M.R.O. 14—18,000—27-9-34

# MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

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## Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 2799 Press Mis.

376-377

Dated 13-10- 1866.

***Not to be folded or roughly handled***

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 15th October 1866.*

No. 376. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 28th September 1866, No. 6,988.

Read the following letter from the Collector of South Arcot, to the Officiating Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Cuddalore, 20th June 1866, No. 125 :—

1. In reference to the Proceedings of the Board, dated 1st instant, giving cover to the Proceedings of Government of the 25th ultimo, calling for a report on the present operations of the Porto Novo Iron Company, with reference to Government Orders of 24th December 1860 and 5th September 1865, I have the honor to submit a Statement, compiled from the Returns furnished to me by the Company's Agents at Porto Novo and Tirunamalay, shewing the quantity of fuel cut from the jungles of this District since 1861, the quantity expended, and that in store up to the present date.

| | Quantity cut in. | | | Quantity expended. | | | Quantity in store. | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | T. | C. | Q. | T. | C. | Q. | T. | C. | Q. |
| Porto Novo ... ... ... ... ... ... | 521 | 6 | 2 | 474 | 0 | 0 | 47 | 6 | 1 |
| Tirunamalay ... ... ... ... ... | 2,315 | 7 | 0 | 2,210 | 16 | 2 | 104 | 10 | 2 |

The privilege of cutting fuel free of charge, granted in 1860, was not availed of by the Agents of the Porto Novo Factory before February 1865, and at Tirunamalay, not before November of the same year.

2. Without some sort of survey by a competent officer, it is difficult to ascertain the condition of the jungles affected by the concession; but, at all events, if the present returns be accepted as correct, it is clear that the concession can as yet have had little perceptible effect on the jungles.

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1. Resolved that the foregoing letter be submitted for the information of Government, with reference to paragraph 4 of the Order quoted by the Collector.

2. With reference to paragraph 3 of the same Order, the Board observe that, when the Village Conservancy Rules were promulgated, special instructions were given that they were not to be put in force in any jungles under the control of the Forest Department.

3. The Board are averse to anything like a revival of the obnoxious system of jungle rents, which, after the deliberate consideration of Government, was definitively abandoned two years back. It is true that the collection of certain articles of forest produce was then transferred to the Forest Department, and, possibly, as observed by Dr. Cleghorn, gall-nuts may be a legitimate source of revenue; but the Board doubt whether the collections from such a source, which would probably be insignificant, would counterbalance the disadvantages of again placing the semi-savage jungle tribes who collect such products at the mercy of a Contractor, or of an inferior public servant, if the products were collected under the Amani system.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 15th October 1866.*

4. Dr. Cleghorn professes himself to be in favor of upholding the prescriptive rights of villagers within their village boundaries, though he advocates the extension, to this Presidency, of Act VII. of 1865, which certainly is calculated, in the Board's opinion, to restrict these privileges.

5. The Board are not disposed to support this proposal, until they have before them the opinions of the Collectors of those Districts in which the Forest Department is at work, as to its necessity. Should the Government desire it, the Board will call for this information.

No. 377. ORDER THEREON, 15th October 1866, No. 2,799.

Forests, No. 12.

The Board will call for the opinions of the Collectors of those Districts in which the Forest Department is working on the suggestion of the Conservator of Forests to extend Act. VII. of 1865 to this Presidency, and submit them to Government with their remarks.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) A. J. ARBUTHNOT,

*Chief Secretary.*

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

Ed. S. T. Augustin.

R. 2799 2/

The Board will call for the opinions of the Collectors of those Districts in which the Forest Dept. is working on the suggestion of the Conservator of Forests to extend Act VII of 1865 to this Presidency, & submit them to Govt with their remarks.

14 - Bd of Revl 3 Jul 1866
4 Offg Conservr of Forests

15th Octr 1866

131/4

Rev. 5 Sept/65 No. 7647
" 25 Nov/66 No. 439 to 440
" 24 Dec/66 No. 452 to 453

2/4/95

Rev. — 1863. Department.
Rev. of Govt for October

No 3456.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

*Dated 28th September* 1866.
Dept 3 Asst
Rec'd 4th

No. 6,988.

120 B of Revenue 21
Oct 66 Encl 36 Encl 342
Ajt 13

Submitting remarks on suggestions of Conservator of Forests in regard to collection of certain articles of forest produce, and forwarding letter from Collector of South Arcot reporting on operations of Porto-Novo Iron Company with reference to privilege granted to them to cut fuel free of charge.

No 2777-15 Oct 66

A. 3764377

Wilkinson

C/ Oct/66 R/10