M.R.O. 14-5,450-22-10-25.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 2776 Press ~~Mis.~~

328.329

Dated 12 — 10 — 1866.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

925

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 12th October 1866.

No. 328. Read the following letter from the Officiating Conservator of Forests, to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Fort Saint George, dated Camp, Ootacamund, 13th September 1866, No. 1,968 :—

1. With reference to paragraph 3 of the G. O. No. 2,218, of the 24th of August 1866, I have the honor to inform you that in the small shola below the Marley Mund Road, now converted into a building timber plantation, eight acres have been planted out with 12,000 Eucalyptus trees, and there are about 15,000 Eucalypti in the nursery ready for transplanting; this shola is about twenty-three acres in extent, and it is proposed to plant out the remaining fifteen acres in the next two years.

2. In a shola near the Governor's shola, we have planted out about twenty-five acres, of which five acres are planted with 5,000 Eucalypti, and the remaining twenty acres with Acacia Melanoxylon and A. Dealbata; this is a firewood plantation.

3. At Wellington 120 acres have been planted out with Acacia Melanoxylon and A. Dealbata and a few Eucalypti, and it is proposed to plant the remaining 200 acres of the land handed over to the Forest Department at the rate of eight acres per annum. In the Wellington nurseries we have 10,000 plants ready for transplanting. This Wellington plantation is a firewood reserve for the barracks.

4. Government have stated in former Proceedings that they attach great importance to plantations on the hills. Since the Forest Department commenced firewood plantations, many private individuals have followed the example, and I have distributed seed to all who have applied to me for it; I do not therefore anticipate that it will be necessary to extend the firewood plantations, or that there is any chance of a scarcity of this article in future years. I, however, think the building timber plantation of great importance, and if it is found to answer well, it may in future years be advisable to extend these operations. We shall be able to sell the timber at one-fourth the price that teak realizes, and there is every probability that teak will become scarcer and dearer in future years. Private parties will plant for ornamental purposes and for firewood, but it is not likely that private enterprise will attempt much in the way of planting for building timber, as little or no return could be expected for twelve or fifteen years.

5. With reference to paragraph 1 of the Order above alluded to, I would inform you that the planting of the superior building timbers of Australia was proposed to me by Sir W. Denison, the late Governor, and Government have been procuring for our Department the necessary seed; it never therefore occurred to me that it was necessary to apply for special sanction for this scheme, and my mention of it in my annual report was not intended as an application for sanction.

No. 329. ORDER THEREON, 12th October 1866, No. 2,776.

Forests, No. 10.

The Conservancy Department will complete the Marley Mund plantation as proposed, as well as proceed with the Governor's Sholah and Wellington plantation, and generally re-plant sholas cut by them for fuel. But fresh plantations are not to be commenced without special sanction, as the interposition of Government will only repress private enterprise.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. D. SIM,

Secretary to Government.

To the Officiating Conservator of Forests.

,, the Board of Revenue.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

No. 2776 [illegible]

The Conservancy Dept will complete the Manly Mound plantation as proposed, as well as Res. according with the prop. Model and Wellington plantation and generally replant shelter belts where found necessary. But fresh plantations are not to be commenced with out special sanction as the interpretation of prop. will only express private enterprise.

JPT
12th Octr. /06

4 Copies to be Offd Conservators Forests Desp 943 & 44 — 2 to Board

Pap No. 663.664 d 24.8.66