

Revenue Department

No 423

Integ 30 - 3 - 1859

423. ~~ms~~

Fort Saint George, Revenue Consultation of 1st April 1859.

No. 66. Read the following letter from H. CLEGHORN, Esq., M. D. Conservator of Forests ; to J. D. BOURDILLON, Esq., Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Fort Saint George ; dated Vizagapatam, 7th February 1859, No. 537.

SIR,

In accordance with the instructions conveyed in Extract Minutes of Consultation, No. 1304, Revenue Department, under date 25th September
* *Between Mysore and Malabar.* 1858, I made arrangements for visiting the disputed* tract of teak Forest in December; which I found on enquiry to be probably the best month of the year, both as regards the health of my people, and the facility of inspecting the locality in question.

2d. The previous steps taken in this case have been fully reviewed by the Board of Revenue in their letter to Government dated 1st April 1858.

3d. On the 9th November, I addressed Government soliciting the temporary services of a Surveyor to enable me to furnish a satisfactory sketch of the boundary. Mr. Williams, Sub-Engineer D. P. Works, was directed† to join me, and I found him of great service in taking notes of the bearings, &c., as we proceeded through the dense jungle.

† *E. M. C., No. 1593, R. D. 29th Nov. 1858.*

4th. A trace‡ of the original survey map of Malabar, prepared under the superintendence of Lieutenants P. Connor and B. S. Ward, during the years 1825 to 1829, (2 miles to an inch), extending from 76° 10' to 76° 30' east longitude, and between parallels of 11° 52' and 11° 42' north latitude, which includes the boundary line of the Mysore and Malabar authorities between the Cubbany and Nuggoo rivers, all details being accurately given, was supplied by the Chief Engineer.

‡ *Enclosure A.*

5th. I communicated with the Commissioner of Mysore by Telegraph from Calicut, and he directed Captain Stephens and Kristna Row, the Judicial Sheristadar, to meet me at Goondalpett on 20th December, this was a matter of consequence, as both these officers had accompanied Mr. Tod, and had been instrumental in fixing the boundary which is now disputed; their evidence was therefore valuable. Captain Stephens brought with him a copy of a sheet of Colonel Mackenzie's Survey Map§ prepared about 1809, upon which the Mysore Authorities in great measure rest their claim.

§ *Enclosure B.*

6th. Before leaving Calicut, I ascertained from Mr. Grant, the Acting Collector of Malabar, in a personal interview, that he could not spare his Head Assistant Mr. Thomas to accompany me, but he enjoined the Police Ameen of Sultan's Battery (Shamoo Butten) to be in attendance, this man had also been with Mr. Tod and Captain Stephens on the former occasion. I found the Ameen to be a man of great intelligence, and better acquainted with the Wynaad tenures than any other native that I met with. The Gunnapuddywattum Adegherry was also with us.

7th. From Goondalpett I travelled to Berambady, the nearest village to the disputed tract, here were nine decoy elephants, belonging to His Highness the Rajah of Mysore, two of which I ventured to detain, considering His Highness' interest in the service upon which I was engaged. This proved to be a fortunate circumstance, as the grass at this time was 6 feet high, and I could not otherwise have seen the country.

8th. Fifteen miles west from Berambady I came to the old fort ditch of Hooscottah, this is surrounded by a bamboo fence, there are no remaining buildings. On the opposite bank of the Noogoo River, is the 1st stone, and as described by Mr. Tod, it is about 100 yards from the river on the left bank. There was abundant evidence that this was the very stone visited by Mr. Tod and Captain Stephens. In addition to the testimony of the latter officer, the following witnesses had been present on the occasion of their visit.

- Mysore officials. {
1. Judicial Sheristadar, Kristna Row.
2. Heggadevinctottah Killadar, Lingen Naick.

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- Malabar officials. { 3. Police Ameen Sultan's Battery, Shamoo Batten.
4. The Gunnapudeewattam Adegherry.

Upon the old stone is a figure of Vishnu, holding an Umbrella, and below are a few nearly illegible words in the Canarese characters, "Rowdree" (1801), "Vishaka" (May), "Shooda" (Moon's increase) "Kristna Rajah Voodayavaroo," with titles usually given to his Highness the Rajah of Mysore. I was desirous of copying the inscription, either by the hand or with wax, but the characters are so defaced that this was found to be impossible, this stone does not resemble boundary stones generally, and I doubt its being really a land mark. I believe that the Noogoo river at this point is the true boundary.

9th. Along side of this old stone is a solid slab 4 feet high above ground, and 2 feet broad, with these words inscribed in large deep letters, "boundary stone between Mysore and Malabar" and Canarese translation. This was erected two years ago, in accordance with the result of Messrs. Tod and Stephens' report of 1855. The stone was placed erect, but has been pushed into a slanting position by wild Elephants.

10th. In the evening I rode in 1½ hour via Rampoor, [the distance quite 4 miles through thick jungle,] to the Iyanoor Maury Pagoda, which as Mr. Robiusion states is a shed with some rude lotus carving on the wooden pillars, not always inhabited, but periodically visited as a place of worship. The officiating priest requested me in Canarese not to enter the edifice, he told me that the great majority of worshippers were Mysoreans, and the much trodden road to Heggadevinctah corroborated his statement; he also said that many of them were Lingayets. The Heggadevinctah Talook authorities assured me that the jewels belonging to the temple were in their keeping. See also Captain Stephens' letter 31st July 1854, para. 11.

11th. It will be observed that the position of the temple is in Mysore in Colonel Mackenzie's map, and on the boundary of Malabar in Ward's and Connor's Survey. From the three circumstances, the language spoken, the caste of the worshippers, and the jewels being in custody of Mysore officials, as declared by Captain Stephens and the Mysore authorities, with no counterbalancing evidence on the other side, I consider that the temple belongs to and is just within Mysore.

12th. This Pagoda being the starting point of Mr. Tod and Captain Stephens in June 1855, I resolved to take the same route, and proceeded along their proposed boundary from the 1st to 5th stone, accompanied by the aforementioned witnesses and to ascertain whether the stones had been placed in the situation agreed upon by these gentlemen, and I had distinct evidence that in every instance, the stones were placed as directed by them. This absolves the Mysore officials from any suspicion of irregularity, or unfair dealing.

13th. The second stone is placed at *Soolay Cuttay* (i. e. dancing girl's tank) there being a tradition that a large tank was made here from funds supplied by one of the females of the Rajah's Palace, the broken bund upon which tradition reports her to have watched the progress of the work is pointed out, and the Mysore Sheristadar assured me that the tank is included in the Maramut [Public Works] records of the Heggadevinctah talook for very many years past.

14th. The tradition may be correct, but the bund must have been long antecedent to the present settlement, as large trees [one a mature teak] ornamented the gravelly bed of the tank; the story therefore refers to a distant period.

15th. On a tree adjoining this stone are the words "Mysore and Malabar," the letters deeply cut by Mr. Tod himself, as mentioned in his letter to Mr. Conolly dated 10th July 1855.

16th. The 3d stone is distant 5 miles in a west north west direction at *Devatecabettah*. Many fine old teak trees were seen in travelling along the path, Blackwood and (*Terminalia tomentosa*,) Mutti, also in abundance; the 4th stone is at *Madapilly* 3 miles in a W. N. W. direction.

17th. *Shega Betta*, the rocky summit of this remarkable woody ridge is covered with white lichens, the largest and most conspicuous tree is a *sterculia* in the stringy bark of which was deeply cut* with an axe under my direction the date as per margin.

* December 1858.

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18th. The distance between the 4th and 5th stones is about 5 miles as the crow flies, but the ascent and descent of the Shegabetta ridge made the distance traversed very much greater.

19th. The 5th stone is contiguous to an enormous tree (*wild mango*) well known from its great size, and the quantity of honey produced in it. This land mark is close to the Nullah indicated in the Trigonometrical Survey. This Nullah is known as *Erooma-todoo* or *Mavina Holloy*, i. e. mango tree Nullah, further on, this Nullah is known as the Goomchee Nullah, and divides the tract of Mysore forest usually called Muggy [granted to the Commissariat Department] from Malabar.

20th. This fifth stone has never been disputed by either party, and is clearly in its proper place. The Commissariat Department of Hoonsoor were then felling teak trees close to it.

21st. Having gone along one boundary, I thought it desirable to inspect the other also, particularly as there is a discrepancy between the Maps. I spent one day in travelling from the Iyanoor Maury Pagoda towards Shegabetta in a nearly straight line, taking the bearings so as to follow the general boundary of Malabar as given in the Trigonometrical Map.

This is accurately defined in the main points, and from the top of a tree near the Iyanoor Maury Pagoda, the Shegabetta ridge is visible, but as the intermediate boundary line between these places crosses several woody ridges and three hill torrents, it must always be considered an awkward and unnatural boundary.

22. From the above details, it will be seen that the stones shewn in the enclosed Map C prepared by Mr. Williams, are in the very places fixed by Mr. Tod and Captain Stephens in 1855. A comparison of the Maps makes it equally clear that this is not the formerly understood boundary for the following reasons.

1. The Map marked B is taken from the Survey of Mysore, which Colonel Mackenzie de about 1809, and is the one recognized by the Mysore Authorities. The Map A is an extract from the Trigonometrical Survey Sheet of 1825, or Ward and Connor's Survey.

2. These two Maps differ only about one mile at the Rampoor end, and both run from thence in a line evidently intended to be direct to the Shegabetta ridge, as already stated, a conspicuous point. Both therefore show that according to the boundary as then understood, the greater part of the disputed tract is within Malabar.

Summary.

* "a. a. a."

† "b. b. b."

‡ "c. c. c."

23. A reference to the annexed Diagram, will show roughly the relative position of the boundaries. Colonel Mackenzie's Survey assigns to Mysore so much of the disputed tract as would be included in a line* from Shegabetta to the Rampoor Ford, this would run for some distance, nearly parallel to the boundary† defined in the Trigonometrical survey, but about 1 mile south of it. The boundary Stones as planted by Captain Stephens and Mr. Tod, include a triangle having for its base a line‡ about 3 miles due south of Rampoor, the apex being the 5th stone, the position of which is not disputed.

24. The grounds on which the Mysore Government base their claim; are,

1st. Tradition.

2d. Colonel Mackenzie's Survey.

3d. Settlement by Captain Stephens and Mr. Tod.

4th. Correspondence of the boundary then agreed upon with the natural features of the country.

It has been already shewn that the stones are in the spots fixed by Mr. Tod and Captain Stephens, on this point there can be no doubt, but I do not understand that their decision was recognized by Government.

25. In regard to the evidence afforded by the Maps, I have already demonstrated that Colonel Mackenzie's Survey would give a boundary line considerably to the northward of that marked by the stones.

26. The jewels of the pagoda being in the charge of the Mysore Authorities, as declared by Captain Stephens and the Native officials, would show the pagoda claimed by Malabar to be in fact in Mysore.

27. The absence of all cultivation or even inhabitants, and of revenue in any shape precluded my obtaining any information from such sources.

28. There are two neglected tanks, one close to the second boundary stone of Messrs. Stephens and Tod which tradition affirms to have been constructed by a female of the reigning family of Mysore, but from the time this tank has been in ruins as shown by mature teak trees growing in the breach, it is evident that the tradition refers to a distant period, nor would the construction of such a work near a track in the midst of forest, at the time of no value to any one, afford evidence of weight.

29. I must here add that from several places having different names to designate them by the Mysore and Malabar inhabitants respectively, it may be inferred that the boundary line has varied from time to time, as one or other nation encroached. I could not ascertain that any other well authenticated tradition bearing on the subject existed.

30. It appears to me that the Surveyors for Colonel Mackenzie, as well as those for the Trigonometrical Map, took up only two positions, each sketching in the intermediate space [dense forest] indeed in Colonel Mackenzie's Map (which is exceedingly accurate as to names of places,)—the direction of the river for 3 miles is incorrectly laid down. Colonel Mackenzie's Surveyors took the Sheggabetta and the Rampoor Ford as their boundary points, while Messrs. Ward and Connor took the Pagoda and Shegabetta.

31. I have already adverted (para. 21.) to the rugged and awkward boundary, if the line be made straight from the river to Shegabetta in accordance with either of the Official surveys, and I may remark that ridges in this country seem to be the natural boundary. In inhabited parts, the villagers on either side graze their cattle on the slopes, and the boundary line not often defined runs along the neutral ridge.

32. In the present instance, such a ridge exists not far from the line claimed by the Mysore Authorities, but this would throw several square miles not included in Colonel Mackenzie's Survey into Mysore.

33. It is impossible to determine clearly a boundary which in all probability has varied with each generation, but I would suggest as the result of my personal inspection of the locality, that the most convenient boundary would be to follow the water shed, or in other words to keep to the Cart track from Rampoor Ford, a well known spot; this runs along a ridge and affords a well defined line convenient as a boundary nearly as far as Messrs. Stephen's and Tod's third stone, whence the line might follow that laid down by these officers to the Mavina Holloy (5th stone.)

34. The Cart track from the Ford cannot possibly be mistaken as there is no other running west, and if followed all that is necessary will be to move the 1st stone to the Rampoor Ford, and the 2nd where the road cuts Messrs. Tod and Captain Stephens' line, and to place a few intermediate marks along the Eastern side of the road.

35. From enquiry on the spot it is evident that excesses in seizing carts, &c., have been committed upon both sides, and it appears highly desirable that the decision of Government should be final, and that the land marks be fixed in such a manner as to prevent further contention.

36. It is worthy of remark that there is no revenue derived by Malabar from this tract; the logs cannot be taken across the ridges into that District, though they can be floated down the Cubbany into Mysore, there is not a single ryot within the tract, the nearest cultivation being about 5 miles on either side, and 23 Cooroombers employed in felling wood for the Bangalore Barracks are the only persons who frequent it.

37. As the timber is of a very superior description, and not required for local purposes, I would strongly urge that this should be considered a reserved Forest for Government purposes. It might be joined to the tract of Mysore now worked by the officer of the Commissariat Department at Hoozoor, and put under a regular system of conservancy.

38. It would be well to assign the tract of Forest extending from Bawally to Goondelpett to the charge of an intelligent officer, who should reside partly at Sultan's Battery, partly at Goondelpett, and might draw a moiety of salary from both treasuries.

39. It may appear that this suggestion is somewhat foreign to the question, but some arrangement of this kind would be attended with great advantage to both Governments.

40. It will be remembered that all the wood required for constructing the Bangalore Barracks, and Riding School, as well as that used in making up Hospital furniture and Ordnance carts at Hoonsoor was brought from this range.

41. Moreover, this belt of jungle swarms at certain seasons with wandering tribes, Lumbadies, Koorchers, &c. Sandalwood is surreptitiously taken into Malabar in very large quantity, and teak into Mysore. The Devasthanums near the Malabar frontier have lately disposed of 8,600 logs of teak a few years ago, the total annual sale was 2,000 beams. There is no stamp or check used, and supervision is much required.

42. I believe that many of the tenures along this frontier have become complicated from the great distance of the authorities, and the want of personal inquiry at the outset. On this account, I suggested the location of a Magistrate in Wynaad.

43. The soil of the forest is generally very good, much of it is black vegetable mould. In places where the water has lodged and then dried up, the print of the wild Elephant's feet is very distinct, and the soil assumes the appearance of indurated tar.

44. The forest as in the Annamallay hills, is remarkably free from scrub and creepers, but the whole ground was covered at the time of my visit with long grass, so that when riding on horseback little could be seen. This, as Buchanan wrote concerning these jungles, (Journal Vol. II.) "makes walking rather disagreeable and dangerous, as one is always liable to stumble over rotten trunks, to rouse a Tiger or to tread upon a Snake." During the ten days I passed in these forests, I saw Bears, Bisons, and on three occasions came upon wild Elephants, which are very numerous and quite undisturbed. The Cooroombers stated that there are now several herds which scarcely ever leave this forest, and they think that there would be no great difficulty in constructing an effective Elephant kraal. It is highly probable that they spoke the truth, as I saw two Elephants recently caught in pits, and no long period elapses without their being taken by the Teroopáád of Nellumboor or others in the same way: they are usually bought up at once by Moplahs and taken to the coast.

45. These useful animals are so valuable to almost every Department, and are now so costly, that I think it is worth the consideration of Government whether a hunt should not be organized. I believe that Major Clerk, Superintendent of Astagram, would readily make the arrangements. A grant of 2,000 Rupees would probably pay all expenses, and be amply covered by the proceeds of the hunt. A few of the young ones would be extremely valuable for the working of this and other Forests. I have not this year been able to purchase at moderate prices with the balance of the Annamallay elephant fund.

46. During the few days I spent in these Forests, I obtained useful information regarding the growth of sandalwood and other trees, which does not immediately come in connection with the subject of this letter, but will with propriety be introduced into my annual report.

47. I beg to annex a contingent bill for 43 Rupees, being expenses incurred in connection with this interesting excursion.

No. 67. ORDER THEREON, No. 423; dated 30th March 1859.

Resolved that the above letter be forwarded to the Commissioner of Mysore, with a request that he will state whether he is satisfied with the line proposed by Dr. Cleghorn as the boundary between Malabar and Mysore, and will consent to adopt it.

2. The other matters referred to in Dr. Cleghorn's report will be considered and disposed of when the boundary question is settled. In the meantime sanction is granted for the disbursement of Rupees (43) forty-three, being the amount of the expenses incurred in connection with this enquiry.

(Signed) J. D. BOURDILLON,
Secretary to Government.

Fort Saint George, Revenue Consultation of 1st April 1859.

Ordered in consequence that the following letter be despatched.

No. 68. From J. D. BOURDILLON, Esq., Secretary to the Government of Fort Saint George; to the Commissioner for the Government of the Territories of His Highness the Rajah of Mysore, dated 30th March 1859, No. 424.

SIR,

With reference to the correspondence noted in the margin, I am directed by the Honorable the Governor in Council to forward the accompanying report from Dr. Cleghorn, and to request that you will be so good as to inform this Government whether you are satisfied with the line proposed by that officer as the boundary between Malabar and Mysore, and will consent to adopt it.

2 Copies
Dated 31st
with 3
only map.

N^o 424.

R.D.

To
The Commissioner for the
Government of the Territories
of His Highness the Rajah of
Mysore

Sir,

From Comr. Mysore 26th Aug^r 1858 N^o 24
To Do. do. 25th Sept. " 1305

H
C
M
J

will

With reference to the
correspondence noted in the
margin, I am directed by the
Right Honorable the Governor
in Council to forward the
accompanying report from
Dr. Cleghorn, and to request
that you will be so good as to
inform this Government whether
you are satisfied with the
line proposed by that Officer
as the boundary between
Malabar and Mysore, and
will consent to adopt it.

As

Fort St George
30th March 1859

Shore the
G. L.

Her Majesty's Government of India - D^r

To the Transit hire of Mr Williams Sub Engineer D. P. W. from Cota:					
= Carriage to Goundelpatta —	20	"	"		
To Twenty three Coolies for clearing = ing paths thro' the jungle at 1 Rupee per each	23	"	"		
Total Compaunt Rupees 43 " "					

Visagapatam
7th February 1859

H. C. S. S.
Conservator of Forests

Res. Com: 28 Feb 1858-38
@ 333

Copy in a letter to D.
d 19th April 1857

5/2/1857

11/11/1857

20/5/1857

8/3/1857

16/2/1857

18/4/1857

Revenue 1859 Sept 10th
D. Com: 14 April

21.4.24.

To the Commissioner
of the
District of
Madras.

From Commissioner of Mysore 27.4.1857
1859. 6th 18598 in bond 29 April 1857

Regarding D. P. Williams
report on the boundary dis-
pute between Chyind and
Malabar and requesting
to state whether he is
satisfied with the boundary
line proposed by that Officer
and will consent to its
adoption.

1858.

Immediate

N^o 423

R.D.

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation
Under date the 3^d March, 1859.

Read the following
letter from the Conservator of
Forests.

/Here enter 7th February 1859 N^o 537/

Resolved that the
above letter be forwarded to
the Commissioner of Mysore,
with a request that he will
state whether he is satisfied
with the line proposed by Dr
Cleghorn as the boundary
between Malabar and Mysore
and will consent to adopt
it.

2- The other matters
referred to in Dr Cleghorn's
report will be considered
and disposed of when the
boundary

St
J. G.

W

Will

boundary question is settled.
In the mean time sanction
is granted for the disbursement
of Papers (43) forty three, being
the ^{amount of the} expenses incurred in
connection with this enquiry

AA

Alfred to the Conservator
of Forests Disb. 21/11/11
In Accts. General
In Civil Auditors
In Comr. of Mysore
with 3 High Plans.

Rev. Cons. 30th Nov/58. 32-33
do 4th May - 55054
do 28th Sept - 31033

Copy in a letter to C
d/ 9th April/61. 8451.

14/11/58

3/3/59

18/11/58

8-5-74

From the Off^r Conservator of Forests
4 March/62 C. No 670 in

XI Map marked A was sent to
Inspector of Forests vide letter
no 888 of 8 Feb 1878 RDC No
449 of 1878

X Maps marked B & C were
sent to the Board of Revenue
vide C No 216(7)

No 66 & 67.

Copy to the Secy of Rev.
28 April 59.
No 577-

C18 March 1875th

Revenue 1859 Sept 10.
Dⁿ to Cons. 1st April.

No 423.

Contract Mins of Cons.

D/ 30th March/59.

Further Cons. 1st April 1859-1233
1245

29.

Forwarding to the Cons.
Commissioner of Mysore D. Cleghorn's
report on the boundary dispute be-
tween Mysore and Malabar, re-
questing him to state whether he
is satisfied with the boundary
line proposed by the said Gentle-
man and will consent to adopt
it, stating that the other matters
referred to in the report will be
disposed of when the boundary
question is settled, and sanc-
tioning the disbursement of
Rupees 40 charges incurred
in connection with the enquiry

From the Conservator of Forests d/ 4th
Sept 70 C. No 1884 in Pro. 18th Sept 70
No 1641.