

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 924	<u>Press</u> ~~Mis.~~
338-339	
Dated	29-5-1918

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
29th May 1863.*

No. 338. 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 Ootacamund, 12th May 1863, No. 520 :—

SIR,

1. Referring to the Government Order No. 733, of the 28th of April 1863, I have the honor to inform you that I have read carefully through the Progress Report of Forest administration in British Burmah for 1861-62.

2. The report is almost entirely composed of statistics of the extent and situation of different tracts of Teak forests and the amount of Teak trees contained therein. The operations reported upon are almost entirely confined to those of girdling Teak trees, and blasting rocks in the different rivers to make them navigable. The only rules alluded to are those for conducting girdling operations. The operations in Burmah seem entirely confined to Teak, there is abundance of other timber, but as the supply of Teak is so extensive, no attention seems to have been given to any other timbers, nor have any rules apparently ever been formed for the general conservancy of the various other timbers which must abound.

3. In the Madras Presidency Teak may be said to be a rare forest product, our only Teak forests of any importance being the Anamallays and the Wynad Teak belt; girdling has long since been given up as a grand mistake, it so increases the heart-shake and otherwise impairs the quality of the timber, that girdled Teak is generally sold in the Malabar market at a discount of 50 per cent. upon green felled Teak. Whether, from its being necessary to float the timber immediately after the tree is felled or from any other reasons, the girdling system is really unavoidable in Burmah, I am not able to offer an opinion; but the fact is indisputable that Burmah Teak is sold in the Bombay market at an immense discount upon the price of Malabar Teak. In the Conservancy Department in our Presidency, on the other hand, all the rules and operations are more in connection with the general conservancy of the various valuable timbers, the prevention of all clandestine felling, the preservation of saplings and trees of immature growth, the taxation of firewood, the working of valuable products such as Sandal-wood and Red Sanders, the formation of plantations, &c. It seems, therefore, impossible to compare the two systems, nor can I, after the perusal of the Report alluded to, point out any improvements that could be introduced from Burmah into our Presidency. I should, however, like to be allowed to visit the Teak Districts in Burmah, which might be done in a period of two months, at any time that my duties would allow of my absence from the Presidency.

No. 339. ORDER THEREON, 29th May 1863, No. 924.

The Government deem it desirable to collect and methodize all the available information relative to the forests in this Presidency, and they therefore resolve to request Captain Beddome to report whether he can undertake such a work.

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

27th May 1893 }
 28th May 1893 }
 4 - Conservator of Forests.

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No. 28 April/63 N. 267.

Copy in Letter to Eng.
of 20th May N. 38 of 1864

From Capt. W. Reddome The
offg Conservator of Forests
of 12th June 63 C. 11159
in R.O.

No 328 + 329.

Copy May 23.

Revenue ^{Fresh} 1863. Department.
No. of Govt. for May.
From N. 11311-

The Officiating Conservator of Forests.

To

The Secretary to Govt.
Revenue Dept.

Dated 12th May 1863

Received 16th.

No. 520.

Enclosure

No.

Subject.

Reports that Forest (Preserving)
System in Burma cannot
be compared with that of
the Madras Presidency.

N. 926-29 May

RECORDED

L. P. S.

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