

(1) Number of pages 10
(2) Date of repair 15-9-92
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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. <u>3</u>	Press ~~Mis.~~
Dated <u>4-1-1871</u>	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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No. 6. Read the following letter from the Conservator of Forests, to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Fort Saint George, dated Tinnevely, 17th September 1870, No. 2,333 :—

With reference to the Government Order, No. 1,306, of the 23rd ultimo, I have the honour to inform you that there are three Overseers' ranges in the Salem District; one in South Arcot, and two in Cuddapah and Bellary.

2. The three Salem Overseers are in charge respectively of the *Salem*, *Tripatore*, and *Denkinacottah* Ranges.

(1.) *Salem* comprising four taluqs, viz., Salem, Ahtur, Nameul, and Trichengode, which include the hill-forests of the Shervaroys, Cobrays, and Kollaymallays, the jungles along the line of rail and other tracts, two plantations, and three reserves. The extent of the range not being less than 1,500 square-miles, the Overseer has to travel over the whole of this, and visit one taluq each month, and inspect the forests and tannah stations, etc. The work including the plantations has now become too heavy for one Overseer, and a second has been sanctioned by our Government for railway fuel plantations and reserves.

(2.) *Tripatore* comprising three and-a-half taluqs, viz., Tripatore, Utangherry, Kistnagherry, and a portion of Dharampory, which include the following forests :—Javadi hills, Cotapatty hills, Hurroor forests, jungles along the line of railway, and two fuel reserves; area of the range about 1,500 square-miles.

(3.) *Denkinacottah* comprising one and a-half taluqs, viz., Usur and part of Dharampory, which includes all the valuable Sandalwood and Acha (*Hardwickia*) forests on the left bank of the Cauvery; area about 600 square-miles.

3. The South Arcot forests, with an area of about 1,250 square-miles, have only one Overseer. Reserves and fuel plantations are being extended, and a second Overseer has become necessary, and is about to be appointed.

4. In Cuddapah and Bellary there are two Overseers; one of them has at present charge of only two railway fuel plantations lately commenced, one with an area of about 400 acres in the Bellary District, and the other with an area of 249 acres in Cuddapah. The Overseer is fully employed in the planting operations, and is carrying out useful experiments. The other Overseer has the general duties over a forest-tract of about 250 square-miles, besides several small plantations and fuel reserves. The plantations and reserves of this district are being largely increased, and another Overseer will be shortly required.

5. The duties of the Gumastah are the same in all the ranges, viz., to fair copy and enter Overseer's correspondence, such as Takeeds to Forest Duffadars and Peons, Yadasts to Tahsildars and Village-officers, etc., etc.; to keep and enter the Vernacular Accounts, check License Registers, Timber-yard-keeper's Registers, Duty Rolls of the Duffadars and Peons, etc.; receive and forward letters and petitions to the Overseer when on circuit; and furnish him with information on office records which may be required. No Overseer can do his duty without at least one Gumastah, unless he is merely in charge of one block of plantation or reserve, without much in the way of correspondence or accounts, and with no travelling.

6. The work of the Salem ranges has recently much increased; and is still on the increase, and it would be difficult to dispense with the Third Clerk; the Deputy

Proceedings of the Madras Government. Revenue Department.
4th January 1871.

or Assistant Conservator has to be frequently absent from his head-quarters for weeks or months together, and it is necessary that one Clerk, as a rule, the Head Clerk or Accountant, should remain at head-quarters to compile and keep the routine accounts and books; furnish information to the Circuit Office; receive and forward letters, petitions, etc. If the office is closed altogether, people never know where to find the officer for redress or information, etc. As a rule, one Clerk accompanies the Deputy-Conservator on circuit; sometimes two are required, one English and one Vernacular, and very often one or other of them is sick from fever. When the officer is at head-quarters, there is ample work for all three: the Head Clerk keeps the English Accounts and Returns, and checks those received from the subordinates, and is generally charged with the superintendence of the office; the Second Clerk does all the Vernacular correspondence and accounts, both of which are numerous, and acts as Translator; and the Third Clerk acts as Writer and Copyist.

7. The travelling allowance of Overseers is consolidated throughout the Presidency; each man has to keep up a pony and a small travelling establishment, and in many cases a small tent, and I consider a small permanent allowance is necessary. It is a question whether they should not be allowed a daily allowance whilst actually travelling; in addition to this, no department in the Presidency has such expensive travelling as that of the Forest Department. Rough mountain-tracks, where everything has to be carried by coolies, have constantly to be travelled over; servants are always getting fever, and consequently placed *hors de combat*; and without a more than ordinary care for comfort when travelling in feverish jungles, jungle fever cannot be avoided.

No. 7. ORDER THEREON, 4th January 1871, No. 3.

Forests, No. 1.

G. Os., dated 23rd August and 1st September 1870, Nos. 1,306 and 1,377.

ORDERED to be forwarded to the Government of India, with reference to the Proceedings of that Government in the Public Works Department, dated 4th and 22nd August 1870, Nos. 412-13F. and 456F.

(True Extract.)

(Signed)

W. HUDLESTON,
Secretary to Government.

To the Conservator of Forests.

Exd. F. R. Pantleman.

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Railway & 2 Full Reservoirs, area of the
range about 1500 square miles.

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viz: Ussur & part of Tharampory wh.
includes all the valuable Sandal wood
& Jaka (Hardwickia) forests on the left
bank of the Cameroo, area about 600
square miles.

3. The South Irish forests with an area of about 1250 square miles have only one Overseer, Reserves & fuel plantations are being extended & a 2^d Overseer has become necessary & is about to be appointed.

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In Cuddapa & Bellary there are 2 Observers
one of them has at present charge of only
~~2 Railway~~
about 400 acres

2. Barlong - Barlong is a District
- indeed, one with an area of about 400 acres
in the Billary Distⁿ & the other with an
area of 249 acres in Cuddapah, the Reserve
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& is carrying out useful experiments. The
other Reserve has the general duties over
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I have the honor to be
Sir Yr. obed^t serv^t
J. D. Madhane Majir
Cms^r of Forests

to the Secy to Govt
for the information of
the Supreme Govt
Dated 3. 4. 1871

dated 17th Dec^r 70.
No. 2333.
1st Secy to Govt

to the Secy to Govt
for the information of
the Supreme Govt
Dated 3. 4. 1871

No. 2333/1000/1870-36

285/-

77.3. $\frac{3}{5}$

10 January 1871

The disposal of the paper was referred pending reply to the Secy to Govt the 1st of June 1870 requiring a complete revision of the paper to the Secy to Govt the 1st of June 1870 in this subject is now in the hands of the Secy to Govt

Ordered to be forwarded to the Secy of India with reference to the Prop^o of that Govt in the Pub. Works Dept^t dated 4th and 22nd Aug^r 1870 Nos 412. 137 and 4507.

GLs dated 23rd Aug^r and 1870 Nos 412. 137 and 4507. 1870 No 1308 & 1377.

L.R. $\frac{3}{5}$

13. Folio Copy of Forests Dept^t

37/3

L. D.
Presenting certain
Mss. to the Librarian

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