M.R.O. 14—13,000—27-9-24.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 1460 Press ~~Mis.~~

51-52

Dated 6 — 8 — ~~19~~ 1863

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 6th August 1863.

No. 51. 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 Coimbatore, 25th July 1863, No. 607 :—

SIR,

1. I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Mr. H. A. Brett's Memorandum on the Salem Forests, forwarded with the Government Order No. 1,309 of the 16th of July.

2. Since Mr. Brett was in the Salem District a regular code of rules has been put in force and felling under the license system is now carried on with many more restrictions that it formerly was. The felling of saplings or very small trees has been put a stop to, and if the license holder attempts to break this rule, his license is forfeited and the timber is confiscated.

3. There can be no doubt that the most effective conservancy is for the Forest Department to work a forest themselves, but as I have already reported to Government there are great difficulties in the way of introducing this system into Districts like Salem where there are large straggling tracts of forest, and a larger Establishment would be necessary than the timber revenue could afford. This system might be introduced if we only worked one tract of forest at a time and shifted operations; this plan, however, would put the public to great inconvenience as certain Districts would be left for a time without any timber unless they chose to bring it from the spot where operations were being carried on, which might be a considerable distance.

4. I consider it a mistake, however, to suppose that conservancy cannot be carried on under the license system. With an effective and active Establishment much can be done, the chief duties of the Assistant Conservator, his Overseers and Peons are as follows:—To stop the felling of all saplings or very young trees, and to guard against injury to them from fires. To plant and prune when advisable or necessary. To stop all clandestine felling (which has till late years been carried on to an enormous extent). To stop Kumri cultivation on forest land. To enter in the license the tract of forest in which the felling is to take place, and thereby regulate the felling of timber and prevent any tract of forest from being exhausted. To mark trees where practicable and to see that the license holders conform to the rules laid down for conservancy. None of these points received attention in former years under the Revenue authorities.

5. The Sandal-wood forests of the Salem District are systematically worked; and if it will pay to work them at all the Pennagara Acha-wood forests should be regularly worked by an Establishment; and it will perhaps be feasible to work the forests at Hurroor and Cotapetty, but I am afraid it would not be possible to introduce this system throughout the District, the forests generally are too poor and too much scattered. I shall be visiting the Salem District again shortly, and I will then in continuation of this letter report what I consider can be done. It is practicable to mark the trees in many instances, and it is then done; but, without a much larger Establishment than we now have, it could hardly be carried out systematically throughout the whole District.

No. 52. ORDER THEREON, 6th August 1863, No. 1,460.

The Government will await the further report promised, and wish then to receive an estimate of the additional Establishment required for working the forests named in this letter, and also for marking trees to be cut, in them, if the licensing system is continued.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Conservator of Forests.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

felling (which has till late years been carried on to an enormous extent)— To stop kumri cultivation on forest land— To rule in the licenses the tract of forest in which the felling is to take place and thereby regulate the felling of timber and prevent any tract of forest from being exhausted To mark trees where practicable and to see that the licensed holders conform to the rules laid down for conservancy— None of these points received attention in former years under the Revenue authorities.

5. The Sandal wood forests of the Salem district are systematically worked; and if it will pay to work them at all the Sivaganga Sicha wood forests should be regularly worked by an establishment; and it will perhaps be feasible to work the forests at Attoor and Kolapatty but I am afraid it would not be possible to introduce this system throughout the district; the forests generally are too poor and too much scattered. I shall be visiting the Salem district again shortly and will then give my conclusions of this letter report what I consider can be done— It is practicable to mark the trees in many instances and

Navy Dept.
Bureau of Yards & Docks
Washington

In reply refer to
No. 1460
Ser. 51452

Sept. 16, 1863.

The Supervising Inspector of Steam Vessels
Boston, Mass.

Sir:

Your letter of the 12th inst. relative to the
Salem Steamboat Co. has been received.

The Department will await the report of the
Inspector of Hulls before taking any action in the matter.

Very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
Gideon Welles
Secretary of the Navy

Rec'd Sept. 16, 1863.
Dept. of Yards & Docks
No. 1460.

The Department will await the report of the Inspector of Hulls before taking any action in the matter.

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Secretary of the Navy

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Navy Dept. 1863. Dep't.
Bureau of Yards & Docks
No. 1791.
From

The Officer Commanding Forces
&
The Secretary to Commissioners
Revenue Department
Fort Saint George

Dated 25th Sept. 1863
Rec'd 31st " "
From Dep't Customs & Trents 12 Sept. 1863
No 286. No 607
Enclosure

Offering explanations
on Mr. Beall's Memorandum
regarding the Salem Vessels.

No. 1460. & Copies

With an Order

Navy Dept. 1863. Dep't.
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it is their duty to put on board a vessel bound to Saigon established
and that there is no law, it could lawfully be carried
out. You will therefore throughout the whole district
enforce the Regulations strictly.

I am &c &c

Sir

Your Most Obedient Servant

Robt Lenthall Captain

Superintending Inspector of Steam Vessels