M.R.O. 14—13,000—27-9-24.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 47 Press ~~Mis.~~

92-93

Dated 9—1—~~19~~1864

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 9th January 1864.

No. 92. 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 Madras, 23th December 1863, No. 796:—

SIR,

1. I have the honor to forward copy of a letter from the Assistant Conservator in charge of the Neilgherry Sholahs, and copies of Petitions from the Firewood and Charcoal Contractors at Ootacamund.

2. At the annual sale of the Firewood and Charcoal contracts it was not supposed that any large Sholahs in the vicinity of Ootacamund would be sold otherwise than through the agency of the Forest Department.

3. The unexpected sale by Mr. McIvor of two Sholahs near Ootacamund of course throws a large supply of wood into the market, and the parties who purchased the contract for the year must become serious losers. If the Sholahs had been felled by the Forest Department, or if Mr. McIvor had acted in communication with our Department, the timber though felled and stacked would not have been sold until the expiration of the existing contract.

4. The contract to fell in the Davi Sholah for the present year was sold for Rupees 3,650, but if at the time of the auction it had been stated that two Sholahs 5 or 6 miles nearer Ootacamund would be put up to auction during the year there would probably have been no bidders at all.

5. Under the circumstances of the case I consider it but fair that the Contractor's instalment should be reduced as proposed by the Assistant Conservator, in fact it will not be possible for them to pay the higher amount; this will however upset all our Estimates, the profits of the Department will be reduced two-thirds, and I am afraid that the Forest Department will not be able to cover its expenses for the year, particularly as the proceeds of the Sholahs now sold (and which have been conserved by the Department for some years) will be credited to the Chinchona Plantation and not to the Forest Department.

No. 93. ORDER THEREON, 9th January 1864, No. 47.

Mr. McIvor will inform Government of the sum realized by the sale of the wood in the Sholahs referred to, and roughly state the quantity of wood sold.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Superintendent Government Chinchona Plantation.

Exd. S. T. Augustin,

To

Major H. R. Morgan

Assistant Conservator of Forests

Neilgherries.

We the undersigned Contractors for supplying Ootacamund with Firewood beg most respectfully to bring to your notice the following circumstances.

I. That contrary to the reiterated assurances given to us by you at the sale of the Dew Shola on the 20th March 1863 at the Ootacamund Government Timber yard. that the Government would itself sell no Firewood during the term of our Contract. it has within the last few weeks sold a very large amount of it to Mr Friend, through the Superintendent of the Government Gardens and in Consequence Mr Friend is now underselling us the Government Contractors.

II That relying on the assurances above mentioned we were induced to bid up to the sum of 3650 Rs for the Dew Shola

III. That during the running season which has only just terminated, we can show by our Forest accounts that we have incurred an outlay of Several thousand Rupees to meet the wants of (Potacamund) during the dry season, when the roads were practicable for bandies, but as the Friend) can afford to undersell us the Sholas sold to him by the Government being built in the precincts of or close to the Cantonment, whereas the Devi (Shola) is nearly 11 miles distant, this outlay is a dead loss to us and Shola is become absolutely worthless.

IV. That during the late Contract numerous parties in Potacamund, on the announcement by Government that the supply of firewood would be during the next Contract from the Devi Shola, anticipating a great rise from the distance in the price of firewood laid up large stores of it. Consequently with the Contractor did not expect any remuneration accruing for the last half of our term, but the Government by the sale of Sholas to our Friend has unjustly deprived us of this prospect.

V. Trusting, Sir that you will bring all the above detailed points connected with our purchase of the Devi Shola to the notice of the Honorable Government with a view to our being released from the remaining part of our Contract and indemnified for the losses we have sustained.

We have the Honor to be
Sir
your most Obedt Humble
Servants
(Sd) in Tamil

Potacamund Neilgherries
December 19th 1863.

(True Copy)

R. H. Beddome Captain
Offg Conservator of Forests

In re Letter from the
Offr Conservator of Woods
dated 28th December 1863
N° 996.

Rec'd 9/64.

Dft. Surveyor
Ont. Sy
1892-93

Respectfully solicitin[g]
Sir, that you will forward this
Communication for the Consideration
of the Honorable Government —

Have &c.
(Signed) Thos Daniel
Commander in Chief of Ships

Harcourt
Shelfherries
December 19th 1863

True Copy.

R. H. Seddon Captain
Off. Conservator of Forests

Ootacamund
24th December 60

No 178

To

Captain R.A. Beddome
Offg Conservator of Forests

Sir

I have the honor to forward a Petition from the Steward and Chaival Contractors of this station and would recommend that the Steward Contractors' instalments be reduced from 304.2.8 to 100 Rupees a month for the ensuing season

2 As the sale of the contract the guardian was asked by Mr Mc Iver sell the wood from the (Cinchona) Plantations & replied "if he does then I will represent the matter"

3 Mr Mc Iver in selling firewood before the expiration of the contract has serious damaged the Contractors and the Scholars been fetched by me I should have taken care that no wood was sold before the expiration of the present contract.

The

In a letter from the
Offg Conservator of
Forests dated 28 Decr 60
No 796

Rec'd 9/61

4. The person who has brought the wood of Mr. Mather would be very glad of a monopoly and the only way to prevent that is to reduce the Contractor's instalments.

5. For the above reasons I would recommend that the Charcoal Contractors be reduced by two thirds or from Rupees 41-10-8 to Rupees 13-11-3.

6 The distance of the School to the Post Office is about 6 miles, the Devi School is 11 miles.

I have &c.
(Signed) N. P. O'Morgan
In charge of Nilgherry Schools

True Copy.

Pittebrow Capt. Asst.
Offg. Conservator of Forests

In a letter from the
Offg Commissioner of Crown
dated 28 December 1863 No 796

Rec: 9/64.

Pt. 91-93

W.-47-

Rec. 9th Jany 1846.
Ans. 11th Jany

Sir

I have the honor to inform you that the Lyon called by the Isle of the Nore in the State referred to and very ably stated the quantity of work done.

I am Sir
Your most obedient
humble Servant
Wm Tell Poole Capt

To the Secretary to the Board of Admiralty &c &c &c

Rec. 3 Jany 63 to 67 - 51
27 Nov. - 360 to 387

Rec. 9th Jany
Ans. 11th Jany
Read

To
The Secretary to
Govt. Revenue Dept.
Dated 2nd Jany
Rec. 5th Jany
Ans. 6th Jany

No. 796

Enclosures 3.

Supt. of Govt. Chunam Works
9th January 1846.

Subject

Forwarding copy of a letter from the officer in charge of the Nelgunda Hills with an estimate for cutting down the firewood and charcoal contractors requesting that their monthly instalments be reduced for the reason stated therein.

I have &c
Wm Carter
Supt

1092 to 93