M.R.O. 14—13,000—27-9-24

# MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

## Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 2270 Press Mis.

782.783

Dated 29-8- 1866.

**Not to be folded or roughly handled**

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,*
*29th August* 1866.

No. 782. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue :—

Recommending adoption of rates of seigniorage approved by Conservator of Forests, in communication with Collectors, and stating that no change should be permitted in any District without previous reference to Collector, and sanction of Government. (Here enter 20th August 1866, No. 5,905.)

No. 783. ORDER THEREON, 29th August 1866, No. 2,270.

Forests, No. 22.

1. The Government agree with the Board in the remarks contained in the foregoing Proceedings.

2. Attention should be paid by the Collector to paragraph 5.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue.
,, the Conservator of Forests.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

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To the Board of Revenue.
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Exd. S. T. Augustin.

* If split (about 240 to the cart load) I propose one Rupee.

5. I have lately passed through … years absence, and was much struck by … It is fortunate that the red saunders t… rows up suckers from very old roots.

From the same Officer, dated … as, 20th April 1866, No. 1,760.

In acknowledg the Board's Proc… gsing, dated 24th March 1866, No. 2,083, I offer a few remarks upon the matter… rred to by the Collector of South Canara.

1. *Reserved Woods.*—These are … in number, nine were approved by Mr. Morris, the previous Collector, one (*Kbogi*) was subsequently added after being tested at the Gun Carriage Factory. … wood is highly spoken of in Buchanan's journey to Malabar, and the reservati… as proper.

2. *Seigniorage.*—The argument… d by Captain Beddome that the "rate of seigniorage should bear some propo… n to the relative value of the respective "timbers" is reasonable, the applicat… equires discrimination and judgment. In … a letter,† reviewing a report of Captain Beddome's recent tour in Canara, to Mr. Cadell, I leave the question of raising … seigniorage to be settled by the Collector and local Forest Officer. It may … emarked that the seigniorage on most of the useful woods is considerably less in … th Canara than in North Canara, or in the private estates of Malabar. As an … nple of the difficulty of dealing with this point, I may mention that the Kolr… de Nambidi claims eight Rupees per teak tree, in the new Annamallay lease, … ead of Rupees five. Mr. Ballard recommends Rupees seven as an equitable … though the trees are very inferior to those for which we have been paying … pees five; these sums are higher than are charged in any Government Forest.

† Enclosed.

4. The main point of Forest m… ement in South Canara are touched upon in the enclosed letter to Mr. Cadell, … cordially assists Mr. Thompson, and takes much interest in the Forest. There … nly one point on which I desire to have his opinion, viz., whether Ryots can … the timber growing in the Kumaki land. Captain Beddome argues that the Ku… i is given for aiding agricultural operation like a village jungle, but not for sal… I agree with Captain Beddome. Previous Revenue Officers have taken differe… views of this question; I wish the point to be decided.

… 21st March 1866, No. 2,005, and … following remarks on the letters of certain Collectors relating to the … le of seigniorage.

*Ganjam.*—I agree very much with … rks of Mr. G. S. Forbes, and would not increase the rates of seigniora… t his concurrence. The woods mentioned by him, viz.,

Pia Salu. *Ptero… rsupium,*
Bheyra. *Chloroz… tenia,*
Holondo. *Nauc… olia,*

should be transferred to the reserved tim… as he proposes.

*Cuddapah.*—Mr. H. G. Smith's lette… ot appear to call for any special remark.

*Kurnool.*—The only change suggested … introduction into the reserved list of *Hardwickia binata*, yielding the Yepa … a most valuable timber, and the fibre of which has been called for in bulk … Majesty's Secretary of State.

*Madura.*—Mr. Levinge alludes to the … ice of wood in his District. This rise may be attributed partly to the enha… lue of all the necessaries of life, partly to the greater consumption of timbe… bstantial homesteads of well-doing Ryots, and also to the requirements of … reat Southern of India Railway Company, who export timber largely from … igul. The only change proposed Collector is the transfer of Manja… mba* from the unreserved to the … ved list, which is proper.

* Nauclea Cordifolia.

*Coimbatore.*—The only remarks which … r to me in regard to Mr. Grant's letter are these:—

1st.—It has always been the custom to … firewood and bamboos to villagers free within their own boundaries, and this i… y provided for in the rules. The point remaining in doubt is whether a Ry… Caroor or Avenashi can send his carts to Annamallay for bamboos; I … the case is exactly similar to the Ryots of Dharwar sending to North Canara … nowhere they always pay. They can grow Babool easily on their own holding… and if this does not supply their requirements, they should pay for superior … se-building material.

2. In regard to firewood, the consum… on at Coimbatore is very large, as the large stacks of fuel seen at Pothanoor eas… prove, but the Government receipts are miserable, not during the last year, fro… the Bolamputty valley and Walliar. The main question, however, is not the cost … the consumer, nor the revenue to the State, but the certainty of production, and … one I am sure will take care of the young trees or plant others, so long as 1,00… pounds of firewood can be procured

1. Ordered that the forego
reference to Government Order
Department.

2. The Board consider that th
Cleghorn and the several Collectors s
be permitted in any District, without
opinion, and the sanction of Governme
District Officers and of the Conservat

3. The only special remark o
necessary to make is that, in their opi
does *not* convey the right to cut timbe

4. If the Kumaki land be taken up
to whose Wurg it was previously attach
given), then the Durkhastdar acquires
dispose of the wood growing on it as he

5. Such lands will seldom cont
Wurgdar may have planted while the l
to which this remark does not apply, t
special terms in accepting the Durkhast

No. 783. ORDER THEREON, 29

**Forests, No. 22.**

1.
in th
Proce

2. Attention should be paid by th

submitted to Government, with
May 1865, No. 1,089, Revenue

f seigniorage as approved by Doctor
e adopted, and that no change should
ous reference to the Collector for his
ter consideration of the opinions of the

correspondence that the Board see
, the privilege of "Kumaki" in Canara
owing on the Kumaki land *for sale*.
Durkhast for occupation by the Wurgdar,
(and to no one else should such land be
ith the land the right to clear it and to
inks best.
n any valuable trees, except such as the
d was "Kumaki;" and in the rare cases
e Collector can, at his discretion, make

August 1866, No. 2,270.

The Government agree with the Board
remarks contained in the foregoing
ings.
Collector to paragraph 5.

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

From the Conservator of Forests, to
Coimbatore, 17th

1. I have to acknowledge the
No. 1,395, with Collector's letter regar
and would remark that Satin-wood a
for agricultural implements, and are a

2. *Satin-wood.*—The Gun Carriag
feet annually, and is supplied at about o

Extract Minutes of Consultation, dated 13th Augnst 1858, paragraph 6, No. 1,137.

mendation in 1858. It would be impossib
the present price.

3. The wood is used for picture
often regret to find it in fuel heaps in a
present stock *in those localities, where it att*
to the demand; wherever it is crooked anc

4. The Karangalli is a close congene
ble. I have referred to Lieutenant C. Wal
and that the seigniorage of Rupees three i
for king posts, &c.

5. In regard to the question discusse
nott's letter, it is clear that the Ryots pref
neers and Railway Officers will only rec
to arrange for *both* requirements, and to
tion. The principle of supplying mature
Engineer Officers.

6. I concur with the Collector in
trees should be left in the hands of the Fo
the case. It is necessary, however, to l
local officer to diverge only when circumst

y to the Board of Revenue, dated
66, No. 1,664.

Proceedings, dated 27th February,
e new scale of seigniorage in Salem,
rangalli are the very best hard woods
used for Railway fuel.

ufactory requires about 2,000 cubic
bee per cubic foot; much of this has
n felled clandestinely. A light seig-
rage on export appears to be reason-
, and was sanctioned on my recom-
grow and deliver the Satin-wood at

es, plugs of Rifle bullets, &c., and I
cook-rooms. By taking care of the
*a good size*, the supply will be equal
stunted growth, it may be given up.
Babool, but harder and more valua-
who reports that it is highly prized,
ot oppressive. The timber is valued

in paragraphs 7 to 10 of Mr. Arbuth-
young trees, while Executive Engi-
large scantling; the Conservator has
p in view the main point of re-produc-
timber is recognized by all Forest and

graph 11, that the power of cutting
t Officer of the District, which is really
lown general rules, and to allow the
ces require it.

, 7th April 1866, No. 1,732.

From the same Officer, dated Madr
oard of Revenue, dated 17th ultimo,
tor of North Arcot, relating to the

1. Adverting to Proceedings of the
No. 1,880, referring a letter of the Colle
seigniorage of trees in his District, I have t
remark as follows.

2. Mr. J. D. Robinson having been
Canara, where he took much interest in For
ng stationed in the District of North
stry, I feel sure that he will work the

(mihi) figured in my last annual report,] the third is
Hopea Wightiana - all three of these timbers though hitherto
unknown have turned out very valuable - one I have added
to the reserved List and 2 to the List of timbers classified
and priced above the common jungle timbers.

4. In the present Seignorage List for Salem there
are 13 reserved timbers. 7 being classed at 3 Rupees per
candy load and 6 at 2 Rupees. This list was framed
some years ago when the market-value of timber was
considerably less than it is at present. I have been intend-
ing to propose a revised List for this district so I now
submit the list I propose, should be put in force. I have
entered 8 Timbers only as reserved 3 of these being taxed
at 5 Rupees and 5 at 4 Rs per candy load - 9 timbers
are classified and taxed above the rate of the common
jungle timbers 6 of these bear a seignorage of 3 Rupees
per candy load and 3 a seignorage of 2 Rupees. These proposed
rates are still lower than those of Cuddapah and
North Arcot but the district is farther from the
Presidency. The proposed rates of taxation still leave
a large profit to the timber merchants as will be
seen from the market rates of the timber.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obed.t Servant

[signature] Captain

Off.g Conservator of Forests

From

The Officg Conservator of Forests,

To

The Secretary to Govt. M. D.
Revenue Department.

Dated 4th
Received } 2nd 1865.

No. 1224.

Enclosure:

No. 7.

SUBJECT.

Forwarding Seigniorage Lists and Statements of the market rate of timber.

Read 29th November 1865

1149

No. 7,638.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 29th November 1865.

Read the following letter from Captain R. H. BEDDOME, Officiating Conservator of Forests, to R. A. DALYELL, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Camp Ootacamund, 29th July 1865, No. 1,360.—

1. With reference to the Proceedings of Board, No. 4,018, of the 14th of July, I have the honor to forward separate Seigniorage lists of each of the Forest Districts now under the voucher and license system; these are the lists forwarded by me to Government with my letter, No. 1,224, of the 4th of March, but they were, I believe, incorporated into one list by Dr. Cleghorn, who had then assumed charge of the office.

2. The Board will perceive that each list contains a certain amount of reserved timbers and also unreserved but classified timbers; the former only will be strictly reserved, and Ryots will be allowed to fell the latter for agricultural purposes free of taxation.

3. The Seigniorage list, at present in force in Salem, was framed some years ago, before the Railway was open, and when the market value of timber was considerably less than at present; the alterations proposed by me are, I think, now quite necessary.

4. The Seigniorage lists now forwarded give the market value of each timber; it is of course desirable to tax the timber in Districts near the Presidency, and in Districts on the line of Railway, at a higher rate than that in remoter Districts; if we did not, all the forests of these Districts would soon disappear; the timber besides is more valuable in these Districts, and can afford the higher taxation.

—

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

ABSTRACT.—Seigniorage List and Statement of market value of timber in Ganjam District.

—

ENCLOSURE No. 2.

ABSTRACT.—Do. in the Districts of Cuddapah, North Arcot, Nellore, and Polur.

—

ENCLOSURE No. 3.

ABSTRACT.—Do. in Kurnool District.

—

ENCLOSURE No. 4.

ABSTRACT.—Do. in Madura District.

—

ENCLOSURE No. 5.

ABSTRACT.—Do. in Bhowany, Coimbatore.

—

ENCLOSURE No. 6.

ABSTRACT.—Do. in Salem District.

—

ENCLOSURE No. 7.

ABSTRACT.—Do. in South Canara District.

—

1. Although Captain Beddome's reply is not a satisfactory explanation of the Board's doubts, the lists appertaining to each District will now be submitted to the several Collectors concerned, in order that they may furnish the Board with any remarks they may wish to make regarding the new scale of seigniorage now proposed.

2. The Board request that in cases in which the rates are proposed to be raised, it may be carefully considered whether this step is or is not prejudicial to the interests of the respective Districts; and also whether the Collectors addressed would recommend any timber being transferred from "Reserved" to the "Unreserved List," or *vice versâ*.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) G. BANBURY,
Acting Sub-Secretary.

To G. Thornhill, Esq., Acting Collector of Ganjam,
" the Honorable D. Arbuthnott, Collector of Salem,
" J. I. Minchin, Esq., Collector of Kurnool,
" H. G. Smith, Esq., Collector of Cuddapah,
" J. D. Robinson, Esq., Collector of North Arcot,
" V. H. Levinge, Esq., Collector of Madura,
" W. M. Cadell, Esq., Collector of South Canara,
" P. Grant, Esq., Collector of Coimbatore,
} with list appertaining to each.

Copy to H. Cleghorn, Esq., M. D., Conservator of Forests.

Exd. J. Wright.

From J. I. MINCHIN, Esq., Collector of Kurnool, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 12th December 1865, No. 180.

1. With reference to the Board's Proceedings, dated 29th November 1865, No. 7,633, forwarding revised lists of seigniorage for this District, I have the honor to refer you to the Proceedings of Government containing my letter on the subject of the 25th March last, and the Order of Government, dated 31st July 1865, No. 1,767, sanctioning a modified seigniorage list for the Forest Department in Kurnool.

2. I have only to add, in explanation of one point in my previous letter, that the Acha has been since discovered to be the Tamil name for the Yepa, and this timber is now included in the class paying a seigniorage of Rupees 3.

3. No other alteration is advisable in the list as sanctioned by the Government.

Exd. J. Wright.

1865. Department.

No.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

*Dated 29th November* 1865.

No. 7,638.

Forwarding to certain Collectors seigniorage list received from the Officiating Conservator of Forests, and requesting to be furnished with any remarks they may wish to make on the proposed scale of Seigniorage.

From V. H. LEVINGE, Esq., Collector of Madura, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Kodakanel, Pulny Taluk, 20th December 1865, No. 331.

1. Adverting to the Board's Proceedings, No. 7,638, dated 29th November 1865, I have the honor to report that the present market price of timber of various descriptions in the District, is more than three times the value for which they were sold prior to the introduction of the Conservancy system. The price now paid for timbers is complained of by the public as being too high. I cannot recommend any increase to the existing rates of seigniorage fee, inasmuch as the measure would prove highly detrimental to the increase of the number of tiled and terraced houses, and to the prosperity of the people.

2. Manjacadamboo is much valued here for its color, smoothness, and for the small amount of Carpenter's labor required in working it up. I would, therefore, propose to transfer this timber from "Unreserved" to the "Reserved" in the list. In the case of other timbers, no charge in their present classification is called for, or desirable.

Exd. J. Wright.

From P. GRANT, Esq., Collector of Coimbatore, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 22nd December 1865, No. 299.

1. I have received Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 29th November 1865, No. 7,638.

2. With regard to the reserved and unreserved but classified timber, I have no suggestion to offer. The seigniorage by the Conservator of Forests seems fair. But with regard to bamboos cut for use in the District, I think the people should be allowed to have them without payment of seigniorage.

List returned.

3. For firewood five annas per bandy load is, I consider, sufficient. For instance, take the town of Coimbatore: most of the firewood comes from the Balampatty and Walliar jungles, fifteen miles distant at the very least. Here we have thirty miles of road to be travelled over, in addition to the expenses attending the cutting of the wood, and the loading of the bandies. Coimbatore town may also be looked on as more conveniently situated, with regard to the jungles from which firewood and charcoal are drawn, than many other towns and villages.

Exd. J. Wright.

From H. G. SMITH, Esq., Collector of Cuddapah, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 16th January 1866, No. 7.

1. With reference to the Board's Proceedings of the 29th November 1865, No. 7,633, I have the honor to state that I am not in favor of raising the seigniorage on the timber cut in the forests of this District as proposed by the Conservator of Forests, as the present charge is fair with reference to the labour and cost of conveyance from the several forests of the District.

2. The classification of the timber as *reserved*, and *unreserved*, by the Conservator in his list, seems not to need alteration as far as I am aware of.

Exd. J. Wright.

From G. S. FORBES, Esq., Collector of Ganjam, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Chetterpore, 19th February 1866, No. 102.

With reference to the Board's Proceedings of the 29th November last, No. 7,638, I have the honor to state that the amounts shown in the list (which accompanied it,) as the market rates of different sorts of timber in Gumsoor, far exceed those at which timber is sold there. Timber can be had at Berhampore for about these prices, allowing for cartage which alone costs nearly Rupees 2-8-0 a bandy from Gumsoor to Berhampore. I cannot, therefore, recommend an increase to the present rates of seigniorage. As it is, the people of this District already feel the enhanced price of timber from Government Forests, and get it to a large extent from the Zemindary tracts. I think Pia Salo and Bheyru, first and second items under the first class, and Holondo, the fourth item under the second class, may be transferred to the head of reserved timber.

Exd. J. Wright.

No. 1,395.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 27th February 1866.

Read the following letter from the Honorable D. ARBUTHNOTT, Collector of Salem, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 21st February 1866, No. 19:—

1. With reference to Board's Proceedings, dated 29th November 1865, No. 7,638, calling on Collectors to furnish the Board with any remarks they may wish to make regarding the new scale of seigniorage proposed to Captain Beddome, I have the honor to state that in my opinion the Satin-wood (Poorsh) should be classed with the unreserved timbers.

2. I need scarcely mention that nearly every tool, or implement used by a Ryot, is made from this wood, or from Karangali (not given in Captain Beddome's list). Both these timbers should be included in the unreserved lists.

3. The market value of Satin-wood is, I think, over-rated by Captain Beddome.

4. I applied to the Superintendent of the Gun Carriage Manufactory at Madras, for information on this point. He informed me that Satin-wood was much used for naves of wheels, and that he was prepared to give a Rupee per cubic foot, if the timber was not less than a foot square.

5. At this rate, Satin-wood could not be conveyed from the Salem jungles to Madras at a profit.

6. Satin-wood is, moreover, in no request here except by Ryots.

7. Rule No. 8, in Captain Beddome's Seigniorage List, to the effect that no reserved or classified timber is to be felled of a less circumference than three feet, will be more productive of waste, than of any good either to the revenue, or to the forests.

8. The object of this Rule is, no doubt, to secure a large number of ripe trees by preventing the cutting of too many saplings, but I need scarcely point out the absurdity of compelling people to buy trees three feet in circumference, who only require a few ploughs and handles to their momaties, &c.

9. It further appears to me, that in framing this Rule, the Conservancy Department, in their eagerness to have a number of large trees available, quite overlook the fact that large trees do not pay so well as small ones, the latter being easily raised in a few years, whereas fifty years and upwards are required for trees of large diameter.

10. This fact is so well recognised in England, that handsome profits are made from land planted with trees destined to be cut down within twelve or fourteen years when they are only seven or eight inches diameter; but were these trees allowed to remain till twice this size, they would be grown at a loss, or at a much smaller profit.

11. It would be better to leave the power of cutting or preserving young trees in the hands of the Officer in charge of each forest, than to make a rigid rule like No. 8.

12. Nothing else in the Rules, or Seigniorage List, appears to call for remark.

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Forwarded to the Conservator of Forests for any remarks he may wish to offer.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Secretary.

To the Conservator of Forests.

Copy to the Collector of Salem.

Exd. J. Wright.

1866. Department.

No.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

*Dated 27th February* 1866.

No. 1,395.

Forwarding to Conservator of Forests letter from Collector of Salem submitting remarks regarding new scale of seignorage for Forest Department.

No. 1,880.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 17th March 1866.

Read the following letter from J. D. ROBINSON, Esq., Collector of North Arcot, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Poloor, 8th March 1866, No. 53:—

1. I have the honor in reply to the Board's Proceedings, dated 29th November last, No. 7,638, to observe that I have objected to the Forest Conservator's rates, not so much with reference to the possible market values of particular kinds of timber as classified in his list, but because the quality and scantling of such timber, as now procurable in the ordinary jungles under Revenue management, fall short of the average standard in both respects. However this may be, it will, I think, be better to give these departmental rates a full year's trial, in order that we may judge from the financial results and other data, whether they press injuriously on the requirements of the general and local markets.

2. I make the recommendation all the more readily, as I feel that, under the discretion allowed to me in working these rules, the customary rights of the agricultural masses, and the necessities of the needier classes, are fully provided for.

3. I would not, for the present at least, recommend any timber being transferred from "Reserved" to the "Unreserved List," or *vice versa*. The only two items in which a reduction in the present rates appears to me desirable are those standing six and eight in Captain Beddome's list, viz., red saunders and bamboos. The first I would reduce from Rupees 3 to Rupee 1-8-0 per cart load, not because it might not bear the higher rate, but because it is found in our jungles almost wholly in the form of dead stumps and roots, which it would be desirable to throw into the market before further decay and depreciation take place.

4. At the present rates all clearances have, I am informed, ceased. The rate on bamboos should likewise, I think, be reduced from Annas 12 to Annas 8 in all the jungles under management of the Revenue authorities, as the bamboo found there is very inferior in size and substance.

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Forwarded to Doctor Cleghorn for his remarks, with reference to Captain Beddome's letter, dated 20th July 1865, No. 1,360, in Board's Proceedings quoted by the Collector.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Secretary.

To the Conservator of Forests.
„ the Collector of North Arcot.

Exd. J. Wright.

Department. 1866.

No.

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue,

Dated 17th March 1866.

No. 1,880.

Forwarding to Conservator of Forests for remarks, letter from Collector of North Arcot on subject of the rates of seignorage proposed for Forest districts

No. 2,083.

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 24th March 1866.

Read the following letter from W. M. CADELL, Esq., Collector of South Canara, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Mangalore, 14th March 1866, No. 47 :—

1. With reference to the Board's Proceedings, dated the 29th November 1865, No. 7,638, I have the honor to submit the following observations regarding the scale of seigniorage rates, prepared by Captain Beddome for this District.

2. In paragraph 2 of the above Proceedings, my opinion is called for on the following points; viz.:

*First.*—Whether in cases in which the rates are proposed to be raised, this step will, or will not, be prejudicial to the interests of the District; and

*Secondly.*—Whether any timber could be transferred from the reserved to the unreserved List, or *vice versa*.

3. In reference to the latter point, I beg to state that I have carefully gone over the list of both the reserved and unreserved but classified timbers, and am not prepared to offer any objections to either one or other. It would appear that originally, or in 1863, when a new set of Forest Rules was framed for this District by Captain Beddome in personal consultation with Mr. Morris, the nine timbers noted in the margin alone were proposed to be strictly conserved; to this list, the following two timbers have been subsequently added, viz., "Khiral Bhogi" and "Kalbow," making the total number of reserved timbers eleven. Of these, Captain Beddome has now omitted "Kalbow," and included it among the unreserved but classified timbers, charging it at the rate of two Rupees per candy. I am not aware of the reasons which have obtained in removing this timber from the reserved list, but presuming that on such a matter Captain Beddome is far better qualified to offer a reliable opinion than myself, I pass on to the consideration of the other subject, viz., the propriety of raising the present rates of seigniorage on unreserved but classified timbers.

1. Teak.
2. Blackwood.
3. Jackwood.
4. Wild Jack.
5. Sandal.
6. Poon Spar.
7. Ebony.
8. Catechu.
9. Heavy Poon. (Kal poona.)

4. In their orders of the 20th May 1865, No. 1,065, Revenue Department, the Government have approved of Captain Beddome's proposition to work the Ghat Forests of this District by means of the Forest Department itself. I presume, therefore, that the present proposed rates of seigniorage will apply only to a few forests, and which from their limited extent or other causes, it may not be considered expedient to work through Government agency.

5. In raising the rates now in force generally in the several Districts, Captain Beddome gives as his reasons that it is desirable to tax the timber in Districts near the Presidency and near the lines of Railway, at a considerably higher rate than in remoter Districts. It is evident that neither of these reasons apply to South Canara. In the absence of any further explanation on this point, I can only infer that it is perhaps intended that the revised rates should bear some proportion to the market values of the respective timbers specified by Captain Beddome in the list. Though generally inclined to concur with Captain Beddome on this point, I must nevertheless take leave to observe that these market rates are already sufficiently high, and are in practice found to press on the resources of the community, so that any further attempt to raise the present rates of seigniorage, and which were but recently revised, will necessarily tend to make this pressure more severe.

6. In my opinion, the rates originally fixed seem the most appropriate for the classified timber as well as for the jungle wood of this District, and I would, therefore, recommend that instead of having different rates for the different kinds of classified timber, the present uniform rate of one Rupee per candy be retained for all the seven classified timbers* entered in the list, and eight annas for jungle wood.

* 1. Guga.
2. Honne.
3. Banapu.
4. Kalbow.
5. Tirapu.
6. Marawa.
7. Kal Vaghe.

7. That timber fetches a high price in the market seems to me no argument in favor of increasing the present rates of seigniorage, for if the expenses attendant on the felling, carriage, &c., of the timber are taken into account, the real profit to the merchants will in the end be found to be comparatively small. Moreover the timber usually cut by the merchants in this District on payment of seigniorage is generally sold or used within the limits of the District itself, and very little, if any, is exported to other markets.

8. It is stated in the List of seigniorage that the Ryots are entitled to the five reserved timbers named in the margin, when growing on Kumaki land and near their villages, on payment of a seigniorage of four Rupees per candy. It is not clear from this whether the Ryots are, or are not, at the same time entitled to cut the remaining reserved timbers on the same terms. It is my opinion that the privilege should be extended to all timbers of the reserved kinds, except sandal wood.

Teak.
Blackwood.
Jack.
Wild Jack.
Poon.

9. *Palmyras.*—The rate of seigniorage proposed for these is the same as that fixed by Mr. Morris, viz., one Rupee per tree; but it does not appear whether this is intended to apply to trees growing on strictly Government land, or also to those on Kumak lands attached to the Ryots' estates. I would confine the tax simply to the former.

10. *Bamboos.*—I have already communicated to the Board in my letter* of the 12th December last, my opinion that seigniorage should only be charged on bamboos when felled for commercial purposes, and I would fix the same at twelve annas per one-hundred, the rate proposed by Captain Beddome.

* No. 203.

11. *Firewood.*—With regard to the proposed seigniorage on firewood, I beg to state that the rate appears to me reasonable, but as, under a recent arrangement made in communication with the Conservator of Forests, the firewood jungles of this District are now being made over to this Department, I shall do myself the honor hereafter of addressing the Board on this subject, as promised in my letter of the 12th December last.

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Forwarded to Dr. Cleghorn for any remarks he may wish to offer with reference to Captain Beddome's letter printed in the Board's Proceedings quoted by the Collector.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Secretary.

To the Conservator of Forests.

Copy to the Collector of South Canara.

Exd. J. Wright.

1866. Department.

No. PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

*Dated 24th March* 1866.

No. 2,083.

Forwarding to Conservator of Forests letter from Collector of South Canara submitting remarks on new scale of seigniorage proposed for Forest districts.

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Office of Conservator of Forests
Madras 24th March 1866.

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No. 1693.

From

A. Cleghorn Esqre M.D.
Conservator of Forests

To

W. M. Cadell Esqre
Collector South Canara

Sir,

I beg to enclose copy of a useful Report on the Forests of South Canara by Captain Beddome with some marginal notes on the main points.

Not sent for perusal

Asst. Conservator

I have strongly cautioned Mr. Thompson as to his conduct and trust that he may go on well, as a Mechanical Engineer he possesses very valuable qualifications and has done good service for 8 or 9 years.

Overseers — Mr. Thompson has been directed to carry out the alteration suggested by Captain Beddome. Mr. Wilson is to have the immediate supervision of the Candapone Establishment, the 4th Overseer will not be appointed at present.

District Gazette — The District Gazette might be used more largely for intimating to the merchants and people what timbers are for sale in Depôt.

Export trade — In North Canara, the export trade

firewood, bamboos and timber increased steadily under the fostering care of Mr. Mattby, and much good may be effected by trying to meet the wishes of purchasers.

Duffadars

The question of discontinuing or transferring the Duffadars in Casergode and Upmangoode talugs remains for your consideration in consultation with Mr. Thompson.

Teak and Blackwood plantations

The progress of the plantations under Mr. Thomas who was trained at Nellambur appears to be satisfactory and is favorably remarked upon by Captain Beddome. This most important matter, a good deal appears to have been done also in clearing away creepers and pruning young trees.

Firewood

The Assistant Conservator has been instructed to arrange the transfer of the firewood jungle establishment to you.

Kumaki

Kumaki tract. The question as to whether Ryots possess the right of selling the timber grown on their Kumaki land is raised by Captain Beddome who alleges truly that these lands were granted to aid agricultural operations, by furnishing leaf-



mould and wood for agricultural implements and not timbers for sale. The late Collector considered that the Ryot could do what he chose with his plot of Kumaki. I agree with Captain Beddome for if the Kumaki was exhausted, the Ryot would appeal ad Misericordiam and have recourse to the Government Forests. I should be glad to know what your opinion is upon this matter?

Bamboo Seignorage. There has long been a trade in bamboos on Western Coast and it being inexpedient for the merchants to cut at pleasure, it seems desirable that the Department should bring down Annually a supply for sale. The cutting and floating may be done by Contract, but seigniorage on export forms a legitimate source of Revenue.

Depôts

Captain Beddome proposes that there be in future four Coast Depôts Viz.

| | |
|---|---|
| Casergode | Barcoor |
| Mangalore | Cundapore |

and one inland depot, Viz Hospet. He states that you have promised a portion of the reclaimed Bunder at Mangalore for a Depôt

Depôt and the Tahsildar has allotted a piece of land at Gundapoor I hope that his proposals meet with your approval.-

Prices of Timber.- Captain Beddome thinks, the seigniorage rates are very low- after consulting your Local Officers, if you consider the demand for Errool, Venteh &c. warrants an increase, this may be arranged.- The selling price of these woods is certainly lower in South Canara than in North Canara, which being near Bombay might account for the enhanced price, but the private proprietors of Malabar obtain a better price for their woods.

Poon spars.- Sixty two Poon spars are in Depôt in Barcoor, they should be fully advertized in Bombay and in the Local Gazettes- N. Canara, S. Canara, Malabar, also in the Fort St. George Gazette.- Poon Spars.

The limited extent of Good forest renders the prohibition of Kumari very important and the orders of Government are very stringent upon this matter.- Kumari.

Favorable reports have been received on the Gun Carriage Factory of these new timbers (Hopea) Buja, (Dipterocarpus) timber. New timbers of South Canara.

timbers, the discovery of which is due to Captain Beddome. 157

Captain Beddome suggests that the right of collecting Cardamoms in a large reserved forest near Someshwar be given out on contract, this produce is a legitimate source of forest revenue and I do not see any objection to this course, the contractor would be answerable directly to Mr. Thomas for any injury done to the forest.- produce.

The increasing scarcity of elephants is mentioned and the substitution of Buffalo for light work is strongly recommended.- phants.

These are the chief points in this report, which conveys the impression of marked progress since I visited South Canara in 1859.- The introduction of Departmental working instead of the License system is a satisfactory feature of this Report.-

I have the honor to be &c.

Signed H. Cleghorn.-

Conservator of Forests.

/A true Copy/

H. Cleghorn

Conservator of Forests.

No. 5,905.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 20th August 1866.

Read again letters from the Collectors to whom the seigniorage lists furnished by Captain Beddome were forwarded for remark, with Board's Proceedings, dated 29th November 1865, No. 7,638.

Read also the following letters:—

From H. CLEGHORN, Esq., M. D., Conservator of Forests, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Coimbatore, 17th March 1866, No. 1,664.

1. I have to acknowledge the Board's Proceedings, dated 27th February, No. 1,395, with Collector's letter regarding the new scale of seigniorage in Salem, and would remark that Satin-wood and Karangalli are the very best hard woods for agricultural implements, and are also much used for Railway fuel.

2. *Satin-wood.*—The Gun Carriage Manufactory requires about 2,000 cubic feet annually, and is supplied at about one Rupee per cubic foot; much of this has been felled clandestinely. A light seigniorage on export appears to be reasonable, and was sanctioned on my recommendation in 1858. It would be impossible to grow and deliver the Satin-wood at the present price.

Extract Minutes of Consultation, dated 13th August 1858, paragraph 6, No. 1,137.

3. The wood is used for picture frames, plugs of Rifle bullets, &c., and I often regret to find it in fuel heaps in Garrison cook-rooms. By taking care of the present stock *in those localities, where it attains a good size,* the supply will be equal to the demand; wherever it is crooked and of stunted growth, it may be given up.

4. The Karangalli is a close congener to Babool, but harder and more valuable. I have referred to Lieutenant C. Walker, who reports that it is highly prized, and that the seigniorage of Rupees three is not oppressive. The timber is valued for king posts, &c.

5. In regard to the question discussed in paragraphs 7 to 10 of Mr. Arbuthnott's letter, it is clear that the Ryots prefer young trees, while Executive Engineers and Railway officers will only receive large scantling; the Conservator has to arrange for *both* requirements, and to keep in view the main point of re-production. The principle of supplying mature timber is recognized by all Forest and Engineer officers.

6. I concur with the Collector in paragraph 11, that the power of cutting trees should be left in the hands of the Forest officer of the District, which is really the case. It is necessary, however, to lay down general rules and to [illegible] officer to diverge only when circumstances require it.

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From the same Officer, dated Madras, 7th April 1866, No. 1,732.

1. Adverting to Proceedings of Board of Revenue, dated 17th ultimo, No. 1,880, referring a letter of the Collector of North Arcot, relating to the seigniorage of trees in his District, I have to remark as follows.

2. Mr. J. D. Robinson having been long stationed in the District of North Canara, where he took much interest in Forestry, I feel sure that he will work the rules with judgment. His only recommendations in this letter are regarding red saunders wood and bamboo.

3. He would reduce the seigniorage on red saunders from Rupees 3 to Rupees 1-8-0. I find on referring to the Assistant Conservator (Mr. Yarde) that Rupees 1-8-0 has been the charge since 10th December 1862.

4. In regard to bamboos, the Collector proposes eight Annas per bandy-load* in all the jungles under his management; to this there is no objection.

* If split (about 240 to the cart load) I would propose one Rupee.

4. I have lately passed through some of the North Arcot jungles after six years absence, and was much struck by their thinness, and the extended clearances. It is fortunate that the red saunders tree throws up suckers from very old roots.

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From the same Officer, dated Madras, 20th April 1866, No. 1,760.

In acknowledging the Board's Proceedings, dated 24th March 1866, No. 2,033, I offer a few remarks upon the matters referred to by the Collector of South Canara.

1. *Reserved Woods.*—These are ten in number, nine were approved by Mr. Morris, the previous Collector, one (*kiral bogi*) was subsequently added after being tested at the Gun Carriage Factory. This wood is highly spoken of in Buchanan's journey to Malabar, and the reservation was proper.

2. *Seigniorage.*—The argument used by Captain Beddome that the "rate of seigniorage "should bear some proportion to the relative value of the respective timbers" is reasonable, the application requires discrimination and judgment. In a letter,† reviewing a report of Captain Beddome's recent tour in Canara, to Mr. Cadell, I leave the question of raising the seigniorage to be settled by the Collector and local Forest Officer. It may be remarked that the seigniorage on most of the useful woods is considerably less in South Canara than in North Canara, or in the private estates of Malabar. As an example of the difficulty of dealing with this point, I may mention that the Kolungode Nambidi claims eight Rupees per teak tree, in the new Anamallay lease, instead of Rupees five. Mr. Ballard recommends Rupees seven as an equitable rate, though the trees are very inferior to those for which we have been paying Rupees five; these sums are higher than are charged in any Government Forest.

† Enclosed.

4. The main point of Forest management in South Canara are touched upon in the enclosed letter to Mr. Cadell, who cordially assists Mr. Thompson, and takes much interest in the Forest. There is only one point on which I desire to have his opinion, viz., whether Ryots can *sell* the timber growing in the Kumaki land. Captain Beddome argues that the Kumaki is given for aiding agricultural operation like a village jungle, but not for sale. I agree with Captain Beddome. Previous Revenue Officers have taken different views of this question; I wish the point to be decided.

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ENCLOSURE No. 1.

ABSTRACT.—Letter from Doctor C[illegible] Cadell, Calicut, dated 24th March 1866.

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From the same Officer, dated Madras, 24th April 1866, No. 1,775.

1. I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of the Board's Proceedings of 21st March 1866, No. 2,003, and beg to offer the following remarks on the letters of certain Collectors relating to the proposed scale of seigniorage.



*Ganjam.*—I agree very much with the remarks of Mr. G. S. Forbes, and would not increase the rates of seigniorage without his concurrence. The woods mentioned by him, viz.,

Pia Salu. *Pterocarpus marsupium,*
Bheyra. *Chloroxylon swietenia,*
Holondo. *Nauclea Cordifolia,*

should be transferred to the reserved timber list as he proposes.

*Cuddapah.*—Mr. H. G. Smith's letter does not appear to call for any special remark.

*Kurnool.*—The only change suggested is the introduction into the reserved list of *Hardwickia binata*, yielding the Yepa wood, a most valuable timber, and the fibre of which has been called for in bulk by Her Majesty's Secretary of State.

*Madura.*—Mr. Levinge alludes to the high price of wood in his District. This rise may be attributed partly to the enhanced value of all the necessaries of life, partly to the greater consumption of timber in substantial homesteads of well-doing Ryots, and also to the requirements of the Great Southern of India Railway Company, who export timber largely from Dindigul. The only change proposed by the Collector is the transfer of Manja Cadamba* from the unreserved to the reserved list, which is proper.

* Nauclea Cordifolia.

*Coimbatore.*—The only remarks which occur to me in regard to Mr. Grant's letter are these:—

1st.—It has always been the custom to give firewood and bamboos to villagers free within their own boundaries, and this is fully provided for in the Rules. The point remaining in doubt is whether a Ryot at Carour or Avenashi can send his carts to Anamallay for bamboos; I consider the case is exactly similar to the Ryots of Dharwar sending to North Canara, where they always pay. They can grow Babul easily on their own holdings, and if this does not supply their requirements, they should pay for superior house-building material.

2. In regard to firewood, the consumption at Coimbatore is very large, as the large stacks of fuel seen at Pothanoor easily prove, but the Government receipts are miserable, not during the last year, from the Bolamputty valley and Walliar. The main question, however, is not the cost to the consumer, nor the revenue to the State, but the certainty of production, and no one I am sure will take care of the young trees or plant others, so long as 1,000 pounds of firewood can be procured for five Annas (or ten pence). The lowest rate of seigniorage in any District is six Annas in Salem; in Cuddapah it is eight Annas, and the circumstances of Coimbatore lead me to think that eight Annas for 1,000 pounds of the size used by the Railway would be reasonable. If the load be under this weight, or if composed of branches smaller than the Railway Company receive, six Annas would be sufficient.

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1. Ordered that the foregoing papers be submitted to Government, with reference to Government Order, dated 23rd May 1865, No. 1,089, Revenue Department.

2. The Board consider that the rates of seigniorage as approved by Doctor Cleghorn and the several Collectors should be adopted, and that no change should be permitted in any District, without a previous reference to the Collector for his opinion, and the sanction of Government after consideration of the opi[illegible] of the Conservator.

3. The only st[illegible] that, in their opinion, the privi[illegible] Kumaki" in Canara [illegible] the right to cut timber growing on the Kumaki land *for sale.*

4. If the Kumaki land be taken upon Durkhast for occupation by the Wurgdar, to whose Wurg it was previously attached (and to no one else should such land be given), then the Durkhastdar acquires with the land the right to clear it and to dispose of the wood growing on it as he thinks best.

5. Such lands will seldom contain any valuable trees, except such as the Wurgdar may have planted while the land was "Kumaki;" and in the rare cases to which this remark does not apply, the Collector can, at his discretion, make special terms in accepting the Durkhast.

(True Copies and Extract.)

Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department,
with three enclosures and a file of Collectors' replies.
„ the Conservator of Forests.
„ the Collector of Ganjam.
„ the Collector of Cuddapah.
„ the Collector of North Arcot.
„ the Collector of Kurnool.
„ the Collector of Madura.
„ the Collector of Salem.
„ the Collector of Coimbatore.
„ the Collector of South Canara.

Exd. T. Cartledge.

Rev. Dept. 1866. No. 2,651.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

No. 5,905.

Recommending adoption of rates of seigniorage approved by Conservator of Forests in communication with Collectors, and stating that change should be permitted in any district without previous reference to Collector, and the sanction of Government.