary Secretary. Such membership shall cease on the expiry of the license.
5. An annual general meeting shall be held on the 15th July, each year or such date subsequent thereto as may be fixed by the President; when the committee shall submit an annual report of their proceedings with a statement of accounts.
6. A special general meeting shall be held at anytime on the application of 10 members of the Association to the Honorary Secretary provided 14 days' clear notice of such meeting has been given in writing to the Honorary Secretary and that the notice specifies the subject to be discussed at such special meeting.
7. The control of the funds and the entire management of the Association shall be under a committee comprised of the President and not less than 12 members to be elected at the annual general meeting.
8. The Collector by virtue of his appointment shall be *ex-officio* President.
9. The committee shall elect its own Honorary Secretary.
10. The committee shall meet once a quarter or oftener, if necessary. Four members of the committee shall form a quorum and the Chairman shall have a casting vote.
11. The accounts of the Association shall be audited yearly by two members of the committee and the Honorary Secretary. It shall be competent for the committee to form Bye-laws to be in force till the following annual general meeting.

Dr.

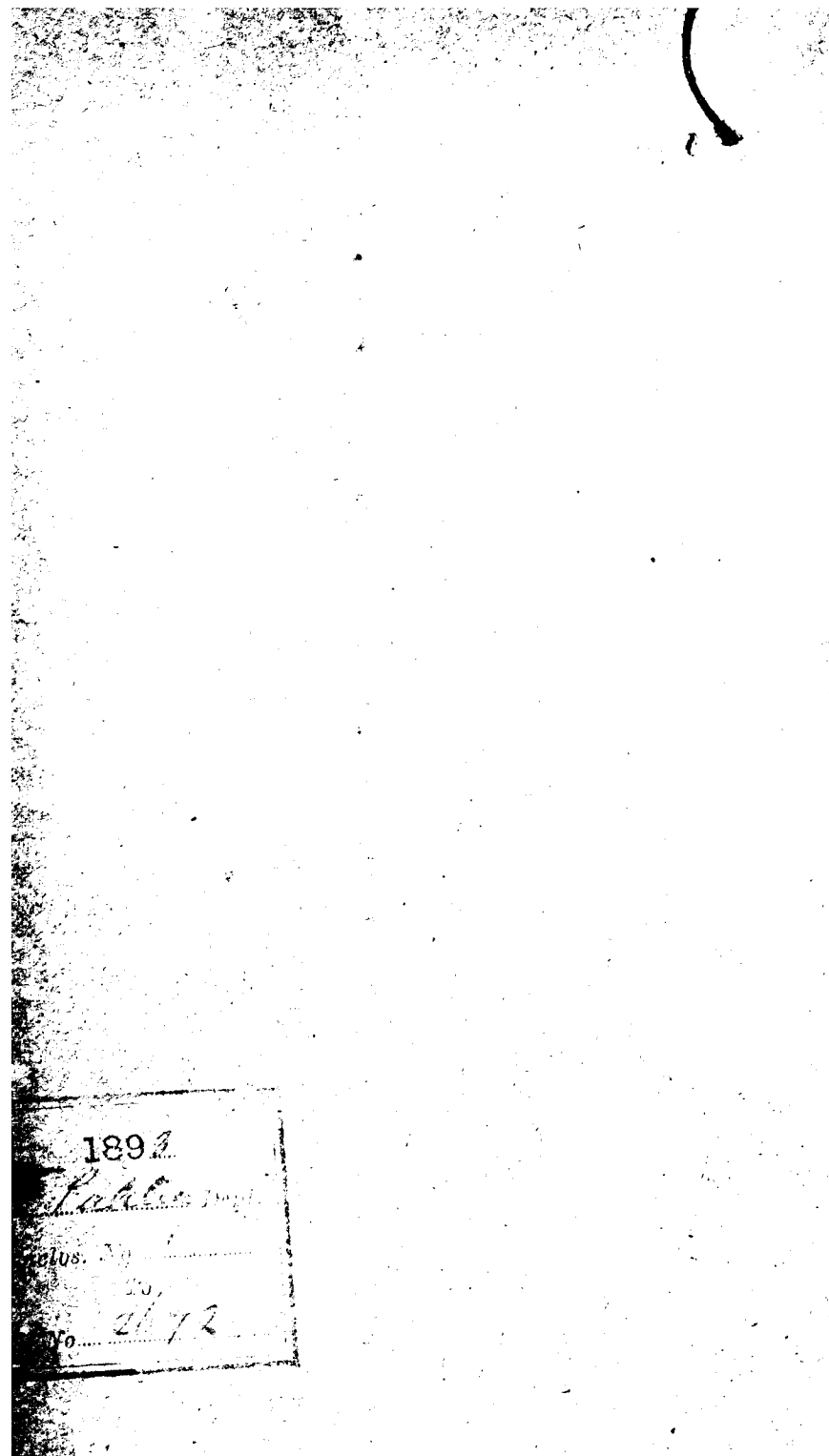
Item.	Particulars.	Amount.	Particulars.	Amount.
1	Opening balance on the 1st July 1892.	1879 8 10	Construction of a troutpond in Marlumund reserve..	278 11
2	Amount realised on 90 licenses @ Rs. 30-0-0 each...	2700 0 0	Remitted to Mr. Silk for trout imported last year and for the 1st batch imported this year...	Rs. 493 2 4
3	Do. 23 do @ Rs. 5-0-0 do.	115 0 0	Mr. Morgan's bill for bringing the ova from Madras to Ootacamund...	132 4 0
4	Donation paid by Mr. M. A. Lawson for trout experiment	25 0 0	Rungia gounden's bill for cooly supply Messrs Arlathnot & Co's. bill for freight, &c.,	22 10 0
5	Discount received from Messrs. McVittie, G. A. Marsh, Genl. Hodge, Lt. Lascelles and Marden @ Rs. 0-5-0, 0-10-0, 0-3-0, 0-1-0, & 0-5-0 respectively	1 8 0	" 12 6 3	680 6 7
6	Amount received from Mr. Marden for a copy of the Game rules	0 3 0	Remitted to Mr. Silk for the 2nd batch of ova imported this year and for supply of 60,000 ova next year...	902 9 0
7	Sale proceeds of vermin skins	3 1 0	Mr. Morgan's bill for bringing the ova from Madras...	136 2 0
8	Excess amount paid by Mr. F. E. C. Carr for game license	2 0 0	Present to butcher including money order commission...	21 4 0
	Total Receipts during the year...	2846 12 0	Feeding old trout during the year...	10 2 0
	Deduct discount due from Messrs Edmiston, Hodgson, McVittie, J. G. M. Davie @ 0-1-0, 0-1-0, 0-1-0 and 0-5-0 respectively partly credited in August, 1893.		Rewards for vermin killed 9 others, 35 Mongoose, 37 cats and 1 dog...	173 6 0
	Net Receipts during the year...	2346 4 0	Reward paid to Mr. McDonald for detecting a shooting case at Doda-betta...	20 0 0
			Do. to caretaker, Marlumund reservoir, for a fishing case...	10 0 0
			Remitted to Mr. Burgess for vermin traps...	203 6 0
			Construction of 2 new godowns for the pheasants at Graignore with cost of feeding...	205 2 0
			Pay of Marlumund pond watcher	134 14 0
			Do. of game watcher	39 8 0
			Do. 1 suit clothes	108 0 0
			Do. of Game clerk	9 0 0
			Refund to Messrs Mully being the sum paid by him for a game license	10 0 0
			Do. to Mr. Carr Do. paid in excess for a license	30 0 0
			Printing annual reports, notices, &c....	2 0 0
			Telegrams to Mr. Silk, &c....	32 0 0
			Paper, ink, &c., for Hon. Secretary's Office including a rubber stamp worth Rs. 10-10-0	71 1 1
			Postage labels and cards	67 1 1
			Amount paid for ammunition supplied to Forest Guard, Fykara for shooting others	18 2 0
			Notifying notice about shooting rules	4 14 0
			Copies of judgments	1 8 0
			Legal fees	1 9 6
			Auditor's fees...	20 0 0
				15 0 0
			Pijhara trout pond in progress--	42 15 6
			Advanced to contractor Nanthi 2 teaklogs for hatching boxes	20 0 0
			Carriage hire of Do. from Benne to Ooty...	63 12 7
				55 4 10
			Total charges...	139 1 5
			Add cash balance with Hony. Secy. on 30th June 93 for trout pond at Fykara, introduction of peatowl, vermin traps, &c....	315 2 8
			Add cash balance at the Bank to the credit of the Association...	1297 15 6
			Total...	312 10 8
			Total including the opening balance...	4725 12 10

OOTACAMUND,

(Sd.) RHODES MORGAN,

1st, August 1893.

Hony. Secy., Nilgiri Game Association.



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