M.R.O. 14—13,000—27-9-24.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 827 Press ~~Mis.~~

146-147

Dated 12-5-~~10~~1863

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 146. 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, 27th April 1863, No. 510 :—

SIR,

1. I have the honor to forward copy of a letter from Major Morgan in charge of the Neilgherry Sholas and of a Petition to his address.

2. When the fire-wood contract was put up to auction the Petitioner bid Rupees 3,650 for the ensuing official year. The large Davie Shola, where the felling is in future to take place, is ten or eleven miles from Ootacamund by the road, and the Petitioner finds that he will have to erect several depôt sheds between the Shola and Ootacamund, he therefore wishes to have the contract guaranteed to him for a period of three years, paying for the same by instalments the sum of Rupees 8,000, he on his part agreeing to erect depôt sheds and giving a guarantee to sell a bandy load of wood of not less than 750 lbs. for Rupees 3-8-0 in at Ootacamund. I consider the offer very fair, and the guarantee that 750 lbs. of wood shall be sold in at Ootacamund for Rupees 3-8-0 is advantageous to the public.

3. If, however, the guarantee is given for three years, there may be other parties who would come forward with a higher offer than that of the Petitioner; tenders might therefore be called for with the three years' guarantee, on the understanding that lbs.750 of wood are to be delivered to the public in Ootacamund at Rupees 3-8-0. If on this no higher offer is made than that of the present tender, the contract might be given to the Petitioner.

No. 147. ORDER THEREON, 12th May 1863, No. 827.

The Acting Conservator is requested to forward a copy of the contract executed by the Petitioners. He will also notice their application in regard to the contract for charcoal, and will state whether any such pledge as that mentioned in paragraph 7 of their Petition was given, and if so, on what authority.

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

Petitioners will bring the firewood from the Shola in the

To,

Major A. R. Morgan

In charge of Nulghery Shola

Ootacamund

The humble petition of Syenpermaul pillay and Vythelingum pillay, the wood Contractors of Danie Shola residing in the General Bazaar of Ootacamund.

Most Respectfully Sheweth

That as to your putting up the Shola at Auction on the 20th of March last at the Ootacamund Government Timber Yard it was neither advertised in the Publick, nor by Town Tom as usual, nor Circulated so far we are Concerned your Rules Regarding the performance of the Shola, but we had been Accidentally given to understand on the Morning of that date, that the Auction would take place, Consequently Combined ourselves and having attended the Sale previous to our having inspected the Shola whether its road are passable and Convenient and distance is short hence, bid for it owing to dispute arisen between us and our neighbours Rs 3,650 which is indeed a liberal offer to Government.

2. The distance of the place from here is more than 12 or 13 Miles it being too far and bad roads on high hilly there is an objection in every ones mind as to how the peoples will bring the firewood from the Shola in the

rainy seasons with bad roads for sale and how the money will be paid by us for every instalments by which we are quite afraid to Commence them that we shall derive any benefit from this Contract. Every individuals of this Station possess abundance wood in store for their use and we don't at all think that we will meet with any purchasers for the next six Months and we are however obliged to pay our Monthly instalments from our own pocket.

3. If 2 or 3 large houses are erected by us in 2 or 3 places close to the roads to the value of Rs one Thousand for safety and Convenience, people will be willing to go with their Bandies and Bullocks from here for Carrying wood without fear, otherwise they will not.

4. We observe it is impossible that we would recover the Contract Amount of Rs 3,650 and Rs 1000 for the Constructions of the houses in one years Contract and therefore humbly soliciting your goodness to let us on us the wood and charcoal Contract for the sum of Rs 8,000 and Rs. 1600 respectively for a period of 3 years, the roads Tunnels Bridges &c^a being repaired at Government Expense without delay as you pleased to promise and thus enable us to enjoy the fruit of the Contract we have undertaken.

5. Should our foregoing Solicitation be acceded to we can sell a bandy load of wood containing 30 maunds for Rs 3-8-0 agreeably to the instructions conveyed in your rules for everyone in the Kotacamund Station and in the Centre Station (between Kotacamund and Dane Hola) for Rs 2 and Charcoal for the same rate as usual also the houses will be erected by us for the Convenience and safety of the peoples and bullocks

6. Should we be so unfortunate as not to meet your Compliance with our entreaty for the 3 years Contract, we who are residing in the Coldest part of India, will certainly sustain a great loss and in Consequence are obliged to sell wood to the poor inhabitants at an enhance rate so as to realize our Contract Money & on in our one years Contract in that Case we are sure that the Public will have Embarrassment very much.

7. Agreeably to your promise to us at the first and time of the Auction at the Government Timber Yard that no Scrub Shola on the Hills will be allowed to be cut by any body besides the only Contractors, we Submissively implore your honor will be pleased to keep that promise for ever.

8. In doing this Act of Charity and benevolence we shall as in duty bound ever pray.

We beg leave to remain
Most respected Sir
Your most obedt & humble Servt
(Signed) Syed Kerumaddy Pillay
" Vythilingum Pillay

(A true Copy)
R W Beddome Captain
Offg Conservator

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Rec: 29/63.

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No. 183.

Ootacamund
25th April 1863.

From

Major H. R. Morgan
In charge of Sulkherry Scholars

To

Captain R. A. Beddome
Offg. Conservator of Forests
Ootacamund

Sir,

I have the honor to forward a Petition from Doorgee Rao &c. the party who purchased the Firewood Contract for the year 1863/64.

2. In para 4 the Contractor requests that the Contract for wood and Charcoal may be given him for three years in consequence of the expense he will be put to in erecting sheds of a permanent nature and the chances of his not being able to realize any profit the first year. The Contractor will also bind himself to sell wood in Ootacamund for Rs 3-8-0 the Load of 750 lbs and 2 Rs at the half way rest house, he further agrees to pay Rs 6,000 for the wood Contract and 1,600 Rs for the Charcoal Contract, the latter having been sold for this year, he could only obtain it for the next two years at 1,000 Rs.

3. I would strongly recommend, that application be made to Government to permit me to close with the Contractors

offer, as I consider it will be advantageous to the Public and to the Department.

4. I do not think that the wood supply business will be efficiently conducted unless some more encouragement is held out to the Contractor.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your Most Obedt Servant
(Signed) W. R. Morgan Major
In charge of Penal Settlements.

A true Copy
R. W. Beddome Capt
Offg Conr of Forests

19/99/63

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Ootacamund
18th May 1863.

No 11

From

Major W. R. Morgan
In charge of Nilgherry Etates

To

Captain R. W. Beddome
Offg Conservator of Forests.

Sir. In reply to Government Order of 12th May 1863, No 827, I have the honor to forward you a copy of the Petitioners Contract

2. The charcoal Contract I have already alluded to in para 2 of my letter No 183 dated 25th April 1863 to your address.

3. At the Auction I gave the pledge that no other Government Shola would be put up to Auction for the supply of Firewood to Ootacamund, the bidders asked the question, and it is usual to assure them that they purchased the right to supply Ootacamund with Firewood from a Government Shola but the right only extends to Ootacamund and has no reference to the Lawrence Asylum.

I have the honorable
Sir
Your Most Obedt Servt
(Signed) W. R. Morgan Major

A true Copy
R. W. Beddome Capt
Offg Conr of Forests

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Rev=1207/68

20 March 60 Nos 117–118.
13 July 60 — 154–155
28 August — — 342 & 344.
6 September — — — 106–108.
25 — — — — — 434–435
19 Nov — — — 324 & 327
18 April 61 — 299–300
1 June 61 — — 9–10.

Nos 166 & 167

Revenue 1862. Department.
Pros: of Govt for May
From No. 209.
The Officiating Conservator of Forests.
To The Secretary to Govt
Revenue Dept

Dated 29th April 1862.
Received 1st May —

No. 570.
Enclosure
No. 2
Subject.

Forwards a petition from the present Farewood contractor for Abatement & suggestions from him of the Asst Conservator relative to the Contract

No 827 - 12 May

With Order

No. 827.

The Asst Conservator is requested to forward a copy of the Contract executed by the Petitioners. He will also notice their application in regard to the Contract for Charcoal and will state whether any such pledge as that mentioned in para 4 of their Petition was given, and if so, on what authority.

Fort St George
12th May 1862

SW

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