M.R.O. 14—10,000—21-4-22

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 925	Press / Mis.
Dated 15th July	1859

Not to be folded or roughly handled

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

12th July 1859, No. 925.

No. 28. Read again the following Extract from the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 2nd October 1858, and recorded in Proceedings, dated 22nd June 1859, No. 822.

In this paper the Board treat of three distinct subjects, all however relating to the Wynaad Taluk in Malabar. Those subjects are, first, the coffee estates in Wynaad; second, the rights of Government in the forests of that country; and, third, the claims of Government on the estate of Numbalacottah, also situated in Wynaad. These three subjects form the material of three distinct reports from the late Acting Collector which accompany the Board's Proceedings; and, as the mixing up of distinct subjects in one paper is inconvenient, the Government will deal with each of the three questions above stated in a separate Proceedings. The present paper will take up the second of the three subjects specified, viz., the rights of Government in the forests of Wynaad.

2. In his letter, dated 4th June 1858, to the Board of Revenue, Mr. W. Robinson, then Acting Collector of Malabar, reported on the subject in detail, in compliance with the requisitions of Government contained in Extract Minutes Consultation, 3rd January 1856, No. 2, and 11th August 1857, No. 805. The inquiries on which his report was based having been made on the spot, and evidently with much care, and he having moreover brought to the investigation a very extensive general knowledge of the tenures, usages, and existing circumstances of Wynaad, acquired during many years of official residence in Malabar, it may be assumed to contain all the information that is likely to be obtained on the subject at present. The Government have lately* ordered a survey of the taluk as being necessary for the final settlement of various questions affecting property in it, but it does not seem necessary to defer on that account to pass an order on the subject of the forests.

*22nd June 1859, No. 822.

3. Wynaad Taluk contains 1,160 square miles and is divided into fifteen "Amshoms." The central parts of the taluk are generally open; the forests are in the western, southern, and eastern parts. They lie along the ridge of the Western Ghâts and the southern edge of the Wynaad table; and to the eastward, where the country is comparatively level, there is a broad belt of forest on each side of the Mysore boundary. On the west, and apparently on the south, the watershed is the boundary of Wynaad; and the western and southern slopes, also covered with forest, belong to lower Malabar. The only forests, however, in Wynaad which produce Teak are those on the east; the others produce Blackwood and various useful kinds of wood, but no Teak. The western forests however yield Cardamoms of the finest quality which grow wild.

Paragraph 5.

Paragraph 7.

4. The whole of the surface of the country in Wynaad is private property, including in that term the "Sooroopum" or royal domains, belonging apparently to certain Rajahs as such, and held by them distinct from their family estates. The whole country is parcelled out into greater or lesser properties, belonging either to individuals or to temples, and including forests as well as open and cultivated tracts. Hence Government has no proprietary interest in, or rights over, either the forests or other lands, except that derived from confiscation or escheat.

Paragraphs 8 and 9.

The main source of rights thus derived is the rebellion of the Pychee Rajah. This Chief was a junior member of the Cotiote family, the head of which, though his own domains lay in lower Malabar, was lord paramount of Wynaad. When the taluk was ceded to the British by Tipoo Sultan in 1799, the Pychee Raja resisted the establishment of their authority; and he was not put down till 1806, when he was killed.

Cotiote.

5. After the suppression of this rebellion the estates of all those concerned in it were declared forfeit. But there was no survey and no land register; the country was unhealthy and still unsettled; and in point of fact a very small extent of land was really escheated, and that only in the open country, the great bulk of the forfeited properties being usurped by the occupants (often mortgagees) or others. It was intended by the Collector, Mr. Baber, to institute a survey, and in that process carry out the sentence of forfeiture more completely; but he left the district, and the survey never took place.

Paragraph 12.

From Acting Collector, August 22nd, 1857, paragraphs 23 and 27.

6. The known invalidity of the titles of many properties which were properly forfeit, caused disputes between the holders and their tenants, and the former appealed to the Collector Mr. Vaughan; and in 1824 that gentleman issued a proclamation containing a list of escheats, and declaring them to be the only escheats in Wynaad. The list was small and contained few or no forests or hills.

Paragraph 14.

7. After a preliminary sketch of the history of this question, of which the foregoing is a summary, Mr. Robinson proceeds to remark on the state of the forest Jenm in each of the Amshoms of Wynaad. The following is an epitome of those remarks:—

Paragraph 18.

I. Periah Amshom—Concern in the rebellion was not established against any of the proprietors.

II. Tandoornaad Amshom—Contains two Dasums, Koorote and Koonjote. The Jenmi of Koorote was loyal throughout the rebellion: Koonjote belonged in Jenmi right almost wholly to the Pychee Rajah, and all that part was declared forfeited. Much rice land was accordingly confiscated, but the extensive Cardamom forests were not, being in the hands of Mopla mortgagees or others. The forests were entered in the list of escheats, but the occupants alleged mortgage, &c., and the forfeiture was not pressed. Mr. Robinson thinks that a case for ouster could not be made out. The mortgage claims of the holders could not be disproved, whether true or false. These forests have no Teak.

Koorote.

Koonjote.

Paragraph 22.

III. Porananoor Amshom—No escheats.

IV. Koromballa Amshom—There were extensive escheats of rice land, but none of forest, as that all belonged to loyal Nairs of lower Malabar.

V. Eddanadasoor Amshom—Do. do.

VI. Moopanaad Amshom—Largely implicated in the rebellion, and extensive forfeitures in the open country; but the hills and forest very little known, so far from Manantoddy and in the then wild state of the country.

VII. Cherangode Amshom—Largely concerned in the rebellion. The Pychee Rajah a large proprietor, if not the sole one; but only one small hill was escheated; the remainder, numerous and extensive, are in the possession of families said to have been only dependents and tenants of the Pychee Rajah.

VIII. Numbalagode Amshom—The proprietor of this fine estate was loyal throughout the rebellion.

IX. Moonanaad Amshom—Held in great part by the Pychee Rajah, therefore an escheat, contains extensive and fine forests from Nellacottah to the Mysore boundary.

X. Gunnapattyvuttum Amshom—Fine forests, which were always held to belong to the Rajah, and so have passed to the British Government.

Paragraph 32.

XI. Pootaddy Amshom—A great deal of forest; it has always been held by the Pootaddy Nambiars and has never been challenged as escheatable.

XII. Koopatode Amshom—Very little forest in the body of the Amshom; the proprietors were largely implicated in the rebellion. Some confiscations were made, but a survey would no doubt discover much more land liable to confiscation.

But there is an outlying Dasum stretching up to the Mysore boundary which is believed to have belonged almost wholly to the Pychee Rajah; he had a residence here, in which he was finally attacked and killed in 1806; much land was escheated here, but no forest. The forest is now claimed in great part by the Poolpully temple.

Poolpully Dasum.

Paragraph 35.

XIII. Elloornaad do.—Much forest in the east parts; it is claimed by two temples, viz., those of Teroonhelly and Trickellery.

Paragraph 36, &c.

Many persons were concerned in the rebellion; and much cultivated land was escheated, but no hills. The titles of many of the present holders of land are probably doubtful.

XIV. Nulloonaad do.—Extensive escheats, but the Amshom contains no forest.

XV. Eddawagah—The Pychee Rajah had much property in this Amshom, but the forest and hills to the north did not belong to him.

8. From what has been stated in the preceding paragraph, it appears that in five Amshoms, viz., Numbalacode, Moonanaad, Gunnaputtyvuttum, Elloornaad, and one Dasum of Koopatode, there is much Teak forest, which either certainly or probably belongs to Government by forfeiture; that in the same way there are Cardamom forests in Koonjote, Moopanaad, and Cherangode, which are probably forfeit; and that in many Amshoms there is much cultivated land besides what was actually forfeited, which would be found on inquiry to be equally liable to confiscation.

9. The state of the case may be briefly described as follows: certain lands were confiscated for rebellion, but much more land and a large extent of forest was justly liable to confiscation, and would have been confiscated if the authorities had been fully informed. Subsequently a Collector of the district, Mr. Vaughan, issued a proclamation, though without authority from Government, specifying that certain lands, a very limited part of those justly forfeit as above said, were alone liable to escheat. The properties, especially those not included in Mr. Vaughan's proclamation, have now been held for above half a century without interference; they have passed by inheritance and have been transferred by sale or mortgage.

10. So long a period having elapsed since the cause of forfeiture arose, without any attempt to enforce the forfeiture except in a few cases, the Government are not of opinion that measures to that end could properly be taken now in any case where there has been actual enjoyment from that time forward. They resolve accordingly that in the case of the Central, Southern, and Western Amshoms, where there appears to have been such continued enjoyment, existing private janmam right shall be admitted as respects both open country and forest. But the case is different in the Eastern Amshoms named in the margin, where it appears no private rights in the forests have been exercised, or only in quite modern times. As respect the first-mentioned two, viz., Moonanaad and Gunnaputtyvuttum, it does not appear that any claims are set up; and the forests having been certainly a rightful escheat, the Governor in Council

1. Moonanaad.
2. Gunnaputtyvuttum.
3. Elloornaad.
4. Poolpully Dasum of Koopatode.

resolves to place them at once under the Conservator. As respects the other two, viz., the Elloornaad Amshom and Poolpully Dasum, the forests are believed to have belonged to the Pychee Rajah, though they are claimed by three temples. There seems good reason to regard these claims as quite modern; but the Governor in Council will give the claimants full opportunity to bring forward their proofs. The Collector will call on them to do this, fixing a day for the production of the evidence, and he will then report on the subject for the information of Government.

11. Dr. Cleghorn will act on the order conveyed in the preceding paragraph respecting Moonanaad and Gunnaputtyvuttum as soon as the season shall permit, and will send in for sanction an estimate of the additional establishment necessary in consequence.

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

(Copy)

40

Malabar Print Collr. Office
Calicut 12th June 1840.

No 17.

To
The Chief Secretary
to Government
Fort St. George.

Sir,

1 I have the honor to acknow=
=ledge the receipt of your letter of the
1st instant with its enclosure from the
Secretary to the Government of India,
calling for information on the State of
the public forests of Malabar with the
view of ensuring a sufficient supply
of Teak for the public wants.

2 The Government are well a=
=ware that the whole country of Malabar,
whether forest or plain, is private property,

and

and that there is no Sircar land, as in other Districts, with the exception of such as has escheated from failure of heirs- They will not therefore be surprised to hear that out of all the numerous forests in Malabar, there are but three, that are public property. They belonged formerly to one Chenat Nair and fell into Government on his death without heirs in 1802/3 a full account of their capabilities was given by Captain Williams, the Government agent for Timber, after a visit, which he paid them in May 1829. and I cannot do better than forward an Extract from his report- These Forests have as yet been very partially worked, the Government having generally preferred to purchase their Timber from private Merchants. The supply available from them however it will be perceived, is very limited the number of Trees fit for felling not being computed by Captain Williams to exceed 600.-

Enclosure Marked B.

3- The question of the facilities for procuring Timber from Malabar in sufficient quantities, and of sufficient size and quality, to supply the wants of the public Service has for some time past attracted the attention of both the Bombay and Madras Governments as will be seen by the Correspondence noted in the Margin- On the 16th April 1829 Mr Farish then acting Governor of Bombay, transmitted a Minute to the Madras Government in which he shewed the necessity

Minutes of Consultation dated 22d February 1834.
To Board of Revenue 3d April —
Minutes of Consultation dated 5th September 1837.
To Board of Revenue 9th May 1838.
Minutes of Consultation Dated 19th February 1839.
Pro: of Board of Rev: — 25th March —
To Board of Rev: — 22d April —
Min: of Cons: — 3d May —
From Board of Rev: — 3d June —
To Ditto — 12th Sept: —

necessity of taking some active measures to prevent the anticipated failure of a supply of Teak from this District. The acting Collector Mr Underwood, was called on to state his sentiments on the subject, and the result was a very long report dated 12th September last in which the whole history of the Malabar Forests was entered into from the period the Country was ceded to the Company, and various suggestions offered for preserving and renovating them. This report is still before the Government, and it would be a waste of their time were I again to go over the same ground.

4. The crying evil, that requires immediate redress, is the way in which the private Forests are too commonly dilapidated by a

selfish and short sighted policy. The Proprietors do not, generally speaking, work their own Forests, but enter into contracts with a set of Speculators, who pay them the sum of one Rupee for every Tree felled, whether large or small, and incur the expense of conveying it to their own depôts. The feller of course chooses the large Trees so long as they are to be had at a reasonable distance from water carriage, but when these are no longer to be found, it is worth his while at the low rate which he pay per tree, and the high price to which under the present system teak has risen, to cut down every sapling that is near. The Proprietor careless for a comparatively distant future is glad to add

add to his present means, and makes no remonstrance. The consequences are to be seen in the large and increasing tracts of forest land that are now absolutely denuded of Teak.

5 Some Steps should assuredly be taken to put a stop to this most destructive system, and I can imagine none better, none that can be considered to interfere less materially with private rights than that alluded to by the Governor General of prohibiting generally the felling of Teak trees under a certain size, except on payment of a high rate of duty. Mr. Underwood proposed that the Government should reassert their claim, in a modified degree, to the royalty

royalty over the Teak Forests which they virtually relinquished on abolishing the Office of conservator in 1823, but I feel great apprehension that any such assumption, after we have let it sleep for so many years, would cause great and general discontent, while the chief advantages anticipated, would be as effectually obtained by the much less objectionable system abovementioned.

6 The acquisition by the State of private Forests sufficient to supply the average quantity of Timber required for the public service, is a plan that has before this been strongly advocated by the Bombay Government, and I would respectfully observe that there can be no doubt of its propriety. To say nothing of

of other advantages, one great benefit resulting & from such acquisitions would be the power of planting the tracts which are at present denuded, a process which judging from what we see, will never be even attempted by the present Proprietors. The opinion expressed by Sir T. Munro in his Minute Dated 20th November 1822, that the natives of Malabar were "fond of planting" and that there could be no fear of their neglecting what tended so greatly to their own interests has been utterly disproved by the last 17 years escperience.

7. It might be a difficult matter, with the feelings entertained by the Natives of this Country of the value of their proprietary rights, and of the loss of honor

honor entailed alienating them, to make many purchases out and out, but the end required would be just as effectually secured by taking forests on the usual mortgage tenures of the Country. By advancing nearly the value of the Estate, the Government can secure themselves against any intrusion, and the Proprietary right might easily be left to feed the harmless vanity of the Proprietor, whose sole rights will be sundry seignorial

† In Malabar mortgages are never foreclosed, but by a Kanomen tenure, Thereon Kanom the proprietor in case of redemption is bound to pay for all improvements made by the mortgagee. This would ensure perpetual possession where the original sum advanced is equal or nearly so to the value of the property.

* Such as the Tusks of Elephants that may die within the Forest the wild Honey, Beeswax &c.

areas*, which will in no way interfere with the full occupation and use of the ground.

8. It is difficult to arrive at an immediate conclusion as to the expense, which the Government would incur, in acquiring this description of property. The forests that are nearly marked out would of course be

be obtainable at a very low rate, those who's resources are comparatively unimpaired would fetch a proportioned price. It would be a matter for after-consideration to what extent the Government should proceed in these purchs and what measures they should take for making the most of them. The best plan I think would be to appoint some active and trustworthy person, with a sufficient knowledge of arboriculture, to take the general superintendence of the forests, with a small Establishment under the Collector. It would be his particular business to see that the planting was carefully performed, and to chuse such trees as he might consider fit for felling. The actual labor of felling and of bringing Timber to the Coast might be carried on either

either by this instrumentality, or by contract, as appeared most advisable. the latter was the plan pursued by Tippoo whom he usurped the royalty and Monopoly of the Forests of Malabar, and it is probable that it would be found a less expensive and troublesome plan than that of keeping up a large public Establishment of Elephants &c.

9. It may be satisfactory to the Government to have before them the accompanying further Extracts from the report from Captain Williams alluded to in the commencement of this letter on the state of the Teak Forests in Malabar. The report is drawn up as I observed above from personal inspection, and corroborates in a very clear manner the Statements I have had the honor to make.

I have

10- I have also thought it desirable to forward for immediate reference, Copy of a Statement drawn out by Mr. Underwoods order and affixed as an appendix to his letter of the 13th. September last, shewing the exact state of the private Forests in Malabar, who are their Owners, and what their engagements as affecting the trade in Timber.- Enclosure marked C.

11- In conclusion, I would respectfully urge the adoption of immediate measures, particularly for putting a Stop to the practice of cutting young Saplings. The fact that 70,000 of these whose diameter did not exceed 12 Inches, and a great proportion of which were under 6 inches diameter, were cut in 21 Months, will shew the imminent danger to be apprehended from delay. †

† as shewn in Para 7 of the Extract from a Letter from Capt.n Williams, hereto appended.

(Signed) H. V. Conolly

Acting Principal Collector

Extract

4

10

A.

Extract from a Report from Captain Williams — S.M. to the Bombay Government — dated 11th May 1839.

I have the honor to ac= =knowledge the receipt of your letter No. 678 of the 19th Ultimo, conveying copy of a letter with enclosures from Secretary Lieutenant Colonel Wood under date the 16th Ultimo, in which I am requested personally to inspect and report upon the present extent and the condition of teak timber in the several Forests in Malabar &c.

2. In reply I beg to state — That owing to the scarcity which has already fallen, and the lateness —

of

of the season the Forests are now closed against me, but if the arrangement meets your approval I shall proceed on the above duty as early in the next ensuing fine season as may be possible.

3rd. During my late tour to the interior to procure a supply of timbers for next season, I visited the private Forests immediately in the neighbourhood of Wadakanchery in the Temalapooram district and as they are stated to be much in the same condition as most others in Malabar, some opinion may be formed therefrom, of the information which is likely to result from a general

general inspection of the Forests.

4. I found that the greater part of the Teek trees had been cut down and that those which remained standing were from 4 to 5 miles from the nearest water carriage no care has been taken to perpetuate a supply, no seeds have been planted and such few self sown from the large trees, as may take root, are mostly all destroyed in the annual burning of the dried leaves and brush wood. Trees of every age and size have been felled indiscriminately and very few small trees are now to be met with, for these, being of easier carriage and yielding a quicker return, were the first

first to be cut down on the removal of the heavy restrictions which were in force for their protection until the year 1824.

5. In felling timber, little or no precaution is now taken they neither ring nor bark the Trees, as was formerly the practice, but cut them down at once, allowing them to fall in any direction, sometimes to the destruction of other trees which they breakdown or injure in their fall instead of being allowed to season slowly and gradually. the logs are of low dragged to patches of base rock and there exposed to the increased heat, which in one season dries them sufficiently to float and be conveyed the sooner to the

Coast

Coast - again the logs instead of being dragged the whole way to the nearest water by Elephants, are pushed over the edges of declivities whence they fall some hundred feet - taking these circumstances into account, it cannot be matter of surprize that so much of the timber of late years, should have turned out rotty and inferior.

6 The difficulty of procuring large Elephants to drag the timber the long distance it has now to be moved to the nearest water, induces the owners, in some instances, to cut the very long and large logs answering to our

Superior

superior sort) into 3 and 4 pieces, to facilitate their transport, and as Timber is sold in the Calicut Market of 2 Classes only viz^t above and below 3 Candies the length is no great object to the owner provided the contents bring the long log into the better class - however as Copper a higher price for "Superior Timber." I trust it will have the effect of preserving much of it in its full length.

Since the abolition of the Conservatorship in 1824 the most reckless devastation has been committed upon the Smaller

Smaller sized Trees - every stick is now being cut down which will yield a return - in a letter lately written by the Principal Collector of this place to the Board of Revenue at Madras, on the subject of improving the Forests (a copy of which will no doubt be forwarded to the Government of Bombay) it is stated that within the last 21 months Forty thousand young trees have been floated down from the Jungles, whose diameter did not exceed 12 Inches and a great proportion of which were under 6 Inches diameter, nothing can more plainly

Shew

shew the ruin the Forests are sustaining and the necessity of prompt measures to avert the inconvenience to which Government are likely to be subjected by the almost entire loss of one of the most valuable and important proounts of the Country.—

8 Judging from what I have already seen, I should think the Teak Trees in the Tinnelveram Forests will be exhausted in 8 or 10 years.—

/True Extract/

/Signed/ H. D. Conolly

Acting Prin. Coll.

Further

B

Further Extracts from a Report from Capt. Williams A.D.C. to the Bombay Government dated 11th May 1839.—

The Madras Government hold 3 Forests yielding Teak in the vicinity of Palghaut, 2 of these I lately visited.—

These 2 Forests contain many valuable full grown trees of Black wood but most of the Teak trees which I saw, appeared not to have attained their full size.—

The 3rd Forest coded: - mullah is reported to abound in Cedar trees, but to have fewer

fewer teak trees growing
in it than either of the
other 2.

From all I can
learn I should think the
number of teak trees now
standing does not exceed
between 5 and 600, in the
3 Forests - there are but
few very young trees or
saplings to be seen as
mostly all of the seedl=
self grown from the larger
trees which may take root,
are destroyed by the burn=
=ing of the grass and weeds
in the ensuing dry season.
As compared with
the teak jungle near Hoodakeuelary
which

which I visited, the Conven=
=ment Forest at Calahaut
are superior in every way,
access to them not so dif=
=ficult, timber can be
removed from them
much more easily and
the report of their superi=
=or numbers therein is so
far as I can ascer=
=tain, without any
just foundation.

I should have
made a more particu=
=lar examination of
these woods, had I per=
=ceived the means of so
doing

doing, the little I have done was not effected without much fatigue and exposure, the natives frequently have cut me: - congueerable dread of these jungles, which are said to abound with wild beasts and to cause certain fever to those who enter them, I was entirely deserted by my Siamese - men who had the greatest difficulty in getting any one to accompany me.

(True Extracts)

(Signed) H.C. Cavally
Acting Pr. Collr.

Abstract

16

C

Abstract Statement of the Teak Forests in Malabar

	Talook		No. of Teak Forest	No. of Proprietors	No. of Timber above 3 Candies	No. of Timber below 3 Candies	Estimated number of Trees that can be planted
1	Tenalpooram		73	4	43,270	159,093	223,700
		Private Property	38	24	249	5692	7,410
2	Palghaut	Government do	3	1	140	575	4,550
3	Wallooanaad		64	15	4031	16525	20,250
4	Nedingnaad		22	4	500	4,372	19,550
5	Ernaad		205	8	2,955	36,818	2,00000
6	Pynaad		40	7	2,402	6415	Not Stated
7	Cartenaad		5	2	105	755	
8	Coimenaad		23	2	869	5139	16685
9	Calicut		-	-	-	4,710	18,700
	Total		473	67	54,521	2,40,094	5,16,845

17

Tenalpooram. The four Proprietors are

1st Venganaat Gambedy
2d Pazakeledatil Achan
3d Kanambara Nair
4th Nelliket Edatil Achan

The first Venganaat Gambedy has rented his Forests to Vanaket Pangoe Menon, & Potakooty Kunnatchynatth Pelly for four years commencing from Meenom March 1011 / 1836 to Koombum March 1015 / 1840 @ 350 Rupees per Annum, Total Rupees 1400, of this he receives Rupees 1050 - the Balance 350 Rupees to be paid in the course of the above mentioned four years - Nalana Kawndan who previously held the rent however, refused to give up the Forests at the expiration of his Lease this dispute was not settled nor were the Forests made over to the present Renters until Meenom March of 1012 / 1837 The Rent therefore extends to 1016 / 1841 according to the Renters Statement; but the Proprietor says that the delay above adverted embraces 7 Months only & not 12, as mentioned by the Renters -

The 2nd Proprietor, Poyakel Edatil Achan who owns 32 Forests has received Koatty Kanam in advance, from the following Eight Persons, granting them the privilege of cutting Teak Trees at the rate of one Tree per Rupee -

		Amount	Date of Kanam	No. of Timber Cut
1	Madatel Kellos Nair	1100 Rs.	1005	317
2	Imamm Khan	400 "	1013	None
3	Appoo Pelly & another	115 "	1014	None
4	Kommu Khan	550 "	1012	244
5	Seydoolly	500 "	1005	200

Koolsew

		Amount	Date of Kerar	No. of Timber Cut
6	Beejoo Coolly	400 Rs.	1005	200
7	Iteara Sah	100	Meenom 1011	Exact number not Known
8	Ittoop	100	1008	None

The agreements held by these individuals does not limit the period within which they are to cut and remove the Trees they are entitled to.

It is said that Mr. Charles Sell holds an agreement permitting him to cut Teak Trees in the Forests belonging to this Proprietor, but the latter declines giving any information respecting the Amount to be paid or number of Trees to be cut.

The 5th Proprietor. Kanambara Nair who possesses 17 Forests, has received 150 Rupees from Iteara Sah in 1034/35 and granted him permission to cut a like number of Trees of which number Iteara Sah has cut 100 leaving 50 Trees still to be cut.

The 4th Proprietor Nelikel Edatil Achan possesses 10 Forests which are at present unincumbered.

Palghaut. There are 24 Proprietors of Forests in this Talook of whom Illeyachan Eddom has given one of his Forests on a Kanam of 50 Rupees to Wadakkan Nagankenat Achan, one of his to Ittooty Kaw Menon for 50 Rupees and Wadashery Manaddyar 14 of his to Mr. Charles Sell for 500 Rupees. The other Forests are held by the Proprietors themselves. The Palghaut Rajah, Reckanatte Kamank Chambatil Manady and Karat Kristna Menon are in the habit of renting the privilege of cutting Teak Trees in their respective Forests at present however they are free from any such incumbrance.

Wallawanaad. Of the 16 Proprietors in this Talook only four have leased out their Forests, Viz. Konattat Nair to Kulpally Kaw Menon for 12 Years, which period expires in Meethoonom July 1025/1851 The Second Rajah of Calicut to Mosha Sett of the Nedyherries for what period not Known. The Illeya Nair to Sapoony Painkar who has leased the two Forests belonging to this Proprietor for the last 10 Years and the Keeranakara Sambooraw has rented the privilege of cutting 100 Teak Trees to a Mapla called Walya Pidayakel Poker. The other Forests are held by the Proprietors themselves.

Vidinganaad. The 22 Forests in this Talook are owned by 4 Persons there is however a dispute between the Teroor alleyanat Devaswom & Kattishery Moota Nair respecting the proprietary right to 17 Forests. The Second Rajah of Calicut whose Forest contains 500 Trees above 3 Candies (the Trees in all the other Forests being below 3 Candies) has allowed Poolanoor Chapoo Menon to cut 300 Trees. The other Forests containing only Saplings seem to be free from any Contract.

This

Ernaad. This Taluk contains no less than 205 different Forests belonging to the following Persons

1st	Tacharakail Teroopaad	130 Forests
2d	Eddamana Teroopaad	30 "
3d	Mangery Kanapaad	23 "
4th	Kerala Koilagam	2 "
5th	The Zamorin Rajah	5 "
6th	Nadoowate Namboodry paad	1 "
7th	Attan Mayen	1 "
8th	Chemandatta Bagawatty	3 "

Tacharakail Teroopaad (No 1) is stated to have a claim upon one of the Forests belonging to the Eddamana Teroopaad amounting to upwards of 10000 Rupees, in consequence of which the Forest in question, called Waddoor Canala, is worked by [illegible]. His right however will expire in two years.

Chemandatta Nair (No 8) is stated to have mortgaged his Forests, but in consequence of the absence of the Nair at Polwye full particulars respecting the agreements entered into cannot be ascertained.

With the exceptions before stated the other Forests in Ernaad are stated to be free from Leases such as those existing in Palghaut and Tamalpooram.

Many of the Forests are so critically situated, and so infested by Wild Elephants, that it has been found impracticable to ascertain, with any degree of accuracy, the number

number of Trees in each

Wynaad. This Taluk is above the Ghauts and deprived of the convenience of Water Carriage to the Coast. Teak Trees are only felled to meet the Demand in Mysore whether the wood is carried on Bandies, after being cut in Convenient Sizes. It is however a Question worthy of Consideration whether Timber cannot be cut into Plank and Carried to the Coast at a price that is moderate. The Forests may probably be purchased for much smaller sums than those below the Ghauts as they are of much less value the Demand for Timber in this Taluk being inconsiderable.

(Signed) W. E. Underwood
Asstg Pl. Collr.

(True Copy)
(Signed) A. C. Conolly
A. P. C.

(True Copies)
W. Underwood
Ag. Dy Secy to Govt.

3
Dead

Revenue Depart

925

Proceedings of the Madras Government

Under date the 12th July 1859

Read again the

following Extract from the

Proceedings of the Board

of Revenue dated 2 October

1858 and recorded in Proceed

dated 22 June 1859 No 822.

In this paper the

Board treat of three distinct

subjects, all however re-

lating to the Wynaad

Talook in Malabar. The

subjects are 1st the coffee

estates in Wynaad; 2d the

rights of Government on

the forests of that country

and 3d the claims of Gov-

ernment on the estate

of Nambalacottah also

situated in Wynaad. The

12.7.59

925 ado

Dupl/ss

three subjects form the material
of three distinct reports
from the late Acting
Collector which accom-
pany the Board's Proce-
dings. And as the mixing
up of distinct subjects
in one paper is inconve-
nient, the Government
[illegible]
[illegible]
will deal with
each of the three gues-
tions above stated
in a separate Proceeding.
The present paper will
take up the second of
the three subjects specified,
viz: the rights of Government
in the Forests of Wynaad.

2 In his letter dated
7th June 1858 to the Board
of Revenue, Mr W. Robinson
then acting Collector of
Malabar

Malabar, reported on the
subject in detail, in
compliance with the
requisitions of Govern-
ment contained in the
Extract Mins Cons 3rd Jany
1856, No 2 and 11th August
1857 No 805. The enquiries
on which his report was
based having been made
on the spot, & evidently
with much care, and he
having moreover brought
to the investigation a very
extensive general knowl-
ledge of the tenures, usag-
and existing circum-
stances of Wynaad, ac-
quired during many
years of official residence
in Malabar, it may be
presumed to contain all
the information that
is likely to be obtained
on

on the subject at present.

~~Reference for regular~~

~~survey.~~ The Government have lately ordered a survey of the Talook, as being necessary for the final settlement of various questions affecting property in it, but it does not seem necessary to defer on that account to pass an order on the subject of the forests.

3 Wynaad Talook contains 1160 square miles and is divided into fifteen

x
22d June 1859 No 822

Amshums. The central parts of the Talook are generally open; the forests are in the Western, Southern and Eastern parts. They lie along the ridge of the Western ghauts, and the Southern edge of the Wynaad table land and to the eastward, where the country is comparatively level, there is a broad belt of forest on each side of the Mysore boundary on the West, and apparently on the South, the water shed is the boundary of Wynaad ~~Western and Southern~~ and the slopes, ~~below~~, also covered with forest, belong to lower Malabar. The only forests, however, in Wynaad which produce teak, are those on the East, the others produce blackwood and various useful kinds of wood, but no teak. The western forests however yield timber of the finest quality, which grows

Para 5

P. 7

ild.

The whole of surface
the country in Wynaad is
vate property including in
at term the "Sooroopum".
royal domains belonging
pparently to certain Rajahs
s such, and held by them
istinctly from their family
estates. The whole country is
parcelled out into greater or
esser properties belonging
either to individuals or to
temples, and including
forests as well as open and
cultivated tracts. Hence
Government has no
proprietary interest in, or
rights over, either the
forests or other lands,
except that derived
from confiscation or
escheat - The main
source of ~~the~~ rights thus derived
is the rebellion of the
Pychee Rajah - This chief
was a junior member of the Cotiote
family the head of which though
his own domains lay in Lower Malabar, was Lord
paramount

Paras 8 and 9.

paramount of Wynaad. W
the Talook was seized by the
by Tippoo Sultan) the Pychee R
=bellion in 1799, to resisted it
establishment of their au
=rity; and he was not put
down till 1806, when he w
killed.

5 After the suppression
this rebellion the estates of a
those concerned in it were
=clared forfeit. But there
no survey, and no land regis
the country was unhealthy,
and still unsettled, and
point of fact a very small
extent of land, was really es
=cheated, and that only in the
open country; the great bulk of
the forfeited properties being
usurped by the occupants
(often mortgagees) or others.
It was intended by the Col.
lector Mr. Baber to institute
a survey, and in that proces
carry out the sentence of
forfeiture

Para 12

feiture more completely;

t he left the District, and
surey never took place.

The known invalidity of the
es of many properties which
e properly forfeit caused
sputes between the holders
nd their tenants, and the
former appealed to the Col-
lector Mr. Vaughan; and
n 1824 that gentleman
ssued a proclamation, con-
taining a list of escheats,
and declaring them to be
the only escheats in Wynaad.
The list was small, and
contained few or no forests
or hills.

From Actg Collector August 22d 1837 Paras 23 and 27

Para 14

7. After a preliminary sketch of the history of this gues-
nary, Mr Robinson ~~next~~
proceeds to remark on the
state of the
forest Jenm in each of
the Umshums of Wynaad.
The following is an epitome
of ~~the information they convey~~ those remarks

tion, of which the
foregoing is a sum-

Periah

I Periah Umshum; concern in the rebellion was
Para 18 not established against any of the proprietors.

II Tandonmaad Umshum; contains two Da-
-sums, Koorote and Koonjote. The Jenmy of
Koorote ~~Koorote~~ was loyal throughout the rebellion: Koon-
Koonjote -jote belonged in Jenm right almost wholly to
the Pychee Rajah, and all that part was decla-
forfeited. Much rice land was accordingly con-
fiscated, but the extensive cardamom forests were
not, being in the hands of mopla mortgagees or
others. The forests were entered in the list of
Para 22 escheats, but the occupants alleged mort-
-gages &c. and the forfeiture was not pressed.
Mr. Robinson thinks that a case for eschea-
could not be made out. The mortgage claims of
the holders could not be disproved, whether
true or false. These forests have no teak.

III Paravanoor Umshum; no escheats.

IV Kurumballa Umshum. There were extensive escheats
of rice land; but none of forest, as that all belonged to
loyal Nairs of Cossimbalabar

V Eddanadasson Umshum D°. D°.

VI Moopanaad Umshum. Largely implicated in the re-
-bellion; and extensive forfeitures in the open coun-
-try; but the hills and forest very little known,
so far from Mamantoddy and in the then wild
state of the country.

VII Cherangode Umshum. Largely concerned in
the rebellion. The Pychee Rajah a large pro-
-prie-
-tor, if not the sole one, but only one small Hill
was escheated. The remainder numerous and
extensive

extensive, are in the possession of families said to have been only dependents and tenants of the Pychee rajah

IX Numbalakode Umshum. The proprietor of this fine Es: late was loyal throughout the rebellion.

Moonanaad Umshums. Held in great part by the Pychee Rajah & therefore an escheat contains extensive & fine forests from Nellacottah to the Mysore boundary.

X Gunnapattyputtum Umshum. Fine forests, which were always held to belong to the Rajah & so have passed to the British Govt.

XI Pootaddy Umshum. A great deal of forest. It has always been held by the Pootaddy hambiars and has never been challenged as escheatable.

XII Koopatode Umshum, very little forest in the body of the Umshum; the proprietors were largely implicated in the rebellion. Some confiscations were made, but a search would no doubt discover much

Poolpully Dasum

Para 35

XIII Illoreenaad Do:

Para 36 Ufc.

XIV Nullooraad Do:

XV Coddawagaly.

much more land liable to confiscation.

But there is also an outlying Dasum stretching from the Mysore boundary which is believed to have belonged almost wholly to the Pychee Rajah; he had a residence here, in which he was first attacked and killed in 1800. Much land was escheated here, but no forest. The forest is now claimed in great part by the Poolpully temple.

Much forest in the last parts; it is claimed by two temples, viz. those of Veroonelly and Trichellery.

Many persons were concerned in the rebellion, and much cultivated land escheated, but no Hills. The titles of many of the present holders of land are probably doubtful.

Extensive escheats; but no Umshom contains no forest.

The Pychee rajah's many properties

...perly in this Umsbora, but
...forest and Hills to the North
...did not belong to him.

From what has been
...ted in the preceding Paragraph
...appears that in five Umshams,
...the Mumtal acode, Mozanaad,
...mnapatty Vuttum, Elloorvanad,
...ione Dasum of Koopatade,
...and is mostly teak forest, which
...ther certainly or probably belongs
...Government by forfeiture;
...hat in the same way there are
...ardamoom forests in Konjote,
...oopanaad, and Cherlangode,
...hich are probably forfeit; and
...hat in many Umshoms there
...s much cultivated land
...esides what was actually
...orfeited, which would be
...ound on enquiry to be equally
...iable to confiscation.

The state of the case may
...e briefly described as follows:
...ertain lands were confiscated
...rebellion, but much more
...and and a large extent of
...rest were justly liable to
confiscation

confiscation, and would
have been confiscated if the
authorities had been fully
informed. Subsequently
Collector of the District
Mr. Vaughan issued a
proclamation, though with
out authority from Govern
ment, specifying that
certain lands, a very limit
part of those justly forfei
as above said, were alone
liable to escheat. The
properties, especially those
not included in Mr.
Vaughan's proclamation
have now been held for
above half a century with
out interference, they
have passed by inheritance
and have been transferred
by sale or mortgage.

10 So long a period
having elapsed since the
cause

...use of forfeiture arose
...without any attempt to
...enforce the forfeiture except in
...few cases, the Government
...are not of opinion that
...measures to ... such
...as could properly be taken
...now, in any case where
...there has been actual enjoy-
...ment from that time forward.
They resolve accordingly
that in the case of the
Central, Southern, and
Western Umshums, where
there appears to have been
such continued enjoyment,
existing private Jannam
right shall be admitted
in respects both of open country
and forest. But the case
is different in the Eastern
Umshums named in the
margin, where it appears
no private rights in the
forests

1 Monandaad
2 Gunnaputtiuttum
3 Elloornaad.
4 Podpully dasum
of Hospatedo

forests have been exercised
or only in quite modern
times. As respects the
first mentioned two,
viz Moonandaad and
Gunnaputtiuttum, it do
not appear that any claim
are set up; and the
forests having been cer-
tainly a right to exclu
the Governor in Council
resolved to place them
at once under the Conser-
vator. As respects the
other two, viz the Ellor-
naad Umshum and
Podpully dasum, the
forests are believed to have
belonged to the Pychee
Raja, tho' they are claimed
by three temples. There
seems good reason to re-
gard these claims as
quite modern; but the
Governor

Governor in Council will
give the claimants full oppor-
tunity to bring forward their
proofs. The Collector will
call on them to do this,
giving a day for the
production of the evidence
and he will then report
on the subject for the inform-
ation of Government.

Dr Leighton will
speak on the order contained
in the preceding paragraph
respecting Moonamadoo
and Punnaputtiouttenny,
as soon as the season
shall permit, and will
send in for sanction an
estimate of the additional
Establishment necessary
in consequence.

Dated in a Letter to Engl
25th June/60

24-6-96

14/12/14

28-3-16

No 925

Revenue 1859 Departt
Pro: of Govt 15th Italy

No 925

Pro: of Mauritius Govt
12th July/59

Pro: of the Bd of Pl: 10 January 60 No 110
in 31st No 166

From the Conservator of Forests
dated Sept 5/60 Ce No 1884 in 18th Sept 60
No 1641.

Two enclosures as
Wynaad placed under the
Conservator and as regards
the remaining Collectors to
call on the Claimants to for-
ward their proofs: Dr Cle-
ghorn to submit an Estimate
of the additional Establish-
ment necessary for the
purpose.

Pro: of the Bd of Pl: 3 Feb 62
Ce No 393 in 25 No 404

No 28

Ab 16 July 68