Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 13th September 1864.

No. 210. 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, 8th June 1864, No. 945 :—

SIR,

1. In reply to the Government Order No. 807 of the 10th of May, I have the honor to forward copy of a letter from Major Morgan, Assistant Conservator of the Neilgherries.

2. So much of the forest land near the head of the Coonoor Ghât having been already felled it seems desirable to reserve all the remainder on the plateau, between Saint Catherine's valley and the Coonoor Ghât, and on the slopes above 4,000 feet.

3. The large map of the Neilgherries only takes in the plateau, so I am unable to forward a sketch map as requested.

From Major H. R. MORGAN, in charge of Neilgherry Sholas, to Captain R. H. BEDDOME, Officiating Conservator of Forests, dated Ootacamund, 23rd May 1864, No. 11.

SIR,

1. With reference to the Order of Government of 10th May 1864, No. 807, I have the honor to report as follows.

2. In consultation with the Collector, I have arrived at the conclusion that it would not be advisable to give any more forest land between Saint Catherine's valley and the Coonoor Ghât except below four thousand feet, for the following reasons :—

I. There is but little Shola in this part of the Hills, much having already been felled for Coffee plantations, such as Colonel Woodfall's, Mr. Stane's, Mr. Hayne's and one or two others.

II. This part of the Hills is rather dry being barely within the influence of the south-west monsoon.

III. It is the woods situated at an elevation of from four to six thousand feet that we must look to for attracting the rain-fall.

IV. The greatest rain-fall is said to take place at an elevation of between four to six thousand feet, and to encourage this as much as possible, especially where the rain-fall is not in excess, the Sholas at this elevation must be preserved.

3. I do not recommend that the forest below four thousand feet should be given away without some restrictions, for instance, areas of more than 500 Acres should not be felled in one spot, a belt of trees, say, of a square mile, should be left to encourage local moisture.

4. As Ouchterlony's map does not show the Sholas beyond the plateau, I am unable to mark the spot on the map, but I have indicated boundaries and elevation which perhaps Government will consider sufficient.

5. I much require a copy of Ouchterlony's map on a large scale in my office.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) R. H. BEDDOME, Captain,
Officiating Conservator of Forests.

No. 211. ORDER THEREON, 13th September 1864, No. 1,685.

Miscellaneous.

The Order of Government dated 27th July 1864, No. 1,344, renders it unnecessary that orders should be passed on this letter at present.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Officiating Conservator of Forests.
„ the Board of Revenue.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

I would ask Capt Haddonne
and Major Broyons opinion in
regard to Land in the locality
in question - from 4000 feet - &
from
2000 Land from below that with-
-in Should not be given with-
-out prior reference to Govt &
a full report in each case

The way in which King
beautiful fast-hey been cut
up is most Lamentable - No
One can ride up or down it
without Exclaiming against
the Vandalism that has despoil-
-ed it F.C.

Front 10th May 1864 No 1134/414

No. 1685.

Order of Govt of 27 July 1864 rendered unnecessary that Order should be passed on this letter at present.

186 . Pun — FOREST DEPARTMENT.

From Govt for Sylhet No. 1533.

The C/o Conservator of Forests.

To

Dated 9th } June 186 .
Received 13th }

No. 1685

Enclosure.

No. 1

SUBJECT.

Front St George
13th Septr 1864.

4 Copies to the Govt of Bengal Cultr & Com. Dept.
1 " B. of Revenue
13 Augt 64, Rect 15th Dec 15th 15

1149
No 1686 13 Sept
Wetherall