

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1525

Press

~~Mis.~~

2882.333

Dated

22-8-1864

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
22nd August 1864.*

No. 332. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 6th August 1864, No. 5,019.

Read the following letter from the Honorable D. ARBUTHNOTT, Collector of Salem, dated 12th May 1864, No. 89 :—

1. I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the Board's Proceedings dated the 1st July 1863, communicating the Orders of Government dated the 6th June 1863, No. 974, and calling for my opinion on the proposal made by Captain Beddome, Conservator of Forests, with regard to certain forest products, with full explanation as to the existing system.

2. The products in the Denkencottah forests which were usually rented out, are,

1st.—*Muddichekka*.—A bark from which an inferior red dye is prepared. Common thread and coarse cloths are colored with this dye.

2nd.—*Pappalichekka*.—A bark from which an inferior red dye is prepared. Common thread and coarse cloths are colored with this dye.

3rd.—*Capilapodi*.—A powder prepared from the dried fruit of the tree called "Capila." It makes a yellow dye with which raw silk is colored.

4th.—*Malapu*.—This is the flower of the tree called Mala. These when dried and boiled make a yellow dye with which raw silk is colored.

5th.—*Honey and Wax*.

3. In Denkencottah the above products together with timber and bamboo were rented out yearly, all in one farm known as "Gidgavul Farm" up to Fusly 1263. From Fusly 1264, these products were separated from the timber and rented out as a farm. This continued up to Fusly 1271 when the renting of these products was made over to the Conservancy Department. The rent received from Fuslies 1264 to 1270 is given in the margin.

Rent of Dyes, Honey, Wax, &c, in Denkencottah Jungles.			
Fuslies.	..	..	Rupees.
1264	..	..	415
1265	..	..	515
1266	..	..	470
1267	..	..	465
1268	..	..	475
1269	..	..	810
1270	..	..	400

4. The renter collected the products by employing certain hill tribes known as "Poojaries" and "Sholigas," and sold them in the market at considerable profit.

5. The renter paid to the collectors of the products as follows :—

			RS.	A.	P.
For a maund of Pappalichekka	...	...	1	0	0
Do. of Muddichekka	...	...	0	8	0
Do. of Capilapodi	...	...	6	0	0
Do. of Honey	...	...	0	8	0
Do. of Wax	...	...	5	0	0

6. In order to ensure the collection of the products by these Poojaries and Sholigas, the renter was always obliged to make large advances to them, and from the Tahsildar's report it appears that they never cleared off the advances within the lease, and it is this which induced the same renter to compete highly so as to hold the farm for many successive years. The Poojaries and Sholigas have, it would seem, besides this chief source of living, some hoe cultivation in the jungles.

Honey and Wax.
Gall-nut.
Capilapodi.
Sorankotay, or marking nut.
(Semecarpus Annacardium.)
(This is used for medicine and in coloring cloths.)
Sooroolapatta.
A bark from which an inferior red dye is prepared, Coarse
cloths are colored with this dye.

7. In the Salem Talook, the products noted in the margin were rented up to Fusly 1270, at Rupees 251 yearly. In Fusly 1271, all these items, except honey and wax, of which the last lease has not yet expired, were transferred to the Conservancy Department.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
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8. In all the other Talooks, except Namkul, honey and wax alone were rented. In the Namkul Talook, no forest products of any kind were rented. In Fasli 1271, these were also transferred to the Conservancy Department.

9. Mr. Borradaile in his letter contained in the Government Proceedings above referred to, gives it as his opinion (1) that the monopoly will prove very profitable; and (2) that the hill-men will benefit by it. The first is certainly not borne out by the receipts of the Forest Department as given by Mr. Borradaile; and with regard to the second, it is clear that the hill-men would benefit by the monopoly being abandoned, as the merchants would be able to pay them better when relieved of the Government tax.

9. Mr. Borradaile also mentions it as his opinion that "if the monopoly be thrown up, trees bearing leaves, &c., that can be turned into account will at once be stripped and killed instead of being operated on with discrimination;" much might be said for this view of the case if it had been shown that the products were collected by the Forest Department, but as the hill-men appear to be the real collectors now, as formerly, an increase of discrimination is hardly to be looked for.

10. The amount realized by the monopoly is so trifling that I recommend its abandonment.

1. Ordered to be submitted to Government, with reference to their Proceedings, dated 6th June 1863, No. 974, Revenue Department.

2. The Collector shows good cause why the proposal to renew the monopoly should not be entertained, and the Board observe that in their recent Proceedings, dated 7th July 1864, No. 1,181, Revenue Department, Government have repeated their former objections to any farms of this kind.

3. The Board are decidedly opposed to the proposition, which in addition to other objections would have the effect of raising the price of their dyes on the poorer part of the community, at the same time that the cotton cloth dyed has risen in price some hundreds per cent. The Collector should have explained his delay in replying to the reference made to him.

No. 333.

ORDER THEREON, 22nd August 1864, No. 1,525.

Forests, No. 26.

The Governor in Council concurs with the Board and Collector and sanctions the discontinuance of these petty farms.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. D. SIM,

Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.

„ the Officiating Conservator of Forests.

Exd. T. O'Connor.

No. 5,019.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 6th August 1864.

Read the following letter from the Honorable D. ARBUTHNOTT, Collector of Salem, dated 12th May 1864, No. 89:—

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(A true Copy and Extract.)

Secretary.

To J. D. Sim, Esq., Secretary to Government, R. D.

Copy to Honorable D. Arbuthnott, Collector of Salem.

Exd. J. Wright.

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Hill and sanctions the di.
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Sent to the Govt. 22 Aug 1864*

Submitting with remarks letter from the Collector of Salem giving his opinion on the proposal made by Captain Deddome, Officiating Conservator of Forests, with regard to certain forest products, with full explanation as to the existing system.

No. 6,019.

Dated 6th August 1864.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

No. 2,097.

1864.

Department.

Chief Conservator

Recd. 6 June 1863. No. 974-1863. 1251-1863.

1863-1864. No. 1181-1864. 1251-1864.

1864-1865. No. 1181-1865. 1251-1865.