M.R.O. 14—13,000—27-9-24.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 343 — Press Mis.

243.244

Dated 16. 2 - 1863

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 16th February 1863.

No. 243. 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, 9th January 1863, No. 339:—

SIR,

1. I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Memorandum dated the 9th ultimo, No. 220, requesting to be furnished with a report of what has been done by Mr. Brown in regard to the timber in the Roshambaug and Homes' Gardens, and to the planting of the Mount Road, together with a Memorandum of receipts and charges.

2. Of the orders quoted in the Memorandum, I find that those noted in the margin have not been communicated to this office, and I am consequently ignorant of their contents.

Procs. of Board of Revenue, No. 1,310, dated 8th March 1861.
G. O. No. 703, dated 26th March 1861.
" " 2,829, " 1st June "
" " 1,744, " 30th August "
" " 5,148, " 24th Sept. "
" " 1,966, " 10th October "

3. On looking up the papers connected with the Roshambaug and Homes' Gardens, I observe that, in Order No. 73, dated 16th January 1860, the Government instructed Mr. Brown, the Superintendent of the Horticultural Gardens, acting under the general directions of the Conservator of Forests, to examine and mark the trees, in order that those which are worn out or otherwise waste and useless may be cleared and sold. In a subsequent Order No. 923, dated 4th June 1860, Government approved of the proposition to employ a portion of the proceeds of the sale of the thinnings of these Estates, in restoring the avenue between Madras and Mount.

4. In reference to these orders it appears that Mr. Brown was allowed to carry on the work, reporting his proceedings from time to time to the Conservator of Forests.

5. It also appears that at Mr. Brown's suggestion, he was allowed to deposit the sums realized from the sales in the Bank of Madras, in order that he might conveniently withdraw such sums as were required for current expenditure.

6. The records further show that Mr. Brown held eight sales on the following dates, when he realized the sums noted against each date:—

		Rs.	A.	P.
9th July	1860.....	558	9	0
24th August	,, ...	741	1	0
5th September	,, ...	590	12	0
7th January	1861.....	1,170	2	0
22nd March	,, ...	868	15	0
1st April.	,, ...	906	5	0
24th do.	,, ...	866	3	0
31st January	1862.....	63	15	0
	Total...	5,765	14	0

7. With his letter No. 150, dated the 5th September 1860, Dr. Cleghorn submitted to Government an abstract account brought up to end of August 1860.

8. After that date it does not appear that Mr. Brown rendered any account to the Conservator of Forests, although frequently called upon to do so. Mr. Brown in fact was considered not to be directly under the orders of the Conservator, and the circumstance, I find, was brought to the notice of Government in paragraph 4 of Major Morgan's letter No. 379, dated 21st February 1861.

9. On the 4th November last, it was brought to the notice of this Department that Mr. Brown, who had obtained a few days' leave of absence from the Secretary of the Horticultural Gardens, had not returned to his duty. The Secretary has since handed over the books and papers found in Mr. Brown's Bungalow having reference to the Roshambaug and Homes' Gardens.

10. In examining these it has been ascertained that although a book was opened for the purpose of entering the receipts and disbursements, it was not kept up after August 1860. There were however several loose Memoranda giving details of the sales held and the expenditure incurred. From these I have had prepared the accompanying statement from which it will be seen that a sum of Rupees 5,765-14-0 was realized, and that the expenditure was Rupees 3,843-2-8, leaving a balance of Rupees 1,922-11-4 unaccounted for.

11. Immediately this was discovered, the Collector of Madras, the Accountant General, and the Secretary and Treasurer of the Bank of Madras were written to, to know whether Mr. Brown had deposited any sums on account of Government either in the Collector's Treasury or in the Bank of Madras.

12. The Collector of Madras has replied stating that Mr. Brown has only paid into his Treasury a sum of Rupees 150, the amount referred to in the Order of Government, No. 620, dated 24th April 1860.

13. The Accountant General and the Secretary and Treasurer have replied that no money was deposited by Mr. Brown.

14. With reference to the re-planting of the Mount Road Avenues, I beg to state that my predecessor, Major Morgan, in paragraph 3 of his letter No. 379, dated 21st February 1861, reported to Government that "Mr. Brown had finished the planting, and was prepared to deliver over charge."

15. I should have reported to Government the state of Mr. Brown's accounts *at once*, but I deemed it advisable before doing so, to ascertain from the Officers named whether or no they were aware of any deposits that Mr. Brown might have made.

No. 244. ORDER THEREON, 16th February 1863, No. 343.

1. Referred to the Commissioner of Police for report as to whether any reliable information has been obtained regarding Mr. Brown, late Superintendent of the Horticultural Gardens.

2. The District Engineer of Madras will be called upon through the Public Works Department to report upon the condition of the trees newly planted on the portion of the Mount Road, beyond the limits of the Presidency town, under whose charge they are at present and what provision has been made to water them.

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

Statement shewing the Receipts and Expenditure on account of the Poshamboug and Khomis Gardens &c extracted from Dr Brown's Accounts.

Expenditure	Amount		
To Felling &c Trees	1764	8	"
" Avenue	341	8	2
" Clearing Jungles	113	3	"
" Contingencies	470	3	6
" Fuzz	650	"	"
" Loss by bad Bills	155	12	-
" Expences	15	-	-
" Pens	90	"	"
	3,843	2	8
To Balance wrt account for 5	1,922	11	4
Total Rupees	5765	14	"

Receipts	Amount		
By sale of wood on 9th July 1860	558	9	1
" " 24th August "	741	1	1
" " 5th September "	590	12	"
" " 4th January 1861	1140	2	"
	3060	8	"
" " 22nd March "	868	15	"
" " 1st April "	906	5	-
" " 21st "	866	3	"
	5701	15	"
" " 31st January 62	63	15	"
Total Rupees	5765	14	"

Office of Conservator of Forests
Camp Cotacamund 9th January 1863

D. H. Beddome Capt
Offg Conservator of Forests

In a letter from the Offg
Conservr of Forests dated,
9th January 1863 No 339

Rev. 163/63.

Statement shewing the
Receipts and Expenditure
on account of the Rosalam
Cany and Hamis Gardens.

Vide entry in the Contents.

Prog: of Govt for Feb 7/63
Nº 163

Dy 18/2 Feb 7/63

From.

The Offg Conservator of Forests

To.

The Offg Secretary to Govt
Revenue Dept
Fort St George

Dated 9th January 1863
Rec'd 20th Nº 339

Enclosure 1
Nº

Submits a Statement
shewing the Receipts and
Expenditure on account
of the Pookam Coorg and
Horticultural Gardens &c.

Further letter from the Comr of Police
C Nº 480 of 1863.

Nº 343. 16 Feby

Nº 343.

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limits of the Presidency Town, under
whose charge they are at present, and
what provision has been
made to water them. — J.D.S

From Fort St George
16th February 1863.

2 Offices to the Comm[illegible] of Police [illegible]
21 — Dist Supt of Police
4 — Conservator of Forests

Nº 343

Note.

Capt Beddome is now on his way to Madras — to dispose of final order on this at present.

Mr Brown seems to have made off with some 2000 Rs as far as can be ascertained & his employment was so much out of the usual course, that it is difficult to say who is answerable

Nº 243 + 244 — JDS

6 Feby 1863 Revd