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Revenue Department

Minutes of Consultations
29th Oct 1857

Book 208.534.57

23rd Nov 1857 29th Oct 1857

October 1857

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OUR, October 1

Our Department
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W. ROBINSON
1857,
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Calicut. October 18. 1877.

My dear Cleghorn.

You ask me what I think of Dr. Iread as a subordinate for your Department. I saw much of him during his months he was here - an earnest self denying and devoted student of science, he is at the same time a man of considerable general information coupled with good common sense - Active, enduring and healthy and with a man of gentlemanly feeling. Patient and managing with natives and whom he respects and considers.

Yours sincerely
Wm. Robinson

N^o 100.

Ostacumina

22nd October 1857

From,

J. C. Cleghorn Esq. M. A.

Conservator of Forests.

The Secretary to Government

Revenue Department

Fort St. George

Sir,

With reference to Extract Minutes of Consultation, dated 2nd Current N^o 1073, requesting me to state "whether Captain Hamilton's services can now be dispensed with and under what arrangements that Officer can be allowed to join his Corps?" I beg to offer the following observations.

It will be remembered that immediately on my assuming charge of the Office, Captain Michael was suddenly removed to Bagerabad, and Captain Hamilton was the only Officer who had knowledge of the district, and experience of Forest management. The Commander-in-Chief was pleased at my urgent solicitation to grant this Officer's services for three months from 1st January 1857, the time when the Government of the District was

with drawn from the Forest, and with a new
overseer and a new Superintendent it has been
very difficult to meet the urgent demands of
both the Bombay and Madras Governments
for Timber for Gun Carriages, Gun Boats,
Sailing Ladders &c. &c. Captain Leam now
is now working the Forest most efficiently,
and I am naturally reluctant to part with
an able Assistant in a difficult charge.

3. From the peculiar difficulties of this
year, I have thought it my duty to submit
to the Inspector of Jails a scheme for the
introduction of convict labour into the Forest
Department, and Mr. Richards &c. at
Coimbatore considering the practicability of
locating a gang of Prisoners at the top of the
Timber Hill.

4. Trusting that this new element may
be successfully introduced into our Forest
system, and considering that the health
of the prisoners must be well cared for,
as also that of the numerous band of coolies
(generally about 100) who have always
suffered severely from illness, I beg to re-
commend that the next Superintendent be
a medical officer, and the person whom

planted on a large scale is going to be done.
6. It is important to give every facility for
the cultivation of Coffee, but it is desirable to limit
the clearings to those situations, where the peculiar
shrub can be grown with advantage. There are
some clearings, where the ground is so precipitous
that it is extremely improbable that the soil
can last many years.

7. It may be urged that, in general, people are suf-
ficiently able to their own interests to select only
those sites which are in every way eligible - but from
the inexperience of many who are bent on Coffee plant-
ing, it seems desirable to lay down some rule. I
need only point to the great amount of land cleared
and subsequently abandoned, both in the Coimbatore
and Bejapoor, either before or after planting.

8. It is to be regretted, that independent of
considerations of climate, Coffee cultivation should
find a place in those parts of the forest where the
timber is of a superior description, and which at
present Government is put to great shifts to obtain
for public purposes.

9. I would therefore add, that in places where
are accessible, and which contain very fine timber,
it seems desirable that one of the Assistants in
my Department, should have an opportunity of
removing such timber as is available or of mark-
ing it, with a view to its being taken also into
culation by the occupier, should he desire to do so.

I specially allude to 1st Lieut. J. B. Blackwood
3rd Regt. 4th Arty. Marched

These the honor the

your Most Pleas. Servant

H. J. H. H. H.

Constructors of Forests

(True Copy)

Constructors of Forests

Chas. H. H.

Copy on 22nd Oct 1857
1st Lieut. J. B. Blackwood

R

1st Lieut. J. B. Blackwood
2nd Regt. 4th Arty.

1857

From

The Constructors of Forests

Mr. J. B. Blackwood to Government

War Office Department

Fort St. George

2nd 200

Received of 20th Dec 1857

Chas. H. H.

1st Lieut. J. B. Blackwood

War Office Department

Fort St. George

2nd 200

Received of 20th Dec 1857

Chas. H. H.

1st Lieut. J. B. Blackwood

War Office Department

Fort St. George

2nd 200

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P. 8

1105

Extract from the minutes of Council
under date the 29th October 1877

Read the following
from the Conservator of Forests

Here enter 22nd October 1877

Resolved That the
 service of Captain
 Douglas Hamilton
 be placed at the dis-
 posal of Sir Ex. the
 Comdr. in Chief for
 operational duty, &
 that application be
 made to Sir Ex. for
 the service of Ap-
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Employment in
the forest dept.

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to the City of

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Having the services
of Captain D. Hamilton
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