

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	<i>472</i>	Press Mis.
Dated	<i>5-4-1859</i>	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Fort Saint George, Revenue Consultation of 5th April 1859.

Read the following letters.

No. 26. From H. CLEGHORN, Esq., M. D., Conservator of Forests; to the Secretary to Government in the Revenue and Public Works Department, Fort Saint George; dated Madras, January 1859, No. 514.

SIR,

I have the honor to forward copy of a letter from the Acting Collector of Malabar stating that the pay of the coolies working in the teak plantation at Nellumboor (Rupees 3-12-0) is insufficient owing to the high prices of the ordinary necessities of life, and recommending that it should be increased to Rupees 4-0-0 per mensem.

2. I would submit that this is one of those cases in which it is inexpedient to fix definitely the rate of wages. These men are skilled laborers, and when at Nellumboor in the middle of last month I found that seven (7) out of thirty had left on account of the low rate of pay, and that others were preparing to follow. As this would have led to very serious inconvenience I considered it necessary at once to give each an additional quarter Rupee to induce them to stay. I hope Government may approve of my having done so, and may sanction the increase of four annas per mensem for each workman, or leave me at liberty to give such wages as circumstances may at any time render necessary. The amount now expended is considerably less than what is sanctioned, and should Government be pleased to permit me to adopt either course care will be taken that the original sanction shall under no circumstances be exceeded.

From P. GRANT, Esq., Acting Collector of Malabar; to H. CLEGHORN, Esq., M. D., Conservator of Forests, Nellumboor; dated Calicut, 2d December 1858, No. 3403.

SIR,

Dated 29th Nov. 1858, No. 97.

* $3\frac{3}{4}$ Rupees.

I have the honor to enclose an Urzee from Chatoor Me-non, native Conservator at Nellumboor, reporting that the prices of the ordinary necessities of life have risen so much, that the present rates of pay* of the Government coolies working in the Forest are insufficient.

They have been urging their case for some time past but the pressure on them is so great just now, that he has deemed it his duty to bring it to notice officially.

I quite agree with him that $3\frac{3}{4}$ Rupees are insufficient to sustain each man per month, and beg to support his suggestion that each cooly be paid 4 Rupees in future.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) J. T. MACLAGAN,

Assistant Conservator of Forests.

No. 27. From H. CLEGHORN, Esq., M. D. Conservator of Forests; to J. D. BOUR-DILLON, Esq., Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Fort Saint George; dated Madras, 23d March 1859, No. 551.

SIR,

1. I have the honor to submit the following explanation with reference to your official Memorandum dated 25th "January as to "the amount of actual charges incurred in the Teak Plantations at Nellumboor," "the saving from the sanctioned amount," and the authority upon which the laborers are paid at the rate of Rupees 3-12-0 instead of Rupees 3-8-0 as originally sanctioned.

2. The records of this forest being in Malayalam and kept in the Collector's office, Calicut, I was obliged to address Mr. Grant upon the subject, copies of his letter† and statement are enclosed.

3. It appears that the additional 4 annas monthly was authorized in 1856 by Mr. Thomas Clarke then Collector in consequence of scarcity of provision. Mr. W. Robinson and Mr. Grant both urged the necessity of a further increase of 4 annas during my periodical visits in 1857 and 1858, for the reasons stated in my letter to you No. 514 of 18th January, and because these skill-

Fort Saint George, Revenue Consultation of 5th April 1859.

ed laborers could obtain 4 Rupees from Coffee Planters in Wynaad or from Engineers in the Railway Department.

4. I may observe that from this cause there are at present 7 laborers short of the sanctioned number which circumstance (as the plantations are much increased) will account for the insufficient thinning noticed* by the Right Honorable the Governor in his late tour. I may add that the whole party would have left, if I had not paid them 4 annas each at the time of my last visit, so as to put these (to me extremely valuable men) on a footing with other laborers in the district.

*Extract Minutes of Consultation dated 11th March 1859, No. 308, Rev. Dept. para. 27.

From P. GRANT, Esq., Acting Collector of Malabar; to H. CLEGHORN, Esq., M. D., Conservator of Forests, Madras; dated Calicut, 17th February 1859, No. 392.

SIR,

In reply to your letter of the 29th Ultimo, I have the honor to state that the amount of actual charges incurred in working the teak plantations at Nellumboor, varies considerably, but they may be said to average Rupees 217 per mensem.

No. 26. The amount sanctioned by Government for the conservancy of teak plantations under date 1st February 1845, is Rupees 314-8-0 per mensem, or Rupees 3,774 per annum. The net disbursement for last year from January to December 1858 amounted to Rupees 2,611-2-11 and the sum refunded during that period as per enclosed list was Rupees 1,162-13-1.

There is nothing on the records of my office to shew that the present rate of wages Rupees 3-12-0 per mensem of the labourers employed in the Plantations adverted to, was sanctioned by Government. It appears, however, that the increase of 4 annas above the rate sanctioned by Government, viz. Rupees 3-8-0 was authorized by Mr. Clarke from the 1st March 1856 in consequence of the scarcity of provisions which is more felt now than at any former period.

Statement of monthly refunds from the amount, viz. Rupees 314-8-0 sanctioned by Government for the Conservancy of Teak Plantations under date the 1st February 1845.

In	Rs.	As.	P.
January 1858	89	12	0
February	102	9	10
March	102	0	1
April	94	12	0
May	94	12	0
June	101	4	3
July	96	14	3
August	97	12	4
Sept.	95	10	0
Oct.	94	12	0
Nov.	94	12	0
Dec.	97	14	4
	1,162	13	1

CALICUT,
17th Feby. 1859.

(Signed) P. GRANT,
Acting Collector.

(True Copies.)

(Signed) J. T. MACLAGAN,
Assistant Conservator of Forests.

No. 28.

ORDER THEREON, No. 472; dated 5th April 1859.

Under the explanation now furnished, the Governor in Council authorizes the Conservator of Forests to arrange the wages of the labourers employed in the Nellumboor teak plantations at such rates as he may from time to time find suitable, provided that the amount of the total sanction is not exceeded in any month.

2. This order will take effect from the date of the increase given by Dr. Cleghorn in December last.

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

R. S.

N^o 472

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation
Under date the 5th April 1859.

Read the following letter
from the Conservator of
Forests.

^{19th Jan'y. 8}
(Here enter 23rd March 59 ¹⁸⁵⁸ 4th 5th 1859)

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Clyburn in December last.

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Copies to the Conservator of Forests

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Revenue 1859 Dec 1st
Cms: 5th April

1854/72.

Contract of the
25th April 1859.

From Consistory of Jorok
18/19 Jan/59 Cms 70 in
com 18 March/59 No 32-4
p. 27
Mairie No 1-704
1848-3-4

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