M.R.O. 14-5,450—22-10-25.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1338 Press ~~Mis.~~

Dated 1-6- 1866.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

1326

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
1st June 1866.

No. 100. Read the following letter from the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Fort Saint George, dated Madras, 18th May 1866, No. 3,493 :—

1. With reference to the Order of Government, dated 18th September 1865, No. 2,239, I am directed by the Board of Revenue to forward copies of their Proceedings, dates and numbers as per margin, from which it will be observed that the Board have placed themselves in communication with the Collectors of the several Districts in which the Forest Department is working, and that only the Collectors of North Arcot and Salem have urged the necessity for employing additional Gumashtas.

24th March 1866, No. 2,100.
30th April ,, ,, 3,013.

2. The replies of the Collectors were referred for the opinion of the Conservator of Forests; but that Officer does not consider the additional Gumashtas applied for to be necessary. This has been duly communicated to the Collectors concerned, and no further action appears necessary.

No. 101. ORDER THEREON, 1st June 1866, No. 1,338.

Forests, No. 7.

Ordered to be recorded.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. GROSE,
Under Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.

Ed. S. T. Augustin.

No. 2,100.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 24th March 1866.

Read the following letters :—

From G. THORNHILL, Esq., Acting Collector of Ganjam, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Chetterpore, 13th October 1865, No. 2,104.

1. In reply to the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, No. 6,042, of the 27th ultimo, and Order thereon of the 18th ultimo, No. 2,239, I have the honor to report that the services of a Gumastah in connection with the Forest Department, for the issuing of licenses, has not hitherto been found necessary in this District.

2. This duty is performed by the Tahsildar of Gumsoor for the forests of Gumsur and Suradah.

From J. R. COCKERELL, Esq., Acting Collector of Cuddapah, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 9th October 1865, No. 143.

In reference to the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 27th ultimo, No. 6,042, I have the honor to state, that in this District the Forests under charge of the Revenue Department are not very large, and that, therefore, a special Gumastah is not necessary to issue licenses for cutting timber and firewood in them. The Collector has charge only of the forests in the Cuddapah and Pulivendala Taluks. The First-Class Deputy Collector has charge only of the forests in the Jammalmadugu Taluk, and half the jungles in the Sub-Division are specially placed under the Forest Conservancy, and the supervision of the Sub-Collector restricted to the issue of licenses for cutting timber and firewood in the remaining forest.

From J. T. BANCHIN, Esq., Collector of Kurnool, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 6th October 1865, No. 142.

With reference to the Board's Proceedings, dated 27th September 1865, No. 6,042, requesting to be informed whether the services of an additional Gumastah have been found necessary in this District in connection with the Forest Department, I have the honor to state that such was the case, and that an additional Gumastah in the Nundial Taluk on a salary of Rupees 12, payable from the Budget for Forest Conservancy, was sanctioned in the Order of Government, dated 23rd February 1865, No. 395.

From J. D. ROBINSON, Esq., Collector of North Arcot, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Chittoor, 15th November 1865, No. 238.

1. In reply to the Board's Proceedings, dated 27th September last, No. 6,042, I have the honor to state that the Tahsildar of Poloor represents in his Arzi, No. 190, dated the 18th September last, that the daily applications for licenses at the Taluk Cutcherry are so numerous, that the Gumastah told off for this work is fully engaged for 10 A. M. until 5 P. M., to the exclusion of his more regular duties.

2. Printed permits and receipts in cheque-book form, are supplied by the Forest Department to the Taluk. In these, the names of the applicants with full particulars have to be inserted in triplicate. Of these receipts, the originals have to be transmitted weekly to the Forest Department, the duplicates being issued to the parties applying for permits, and the triplicates reserved for office record. From these are prepared Registers giving full details which have to be transmitted monthly to the Forest Department. Between this and the Taluk Cutcherry, an active correspondence is conducted, connected with the issue of permits and receipts, and the collection of seigniorage and other matters of account.

3. My own impression is that the Tahsildar does not over-state his case, and that he really loses the services of a Gumastah on a staff which does not more than suffice for the conduct of the regular duties of the Taluk.

As the Poloor jungles came under departmental management on the 1st December 1864, the requisition for additional aid cannot be called premature.

4. On a reference to the subjoined abstract, showing the amount of work and collections of seigniorage during the first nine months of departmental management, the Board will, I think, be prepared to admit the reasonableness of the proposition to debit the salary of an extra Gumastah on Rupees 8 a month to the Forest Conservancy Department:—

Receipts or collections of seigniorage in Polur Taluk.

	Rs.	A.	P.
In December 1864 ...	114	2	0
„ January 1865 ...	188	4	0
„ February do. ...	296	13	0
„ March do. ...	378	9	0
„ April do. ...	342	0	6
„ May do. ...	260	13	6
„ June do. ...	293	0	9
„ July do. ...	270	11	9
„ August do. ...	122	5	3
Total...	2,266	11	9
Number of licenses prepared and issued during the above period	623	0	0
Do. of receipts in original prepared	626	0	0
Do. in duplicate do.	626	0	0
Do. in triplicate do.	626	0	0
Total vouchers prepared by the Taluk Establishment	2,501	0	0

From G. BANBURY, Esq., Acting Collector of South Arcot, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Cuddalore, 12th October 1865, No. 212.

1. In reply to the Board's Proceedings, No. 6,042, dated 27th ultimo, I have the honor to state that I see no necessity for any extra Gumastah in this District for issuing Forest licenses.

2. The licenses issued in the course of the year are few; and the staff of the Taluk is sufficiently strong to meet the slight additional labor.

From V. H. LEVINGE, Esq., Collector of Madura, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 20th October 1865, No. 282.

In reply to the Board's Proceedings, No. 6,042, dated 27th September 1865, I have the honor to report that no additional Gumastah is, in my opinion, necessary in any of my Forest Taluks for the purpose of issuing licenses and doing other forest work, inasmuch as the labor devolving on the Taluk Establishment is not so heavy as to require any additional relief to the Taluk Establishment, which has been lately strengthened by the appointment of one additional Gumastah to each Taluk.

From P. GRANT, Esq., Collector of Coimbatore, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Ootacamund, 28th October 1865, No. 221.

Adverting to the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 27th ultimo, No. 6,042, I have the honor to state, for their information, that I do not think it necessary to entertain a Gumastah in any of the Forest Taluks in this District.

From H[illegible]orable D. ARBUTHNOTT, Collector of Salem, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Admancottah, Darampuri Taluk, 17th January 1866, No. 9.

With reference to the Board's Proceedings of the 27th September last, No. 6,042, I have the honor to forward the enclosed Statement showing the number of vouchers, licenses and tickets issued by the Tahsildars and Deputy Tahsildars during the twelve months ending with September last. From this Statement it will be seen that the amount of work performed by the Revenue Establishment, in connection with the Forest Department, is not inconsiderable chiefly in the offices of Salem and Trippattur Tahsildar and the Razipore Deputy Tahsildar. In these three offices the work occupies the whole time of a Gumastah and the Tahsildars, and particularly the Deputy Tahsildar, whose establishment is very small, cannot afford to do this without considerable inconvenience to their regular work. I, therefore, beg to propose that a Gumastah may be allowed to each of the three offices above alluded to on pay of fifteen Rupees each a month. The revenue realized in these offices is, as will be seen from the Statement, Rupees 8,965, 3,718, and 798 respectively.

Enclosure No. 1.

Abstract.—Statement showing the number of vouchers, &c, issued by Tahsildars and Deputy Tahsildars for cutting trees in the forests, and the amount collected by them during twelve months from October 1864 to September 1865.

From W. M. CADELL, Esq., Collector of South Canara, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Mangalore, 9th October 1865, No. 161.

With reference to the Proceedings of the Board, dated 27th ultimo, No. 6,042, I have the honor to state, that in this District, I do not consider there is any necessity for extra aid in respect of the Forest Establishment in any of the Taluks, and that, the [illegible] rules the felling of bamboos has been made free and the forests are to be worked in future by the Conservancy Establishment.

Board's Standing Circular, No. LVIII, dated 5th September 1865.

From G. A. BALLARD, Esq., Collector of Malabar, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Calicut, 6th October 1865, No. 219.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the Board's Proceedings, dated 27th ultimo, No. 6,042, and to state that there is no necessity in this District for entertaining a Gumastah in any Taluk Cutcherry for work in connection with the Forest Department.

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1. The foregoing letters are replies from the several Collectors to the Board's Proceedings, dated 27th September 1865, No. 6,042, calling for a report whether the employment of a Gumastah is necessary in each of the Forest Taluks of their respective Districts. This call was made with reference to the Order of Government, dated 18th September 1865, No. 2,239.

2. The Board find that the Government have already in their Order, dated 23rd February 1865, No. 395, sanctioned the permanent employment of a Gumastah in the Nundial Taluk of the Kurnool District, the charge being debited to the Forest Department. Of the Collectors of the remaining nine Districts, those of North Arcot and Salem alone urge the necessity of employing additional Gumastahs, in consequence of the heavy work connected with the Forest Department. The Collector of the former District requires a Gumastah for the Poloor Taluk on eight Rupees pay. The Collector of Salem applies for three Gumastahs on fifteen Rupees each for the places noted in the margin; and on their showing the Board consider their requests reasonable. They

Salem Taluk.
Tripatore "
Razipore Deputy Tahsildar's Cutcherry.

would, however, fix the rate of pay at twelve Rupees a month in each case, that being the rate sanctioned by Government for the Nundial Taluk in Kurnool District; but before addressing Government on the subject, the Board desire to be favored with the opinion of the Conservator of Forests on the subject.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Secretary.

To the Conservator of Forests,
with enclosure to be returned.

Copy to Collectors.

Exd, J. Wright.

No. 3,013.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 30th April 1866.

Read the following letter from H. CLEGHORN, Esq., M. D., Conservator of Forests, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Madras, 24th April 1866, No. 1,774:—

1. Adverting to the Board's Proceedings, dated 24th March 1866, No. 2,100, I beg to state that the total number of vouchers, issued by the Tahsildar of Polur, from 1st May 1865 to 31st March last, was 671, or an average of sixty-one per month; an amount of work which could not occupy a Gumastah of the Cutcherry beyond a few minutes daily. During each of the first three months of the current year, the Tahsildar issued about 100 vouchers; but this number has been much diminished since the abolition of the Bamboo tax.

2. The Forest Overseer, who traverses the Polur Range, should occasionally see the Tahsildar and settle many points, so as in great measure to render correspondence unnecessary.

3. In the abstract appended to paragraph 4 of Mr. Robinson's letter, recorded in these Proceedings, the Collector of North Arcot shows 2,504 vouchers as "prepared" by the Taluk Establishment; it is not apparent why they should have been so prepared, when printed forms in triplicate, requiring simply to be filled in, were supplied from this office, as admitted in paragraph 2 of the Collector's letter.

4. Having regard to the work performed and the Forest revenue realized at present, I do not consider that an additional Gumastah is required for the Polur Taluk.

5. Again, with reference to the employment of three Gumastahs in the Salem, Tripatur, and Razipur Taluk Cutcherries, I forward a letter* (to be returned) from Lieutenant Walker, with its enclosure, and, under the circumstances therein represented, I am of opinion that the additional charge on this Department, proposed by the Collector of Salem, would not be justifiable.

* No. 406, dated 11th April 1866.

6. The services of the extra Gumastah sanctioned for the Nundial Taluk, referred to by Mr. Mincain in his letter recorded in these Proceedings, were discontinued last month with the concurrence of the Acting Collector of Kurnool, the Tahsildar's Establishment having been to a great extent relieved from Forest work, and this will be done in other Districts as much as possible.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From Lieutenant C. J. WALKER, Deputy Conservator of Forests, Salem and North Arcot, to the Conservator of Forests, dated Salem, 11th April 1866, No. 406.

1. With reference to your Memorandum, No. 1,722, of 5th instant, forwarded with Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 24th March, No. 2,100, I have the honor to state that I have already, in my letter, No. 242, dated 9th October 1865, to the Officiating Conservator, expressed my opinion on the subject.

2. I cannot, of course, recommend the appointment of extra Gumastahs in the Taluk Cutcherries for Forest work, when it is remembered that there is but one Gumastah in the Salem Office; from which every one of those vouchers, tickets, &c., shown in the Collector's letter are sent to the Cutcherries of *two districts*, comprising *eighteen Taluks*, all have to be entered, and generally numbered and stamped before despatch, and checked afterwards; still less can I recommend that the pay of the proposed Gumastahs be Rupees 12 per mensem, whilst mine receives but Rupees 8!

3. I have introduced a plan which greatly lessens the work thrown on the Taluk Establishments, namely, leaving the number of bandy, or head loads, for which a ticket is granted blank; and to be filled up as necessary.

Formerly for every bandy load, and every four-head loads, a separate ticket was issued, which caused unnecessary trouble.

4

Requesting opinion of Conservator of Forests in regard to entertainment of additional Gumastahs in Forest Taluks of North Arcot and Salem.

No. 2,100.

Dated 24th *March* 1866.
Despatched
Received

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

No.

Department
1866

I enclose a Statement showing the number of tickets issued, at the three Taluk Cutcherries named by the Collector, during the first three months of the current year (*i. e.*, since the new rule was enforced). By comparing with the Collector's Statement, you will see the great saving of labour effected. The collections are about the same, and we have as good a check as formerly.

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ENCLOSURE No. 2.

STATEMENT showing the number of tickets issued by Tahsildars in the Taluks of Salem, Raseepuram, and Tripatur, in the months of January, February, and March 1866, the number of bandy or head loads being inserted by them at top of each ticket.

Taluks.	Tickets for bandy loads of firewood.	Tickets for bandy loads of Avaram bark.	Tickets for bandy loads of Valum bark.	Tickets for head loads of jungle wood.	Tickets for head loads of charcoal.	Tickets for head loads of Avarum bark.	Total.
Salem.....	86	8	.....	16	246	4	360
Raseepuram..	.....	.....	.....	8	275	.....	283
Tripatur	185	7	2	13	38	.....	245

Remarks.—The number of vouchers and, in Tripatur and Raseepuram, licenses issued is not shown, as the work on that account is small, and it is in the *number of tickets* distributed that excess of work is alleged; neither has any change been made in the mode of their distribution.

N. B.—This Return is from the 4th January, date of the new arrangement coming into force.

SALEM,
11th April 1866.

(Signed) C. J. WALKER, Lieutenant,
Deputy Conservator of Forests.

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Communicated to the Collectors of Salem and North Arcot.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Secretary.

To the Collector of Salem.
" the Collector of North Arcot.
" Conservator of Forests.
Exd. J. Wright.

Communicating to Collectors of Salem and North Arcot letter from Conservator of Forests objecting to employment of Extra Gumastahs in Forest taluks of those districts.

Dated 30th April 1866.

No. 3,013.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

No.

1866. Department.

From the Secretary to the Board of Revenue,
To the Secretary to Government, R. D.

Dated 18th May 1866.

No. 3,493.

Forwarding copies of Board's Proceedings dated 24th March and 30th April 1866 Nos 2100 and 3013 on necessity for employment of additional Gumastahs in Forest taluks.

RECORDED.

1866. Department.

Pro Govt for June

No. 1485.

From the Secretary to the Board of Revenue,
To the Secretary to Government, R. D.

Dated 18*th May* 1866.

No. 3,493.

Forwarding copies of Board's Proceedings dated 24th March and 30th April 1866 Nos 2100 and 3013 on necessity for employment of additional Gumastahs in Forest taluks.

RECORDED.