M.R.O. 14—10,000—21-4-22

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1394 Press Mis.

372-373

Dated 25 - 6 - 1862.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 25th June 1862.

No. 372. Read the following letter from G. A. BALLARD, Esq., Collector of Malabar, to J. D. SIM, Esq., Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Fort Saint George, dated Calicut, 16th June 1862, No. 48:—

SIR,

1. By the orders of Government, dated 19th December 1855, No. 1,332, the general Forest Conservancy was made over to a staff then appointed.

2. In a letter* addressed some little time afterwards by the Conservator of Forests to the then Collector of Malabar, the former Officer remarked regarding the Conolly Teak Plantations at Nullumboor, "I do not intend to make any alteration in this system "of management, and propose that the Sub-Conservator and his Establishment remain under the "Collector and his Assistants, trusting that the same supervision will be exercised as heretofore." Accordingly the management of these plantations has remained with the Collector, in correspondence of course with the Conservator till the present time, and their complete success, I think, shows that no change is desirable.

* From Conservator of Forests to Collector of Malabar, dated 28th April 1862, No. 120.

3. Shortly after my arrival here however in May last, I received a letter† from Major Babington, Assistant Conservator, in which he says referring to the Conolly plantations: "In future the accounts must be submitted monthly to me by the Sub-Conservator, and the trouble "removed from your Office." On my requesting Major Babington to inform me if he had received any orders of Government requiring this change, which in effect removes the superintendence and management of the forests from the Revenue to the Forest Department, he referred me to certain orders of Government which have not been received in this Office.

† Dated 15th May 1862, No. 2.

4. I addressed the Board of Revenue, from whom I learn‡ that no orders on the subject have been communicated to them; and as they have laid my letter before Government, I venture to address you direct upon it.

‡ Board's Proceedings, dated 7th June 1862, No. 3,659.

5. I am strongly of opinion that the management of these plantations should be directly under the Collector. The accounts are all rendered in Malayalim by the local Establishment, and unless the Assistant Conservator has a Malayalim Establishment, I fear he would be able to make but little of them. But I argue on more general grounds, that for the settlement of disputed occupancy or boundaries, for the prevention of trespass and fraud, for the supply of labor, for regulating all the arrangements connected with the sale of timber either on the spot or after transport to Calicut, Beypúr, or elsewhere, the Collector and his Department have facilities which no other Department can have, and I need hardly remark that his control is more likely to be efficient if the management of the plantations is nominally, as it must to a great extent be in reality, under him. The professional advice and inspection of the Forest Department would be courted, but the responsible management should be with the Collector; and the Overseer or local Manager, whether European or Native, should report to and take orders from him.

6. That Dr. Cleghorn was much of this opinion, appears to me plain from his letter above quoted in paragraph 2, and from a subsequent one written on the eve of his departure to England to the Collector, copy of which I enclose.

Dated 27th August 1860, No. 136.

7. I personally inspected the plantations last week, I have seen a good deal of Mr. Ferguson, the Overseer lately engaged, and regarding whose appointment the final orders of Government are awaited; and I have only to add that if his services are retained, and the superintendence of the plantations continued to this Department, I shall give my earnest attention to secure and increase the success of these great national undertakings.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 25th June 1862.

From H. CLEGHORN, Esq., M. D., Conservator of Forests, to P. GRANT, Esq, Collector of Malabar, dated Madras, 27th August 1860, No. 136.

SIR,

1. Adverting to my approaching departure to England, and the increasing importance of the Conolly Teak Plantation, I write to express a hope that you may be able to visit Nullumboor occasionally and to encourage Chatoo Menon in the great work in which he is engaged. I am aware that much importance is attached to the visits of the Collector which have a great effect on the minds of the people.

2. If you should be prevented from personally visiting the plantation, I hope that you may be able to depute one of your Assistants, especially Mr. McGregor, to see that thinning is vigorously carried on.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) G. A. BALLARD, *Collector.*

No. 373.

ORDER THEREON, 25th June 1862, No. 1,394.

Resolved that a copy of the Order of Government, dated 18th June 1862, No. 1,343, (paragraph 2) retaining the Nullumboor Plantations under the Collector and Forester as at present be forwarded to Mr. Ballard in reply to this letter.

(Signed) P. P. HUTCHINS,

Acting Deputy Secretary to Government.

Rec.d 18 June 62
No. 271- 272

Rev.d 1862
Dep.t of Gov.t for Revn.e
From
The Collector of Malabar
To
The Secretary to Govt
Revenue Dep.t
Fort St. George

Dated 16 June 1862.
Rec.d 20th

No. 48
En: 1

No.
Requesting to be informed whether orders have been issued by Govt transferring the superintendence and management of the Forests from the Revenue to the Forests Department & expressing himself averse to the change-

No 1394. 25 June
With an order

No. 1394-

Resolved that a copy of the order of Govt dated 18th June 1862 No. 1343 (para 2) returning the Nullumboor Reclamations under the Collector and Forester as at present constituted be forwarded to Mr. Ballard, in reply to this letter.

Fort St. George
25th June 1862

Copy
Collector of Malabar with orders No. 1343 Copy 26
Board of Revenue
Conservator of Forests.

No. 372 & 373.