M.R.O. 1—30,000—16-10-29.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1652 Press ~~Mis.~~

312-13
Dated 27-10- 1870

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 27th October 1870.

No. 312. Read the following Proceedings of the Government of India, Public Works Department, (Revenue—Forests,) dated Simla, 19th September 1870, No. 533F:—

Demarcation of Railway Fuel Reserves, Madras, and additional establishments required.

Read again—

Public Works Department No. 458F of 29th September 1869, to the Government of Madras, Revenue Department.

Ditto ditto No. 493F of 11th October 1869, to the Government of Madras, Revenue Department.

Ditto ditto No. 233F of 14th May 1870, to the Government of Madras, Public Works Department, Railway Branch.

Ditto ditto No. 234F of 14th May 1870, to the Chief Commissioner of Mysore.

Read also—

A letter from the Secretary to the Government of Madras in the Revenue Department, No. 1,221, dated 10th August 1870, and enclosures.

Despatch from the Government of Madras, to Her Majesty's Secretary of State, No. 4 of 13th August 1870.

OBSERVATIONS.—On several occasions the Government of India has invited the attention of the Madras Government to the necessity of demarcating forest tracts suitably situated, to provide a permanent supply of fuel for the working of the railways in that Presidency. The reports now received show that fourteen blocks have already been demarcated in the Cuddapah, North Arcot, Salem, and Coimbatore Districts, aggregating 17,000 acres or about 26 square-miles.

2. The Conservator estimates that nearly 100 square-miles will be required to provide a sufficient supply of fuel, and he apparently bases this estimate on the assumption that the yield of 50 acres will be sufficient to cover the average annual requirements of one mile of railway. At the rate of four trains daily, and one maund per train-mile, the annual consumption would be about 1,500 maunds per mile. The yield to cover this would require to be 30 maunds per acre per annum.

3. There are no data whatever before the Government of India regarding the yield of wood per acre, under different circumstances and in different parts of this country; further experience will doubtless show that the yield varies exceedingly in different districts, according to climate, soil, and other circumstances. Major Beddome should explain the data on which his figures are based, but His Excellency the Governor-General in Council is inclined to think that no reliable estimate of the area that will be needed to supply the wants of the Madras railways in this respect can as yet be framed. The climate in the eastern districts of the Madras Presidency is dry, and probably not favourable to rapid growth and good re-production; actual experience alone will show what area will ultimately be required in the different districts.

4. The length of lines constructed or sanctioned is 1,340 miles. In addition to this, it is probable that at least 100 miles more will be sanctioned. Adopting Major Beddome's estimate, for the sake of argument, about 115 square-miles

were

would supply the needful fuel for the working of the lines. Sea-borne coal will, however, always be used to some extent, and it may not be impossible to import coal *via* the Godavery at paying rates as compared with sea-borne coal or wood-fuel.

The formation of the reserves will take time, and should it eventually be found that the area taken up is too extensive, it will then not be difficult to dispose of the surplus land, in the event of its produce not finding a sale otherwise than to the railways at remunerative rates.

5. In addition to the lines in the Madras Presidency there are the railways projected in the Mysore territory. The necessity of taking measures to provide a supply of fuel for these lines has already been urged upon the Chief Commissioner of Mysore, and the Governor-General in Council trusts that the needful steps are being taken by the Mysore Forest Department.

6. In order to enable the Conservator to make satisfactory progress with the demarcation of these reserves, the Madras Government has sanctioned the appointment of three additional Assistant Conservators of the third class, on a salary of Rupees 200 per mensem each, and His Excellency in Council considers that this sanction should be confirmed as these additional officers will certainly be required for the special purpose explained. The additional charge is necessary and will amply re-pay itself. The Madras Government add that the additional outlay during the current year will be met from the existing Budget provision under "B, Establishments."

7. It is stated that the Conservator of Forests has been instructed to report what additional subordinate agency he will require for the charge of these reserves. When the strength of these subordinate establishments is settled, a Tabular Statement should be submitted to the Government of India in this department.

ORDER.—Ordered that a copy of this Resolution, with the papers read, be forwarded to the Financial Department for consideration and orders, with reference to paragraph 6.

Ordered, also, that a copy be forwarded to the Government of Madras in the Revenue Department for information and guidance.

Also, that a copy be forwarded, for information, to the Government of Madras in the Public Works Department, Railway Branch, and to the Chief Commissioner of Mysore.

(Signed) W. CROMELIN, Colonel, R.E.,
Offg. Secy. to the Govt. of India.

No. 313. ORDER THEREON, 27th October 1870, No. 1,652.

Forests, No. 6.

COMMUNICATED to the Conservator of Forests, with reference to the G. O. dated 28th July 1870, No. 1,124.

2. With advertence to paragraph 3 of the observations, the Government of India will be referred to the Proceedings of this Government, under date 15th November 1869, No. 2,959, which were forwarded to the Public Works Department

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
27th October 1870.

of the Government of India on the 17th December last, from which it will be observed that Major Beddome's rough estimate of the railway fuel requirements, at 50 acres per mile, was obtained from the calculations of Dr. Stuart and Dr. Brandis.

3. The observations of the Government of India in this and the succeeding paragraph will, however, be borne in mind by the Conservator in his future estimates.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Conservator of Forests.
,, the Board of Revenue.
,, the Public Works Department.

d. F. R. Bantleman.

Revenue Department.

No. 1652

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Under date the 29th October 1870.

Read the following Proc. of the Govt. of India P. W. Dept.

Regarding demarcation of Railway Fuel Reserves, Madras, & additional establishment required. — } No. 19 — 14th Sept. 1870, No. 3333.

Communicated to the Conservator of Forests with reference to the G.O. dated 28th July 1870 No. 1124. —

2. With reference to para 3 of the observations, the Govt of India will be referred to the Proc. of this Govt: under date 15th Nov. 1866 No. 2959 which were

Govt. of India Records.

REVENUE.

No.

THE CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS.

&c., &c., &c.

Dated October, 27th.

Recd.

Read.

G. O., 27th October 1870, No. 1,652.

CONTENTS.

Nos. 312-313.

Railway Fuel Reserves.—Sanction of Government of India to the arrangements made in connection with them, communicated to Conservator of Forests, with orders thereon.

were forwarded to the P. W. Dept.t of the Govt of India on the 14th December last — from which it will be observed that Major Beddome's rough Estimate of the Railway fuel requirements at 50 acres per mile, was obtained from the calculations of Dr. Stewart & Dr. Brandis.

3. The observations of the Govt of India in this and the preceding para will, however, be borne in mind by the Conservator in his future Estimates.

13 Fr. to Conservator Forest, Dept. 28
14 — W. of Govt
21 — M. Dept.