M.R.O. 14—13,000—27-9-24

# MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

---

## Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1916 Press ~~Mis.~~

206. 207

Dated 19—10. 1864.

***Not to be folded or roughly handled***

## *Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 19th October* 1864.

No. 206. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 30th September 1864, No. 6,447.

Read again letter from the Collector of North Arcot, dated 18th April 1864, No. 88, in Board's Proceedings, 23rd May 1864, No. 3,176.

Read also letter from the same Officer, dated Palamanair, 28th June 1864, No. 142 :—

1. I have the honor, with reference to the Proceedings of the Board, dated 23rd May No. 3,176, to submit a copy of the rules and of Captain Beddome's letter therewith received. A perusal of Captain Beddome's remarks has not modified in any degree my former views. I am even disposed to go further than I then did, and to advocate an absolute exemption from taxation *of all head-loads* of fuel, jungle scrub, and small bamboos. I think the taxation of such items is a vexatious innovation, which cannot fail to produce mischievous results, as well with respect to those who have to pay as to those who have to collect the impost.

2. The general impression seems to be, and I confess I share it, that the Forest Department are more intent on creating a revenue out of what remains of the jungles of the more lowland Districts than in making provision for the future by replacing with interest what they take away. I therefore adhere to my already recorded opinion that conservancy rates are too high for timber of the inferior quality, and small scantling, to be met with in this District.

3. I hear many complaints made of conservancy operations in the adjoining Districts, and believe that a re-adjustment of the rates and simplification of classes is highly desirable.

---

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From Captain R. H. BEDDOME, Officiating Conservator of Forests; to J. D. ROBINSON, Esq., Collector of North Arcot, dated Camp Ootacamund, 14th June 1864, No. 960.

1. In reply to your letter, No. 97 of the 7th June 1864, and in accordance with the Proceedings of the Board, No. 3,176, I have the honor to forward you a copy of the rules now in force throughout the Presidency, which are those now in force in Cuddapah and superseded those formerly sanctioned for that District. I also forward a copy of the Seigniorage rates in force in the Cuddapah hill forests, and the hill forests of North Arcot adjoining. The Seigniorage rates differ in every District, and are published separately in the Gazette of the District.

2. With regard to your letter No. 88 of the 18th April, addressed to the Board, I would offer the following remarks.

3. Jittegee is the blackwood or rosewood, and should be taxed quite as high as teak.

4. Billoo (satin-wood) should be taxed higher than proposed by you ; it fetches 1-4 to 1-8 the cubic foot at Madras, and as it is much used in the Gun Carriage Department, a high taxation will tend to preserve it, which is desirable.

5. Thumba is one of the South Indian Sals, and demands a large price at Madras, it can well afford a taxation of 4 Rupees per cart-load.

6. Red Sanders roots fetch a large price at Madras as a dye-wood.

7. Jungle-wood can afford a taxation of 1 Rupee per bandy-load when cut for timber. Throughout Bengal it is to be raised to 2 Rupees per bandy-load after the 1st January 1865.

8. The taxation of 8 Annas per bandy-load of firewood is perhaps too small ; the Railway will take thousands of cart-loads now for their locomotives, and we must organize some extensive planting operation which must be paid for.

9. The forests of your District are near Madras and to the line of Railway, they are therefore very valuable, and it is highly desirable to reserve their timber as much as possible, which high taxation will tend to do. Put on a low taxation when a higher one is in force in the Cuddapah forests, and all your forests will rapidly disappear. I do not think the Cuddapah rates too high, at all events they are desirable for the present. Jungle timbers are not taxed high, and the poorer classes will not feel the high rates.

10. The Seigniorage list now forwarded would probably require some alteration for the Pooloor and Vellore Talooks ; it refers to the hill forests north of Kurkambady, and some of the

timber found there might be unknown in Pooloor and Vellore, whereas others may grow in Pooloor which are not known in Cuddapah.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) J. D. ROBINSON, *Collector.*

ENCLOSURE No. 2.

ABSTRACT.—Rules for the Conservancy of the forests in the Madras Presidency.

Seigniorage list for Cuddapah Forests and North Arcot forests adjoining.

| Botanical. | English. | Telugu. | Per bandy-load. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Tectona grandis ... ... | Teak ... ... | Tik ... ... | At 6 Rupees. |
| Didspyros Melanoxylow ... ... | Ebonies ... ... | Tunki ... ... | |
| „ Ebenum... ... ... | | Nallootee ... ... | |
| P. Aerocarpuo Santalinus ... ... | Red Sanders... ... | Chandam ... ... | |
| „ Marsupium ... ... | Vengaywood... ... | Teggi ... ... | |
| Terminalio tomentosa ... ... | Matti... ... ... | Erumaddi and Nalla Maddi ... | Five Rupees. |
| Hardwickia binata... ... ... | Achawood ... ... | Nar Tepa ... ... | |
| Bassia latifolia ... ... ... | Illupiwood ... ... | Ippi ... ... | Four Rupees. |
| Chleroxylow Swietenia ... ... | Satin wood ... ... | Billoo ... ... | |
| Vatica laccifera ... ... ... | Madras Lal ... ... | Jallari ... ... | |
| „ Tanbagaria ... ... ... | Do. | Thumba ... ... | |
| Conocarpus latifolius ... ... | Velle Nagawood ... | Chiriurau ... ... | One Rupee. |
| Soymida febrifuga ... ... ... | Red bedar ... ... | Sumi ... ... | |
| All jungle woods ... ... ... | ..... | ..... | One Rupee. |
| Firewood... ... ... .. | ..... | ..... | Eight Annas. |
| Bamboos, 1 Rupee per 500 ... ... | ..... | ..... | |
| Red Sanders roots... ... .. | ..... | ..... | Three Rupees. |

OOTACAMUND,
14*th June* 1864.

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

(True Copy.)

(Signed J. D. ROBINSON, *Collector.*

Ordered that the above papers be submitted to Government with reference to Government Order, dated 31st March 1864, No. 525, Revenue Department.

2. Considerable difference of opinion exists between the Conservator of Forest and the Collector as to the rate of Seigniorage to be charged, as shown below :—

| *Name.* | *Conservator's rate per bandy-load.* | *Collector's proposed rate per bandy-load.* |
|---|---|---|
| | Rupees. | |
| Teak ... ... ... | 6 | ... ... ... Reserved. |
| Red Sanders ... ... ... | 6 | ... ... ... do. |
| | | Rupees. |
| Tumbi (Ebony) ... ... | 6 | ... ... ... 2 |
| Jattigi (Rosewood) ... ... | 6 | ... ... ... 3 |
| Yeggi (Vengay wood) ... | 6 | ... ... ... 3 |
| Erumaddi ... Nullamuddi ... ... ... | 5 | ... ... ... 3 |
| Nag Yepi ... ... ... ... | 5 | ... ... ... 3 |
| Yallari ... ... ... ... | 4 | ... ... ... 3 |
| Billoo (satin wood) ... ... | 4 | ... ... ... 2 |
| Ippi. Thumba (sal.) ... ... | 4 | ... ... ... 1 |
| Sumi ... ... ... ... | 1 | ... ... ... 2 |
| Cuiriman ... ... ... | 1 | ... ... ... 1 |



3. The Board are not in a position to form an opinion as to the comparative merits of the schemes; but they see no reason to think that for valuable timbers such as teak, ebony, rose-wood, stain-wood and the timbers used in making gun-stocks, fellies of wheels, and for such special purposes, Captain Beddome's rates are excessive.

4. Neither can the Board support the Collector's proposition that head-loads of fuel cut for sale beyond the village should not be taxed.

5. The principle that they desire to maintain is that the communal rights of villagers in the woods included in their village limits shall be respected. They see no reason to extend these privileges to trade in fuel or timber beyond the village limits. They entirely agree with the Collector that the utmost efforts should be made to re-place the wood devastated in past years and absolutely needed for future supplies; but for this purpose a present revenue must be raised and present consumption taxed.

No. 207. ORDER THEREON, 19th October 1864, No. 1,916.

**Forests No. 11.**

Thellay and Arasampetta in Vellore and the jungles of the Poloor Talook.

1. The Government direct that the forests specified in the Acting Conservator's letters of the 22nd March last be placed under the Conservancy Department, and sanction the establishment proposed, viz., one Overseer on Rupees 60, one Duffadar on Rupees 15, and eight Peons on 6 Rupees each, the total monthly cost being Rupees 123.

2. The rates of seigniorage require further consideration, as admitted in paragraph 19 of the Acting Conservator's letter to the Collector. A fresh schedule should be prepared by Captain Beddome without delay, and submitted through the Collector and Board of Revenue. Meanwhile the rates now in force and detailed in Mr. Fraser's notice of the 14th October 1863, can be followed.

3. The Government concur in paragraphs 3 to 5 of the Board's Proceedings, and desire that special attention be paid to the re-planting of these tracts.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue.
„ the Officiating Conservator of Forests.
„ the Civil Paymaster.
„ the Accountant General.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

No. 3,176.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 23rd May 1864.

Read the following letter from the Collector of North Arcot, dated Thondavada, 18th April 1864, No. 88:—

1. I have the honor with reference to the Proceedings of Madras Government, Revenue Department, dated 31st March 1864, and to their Order Thereon, to submit my views on the proposition of the Officiating Conservator of Forests therein embodied.

2. To facilitate the consideration of this question, I beg to append two sets of Bye-laws; the first that prepared by myself on the introduction of the system; the second by Mr. Fraser, altered and modified according to the principles and Tariff advocated by the Forest Conservancy Department.

3. The Taluks of Vellore and Polur being within the Sub-division, I have had no opportunity of forming a personal opinion of the present and prospective capabilities of the forests in them. The present observations are therefore rather based upon what has come under my eye during occasional trips among the hill ranges of the Chendragherry Taluk.

4. Disclaiming any wish to see rates revert to their original standard, I still think that a very considerable reduction and simplification in the existing Tariff is highly desirable. I have made minute inquiries, and find that several descriptions of timber included in the two first* classes are not, as found in the Chendragherry ranges, so valuable as some which are entered in the three† lower classes; and think therefore that besides a general reduction in the rates, three classes of timber only should be recognized. The Board will, I feel sure, agree with me that the fewer such distinctions we have, the less room will there be for fraud and extortion.

* Rupees 6 per bandy-load
" 5 do.

† " 4 per bandy-load.
" 3 do.
" 2 do.

5. I would re-classify our timber trees thus:—

1. Teak.
2. Chendanam or Red sanders.

Cutting for bidden.

RULE I.

*Three Rupees per bandy-load.*

3. Jettegee, rare, used for gun-stocks.
4. Yeggee, do. rafters, &c.
5. Yerramaddu or Nallumuddu } do. wheels and spokes of ditto.
6. Nargepi, abundant, beams.
7. Jalari do. do.

*Two Rupees per bandy-load.*

1. Billoo do. wheel spokes, &c.
2. Tumki, rare, little used.
3. Soomee do. beams, planks.
4. Batakadmi do. do.
5. Wild Mango do. do.

*One Rupee per bandy-load.*

1. Ippi, abundant, planks.
2. Thumba, rare, not used.
3. Pala do. do.
4. Pogada do. do.
5. Karakai-bark and seed, principally valuable as tanning material.
6. Chirimanu plants, small planks.
7. Wood-apple.

No. 3,176.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 23rd May 1864.

Read the following letter from the Collector of North Arcot, dated Thondavada, 18th April 1864, No. 88:—

1. I have the honor with reference to the Proceedings of Madras Government, Revenue Department, dated 31st March 1864, and to their Order Thereon, to submit my views on the proposition of the Officiating Conservator of Forests therein embodied.

2. To facilitate the consideration of this question, I beg to append two sets of Bye-laws; the first that prepared by myself on the introduction of the system; the second by Mr. Fraser, altered and modified according to the principles and Tariff advocated by the Forest Conservancy Department.

3. The Taluks of Vellore and Polur being within the Sub-division, I have had no opportunity of forming a personal opinion of the present and prospective capabilities of the forests in them. The present observations are therefore rather based upon what has come under my eye during occasional trips among the hill ranges of the Chendragherry Taluk.

4. Disclaiming any wish to see rates revert to their original standard, I still think that a very considerable reduction and simplification in the existing Tariff is highly desirable. I have made minute inquiries, and find that several descriptions of timber included in the two first* classes are not, as found in the Chendragherry ranges, so valuable as some which are entered in the three† lower classes; and think therefore that besides a general reduction in the rates, three classes of timber only should be recognized. The Board will, I feel sure, agree with me that the fewer such distinctions we have, the less room will there be for fraud and extortion.

* Rupees 6 per bandy-load
„ 5 do.

† „ 4 per bandy-load.
„ 3 do.
„ 2 do.

5. I would re-classify our timber trees thus:—

1. Teak.
2. Chendanam or Red sanders.

RULE I. Cutting for bidden.

*Three Rupees per bandy-load.*

3. Jettegee, rare, used for gun-stocks.
4. Yeggee, do. rafters, &c.
5. Yerramaddu } do. wheels and spokes of ditto.
   or Nallumuddu }
6. Nargepi, abundant, beams.
7. Jalari do. do.

*Two Rupees per bandy-load.*

1. Billoo do. wheel spokes, &c.
2. Tumki, rare, little used.
3. Soomee do. beams, planks.
4. Batakadmi do. do.
5. Wild Mango do. do.

*One Rupee per bandy-load.*

1. Ippi, abundant, planks.
2. Thumba, rare, not used.
3. Pala do. do.
4. Pogada do. do.
5. Karakai-bark and seed, principally valuable as tanning material.
6. Chirimanu plants, small planks.
7. Wood-apple.

I would add to the second class the following trees not named in list :—

1. Batakadami, not very plentiful, planks, door-panes.
2. Konda Cheguru, plentiful, beams.
3. Nemile Adugu do. do.

RULE II. Rupees 8 per bandy-load for worked up timber leaves on all kinds poor profits, and is prohibitory in some. I would propose rates of Rupees 5, 4 and 3 for the three classes as above re-arranged.

RULE III. Should stand as it is.

RULE IV. Jungle wood.

Rates should be reduced as follows :—

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Bandy-load from Rupee | 1 | 0 | 0 | to 10 Annas. |
| Bullock do. do. | | 6 Annas | | to 4 „ |
| Donkey do. do. | | 3 „ | | to 2 „ |
| Head do. do. | | 2 „ | | to 1 „ |

RULE V. Roots and stamps of Red sanders.

The rates should be reduced, as the extraction of these old stumps is an exceedingly slow and laborious process, and every inducement should be given to bring them out before they are further damaged by rot and fire. I propose the following scale :—

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Bandy-load Rupee | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Bullock do. do. | 0 | 6 | 0 |
| Donkey do. do. | 0 | 4 | 0 |
| Head do. do. | 0 | 2 | 0 |

RULE VI. I would not change ; applies only to general market ; ryots and villagers have it free under Rule XVII.

RULE VII. Bamboos ; the rates for these also should be reduced as follows :—

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Bandy-load from | Annas | 12 | to 8 |
| Bullock do. | do. | 4 | to 2 |
| Head do. | do. | ½ | to 9 Pice. |

This tax falls heavily on the poorer classes, as bamboos grow only in the more outlying parts of the country and enter largely into the material for every description of building.

RULES VIII, IX AND X. Might be maintained.

RULE XI TO XVI. Should be maintained. Rules XIV, XV and XVI cease of course to apply to Ranges taken under Departmental control.

RULE XVII. I would maintain and most fully recognize. I would cancel Clause I of this Rule, which seems to me to endanger the privileges accorded under this Rule and immemorial custom to resident Ryots, and opens up the door to interference and oppression. The two other Clauses of this Rule should be maintained. On the whole, I think, Rule XX of the old set preferable and safer in every respect than this Rule with its three Clauses. I should mention here that there is a great out cry against the tax on fuel for the manufacture of Jaggery and Sugar, and that I have exempted this item from seigniorage under the old Rule I would now propose to revive.

RULES XVIII TO XXIII. Should stand as they are.

6. I trust the Board will advocate the reduction of the rates to the extent proposed *as a maximum*. I have seen much of forest management on the other coast, and am very fully alive to the influence of vegetation upon climate and season ; but there are moral considerations in the question which must not be lost sight of. I am not at all sure that these high rates have not contributed their share to our criminal statistics. Place the smallest tax on the head load of fuel, which the Yenadi and other needy tribes dependent on the jungle for the day's subsistence bring to market, and you raise up a barrier of vexatious interference and almost certain extortion, which sooner or later drives them into crime of that more desperate and lawless kind for which their whole habits and instincts have already too well qualified them.

1. The Board observe that Captain Beddome in his letter to Government, dated 22nd March 361, proposed to introduce the Cuddapah Rules and Seigniorage list (the rates being slightly odified) into the North Arcot District jungles transferred to the Forest Department.

2. Mr. Robinson's remarks do not, so far as the Board perceive, at all apply to these Cudapah Rules and Rates, but to those hitherto in force in North Arcot under the village jungle Conservancy system.

3. If this is the case, the Board request the Collector to obtain from Captain Beddome copy the Rules which he proposes to introduce, and to forward them to the Board with his own marks.

(A true Copy and Extract.)
(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Secretary.

To J. D. Robinson, Esq., Collector of North Arcot.

Exd. R. H. Lee.

Cond in the Ord of the Bd of Revt to the Govt Genl dated 30 Sept 1863 No 644.

1864. Department.

Rev.: 2629/64.

No.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

*Dated* 23*rd May* 1863.

C. 2. 6 Pt. 1. 63.

No. 3,176.

Requesting the Collector to obtain from Captain Beddome copy of the rules and seigniorage list which he proposes to introduce into the North Arcot district jungles and forward them to the Board with remarks.

3. The Board are not in a position to form an opinion as to the comparative merits of the schemes; but they see no reason to think that for valuable timbers such as teak, ebony, rose-wood, satin-wood and the timbers used in making gun-stocks, fellies of wheels, and for such special purposes, Captain Beddome's rates are excessive.

4. Neither can the Board support the Collector's proposition that head-loads of fuel cut for sale beyond the village should not be taxed.

5. The principle that they desire to maintain is that the communal rights of villagers in the woods included in their village limits shall be respected. They see no reason to extend these privileges to trade in fuel or timber beyond the village limits. They entirely agree with the Collector that the utmost efforts should be made to replace the wood devastated in past years and absolutely needed for future supplies; but for this purpose a present revenue must be raised and present consumption taxed.

(True Copies and Extract.)

Secretary.

To J. D. Sim, Esq., Secretary to Government, R. D., with an enclosure, and copy of Board's Proceedings, dated 23rd May 1864, No. 3,176.

Copy to Captain R. H. Beddome, Conservator of Forests.

" to G. Banbury, Esq., Acting Collector of North Arcot.

Exd. R. H. Bee.

orage list which he proposes to introduce into the North Arcot district jungles and forward them to the Board with remarks.

Pro. 31 March/64 A 327-328
17 May — 173-174

Pro: 1864. Department.
Rs: of Govt for October

No. 2629.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

Pro. Bd of Rev. dated 6th December 1864 Ct 3181

Dated 30th September 1864.

Read 5 Oct
Read 6th —
21 & 3 Olers Bd

No. 6,447.

From the Civil Payment
D/26 Nov/64 Ct No 2671
to Bd. 1.64 Ct 7186

Submitting with copy of Board's Proceedings dated 23rd May 1864, No. 3,167 letter from the Collector of North Arcot declining to alter his opinion regarding the conservancy rates.

orage list which he proposes to introduce into the North Arcot district jungles and forward them to the Board with remarks.

No 206 & 207

Ans 1916-19 Cedr
With one Order