Revenue Department

Minutes of Consultation

27th July 1858

Back Nos 63-66

Order No 1039 27th July 1858

Read the following letters.

No. 63. From H. CLEGHORN, Esq., M. D., Conservator of Forests; to W. H. BAYLEY, Esq., Acting Secretary to Government Revenue Department Fort Saint George, dated Madras 23rd June 1858, No. 375.

SIR,

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of Extract Minutes of Consultation, No. 697, Revenue Department, conveying the orders of Government on the letters addressed to them by Mr. Williams and myself, with respect to the travelling allowances drawn by that officer.

2. The first point requiring explanation is my Statement that Mr. Williams came to Madras on several occasions without and contrary to orders. The first instance was that already mentioned in my letter* to Government, when Mr. Williams received a Sick Certificate to Bangalore, and came to Madras instead. Again, on 22nd February, I wrote to Mr. Williams, "I have now the honor to direct that as there is not now, and is not likely to be any "duty for you at Madras, you will not visit the Presidency at any time without orders or leave "obtained through me, under the ordinary rules of the service, or on emergent Medical "Certificate, in which latter case, you will proceed to the place indicated in the Certificate "forwarding the same for my information, and that of the Civil Auditor."

* *Dated 16th April 1858, No. 328.*

3. Notwithstanding these orders, which I think will be considered sufficiently explicit, and which were acknowledged by him on the 5th March. Mr. Williams returned to Madras on 20th March, and 7 days thereafter obtained a Medical Certificate from the Surgeon 3rd District. The leave granted in conformity with this Certificate expired on 10th April, during the succeeding week he remained in Madras on the plea of preparing a report for the Agent and Manager of the Railway. Mr. Maclagan having at Mr. Acworth's request taken upon himself the responsibility, I approved of the course adopted by Mr. Maclagan, but was afterwards considerably disappointed to find from Mr. Acworth's note to Mr. Maclagan of date 17th April, that his stay in Madras was really of no use. Mr. Acworth says, "I think it right to inform you, that Mr. Williams did not stay on my account later than 8 o'clock on Wednesday† morning, and that the letter he prepared for me might have been written in an hour. It did not in fact contain the information, I most needed, and he is to write to me therefore from Cotaputty."

† *14th April.*

4. With respect to the "divergence to Cuddapah," I have to observe that on 22nd January, Mr. Williams applied for permission to visit "the *Nuggery Hills*," and I on 23rd idem ordered him to proceed thither copies of his letter and of my order are annexed. I had no intention that he should proceed to Cuddapah, being desirous that as he expressed himself he should "not be so far from Madras as not to be able to return in 3 or 4 days if wanted at any time." On the receipt of his letter shewing that he had misinterpreted my instructions, his abstract was passed.

5. A copy of that part of my letter of 13th January, which refers to his addressing Government on the subject of travelling allowance, and of my letter of 1st March declining further correspondence *on the subject* are also enclosed.

6. It does not appear to be on record, but I have a distinct recollection of telling him on one occasion, as did Mr. Maclagan on another, that all correspondence with Government should pass through the Head of Department.

7. I have now the honor to forward a letter from Mr. Williams dated 5th Instant (which, he requests may be submitted to Government,) resigning his appointment in the Department. On this letter it is not necessary for me to comment at length.

8. It is sufficient to say that the arguments it contains are those rather of a Contractor than of a Conservator. Up to the present time, nothing has been done in the Salem District, and considerable inconvenience is caused by Mr. Williams' retirement just after the Collector had issued a proclamation on the subject of seignorage.

9. But I would not ask him to withdraw his resignation, for the performance of his duty ever since he joined the Department has been far from satisfactory. Though a man of considerable energy, he is singularly regardless of instruction, and though he can cut and square timber, he is altogether ignorant of Forestry properly so called.

பாதுகாப்பு பிரிவு

செப்பனிடுவோர் பெயர்: ஏ. சாமிவேல் 11/08

செப்பனிடுவதற்காக எடுத்துக்கொள்ளப்பட்ட நாள். 8/11/08

24/11/08

சரிபார்க்கும் முதல் முறியாள கையொப்பம்

சரிபார்க்கும் 2ம் முறியாள கையொப்பம்

ஆராய்ச்சி உதவியாளர் கையொப்பம்

Copy of correspondence referred to in the foregoing letter

1st. From Mr. WILLIAMS, to Dr. CLEGHORN, dated 22nd January 1858.

SIR,

3 weeks afterwards Mr. Williams' Son applied for an advance of 40,000 Rs. to supply sleepers from these Hills. H. C.

"If you have no objection, I shall take a trip to the Nuggery Hills to ascertain whether and to what extent they could supply the line which the Railway Company are now about laying down through Cuddapah with sleepers and report accordingly, as I shall not be so far from Madras as not to be able to return in three or four days if wanted here at any time."

2nd. From Dr. CLEGHORN, to Mr. WILLIAMS, dated 23rd January 1858, No. 269.

SIR,

"I have to direct that you proceed to the Nuggery Jungles, and examine the neighbourhood of the proposed line of Railway to Cuddapah, expressing your opinion as to the means existing for the supply of timber for sleepers.

Your report should be accompanied by a *list of the woods* considered to be suitable for sleepers, a description of the size of the trees when full grown, and a detail sufficient to shew in a clear and satisfactory manner, both the quantity of timber that could be supplied, and the cost of transport, so as to admit of an accurate opinion being formed of the cost at which it could be delivered at the nearest station which should be specified.

It is desirable that you distinguish between the timber procurable from Sircar villages and those belonging to the several Zemindars (Calastry Punganooree, &c.) in this neighbourhood. You should visit the slopes of the Eastern Ghauts on both sides of the projected line, but I have reason to believe that you will find the largest quantity of wood on the right hand, in the direction of the *Gooramconda, Chittavail* and *Sidhout* ghauts."

3rd. From Dr. CLEGHORN, to Mr. WILLIAMS, dated 13th January 1858, No. 256.

SIR,

** In charge of accounts.*

"With reference to your letter of yesterday's date, requesting that your claim for travelling allowances (*when in Madras*) should be submitted to Government, I beg to state that in the opinion both of Mr. Maclagan* and myself, it is quite untenable. I have no objection to your referring the matter to Government if you still desire it, but I cannot recommend the adoption of this course."

4th. From Dr. CLEGHORN, to Mr. WILLIAMS, dated 1st March 1858, No. 292.

SIR,

"I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 25th Ultimo from Poonganoor. I return your Contingent bills for travelling allowance in December and January, and must decline all further correspondence on this subject.

I am prepared to countersign your bills for allowance for the days on which you were actually travelling to Streeharicottah and Nuggery."

5th. From Dr. CLEGHORN, to Mr. WILLIAMS, dated 22nd February 1858, No. 281

SIR,

As the question of supplying Railway Sleepers in the 7th and 8th Districts, is now before Government, and as your report on the Cotaputty Jungles printed in Extract Minutes of Consultation dated 13th November last No. 514, does not contain sufficient information to enable me to form an opinion as to the scheme proposed by Captain Johnston.

I have the honor to direct that you will proceed without delay to the Forest round Cotaputty, mark and number all trees of the specified kinds suitable for Railway Sleepers, which may with advantage be removed, distinctly recording in the Register the exact localities by bearings, &c.

It would be desirable that the trees marked should be pointed out to the headmen of the villages in the vicinity of which they may be found. For this purpose, I will request the Collector of Salem to direct the headman of the respective villages to accompany you, and take a note of the trees you may mark; this will ensure due conservancy and facilitate after operations.

In case of the absence of the headman of the villages, it will not be necessary for you to delay, as the trees may afterwards be pointed out to them.

You will be so good as to send a report to my office on every Monday, shewing the progress you have made during the past week.

You will continue at the post assigned you till the work is completed, and then await further orders.

In numbering the tress, you will for convenience assign a certain series of numbers to particular localities, as from 1 to 500 for the village of Cotaputty 500 to 1000 to the next village; and the number in the Register should correspond with the mark on the trees.

As you have come back from Nuggery, it will not be necessary to return there unless you receive instructions to that effect.

No.	Description of Timber.	Approximate Dimensions.		Probable yield in Sleepers.	Locality.	Remarks shewing the facilities for transport, distance from Forest track.
		Length.	Girth.			

6th. From Mr. WILLIAMS, to Dr. CLEGHORN, dated 30th April 1858.

SIR,

Perceiving from the public papers under the head of Selections from the Records of Government with reference to Captain Johnston's scheme for supplying the Railway Company with Sleepers through the Agency of the Conservancy Department, that you have strongly recommended me to the notice of Government for this work; at the same time suggesting that it should be undertaken, not by this Department, but by the Railway Company for itself, and for the purpose of facilitating measures for the Company under the expectation of your suggestions being carried out, the order to me to proceed to the Cotaputty Jungles and mark the trees fit for cutting for sleepers appear to have been issued. I have the honor to state that having had some conversation with Mr. Acworth, before I left Madras, I took the Railway road intending to proceed to Cotaputty via Mullapooram with the view of ascertaining what particular stations of the Railroad have been supplied from the Jungles of Cotaputty and the woods of the specified kinds in use.

Paras. 2 and 3 altogether represent the views of a Contractor for Sleepers and not those of a Conservator of Forests. H. C.

2. With reference to those orders, I hasten to lay before you certain circumstances brought to my notice by the Resident Engineer and other officers of the Districts supplied from the Cotaputty, Shevaroy, and Deckanicotta forests which appear to render my interference inexpedient in the way proposed, if not adverse to the Railway Company's interests and hereby causing a necessity for reference on my part before I proceed further. In the first place the sections of the 7th and 8th Districts which get their wood from the forests above named are so far *being* supplied that there is no lack of sleepers for the Rails that have come to hand. The sleepers were mostly supplied during the last 18 months by Contractors

90,000 sleepers in round numbers would be required for the supply of two Districts and 40,000 are already supplied and the work is still in progress the chief draw back to a more speedy supply according to the system hitherto prevailing, consisted in the sleepers not being paid for as fast as they were delivered; but since the orders of Government have been received, allowing the Railway Engineers to buy sleepers as they are offered ; it is fully to be expected that in addition to the Contractors there will be a large number of small speculators and Odders bringing in wood from all parts hereafter, and at a cheaper rate than 2¼ Rupees, which is the rate now paid in those Districts.

3. In the second place no wood is received except of the specified kinds, and of the required dimensions for sleepers ; therefore as the work has been progressing some years, and the supplies are now thoroughly well aware that no other woods will be received and those only of the proper size for sleepers, the object in view in marking out the trees *to be cut*, is so far in itself, attained. Besides this, in the third place, unless the Railway Company were disposed to carry out those systematic measures for carting proposed by Captain Johnston, to facilitate which your orders have been given to me, the marking of the trees unless to serve that end would operate as a check for the time being for contractors, wood-cutters and ryots would be deterred, not knowing who should possess himself of the tree so marked ; for as the seignorage is calculated according to your suggestion on each sleeper ; if this mode were altered the only place occurring would be to await applications from the different wood-cutters for the purchase of each individual tree. Moreover as the Resident Engineer thinks it unadvisable, since the orders for purchasing sleepers have been passed, to recommend the Company's undertaking the carting in their own part, at least until the new system of *purchasing* is well tried, interference with the contractors and others who will now enter the field would rather prove injurious, and as for myself, situated as I am, being precluded from choosing a place to settle myself *where there is least danger of fever* &c, I am induced to lay these considerations before you at once ; for beside the difficulty and danger on those rugged steeps which none but a Mulliary would climb, exposure and want of habitation must naturally be attended with evil consequences. It would be otherwise if the forests in this Zillah were placed in my charge for them I would have a fixed habitation in the least unhealthy spots and could make provision to meet the risks incidental to such a life.

I much doubt this, as it is very difficult to recognize some of the specified kinds, when the sleepers are cut, although easy when the tree is growing. *H. C.*

The place of residence was left to Mr. Williams' discretion. *H. C.*

4. The next point to be noticed, and as it stands in connection with the interests of Government as proprietor of the forests in the entire Zillah of Salem is the seignorage to be paid to the Conservancy Department on each sleeper, to secure this object, what appears necessary is that the Conservator appointed to this charge while visiting the respective forests in turn to watch over them, should also see to the deliveries at the several receiving stations on the Railroad, of the sleepers taken from them, it being made known previously by proclamation through the Revenue officers of Government in all the forest villages that a seignorage is to be charged hereafter on each sleeper, and thus with the assistance of the servants of Governments in the forest villages, the seignorage could be drawn from the owners before the sleepers are removed, and the accounts could be checked by the books of the Railway Company, or, as the sleepers are now, by the order for purchasing to be paid for on delivery, if the wood cutter or contractor is unable to pay the seignorage before hand the servants of Government or those of the Conservator's Establishment may keep an account of the number taken out by each individual, on a receipt passed by him, and arrange for the said payment on receipt of his purchase money from the Railway Company's Officers. The Conservator would also levy a charge on all Timber taken for other purposes according to quality and use.

5. As the Government are anxious to secure to the Railway Company the means of getting sleepers with greater certainty and at less expence than have hitherto obtained, the system of purchasing appears highly calculated to effect a realization of those objects; for a reduction in price must take place when the small Merchants and trades people in the immediate neighbourhood of the Forests who have carts of their own, and the

This relates altogether to the wishes and convenience of the Railway Company, overlooking his instructions conveyed by me on 22nd February. *H. C.*

Odder people who also possess carts, join with contractors in supplying sleepers, but until the question is decidedly proved it is not likely the Railway Company would abandon the system of contracts or desist from using other available means. I have therefore in passing through the 5th and 6th Districts before coming up so far as this, recommended a scheme to the Agent at Madras for working the Salem Forests on this side the Jevadhees on a moderate scale for the 5th and 6th Districts offering my assistance if he could obtain the necessary sanction, in the hope of securing some addition from the Railway Company to my present emoluments for the extra labour. As you have been kindly pleased to recommend me for such work, unknown to myself, and my aim all along having been as you are aware, by rendering my labours profitable in a pecuniary way to the Department, to establish a claim on the consideration of Government for wages adequate to a life of active toil in jungles: I shall feel exceedingly thankful for your sanction if applied for particularly as such assistance as I could render would be of advantage to this Department though it would entail much additional labour on myself. I accordingly append a copy of my letter to Mr. Acworth on the subject and would feel obliged for further instructions on the various points submitted for your consideration for the regulation of my further movements."

---

7. From Dr. CLEGHORN, to Mr. WILLIAMS dated 10th June 1858, No. 352.

SIR,

In acknowledging your letter date as per margin, I shall reply to the several points on which you solicit instructions. In consequence of your having offered your services to Captain Johnston Officiating Consulting Engineer for Railways (Vide his letter dated 27th November 1857 No. 398) I intimated to Government my readiness to the transfer.

30th April 1858.

2. I have received no subsequent communication either from Government or Mr. Acworth regarding your employ by the Railway Company, but in the event of your entering that Department, your connection with the forest establishment necessarily ceases.

3. The reasons assigned by you for *not* marking the trees in accordance with my definite orders dated 22nd February 1858 (approved by Government) are not satisfactory. Your arguments being those of a Contractor and not of a Conservator, whose duty it is to mark the ripe trees of the specified kinds, and to preserve the smaller trees for future supply. I am aware of the difficulty of the task, and that your experience has been altogether in cutting wood, hence I make some excuse for your backwardness in selecting the trees which is the first duty of an experienced Forester, but the waste of unripe trees has been strongly brought to my notice by the Collector and by the public newspapers, and if you cannot undertake the duty required, another will be found. It is not necessary that you should mark the trees yourself, your duty is to point them out in person, or by your peons who should be instructed for the purpose.

4. The marking trees causes no hinderance to the Railway Company or the contractors, it facilitates their progress, and conduces to the preservation of the undersized wood, regarding the consideration of which the Collector is naturally anxious, considering the devastation already (often wantonly) committed by unrestricted contractors. If I had committed the same duty to Lieutenant Beddome, Mr. Müller, Mr. McIvor, or Mr. Hall, all of whom have been practically instructed in Forestry, and are accustomed to obey orders, many thousand trees would have been marked long ago.

5. I am informed by Mr. Brett that he has issued a proclamation in accordance with my request to all the village authorities.

6. Your suggestion as to the mode of collecting seignorage (para. 4) appears to be appropriate, but does not make provision for rejected sleepers. I have an engagement to meet the Collector this week, and shall arrange the details finally with him, some points have been submitted to Government.

7. With regard to your "place of habitation" it should be (if possible) in the centre of the forests being worked. I leave this, however, to your discretion, repeating the previous* orders that you are not on any account to leave the Zillah without permission from me, and I hope to find at an early date that you have made progress in arranging the system of conserving the forests placed under your charge."

* *22nd February* 1858.

8th. From Mr. WILLIAMS, to Dr. CLEGHORN dated 5th June 1858.

Sir,

"With reference to your orders No. 281 of 22nd February 1858 directing me to put a mark on the trees fit for cutting into sleepers in the Cotaputty jungles with the view of assisting the Railway Company to carry out the scheme proposed to the Conservancy Department by Captain Johnston, I submitted in my letter of 30th April the following points for your consideration (vide letter dated 30th April.)

Mr. Williams sent me a copy of the scheme, but Mr. Acworth has probably not taken a favorable view of it. The union of the Contractor and the Conservator was evidently inadmissible. *H. C.*

With reference to the above communication I have the honor to state that on the 15th May I submitted a separate scheme for working the Cotaputty forests to supply the 7th and 8th Districts which I asked Mr. Acworth to be good enough to refer to you, but while engaged in writing the foregoing part of this letter I received your's No. 343, without the mention of date or place. It appears to have been written some day after the 11th last month but it reached my hands only on the 1st Instant. As no allusion is made to my letter of 30th April which I requested Mr. Maclagan to forward without delay that I may be released from the embarrassment which your orders of the 22d February places me in, I fear my services might continue to remain dormant for a protracted period and rather than appear to be shirking your orders I think it would only be proper for me to retire from the Conservancy Department.

Adverting to my letter of 7th April in which I requested to "*have a District assigned to me as my health is by no means favorable to the continuation of so much arduous travelling*" you are pleased in para. 3 of the letter under reply "*to instruct me to remain in the Salem District marking trees for Railway purposes until further orders.*" I beg most respectfully to submit that these instructions which convey no definite warrant for considering myself relieved from the position of an itenerant assistant, give me no sanction for entertaining the establishment allotted to an *Assistant in charge of an assigned District with whom the travelling allowances cease*, vide Civil Auditor's Manual Chapter 8th paras. 129 to 133 and as observed by you in para. 6 that you are "*in correspondence with the Collector as to the best means of levying the seignorage*" which you say "*will depend in a great measure upon the prospective receipts,*" it will be seen that I am positively prohibited from engaging any assistance until the question of seignorage is decided; while I am instructed at the same time that "*my duty is to mark all suitable trees at the nearest points to the Railway.*" This being the case I feel that it is impossible for myself in person to carry out your orders in a District where forests abound almost the whole extent to *upwards of a hundred miles of Railroad*; and it will be recollected that I have no funds at my disposal for employing the assistance which such a work entails and which an Assistant might be expected to have who is in charge of an assigned District, and if your present orders to remain at Salem are to be taken in the sense intended I must be deprived of the travelling allowance according to the rules of the Department (vide Civil Auditor's Manual already quoted) though the duty required of me renders it necessary that I should be moving from place to place. Taking these orders in connection with your expressions so long back as October last year when directing me to proceed to Walliar to mark trees there, that you "*did not know what duty to give me on my return*" while any of these forests might have been put in my charge with benefit to the Department in the way of acquiring seignorage which has now been lost on all the timber taken from Government ever since this Department was created, I cannot but come to the conclusion that my services have never been appreciated by the head of the Department.

Mr. Williams was at all times allowed to have 4 Peons, but he had only engaged one. If further assistance was needed, it should have been applied for. *H. C.*

It cannot however be denied that in every particular instance of duty assigned to me as a travelling Assistant, I have endeavoured to give my reports on the Forests visited a practical bearing as far as my poor ability enabled me shewing how they may be turned to profit, vide my report on the Wynaâd* which has led to the experimental trial made with such success by the Superintendent of the Astragram Division last

* *Copy of which I handed to the Commissioner of Mysore.*

year, and I trust it will not be deemed disrespectful or inconsistent if in considering the end to which my services are brought, I were to mention that I made no small sacrifice in accepting the appointment now resigned, by giving up all connection with trade, also my interests then pending on my contract for sleepers with the Railway Company as the document quoted in the margin will shew, likewise my contract then existing with the Civil Architect, in the hope that when the Wynaad forests to which I was appointed, came to be worked under my hands, I could shew to Government results greater in proposition to that achieved by the Mysore Government in the limited portion of those forests which fall to the Mysore side and thus establish a claim on the consideration of Government for higher wages to compensate for all that I had given up.

Whereas a quantity of timber intended for Railway purposes belonging to me is now in possession of Ramjacootum Appiah Chetty, I do hereby authorize and empower the said R. Appiah to sell and deliver the same according to his judgment and ability on my account and for his trouble I agree to allow him a Commission of one per cent. and I further agree not to dispute any arrangement or expenditure he may make in the matter. Witness my hand this 4th August 1857.

(*Signed*) *G. WILLIAMS,*
(*A true Copy.*)
(*Signed*) *G. WILLIAMS,*
Asst. Consr. of Forests.

Mr. Williams admits having been a party to 2 Contracts, one of which he gave up five months after entering the Forest Department. *H. C.*

In resigning the appointment I now hold I humbly trust that Government will be induced to view my reasons for such a step, in connection with your letter to Government published under the head "Selections from the Records, &c." in "Examiner" of 13th April in which you are represented as having stated that *my services were no longer required by you*, and see that I do not withdraw from the Department in a spirit of insubordination or disrespect and in consideration thereof give me a place in some other Department under the State. In this hope I beg you will submit my resignation with this letter in explanation of my motives."

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

No. 64. From Mr. G. WILLIAMS; to the Right Honorable G. F. R. Lord HARRIS, Governor of Madras; dated 29th June 1858.

My Lord,

I have the honor most respectfully to bring to your Lordships' notice that the Extract Minutes Consultation dated the 28th May last, No. 697 forwarded to the Conservator of Forests for his information, and to be communicated to myself was only received by me from Dr. Cleghorn with his letter dated the 21st Instant and not until I had received information that my travelling allowances were drawn at Madras and upon which I requested him to furnish me with the order sanctioning these allowances in my favor.

I regret most sincerely the late receipt of this order as otherwise I should have been able, before this, to have afforded the Government all the information and explanation I have it in my power to offer upon the points alluded therein, and more particularly with reference to the circumstances under which I felt myself induced to tender my resignation of Office as Assistant to the Conservator of Forests. I have under these circumstances to request, that as Dr. Cleghorn has again addressed the Government regarding myself as appears by his letter to me of the 21st Instant alluded to above your Lordship in Council will be pleased to suspend passing any orders thereon until I shall lay before the Government, and I hope to be able to do so in a few days, a full statement of the particulars of my peculiar case. In the the mean time I beg to submit a copy of Dr. Cleghorn's letter to me alluded to above and of my letter of resignation referred to in it.

From H. CLEGHORN, Esq., Conservator of Forests; to Mr. G. WILLIAMS, No. 371.

Sir,

In accordance with instructions from Government, I beg to enclose for your information Extract Minutes of Consultation No. 697, dated 28th May 1858.

2. I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter, dated 5th Instant, Darumpory, in which you tender your resignation, which I have submitted to Government with a recommendation that it should be accepted.

From Mr. G. WILLIAMS, to H. CLEGHORN, Esq., M. D., Conservator of Forests.

Sir,

With reference to your orders No. 281, of 22nd February 1858, directing me to put a mark on the trees fit for cutting into Sleepers in the Cotaputty Jungles with the view of assisting the Railway Company to carry out the scheme proposed to the Conservancy Department by Captain Johnston I submitted in my letter of 30th April the following points for your consideration viz.

1st. That until the Railway Company had decided upon carrying out the measures proposed by Captain Johnston, or any other systematic scheme so as to take the work into their own hands, the putting a mark on trees for no other purchase but that of making them over to the Company, would for the time being only serve to prevent others from taking those trees towards fulfilling existing contracts and so far from proving of assistance to the Railway Company, such interference would on the contrary put a stop to their obtaining supplies at all.

2nd. That Government having recently issued orders permitting the Engineers of the Railway Company to purchase Sleepers as they are offered, the prospect of getting Sleepers on purchase and the sanction thereupon obtained would both be nullified, and unless a formal proclamation to the effect that seignorage is to be charged had been previously issued by the Revenue Authorities it might inflict injury on those who have bound themselves under penalties to supply Sleepers at certain fixed rates without providing for such a contingency, and moreover it would be impracticable to carry out the taxing as a general rule unless the Forests were placed in charge of a Member of the Conservancy Department as recommended in my report on the Salem Forests one year ago.

On which point it is to be inferred that if this portion alone of the Salem Forests were to be taxed it would place the wood cutters of Cotaputty on a different footing from those who take wood for Sleepers in other parts of the Zillah such as the Jevadhees where the Sub-Collector of North Arcot and others are now and have been [illegible] time past taking wood without any payment to Government.

3rd. That considering the interests involved, in order on the one hand to avoid putting a check on the supplies to the Railway Company and on the other, to secure to Government its rightful claim to seignorage, the only course suggesting itself is, that the Railway Company should without reference to Contractors whose supplies at best are but slow, take up the working of the Forests for themselves, since the Conservancy Department is not to do it, a measure which as yet remains undecided.

4th. That having travelled up to Mullapooram on the Railway Company's road on my way to Cotaputty I found it to be the wish of the Railway Officers before recommending the adoption of any practical plan for taking up the working of the Forests in their own hand, to give the recently obtained orders for purchasing Sleepers a fair trial; but having been requested by Mr. Acworth to submit my own views on the subject, I submitted to the Agent a scheme for supplying the 5th and 6th Districts from the Jevadhees by a road North of the Yellagherry Hills at a much cheaper rate than obtaining at present.

5th. That as I am not put in charge of the Forests and continue still in the position of travelling Assistant I am debarred from settling any where so as to provide against the risks incidental to a forest life or choosing a spot where there is least danger; and being without an establishment the marking of the trees by myself in person is almost impossible, and I may note in passing that of the four Peons allowed me for travelling I have never been able to secure the full compliment and am now left with but one as my Abstract for last month will show.

These points appearing to require your consideration and judgment before I went further I thought it advisable to submit them and await further orders.

2. With reference to the above communication I have the honor to state that on the 15th May I submitted a separate scheme for working the Cotaputty forests to supply the 7th and 8th Districts which I asked Mr. Acworth to be good enough to refer to you, but while engaged in

6/639

writing the foregoing part of this letter, I received yours No. 343, without the mention of date or place. It appears to have been written some day after the 11th last month but it reached my hands only on the 1st Instant. As no allusion is made to my letter of 30th April which I requested Mr. Maclaghan to forward without delay that I may be released from the embarrassment which your orders of the 22d February places me in, I fear my services might continue to remain dormant for a protrasted period and rather than appear to be shirking your orders I think it would only be proper for me to retire from the Conservancy Department.

3. Adverting to my letter of 7th April in which I requested to "have a district assigned to me as my health is by no means favorable to the continuation of so much arduous travelling" you are pleased in para. 3 of the letter under reply "to instruct me to remain in the Salem District marking trees for Railway purposes until further orders." I beg most respectfully to submit that these instructions which convey no definite warrant for considering myself relieved from the position of an itenerant Assistant, give me no sanction for entertaining the establishment allotted to an Assistant in charge of an assigned district with whom the travelling allowance ceases, vide Civil Auditor's Manual page 28. And as observed by you in para. 6 that you are "in correspondence with the Collector" as to the best means of levying the seignorage "which you say" will depend in a great measure upon the prospective receipts it will be seen that I am positively prohibited from engaging any assistance until the question of seignorage is decided; while I am instructed at the same time that "my duty is to mark all suitable trees at the nearest points to the Railway." This being the case I feel that it is impossible for myself in person to carry out your orders in a district where forests abound of a hundred miles of Railroad; and it will be recollected that I have no funds at my disposal for employing the assistance which such a work entails and which an Assistant might be expected to have who is in charge of an assigned district, and if your present orders to remain at Salem are to be taken in the sense intended I must be deprived of the travelling allowance according to the rules of the Department (vide Civil Auditor's Manual already quoted) though the duty required of me renders it necessary that I should be moving from place to place. Taking these orders in connection with your expressions so long back as October last year when directing me to proceed to Vallayaur to mark trees there, that you "did not know what duty to give me on my return" while any of these forests might have been put in my charge with benefit to the Department in the way of acquiring seignorage which has now been lost on all the timber taken from Government ever since this Department was created I cannot but come to the conclusion that my services have never been appreciated by the head of the Department.

Chapter 8, *para.* 132.

4. It cannot however be denied that in every particular instance of duty assigned to me as a travelling Assistant I have endeavoured to give my reports on the Forests visited a practical bearing as far as my poor ability enabled me showing how they may be to profit, vide my report* on the Wyanaud to you and which has led to the experimental trial made with such success by the Superintendent of the Astragam Division last year, and I trust it will not be deemed disrespectful or inconsistent if, in considering the end to which my services are brought, I were to mention that I made no small sacrifice in accepting the appointment now resigned, by giving up all connection with trade; also my interests then pending on my contract for sleepers with the Railway Company as the document quoted in the margin will show likewise my contract then existing with the Civil Architect in the hope that when the Wyanaud Forests to which I was appointed, came to be worked under my hands, I could show to Government results greater in proportion to that achieved by the Mysore Government in the limited portion of those

* *Copy of which I handed to the Commissioner of Mysore.*

Whereas a quantity of timber intended for Railway purposes belonging to me is now in possession of Ramajacootum Appiah Chetty I do hereby authorize and empower the said Ramajacootum Appiah to sell and deliver the same according to his judgment and ability on my account and for his trouble I agree to allow him a commission of one per cent. and I further agree not to dispute any arrangement or expenditure he may, make in the matter. Witness my hand this 4th August 1857.

(*Signed*) G. *WILLIAMS.*

Forests that fall to the Mysore side and thus establish a claim on the consideration of Government for higher wages to compensate for all that I had given up.

6. In resigning the appointment I now hold I humbly trust that Government will be induced to view my reasons for such a step in connection with your letter to Government published under the head Selections from the record &c. in "Examiner" of 13th April in which you are represented as having stated that my services were no longer required by you, and see that I do not withdraw from the Department in a spirit of insubordination or disrespect and in consideration thereof give me a place in some other Department under the State. In this hope I beg you will submit my resignation with this letter in explanation of my motives.

(A true Copy.)

(Signed) G. WILLIAMS.

No. 65. From Mr. G. WILLIAMS; to the Acting Secretary to Government Revenue Department, Fort St. George; dated Madras, 10th July 1858.

Sir,

1. With reference to my letter addressed to the Right Honorable the Governor under date the 29th Ultimo in which I begged that Judgment might be suspended until I had an opportunity of offering such explanation as I am able to give towards meeting the several points of difference in the Statement made in support of my appeal to Government against the stoppage of my pay and travelling allowances and the counter Statements made by the Conservator of Forests. It will be seen that I made this request in consequence of the Extract Minutes Consultation No. 697, May 28th, 1858, in which the question is raised, not having been furnished to me by the Conservator until so late as the 21st Ultimo, when it was forwarded with the intimation (vide letter in margin) that *he had already gone before Government* on the subject. I have now the honor to submit on my part such explanation on the several points required by Government as I trust will remove all doubt as to the correctness of my former Statements; premising in the first instance that I have been induced to tender my resignation of the appointment which Government was pleased to confer on me in the Conservancy Department but not without giving my reasons for such a step. Vide my letter to the Conservator of Forests, a full copy of which is already before Government in letter dated 29th June, and to which I most respectfully beg to draw the special notice of Government particularly as several of the suggestions contained in my Reports of last year on the Forest of Salem Zillah and therein alluded to viz. such as the issuing of a proclamation respecting Seignorage on timber: and a suitable establishment to carry out the orders which I was recently sent to execute as measures necessary in the first instance to be adopted are, as I am informed, only now being carried out.

1. *In accordance with instructions from Government I beg to enclose for your information Extract Minutes Consultation No. 697 dated 28th May. 2. I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter, dated 5th Instant, Darampory, in which you tender your resignation, which I have submitted to Government with a recommendation that it should be accepted.*

2. The first point on which explanation is called for is contained in para. 1. of Extract Minutes Consultation No. 697, of 28th May referring to a tender, made by one of my Sons to the Railway Agent for supplying the Company with Sleepers on the Cuddapah line: from which it is inferred that I must have had an interest as a father in my Son's speculation inasmuch as I had recently gone on duty to that part of the Forest near Nuggerry from where the timber was proposed to be taken. On this point I beg without hesitation to assure Government that as a servant of the State I have hitherto strictly conformed to the rules of the Department which prohibit all connection with trade: and that the inferrence drawn by the Conservator of Forests is not based on any foundation whatever. As a proof that such a serious charge, on which the Government very justly lay great stress, was not made with proper consideration, I have only to adduce an Extract from my Report on these Forests in connection with the

Between Vadamalpet and Calastry the timber in about 10 miles of Hill Forest east of Kirkumbady is comparatively speaking more plentiful and this spot is now being worked by Contractors for sleepers. The woodcutters it is said pay the Calastry Rajan 1½ Rupee on each bandy load consisting of 4 sleepers. The sleepers from the Calastry Zemindary might hereafter be delivered at Wadamalpet. Of the kinds of woods adapted for sleepers; as the Forests yield the same wood generally as those of Kirkumbady, Balpilly Herrigontacotta and along the line to Codoor the specimens of timber from Herrigontacotta and forwarded under date 7th April 1858 are about the best . . . . . As the Railway runs through these forests the sleepers might be delivered at any of the intended Stations from Kirkumbady to Wadamalpet Contractors taking wood from the Polligar's estate pay only ¼ of a Rupee for each bandy load consisting of 4 sleepers. The range of hills from Calastry to Vadamalpet . . . . . together with Keel. Balpilly, and Mail Balpilly are supposed by an experienced Railway Contractor, Subarauddy of Kyanoor near Compaayypet to be capable of supplying 2 lacs of sleepers and he offers to supply this quantity in one year binding himself under proper security for the fulfilment of his engagement . . . . . at 2 Rupees from Vadamalpet to Kirkumbady and at 1¾ Rupee from Kirkumbady to Codoor.

help whatever in the undertaking even though he had secured a contract, and furthermore as he proposes to take the timber from the estates of private individuals only, and not from Government property my duties would never be likely to lead me in the way of assisting him, my letter of 5th June to Dr. Cleghorn at foot of para. 1 contains also a marginal note in proof of my abandonment of all connection with trade. I *had* dealings as the Government are well aware since the year 1853 in a contract with the Railway Company for the supplying of timber; and it is shown in the marginal note referred to, that on arrival of some of the cargoes which were due in 1855, and not brought to Madras until August 1857, I immediately gave them up to the ship owners to dispose of without reference to myself I being at this time in Government employ.

3. With reference to the Statements and Counter statements on the question of my pay and travelling allowances, *which Government have been pleased to decide in my favor*, inasmuch as it was proved from the letters quoted by me that I never acted contrary to orders in my movements from one place to another, the Conservator of Forests appears in his letter dated 16th April quoted in the Extract Minutes Consultation No. 697, to have involved the matter in some doubt, which has caused the Government to require that it should be cleared up: but as I have not been furnished with the Conservator's correspondence with Government in which the representations prejudicially affecting my Statements have to be explained, there remains no means in my power, but to stand by the letters quoted in my appeal of 30th March upon which, as I have said the Government *have already passed a decision*, I must however admit that at a period subsequent to the date of that appeal, *I was at Madras* viz., from the 12th when my sick leave expired, to 17th April not with Dr. Cleghorn's, but with the sanction of the officer in charge of the Conservators office here, which it might be proper for the sake of avoiding further reference to explain at once. The Government are aware that I was directed by the Conservator of Forests *to proceed to the Cotaputty Jungles to mark the trees best suited for Railway Sleepers* for the purpose of giving every assistance in furtherance of the project submitted *to the Conservancy Department* by Captain Johnston Acting Consulting Engineer for Railways; for supplying sleepers to the Railway Company; but which project it ought to be observed, was not entertained by the head of the Conservancy Department. Nevertheless perceiving from the Extract Minutes Consultation on the subject *published in the Newspapers*, that the instructions given to me were approved by Government I concluded that the Railway Company were at all events going to take systematic measures for supplying themselves in future with sleepers. And the orders given to me being expressly intended for the facilitating of such measures which the Railway Company were expected to adopt, I thought it prudent

obtaining of sleepers for the Railroad (vide margin.) It will be observed that I estimated the cost at which sleepers are obtainable on the Cuddapah line at 2 Rupees to 1¾ each and that I brought forward also by name parties willing to bind themselves under penalties to supply sleepers at these rates, but in referring to my sons tender together with his "private" letter to the Railway Agent, (copies of which appear to have been obtained by Dr. Cleghorn for submission to Government,) I find that his offer is 2 Rupees 12 annas, which is much higher than the rates suggested in my Report. This will at once prove that I could have had no interest in the success of my sons tender. It would moreover be impossible in my position of travelling assistant to have rendered him any

I have informed Mr. Acworth, I see no objections to your remaining here till Saturday, but as Dr. Cleghorn has strongly expressed his wish that you should not remain long in Madras, I cannot be responsible for the consequences, if you neglect to leave on that day.

to consult with the Railway Company's Agent previous to leaving Madras. And as Mr. Acworth appeared anxious for information on various points; and my sick leave having just expired, I applied to Mr. Maclagan to know how I should act; and he having waited on Mr. Acworth, requested that I should remain on his own responsibility, but not later than the 17th vide letter in margin. If the papers subsequently submitted by me with full details for supplying the 5th 6th 7th and 8th Districts were forwarded to Government, it will be seen that the information wanted, was of a nature requiring both time and consideration. I felt myself unable to accomplish the task without a visit to the Railway Stations in the Salem Zillah before furnishing it: and this was my only reason for not affording it within the time limitted by Mr. Maclagan.

4. The other question in para. 2 of the Extract Minutes Consultation relates to that passage of my appeal in which I give merely the date of a letter from the Conservator of Forests, without giving an Extract from it in support of my assertion *that I was allowed the option of addressing Government direct.* I beg respectfully to state that having quoted the letter of 1st March from Dr. Cleghorn in which he declines "all further correspondence on the subject of my pay and "travelling allowances" I omitted quoting from the other: but I now submit the same with Extracts from correspondence in connection therewith. Permission was not solicited on my part to address Government but it emanated from the Chief of the Department vide my letter 12th January 1858, from which I beg permission to quote "with regard to my abstract for travelling "allowances which you returned, could you favor me by kindly dropping a note to Mr. Lush-"ington to know whether I am entitled to it" to which the following reply was received (vide letter 13th January 1858.

To

Mr. G. WILLIAMS,

Assistant Conservator of Forests.

SIR,

With reference to your letter of yesterdays' date requesting that your claim for travelling allowances when in Madras should be submitted to Government I beg to state that in the opinion both of Mr. Maclagan and myself it is quite untenable. I have no objection to your referring the matter to Government if you still desire it but I cannot recommend the adoption of this course, &c.

I have the honor &c., in reply to the foregoing letter I pointed out vide 16th January 1858, "that the course proposed is one which would be premature and out of course to be adopted and therefore never on my part solicited for the Civil Auditor has not had the abstract before him "and it is not competent to me in such a case to step between the appointed authority and Government." It was at length decided by the conservator of forests that I *should have no further correspondence with him on the subject.*

5 As Mr. Maclagan's name is blended in the question treated upon in the foregoing para: as joining with Dr. Cleghorn in making a Statement "directly contrary to mine in regard to the option of addressing Government direct" I beg to state that there has been no correspondence between myself and that Officer at any time on the present subject; and if Dr. Cleghorn has depended upon any verbal communication made by that Officer to him; I beg to observe that my appeal was before Government on the 30th March, and the only interview I had with Mr. Maclagan when the subject was mooted at all, was on the 13th April in the Marine Board Office 13 *days after* the date of my appeal when I went to him to know the result of his visit to Mr. Acworth: and it must be obvious that the statement on the part of the Conservator and assistant referred to, as being *directly contrary to mine* cannot bear any allusion to that interview.

6. Having endeavoured to remove the doubts in which the statements in my letter of 30th April appeared to be entangled: my next duty is to reply to the 4 para. of the Extract Minutes Consultation No. 697, and I trust the explanation given in para. 2 of this letter, taken in connection with para. 4, of the one addressed to Dr. Cleghorn tendering my resignation, and which was enclosed in my letter of 29th June to the Governor, will be deemed satisfactory on this

point. I have never asked to be transferred to the Railway Company's service so as to give up my appointment under Government; and in offering my services to carry out Captain Johnston's project for supplying the Railway Company with sleepers expediciously and economically when Dr. Cleghorn had openly declared that he did not know how to employ my services, I merely asked to do the work on account of Government, as a means of rendering myself more practically useful in the Department, and I beg now to quote my words from a letter addressed to the Conservator of Forests on the subject (vide margin.) I trust I have made it clear that I have not in any one instance infringed the rules enjoined upon me as a member of the Conservancy Department and in tending my resignation under the conviction that my services have never been appreciated, for causes unknown to me, by the head of the Department, I earnestly pray that Government will consider my present position, thrown as I shall be out of all means of support, after laboring hard to prove useful whenever and wherever an opportunity was allowed me, ever since I abandoned all private enterprises for the purpose of employing myself under the State. The Conservator of Forests, speaking from knowledge of my experience: in his recommendation to Government to transfer me to the Railway service (asking Government to do what is not within its Province) (vide his letter 2nd March on Captain Johnston's project;) attests that he cannot but speak in my favor: though he evidently does not wish me in his Department. On this point it will not be out of place to notice in order that the justice of Government may be well weighed; that the orders given to me to proceed to *Cotaputty and number trees* for the Railway are dated 22nd February when I was in Cuddapah. In a subsequent order without date No. 343 it is directed that I should number all the trees nearest the line in the *entire Zillah of Salem*, but between February and June no establishment was apportioned to me for this work viz. such as Overseers and Sub-Overseers as is *being organised for the same purpose since* I tendered my resignation: neither was the District assigned to my charge so as to enable me to consider myself released from the duties of a travelling Assistant, which, with reference to the recent orders "to remain in Salem counting trees until further orders" (vide Dr. Cleghorn's letter No. 343, without date) placed me in a very anomalous position as regards the travelling allowances given only to a travelling Assistant which ceases when a District is assigned, and in lieu of which a regular establishment of working people is allotted.

I beg you will do me the justice to correct an erroneous impression which your letter appears to have made on the mind of Government respecting my offer of service to Captain Johnston Acting Consulting Engineer for Railways. This officer submitted a project to Government for working the Cotaputty Forests by means of the Forest Conservancy Department for the provision of timber to the Railway Company for which work as a member of that Department I offered my services, and before Captain Johnston's project was submitted to Government I communicated the same to you in person and received your assent. It is clear I could not have been misunderstood: for in the published Minutes Consultation of Government in the Athenæum 15th April your objection to carry out the scheme by means of the Conservancy Department is recorded, hence it is difficult to conceive how I could be represented as having made any offer to Captain Johnston of leaving the Conservancy Department from a desire to be transferred to the Railway Company. Captain Johnston has not so represented it in his letter which he read to me before sending it up; but it appears to be so assumed by Government and from your letter to me under reply para. 1 quoted in the margin, I am led to conclude that such an impression has been conveyed by your letter to Government on which the Minutes Consultation referred to transpired. I must only therefore repeat that your proposal to hand me over to the Railway Company was made without my consent or knowledge.

7. Government will have noticed the readiness manifested by the head of the Forest Department for my being transferred to the Railway Company without my ever soliciting it; and also in the other instance, when I stated to Dr. Cleghorn my intention of appealing to Government for relief from the inconvenience and hardships I suffered by the stoppage of my pay and travelling allowance; with what avidity the intimation was received as a wish to be relieved from my situation in the Department. In consideration therefore of the difficulties and inconveniences I have had to contend with, I may say, ever since I joined the Conservancy Department; laboring as I had to do without my services appearing ever to be appreciated by the Head of the Department, while Government are aware from one or two of my reports which happen to have come before Government, such as those on the Salem Forests, and the Strehariottah Jungles, that I have endeavoured to discharge my duties faithfully I earnestly pray that Government will be pleased to confer on me some other appointment, as I have not the slightest means of support since giving up all connection with trade, which I cannot hope to re-establish myself in again, with any chance whatever of success with this my humble prayer I beg to conclude.

No. 66. ORDER THEREON, No. 1039; dated 27th July 1858.

The papers recorded above have come before Government in consequence of the observations in Extract Minutes Consultation dated 28th May 1858, No. 697, on the misunderstanding

between the Conservator of Forests and his Assistant Mr. Williams, in respect to the travelling allowance of the latter, and his having been at Madras on several occasions, "without and contrary to orders" as stated by the Conservator. The first of the above papers is from Dr. Cleghorn in explanation of the contradictory statements noticed by Government, and submits at the same time Mr. Williams' resignation of his appointment of Assistant Conservator. The second and third are from Mr. Williams; of which, the earlier requests suspension of orders until he submits an explanation of his case, and the later communication enters into a detail of the circumstances connected with his allowances, and the reasons by which he was influenced in tendering his resignation to Dr. Cleghorn.

2. The question of Mr. Williams' travelling allowances has been already decided* in his favor, and his bills for December, January and February will be passed accordingly. As he has since tendered his resignation of his appointment, the Governor in Council deems it unnecessary to enter upon a review of the various statements made by him and Dr. Cleghorn in their respective letters now before Government. In accepting Mr. Williams' resignation, the Governor in Council however thinks it but just to bear testimony to the zeal and energy which he has exhibited in the discharge of his duties, and to state that his retirement from the Forest Department involves no reflection on his character and will prove no bar to his re-employment in the public service, on occasion occuring, in any capacity for which he may be qualified.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

* *Para. 3 E. M. C. 28th May* 1858, *No.* 697.

No. 325. Madras 23d June 1858.

9/1039

From

H. Cleghorn Esqre M. D.
Conservator of Forests

To

H. C. Bayley Esqre
Sg. Secretary to Government
Revenue Department
Fort St. George

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of Extract Minutes of Consultation, No 697, Revenue Department, conveying the orders of Government on the letters addressed to them by Mr. Williams and myself, with respect to the travelling allowances drawn by that Officer.

2 The first point requiring explanation is my statement that Mr. Williams came to Madras on several occasions without and contrary to orders. The first instance was the one already mentioned in my letter to Government* when Mr. Williams received a sick Certificate to Bangalore, and came to Madras instead. Again, on 22d February, I wrote to Mr. Williams, "I have now the honor to direct "that as there is not now, and is not likely

* Dated 18th June 1858. No. 328.

"to be any duty for you at Madras, you will not
"visit the Presidency at any time without orders
"or leave obtained through me, under the ordinary
"rules of the Service, or on emergent Medical Cer-
"tificate, in which latter case, you will proceed
"to the place indicated in the Certificate forward-
"ing the same for my information, and that of the
"Civil Auditor."

3 Notwithstanding these orders, which I think will be considered sufficiently explicit, and which were acknowledged by him on the 5th March. Mr. Williams returned to Madras on 20th March and 7 days thereafter obtained a Medical Certificate from the Surgeon 3rd District. The leave granted in conformity with this Certificate expired on 10th April, during the preceding week he remained in Madras on the plea of preparing a report for the Agent and Manager of the Railway. Mr. Maclagan having at Mr. Acworth's request taken upon himself the responsibility. I approved of the course adopted by Mr. Maclagan, but was afterwards considerably disappointed to find from Mr. Acworth's note to Mr. Maclagan of date 17th April, that his stay in Madras was really of no use. Mr. Acworth says, "I think it is right to inform you, that Mr. Williams did not stay on my account later than 8 O'Clock on Wednesday morning, and that the letter he prepared for me might have been written in an hour. It did

× 16th April

10/1929

not in fact contain the information I most needed, and he is to write to me therefore from Cotapetty".

4 With respect to the "divergence to Cuddapah, I have to observe that on 22nd January, Mr. Williams applied for permission to visit "the Naggery Hills" and I on 23rd idem ordered him to proceed thither. Copies of his letter and of my Order are annexed. I had no intention that he should proceed to Cuddapah, being desirous that as he expressed himself he should "not be so far from Madras as not to be able to return in 3 or 4 days if wanted at any time". On the receipt of his letter shewing that he had misinterpreted my instructions, his abstract was passed.

5 A copy of that part of my letter of 13th January which refers to his addressing Government on the subject of travelling allowance, and of my letter of 1st March declining further correspondence on the subject are also enclosed.

6. It does not appear to be on record, but I have a distinct recollection of telling him on one occasion, as did Mr. Maclagan on another, that all correspondence with Government should pass through the Head of Department.

7 I have now the honor to forward a letter from Mr. Williams dated 5th Instant (which he requests may be submitted to Government) resigning his appointment on the Department. On this letter it is not necessary for me to comment at length.

8. It is sufficient to say that the arguments

it contains are those rather of a Contractor than of a Conservator - Up to the present time, nothing has been done in the Salem District, and considerable inconvenience is caused by Mr Williams' retirement just after the Collector had issued a proclamation on the subject of kingwarage.

Q- But I would not ask him to withdraw his resignation, for the performance of his duty ever since he joined the Department has been far from satisfactory - Though a man of considerable energy, he is singularly regardless of instruction, and though he can cut and square timber, he is altogether ignorant of Forestry, properly so called

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your Most Obedient Servant.

H. Cleghorn
Conservator of Forests.

Copy of Correspondence referred to in the foregoing letter -

12/1039

1st From Mr Williams to Dr Oleghorn dated 22d January 1858 -

"Sir, If you have no objection, I shall take a trip to the Nuggery Hills to ascertain whether and to what extent they could supply the line which the Railway Company are now about laying down through Cuddapah with Sleepers and report accordingly, as I shall not be so far from Madras as not to be able to return in three or four days if wanted here at any time."

2d From Dr Oleghorn to Mr Williams dated 22d January 1858 -

"Sir, I have to direct that you proceed to the Nuggery Jungles, and examine the neighbourhood of the proposed line of Railway to Cuddapah, expressing your opinion as to the means existing for the supply of timber for Sleepers.

Your report should be accompanied by a list of the woods considered to be suitable for Sleepers, a description of the size of the trees when full grown, and a detail sufficient to shew in a clear and satisfactory manner, both the quantity of timber that could be supplied, and the cost of transport, so as to admit of an accurate opinion being formed of the cost at which it could be delivered at the nearest Station which should be specified -

11/1039

Genl Dept: Rect: 18th Septr 1858
Cons: 27th Septr
No: 1013

From
The Commissr of Trists
To
The Secy to Govt
Revenue Department
Fort St George

Dated 23d June 1858
Rec 25th

Encloses
Cons No: 1039. 27th July 1858.
Acknowledges receipt
of Extract Min of Cons No: 697
Rev: Dept: and submits applica-
tion as to the reasons
which led to the rejection of
his part to Partner Mr Williams
Also that for travelling allow-
ance. Submits also a letter
from that Officer stating
his application made in the
Dept: with remarks thereon

No 63.

Eg Lady 18th 1858

It is desirable that you distinguish between the timber procurable from Circar Villages and those belonging to the several Zemindars (Calastry Pun-
-ganoors, &c.) in this neighbourhood. You should visit the Slopes of the Eastern Ghauts on both sides of the projected Line, but I have reason to believe that you will find the largest quantity of wood on the right hand, in the direction of the Goorumconda, Chittavail and Siddout Colonies.

3d From Dr Colegrove to Mr Williams dated 13th January 1858 No 256.

Sir

With reference to your letter of yesterday's date, requesting that your claims for travelling allowances (when in Madras) should be submitted to Government, I beg to state that in the opinion both of Mr Madagan and myself, it is quite untenable. I have no objection to your referring the matter to Government if you still desire it, but I cannot recommend the adoption of this course".

4th From Dr Colegrove to Mr Williams dated 1st March 1858 No 293

"Sir

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter "of 25th Ultimo from Poongunoor. I return your Contingent Bills for travelling allowance in December and January, and must decline all further correspondence on this subject.

I am prepared to countersign your Bills for allowance for the days on which you were actually travelling to Sheekaricottah and Naggery.

* Exchange of accounts

17 4

13/1039

5th From Dr Colegrove to Mr Williams dated 22d February 1858 No 281.

Sir

As the question of supplying Railway Sleepers in the 7th and 8th Districts, is now before Government, and as your report on the Cotaputty jungles printed in Extract Mof C. dated 13th November last No 5616, does not contain sufficient information to enable me to form an opinion as to the scheme proposed by Captain Johnston.

I have the honor to direct that you will proceed without delay to the forest named Cotaputty, mark and number all trees of the specified kinds suitable for Railway Sleepers, which may with advantage be removed, distinctly recording in the Register the exact localities by bearings &c &c.

It would be desirable that the trees marked should be pointed out to the headmen of the Villages in the vicinity of which they may be found.

For this purpose I will request the Collector of Salem to direct the headmen of the respective villages to accompany you, and take a note of the trees you may mark, this will ensure due conservancy and facilitate after operations.

In case of the absence of the headmen of the Villages, it will not be necessary for you to delay, as the trees may afterwards be pointed out to them.

You will be so good as send a report to my office on every Monday, shewing the progress you have made during the past week.

You will continue at the post assigned you till the work is completed, and then await further orders.

In numbering the trees, you will for convenience assign a certain series of numbers to particular localities, as from 1 to 500 for the Village of Cotaputty 500 to 1000 to the next Village; and the number in the Register should correspond with the mark on the trees.

As you have come back from Nuggory, it will not be necessary to return there unless you receive instructions to that effect.

No.	Description of Timber.	Approximate Dimensions		Probable Yield in Sleepers.	Locality.	Remarks shewing the facilities for transport distance from Forest track.
		Length	Girth.			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

6th From Mr Williams to Dr Cleghorn dated 30th April 1858.

"Sir,

Perceiving from the public papers under the head of Selections from the Records of Government with reference to Capt. Johnston's scheme for supplying the Railway Company with Sleepers through the Agency of the Conservancy Department, that you have strongly recommended me to the notice of Government for this work, at the same time suggesting that it should be undertaken, not by this Department, but by the Railway Company

for itself - and for the purpose of facilitating measures for the Company under the expectation of your suggestions being carried out, the order to me to proceed to the Cotaputty Jungles and mark the trees fit for cutting for Sleepers appear to have been issued - I have the honor to state that having had some conversation with Mr Ainsworth before I left Madras, I took the Railway road intending to proceed to Cotaputty via Mullapooram with the view of ascertaining what particular stations of the Railroad have been supplied from the Jungles of Cotaputty and the woods of the specified kinds in use

2. With reference to those orders, I beg to lay before you certain circumstances brought to my notice by the Resident Engineer and other Officers of the Districts supplied from the Cotaputty, Shevaroy, and Deckan cotta forests which appear to render my interference inexpedient in the way proposed, if not adverse to the Railway Company's interests and hereby causing a necessity for reference on my part before I proceed further - In the first place the sections of the 7 and 8 Districts which get their wood from the forests abovenamed are so far being

supplied that there is no lack of Sleepers for the Roads that have come to hand. The Sleepers were mostly supplied during the last 18 months by Contractors. 90000 Sleepers in round numbers would be required for the supply of two Districts and 48,000 are already supplied and the work is still in progress. the chief drawback to a more speedy supply according to the system hitherto prevailing, consisted in the Sleepers not being paid for as fast as they were delivered, but since the orders of Government have been received, allowing the Railway Engineers to buy Sleepers as they are offered, it is fully to be expected that in addition to the Contractors there will be a large number of small Speculators and Orders bringing in wood from all parts hereafter, and at a cheaper rate than 2¼ Rupees, which is the rate now paid in those Districts.

3. In the second place no wood is received except of the specified kinds and of the required dimensions for Sleepers,— therefore as the work has been progressing some years, and the Suppliers are now thoroughly well aware that no other woods will be received and those only of the proper size for Sleepers - the object in view in marking

out the trees to be cut, is so far defeated, attained Besides this, in the third place, unless the Railway Company were disposed to carry out those systematic measures for Cutting proposed by Captain Johnston, to facilitate which your orders have been given to me, the marking of the trees under the new system would operate as a check for the time being for Contractors, wood cutters and Ryots would be deterred, not knowing who should possess himself of the tree so marked, for as the Engineer is calculated according to your suggestion on each Sleeper, if this mode were altered the only plan occurring would be to await applications from the different wood-cutters for the purchase of each individual tree — Moreover as the Resident Engineer thinks it inadvisable, since the orders for purchasing Sleepers have been passed to recommend the Company's undertaking the cutting in their own part, at least until the new system of purchasing is well tried, interference with the Contractors and others who will now enter the field would rather prove injurious - and as for myself, situated as I am, being precluded from choosing a place to settle myself where there is least danger of fever &c., I am induced to lay these considerations before you at once, for beside the difficulty and danger on those rugged steeps which none but a Brahmin would climb, exposure and want of habitation must naturally be attended with

evil consequences - It would be otherwise if the forests in the Tillak were placed in my charge for then I would have a fixed habitation in the least unhealthy spots and could make provision to meet the risks incidental to such a life -

12 - The next point to be noticed, and as it stands in connection with the interests of Government as proprietor of the forests in the entire Tillak of Salem is the seignorage to be paid to the Conservancy Department on each Sleeper - to secure this object, what appears necessary is that the Conservator appointed to this charge while visiting the respective forests in turn to watch over them, should also see to the delivries at the several receiving stations on the Railroad, of the Sleepers taken from them - it being made known previously by proclamation through the Revenue officers of Government in all the forest Villages that a seignorage is to be charged hereafter on each Sleeper, and thus with the assistance of the servants of Government in the forest Villages, the seignorage could be drawn from the Owners before the Sleepers are removed, and the accounts could be checked by the books of the Railway Company, or, as the Sleepers are now, by the order for purchasing

15

to be paid for on delivery, 10/1039 if the wood Cutter or Contractor is unable to pay the seignorage before hand the servants of Government or those of the Conservators establishment may keep an Account of the number taken out by each individual on a receipt passed by him, and arrange for the said payment on receipt of his purchase money from the Railway Company's Officers - The Conservator would also keep a charge on all Timber taken for other purposes according to quality &c &c.

13 - As the Government are anxious to secure to the Railway Company the means of getting Sleepers with greater certainty and at less expence than hitherto obtained, the system of purchasing appears highly calculated to effect a realization of those objects, for a reduction in price must take place when the small Merchants and Tradespeople in the immediate neighbourhood of the forests who have carts of their own and the Odder people who also possess carts, join with Contractors in supplying Sleepers - but until the question is decidedly proved it is not likely the Railway Company would abandon the system of contracts or desist from using other available means - I have therefore in passing through the 5th

and 6th Districts before coming off so far as this, recommended a scheme to the agent at Madras for working the Salem forests on this side the Ghauts on a moderate scale for the 5th and 6th Districts offering my assistance if he could obtain the necessary sanction, in the hope of securing some addition from the Railway Company to my present emoluments for the extra labour. As you have been kindly pleased to recommend me for such work, unknown to myself, and my aim all along having been as you are aware, by rendering my labours profitable in a pecuniary way to the Department, to establish a claim on the consideration of Government for wages adequate to a life of active toil in jungles; I shall feel exceedingly thankful for your sanction if applied for particularly as such assistance as I could render would be of advantage to this Department though it would entail much additional labour on myself. I accordingly append a Copy of my letter to Mr Acworth on the subject and would feel obliged for further instructions on the various points submitted for your consideration for the regulation of my further movements.

7th From Dr Oleghorn to Mr Williams
dated 10th June 1858. No 352. 17/1039

Sir,

30th April 1858.

In acknowledging your Letter dated as per Margin, I shall reply to the several points on which you solicit instructions. In consequence of your having offered your services to Captain Johnston Offg. Consulting Engineer for Railways (Vide his letter dated 27th November 1857 No 398) I intimated to Government my readiness to the transfer.

2. I have received no subsequent communication either from Government or Mr Acworth regarding your employ by the Railway Company, but in the event of your entering that Department, your connection with the Forest Establishment necessarily ceases.

3. The reasons assigned by you for not marking the trees in accordance with my definite orders, dated 22nd February 1858 (approved by Government) are not satisfactory. Your arguments being those of a Contractor and not of a Conservator, whose duty it is to mark the ripe trees of the specified kinds, and to preserve the smaller trees for future supply. I am aware of the difficulty of the task, and that

your experience has been altogether in the cutting of wood, hence I make some excuse for your backwardness in selecting the trees which is the first duty of an experienced Forester, but the waste of unripe trees has been strongly brought to my notice by the Collector and by the Public newspapers, and if you cannot undertake the duty required, another will be found - It is not necessary that you should mark the trees yourself, your duty is to point them out in person, or by your people who should be instructed for the purpose -

The marking of trees causes no hindrance to the Railway Company or the Contractors, it facilitates their progress, and conduces to the preservation of the undersized wood, regarding the conservation of which the Collector is naturally anxious, considering the devastation already (often wantonly) committed by unrestricted Contractors. If I had committed the same duty to Lieut^n Baddams, Mr. Miller, Mr. McIvor, or Mr. Hall, all of whom have been practically instructed in Forestry, and are accustomed to obey orders, many thousand trees would have been marked long ago.

1064 Wood 17 G

18/1039

5. I am informed by Mr. Brett that he has issued a Proclamation in accordance with my request to all the Village Authorities.

6. Your suggestion as to the mode of collecting seignorage (Para 6) appears to be appropriate, but does not make provision for rejected sleepers - I have an engagement to meet the Collector this week, and shall arrange the details finally with him, - some points have been submitted to Government.

7. With regard to your "Site of habitation" it should be (if possible) in the centre of the Forests being worked - I leave this, however, to your discretion, repeating the previous* orders that you are not on any account to leave the Gillah without permission from me, and I hope to find at an early date that you have made progress in arranging the system of conserving the Forests placed

*92 July 1858

8th From Mr Williams to Dr Cleghorn
dated 5th June 1858.

"Sir,

With reference to your orders
No 281 of 22nd February 1858 directing
me to put a mark on the trees fit for
cutting into Sleepers in the Cotapetty
jungles with the view of assisting the
Railway Company to carry out the
scheme proposed to the Conservancy De-
=partment by Capt Johnston, I sub-
=mitted in my letter of 30th April the
following points for your consideration
(Vide letter dated 30th April)

With reference to the above Com-
=munication I have the honor to state
that on the 15th May I submitted a
separate scheme for working the Cota
=petty forests to supply the Grand Trunk
Districts which I asked Mr Dewarth
to be good enough to refer to you.
But while engaged in writing the fore-
=going part of this letter I received
yours No 343. without the mention
of date or place. It appears to
have been written some day after the
1st last month but it reached my
hands only on the 1st Instant. As

no allusion is made in my letter of 30th
April which I requested Mr Macdagon
to forward without delay that I may
be released from the embarrassment
which your orders of the 22nd February
places me in, I fear my services might
continue to remain dormant for a
protracted period and rather than ap-
=pear to be shirking your orders I
think it would only be proper for me
to retire from the Conservancy Depart
=ment.

Adverting to my letter of 7th April
in which I requested to "have a District
assigned to me as my health is by
no means favorable to the continue-
=ation of so much arduous travelling"
You are pleased in Para 3 of the 6th
under reply "to instruct me to remain
in the Salem District marking trees
for Railway purposes until further or-
=der" I beg most respectfully to submit
that these instructions which convey
no definite warrant for considering
myself relieved from the position of
an Extra Assistant, give me no
sanction for entertaining the estab-
=lishment allotted to an Assistant
in charge of an assigned District
with whom the travelling allowances

ceases, vide Civil Auditor's Manual Chap 8 Paras 129 to 133 and as observed by you in Para 6 that you are "in correspondence with the Collector as to the best means of levying the seignorage" which you say "will depend in a great measure upon the prospective receipts", it will be seen that I am positively prohibited from engaging any assistance until the question of seignorage is decided, while I am instructed at the same time that "my duty is to mark all suitable trees at the nearest points to the Railway". This being the case I feel that it is impossible for myself in person to carry out your orders in a District where forests abound almost the whole extent to upwards of a hundred miles of Railroad; and it will be recollected that I have no funds at my disposal for employing the assistance which such a work entails and which an assistant might be expected to have who is in charge of an assigned District. and if your present orders to remain at Salem are to be taken in the sense

23/11

20/1029

intended I must be deprived of the travelling allowance according to the rules of the Department (vide Civil Auditor's Manual above quoted) tho' the duty required of me renders it necessary that I should be moving from place to place. Taking these orders in connection with your expressions so long back as October last year when directing me to proceed to Wallair to mark trees there that you "did not know what duty to give me on my return" while any of these forests might be open to put in my charge with benefit to the Department in the way of acquiring seignorage which has now been lost on all the timber taken from Government ever since this Department was created I cannot but come to the conclusion that my services have never been appreciated by the head of the Department.

It cannot however be denied that in every particular instance of duty assigned to me as a travelling assistant I have endeavoured to give my reports on the

Forests visited a practical bearing as far as my poor ability enabled me shewing how they may be turned to profit, vide my report on the Wynaad which has led to the experimental trial made with such success by the Superintendent of the Astes-=gram Division last year. and I trust it will not be deemed disrespectful or incon-=sistent if in considering the end to which my services are brought, I here to mention that I made no small sacrifice in accept-=ing the appointment now re-=signed, by giving up all con-=nection with trade, also my in-=terests then pending on my Contract for Sleepers with the Railway Company as the doc-=ument quoted in the margin will shew - likewise my Con-=tract then existing with the Civil Architect, in the hope that shew the Wynaad forests to which I was appointed, came to be worked under my hands, I could shew to Government results greater in pro-=portion to that achieved by the Mysore Government in the limited portion of those forests which fall to the Mysore side and thus establish a claim on the consi-=deration of Government for higher wages to compensate for all that I had given up.

† Copy of which I handed to the Com-=missioner of Mysore.

Whereas a quantity of timber intended for Railway purposes belonging to me is now in possession of Ranja coottum Appiah Chetty, I do hereby authorize and empower the said R. Appiah to sell and deliver the same according to his judgment & ability on my account and for his trouble I agree to allow him a Commission of one per Cent and I further agree not to dispute any arrangement or expenditure he may make in the matter. Witness my hand this 5th August 1857.

(Signed) G. Williams

a true Copy
(Signed) G. Williams
Asst. Const. of Forests.

2/1039

In resigning the appointment I now hold I humbly trust that Government will be induced to view my reasons for such a step, in connection with your letter to Government published under the head "Selections from the Records &c" in "Ex-=aminer" of 13th April in which you are represented as having stated that my Services were no longer required by you and see that I do not withdraw from the Department in a spirit of insubor-=dination or disrespect and in consider-=ation there of give me a place in some other Department under the State. In this hope I beg you will submit my letter of resignation with this letter or Expla-=nation of my motives."

(True Copies)

H. Cleghorn

Conservator of Forests.

Enclosure to Letter
dated 25th June 1858
No 3795

Recd 28/6/58

22/1039

Madras 25th June 1858.

To The Right Honble G. J. R. Lord Harris
Governor of Madras.

My Lord

I have the honor most respectfully to bring to your Lordships notice that the E.M.A. dated the 28th May last, which forwarded to the Conservator of Forests for his information, and to be Communicated to myself was only received by me from Dr Cleghorn with his letter dated the 20th Inst and not until I had received information that my travelling Allowances were drawn at Madras and upon which I requested him to furnish me with the orders sanctioning these allowances in my favor.

I regret most sincerely the late receipt of this order, as otherwise I should have been able, before this, to have afforded the Government all the information and explanation I have it in my power to offer upon the points alluded therein, and more particularly with reference to the circumstances under which I felt myself induced to tender my resignation of Office as Assistant to the Conservator of Forests. I have under these circumstances to regret, that as Dr Cleghorn has again addressed the Government regarding myself as appears by his letter to me of the 20th Inst alluded to above Your Lordship in Council will be pleased to suspend pending

nothing any orders therein until I shall lay before the Government, and I hope to be able to do so in a few days, a full statement of the particulars of my peculiar Case. In the mean time I beg to submit a Copy of Dr Cleghorn's letter to me alluded to above and of my letter of resignation referred to in it.

I beg to remain
My Lord
Your Lordship's most obedient
humble Servant

J. Williams

23/1039

23

From H. Cleghorn Esqr. 24/1039
Conservator of Forests

No. 371. To
Mr. G. Williams – No. 371
Sir,

In accordance with in=
=struction from Government, I beg to enclose for your information Extract Minutes of Consultation No. 697 dated 28th May 1858.–

2 I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter, dated 5th Instant, Darum porty, in which you tender your resignation, which I have submitted to Government with a recommendation that it should be accepted.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your Most Obt Servant
(Sgd.) H. Cleghorn.–
Conservator of forests

(a true copy.)
G. Williams

25/1035

To H. Cleghorn Esqr. M.D.
Conservator of Forests

Sir

With reference to your order No 394 of 22nd July 1858 directing me to fell a mark on the trees for cutting into Sleepers in the Cottapetty Jungles with the view of assisting the Railway Company to carry out the Scheme proposed to the Government by Captain Johnston I submitted in my letter of 30 April the following points for your Consideration viz.

1st That until the Railway Company had decided upon carrying out the Survey proposed by Capt. Johnston, or any other systematic Scheme to do so, to take the work into their own hands, the putting a mark on trees for no other purpose but that of making them over to the Company would for the time being only serve to prevent others from taking those trees towards fulfilling existing Contracts and so for from benefiting the Railway Company would in fact be an obstruction to the Railway Company

2nd That Government having recently issued orders permitting the Engineers of the Railway Company to purchase Sleepers for they may require, the prospect of getting Sleepers on purchase and the protection thereupon obtained would both be multiplied, and on the part a formal proclamation to the effect that Seignorage is to be charged had been previously issued by the Revenue Authorities it might inflict injury on those who have formed Contracts under penalties to supply Sleepers at certain fixed rates without providing for such a contingency - and moreover it would be impracticable to carry out the tagging as a general rule over the forests where placed in charge of a member of the Conservancy Department as recommended in my Report on the Salem forests one year ago.

on which point it is to be inferred that if this portion alone of the Salem forests were to be taxed it would place the wood Cutting of Cotapetty on a different footing from that which took wood for sleepers in other parts of the District such as the Canadchiss where the Sub Collector of North Arcot and others are now and have been from time to time getting wood on contract engagement to Government.

2. That considering the interest involved, in order on the one hand to avoid putting a check on the supplies to the Railway Company and on the other, to secure to Government its rightful claim to Seignorage, the Court suggesting itself is, that the Railway Company should without prejudice to Contractors whose supplies at best are but slow, take up the working of the forests for themselves, the Conservancy Depositories as yet remaining undecided.

3. That having travelled up to Mallapooram on the Railway Company's road on my way to Cotapetty I found it to be the wish of the Railway Officers before recommending the adoption of any practical plan for taking up the working of the forests in their own hands, to prove the recently obtained orders for purchasing sleepers a fair trial: but having been requested by Mr Beaver the Engineer to submit my own views on the subject, I submitted to the Agent a scheme for supplying the 5th and 6th Distts from the Sound here proposed North of the Yellaghery Hills the Revenue Officer for that Taluq at present.

4. That on Jones Peak just in charge of the forests and continues still in the position of travelling Assistant Commissioner from settling any where so as to provide against the risk incidental to a forest life or choosing a spot where there is least danger and being without an Establishment the searching of the trees by myself in person is almost impossible and I may not in passing that of the forest Peons allowed me for guards I have never been able to secure the full complement and am now left with but one as my abstract for last month will show.

These points appearing to require your consideration and judgment before I should further thought it advisable to submit them and await further orders.

With reference to the above Communication I have the honor to state that on the 15th May I submitted a seperate scheme for working the Cotapetty forests to supply the 4th and 8th Districts which I asked Mr Beaver the to be good enough to refer to you - but which engaged in writing the foregoing part of this letter, I received your letter without the mention of date or place - It appears to have been written some day after the 11th last month but it reached my hands only on the 18th. Also allusion is made in my letter of 30 April which I requested Mr Maclagan to forward without delay that I may be released from the embarrassment which your order of the 22d Feby places me in, I fear my Services might continue to remain dormant for a protracted period and rather than appear to disobey your order I think it would only be proper for me to retire from the Conservancy Dept.

3. Adverting to my letter of 7th April in which I pray and beg to have a District assigned to me as my health is by no means favorable to the continuation of so much arduous travelling You are pleased in Para 2 of the letter under reply to intimate that I remain in the Salem District Marking trees for Railway purposes until further orders. I beg most respectfully to submit

Chapter 8.
para 132.

Instructions which convey no definite warrant for considering myself relieved from the position of an itinerant assistant, since no sanction for entertaining the retinue which all attach to an Assistant in charge of an assigned District with whom the travelling allowance, vide Civil Auditor's Manual Page 28. And as observed by you in Para 6. that you are "in correspondence with the Collector" as to the best means of keeping the Sleepers "which you say" will be found in a great measure on the prosecution proposals" it will be seen that I am practically prohibited from engaging any assistance until the question of sleepers is decided, while I am instructed at the same time that "My duty is to mark all suitable trees as the Nearest roads to the Railway" Thus being the case I feel that it is impossible for myself in person to carry out your orders in a District where forests lie bounded of a hundred miles of Railroad and where I am well impressed that I have no funds at my disposal for employing the assistance which such a work especially and which an Assistant might be expected to have who is in charge of an assigned District, and if your present orders to remain at Salem are to be taken in the sense intended I must be deprived of the travelling allowance according to the rules of the Department Vide Civil Auditor's Manual already quoted. For I do not know when I shall be coming from place to place following these orders in connection with your operations so long as I am at Salem and from which depots I am to proceed to Pallagaun to mark the trees there, that you did not know what duty to give me on my return" which any of the forests might have been put in Policy Charge with respect to the Department on the score of acquiring Sleepers which has been laid on all the timber taken from Government ever since

Copy of which Mr. Conroy sent to the Commissioner of Mysore

To secure a quantity of timber intended for Railway purposes belonging the Mysore Road in preference to Rand the contiguous Appointed Chiefly on the basis and the reason the said Commissioner Assisted to take and deliver the said timber according to his judgment & ability with the Civil Architect in the hope that when on my accounts and the Myanad forests to which I was appointed for my health I have Coorg to be worked under my hands, I could show for allow him Conveying of one per Cent & Sleepers Results greater in proportion to that achieved by the Mysore agreed not to dispute any Government in the limitted portion of those forests that arrangements or orders fall to the Mysore side and thus established a he may make in the matter. I have the honor to be Sir Your most obedient Servant

Bangalore 6th August 1857
/sd/ G Williams

To
The Chief Secretary to Government
Fort St George

Sir

In resigning the Appointment I now hold I humbly think that Government will be inclined to view my reasons for such a step in connection with your letter to Government published under the head Selections from the Records &c in "Extension" of 15th April in which you are represented as having stated that my services were no longer required by you and See that I do not withdraw from the Department in a spirit of insubordination or disrespect and in consideration thereof give me a pension after Department under the Rules In this hope I beg you will submit my resignation with this letter in explanation of my motives &c

I have the honor &c
/sd/ G Williams

/True Copy/
/sd/ G Williams

D 1050/58

29/1639

From

G. Williams

To

The Acting Secretary to Government
Revenue Department
Fort Saint George

Sir

1. With reference to my letter addressed to the Right Honble the Governor under date the 29th Ultimo in which I begged that judgement might be suspended until I had an opportunity of offering such explanation as I am able to give towards meeting the several points of difference in the Statement made in support of my appeal to Government against the Stoppage of my pay and travelling allowances and the counter Statement made by the Contractor. It will be seen that I made this request in consequence of the Exd. Con: No 697 - May 28th 1858, in which the question is posited, not having been furnished to me by the Conservator until so late as the 21st Ultimo, when it was forwarded with the intimation (vide letter in Margin) that he had already gone before Government on the Subject. I have now the honor to submit on my part such explanation on the several points required by Government as I trust will remove all doubt as to the Correctness of my former Statements; premising in the first instance that I have been induced to tender my resignation of the appointment which Government were pleased to confer on me in

1. In accordance with instructions from Government I beg to enclose for your information Exd. Mr. Con: No 697 dated 28th May - & I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter, dated 6th Instt Paramporay in which you tender your resignation, which I have submitted to Government with a recommendation that it should be accepted -

in the Conservancy Department but not without giving my reasons for such a step - vide my letter to the Conservator of forests a full copy of which is already before Government in letter dated 29th June, and to which I most respectfully beg to draw the Special Notice of Government particularly as several of the Suggestions contained in my Reports of last year on the forests of Salem Zillah and therein alluded to viz. Such as the issueing of a proclamation respecting Seignorage on timber; and a Suitable Establishment to Carry out the orders which I was recently sent to execute. On measures necessary in the first instance to be adopted are, as I am informed, only now being carried out -

2 The fifth point on which explanation is called for is contained in para 1. of Govt. Cons: No. 697 of 22 May referring to a tender made by one of my Sons to the Railway Agent for supplying the Company with Sleepers on the Cuddapah line; from which it is inferred that I must have had an interest as a father in my Son's speculation inasmuch as I had recently gone on duty to that part of the forest near Nuggary from where the timber was proposed to be taken - On this point I beg without hesitation to assure Government that as a Servant of the State I have hitherto strictly conformed to the rules of the Department which prohibit all Connection with trade: and that the inference drawn by the Conservator of forests is not based on any foundation whatever. As a proof that such a serious charge, on which the Government very justly lay great stress, was not made with proper consideration, I have only to address an extract from my Report on these forests

30/1839

Forests in connection with the obtaining of Sleepers for the Railroad (vide margin). It will be observed that I estimated the cost at which Sleepers are obtainable on the Cuddapah line at 2 Rs 6 0/4 each and that I brought forward also by home parties willing to bind themselves under penalties to supply Sleepers at these rates but in preferring to my Sons tender together with his "privat" letter to the Railway Agent, Copies of which appear to have been obtained by Dr Cleghorn for submission to Government, I find that his offer is 2 Rs 12 As, which is much higher than the rates suggested in my Report. This will at once prove that I could have had no interest in the success of my Sons tender - It would moreover be impossible in my position of travelling Assistant to have rendered him any help whatever in the undertaking even though he had secured a Contract - and furthermore as he proposed to take the timber - from the forests of private individuals only, and not from Government property my duties would never be likely to lead me in the way of assisting him - My letter of 5th June to Dr Cleghorn at foot of para 1.

Between Vadamalpet and Calastry the timber is about 10 Miles of hill forest east of Kirkumbady in Company Sporting more plentiful and this species now being worked by Contractors for Sleepers. The wood carriers it is said pay the Calastry Rajah 0/2 Rupees on each bandy load consisting of 6 Sleepers. The 6 Sleepers from the Calastry vicinity might have after to be delivered at Vadamalpet. Of the kinds of wood adapted for Sleepers in the forests with the same woods generally as those of Kirkumbady Bellpilly Nurigontacotta and along the line to Cadoor the Specimens of timber from Nurigontacotta and forwarded under d.d. 7th April 1838 are about the best xxxxxx. As the Railway runs through these forests the Sleepers might be delivered at any of the intermediate stations from Kirkumbady to Vadamalpet Cattingwood from the Palliagaree estate pay only 2/8 for Rupee for each bandy load consisting of 6 Sleepers - The range of hills from Calastry to Vadamalpet xxxxxx together with Kiral, Balpilly and Mail Balpilly are supposed by one experienced Railway Contractor Subaroyaddy of Ryamoor near Conjeveram to be capable of supplying 2 lacs of Sleepers and he offers to supply this quantity in one year binding himself under proper Security for the due fulfilment of his engagement xxxxxx 2 Rs from Vadamalpet to Kirkumbady and at 1/4 Rs from Kirkumbady to Cadoor -

Para 1. Contains also a Marginal Note in proof of
My abandonment of all Connection with Travidi-
Head Quarters As the Government are well aware
since the year 1853 in a Contract with the
Railway Company for the supplying of timber; and
this is shown in the Marginal Note referred to,
that on arrival of Some of the Cargoes which
were due in 1855, and Not brought to Madras
until August 1857, I immediately gave them
up to the Ship owners to dispose of without
reference to myself I being at this time in
Government Employ

3 With reference to the Statements and Comm-
= unications on the question of My pay and
Travelling allowances, which Government
have been pleased to decide in My favour,
inasmuch as it was proved from the letters
quoted by me that I never acted Contrary
to orders in the Government Service as alleged
to Another, the Conservator of Forests
appears in his letter dated 16 April quoted
in the Ex. St. Con: No. 697. to have involved
the Matter in some doubt, which has caused
the Government to require that it should be
cleared up;- but as I have not been furnished
with the Conservators Correspondence with
Government in which the Representations
prejudicially affecting My Statements have
to be explained, there remains no means in
My power, but to stand by the letters quoted
in My Appeal of 30th March upon which, as
I have said the Government have already
passed a decision - I trust however admitted
that at a period Subsequent to the date
of that Appeal, I was at Madras viz from
the 12th when My Sick leave expired, to
17th April Not with Dr Cleghorn, but with

31/1039

but with the Sanction of the Officer in Charge
of the Conservators Office here; which it might
be proper for the Sake of avoiding further
reference to explain at once - The Government
are aware that I was directed by the Conservator
of Forests to proceed to the Cotaipetty Jungles to
Mark the Trees best Suited for Railway Sleepers
for the purpose of giving every Assistance in
furtherance of the Project Submitted to the
Conservancy Department by Captain Johnston
acting Consulting Engineer for Railways; for
Supplying Sleepers to the Railway Company;
but which prospect it might be observed,
was Not entertained by the head of the
Conservancy Department - Nevertheless pre-
= ceiving from the Ex. St. Con: on the Subject
published in the Newspapers, that the
instructions given to me were approved by
Government, that the Railway Company were
at all events going to take Systematic Measures
for Supplying themselves in future with
Sleepers - And the orders given to me being
expressly intended for the facilitating of
Such Measures which the Railway Company
were expected to adopt, I thought it prudent
to Consult with the Railway Company's Agent
previous to leaving Madras - and As Mr Ackworth
appeared Anxious for information on various
points; and My Sick leave having just expired,
I Applied to Mr Madagan to know how
I Should act: and he having waited on
Mr Ackworth, requested that I Should
remain on his own responsibility; but Not
later than the 17th Vide letter in Margin - If
the papers Subsequently Sub-
= mitted by me with full details
for Supplying the 5th 6th 7th

I have informed Mr Ackworth
I See no Objections to your remaining
here till Saturday; but as Dr
Cleghorn has strongly expressed

his wish that you should not remain
long in Madras, I cannot be responsible
for the consequences, if you neglect
to leave on that day—

And 8th Instant were forwarded
to Government it will be seen
that the information wanted,
was of a nature requiring both time and
consideration — I felt myself unable to
accomplish the task without a visit to the
Railway Stations on the Salem Gillah before
furnishing it: And this was my only reason
for not affording it within the time limit-
-ted by Mr Maclagan —

4th The other question in para 2 of the Extr Mn. Con:
relates to that passage of my appeal in
which I give merely the date of a letter
from the Conservator of forests; without
giving an Extract from it in support
of My assertion that I was allowed the
option of addressing Government direct-
I beg respectfully to state that having
quoted the Letter of 1st March from
Dr Cleghorn in which he declines "all
further Correspondence on the Subject of
my pay and travelling allowances"
I omitted quoting from the other; but
I now submit the same with Extract
from Correspondence in connection therewith.
Permission was not solicited on my part
to address Government but it emanated
from the Chief of the Department Vide
my Letter 12th January 1858. from which
I beg permission to quote "with regard
" to My abstract for travelling allowances
" which you returned, could you favor
" me by kindly dropping a Note to
" Mr Lushington to know whether I am
" entitled to it" to which the following
reply was received vide letter 13th January 1858

To

Mr G. Williams

Assistant Conservator of forests

32/1039

Sir

With reference to your letter of yesterday
date requesting that your Claim for travelling
allowances when in Madras should be sub-
-mitted to Government I beg to state that
in the opinion both of Mr Maclagan and
myself it is quite untenable — I have no
objection to your referring the matter
to Government if you still desire it
but I cannot recommend the adoption
of this course &c

I have the honor &c.

in reply to the foregoing letter I pointed
out vide 16 January 1858 "that the
" course proposed is one which would
" be premature and out of course to be
" adopted and therefore never on my
" part Solicited for the Civil Audition
" has not had the Abstract before him
" and it is not Competent to me in such
" a case to step between the Appointed
" Authority and Government" It was
at length decided by the Conservator of
forests that I should have no further
Correspondence with him on the subject —

5th Mr Maclagan's name is blended
in the question treated upon in the fore-
-going para: as joining with Dr Cleghorn
in making a Statement "directly contrary
" to mine in regard to the option of
" addressing Government direct" I have
to state that there has been no Corres-
-pondence between myself and that
Officer at any time on the present
subject; and if Dr Cleghorn has
depended upon any verbal Communi-
-cation made by that Officer

to him; I beg to observe that my app
was before Government on the 30th Nov
And the only interview I had with Mr
Maclagan when the subject was broached
at all, was on the 13th April in the Marine
board Office 13 days after the date of
my appeal when I went to learn & know
the result of his visit to Mr Acworth:
and it must be obvious that the statement
on the part of the Conservator And
Assistant referred to, as being directly
Contrary to mine cannot be the subject
to that interview

6 Having endeavoured to remove the doubt
in which the Statement in my letter of 30th Apr
appeared to be entangled; my next duty is
to reply to the 4th para of the Govt. No 697
And I trust the explanation given in
para 2 of this letter, taken in connection
with para 4. of the one addressed to
Mr Oliphant tendering my resignation,
and which was embodied in my letter
of 29th June to the Governor, will be deemed
satisfactory on this point. I have never
asked to be transferred to the Railway
Company's service so as to give up my
appointment under Government; and
in offering my services to Carey and Captain
Johnston I stated for the supplying the
Railway Company with a cheaper supply
= directly and economically when
Mr Oliphant had openly declared that
he did not know how to employ my
services, I merely asked to do the work
on account of Government, as a means
of rendering myself more practically
useful in the Department, and I
beg now to quote my words from a

33/1089 From a letter addressed to the Conservator of forests on the subject (vide margin) I beg you will do me the justice to withdraw an erroneous impression which your letter appears to have made on the mind of Government respecting my offer of service to Captain Johnston acting Consulting engineer for Railways. This Office submitted a proposal to Government for working the Coteapully forests by means of the forest Conservancy Department for the provision of timber to the Railway Company for which work as a member of that Department I offered my services, and before Captain Johnston's proposal was submitted to Government I communicated the same to you in person and received your assent. It is plain I could not have been misunderstood; for in the public and Govt. Corr: of Government on the subject (vide margin) I made no objection to carry out the schemes by means of the Forest Department in connection with it is difficult to conceive how I could be represented as having made any Offer to Captain Johnston of leaving the Conservancy Department from a desire to be transferred to the Railway Company. Captain Johnston has not so represented it in his letter which he read to me before sending it up: but it appears to be so assumed by Government and from your letter to me under reply (quoted in the margin) I am led to conclude that such an impression has been conveyed by your letter to Government and I am asked the Mr Con: to proceed to transfer. I must only therefore repeat that your proposal to hand me over to the Railway Company was made without my Consent or knowledge

and addressed to the Conservator on the subject (vide margin) I trust I have made it clear that I have not in any one instance infringed the rules enforced upon me as a member of the Conservancy Department and in tendering my resignation under the Circulation that my services have never been appreciated for Causes unknown to me by the head of the Department, I earnestly pray that Government will consider my present position, thrown as I shall be out of all means of support, after laboring hard to prove useful whenever and wherever an opportunity was allowed me, ever since I abandoned all private enterprises for the purpose of employing myself under the State. The Conservator of forests, speaking from knowledge of my experience: in his recommendation to Government to transfer me to the Railway Service (acting Government to do what is not within its province (vide his letter 2nd March on Captain Johnston's proposal) attests that he cannot but speak in my favor: though he evidently does not wish me in his Department. On this point it will not be out of place to notice an

in order that the justice of Government may be well weighed, that the orders given to me to proceed to Coteatta and number trees for the Railway are dated 22nd February when I was in Cuddapah - In a Subsequent order without date No 343 it is directed that I should number all the trees nearest the line in the entire Zillah of Salem, but between February and June no Establishment was appointed to me for this work viz Sheristadar and Sub Overseers as is being organized for the same purpose Also I tendered my resignation, neither was the District assigned to My Charge so as to enable me to Combine My duty relieved from the duties of a travelling Assistant, which, with reference to the present orders to remain in Salem Counting trees until further orders / Vide Mr Eighorn's letter No 343 - without date / placed me in a very Anomalous position as regards the travelling allowances given only to a travelling Assistant which ceases when a District is Assigned, and in lieu of which a regular Establishment of working people is allotted.

Government will have noticed the readiness manifested by the Head of the Forest Department for my being transferred to the Railway Working without My ever Soliciting it; and also in the other instance, when I stated to Mr Eighorn My intention of appealing to Government for relief from the inconvenience and hardships I suffered by the Stoppage of my pay and travelling allowance, - with what avidity the

39/1039

this intimation was received as a wish to be relieved from my situation in the Department - In Consideration therefore of the difficulties and inconveniences I have had to Contend with, I may say ever since I joined the Conservancy Department, laboring as I had to do without My Services appearing ever to be appreciated by the Head of the Department, while Government are aware from one or two of My Reports which happen to have Come before Government, Such as those on the Salem forests, and the Sheharisotta Jungles, that I have endeavoured to discharge My duties faithfully. I Earnestly pray that Government will be pleased to Confer on me Some other appointment, as I have not the slightest means of support Since giving up all Connection with trade, which I cannot hope to reestablish myself in again, with any chance whatever of Success. With this My humble prayer I beg to Conclude -

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your Most Obedient Servant

J. Williams

Madras
8th July
1858

333

C10 July 1913 #C22.426

Po 4 Pos.

Received 1858
Pub. Dept.
No 1123

Copy of a letter from the Superintendent of Police Madras to the Secretary to Government Public Department dated 28th May 1858 with enclosures on the subject of the refusal of the Conservator of Forests to countersign the travelling allowance bills of Mr Williams Assistant Conservator of Forests

Public Department
Copy of a letter from the Superintendent of Police Madras to the Secretary to Government dated 28th May 1858 with enclosures on the subject of the refusal of the Conservator of Forests to countersign the travelling allowance bills of Mr Williams Assistant Conservator of Forests

35/1079

7

Memorandum.

This letter from Dr Cleghorn furnishes the information required in Extract of Minute in Consultation 28th May 1858 No 697 respecting the contradictory statements noticed by Government in the correspondence between the Conservator and his Assistant. It also gives cover to a letter from Mr Williams tendering explanation of his [illegible]

The correspondence originated in some misunderstanding between the Conservator and his Assistant Mr Williams complaining of the refusal of Dr Cleghorn to countersign his bills for travelling allowance for December 1857 and January and February 1858 and the latter grounding his objections on the fact of Mr Williams being in Madras during those months and as regards this particular question

the

the Government in the above Extract
Minute Convultation expressed the
opinion that Mr. Williams as an
itinerant Conservator was entitled
to travelling allowance not only on
"when on circuit but also while
awaiting orders, except in a clear
case of remaining for a fixed
time at an established place as
Head quarters which it had never
been determined that Mondraon
should be considered.

Memorandum to be considered
after this decision and Mr Williams
resignation, whether any further
notice needs be taken of the Correa
-spondence between the Conservator
and his Assistant. But another
difficulty is presented by a letter
from Mr Williams soliciting on
that orders may not be passed
on Dr Cleghorn's letter until the

circumstances

36/1039

circumstances which led to his giving
up his situation are explained.

I would submit that
if an award appear to question
of allowances is settled Mr Wil-
liams resignation might be
accepted and the matter at
once put to rest without
casting any reflection on him
a decision of his superiors. For
it is quite evident that he will
have to be an assistant Conser-
-vator to Dr Cleghorn if he does
dispute and suppose that he
should his connection with
it cease - it better - it being
under stood - which I suppose
is the case - that he can
- stand under which he
leaves it dispt. do not in any
way affect his character.

JP

For is merely
My views JP

Mr Williams
seems to be too
active & too critical
I dare say he is not likely to work

wele welle Dr C—
Laue malewse a
veeer the lets tea
euuccs of pulsee
Guideel worse
of great use to G—
Vell

9th July 1815 c 22 L 1st

36

R. D.

37/1039

No. 1039

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation

Under date the 27th July 1858.

Read the following letters.

From the Conservator of Forests.

(Here enter 23rd June 1858 No. 375)

From Mr. G. Williams.

(Here enter 29th June 1858)

From Do. Do.

(Here enter 10th July 1858)

NC
NW

The papers recorded above have come before Government in consequence of the observations in Extract Minutes Consultation dated 28th May 1858, No. 697, on the misunderstanding between the Conservator of Forests and his Assistant Mr. Williams, in respect to the travelling allowance of the latter, and his having been at

at Madras on several occa-
sions, "without and contrary
to orders" as stated by the
Conservator. The first of the
above papers is from Dr Clayburn
in explanation of the contradictory
statements noticed by Govern-
ment and submits at
the same time Mr Williams'
resignation of his appointment
of Assistant Conservator. The
second and third are from
Mr Williams, of which, the
earlier requests suspension
of order until he submits
an explanation of his case,
and the later communication
enters into a detail of the
circumstances connected with
his allowances, and the reasons
by which he was influenced
in tendering his resignation
to Dr Clayburn.

2 The question of

the

35/1039.

* Para 3. E. M. C. 25th May 58 N° 677.

Mr Williams' travelling al-
lowances have been already
decided in his favor, and
his bills for December,
January & February will
be passed accordingly.
As he has since tendered
his resignation of his ap-
pointment, the Governor
in Council deems it un-
necessary to enter upon a
review of the various state-
ments made by him and
Dr Clayburn in their res-
pective letters now before
Government. In accepting
Mr Williams' resignation the
Governor in Council however
thinks it but just to bear
testimony to the zeal and
energy which he has exhi-
bited in the discharge of
his duties and to state
that his retirement from

the

the Forest Department meets no reflection on his character and will prove no bar to his re-employment in the public service, on occasions occurring in any capacity for which he may be qualified.

A Copies
Conservator of Forests Dept 28th
Insc Wm G. Williams Esq
Insc Chief Auditor Do

39/1039

Revenue 1858 Depart.
Cus. 27th July
No 1039.
Extract Mins: of Cons:
Dt 27th July/58

Wm G. Williams Esq 2d Asst
Estt 89 1 mi Rte

The question of Mr Williams travelling allowances having been already decided by Govt and he having now tendered his resignation of his Establishment Salary it remains for Govt to pass upon a Review case of present. Should he have testimony to show good reasons exhibited why Mr Williams charging should be