M.R.O. 14—10,000—21-4-22

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1247	Press Mis.
323-324	
Dated 28-7-1860.	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
26th July 1860.

No. 323. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Military Department, dated 23rd July 1860, No. 2,671 :—

Applying to the Commander-in-Chief for Serjeant Sheffield's services in view to his being placed under the orders of the Conservator of Forests. (Vide Military Proceedings, 28th July 1860, Nos. 210, 211.)

No. 324. ORDER THEREON, 26th July 1860, No. 1,247.

Ordered to be recorded.

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

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following letter from H. CLEGHORN, Esq., M.D., Conservator of Forests, to J. D. BOURDILLON, Esq., Secr tary to Government, Revenue Department, Fort Saint George, dated Bangalore, 26th June 1860, No. 44 :—

1. With reference to the Proceedings of Government, dated 20th March last, No. 425, I have the honor to submit the following summary of operations carried on in the Nílgiri Sholás.

2. On assuming charge of these Sholás there were Rupees 377-13-0 in the hands of the Tahsíldár of Ootacamund at credit, and the Establishment consisted of

	RS.	A.	P.
1 Forester on	35	0	0
and			
6 Peons on.....	30	0	0
Rupees...	65	0	0

3. AUCTIONS OF DEAD WOOD.—The Establishment, with the assistance of hired coolies, were engaged from the receipt of the Order until the setting-in of the monsoons, in bringing out of the Sholás dead wood and arranging it in convenient lots along the sides of the principal cart roads. These lots were sold by public auction bi-weekly, and were readily purchased by the residents of the station at an average of 1 Rupee to 1 Rupee 8 Annas per cart load.

4. SALE OF SHOLAS.—Two large Sholás were put up to public auction, (after due notice) between the road leading to Sispara and the new trace to Karkúr. These were purchased under certain restrictions by a Native Contractor, who has established a Depôt for the sale of firewood near the willow-bund. The sale realized Rupees 351.

5. The dead wood alone in several Sholás three or four miles from Ootacamund, along the road to Kótagiri, was sold by public auction, and was purchased by another Contractor for Rupees 121, who also has established a firewood depôt in the Cantonment.

6. CHARCOAL.—A third Contractor has obtained the privilege of manufacturing bark, forge and common Charcoal in Thaver Sholá, situated at a distance of from 10 to 12 miles from the station. This privilege was granted him on easy terms, owing to there being no good cart road to it, and Lieutenant Beddome's report is herewith annexed. The Contractor for this privilege is to pay a seignorage to Government of Rupees 15 a month for two years, and has agreed to keep the station fully provided with this essential article. The services of two men from the Sappers have been obtained for instructing burners in the mode of preparing Charcoal economically.

7. FINANCIAL RESULTS.—The sale* proceeds of the several auctions held up to the end of the past official year are Rupees 482-0-6, which together with the balance in the Treasury amount to Rupees 859-13-6; this I have requested the Collector to carry to the credit of Government under the head of "Forest Revenue."

* *After paying for Tools, Cumblies, &c.*

8. PROPOSED ESTABLISHMENT.—By reason of the enhanced value of provisions of every kind, some difficulty was experienced in finding Overseers. Mr. O'Brien resigned and Mr. Frend was selected in his room. I have now to solicit the services of Serjeant Sheffield of H. M.'s 60th Rifles, who has been highly recommended by Colonel Bedford, and who is a Carpenter by profession. If this Non-Commissioned Officer's services can be granted, he will be nominated at once to the charge of the western side of the station.

9. I would also request a small increase to the Peons—one of these to be additional to watch the Charcoal sellers and an increase of the present salaries of two others for reasons assigned opposite their respective names.

The Establishment will then be:—

	Rs.	A.	P.	
2 Foresters at 35 Rupees each.....	70	0	0	
Búden—Peon from 5 Rupees to 7 Rs.	7	0	0	Has been in the Department for 8 years, and is an active and intelligent man.
Cassim—Peon from 5 „ to 6 „	6	0	0	Has been in the Department for 4 years and do.
5 Peons at 5 „ each	25	0	0	
Total...	108	0	0	

The above increase of Rupees 8 to form a debit against the unexpended balance sanctioned for the Forest Department.

ORDER THEREON, 13th July 1860, No. 1,161.

1. In this letter the Conservator of Forests reports his Proceedings in pursuance of the Order of March 20th, No. 425, for the conservation of the woods near Ootacamund, and for the supply of fuel to that station.

2. The Orders of Government have been acted on in part; but on some important points Dr. Cleghorn is silent. With regard to the supply of fuel, it is observed that two Sholás have been sold, both of which were bought by the same individual. The loud complaints lately made of the dearness and scarcity of firewood at Ootacamund, lead to the belief that this measure is not sufficient; and that other Sholás ought to be sold. The Conservator will consider this, and will act on the suggestion without delay if he thinks it expedient.

3. The Government presume that the "privilege" of making charcoal mentioned in paragraph 6 as having been "granted on easy terms," was sold by auction, in the mode laid down in the Order. No contracts of this kind should be given on any other terms. The Government conclude also, though both Dr. Cleghorn and Lieutenant Beddome are silent on the subject, that due means were taken to prevent this Contractor from committing waste. They also wish Dr. Cleghorn to state whether this man has a monopoly of the supply of charcoal to the station; and if so, whether inconvenience is found to result to the community.

4. Application will be made to the Commander-in-Chief for Serjeant Sheffield's services in order to his being employed as an Overseer under the sanction given in paragraph 10 of the Order of March 20th.

5. The entertainment of an additional Peon at 5 Rupees is also sanctioned, but with reference to the application for increase to the pay of two Peons, the Government must decline to give an increase on such merely personal grounds.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Conservator of Forests.
„ Military Department.
„ Civil Auditor.
„ Accountant General.

Exd. Wm. Thomas.

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Revenue 1860. Dept.
Pro: of Govt. for July

№ 1495.

Proceedings of the
Madras Govt. in the
Military Department.

Dated 23d July 1860
Rec. 24th

Applying to the
Commander in Chief
for Serjt. Sheffield's
services in view to his
being placed under the
orders of the Conservator
of Forests.

№ 1247.

Recorded
26th July 1860

№ 323 & 324.

Military Department.

№ 2671.

Communicated to the Commander-in-
Chief, in view to Serjeant Sheffield* being placed
under the orders of the Conservator of Forests,
if his services can be spared; and the Serjeant
willing to be permanently transferred under
the provision of G.O.G. №. 92, dated 6th March
1860.

†H. M.'s 60th Rifles.

Fort St. George
23d July 1860

J. Mercellin Seal
Dy. Secretary to Government.

To
The Revenue Department.

† Davis.