

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	970	<u>Press</u>
		<u>Mis.</u>
	494-497	
Dated	30-4-18	Cf.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
30th April 1861.*

No. 494.

Read the following papers :—

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 8th April 1861, No. 1,820.

Read the following letter from H. A. BRETT, Esq., Collector of Salem, to J. D. SIM, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, Fort Saint George, dated 27th February 1861, No. 31.

SIR,

1. I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the Board's Order, No. 6,027, dated the 22nd of December 1860, forwarding for report an Order of Government, dated the 20th idem, No. 2,459, on a letter addressed by Captain Morgan, Officiating Conservator of Forests, to the Acting Secretary to Government, proposing, with reference to a report made to him by his Assistant, Mr. Blenkinsop, that every person taking out a license to cut timber in the Salem Forests should pay at the rate of 1 Rupee per tree, the Railway still paying to Government a seignorage of 3 Annas on every accepted sleeper; Mr. Blenkinsop having reported to Captain Morgan personally, that indiscriminate cutting in the Salem jungles was very prevalent, and that rejected sleepers, amounting to 25 per cent. of the sleepers delivered to the Railway, escaped any payment to Government.

2. With regard to rejected sleepers, it appears that Doctor Cleghorn in a letter to Mr. Hathaway, late Acting Collector of Salem, dated the 31st January 1859, stated that he had made arrangements with the Agent and Manager of the Railway to obtain returns of sleepers, accepted and rejected, in each month; and that copies of these returns would in future be forwarded to the Collector by the Assistant in charge of the Conservator's Office. I find, however, that no such returns have ever been sent to my Office since the date of that letter, and that in consequence I have no means of knowing to what extent sleepers have been rejected from time to time by the Railway Engineers.

3. It also appears from paragraph 3 of Doctor Cleghorn's letter, dated 15th August 1858, No. 3 that, according to the arrangements he then contemplated, a Forest Overseer or other Subordinate in his Department was to attend, as a general rule, at the time the sleepers were delivered at the Railway, to take account of such sleepers as might be rejected. In paragraph 3, Doctor Cleghorn provides that in case the Forest Overseer should delay to attend at the time the sleepers were delivered, the Railway Engineer should report to the Conservator, or to the Collector, the name of the party delivering the sleepers, and the number of the sleepers rejected. But no Railway Engineer has ever made any report of the kind here contemplated to my Office. The Collector, therefore, has hitherto had no means of knowing whether sleepers were rejected or not.

4. The other point referred to by Mr. Blenkinsop is the indiscriminate cutting of timber in the Salem jungles. Mr. Blenkinsop has been in charge of the jungles since August 1858, the year in which the Conservancy Department was formed. It was intended that no one should be permitted to cut any trees that had not been previously marked as fit for felling. But Mr. Blenkinsop has never had a sufficient Establishment to allow of his enforcing this rule. In most cases, therefore, if not in all, any person wishing to fell timber has been permitted, provided he took out a license, to cut down any tree he pleased, subject only to a seignorage charge when the timber was cut for sleepers; or to a charge of 1 Rupee a bandy-load if the timber was felled for ordinary purposes.

5. It is supposed that the license system has been much abused. Persons employed in collecting the tax have passed more wood in many cases than the license properly covered. In the second place, there is reason to believe that the tax has been evaded to a great extent, owing to the want of an effective Establishment to superintend the collections.

6. The imperfect character of the present system was repeatedly brought to the notice of Doctor Cleghorn before he left the country. During my absence on leave, Mr. Knox wrote to him on the subject. Again on the 26th July 1860, after referring to the past correspondence, I pointed out to him the necessity of introducing some change in existing arrangements.

The Acting Secy., Submitting

7. It appears from my records that Mr. Knox submitted to Doctor Cleghorn, on the 19th December 1859, a set of rules which Mr. Knox had prepared for improving the present license system. The main object of these rules was to enforce pre-payment from persons taking licenses, and to place persons contracting to supply the Railway with sleepers on the same footing, with regard to the tax, as those who cut for the general market. Captain Morgan has proposed to levy a certain rate on every tree felled. This would, I think, be a good mode of levying the tax. I see no need now of any distinction in favor of persons contracting to supply sleepers. It is for Captain Morgan to state in what way he can secure due attention to the rule that no single tree should be cut without the permission of his Department.

8. Up to this time the tax charged on timber cut for other than Railway purposes has been levied by Revenue peons who were stationed on the chief lines leading from the forests. A certain number of peons have been employed in this work in the Tálúqs specified in the margin, commencing in the year 1858. The total number employed till lately was 20 peons, but the Tahsildár of Salem has been compelled recently to withdraw 4 of the peons belonging to his Tálúq.

9. At the time Tálúq peons were first detached on this duty, the Tahsildárs were far better able to spare peons for such miscellaneous duty than they are under the present reduced scale of Establishment, which allows only 21 peons to each Tálúq. In even the smallest Tálúqs the Tahsildár cannot spare any peons for special or exceptional purposes like the present; much less can the Tahsildár of a Tálúq so large as Salem, containing upwards of a 1,000 square miles, furnish peons for any extra duty; nor was it ever supposed, I believe, that the number of peons supplied to each Tálúq would suffice for any but the ordinary routine work.

10. I, therefore, beg to recommend that the Establishment to be employed in collecting the tax on the main lines leading from the several forests should, in future, be paid from the revenue realized by the tax; and that the number of persons employed should be adequate to the work.

11. The amount of Revenue collected last year, exclusive of seignorage (paid at Madras), was Rupees 5,293. The charge for the same period on account of the Establishment allowed to the Assistant Conservator of Forests, including his salary at Rupees 200 a month, amounted to Rupees 4,028. The seignorage for 1859-60 paid at Madras was Rupees 23,471.

12. It appears, therefore, that the revenue derived from the forests in this District, is sufficient to bear the charges that properly appertain to the collections.

13. The above remarks do not apply to the forests belonging to the Denkecottah Tálúq, for up to a recent date the Forest Department was unable to take over those forests. Captain Morgan has relieved me from this charge during the present month. The tax hitherto paid on timber and bamboos in the Denkecottah forests was levied on a scale sanctioned by the Board of Revenue in 1854. The Establishment hitherto employed at an annual charge of Rupees 318 has now been transferred to the Conservancy Department.

14. If the Board will recommend that the cost of collecting the forests' revenue should be defrayed entirely from the receipts, I propose, in consultation with Captain Morgan, to submit a statement showing what Establishment will be sufficient for the purpose.

In Cons. 21st December 1860,
No. 6,716.

1. Submitted to Government, with reference to their Order, dated 20th December 1860, No. 2,459, Revenue Department.

2. The Collector approves of Captain Morgan's proposal to levy a fixed sum for each tree cut in the Government jungles of Salem; but considers that there is no longer any necessity for drawing a distinction between persons cutting for the Railway and those cutting for other purposes. Mr. Brett gives no opinion as to the rate named by Captain Morgan, viz., 1 Rupee per tree, but he lays great stress on the insufficiency of the present Conservancy Establishment, and the impossibility of his affording the aid which he used to give before the recent reduction of the Revenue Establishment.

3. The Board believe that it is impossible to work the license system efficiently in extensive jungle tracts without entertaining unduly large Establishments. They think that where there is much forest, the best plan is to mark off the trees which may be cut, and sell them periodically in suitable lots by auction at convenient places and after due notice. For mere firewood where there is a good market or large supply, portions of the jungle might be periodically sold under restrictions as to the size of wood to be cut, the length of the stumps to be left, &c., &c., as in Streeharicotta: a sufficient tract being first set aside for the use of the villagers and their right everywhere to *dead leaves* for manure being reserved: where the jungles are small, they might be left to the villagers altogether as common, for the license fee in such cases is sure to be evaded, and the receipts will not admit of the necessary Establishments.

4. The Board would leave the Collectors and Conservators to apply these principles according to circumstances.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) J. D. SIM, Secretary.

No. 495. From Captain H. R. MORGAN, Officiating Conservator of Forests, to J. D. BOURDILLON, Esq., Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Fort Saint George, dated Ootacamund, 11th April 1861, No. 410:—

SIR,

1. In forwarding a revised statement of an increased Establishment* for the conservation of the Salem Forests, I have the honor to recommend the sanction of the same.

* Amounting to Rupees 105.

2. Although I have lately traversed most of the Salem Forests, Mr. Brett's long residence and local knowledge gives his opinion greater weight than mine.

3. In paragraph 10, Mr. Brett points out that the collections during the last year amounted to Rupees 6,680, exclusive of seignorage on Railway sleepers. Therefore the Establishment proposed by him is in excess of the receipts by Rupees 603 per annum, but the Collector anticipates that under an improved system the expenditure and receipts will be soon equalized.

4. In paragraph 11 the Collector is decidedly of opinion that the Tahsildár's Peons can no longer be spared for forest duties, therefore an increased Establishment is absolutely necessary.

Report on the Salem Jungles.

1. The first forests I inspected were the Shevaroy. On the south-west face there is but little jungle of any kind, bamboos predominating. By placing a tax of one Rupee per bandy-load on bamboos, a considerable revenue might be derived.

2. On the plateau of the Shevaroy there is but little wood, I observed a few fine Cedar trees in a ravine, and some fine Jambai trees scattered about.

3. The Coffee plantations (without exception) evinced unmistakable signs of bad management, pruning had been utterly neglected, manure but scantily administered, and trenching the ground undreamt of, the consequence was plenty of wood but no fruit.

4. The Orange tree is the great feature of the Shevaroy; this tree if properly manured and cared for, would produce a valuable crop of fruit. In Australia, by care and attention, such as manuring with bone dust, &c., some of the finest oranges in the world are grown; indeed, I consider the Shevaroy (notwithstanding their generally poor soil) capable of producing, in great perfection, apples, pears, grapes, figs, oranges, limes, lemons, &c., vegetables would flourish there.

5. The elevation of the Shevaroy, 4,500 feet, is not sufficient for Tea of a good quality, an inferior kind might be produced there. The Cinchona might succeed on the green hills, elevation 5,000 feet, but there are so many better sites on the Neilgherries and Pulnies, that at present it is hardly worth while to examine these localities.

the Acting Secy., Submitting

6. On the northern side, near the head of the Nagalore Ghát, I observed good soil in patches and some stunted forest, consisting of Kullee Mudree (*Terminalia coriacea*) Vella Naga (*Conocarpus latifolia*) and varieties of *Engenia*. All the best trees had been carried away for Railway sleepers.

• • 7. Passing by the eastern face of the Shevaroy's (which is very bare) through the Mungawady Pass, very stony, I visited the Chittairy and Coleroi Hills, and Cotaputty Valley.

8. On the eastern face of the Chittairy Hills there is but little jungle of any kind; on the western may be found trees, as per margin, good woods for house building and sleepers. On the top there are a few old Sandal-wood trees, and many promising young plants. On the banks of the streams may be found that noble tree, the Muddree (*Terminalia glabra*), some specimens six feet in diameter at ten feet from the ground.

9. On the Coleroi Hills to the north-west, elevation about 3,700 feet, but little forest of any kind was to be seen, a few Muddree trees in a ravine, some noble Jack trees planted by the Malialies, and the rest stunted forest intermingled with bamboo jungle. These hills are said to be very feverish in March, April and May.

10. At Cotaputty I found a Dépôt of timber, the greater part of which is carted away *via* Ternamally to Arnee and other places. On this road I propose placing a Tannah station to check evasion of the payment of the tax.

11. Examining the valley in a southern direction along the base of the Coleroi Hills, I was much struck with the paucity of good timber, with the exception of a few Muddree trees, nothing was seen.

12. In the valley running west at the base of the Chittairy Hills, there were a few good Acha and Muddree trees. The soil in this valley was superior. I observed some young Acha trees newly felled, they could not have been more than twenty years old, and only squared to six inches. It is this system of cutting young trees that is destroying the jungles, what with young trees for posts, for rafters, purlines, pandals, &c., the jungles stand a fair chance of becoming exterminated. To stop this pernicious system, the most stringent measures must be had recourse to, and a notice in the Salem Gazette has been issued declaring all bandy-loads of saplings liable to confiscation. This system of cutting saplings was particularly observable amongst the Satin-wood trees. None but very old or very young trees were left, all others had been cut for posts.

13. Hurroor, the present head-quarters of my Assistant, Mr. Blenkinsop, is a Dépôt for Railway sleepers and other timber; here every piece of wood that could by any possibility be called a sleeper was collected to be passed off on the Railway authorities, through connivance or ignorance, pieces of wood, half Sapwood, were ready for delivery, and which *if passed* would certainly rot in less than six months. Many again were simply cut to evade the tax, and sold to Railway Contractors for other purposes. A notice forbidding this practise has been issued in the Salem Gazette. The new system that I have proposed of giving licenses simply for the load of wood and exacting pre-payment, will effectually put a stop to these illegal practises.

14. At Tripatore I was glad to learn from the Resident Engineer, Mr. Hederstedt, (who takes a great interest in the matter) that he now finds no difficulty in obtaining sleepers of a good quality, that he had one year's supply in store, and by pursuing the new system just introduced of allowing free access of air to the sleepers where they were laid, there was every probability of their durability being far greater than it had been heretofore, in this I fully agree with him and have already discussed the question with the Agent and Manager, Mr. Fletcher.

15. Denkincottah.—Here the Cedar tree grows well, and a plantation near the town would pay. I observed in a grove two trees containing 40 cubic feet of good timber. The surrounding jungles at Voshully contain some patches of Sandal-wood.

16. I ascended the Neilgherries (height about 5,800 feet) by an easy bridle path which conducted to the abandoned Coffee estate of Glenmore. Shortly after the death of the

Overseer by fever, all the trees were accidentally destroyed by fire, the bungalow once a substantial one is fast going to ruin. The site did not appear a good one for Coffee, there being but little water on the top of these hills.

17. The chief trees were varieties of *Engenia*, *nux vomica* and some Cedar in the ravines; a good many Sandal-wood trees grow in the ravine near the bungalow, the plateau some 20 square miles is covered with bamboo, there is but little cultivation though the soil is superior; the people had no tanks for the storing of water, hence though the rain-fall cannot be under 50 inches, there is in the dry weather a scarcity of water. The climate is agreeable, the undulations gentle, and the plateau well suited for the growth of potatoes and fruit trees of various kinds. The people have a fine breed of cows which in the dry weather feed on bamboo tops. The fever in March, April and May is no doubt severe, but the clearing of the bamboo would tend to decrease it. I did not observe large sheets of rock such as obtain on the Shevaroy's, and which are said to be the cause of fever.

18. From Voshully I proceeded to the Guttyroyen Hill, on the road many Sandal-wood trees were seen, but little timber of any other kind. At the base of the hill there is a fine wood of *Engenias* with some Cedars. From the top of the Guttyroyen Hill, more than 4,000 feet in height, we surveyed the Mysore, Coimbatore and Salem countries, and from the appearance of the banks of the Cauvery and its feeders, the Gondwalla river and parallel streams, it was apparent that if there was forest any where it was in this corner of the Salem District.

19. From Tully I inspected the Sandal-wood jungles near Jawlhully, a few old trees were growing and many thousand young ones at the head of the ravine leading to Anchatty. Up this ravine small Acha and other logs are brought.

20. At Anchatty were some fine Acha trees, and in the neighbouring hills Sandal-wood was reported to be found.

21. On the banks of the Gondwalla river, now dry, large Muddree trees were seen, and in the hills towards Nantlopollum many fine Acha trees were growing.

22. From Nantlopollum to the banks of the Cauvery, thousands of fine Acha trees fit for felling were seen, and it is from this source that we must look for our future supply of timber; here also by the roadside we found hundreds of Acha saplings had been cut over by the herdmen in the months of April and May to supply food to their cattle, this pernicious practise and the pollarding of the old Acha trees for the same purpose has been strictly forbidden. The road all through is very steep and stony.

23. At Wutturhully the Cauvery river divides into five branches, creating several small islands, then uniting, the river plunges thirty feet down into a chasm thirty feet wide, called the "Goats leap," and rushes through walls of rock fifty feet high and one hundred and fifty yards in length, finally emerging into a wide space of broken rocks. This impediment prevents the floating of the timber down the river.

24. From the Cauvery to the foot of the Penagram Ghát the road is passable for Wudder carts, but the Ghát, which more resembles the stony bed of a ravine than a road is quite impracticable for even Wudder carts.

25. To work the very valuable forest of Acha trees commencing at Nantlopollum it will be necessary to make a fair road from that place to the foot of the Ghát, trace a new line of Ghát and then widen the road from Penagram to Sholapandi, at present impassable for Wudder carts. From Sholapandi the timber could be floated to Bowani or Trichinopoly in the freshes. If the road to Penagram were even improved, the timber could be carried to the Railway at Murapoor *via* Daramporry. Until the Penagram Ghát is retraced, these valuable jungles must remain closed, and indeed valueless to Government.

26. The wood merchants at Penagram and in the neighbourhood have hitherto been in the habit of cutting young trees and bringing them up the Ghát on men's heads.

27. Should the road to the forests be put in good order it will be necessary that an Overseer on a superior allowance be placed in charge of the forest.

28. I found the village authorities fully alive to the necessity of preserving the young trees, and were the Police simply to give their assistance by preventing Brinjarries and Lumba-

The Acting Comr., Submitting

dies from cutting young trees for fodder, in these remote parts it would go far towards preserving these jungles.

29. The Tannah stations having been made over to the Police by the Collector, I have posted forest Peons at some of them and forward with this Report a Memorandum showing the whole number required for the collection of the Government tax on timber and conservancy of the forests.

30. I have not visited the Javadias as these have already been visited by Dr. Cleghorn, and further with the exception of a few Sandal-wood trees, they contain little else of any value.

From H. A. BRETT, Esq., Collector of Salem, to Captain H. R. MORGAN, Conservator of Forests, dated Senkaridrág, 6th April 1861, No. 8 :—

SIR,

1. I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated the 19th ultimo, No. 398, enclosing a Memorandum* of the Establishment you propose to employ for the Salem jungles, and requesting me to inform you whether the Establishment and the proposed stations meet with my approval.

2. Under the head of "present Establishment" in your statement you have not, I find, included the Revenue Peons hitherto employed in collecting the tax. I explained in paragraph 8 of my Report to the Board of Revenue, dated 27th February last (a copy of which was sent you) that twenty Tálúq Peons had been employed since 1857 in collecting the tax at the different Tannah stations.

3. In the enclosed statement prepared in communication with some of my Tahsildars, I have provided a certain number of Peons for each of the Tálúqs in which forests are situated excepting the Denkindotta Tálúq, and have shown the tax levied during Fasli 1268, 1269 and half of the current Fasli. The statement also gives the number of Revenue Peons hitherto employed in each Tálúq. I do not think that any smaller Establishment than the one shown in this statement would answer.

4. The collections in the Tripatūr and the Namkul Tálúqs are at present very small. I imagine there will be a considerable increase in the collections hereafter in these two Tálúqs if the Establishment is sufficiently strong to carry out an improved system. Very little timber has been cut hitherto in the Collimalay jungles (Namkul Tálúq) for no licenses have as yet been

5. For the Tripatúr Tálug I have allowed one Pygust and four Peons. This Establishment may be sufficient for the present. In respect to these Hills, care is needed that persons do not clandestinely cut and remove timber on the sides adjoining the North and the South Arcot Districts.

6. The collections made in the Attúr Tálug is for timber cut in the Toomulmamanjeo Hills, forming part of the Chittairy range of hills.

7. The whole Establishment amounts to a monthly charge of Rupees 619, which is 105 Rupees more than the cost of the Establishment hitherto maintained, including the pay of the Táluq Peons.

8. The Establishment you have proposed for Denkincotta and Penagram will, I hope, be sufficient.

9. I do not give any opinion in regard to the "stations" which you propose to occupy with the proposed Establishment, for in your statement no stations are specified.

10. The collections during the last year amounted to Rupees 6,680, exclusive of seignorage on Railway sleepers. The cost of the Establishment on the scale I have prepared is therefore Rupees 608 per annum above the receipts. I anticipate that the expenditure and the receipts will soon be equalized under an improved system.

11. In preparing my statement I have not overlooked the fact that you intend to discontinue the present mode of collecting the tax on timber. Though the tax is no longer to be levied on timber as it passes Tannahs, it will still be necessary to maintain Tannahs on the principal roads leading from the forest, that licenses may be examined and timber may not be cut or removed clandestinely. I am decidedly of opinion that the 'Tahsildars' Peons who have hitherto been employed at the Tannahs can no longer be spared from the ordinary duties devolving on them as Táluq Peons.

Statement showing the present and proposed Establishment required for the Conservancy in the District of Salem.											
Talûqs.	Collection in Fasil 1268.	Do. in Fasil 1269.	Do. in the six months during the Current Fasil.	Present Establishment.	Amount.		Proposed Establishment.	Amount.		Total Amount.	
					RS.	A. P.		RS.	A. P.		
Attûr	85	50	1,152	3 Revenue Peons.....	10	8 0	1 Pygust... ..	7	0 0	31	0 0
Salem... ..	1,443	3,077	239	5 Do.	17	8 0	4 Peons at 6 Rupees each... ..	24	0 0	37	0 0
Namkul... ..	15	109	12	6 Do.	21	0 0	1 Pygust... ..	7	0 0	31	0 0
Utengeri	559	1,856	835	7 Do.	24	8 0	1 Pygust... ..	7	0 0	31	0 0
				1 Daloyel.....	7	0 0	4 Peons	24	0 0	58	0 0
Tripatûr	94	200	217	4 Peons.....	31	8 0	1 Pygust... ..	10	0 0	31	0 0
				Total Revenue Establishment...	14	0 0	8 Peons	48	0 0	31	0 0
				Present Conservancy Establishment according to Captain Morgan's Statement.....	95	8 0	1 Pygust... ..	7	0 0	188	0 0
				Total...	418	8 0	4 Peons	24	0 0	131	0 0
					514	0 0	Proposed Establishment for Den- kenkotta and Penagarum accord- to Captain Morgan's Statement...			300	0 0
							Pay of the Assistant Conservator, one Overseer and one Writer according to do.....			619	0 0
							Deduct amount of the present Es- tablishment.....			514	0 0
							Increase.....			105	0 0
(Signed) H. A. BRETT, Collector.											
SÂLEM COLLECTOR'S OFFICE, On Circuit, Thenkerrydrûg 6th April 1861.											

the Acting Comdr., Submitting

Revised Statement of the present and proposed Establishment required for the Conservancy of the Salem Forests.

Number.	Present Establishment.	Amount.	Number.	Proposed Establishment.	Amount proposed by the Conservator of Forests.	Amount proposed by the Collector.
	<i>Salem.</i>			<i>Salem.</i>		
1	Assistant Conservator of Forests	200	1	Assistant Conservator of Forests... ..	200	0
2	Overseers at 60 Rupees each... ..	120	1	Overseer	80	0
4	Peons at 6 Rupees each	24	18	Peons at 6 Rupees each... ..	108	0
8	do. at 6 do. (temporary)... ..	48	1	Writer... ..	20	0
	<i>Denkencottah.</i>			<i>Denkencottah.</i>		
1	Gumashta	4	1	Overseer... ..	60	0
4	Peons at 2 Rupees each	8	1	Gumashta	8	0
	<i>Jaralycara.</i>			<i>Jaralycara.</i>		
1	Gumashta	4	1	Pygust	7	0
3	Peons at 2 Rupees each... ..	6	6	Peons at 6 Rupees each	36	0
	<i>Goomalapooram.</i>			<i>Penagarum.</i>		
1	Pygust... ..	2	2	Gumashta... ..	8	0
1	Peon... ..	2	2	Peons at 6 Rupees each	12	0
	Add pay of peons of the Collector's Establishment.	95		Rupees...	539	0
	Total Rupees...	514		Proposed by the Collector as per his Statement	619	0
				Deduct present Establishment	514	0
				Total Increase per month Rupees... ..	105	0

OOTACAMUND,
11th April 1861.

(Signed) H. R. MORGAN, Captain,
Officiating Conservator of Forests.

No. 496. From Captain H. R. MORGAN, Officiating Conservator of Forests, to J. D. BOURDILLON, Esq., Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Fort Saint George, dated Ootacamund, 16th April 1861, No. 451.

SIR,

1. As requisitions for sleeper Licenses both for the South West and North West lines are numerous, I have the honor to request you will be so good as to bring the following subject to the notice of Government as early as possible.

2. With reference to my proposition contained in letter No. 281 of 13th December 1860, I have the honor to report for the information of Government that since inspecting the Salem jungles, I would modify my proposition and simply levy a seignorage of one Rupee per bandy load of wood, whether it be sleepers for the Railway, or wood cut for general purposes, and thus relieve the Railway of seignorage, which, on rejected sleepers has through want of proper supervision been evaded."

3. The Collector in paragraph 7 of his letter to the Board of Revenue, dated 27th February 1861, No. 31, writes. "I see no need now of any distinction in favor of persons contracting to "supply sleepers."

4. The trees suitable for market purposes are so very distant from each other in the Salem jungles that the cost of marking them would require a very expensive establishment.

No. 497. ORDER THEREON, 30th April 1861, No. 970.

1. The three papers recorded above relate to the conservation of the jungles of the Salem District. The first of the three is from the Board of Revenue, submitting the opinion of the Collector on a proposal made by the Acting Conservator, to levy a seignorage or fee of one Rupee for every tree felled; the seignorage of three Annas for each sleeper being still payable, as it seems, by the Railway Company.*

The second is from the Acting Conservator, submitting a Statement of the Establishment required for the Salem jungles.

The third is from the same Officer, recommending a fee of one Rupee a bandy load for all wood, in place of the one Rupee a tree recommended in his former letter.

2. Some attempt to conserve the Salem jungles has been maintained since 1858, when an Assistant Conservator (Mr. Blenkinsop) was appointed to the District. But he was almost wholly unprovided with Establishment; and although a system of felling under license was established, yet the licenses were notoriously abused, and no means were taken to prevent the cutting of young trees, though that is in fact the primary object of conservation. Even under this very defective system, however, the receipts have been much more than sufficient to maintain an efficient Establishment. The produce of the license fees last year was 6,680 Rupees, while the amount of the seignorage on sleepers in the official year 1859-60, was 23,471 Rupees; making a total of above 30,000 Rupees a year. The receipts under the latter head will probably fall off to some extent; but the annual demand for sleepers is still likely to be large and steady, as sleepers need periodical renewal. Their average duration has been stated by Dr. Cleghorn at only eight years. The ordinary income from the jungles would certainly be materially increased under an efficient conservancy.

3. The conservation of jungle timber is a matter of great and increasing public importance. Captain Morgan's report of his tour of the Salem jungles, which forms an enclosure to his letter of April 11th, shows (paragraphs 12, 22, 26) how the timber resources of that District have suffered, and continue to suffer, from the practice of felling saplings and half grown trees. The great object of the Conservancy Establishment in such Districts as Salem, is to check this ruinous practice. In Districts of this character the forests cannot be of any importance as a source of revenue; but they can be made to pay for the means of preventing waste and the eventual destruction of the timber and fuel supply.

the Acting Conservator, Submitting

4. Captain Morgan's propositions now before Government contain, however, scarcely any provision for conservation in this sense; they provide chiefly, and almost solely, for the collection of a revenue from the Forests, without care to prevent improper felling. The only effectual way of doing this is by making arrangements to have trees to be cut marked by the Forest Department; and to prohibit the felling of trees not so marked. This is noticed both by the Collector and by the Board; but the Board couple with it a system of auction sales which would probably be found to be applicable in but very few parts of Salem, if in any at all.

5. To maintain an effectual conservancy in the Salem jungles would require a larger Establishment than Captain Morgan proposes; and he was probably deterred by the supposed want of funds from proposing a larger one. But it has already been seen that including the receipts for Railway Sleepers, which Captain Morgan had overlooked, the available funds are

	Monthly cost.
Present Establishment..... Rs.	418 8 0
Pay of Collector's Peons employed..... „	95 8 0
	Total Rs.
Proposed Establishment..... „	514 0 0
	619 0 0
Increase Rs.	105 0 0

ample. The proposed Establishment indeed is only the existing Establishment slightly increased, and with Departmental Peons instead of those heretofore furnished from the Tálugs, who, Mr. Brett truly says, can no longer be supplied from the present Tálug Establishments.

6. In pursuance of the views above expressed, the Governor in Council resolves to desire the Acting Conservator, in communication with the Collector, to report what Establishment would be sufficient for an effective conservation; what localities should be placed under it; and what rules should regulate its proceedings. In proposing an Establishment due attention should be paid to economy; and no more should be asked for than is really necessary for the purpose in view. As a temporary arrangement His Excellency in Council sanctions the Establishment now proposed; with the exception of the Peons, whose pay should be five Rupees a month, being the same as the Tálug Peons, instead of six Rupees.

7. Pending final orders the Collector will adopt one or the other of Captain Morgan's two proposals respecting fees, as he may, on the whole, think best. But it appears to Government that a fee of one Rupee a bandy load on firewood would be excessive, and the Collector will be authorized to reduce the rate.

8. The Pennagaram Forest (paragraphs 25, &c., of the Report) is evidently a valuable one, and deserving of careful conservation. The Sandal-wood forests, especially in Denkanacotta Tálug, might probably become a source of revenue of some value.

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

Memorandum on Revenue
N^o 910-918-949.

These three papers
referred to above
refer to the conservation of the
Salem jungles. The first of the
three is from the Bd of Rev
submitting the opinion of the
Board on a proposal made
by the Acting Conservator to
levy a signorage or fee of one
rupee for every tree felled;
the signorage of 30 annas for
each sleeper being still pay-
able, as it seems, by the Rail-

** Known by Can^l & Des^r.*
13/60 N^o 281.

may be done.

The second is from
the Acting Conserv^r, submitting

a Statt of the Estat required
for the Salem jungles. —

The thund is from the
same officer, recommending
a fee of one Rupee a handy
load for all woods, in place of
the one Rupee a tree recom-
mended in his former letter.

2. — Some attempt to con-
serve the Salem jungles has
been maintained since 1858,
when an Asst. Comr. (Mr.
Blenkissop), was appointed
to the District. But he was
almost wholly unprovided
with Estat; and altho a
system of felling under li-
cense was established, yet
the licenses were notoriously
abused)

abused, and no means were
taken to prevent the cutting
of young trees, tho that is in
fact the primary object of con-
servation. Even under this
very defective system, however,
the receipts have been much
more than sufficient to main-
tain an efficient Estat. The
produce of the license fees
last year was 16,680 Rupees,
while the amount of the
signorage on sleepers, in the
affl. year 1859/60 was
23,441 Rupees; making a
total of above 39,000 Rupees
a year. The receipts under
the latter head will pro-
bably fall off to some extent

but the annual demand for sleepers is still likely to be large and steady, as sleepers need periodical renewal. Their average duration has been stated ^{by B. C. Clegg} at only eight years. The ordinary income from the jungles would certainly be materially increased under an efficient Conservancy.

3. — The conservation of jungle timber is a matter of great and increasing public importance. Capt. Morgan's Report of his tour of the Salween jungles, which forms

an enclosure to his letter of April 11, (Para's 12, 22, 26) shows how the timber resources of that District have suffered and continue to suffer, from the practice of felling saplings and half grown trees. The great object of the Conservancy ~~is~~ in such Districts as Salween, is to check this ruinous practice. In Districts of this character the forests cannot be of any importance as a source of Revenue, but they can be made to pay for the means of preventing waste and the eventual destruction of the timber and fuel supply. —

4. — Capt. Morgan's propositions now before Govt. ^{however} contain

contain scarcely any provision
 for conservation in this sense;
 they provide chiefly, and almost
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 out care to prevent improper
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 This is noticed both by the
 Bd. and by the V.D.; but
 the V.D. couple with it a
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5.— To maintain an ef-
 fectual conservancy in the Sa-
 lem jungles would require
 a larger Estab^t than Captain
 Morgan proposes; and he was
 probably deterred by the sup-
 posed want of funds from
 proposing a larger one. But
 it has already been seen
 that, including the receipts
 for Railway sleepers, which
 Capt. Morgan had overlooked,
 the available funds are
 ample. The proposed Estab^t
 indeed is only the
 existing Estab^t
 slightly

Present Estab ^t	418-8
Pay of coll ^y Conserv ^y	
-ployed	95-8
Total	514-u
Proposed Estab ^t	619-u
Increase	105-u

slightly increased, and with
departmental forms instead
of those heretofore furnished
from the Salug, who, ~~as~~ ^{as} W.
Brett truly says, can no
longer be supplied from the
present Salug Establs. —

b. — It appears to me
on the whole that the best
course will be to sanction
as a temporary arrangement
the Establs. now proposed,
and to desire the ^{Colt. said}
the Ag. Com^{tee} to report
what Establs. would be suf-
ficient for an effective
conservation, what localities
should be placed under it;
and

It seems
best to mean
the

This seems
the best thing
to do
4/11

and what rules should re-
gulate its proceedings. —

In the meanwhile the
Establs. now proposed would
come into operation, and ^{head}
ing a final arrangement, one
or the other of Capt. Morgan's
two proposals respecting fees

might be adopted as the ^{best}
on the whole, might think
best. — The pay of the Beos
should be 5 Rs., as ordered
in Kudlapah, instead of six.

4. — The Penag^{aram} forest
(Pages 25 & after Report) is
evidently a valuable one, &
deserving of careful conser-
vation. The sandal wood
forests, especially in Deu-
-Kuncatta Salug, might pro-
bably

probably become a source
of Revenue of some value. —

DA

25

Rev Dept

970

Proceedings of the Madrid Government
Under date the 30th April 1867—

Revit the following

!

Hereunder 8 April 1916

There enters it " " " "

Here enter 10 April - 1880

1. The three papers recorded above relate to

~~Handwritten signature~~

[Handwritten signature]

C. 2 April 1827.

to the conservation of
the ~~Salem~~ Jungles
of the Salem District.
The first of the three
is from the Board of
Revenue, submitting
the opinion of the
Collector on a proposal
made by the Acting
Conservator, to levy a
signorage or fee of
one rupee for every
tree felled, the sig-
norage of 3 annas for
each sleeper being
still payable, as it
seems, by the Railway
Company.

* From Ag. Conserv. Decr 13/60 c

The second is from
the Acting Conserva-
tor, submitting a
statement of the Estab-
lishment required
for the Salem jungles.

The third is from
the same officer,
recommending a fee
of one Rupee a handy
load

load for all wood,
in place of the one
Rupee a tree recom-
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letter.

2. Some attempt to
conserve the Salem
jungles has been main-
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an Assistant Conserv-
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was appointed to the
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almost wholly im-
powered with Estab-
lishment, and altho
a system of felling
under license was
established, yet the
licenses were notori-
ously abused, and
no means were taken
to prevent the cutting
of young trees, tho' that
is in fact the primary
object of conservation.

Ever

Even under this very defective system, however, the receipts have been much more than sufficient to maintain an efficient establishment. The produce of the license fees last year was 5680 Rs, while the amount of the signorage on sleepers, in the financial year 1859/60 was 23671 Rs, making a total of above 30000 Rs a year. The receipts under the latter head will probably fall off to some extent, but the annual demand for sleepers is still likely to be large and steady, as sleepers need periodical renewal. Their average duration

duration has been stated by Dr. Coghlan as only eight years. The ordinary income from the jungles would certainly be materially increased under an efficient conservancy.

3. The conservation of jungle timber is a matter of great and increasing public importance. Capt. Pargues, report of his tour of the Salween jungles, which forms an enclosure to his letter of April 11 shows (Paras 12, 22, 26) ~~shows~~ how the timber resources of that District have suffered, and continue to suffer, from the practice of felling saplings and half grown trees. The great object of the Conservancy Establishment in such Districts

as Salem, is to check this
ruinous practice. In
Districts of this charac-
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be of any importance
as a source of revenue,
but they can be made
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and the continual de-
struction of the timber
and fuel supply.

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This is noticed both
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he was probably de-
terred by the supposed
want of funds from
proposing

proposing a larger one. But it has already been seen that including the receipts for Railway sleepers, which Capt Morgan has overlooked, the available funds are ample. The proposed Establishment indeed is only the existing Establishment slightly increased, and with the departmental peons instead of those heretofore furnished from the Daluhs, who, as Brett truly says, can no longer be supplied from the present Daluh Establishment.

6. In pursuance of the views above expressed, the Governor in Council resolves therefore to desire that Mr. Cons. in communication with the Collector, to report what Establishment would be sufficient for our expected conservation.

	monthly cost
Present Estab ^t — — —	Rs 418-8-0
Pay of forest peons employed — —	95-8-0
	Total 514-0-0
Proposed Estab ^t — — —	579-0-0
	Increase 105-0-0

conservation; what localities should be placed under it; and what rules should regulate its proceedings. In proposing an Establishment, due attention should be paid to economy; and no more should be asked for than is really necessary for the purpose in view. As a temporary arrangement His Excellency in Council sanctions the Establishment now proposed; with the exception of the peons, whose pay should be five rupees a month, being the same as the Sahib Ponds instead of six Rupees.

7. Pending final orders the Collector will adopt one or the other of Capt Morgan's two proposals respecting fees, as he may, on the whole, think best. But it appears to Gov^t that ~~to pay~~ a fee of one Rupee on firewood would be

be excessive, & the Collection will be authorized to
reduce the value

8. The Panagaram forest,
(Para 25th of the Report) is evi-
dently a valuable one, and
deserving of careful conserva-
tion. The sandalwood forests,
especially in Puttur Taluk,
might probably become a
source of Revenue of some value.

[Signature]

13 Copies. Board of Revenue. Chief Secy.
4 " Conservator of Forests. Secy.
1 " Collector of Salem. ✓
3 " Accountant General. ✓
3 " Civil Auditor. ✓

R 20 Decemb 60. 346
R 7 - March 61 - 99.100

Conservation of the Salem
Jungles.

Revenue 1861 Departt.
Pro: of Govt. for April

No 970.

Pro: of the Villadras Govt.
Of 30th April 1861.

From the Off^r Civil Audit
Of J^r James 1861 C^r 1287
at Pro. Miscellaneous

From the Off^r Secy of Forests
Of 10th Dec 1860 No 147
From the C^r Secy of Forests
Of 3rd Aug 1861 No 1548

Sanction a temporary
establishment for the conservation
of Salem Forest with directions
to propose to an Establish-
ment sufficient for an
effective conservancy and
order the sale of wood and
fuel at certain rates per
cart.

No 94 at 497.

23-94RH
3030/94