M.R.O. 14—13,000—27-9-24

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 3026 Press Mis.

171-172.

Dated 7—11— 1866.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

8

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 7th November 1866.

No. 171. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 25th October 1866, No. 7,721 :—

Read again letter from the Officiating Conservator of Forests, dated 5th June 1866, recorded in Board's Proceedings, 21st July 1866, No. 5,012.

Read also the following letter from the Collector of Malabar, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Calicut, 3rd October 1866, No. 283.

I have the honor to inform you that the Deputy Collector of Wynaad reports, with reference to instructions issued in the Board's Proceedings, dated 21st July last, No. 5,012, that the Trustees of the Pulpally Temple now decline to lease the Forest on any terms, alleging that they would incur the anger of the deity if they did so.

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1. Ordered that the papers recorded above, be submitted for the information of Government, with reference to their orders dated 26th April 1865, No. 862.

2. It will be seen that the endeavors made to induce the Trustees of the Pulpally Pagoda to lease their forest lands to Government have failed, and that the Collector now reports that they decline to do so on any terms whatever.

No. 172. ORDER THEREON, 7th November 1866, No. 3,026.

Forests, No. 6.

From the foregoing papers it does not appear that the proposal to manage the Pagoda forest lands, referred to in paragraph 3 of Doctor Cleghorn's letter, recorded in G. O. of 26th April 1865, No. 862, has been made to the Trustees, nor their answer obtained. The Board will now request the Collector to do so without delay, and submit the Trustees' reply.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

No. 5,012.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 21st July 1866.

Read the following letter from Captain R. H. BEDDOME, Officiating Conservator of Forests, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Camp at Ootacamund, 5th June 1866, No. 1,841 :—

1. With reference to the Government Order, No. 862, of the 26th of April 1865, I have the honor to forward a letter* and Draft Agreement† just received from Mr. Ballard, the Collector of Malabar, by which you will perceive that the Trustees of the Pulpally temple have at length consented to lease their forest lands to Government.

* No. 1,697, dated 29th May 1866.
† Dated 17th May 1866 (to be returned).

2. As these forests are situated in the heart of our Government forests, I consider it most desirable that they should be leased by Government; whilst they are under the management of the Temple authorities, there will always be an opening for smuggling from our forests, and their timber will be competing with our's in the market.

3. A stump fee of 5 Rupees for every teak tree would always leave us a fair profit, and is far preferable to an annual rent, or a lump sum; the agreement should, of course, state that 5 Rupees is the price of teak only; blackwood might be priced at 4 or 4-8-0, and hone and mattee (Pterocarpus marsupium and Terminalia) at 2-8-0 per tree, and common jungle trees at one Rupee; provision should also be made that saplings felled for thinning or conservancy are not chargeable, and jungle timber felled as axillaries to forest operations, such as buildings and bridges, &c., within the forest, should not be liable to seigniorage.

4. There is not, at present, much demand for timber in Wynad, and teak, at present, only fetches fourteen Annas, or one Rupee per cubic foot; but when the road is open to the western sea-board, there will always be a certain market, and teak will fetch a far higher price than it does at present.

5. As our department would undertake conservancy and probably planting also, the proposed term of twenty years is too short; if the lease cannot be arranged for a higher period, a clause should be inserted that will enable Government to renew the lease at a stump fee proportionate to the market rates prevalent at the time of renewal.

6. The Forest Department should fell, and deliver annually to the trustees, what timber is required in connexion with the temple, they paying for the same, the cost of felling and carriage only; proviso should be made that the annual supply shall not exceed a certain quantity.

7. The seigniorage of bamboos per thousand should be mentioned, as they fetch a high price in the Mysore market.

8. The Collector can arrange all these particulars, in communication with the Deputy Conservator, at the time of drawing up the lease.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From G. A. BALLARD, Esq., Collector of Malabar, to the Officiating Conservator of Forests, Ootacamund, dated Calicut, 29th May 1866, No. 1,697.

1. Adverting to the correspondence noted, I have the honor to inform you that the Pulpally Devasom Trustees have, at last, consented to lease the Pulpally forests. Translation of a rough Draft Agreement, forwarded by the Deputy Collector, Wynad, is enclosed. I send it to you for any remarks, and if you are at all satisfied with the terms, you had better forward it to the Board of Revenue; on hearing from them, I will endeavour to have the lease formally agreed to by the trustees, with any modifications that may be suggested.

Board's Standing Circular Order, dated 12th May 1863.
Proceedings, Board of Revenue, dated 13th May 1863, No. 2,833A.
Government Order, 11th August 1863, No. 1,481, received with Board's Endorsement, 13th idem, No. 5,064.
Government Order, 26th April 1865, No. 862, do. do., with Board's Endorsement, 28th idem, No. 2,151.

2. The people have long resisted coming to terms; so, if the forests are considered really desirable acquisitions, it will be well not to make the conditions too hard, and endeavour to settle matters as speedily as may be.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.

ABSTRACT.—Translations of a Draft Agreement.

Communicated to the Collector of Malabar, who should endeavour to induce the Trustees to agree to the terms proposed by the Acting Conservator. He will report the result of his endeavours.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) R. A. DALYELL,
Acting Secretary.

To the Collector of Malabar.

Copy to the Officiating Conservator of Forests,
with two enclosures returned.

Exd. J. Wright.

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Re. 3026.

From the foregoing papers, it does not appear that the proposal to manage the Pargadee Forest lands referred to in para 3 of Dr. Cleghorn's letter recorded in Jr. C. of 26th April 1865 - No. 862, has been made to the Trustees nor their answer obtained. The Board will now request the Collr. to do so without delay, and submit the Trustees reply. —

To The Bd. of Revenue Madras 1st June 1866.

Encl. in the Pro. of the Board of Revenue dated 25th June 1866 No. 3721.

1866. Department.

Rev. 3849/66.

No.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

Fort St. George, 1st

Dated 21st July 1866.

No. 5,012,

Requesting Collector of Malabar to induce the trustees of Pulpally temple to agree to terms proposed by Acting Conservator of Forests for leasing their forest lands to Government, and desiring to report the result.

Pro No. 310-311 d 26-4-65

Reported to Engrs No. 7 d 10-9-67.

Luis. Torres