

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	2280	Press
		Mis.
	320.8251	1
Dated	24. 10.	19 1862

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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

No. 320. Read the following letter from Captain R. H. BEDDOME, Officiating Conservator of Forests, to J. D. SIM, Esq., Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Fort Saint George, dated Camp Ootacamund, 6th September 1862, No. 178 :—

SIR,

I. I have the honor to forward answers to your several questions, about the Australian plantations near Wellington.

1st. *The extent of land which is to be planted?*

Answer.—600 Acres.

2nd. *The annual cost, every thing included, year by year?*

Answer.—From the commencement, i.e. March 1856 up to April 1858, the plantation was under the charge of Captain Campbell, the Officer in charge of the Barracks, he expended in those two years Rupees 5,460-10-10 out of a sum of Rupees 7,500, sanctioned by Government to form the plantation; the following are the particulars of his expenditure for planting eight acres, purchase of seedlings, &c., &c. :—

	RS.	A.	P.
To trenching 6 acres at Rupees 90	540	0	0
3,300 yards ditching, fencing, and on water courses	618	5	0
15,000 seedlings at 7 Rupees per 100... ..	1,050	0	0
Seeds and nursery beds	371	8	6
Baskets... ..	212	1	11
Purchase of land... ..	700	0	0
Forester's house	100	0	0
Rifle for shooting wild animals	80	0	0
Ventilating paths... ..	8	2	0
36,000 hardwoods, including the necessary } watering, nurseries and fencing.....	1,780	9	5
	5,460	10	10
Original grant.....	7,500	0	0
Expended by Captain Campbell.....	5,460	10	10
	2,039	5	2 balance handed

over to the Conservator of Forests.

Dr. Cleghorn, Conservator of Forests, took the plantations over in January 1858, with a balance in hand as follows :—

2,039	5	2	Balance from Captain Campbell.
2,500	0	0	New Government grant, 3rd June 1858.
420	7	2	Fines, sale of seedlings, &c.,
4,959	12	4	

In December 1859, Dr. Cleghorn reported that he had planted above 90 acres, in addition to the eight acres planted by Captain Campbell, and that the total number of trees was two lacs.

His expenditure for the two years (1858 to 1859) was Rupees 5,259-8-6. Of which the particulars were as follows :—

	RS.	A.	P.
Paid Corporal Hall for six months up to 31st October 1859... ..	210	0	0
Do. establishment up to 31st October 1859	2,407	9	4
Do. trenching, &c.	1,643	13	4
Do. for seeds, baskets, tools, &c.... ..	968	1	10
	5,259	8	6
Amount expended over the sanction...	299	12	2
	4,959	12	4

In January 1860, Government sanctioned a third grant, amounting to 2,500 Rupees.

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

In the official year 1860-61, twenty-nine acres were planted out with 35,000 trees, an Rupees 1,656 were expended. In addition to this Rupees 692-7-3 was deducted by Captai Farewell, the Executive Engineer of the Barracks (in whose hands the funds had for convenienc been placed), for stores reported to have been supplied in Captain Campbell's time.

In the official year 1861-62 little or nothing was done in the plantations, owing t Captain Farewell's having deducted the sum of Rupees 692-7-3. No funds were available Rupees 333-6-0 were only expended in this year. On May 1st, 1862, No. 933, Governmen sanctioned a fourth grant of Rupees 500.

3rd. *The annual proceeds in a lump?*

Answer.—In 1858 to 1861 Rupees 480-7-2 seem to have been realized by fines and sale o seedlings, which amount was expended on the plantations, since that period nothing has been realized until August 1862, when poles cut for thinning were sold for Rupees 82-10-8.

4th. *The probable total outlay and receipts?*

Answer.—Major Morgan estimates that the expenses attending planting out each acre, i economically carried out, would be 60 Rupees, this however does not allow for the renewal o a single plant, and I think that the expenses would be more likely to average 80 Rupees at acre, even if carried out with strict economy. I strike the difference, which will give a tota cost for planting the 600 acres as follows:—

	RS.	A.	P.
Amount already expended in planting out about 130 Acres	12,920	7	2
Planting out the remaining 470 acres at 70 Rupees per acre	32,900	0	0
Total Rupees...	45,820	7	2

It is impossible to give even a rough estimate of what the returns are likely to be.

5th. *The object of the plantations was firewood, this will, I conclude, be necessary now that the Barracks are re-occupied?*

6th. *Would it be good economy to sell the place, and start another nearer Jackatalla?*

Answer.—Firewood can, for the next five years, be supplied from the Sholas, after that we might commence supplying it from the plantation, although I feel sure that the trees will always sell better, as poles for building purposes, than as firewood.

1. In the Rupees 12,920-7-2, entered as the expenditure up to May 1862, only a small portion of Corporal Hall's (the Overseer's) salary has been included, if it is all debited against the plantation, it will have cost Rupees 17,000, if the plantation could be sold for this amount, it would be very advantageous to sell it, as we could plant the same area for very much less. I doubt however, if we would sell it for one-half of that sum. I much doubt if the receipts of the plantation will ever cover the outlay, as however, there is no chance of selling it, we must now carry out the experiment.

2. In conclusion, I must observe that the expenditure is far in excess of what it s uld have been. The sites selected have been bad, every portion of the ground too has been plant ed, and in some places, where the soil is bad or where from the steepness the soil has constantly been washed away by the rain, the plants have had to be renewed two or three times, and are still quite a failure. In some portions of the plantations, were the soil is good, the grow'h of the trees has been good.

No. 321.

ORDER THEREON, 25th October 1862, No. 2,280.

1. This is a report from the Officiating Conservator of Forests on the Australian Planta- tions near Wellington.

2. This plantation was originated by Captain J. A. Campbell, when Assistant Exec- e Engineer on the Neilgherries. Its object was to meet the very extensive requirements of firewood at Wellington.

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

3. Captain Campbell's original proposition was that Rupees 30,000 should be placed at his disposal for the formation of the plantation. He subsequently suggested that two square miles should be planted at a cost of Rupees 3,20,000, which he calculated would yield timber in ten years of the value of 32 lacs of Rupees. The Government however in their Proceedings of 7th February 1856, No. 129, resolved, on the recommendation of the Board of Revenue, upon a

more limited experiment. The sum at first sanctioned for the purpose was Rupees 7,500,* but three additional sums aggregating Rupees 5,500† having subsequently been allowed, the total grant amounted to Rupees 13,000.

* Proceedings Board of Revenue, 9th June 1857, No. 1,951, paragraph 1.

† Rs.
2,500 sanctioned in G. O. 3rd June 1858, No. 748.
2,500 do. in G. O. 20th January 1860, No. 101.
500 do. in G. O. 1st May 1862, No. 933, para- graph 10.

Total 5,500

Letter dated 15th December 1859, No. 877, in G. O. 20th January 1860, No. 101.

4. Dr. Cleghorn the Conservator of For- ests, in reporting on this plantation in Decem- ber 1859, stated that it was then in a very pro- mising condition, and that some return might

be expected from thinnings in two years from that time. It appears however, from Captain Beddome's present letter, that the proceeds from the plantation from 1858 to the present year, have been but Rupees 563, of which a portion was from fines. The extent intended to be planted is 600 acres; but it is seen from Captain Beddome's letter that only 130 acres have as yet been planted at a cost of Rupees 12,920, while a further outlay of Rupees 32,900 is estimated for the remaining 470 acres.

5. Captain Beddome considers the expenditure far in excess of what it ought to have been; and as to the plantation itself, he states that "the sites selected have been bad, every portion of "the ground too, has been planted, and in some places where the soil is bad, or where from the "steepness the soil has constantly been washed away by the rain, the plants have had to be "renewed two or three times, and are still quite a failure." "In some portions of the planta- tions where the soil is good," he observes, "the growth of the trees has been good."

6. The Honorable the Governor in Council has no doubt that the plantation has been mismanaged, and it seems to him questionable whether it will ever pay in such a way as to render it desirable to continue operations. Before however passing any orders on the subject, the Government referring to Captain Beddome's statement that firewood can for the next five years be supplied from the Sholas, request that Officer to state whence the article is to be obtained after that period, in the event of the plantation being abandoned.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,

Chief Secretary.

N^o 148

Office of Conservator of Forests
Camp Cothassumundi 6th September 1862

From,

Captain R. H. Seddorne

Offy Conservator of Forests

To,

J. D. Sim Esqr:

Secretary to Government
Revenue Department
Fort St George

Sir,

I have the honor to forward answers to your
several questions, about the Australian plantations near
Wellington.

1st The extent of land which is to be planted

Answer. 600 Acres

2^d The annual cost every thing included year by year

Answer. From the Commencement, i.e. March 1856 up to
April 1858. The plantation was under the charge of
Captain Campbell, the Officer in charge of the Barracks, he
expended in those 2 years, Rs 5460. 10. 10, out of a sum of
Rs 4,500, sanctioned by Government to form the plantation;
the following are the particulars of his expenditure for
planting 8 acres - purchase of seedlings &c &c

To trenching

W. J. J.

+ This is a copy of the original letter.

No trenching 6 acres @ Rs 70 = Rupees 540.0.0
 3,300 yards ditching fencing, & on water courses. 618. 5.0
 15,000 seedlings @ 7 Rs per 100 ——— 1,050. 0.0
 Seeds & nursery beds ——— 341. 8.6
 Baskets ——— 212. 1.11
 Purchase of land ——— 700. 0.0
 Forester's house ——— 100. 0.0
 Rifle for shooting wild animals ——— 80. 0.0
 Ventilating paths ——— 8. 2.0
 36,000 hardwoods, including the necessary
 watering nurseries & fencing ——— 1,980. 9.5
 Rupees 5,460. 10.10

Original grant Rupees 4,500

Expended by Capt Campbell 5,460. 10.10

2,039. 5.2 Balance handed over
to the Conservator of Forest

Mr Colclough Conservator of Forests took the plantations
over, in January 1868, with a balance in hand as follows.

2,039. 5.2 Balance from Capt Campbell

2,500. 0.0 New Govt grant 3rd June 1858.

420. 4.2 Fines, sale of seedlings &c

4,959. 12.4

In December 1859, Mr Colclough reported that he
had planted above 90 acres, in addition to the 8 acres
planted, by Capt Campbell, and that the total number

of

of trees was 2 lacs

The expenditure for the 2 years (1858 to 1859)
was Rupees 5,259. 8.6

Of which the particulars were as follows.

Paid Corporal Wall for 6 months up to 31st October 1859 Rs 240. 0.0

Establishment up to 31st October 1859. ——— 2404. 9.4

" Trenching &c ——— 1,643. 13.4

" For seeds baskets tools &c ——— 968. 1.10

Rupees 5,259. 8.6

Amount expended over the sanction 299. 12.2

4,959. 12.4

In January 1860, Government sanctioned

a third grant, amounting to 2,500 Rupees.

In the Official year 1860/61, Twenty nine
acres were planted out with 35,000 trees, and Rs 1,656 were
expended. In addition to this Rs 692. 4.3 was deducted
by Capt Farewell, the Executive Engineer of the Barracks
(in whose hands the funds had for convenience been placed)
for stores reported to have been supplied in Capt Campbell's
time.

In the Official year 1861/62 little or nothing
was done in the plantations, owing to Capt Farewell's
having deducted the sum of Rs 692. 4.3. No funds were
available

available. Rs 333.6 were only expended in this year.

On May the 1st 1862 Rs 933 Government sanctioned a fourth grant of Rupees 500

3^d The Annual proceeds in a lump

Answer. In 1858 to 61 Rupees 480.4.2 seem to have been realized by fines & sale of seedlings, which amount was expended on the plantations, since that period nothing has been realized until August 1862. When poles cut for thinning were sold for Rs 52.10.8

4th The probable total on day & receipts

Answer. Major Morgan estimates that the expenses attending planting out each acre, if economically carried out, would be 60 Rupees. This, however, does not allow for the renewal of a single plant, and I think that the expenses would be more likely to average 80 Rupees an acre, even if carried out with strict economy. I strike the difference, which will give a total cost for planting the 600 acres as follows.

Amount already expended in planting out	Rs 12,920.4.2
about 130 acres	
Planting out the remaining 470 acres at	
40 Rs per acre	Rs 32,900.0.0
Total Rupees	Rs 45,820.4.2

It is impossible to give even a rough estimate of what the returns are likely to be.

5th The object of the plantations was firewood
this

5
this will I conclude be necessary now that the barracks are re-occupied?

6th Would it be good economy to sell the place, and start another nearer Jackatalla?

Answer. Firewood can, for the next 5 years, be supplied from the Thalas, after that, we might commence supplying it from the plantation, although I feel sure that the trees will always sell better, as poles for building purposes, than as firewood.

In the Rs 12,920.4.2, entered as the expenditure up to May 1862, only a small portion of Corporal Hall's (the Overseer's) salary has been included, if it is all debited against the plantation, it will have cost Rs 14,000. if the plantation could be sold for this amount, it would be very advantageous to sell it, as we could plant the same area for very much less, I doubt however if we would sell it for one half of that sum. I much doubt if the receipts of the plantation will ever cover the outlay, as however, there is no chance of selling it, we must now carry out the experiment.

2
In conclusion, I must observe that the expenditure is far in excess of what it should have been. The sites selected have been bad, every portion of the ground

ground too has been planted and in some places, where
the soil is bad or where from the steepness the soil has
constantly been washed away by the rain, the plants
have had to be renewed 2 or 3 times, & are still quite
a failure. In some portions of the plantations,
where the soil is good, the growth of the trees has been
good.

I have the honor to be,

Sir

Your most Obedient Servant

J. H. Reddaway Esq.

Offg. Conservator of Forests

Revenue Department

My dear Pycroft
 I send the
 Kestary Ferry Forest
 Draft. You will see
 that the plot is adverse -
 there are certainly no
 no forests & no markets
 in timber - and the
 position as far as
 by Reddown has
 much the appearance
 of Chesham

Revenue 1862-63
 of 25th Sept 1863

Mr. Off Secretary & Under Secretary

Mr. Sec. Secretary to Government

Revenue Department

West 23 George

Rated 6:00
 Dec 10th 1862

1862-1863

Conclusion of Work

1862-1863 25 Oct

Reporting upon the

Wellington Association

Plantation

1862

1862

Plantation -
 suggested that two square
 miles

of taxing the people
I put 30 Rs worth
into Hall's pocket.

As to the Melting ton
plantation there is
no doubt that it has
been mismanaged
and I doubt whether
it will ever bring
in such profit as
I make it worth while
for ^{me} to become dealers in

fire wood. But he are
in for it and it
is not quite clear
since in 1868 the
fire wood for proha-
talla is to come, if
he give the place up,
as the Govt suggests.

I would suggest that
an order be pre-
pared giving a piece
of Capt Campbell's
& Cleghorne Street to

Plantation - ~~area~~
by suggested that two square
miles

Expectations in for
 the plantation & its
 present condition - Ask
 Reddance to say when
 firewood is to come
 from 5 years hence etc.
 I have not the early papers
 here so cannot do the
 best of it.

for ever
 J. D. Linn

Revenue Department

No 2280

Proceedings of the Madras Government
under date the 25th October 1862

Read the follow-
ing letter from the offi-
ciating conservator of
Forests -

Reporting upon
the Wellington Aus-
tralian Plantation -

(Here enter 6th Sept.
1862 No 178)

1. This is a Report
from the Officiating Con-
servator of Forests on the
Australian Plantation
near Wellington -
2. This Plantation
was originated by cap-
tain J. R. Campbell, when
Assistant Executive En-
gineer on the Milghem
Its object ^{was} to meet the
very extensive requirements
of firewood at Wellington -
3. Captain Campbell's
original proposition, was
that Rs 30,000 should be
placed at his disposal
for the formation of the
Plantation - He subsequently
suggested that two square
miles

WU

RU

miles should be plant-
ed at a cost of Rs 320,000,
which he calculated
would yield timber in
ten years of the value of
32 lacs of Rs. The Govt
however in their Pro: of
7th February 1856 No 1292
resolved, on the recommend-
ation of the Board of
Revenue, upon a more
limited experiment. The
sum at first sanction-
ed for the purpose was
Rs 7500, but three addi-
tional sums aggregating
Rs 5500 having subsequent-
ly been allowed, the total
grant amounts to Ru-
pees 13,000.

4. In a report of the
servants of Forests, in re-
spect to this plantation
in December 1859, it is
stated that it was then in a very
promising condition, and
that some return might
be expected from thin-
ning in two years from
that time. It appears how-
ever from Captain Red-
dome's present letter that

* Pro: Bd of Rev 7th June
1857 No 1951 para 1.
* Rs 2500 sanctioned in S.O.
3rd June 1858 No 748.
2500 do in S.O. 20th January
1860 No 101.
500 do in S.O. 1st May 62
No 923 para 10.
Total, 5,500.

Letter dated 15th Decr 1859
No 877 in S.O. 20th January
1860 No 101.

the proceeds from the
plantation from 1858 to
the present year, have been
but Rs 563, of which a
portion was from fines.
The report intended to be
planted is 600 acres, but
it is seen from Captain
Reddome's letter that only
130 acres have as yet been
planted, at a cost of Ru-
pees 12,920, while a further
outlay of Rs 32,900 is esti-
mated for the remaining
470 acres.

5. Captain Reddome
considers the expenditure
far in excess of what it
ought to have been; and
as to the plantation, it
-self, he states that the
sites selected have been
"bad, every portion of the
ground has been planted,
and in some places where
the soil is bad, or where
"from the steepness the
soil has constantly been
"washed away by the rain,
the plants have had to be
"renewed two or three times,
and are still quite a
failure." In some portions
of

of the Plantations where
the soil is good," he
observes, "the growth of
the trees has been good."

6. The Honorable the
Governor in Council has
no doubt that the Planta-
tion has been mismanaged,
and it seems to him ques-
tionable whether it will
ever pay in such a way
as to render it desirable
to continue operations.

Before however passing
any orders on the subject,
the Govt. referring to Captain
Reddome's statement that
Screwwood can for the next
five years be supplied
from the Sholas, request
that officer to state whence
the article is to be obtain-
ed after that period,
in the event of the Plant-
ation being abandoned.

J.P.

4 Copies to the Comr. of Forest Dept.
14/11/08 Off. Secy

By Mr. Secy. to the Govt.
The Secy. to the Govt.
When it will be

1/4 in a Letter to England
12th Septem^r 1862

Wellington Australi-
an Plantation

Revenue 1862 Dept.
Pro: of Govt for October

N. 2280.

Pro: of the Madras Govt

25th October 1862.

From off^r Conservator Forests
24th Oct 62 L^r N. 3055.

The report of the
Officiating Conservator
of Forests on the Australian
Plantations near Wellington
reviewed.

N. 320 + 321.

22-10-62