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Revenue Department.

Minutes of Consultation.

30th June 1857

Back Numbers 34 - 35

Order No 654 dated 26th June 1857

புரட்டாப்பு பிரிவு
செப்பனிடுபவர் பெயர்
செப்பனிடுவதற்காக எடுத்துக் கொள்ளப்பட்ட நாள்.
செப்பனிட்டு முடித்த நாள்
வாசிக்கும் முதல் மு: நி. பா. ஏ. கையொப்பம்
பார்க்கும் மு: நி. பா. ஏ. கையொப்பம்
தலைமைச் உதவியாளர் கையொப்பம்

Fort Saint George, Revenue Consultation of 30th June 1857.

No. 34. From the Conservator of Forests; to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Fort Saint George; dated Hurryhur, 27th May 1857, No. 68.

SIR,

I have the honor to forward for the information of Government, a report just received from Captain D. Hamilton, Assistant Conservator Anamallay Forests, intimating the failure of the elephant hunt at the foot of the Neilgherries. I need not say that I much regret this result, more particularly as the indents for timber required in different directions, after the monsoon are unusually large, and the assistance of these useful animals would have been more than ever important to the Forest Department. They are, indeed, so essential for the collection and conveyance of timber, in the absence of water carriage, that it would be extremely desirable to establish a regular system of catching elephants, as is done in some parts of Bengal and Ceylon, it seems to be a much wiser policy generally to catch than to shoot these animals.

2. I trust that Government may be pleased to sanction the disbursement of the sum expended in excess of the estimate; and I hope that a better organized system with the united help of all Sircar employeès may lead to a more successful result on the next occasion.

3. The correspondence connected with the elephant hunt having taken place previous to my appointment, and not being on record in my office, I refrain from troubling Government with any further comments, the report of Captain Hamilton is very explicit, and the accounts shall be forwarded as soon as received.

4. In reference to Extract Minutes of Consultation dated 25th March last, No. 290, I have to observe that Mr. Müller, as well as his predecessor, the late Mr. Poulton, have always drawn Rupees 2-10-0 per diem, when travelling more than 10 miles. Of this circumstance, I was not aware when submitting my scheme to Government, the amount having been charged as a contingency in the Collector's accounts. In consideration of the numerous auctions Mr. Müller has to attend, and the ferries he has to cross, involving much fatigue and expense, I trust that this allowance may be continued *as heretofore*. On a future occasion, I shall address Government requesting them to reconsider their decision on the subject of travelling allowance to this Department, which of all others is called to perform duties of an arduous character, involving much travelling and exposure.

5. I take this opportunity of mentioning that I have completed my tour through Canara, which I traversed in its extreme length from North to South, and having effected a meeting with Dr. Forbes, the Superintendent of the Gin Factory at Dharwar, I have made arrangements for the supply of the honay wood required for the important purpose referred to in Extract Minutes of Consultation 30th January 1857, No. 115.

6. My steps are now directed to the Anamallay Forests and the Ootacamund gardens after which I propose to return to the Presidency, when I shall submit an account of my tour for the information of Government.

From Captain D. HAMILTON, Assistant Conservator Anamallay Forests; to H. F. C. CLEGHORN, ESQ., M. D. Conservator of Forests; dated Coimbatore, 6th May 1857, No. 105.

SIR,

1. I have the honor with much regret to report the unsuccessful termination of the elephant hunt near Seermogay at the base of the Neilgherries, I attribute the failure principally to the following causes.

1st. Neglect on the part of the Darogah of the hunt in not taking proper precautions.

2d. A conspiracy amongst the Shikar Cutcherry Peons employed to prevent the hunt terminating successfully for reasons which I will hereafter state.

3d. An impression amongst the Native authorities that the Collector of the District was opposed to the hunt.

2. On receiving charge from Captain Michael he informed me that he had entered into arrangements with a man named Iyaloo Naik, a Darogah of former hunts, to conduct the one he contemplated carrying out at Seermogay. The Darogah agreed to conduct the hunt and superintend the preparations for the same, on these terms, viz. if he captured the elephants he was

to be paid at the rate of Rupees 50 per mensem, and the usual reward granted by Government in former hunts according to the number of elephants captured, was to be obtained for him, moreover, should he prove himself fitted for the situation, in case Government determined on re-establishing the hunts he was to be recommended as Darogah. Captain Michael had not been able to visit the ground and therefore could not give any opinion as to the feasibility of the undertaking. I took the first opportunity of visiting it and at once saw how beautifully the valley was situated for driving the elephants into the old Kráal or "Coopum." I consequently decided on commencing operations without delay, I found the old "Coopum" nearly filled up, some eighteen years having elapsed since it had been used, so that there was nearly as much work to be performed as there would have been in making a new "Coopum."

3. The Collector of Coimbatore had intimated to me that I must make my own arrangements and not look to him for any assistance beyond ordering the old Shikar Cutcherry Peons to assemble at Seermogay when I wanted them; and he issued an order that on no account were men to be pressed into my service. The la ter no doubt was a very correct and just order, but its effect in the neighbourhood was most ruinous to my undertaking; the opinion spread abroad that the Collector was opposed to the hunt and the Native authorities did all they could to thwart, though outwardly seeming to assist me; for instance, on my first arrival I applied to the Tahsildar to send some peons to tell the Wudders in the neighbouring villages that I wanted to make arrangements with them for digging the ditches of the Coopum. The Tahsildar refused to send a single peon without the Collector's order, and until I did obtain that order to send out peons to call the people to speak with me, no one came forward for work. When writing to the Collector for the above assistance, I stated that I could clearly perceive there was an impression abroad that he was opposed to the hunt, the reply to which was that he (the Collector) had given no such impression. I don't know whether any thing was done to remove this impression, but some time afterwards seeing the more than lukewarmness of the native authorities, I sent for the Darogah and asked him if he could succeed without the assistance of the Collector, he replied at once in the affirmative, and as he had so much at stake, I put faith in his assertions. To induce people to work, I had to pay double wages and they did little enough for their money then. When all was nearly completed the elephants moved away to a place some 25 miles distant and it took five days to bring them back, this helped to add to the expenses of the hunt.

4. I had calculated on at least 120 of the old Shikar Cutcherry Peons joining me, the Collector having ordered all peons who had been present on any previous hunt to proceed and place themselves under my orders when sent for; had the drive taken place on the day I originally intended, only 54 peons would have been present, but from the elephants having changed their ground it did not take place till a week later during which time 17 more peons joined me; I considered these men the main stay of the hunt, for on their former experience and steadiness depended the success of the drive. Yet out of this small number I found many of them had never seen a hunt before, several of the old men declaring that numbers of the old hunt peons had not been sent (of this I complained to the Collector and was told that every man had been sent, I have since forwarded to him the names of the absentees these men gave me) moreover, the few muskets they brought with them were in a very unserviceable state.

5. Having expended so much public money in the preparations, the elephants being in the valley above the Coopum, and the Darogah still confident of success, I proceeded to drive them on the 21st April, though I felt at the time that I was considerably crippled in means. Without much difficulty we drove the elephants half way down the enclosures or arms of the Coopum, at this critical moment *a rocket was deliberately thrown right across in front of the elephants*. I did not see this myself for I was down leading the drive, but it was distinctly seen by the spectators on the Hill amongst whom were many of my friends. The elephants pressed in the rear and fearing to advance after the rocket had been fired in front of them, charged over the ditch and through the abattis on their flank and escaped, *the Darogah having left the outer side unguarded*; his excuse was that he had not enough musket men, and consequently could not leave any there, but this is no excuse, for had he told me and pointed out the danger, I could have obtained sufficient volunteers amongst my friends to have guarded this ground. The next morning a report was brought to me that the herd had returned to the ground we had driven them from the day before. I considered I ought to not let such an opportunity of recovering the elephants pass away, so I immediately made preparations for another

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drive, however there was much to be done, the ditch had to be deepened and widened, the whole of the palisadings to be recovered with green boughs, and it was absolutely necessary to obtain more musket men, so that the second drive, at the earliest, could not take place before Friday the 24th, I sent off an express to the Collector earnestly requesting 50 more peons and 50 muskets and that he would assist me to his utmost. This reached him late on Wednesday night. As the distance was only 24 miles I calculated that the men, could he have spared them, would, considering it was an emergent case, be out in time for Friday's drive. The Collector in his reply informed me that he had not the men, nor the time to send them if he had, but that at the same time he had ordered every musket and men he could spare to be sent, amounting in all to 20 muskets and 7 men. I should mention that 54 muskets had been sent me for the first drive, these last re-inforcements did not arrive till rather late on Friday, but in consequence of the difficulties in my way I had already postponed the drive till the 25th. The order for the Tahsildar to assist me did not reach him till Friday morning, he then for the first time appeared to exert himself with a will, but this left very little time for collecting beaters, and they were not on the ground till near 10 O'clock on Saturday, which lost me some valuable time. Seeing how defective the Darogah had been in his arrangements on the first day, I personally superintended every thing on this occasion, taking care to guard the side enclosures so that the elephant, could not break through them again. I had not interfered with the Darogah on the first occasion, as I had had no experience whatever in elephant driving, and knew that he would lay any failure to my interference.

6. The drive commenced and the elephants appeared to be steadily approaching, but when nearly two miles from the Coopum they suddenly turned round and broke through the line. It was the general belief of the natives afterwards, that some one had got in front of the elephants fired a shot and turned them back, it certainly was very extraordinary the elephants breaking back as they did and I cannot account for it in any other way, it might easily have been done in the thick bush jungle amidst the noise and confusion of the drive without much chance of detection. The elephants after breaking the line returned to their original ground. I therefore decided on making a third attempt the next morning, having posted a "Cuttup," or guard of men, with fires to prevent their escape during the night, tremendously heavy rain fell after dark and I have no doubt that the men left their posts for shelter, for after placing the people on the following morning I received a report that the elephants had escaped in the night. I had already exceeded the estimate considerably, and I did not consider myself justified in making any more attempts to capture the herd. Moreover, I was convinced in my own mind that the Shikar Cutcherry Peons were playing me false, I stated the same to the Collector prior to the second drive, but his reply was that it was merely a supposition and that he could in no way allow it.

7. I founded my supposition on the following grounds, these Shikar Peons have for the last 10 years been leading a life of comparative ease and may be considerable profit to themselves as Peons in various parts of the District. The hardships of a Shikar Peon are considerable, having to be out in the jungle day and night without shelter for many days and nights together with every chance of catching fever, now it appears to me very natural that these men should reason with themselves thus, if the hunt succeeds we shall be liable to be constantly called out to attend other hunts, whereas should this one fail Government in all probability will have no more of them. When I reported this to the Collector, and moreover that the Peons were a most insubordinate set, I did so in hopes that he would take measures to intimidate them into proper behaviour, as he did not do so I attempted it myself at the same time holding out high rewards if the elephants were captured; but they seemed to care little either for my threats or promises. Any men worthy of the name could have turned the elephants on the second day and prevented their breaking the line, these fellows fled like women the moment the elephants turned round. Had the Darogah and his men been of *one mind* nothing could have prevented my capturing the elephants on the first day, but there were many opposed to him from personal enmity, and all secretly wished the hunt to fail for reasons I have just quoted.

8. On my leaving Seermoogay after paying the people, the ryots who have suffered from the depredations of these elephants (and the damage a herd of these animals commit in one night until seen could hardly be believed) came forward and offered to drive the elephants into the Coopum themselves, and wished to know what Government would give them for the animals when caught. There is no doubt that 4 or 500 men of *one mind* could easily do it with plenty

of Guns and fireworks, but I doubt if the villagers alone could succeed. I was much annoyed at their not having come forward before to assist me, instead of calmly awaiting the result and then being in great distress on finding I had failed.

9. I trust under the circumstances, Government will sanction the disbursement of the sums I have expended in excess of the estimate, Captain Michael in sending it in did not calculate on having to pay nearly double for all work. Notwithstanding this, however, I should have been within the amount or nearly so, had I left off after the first drive, but I think Government will allow that I was right in making another attempt. I am unable to close the accounts until I receive certain items of expenditure from the Collector, but as there may be some delay in forwarding these, I transmit this report for your information at once, and will send in the accounts hereafter.

10. I have gained considerable experience from this failure regarding elephant hunts in this District, and my opinion is with the thorough co-operation of the Collector success is pretty certain, without it very doubtful indeed.

ASST. CONSERV'S. OFFICE, COIMBATORE, *6th May* 1857.

(True Copy.)
(Signed) H. CLEGHORN,
Conservator of Forests.

No. 35. ORDER THEREON, No. 654; dated 26th June 1857.

With this letter, the Conservator of Forests submits a report from the Assistant Conservator of the Annamalay Forests, intimating the failure of the elephant hunt at the foot of the Neilgherries, for which a sum of Rupees 1,500 was sanctioned in the Extract Minutes Consultation dated 16th January 1857, No. 62. The unsuccessful termination of the hunt after such a large expenditure is much to be regretted. Captain Hamilton details the operations of the hunt and attributes the failure to several causes, of which one is an impression among the native authorities that the Collector of the District was opposed to the hunt. The Government see no ground for such a conclusion, and they remark that Mr. Thomas himself proposed the undertaking, as would appear from the Board's Proceedings dated 9th January 1857, No. 92. The report of Captain Hamilton will however be forwarded to the Collector of Coimbatore, and he will be requested to state whether any further attempt can be made with a probability of success, for capturing the herd which that officer reported on a former occasion to have done considerable injury to the crops near Sreemogay. It should also be stated what outlay will be necessary for the next attempt. Dr. Cleghorn suggests that it will be better to establish a regular system of catching elephants instead of shooting them. The Government are under the impression that elephant hunts are organised in Coimbatore from time to time as opportunities offer, and they observe that Captain Hamilton in his present letter refers to the Darogahs and Peons of the Shikar Cutcherry, an establishment which was originally formed on purpose to hunt the wild elephants, and in former years was certainly annually so engaged. Mr. Thomas will be requested to state what is the present state of the Shikar Cutcherry, the number of men composing it, their rates of pay, and the manner in which they are employed when no elephant hunts take place.

E. M. C. 16th Jan. 1857, No. 62.

2. The Conservator of Forests requests that the sum expended for the elephant hutn, in excess of the Estimate, may be sanctioned; but this cannot be done till the Government are informed of the exact amount which was spent on the undertaking.

3. In para. 4 of his letter above recorded, Dr. Cleghorn states, with reference to para. 4 of the Extract Minutes Consultation dated 25th March 1857, No. 646, that Mr. Muller has always drawn Rupees 2-10-0 per diem when travelling more than 10 miles, and after saying that he was not aware of this circumstance when submitting his scheme to Government, recommends that the allowance may be continued, in consideration of the numerous auctions Mr. Muller has to attend, and the ferries he has to cross. Though otherwise unwilling to accede to this recommendation for reasons stated in the order just referred to, yet looking to the fact that Mr. Muller has always been on the receipt of the allowance, the Right Honorable the Governor in Council is pleased as a special case, to grant authority for the Tent allowance being continued to Mr. Muller, as usual at Rupees 2-10-0 per diem when travelling more than 10 miles.

4. The Government observe however that this question of travelling allowance to Mr. Muller should have formed the subject of a separate letter.

(Signed) H. FORBES,
Acting Secretary to Government.

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No. 195.

From,
Captain D. Hamilton
Assist. Conservator Annamallay Forests

To,
F. C. T. C. Cleghorn Esqr. M. D.
Conservator of Forests.

Sir,

I have the honor with much regret to report the unsuccessful termination of the Elephant Hunt near Seemogay at the base of the Neilgherries. I attribute the failure principally to the following causes.

1st. Neglect on the part of the Darogahs of the Hunt in not taking proper precautions.

2d. A conspiracy amongst the Shikar Cutcherry Peons employed to prevent the hunt terminating successfully for reasons which I will hereafter state.

3d. An impression amongst the native authorities that the Collector of the District was opposed to the Hunt.

2. On receiving charge from Capt. Michael he informed me that he had entered into arrangements with a man named Ignatius Naik a Darogah of former hunts to conduct the one he contemplated carrying out at Seemogay. The Darogah agreed to conduct the hunt and superintend the preparations for the same on these terms. viz. if he captured the Elephants he was to be paid at the rate of Rupees 50 per Headsem.

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-mer hunts according to the number of Elephants cap-
-tured. Ses to be obtained for him. moreover should
he prove himself fitted for the situation, in case Go-
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was to be recommended as Darogah. Capt. Michael
had not been able to visit the ground and therefore
could not give any opinion as to the feasibility of the
undertaking. I took the first opportunity of visiting
it and at once saw how beautifully the valley was
situated for driving the Elephants into the old Keäal
or "Coopum". I consequently decided on commencing
operations without delay. I found the old "coopum" nearly
filled up, some eighteen years having elapsed since it
had been used. So that there was nearly as much work
to be performed as there would have been in making
a new "Coopum".

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me that I must make my own arrangements and not
look to him for any assistance beyond ordering the
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when I wanted them; and to issue an order that on
no account were men to be pressed into my Service. The
latter no doubt was a very correct and just order,
but its effect in the neighbourhood was most
prejudicial to my undertaking; the opinion spread

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abroad that the Collector was opposed to the hunt and
the native authorities did all they could to thwart
though outwardly seeming to assist me. for instan-
-ce on my first arrival I applied to the Tahsildar
to send some peons to tell the Waddars in the
neighbouring villages that I wanted to make
arrangements with them for digging the ditch
of the Coopum. The Tahsildar refused & sent a
single peon without the Collector's order and un-
-til I did obtain that order to send out peons to
call the people to speak with me, no one came
forward for work. When writing to the Collector
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clearly perceive there was an impression abroad
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was that he (the Collector) had given no such im-
-pression. I don't know whether any thing was
done to remove that impression but some time
afterwards seeing the more than lukewarmness of
the native authorities I sent for the Darogah and
asked him if he could succeed without the assist-
-ance of the Collector, he replied at once in the
affirmative, and as he had as much at stake, I
put faith in his assertions. To induce people to
work I had to pay double wages and they did
little enough for their money then. When all

was nearly complete the Elephants moved away to a place some 25 Miles distant and it took five days to bring them back. this helped to add to the expenses of the Hunt.

I had calculated on at least 120 of the old Shikar Cutcherry Peons joining me, the Collector having ordered all peons who had been present on any previous hunt to proceed and place themselves under my orders when sent for. had the drive taken place on the day I originally intended, only 60 peons would have been present, but from the Elephants having changed their ground it did not take place till a week later during which time 17 more peons joined me; I considered these were the main stay of the Hunt, for on their forbearance experience and steadiness depended the success of the drive. Get out of this small number I found many of them had never been a hunt before. feared of the old men declaring that numbers of the old Hunt peons had not been sent for I complained to the Collector and was told that every man had been sent. I have since forwarded to him the names of the absentees these men gave me, moreover the few muskets they brought with them were in a very unserviceable state.

Having expended so much Public money in the preparations, the Elephants being in the valley above the Cosseum and the Darogah still confident of success I proceeded to drive them on the 21st april though I felt at the time that I was considerably crippled in means. Without much difficulty we drove the Elephants half way down the enclosures or arms of the Cosseum, at this critical moment a rocket had deliberately thrown right across in front of the Elephants. I did not see this myself for I was down leading the drive, but it was distinctly seen by the Spectators on the hill amongst whom were many of my friends. The Elephants pressed in the rear and fearing to advance after the rocket had been fired in front of them, charged over the ditch and through the chattis on their flank and escaped, the Darogah having left the outer side unguarded, his excuse was that he had not enough musket men, and consequently could not leave any there, but this is no excuse, for had he told me and pointed out the danger I could have obtained sufficient volunteers amongst my friends to have guarded this ground. The next morning a report was brought to me that the herd had returned to the ground he had driven them from the day before. I considered I ought not to let such an opportunity of recovering the Elephants past away, so I immediately made preparations for another drive. however

there was much to be done. the ditch had to be deepened and widened, the sholo of the palisadings to be recovered with grass brought and it was absolutely necessary to obtain more musket men. so that the Decans drive, at the earliest, could not take place before Friday the 24th. I sent off an express to the Collector earnestly requesting 50 more Decans and 50 muskets and that he would assist me to get them. This reached him late on Wednesday night. as the distance was only 24 miles I calculated that the men, could be here before noon, considering it as an Emergent case, to set in time for Friday's drive. The Collector in his reply informed me that he had not the men, nor the time to send them if he had, but that at the same time he had ordered every musket and man he could spare to be sent amounting in all to 20 muskets and men. I should mention that 5 muskets had been sent me before. These last reinforcements did not arrive till rather late on Friday, but in consequence of the difficulties in my way I had already postponed the drive till the 25th. The order for the Sahibs assistance did not reach him till Friday forenoon, he then for the first time appeared to exert himself with a will. but this left very little time for collecting beaters. and they were not on the

ground till near 10 O'Clock on Saturday, which lost me some valuable time. fearing how defective the Daroga had been in his arrangements on the first day I personally superintended every thing on the occasion & taking care to guard the side enclosures so that the Elephants could not break through them again. I had not interfered with the Daroga on the first occasion as I had had no experience whatever in Elephant driving and knew that he would lay any failure to my interference.

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after dark and I have no doubt that the men left their posts for shelter for after placing the people on the following morning I received a report that the Elephants had escaped in the night. I had already exceeded the Estimate considerably and I did not consider myself justified in making any more attempts to capture the herd. Moreover I was convinced in my own mind that the Shikar Gutcherry Peons were playing me false. I stated the same to the Collector prior to the second drive but his reply was that it was merely a supposition and that he could in no way allow it -

7. I founded my supposition on the following grounds. These Shikar Peons have for the last 10 years been leading a life of comparative ease and may be considerable profit to themselves as Peons in various parts of the District. The hardships of a Shikar Peon are considerable, having to be out in the jungle day and night without shelter for many days and night together with every chance of catching fever. Now it appears to me very natural that these men should receive with themselves these - if the hunt succeeds we shall be liable to be constantly called out to attend other hunts, whereas should this one fail Government in all probability will have no more of them. When I reported this to the Collector, and moreover that the Peons were a most insubordinate set. I did so in hopes that he would take measures to intimidate them into proper behaviour,

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I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedient Servant
Douglas Hamilton Capt.
Asst. Cons. of Forests

Asst. Con. Office
Coimbatore
6 May 1857

/True Copy/

R. Clayton
Conservator of Forests.

Copy in Gen. Dept. Dec. 1857 No. 1457
Dated 22 Oct 1857

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Kurryhur
27th May 1857.

No. 68.

From,
The Conservator of Forests,

To,
The Secretary to Government
Revenue Department
Fort St. George.

Sir,

I have the honor to forward for the information of Government, a Report just received from Captain D. Hamilton Asst. Conservator Anamallay Forests, intimating the failure of the Elephant hunt at the foot of the Neilgherries. I need not say that I much regret this result, more particularly as the Indents for Timber required in different directions after the Monsoon are unusually large, and the assistance of these useful animals would have been more than ever important to the Forest Department. They are indeed, so essential for the collection and conveyance of Timber, in the absence of Water Carriage that it would be extremely desirable to establish a regular

system of catching Elephants, as is done in some parts of Bengal and Ceylon,- it seems to be a much wiser policy generally to catch than to shoot these animals.

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4. In reference to Extract Minutes of Consultation dated 27 March last № 290, I have to observe that Mr. Miller, as well as his Predecessor the late Mr. Poulton have always drawn Rupees 2. 10- per diem, when travelling more than 10 Miles. Of this circum-

stance, I was not aware when submitting my scheme to Government, the amount having been charged as a contingency in the Collector's Account. In consideration of the numerous auctions Mr. Miller has to attend, and the ferries he has to cross, involving much fatigue and expense, I trust that this allowance may be continued as heretofore. On a future occasion, I shall address Government requesting them to reconsider their decision on the subject of Travelling allowance to this Department, which of all others is called to perform duties of an arduous character, involving much travelling and exposure.

5. I take this opportunity of mentioning that I have completed my tour through Canara, which I traversed in its extreme length from North to South, and having effected a meeting with Dr. Forbes the Superintendent of the Gin Factory at Dharwar, I have made arrangements for the supply of the Honay wood required for the important purpose referred to in Extract Minutes of Consultation 30 January 1857 № 115.

Dft to Cons 31st March 57 L 13 14
" " 6th February " 19 21
" " 20th Jany " 7 18

Copy in my L 68
of 17th Dec 1857 No 45
Pages 22 to 28

Revenue 1857 Depts
Dft to Cons 30th June.

No 646

From the Conservator
of Forests.

Dated 27th May
Received 3d June } 1857

1 Encls:

No 68.

Sir No 654. 26th June

I forwarding a Report
from Captain Hamilton,
Asst Conservator Anamalay
Forests, intimating the
failure of the Elephant
Hunt at the foot of the
Neelgherries.

From the Collr of Coimbatore
20 July 57 C No 850 in

11a

Copy of the letter Encls
to the Collr of Coimbatore.
No 34. 26 June 57.

19 June 1123

5.

My steps are now directed to the Anamallay Forests and the Palaeamcottah Districts after which I propose to return to the Presidency, when I shall do myself the honor of submitting an account of my tour for the information of Government.

I have the honor &c.,

Sir,

Your Most Obedt Servant

H. Hamilton

Conservator of Forests

1 Peninsula Despatch

No 1 No 654 18 a

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation

Under date the 28th June 1857.

Read the following Letter
from the Conservator of Forests

(Here enter 27th May 1857, No 68.)

With this letter the
Conservator of Forests submits
a report from the
Conservator of Travancore relating
intimating the failure of the
elephant Hunt at the foot of
the Periyar, for which a
sum of Rupees 500 was
sanctioned in the Ex: Mines: Com
dated 16th January 1857, No 262
The unsuccessful termination
of the hunt after such a large
expenditure is much to be
regretted. Captain Hamilton
details the operations of the hunt

and

and attributed the failure to
several causes, of which one
did an impression among the
Native authorities that the
Collector of the District was
opposed to the hunt. The Go-
vernment see no ground
for such a conclusion & they
remark that Mr Thomas him-
self proposed the undertaking
as it would appear from the
Board's Proceedings dated
the 16th January 1857 Re-
port of Captain Hamilton
will however be forwarded
to the Collector of Coimbatore,
and he will be requested
to state whether any further
attempt can be made with a
probability of
success for capturing the re-
mainder which the Officers re-
marked on a former occasion
have done considerable
injury to the crops near
Kamargam. It should

dated the 16th January 1862.

also be stated what auth-
ority will be necessary
for the next attempt.
Dr. Cleghorn suggests
that it will be better
to establish a regular
system of catching Ele-
phants instead of shooting
them. The Govt are im-
pressed with the impression that
the hunters are orga-
nized in Coimbatore
from time to time as
opportunities offer and
they observe that Captain
Hamilton in his present
letter refers to the
Daroguhs and Peons of
the Sheikar Catchery
an Establishment
which was originally
formed

formed on purpose to
hunt the wild Elephants,
and in former years
was certainly annually
so engaged. Mr Thomas will be requested to state a
is the present state
the Shikar Catcher
the number of me
composing it their
of pay and the ne
in which they a
Elephant hunts la
place -

2. The Conservator
of Forests requests that
the sum estimated for
the Elephant hunts in
excess of the Estimate,
may be sanctioned pro
but this cannot be
done till the Govern-
ment are informed
of the exact amount
which has been spent on
the undertaking.

3. In pursuance of
his letter above recorded
Dr Cleghorn states,
with reference to Sarah

of

14a 3 13A

of the Extract Min[ute] Con[sultation]
dated 25th March 1857
No 646, that Mr Muller
has always drawn
Rupees 2. 10-0 per
diem when travelling
more than 10 miles,
and after saying that
he was not aware
of the circumstance
when submitting his
scheme to Government
recommends that
the allowance may
be continued, in con-
sideration of the nu-
merous Auctions
Mr Muller has to
attend, and the servic
he has to exact. Tho
otherwise unwilling
to

to accede to this recommendation for reasons stated in the order just referred to, yet looking to the fact that Mr Mueller has always been in the receipt of the allowance, the Right Honorable the Governor in Council is pleased over a special case, to grant authority for the Tent allowance being continued to Mr Mueller, as usual at Rupee 2 - 10 - per diem when travelling more than 10 miles.

The Government observe however that this question of

15 a 4

of travelling allowances to Mr Mueller should have formed the subject of a separate letter.

2 Copies to the Conservator of Forests Circ. 27
1 — Accts Genl ✓
1 — Civil Auditor ✓

Revenue 185 – Sept.
Do 10 Cons. 30 June

24/3/00

No 1654

Extract Mins of Cons:
Dy 26 June 57.

10-69 N

Observing on the Report from the Asst Conservator of the Annamalay Forests, that the unsuccessful termination of the Elephant Hunt, after such a large expenditure, of money, is much to be regretted, and authorizing, as a special case, the Hut allowance being continued to Mr Mutter as usual at Rs 2. 10-0 per diem when travelling more than ten Miles –

No 34 & 35.