

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 2218

Press

~~Mis~~

663-664

Dated

24-8-1866.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

[Handwritten signature]

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
24th August 1866.*

No. 663. Read the following letter from the Officiating Conservator of Forests, to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Fort Saint George, dated Camp, Ootacamund, 15th August 1866, No. 1,926 :—

1. With reference to the Government Order, No. 1,916, of the 1st of August 1866, I have the honor to inform you that the shola referred to below the road from Sylk's hotel to Marley Mand, is the one alluded to in my Annual Report for 1864-65, paragraph 46, and was taken up by the Forest Department two years ago for a building timber plantation, and the lower part is now planted to a considerable extent with *Encalyptus Globulus*, the finest building timber in Australia. In September 1864, when the building timber plantation was first proposed, I requested Major Morgan to reserve a shola in the vicinity of Ootacamund for this purpose. Subsequently, Major Morgan and I selected the shola referred to, which was, for several reasons, the best adapted for the purpose; it had formerly been extensively felled by Mr. J. McIvor, and all the finest trees taken out; it is in the immediate vicinity of Ootacamund, though not seen from any part of the station, and there is

* *Vide* copy of letters Nos. 1,087 and 1,101. a good road to it. Major Morgan was ordered* to enter the shola on the reserved list, and only to fell it year by year, as the ground was required for planting.

† No. 200, dated 13th August 1866. I forward a letter† from Major Morgan on the subject, in which he gives his reasons for not informing the Collector that this site was reserved, and for felling out the whole shola this year; the Collector informs me that if he had been consulted, he would have coincided in the selection of the site.

2. There can be no doubt of the importance of a good building timber plantation for Ootacamund; we are now rearing, to a large extent, the *Encalyptus Globulus* and Mahagoni, (the two finest building timbers of Australia,) which grow admirably in this climate; and this timber will come largely into use in future years, when the supply of teak is likely to become scarce.

No. 664. ORDER THEREON, 24th August 1866, No. 2,218.

Forests, No. 21.

1. The Government do not consider the explanation satisfactory. The mere statement in his Administration Report that a shola close to Ootacamund had been taken up for a plantation, which statement was not noticed by Government, was not sufficient authority for the measures adopted; nor, as Captain Beddome ought to know, should an application for sanction find place in an Administration Report. Moreover, there is a considerable difference between gradually clearing and planting a shola, and cutting it down at once, as Major Morgan has done, apparently without even Captain Beddome's sanction or knowledge.

2. The Government direct that no shola be in future appropriated and cleared, wholly or partially, by the Forest Department, without their special sanction.

3. Captain Beddome will state how many timber trees he has planted or contemplates planting, the locality and extent of each plantation, and his reasons for considering it necessary that Government should grow timber for the public on the Neilgherries, especially of kinds so easily grown as the Australian *Encalyptus*, &c.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. D. SIM,

Secretary to Government.

To the Officiating Conservator of Forests.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

The pt. do not consider
the explanation satisfactory
The more ^{statement} report in his admin-
istration report that a Shla
close to Ort had been taken up
for a plantation - a high statement
was not noticed by pt. nor was
sufficient authority for the measure
advised: nor as Capt Reddorne ^{ought}
to know, ^{should an application for sanction find place} in an Administration Report.
Hence there is a considerable
difference between planting a Shla & cutting it
down at once as Major Mayan has
done - apparently without even ^{Captain} Major
Reddorne's sanction or knowledge.
The pt. direct that no Shla
be in future appropriated, and
cleared - wholly or partially, by the

gp

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From Canyon of Forests
13 Sept. 1966 C. M. J. J. J.

From *W. 2599*
The Conservator of Forests

To The Secretary to Govt.
P. O.
Fort Sam Houston

Dated 15
Received 15 August 1866

No. 1926

2. Enclosure No. 3. *Ok*

stating that the felling and
planting in the Marley Hall
School in 1882 was under
his orders.

Sp 2218-24.10.1912
Lith. order