M.R.O. 1—39,000—16-10-29.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 3035 Press / Mis.

288-289

Dated 25th November 1869

Not to be folded or roughly handled

One

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
25th November 1869.

No. 288. Read the following endorsement of the Government of India, Public Works Department, (Revenue—Forests,) dated Simla, 26th October 1869, No. 534-F:—

COPY of the following forwarded to the Government of Madras with reference to entries Nos. 303, 346, and 347 of their Proceedings (Revenue—Forests) for January 1869, with the request that it may be reported whether the services of the Compiler of Accounts temporarily entertained in the Conservator's office have been discontinued.

(By order.)

(Signed) R. STRACHEY, Colonel, R. E.,
Officiating Secretary to the Government of India.

COPY of a letter from the Officiating Accountant-General to the Government of Madras, to the Financial Secretary to the Government of India, dated 31st August 1869, No. 3,506.

WITH reference to your Assistant's letter, No. 763, dated 29th May last, I have the honour to forward copy of Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, in which it will be seen that the two sets of Registers are pronounced to be unnecessary, and to state that, in compliance with the suggestion of the Board, immediate steps will be taken to simplify the accounts of the office of Conservator of Forests by sending over to that office an Accountant from this department to consult with one from the Board's office as to what should be done in the matter.

No. 6,277.

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 21st August 1869.

Read the following letter from F. LUSHINGTON, Esq., Accountant-General, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Fort Saint George, 29th July 1869, No. 2,792.

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith the papers noted in the margin,* and to request that you will favour me with the views of the Board as to the necessity or otherwise of two sets of accounts kept up in the office of the Conservator of Forests.

* Letter from Assistant Secretary to the Government of India, Financial Department, No. 763, dated 29th May 1869, with one enclosure.
Letter from Officiating Conservator of Forests, No. 1,520, dated 13th July 1869, with six enclosures (to be returned.)

2. The Conservator furnishes this office with a monthly account† in connexion with advances taken up for working charges of the Forest Department, and an annual account showing the revenue and charges of each forest in lump sums, the entries therein being supported by statements rendered by Treasury Officers and vouchers for supplies made to the Public Works and other Departments. The last annual account (to be returned) is enclosed for reference.

† Vide Proceedings, Board of Revenue, No. 7,513, of 20th October 1868.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

Copy of a letter from the Assistant Secretary to the Government of India in the Financial Department, to the Accountant-General, Madras, dated Simla, 29th May 1869, No. 763.

WITH reference to the annexed copy of a letter from the Comptroller-General of Accounts, No. 163, of 30th April, I am desired to request that you will ascertain and report why two sets of accounts are still necessary in the office of the Conservator of Forests, and that you will be good enough to describe the character and object of the extra set kept up for the Board.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.

From E. F. HARRISON, Esq., Comptroller-General of Accounts, to the Officiating Secretary to the Government of India, Financial Department, dated Calcutta, 30th April 1869, No. 163.

WITH reference to your letter, No. 2,048, dated 19th instant, I have the honour to observe that the course suggested in my letter to the Accountant-General, Madras, obviates the necessity of preparing two sets of accounts, and does not throw such additional work on the office of the Conservator of Forests as would necessitate the employment of an additional hand. But it appears from his letter to the Board that other additional duties have been thrown on his establishment for which the Compiler's post applied for is required. The charge has been temporarily sanctioned by the local Government, and may similarly be authorized by the Financial Department, pending the revision of the office establishment of the Conservator.

2. The original enclosures of your letter are herewith returned.

ENCLOSURE No. 3.

From Major R. H. BEDDOME, Officiating Conservator of Forests, to the Accountant-General, Fort Saint George, dated Ootacamund, 13th July 1869, No. 1,520.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter, No. 1,734, dated 12th ultimo, giving cover to copy of a communication from the Acting Secretary to the Government of India and of its enclosure, and, with reference thereto, to state that, agreeably to Government Order, dated 17th February 1868, No. 442, the annual accounts rendered to you are compiled from the following registers kept in this office, namely :—

1. Sale proceeds of timber remitted to the District Treasuries to be carried in their accounts to credit of forest income.
2. Value of timber supplied to Department Public Works.
3. Do. do. to other public departments.
4. Advances drawn from the Treasuries for operations of the several forests.
5. Salaries and travelling allowances drawn for the officers.
6. Do. do. for establishments.
7. Sums drawn by Range Officers for their contingencies.

2. The Registers named hereunder afford the means of checking the annual accounts submitted to the Board of Revenue for audit :—

1. Sale proceeds of timber realized and remitted under different classified items to the public Treasury.
2. Value of timber supplied to the Public Works and other departments.
3. Detailed charges passed as per audited bills.
4. Salaries and travelling allowances of officers and their office establishments.
5. Audited charges of office contingencies.
6. Amount drawn from the Treasury for forest operations.
7. Do. for establishments and office contingencies.
8. Value of timber felled from the forests.
9. Do. sold and supplied to public departments.
10. Stock of timber remaining undisposed of.
11. Cash balance Statement.

3. From the enclosed forms of annual accounts-current and their accompaniments, submitted to the Board for audit at the close of each year, it will be seen that the principles observed therein are different to those followed in the returns furnished to you.

4. In my letter to Government, No. 2,031, dated 12th October 1866, I suggested, with reference to the new system of accounts, the desirableness of forwarding the annual returns direct to you instead of, as at present, to the Board of Revenue; but the Government, in paragraph 16

of their Proceedings, dated 5th November 1866, observed that they attach great importance to the Board's supervision.

5. The submission of the monthly accounts-current together with numerous bills duly audited in the Central Office in accordance with the course laid down by the Comptroller-Genera of Accounts has not only entailed much labour and correspondence on the Central Office but also necessitated the introduction of the Book-keeping system, without which the sums actually drawn and expended and the balance remaining unaccounted for cannot be brought to a close so as to tally with your territorial books, and references have consequently to be made as to the discrepancies between the Forest and Treasury accounts.

6. You will thus perceive at a glance how greatly the work in the Central Office has been augmented in comparison with what it was about three years ago, and be enabled to judge whether such increased work could be efficiently carried on with only one Accountant on Rupees 50 and a Compiler on Rupees 40 per mensem without its falling in arrears as it has at present and must continue to do unless the establishment is placed on a better footing.

ENCLOSURES Nos. 4 to 9—Annual Forms of Account.

ENCLOSURE No. 10—Annual Account of the Receipts and Charges of the Forest Conservancy Department for 1868-69.

THE Board do not see the necessity for maintaining the two sets of Registers at present kept in the office of the Conservator. In many respects they contain identically the same particulars; and all the information which may be required for the preparation of the returns sent to the Accountant-General, which are only two, one monthly and the other annual, can be obtained from the Registers kept in connexion with the accounts sent to the Board.

2. The Board are also of opinion that the forms of these Registers are capable of being much improved and condensed, so as at the same time to diminish the labour now involved in keeping them up, and afford more readily all the information required for both offices.

3. They accordingly suggest that a trained Accountant should be sent to the office of the Conservator of Forests from the Accountant-General's Office and from this office, and that they should endeavour, in communication with the Assistant Conservator, to simplify the accounts of all kinds kept in that office. The work will probably only take up a few days.

4. The original enclosures received from the Accountant-General are herewith returned.

No. 3,636.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

Dated Simla, 23rd September 1869.

Read endorsement of the Public Works Department, No. 139F., dated 12th March 1869, on a correspondence regarding the temporary entertainment of a Compiler on Rupees 100 a month for the office of Conservator of Forests at Madras.

Read also the following correspondence containing suggestions for simplifying the accounts of the above office and thus obviating the additional charge :—

Letter to Comptroller-General of Accounts,	No. 2,048,	dated	19th	April	1869.
Reply from do.	,, 163,	,,	30th	,,	,,
Letter to Accountant-General, Madras,	,, 763,	,,	29th	May	,,
Reply from do.	,, 3,506,	,,	31st	Aug.	,,

with enclosures.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
25th November 1869.

RESOLUTION.—The Governor-General in Council is of opinion that the Compiler temporarily entertained by the Conservator of Forests at Madras may now be discontinued.

ORDER.—Ordered that a copy of the foregoing Resolution, together with a copy of the paper last read, be forwarded to the Public Works Department, and that a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Accountant-General, Madras.

(Signed) R. H. HOLLINGBERY,
Asst. Secy. to the Govt. of India.

No. 289. ORDER THEREON, 25th November 1869, No. 3,035.

Forests, No. 18.

ORDERED that copies of these papers and of the reply to the Government of India of this day's date, No. 3,036, be communicated to the Officiating Conservator of Forests for his information.

(True Extract.)

Acting Secretary to Government.

To the Officiating Conservator of Forests.
,, the Accountant-General.
,, the Board of Revenue.

Exd. A. S. Rodgers.

14 Board of Revenue. ✓

Revenue Department,
Fort Saint George,
25th November 1869.

No. 290.

No. 0,000.

To

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Forests, No. 19.

SIR,—With reference to the Resolution of the Government of India in the Public Works Department, dated 26th October 1869, No. 534-F., I am directed to forward, for their information, copy of the Proceedings of this Government, dated 10th April 1869, No. 985, from which it will be seen that the Compiler on the salary of Rupees 100 a month has not been entertained in the office of the Conservator of Forests, but that, to meet the press of work in that office, two Clerks on Rupees 40 and 30 per mensem respectively have been employed as a purely temporary arrangement. The revised scheme for this establishment will shortly be taken under the consideration of Government, and the orders which may be passed on it will be reported for the confirmation of the Government of India in the usual course.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Signed) R. A. DALYELL,
Acting Secretary to Government.

Ext. A. S. Rodgers.

14 Boards of Revenue. √

Govt. of India 1869 Settlement.

REVENUE.

THE OFFICIATING CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS, &c. &c.

Dated November, 25th,

Read, &c.

G. O., 25*th November* 1869, *No.* 3,635.

TO WELLESLEY.

Nos. 290-299.

Compiler in the Forest Conservator's Office.—Letter from Government of India requesting to know whether his services have been discontinued, communicated to Conservator of Forests.

Govt. of {1869} Madras.

REVENUE.

To

THE SECY. to the GOVT. of INDIA,
Public Works Department.

Dated November, 25th.

Recd. *Encl.*

G. O., 25th November 1869, No. 3,036.

NOVEMBER.
No. 290.

From Govt. of India P.W.D.
dy 21 Decr. 30 Octr. 1869.

FORWARDING copy of Proceedings on the subject of the entertainment of two Clerks in the Forest Office for the computation of accounts.

Revenue Department.

№ 3035.

Proceedings of the Madras Government
Under date the 24th Novr. 1869.

Read the following
letter from the Govt. of
India
P. W. D.

Forwarding copy of papers regarding the 2 Sets of Accts kept up in the office of the Conservator of Forests, Madras, & requesting to report whether the services of the Compiler temporarily entertained have been discontinued.—

(R. & A. 26th Octr./69
№ 534 F.)

Ordered that copies of these papers and of the reply to the Govt. of India of this days date, №
be communicated to the Offg Conservator of Forests for his information.—

13 Offg Const. of Forests Decr 26
6 Accountants General.
14 Boards of Revenue.
Fort St. George

Revenue Department

25th June/69

No. 3036.

To,

The Secretary to the Govt. of India
Public Works Department

Sir,

With reference to the Resolution of the Govt. of India in the Public Works Department dated 26th October 1869 No. 534 F, I am directed to forward for their information copy of the Proceedings of this Govt. dated 10th April 1869, No. 985 from which it will be seen that the compiler on the salary of Rs. 100 a month has not been entertained

entertained in the office of the Conservator of Forests, but that to meet the press of work in that office two clerks on Rs. 40 and 30 per mensem respectively have been employed as a purely temporary arrangement. The revised scheme for this establishment will shortly be taken ~~from~~ under the consideration of Govt, and the orders which may be passed on it will be reported for the confirmation of the Govt of India in the usual course. —

E. H. Hall
Chief