

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	865	Press Mis.
152-53 Dated 13-6-1870. 19		

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
13th June 1870.*

No. 152. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 27th January 1870, No. 583 :—

Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government, dated 12th November 1869, No. 2,954, Revenue Department :—

ABSTRACT.—*Forest Training School for Madras Presidency.*—Proposal of the Conservator of Forests to establish one, referred to the Board of Revenue for observations.

WITH these Proceedings the Government forward, for the remarks of the Board, a letter from the Officiating Conservator of Forests, proposing to establish a school for training a certain number of candidates for employment in the Forest Department.

2. Major Beddome points out the great disadvantages which attend every effort to establish a system of forest conservancy, owing to the want of superintendents possessing any knowledge of the first principles of forestry.

3. It was at one time proposed to open a Training School at the Nellumboor Teak Plantations, but Major Beddome does not now advocate that plan. He shows that at Nellumboor (the planting being confined to teak) no general knowledge of arboriculture could be obtained there, and points out that, as the country is feverish and the people inhospitable, considerable expense would have to be incurred in the erection of dwelling houses, etc., for the pupils. Major Beddome, in preference, recommends that a school for a limited number of pupils should be opened under the charge of the Conservator at Ootacamund, where he shows that pupils would have the advantage of studying planting in tropical, sub-tropical, and alpine regions, and would be in a position to acquire more varied information in forestry than at any other place.

4. The question of establishing a Training School at the expense of the Jungle Conservancy Funds was raised in 1867, and referred to the Collectors of districts for their opinions. Board's Proceedings, dated 22nd November 1867, No. 7,607.

5. The Collectors were divided in their opinions—some considering that no measure of the kind was required for their districts, while others foresaw considerable advantages in the proposed scheme. They also differed as to the class of men to be employed—some Collectors proposing to train intelligent men of the overseer-class, whilst others would have been content with subordinates on 7 Rupees a-month.

6. The general question of jungle conservancy having been at the same time brought forward and referred to the districts for report, all action was stayed as regards the Training School, pending the receipt of the reports from the different

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
13th June 1870.*

districts on the measures of protection which the several Collectors proposed to adopt.

7. From these reports (herewith submitted) it appears that conservancy has been carried into practice, and reserves for firewood formed to a greater or less extent in all districts.

8. The measures adopted in various districts differ, of course, according to the varying circumstances of the country to be treated, but a beginning has been everywhere made. It is not necessary in this place to review in detail the proceedings in each district, but the Board are satisfied that the time has now come for gradually introducing more systematic treatment of the jungles under conservation, and with this view they strongly advocate the establishment of a Training School at Ootacamund as suggested by Major Beddome.

9. The Board have conferred with Major Beddome on the subject, and agree with him in thinking that for the present a limited number of pupils of the overseer-class should be entertained. Major Beddome considers that a course of training of from four to six months would be sufficient to fit intelligent young men for employment under Collectors. A class consisting of five individuals, of whom three should be Natives, would be sufficient at first, and the Board consider that

Two at 40	Rs. 80	an allowance of 40 Rupees a-month each
Three at 20	60	for the former and 20 for the latter
Total	140	would suffice. As these men become
		duly qualified, they might be sent to the
		districts and be re-placed by others.

Their salaries while training would be fairly chargeable to Local Funds, and the cost should be distributed ratably over all the districts.

10. The Board consider that this will be preferable to charging the salary of individual pupils to particular districts. Each district will in its turn be supplied with overseers from this class, and may therefore be fairly called on to contribute to its general cost.

11. The Board are also of opinion that it is highly desirable that the superior officers of the department, before entering on their duties in the districts, should undergo a course of training at Ootacamund, the expense being of course borne by the Imperial Forest Revenue; with this view, if possible, one or two supernumerary officers should be appointed.

12. The proposal of Major Beddome to establish a Museum for the department also commends itself as sure to be of the greatest aid to students of arboriculture, and the Board recommend that funds be allotted whenever available for the purpose.

13. Pending the passing of a new Forest Law, it would be premature to discuss the future organization of the department, but the Board consider that the first step towards improvement in forest management will be to provide the means of training an efficient body of men to carry the law into effect whenever it may be passed.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
13th June 1870.*

No. 153.

ORDER THEREON, 13th June 1870, No. 865.

Forests, No. 7.

ORDERED to lie over until the proposals for the re-organization of the Forest Department are disposed of.

(True Extract.)

(Signed)

R. A. DALYELL,

Acting Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.

„ the Officiating Conservator of Forests.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

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1. The *United Negro College Fund* is a national organization for the financial support of Negro colleges and universities. It was organized in 1944. Its purpose is to help the Negro college student by providing financial aid. The fund is made up of contributions from individuals, corporations, and the Federal Government.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 22nd November 1867.

Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government, dated 5th November 1867, No. 2,618, Revenue Department.

No. 95. Read the following letter from the Conservator of Forests, to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Fort Saint George, dated Madras, 25th October 1867, No. 344:—

1. I have the honour to report, for the information of Government, that I lately inspected the Conolly* Teak plantations at Nellumboor, and was much pleased at observing the steady progress of judicious planting and subsequent culture.

* Note.—It appears desirable to keep up the name, in remembrance of the wisdom and foresight of the founder.

2. The work done, during 1866-67, was detailed in the Administration Report, and an independent observer, Major Pearson, Conservator, Central Provinces, has given his impression in a report to the Chief Commissioner at Nagpore, published in the Supplement to Gazette of India, page 634, of 1867, and I will not dwell upon the system of operations which has been described in former reports, and is not altered, but there are several points connected with the present and prospective management, which it seems desirable to place before Government.

3. PROSPECTIVE PLANTING.—Of the area appropriated to the growth of timber near Nellumboor about 1,900 acres are now planted; 1,000 acres of natural forest remain, of this Mr. Ferguson considers that only 500 acres are very suitable for the planting of Teak and Blackwood. When this tract is planted up, the artificial forest will cover a compact area of 2,400 acres on both banks of the Nellumboor river. Of the remaining 500 acres, part is rocky and unculturable, part is swampy, and requires to be deeply trenched before planting can be undertaken.

4. The natural forests of Malabar are private property, and have been much overworked; the line of Teak has receded from the streams, by which alone the timber can be brought to market. The gradual extension of Teak planting in suitable localities is, therefore, becoming a pressing necessity, and it should be pushed on in well-chosen sites, whence timber can be removed without the assistance of elephants, now trebled in value. It appears advisable that hereafter half the annual planting should be carried on at Nellumboor, and half at Nellicottah, ten miles distant, and a little to the right of the Carcoor ghaut. The soil is excellent, as proved by the large trees, and a tributary of the Nellumboor river flows through the tract, by which the timber can be brought to Calicut or Beypore.

5. If this proposal be adopted, the increased area of operations and the division of the work will necessitate a re-distribution of the establishment, and to this point I have given much consideration. The establishment sanctioned in 1862 is insufficient to meet the requirements of 1867.

6. The constant occupation of Mr. Ferguson, the Assistant Conservator, in his various duties, pitting, planting, weeding, pruning, felling, floating, and measuring timber, renders the services of an Overseer indispensable. This will be admitted by any one who has seen the plantations. This Overseer should be attached to the plantation as a permanent Assistant, and might be appointed for one year on probation. The salary I recommend is Rupees 80; application has been made in my letter, No. 308, dated 15th instant, with tabular statement.

7. Planting operations require skilled hands for their efficient development. It has been proposed to make the Nellumboor plantation a training school for Forest subordinates, and lately, when submitting my views on Forest education, I referred to this proposal. It appears to me that one European and one Native Overseer might be always under the regular training of the Superintendent. These Overseers would measure the timber, and one of the Gymastahs would be no longer required. The charges connected with training should not be debited to the plantation, but to

"Direction." It might also be arranged that two or three Maistries or Overseers should be sent, at one time, for instruction, by the District Officers who manage local arboriculture, they would learn in a few months how to tend trees and perform all the operations of forestry. These might be taken out of the gardener's class, at the Ootacamund Lawrence Asylum, which by the report for 1866-67 contains nineteen more advanced lads. The salary of these youths should be paid from the Jungle Conservancy Fund of the District to which they are assigned.

8. Indeed, forest training has been carried on to some extent already. Range Officers have been encouraged to visit Nellumboor on privilege leave, to pay attention to this most important part of their duty. Mr. Davidson, a Scotch Forester, has come down from the Central Provinces to observe the system, with a view to introduce it on the banks of the Tapti and Nerbudda. Two Canarese men from Mysore were instructed, two Prabhoos of Mangalore were trained for planting in North Canara. Mr. Overseer Thomas obtained his knowledge in Nellumboor, and has started a plantation in South Canara; more recently two trained Peons were supplied to Mudumallay.

9. APPEARANCE OF A PARASITE.—In May last, Captain Beddome reported that several of the plantations were seriously attacked by a destructive species of Loranth. As the trees were then destitute of leaves, the parasite was easily seen, and it formed dense masses, generally near the summit of the trees. Mr. Ferguson states that the Loranth must have made head within the last six months, as he had not observed it before. On consultation with him, it was resolved to adopt the radical cure by excising the affected branchlet with long-handled bill-hooks or chisels. This has been a difficult and rather expensive operation, as it was necessary for picked labourers to climb the trees on a service of some danger, for which they were paid two annas *per diem* more than the others; several hundreds of trees had been cleared in this way of the Mistletoe-like parasite during my visit, and the work was nearly finished.

10. CALICUT DEPÔT.—The accompanying tabular statement* of the transactions, in 1866-67, at the Government Timber depôt, Calicut, indicates that a steady traffic has been initiated; the principal purchasers are Arabs and Kutchecs, and Teak thinnings are now becoming known in the Bombay market. The depôt is under the charge of Mr. Cabral, for twenty-five years the accredited agent of the Bombay Government, and I concur with the Collector "that he cannot be expected to be retained in his present post as 'Depôt Clerk, for which he is peculiarly qualified, unless his salary (40 Rupees) is increased.' The receipts of the depôt last year were Rupees 27,600, against charges Rupees 12,248, but this was an exceptionally favourable year. I do not feel warranted at present in soliciting a larger *fixed* salary for the Depôt Clerk, but considering Mr. Cabral's peculiar fitness, I would recommend a personal allowance of 20 Rupees per mensem, till the depôt operations are more remunerative, or a better situation is found for him. A large net income from these plantations is confidently looked for in spite of the obstacles hitherto experienced in floating and removing the timber.

11. SURVEY.—On a former occasion I urged the importance of a survey and demarcation of this valuable plantation; the execution of this is of greater moment every succeeding year. The Revenue Survey is about to demarcate the Municipality of Calicut, and it would seem to be a good opportunity of accomplishing the desired work, for which 1,000 Rupees has been entered in the Budget and will suffice. The Map should show the dates and areas of the different year's plantings.

12. FIRES.—During the year 1865-66, six cases of fire occurred in the edge of the plantations, and were reported by Mr. Ferguson, who is inclined to believe that, in two cases, they were not accidental. In the year 1866-67 no fires occurred; this seems to show that the adoption of strict precautionary measures was serviceable in preventing the occurrence of conflagrations.

13. UTILITY OF COMPARING RESULTS OF TEAK PLANTING.—Teak plantations have now been formed in British Burmah, Bombay, Mysore, and the Central Provinces, and the experience obtained from the management of the older Conolly plantations affords useful data for the guidance of the other administrations. The facts recorded in the Progress Reports of these Provinces, as to the germination of the seed from different localities, and the measurements of the growth of Teak trees, are interesting, and should be compared with the results obtained in the plantations of Malabar.

Further experience of management will thus be gained, and it will be ascertained how far the same system is applicable in different parts of India. Some points of difference may be noted. In Burmah, Mr. Leeds, the Conservator, considers that Teak seedlings at the end of the third year "may be left to fight their own way;" but in Malabar the trees are planted in regular lines, nine feet apart, with mathematical precision, and great attention is paid to pruning and periodical thinning, these operations being performed under the personal direction of the Assistant Conservator.

In the Karen Choung plantation, Sittang Division, Mr. Graham, * the Deputy Conservator, has tried a novel system of sowing hill rice along with the teak. It is stated that they grow well together, the young Teak plants receiving shade during the first year, and the ground being kept clear of weeds and grass. In Malabar the rice-fields are always flooded, and this method would not succeed. But we find in the Forest Administration Report for 1865-66, paragraph 50, "On these tracts, Indian corn and Til (*Sesamum Indicum*) have been planted with teak. As the crops ripen in August, and if not sown too thick do not interfere with the germination of the Teak seed, they seem well-adapted for sowing between lines of Teak seed in plantations. The crops, too, being valuable when taken off the ground and sold, the proceeds will go far towards defraying all the cost of making the plantations. One acre of these crops, at a moderate rate, may be estimated to yield a return of Rupees 15. The plantations on the Sittang have not averaged nearly this amount, even including a quota of the Forest Officer's pay. This past season the people who made the plantations were allowed to sow their own crops, and sell them when ripe; but in future years the department will sow and sell the crop, so as to regulate the sowing, and have more command over the work. Besides these cereals, cotton, brinjals, chillies, gram, (a late crop,) and such like may be planted with advantage." If this plan of arboriculture, which resembles the native system of field culture, should be found to answer, it has advantages, and a further report may be awaited with interest.

14. BLACKWOOD.—There are a considerable number of self-sown seedlings preserved and coming on amongst the teak, but from the difficulty of procuring a sufficient quantity of seed a separate plantation has not been made. The propagation of this valuable timber should be kept in view; it is second only to teak.

15. CARCOOR GHAUT.—The opening of the Carcoor ghaut for cart traffic will afford an opportunity of removing magnificent timber of the following kinds.

In the dry deciduous forest below, there is much straight and well-grown teak, and
Vengay, *Pterocarpus Marsupium*;
Erool, *Inga Xylocarpa*;
Ventek, *Lagerstromia Microcarpa*;
these are all within moderate distance of water-carriage.

In the evergreen forest above
Wild Jack, *Artocarpus hirsutus*.
Poon spar, *Calophyllum Elatum*.
Naga, *Mesua*.
Pala, *Bassia Elliptica*.
Pink Cedar, *Acrocarpus fraxinifolius*.

It is worthy of consideration whether this department should not work these forests on stump fee to the Tirupad of Nellumboor. Captain Beddome made this suggestion after travelling through this fine forest. I consulted the Collector and Mr. Ferguson, and the conclusion at which I came is that, if the forest was leased at a reasonable seigniorage, the financial result would be remunerative, and the felling would be carefully regulated. The timber is first class, and would command a ready sale, but the labour difficulty is great. Our hands are so full of work at present, that it seems desirable to defer the scheme.

16. The subjoined statement shows the number of seedlings planted out, and the receipts and charges of the Nellumboor plantation during the last ten years, 1857-58 to 1866-67, inclusive:—

Year of plantation.	Number of Plants.	Receipts.	Charges.
1857-58	43,400	1,834	In the Collector's office, Calicut.
1858-59	38,800	1,768	
1859-60	41,680	5,165	
1860-61	83,700	4,615	
1861-62	45,900	808	
.....			6,686
1862-63	71,120	17,722	6,710
1863-64	1,06,800	6,691	13,925
1864-65	55,100	27,159	16,039
1865-66	1,20,000	14,621	18,074
1866-67	1,03,000	27,006	12,218
.....		93,199	67,026
.....			73,712

Chatoe Menon, five years (1857 to 1861)	Teak seedlings.
Mr. Ferguson, do. (1862 to 1867)	253,480
	456,020
	709,500

It will be observed that the rate of progress has been doubled since Mr. Ferguson took charge, and in regard to the receipts during the last five years, it may be noted that the items were as follows:—

Sale of thinnings of plantation	RS.
Natural timber and bamboos	53,737
	39,462
	93,199

17. ASSISTANT CONSERVATOR.—Mr. Ferguson is a good Officer, skilled in his profession, and careful in the discharge of his duties. In consideration of the additional work connected with training European and Native Overseers herein proposed, I beg to suggest that when the school is established, or as soon as he has completed six years of service, that he be allowed a salary of 300 Rupees per mensem.

18. ESTABLISHMENT.—On consideration of the application* of Mr. Ferguson to the Collector, dated 9th February last, for increased establishment, I do not feel warranted in recommending that an increase of 1,000 Rupees should be added to the annual cost of the fixed subordinate establishment, but a limited increase, involving an additional expenditure of Rupees 43 *per mensem*, or Rupees 516 *per annum*, as per tabular statement† accompanying, appears reasonable, and I recommend the sanction, from the 1st April 1868, and, if approved, the proposed expenditure to be included by Government in the Budget Estimate now under consideration. It would also be advisable to assign, say, 300 Rupees for enlarging the Superintendent's house; I have also been obliged (upon Mr. Ballard's suggestion) to authorize the temporary employment of a floater on 25 Rupees *per mensem*; as floating by contract has failed, this will be charged to working operations.

No. 96.

ORDER THEREON, 5th November 1867, No. 2,618.

FORESTS, No. 3.

1. The Government have perused with much interest the above report on the "Conolly" Teak Plantations at Nellumboor, and concur with Dr. Cleghorn in deeming the progress highly satisfactory, and very creditable to Mr. Ferguson, under whose superintendence the rate of advance in planting has doubled.

2. The proposal to carry on operations hereafter, half at Nellumboor, and half at Nellicotta, some ten miles distant, in consequence of the limited remaining extent of suitable land at the former site, is fully approved. The employment of an additional second class Overseer, consequent on the growing extent of the operations, has been already sanctioned in Government Order, dated 25th October 1867, No. 2,515, Revenue Department.

3. The increase of 20 Rupees to the monthly pay of Mr. Cabral, the very experienced and specially qualified Agent in charge of the Calicut Timber depôt in connection with the plantation, is approved and sanctioned as a personal allowance, and sanction is also given for the proposed increase of charge for the establishments at the Nellumboor plantations, amounting to Rupees 23 monthly.

4. Provision will accordingly be made in the Budget for the coming year for Rupees 43 monthly, or Rupees 516 yearly, in excess of the provision made by the Conservator at existing rates.

5. The sum of 300 Rupees for enlarging the Superintendent's house will also be provided.

6. The Government fully recognise Mr. Ferguson's good services in the important work, and will be prepared to consider favourably the suggestion for an increase to his salary, so as to raise it to Rupees 300 monthly, as proposed in paragraph 17, when the proper time arrives. The Acting Conservator will bring the matter forward again in due course.

7. The proposal made at paragraph 7, to establish a training school for Forest subordinates at Nellumboor, commends itself to the judgment of Government as a very desirable measure. Not only for the Imperial Forest Department, but also in reference to the District operations of the Local Funds under the Collectors, would very valuable results probably be secured by a better supply of trained men for the work.

8. Ample Local Funds are available for carrying out the suggestion, and the Government desire that the Board of Revenue will take the matter into consideration, and ascertain from the Collectors what number of pupils it may be desirable to place at once in training, at the cost of the Local Funds, for eventual employment under the Collectors in the Districts.

9. The Government trust that an additional opening may thus be afforded for enabling the more advanced lads in the gardener's class at the Lawrence Asylum, to whom Dr. Cleghorn alludes, to earn their livelihood in a very suitable sphere of occupation.

10. The Acting Conservator will take the necessary steps for having the demarcation and survey of the plantations carried out by the Revenue Survey Department, as proposed in paragraph 11.

11. The value of the property is indicated by the fact that the Teak plants now number 709,500; that much self-grown Blackwood is coming on among the teak; that the sale receipts, during the last five years, aggregated Rupees 93,199, and that those at the Calicut depôt in last year were Rupees 27,600.

12. The trade in Teak thinnings is becoming firmly established.

13. The temporary employment of the Floater, at Rupees 25 monthly, chargeable to working expenses, is approved.

14. The Government concur in opinion with Dr. Cleghorn, that the propagation of Blackwood as a part of the operations of the Forest Department, should be kept steadily in view, wherever soil and climate are suitable for it, and establishments are available.

15. There would seem to be no objection to permitting Mr. Ferguson to try the experiment of growing dry grains and garden products among the Teak plants, in the manner stated to have been successfully adopted in Burmah, so far as it can be done without additional expense, or interfering with the special work of the plantation. Even if the pecuniary results are not of any moment, the comfort and convenience of the establishments would doubtless be promoted, and the labour question be in some degree simplified.

17. If the native proprietors can be convinced by ocular demonstrations of the advantages of systematic felling and conservancy, over rapid gains accompanied by a destruction of the source of income, a very important object will be attained.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Secretary to Government.

Forwarded to all Collectors, who will be good enough to submit their views on the subject alluded to in paragraph 8 of the Order, with the probable eventual requirements of their District as regards trained Foresters.

(True Extracts.)

(Signed) R. A. DALYELL,
Secretary.

(True Copy.

(Signed) J. T. MAYNE,
Acting First Assistant.

To all Collectors.

Exd. J. Wright.

No. 7,607.

Dated 22nd November 1867.
Received

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE.
To all Collectors.

No.

1867.

Department.

From D. F. CARMICHAEL, Esq., Collector of Ganjam, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue,
dated Chatterpore, 10th December 1867, No. 3,752.

1. Referring to Board's Proceedings, No. 7,607, of 22nd November, ultimo, I have the honour to state that our Local Funds, Jungle Conservancy Branch, are in an impoverished condition, and quite unable to support trained Foresters.

2. After visiting Purlah Kimedy, I may perhaps be in a position to recommend some outlay under this head for the sanction of the Court of Wards.

Exd. J. Wright.

Requesting Collectors to submit their views relative to establishment of training schools for Forest subordinates at cost of Local Funds, and desiring them to report probable eventual requirements of their Districts as regards trained Foresters.

From J. H. MASTER, Esq., Acting Collector of Vizagapatam, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Camp at Kotepaud of Jeypore, 19th January 1868, No. 53.

1. I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the Board's Proceedings, dated 22nd November last, No. 7,607, calling for my views relative to establishment of training schools for Forest subordinates at the cost of the Local funds.

2. As far as this district is concerned, I fear that any such Institution would be out of the question, simply from the want of funds.

3. The receipts from Jungle Conservancy in this district have been very small, owing, no doubt, principally to the limited extent of our talooks, never exceeding Rupees 40 a year.

4. In June last, the jungles of the remaining Government talook, Palcondah, were conserved experimentally under the orders of the Board, dated 25th June 1867, No. 3,915.

5. The collections from this talook average Rupees 118 a month, as is shown below:—

										RS.	A.	P.
June	1867	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	239	8	9
July	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	105	7	3
August	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	70	9	3
September	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	104	4	6
October	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	72	10	9
November	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	113	1	6
										Average.		
										705	10	0
										117	9	8

6. It will be seen that the gross amount is too small to lay out in training subordinates. I would suggest that the money be left to the primary objects of the Fund, such as the formation of Forest plantations and nurseries, etc.

Exd. T. Cartledge.

No. 3,915.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 25th June 1867.

Read the following letter from J. H. MASTER, Esq., Acting Collector of Vizagapatam, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 31st May 1867, No. 332:—

1. When on his annual tour, last season, Mr. Carmichael inquired into the felling of Jungle in the Palcondah taluk which he found was indiscriminately carried on. He accordingly resolved to conserve the same, if possible, through the aid of Mr. Mackie, the resident Agent of the renters.
2. On the 30th ultimo, Mr. Carmichael wrote to Mr. Minchin to know if, on behalf of the renters, who by the way have no lien on the jungles as lessees, he would sanction the conservancy being carried out under the Jungle Conservancy Rules, dated 27th November 1860, No. 5,497, Mr. Mackie drawing on that account the seigniorage of 20 per cent., allowed by paragraph 12 to heads of villages.
3. Mr. Minchin first asked for compensation equivalent to the emoluments of an Assistant Conservator of Forests; but on my informing him that this was impracticable, he agreed to the proposition, but for a period of one year only, to enable him to judge of the amount of labour, &c., required from his establishment.
4. I have, accordingly, formally placed the jungles under Mr. Mackie from the 10th proximo, and beg to report what has been done for the Board's approval.

The Acting Collector's proceedings are approved. He is requested to report the result in due course.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) R. A. DALYELL,
Secretary.

To the Acting Collector of Vizagapatam.

Exd. J. Wright.

1867. Department
No.
No. 3,915.
Dated 25th June 1867.
PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE,
Approving of proceedings of Acting Collector
of Vizagapatam in placing the Jungles in Pal-
condah taluq under Mr Mackie, and requesting
a report of the result in due course.

No. 5,396.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 24th July 1868.

Read the following letter from J. I. MINCHIN, Esq., Collector of Vizagapatam, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 1st July 1868, No. 565:—

1. Referring to the Proceedings of the Board, dated 25th June 1867, No. 3,915, I have the honour to submit a Statement showing the sums collected by Mr. Mackie, who undertook the conservancy of the Palcondah jungles in last year under the above orders.

2. The sum collected was Rupees 2,439-1-9, of which twenty per cent. was deducted as commission, and the balance, Rupees 1,951-4-5, has been paid into the Treasury.

3. Except in the instances reported in my letter of the 19th ultimo, No. 531, I believe the jungles have been satisfactorily conserved, and as Mr. Mackie is willing to continue the future management on the same terms, I beg to recommend that it be intrusted to him, as Manager for Messrs. Arbuthnot for the term of their lease.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

Statement showing the Seigniorage collected on the Jungles of Palcondah, from June 1867 to May 1868.

Months.		Amount collected.	Deduct commission at Rupees 20 per cent.			Balance paid into the Treasury.		
			RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.
June	1867	...	239	8	9	47	14	7
July	"	...	105	7	3	21	1	5
August	"	...	70	9	3	14	1	10
September	"	...	104	4	6	20	13	8
October	"	...	72	10	9	14	8	7
November	"	...	113	1	6	22	9	11
December	"	...	149	8	3	29	14	5
January	1868	...	272	12	6	54	8	11
February	"	...	200	13	9	40	2	9
March	"	...	188	14	6	37	12	6
April	"	...	339	8	9	67	14	5
May	"	...	581	14	0	116	6	4
Total...			2,439	1	9	487	13	4
						1,951	4	5

VIZAGAPATAM,
1st July 1868.

(Signed) J. I. MINCHIN,
Collector.

Ordered to be recorded.
(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) A. MacGREGOR,
Acting Secretary.

To the Collector of Vizagapatam.

Exd. J. Wright.

From J. FRASER, Esq., Collector of the Godavery district, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Ramachendrapur talook, 3rd February 1868, No. 32.

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of the Board's Proceedings, No. 7,607, dated 22nd November last, and to report that there are no Government Forests worth conserving in this district, and, therefore, no establishment of training schools for Forest subordinates is necessary.

Exd. T. Cartledge.

1868.

Department

No.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

Dated 24th July 1868.

No. 5,396.

Recording letter from Collector of Vizagapatnam submitting statement of Seigniorage collected on the Jungles of Palcondah, from June 1867 to May 1868.

From W. WILSON, Esq., Acting Collector of the Kistna district, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Circuit Cutcherry at Gudewada, in Gudewada talook, 21st January 1868, No. 25.

1. In reply to Board's Proceedings, No. 7,607, dated 22nd November 1867, I have the honour to inform you that there is no immediate necessity for the services of trained Foresters in this district. Should the Board, however, approve of the suggestions made in my letter, No. 24, dated this day, I would recommend that in the course of two or three years five persons be appointed to superintend the Government nurseries formed throughout the district and the planting out of the young trees in suitable places to increase the number of them, to plant avenues, and to be in charge of the Soapnut jungles of Kykalur, the Mangrove jungles of Bunder and Repalli, and of the conservancy of the firewood reserves to be established.

2. They would, considering the extent of the work to be done, be distributed among the divisions as follows:—

Collector	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Sub-Collector	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Head Assistant Collector	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
General Deputy Collector	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2

Exd. T. Cartledge.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 21st March 1868.

Read the following letter from J. A. C. BOSWELL, Esq., Acting Collector of Nellore, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 13th December 1867, No. 1,707:—

I have the honour to submit a brief report on the operations of the Jungle Conservancy Fund in this district, and to raise some points for instructions.

I. VILLAGE TOPES.—It has been frequently published in the District Gazette, and made thoroughly known to the people through the Revenue Inspectors, that whenever the ryots of a village desire to have a village tope, and will raise a subscription for the purpose, or agree to contribute their labour, an equivalent in money will be granted from the Jungle Conservancy Fund. Every endeavour has been made to stir the people up to take advantage of the offer, but hitherto, I regret to say, without success. In the Board's Circular Memorandum, No. 865, dated 6th September 1866, it was distinctly laid down that such village topes were not to be formed and maintained wholly at the expense of the Jungle Conservancy Fund. The fact is that the Tope Rules are so liberal that private individuals prefer to take land and plant topes for themselves, rather than combine to plant a tope for the benefit of their respective communities. I shall not, however, relax my exertions to endeavour to carry out the wishes of Government and the Board in this respect.

II. PRIVATE TOPES.—Even for private topes with the very liberal terms that are offered the number of applications are very small. A few parties have taken up land for Casuarina plantations on condition of obtaining the land rent-free for twenty years. The general expectation is, that the holders of these private topes will, at the expiration of their terms, cut down all the wood and throw up the land, when they can obtain fresh grants rent-free, instead of paying the land-tax on the ground of their old plantations. There is nothing in the present rules to prevent this.

III. AVENUES.—In their Proceedings, No. 4,485, dated 16th February 1867, the Board remark that they question the expediency of planting topes and avenue trees at an outlay of about Rupees 7 a tree. If reference, however, is made to Mr. Dykes's letter quoted in their Proceedings, it will be seen, that he reported having planted 1,513 Tope and Avenue trees, at a cost of Rupees 7,455, which is only about Rupees 4-14-0, and not Rupees 7 a tree. It must be taken into consideration that the soil here is laterite in which no trees will grow. The plan Mr. Dykes adopted was to have circular pits dug six feet deep and six feet in diameter, which were filled with fresh soil; round these walls were raised about three feet high to protect the young plants from cattle, and the parties who undertook the contract agreed to water and look after them for five years. I am under the impression that the cost would be still greater to employ establishments to plant and look after the trees. If we could get the villagers to do so, the case would be different, but they do not consider the prospective advantage of enjoying the usufruct of the trees sufficient to induce them to undertake the labour of looking after the trees in their earlier stages. We are, therefore, compelled to accept such terms as contractors offer, and their terms will be regulated by the character of the soil, the proximity of water, &c. For instance I have sanctioned the execution of a contract with an individual to plant one mile of avenue near Kavali. The terms are that the contractor is to plant 184 trees seventeen yards apart on both sides of the road to water and fence and look after them for five years, for which he is to receive Rupees 920. Again, on the road between Tettu and Bitragunta, a contractor has offered to plant nineteen miles of avenue, the trees ten yards apart, and look after it for five years at the rate of about one Rupee a tree. In the Cuddapah district, I understand that avenue coolies are entertained at the rate of Rupees 3-8-0 a man. Each man has the charge of the trees along three miles of road. This seems an admirable plan if adequate superintendence could be provided, but then, in this district, the chief outlay is in the original planting out, pits having to be dug and filled with fresh earth wherever there is laterite soil.

IV. GOVERNMENT PLANTATIONS.—According to the last returns in various parts of the district there have been planted out 7,18,558 Palmyras, of which 1,43,508 were reported to have come up, and 1,06,475 Casuarina trees, of which 86,212 are reported to be living. Since then I have had a number of these plantations inspected by European Officers, and the number of living trees at this date is reported to be much less. Further planting operations are being undertaken this year. What is required is competent superintendence. Planting operations should be conducted on system, and an establishment should be entertained for looking after each tope. For instance, in inspecting a Palmyra tope near Dugarazupatnam, Mr. Rundall, the Special Assistant, reported that the seeds had been placed in the dry sand much too near the surface, instead of being buried at a sufficient depth to secure moisture for them. The consequence was that out of a large number put down very few came up. By these desultory operations for want of systematic superintendence there is a large loss incurred. To provide for this I shall hereafter make a proposal which I trust may receive the Board's serious consideration.

V. THE 30 ACRES EXPERIMENTAL PLANTING.—I took an early opportunity of visiting the site of this experiment. I regret to say the result is very far from encouraging. It does not give any hopes that it will be possible to increase our jungles by planting, either when the seeds are sown broadcast, or when they are put down by stippling. After all the seed sown, and all the labour and expense that has been laid out on this experiment, very few plants have come up. The cause of the failure appears to me to be the want of shade. Where a forest or jungle sows itself the young seedlings have the shade of the larger trees, which, to a certain extent, keeps the soil moist, and the fallen leaves form good manure; but when we take a barren plain, remove all the existing jungle as has been done here, and then plant out tree seeds, the rain-fall is insufficient to bring the seedlings on without artificial watering, and the young plants if they germinate quickly perish from lack of shade and moisture. I really do not see the utility of prosecuting this experiment.

VI. THE 7 ACRES RESERVED JUNGLE.—Here we have very different results. Nature has been left to take her own course, and the young jungle is coming up as thick as could be wished. Mr. Dykes is perhaps rather sanguine in thinking that the jungle will be able to renew itself every seven years. It will probably require a longer period, in the first instance, to allow the trees to come to sufficient maturity for being pollarded. Time should certainly be allowed to enable the stems to reach a certain thickness. Then the branches may be cut off once in seven years, and they will be able to throw out new branches to keep up a continual supply of firewood which is the system pursued at Sriharikota. The total cost of Mr. Dykes's experiments in the 7 Acres and 30 Acres up to 31st March 1867, was Rupees 962. This was called for in Board's Proceedings, dated 20th July 1867, No. 4,592A, paragraph 7.

VII. RESERVED JUNGLE TRACTS.—In my letter recorded in the Board's Proceedings, No. 4,588, dated 20th July 1867, it was stated that 26,000 acres of jungle had been reserved south of the Pennair, and 23,000 north of the Pennair. For the protection of these tracts an establishment has been entertained of two Jungle Inspectors at Rupees 20 a month; three Watchers at Rupees 5 a month; and eight Watchers at Rupees 4 a month. In the Proceedings above quoted the Board have called upon me to furnish them with fuller details as to the bearing of the scheme of reserved jungle-tracts in respect of the agricultural interests of the district, for they observe that important as it is to preserve the jungles for fuel, it is equally important that the maintenance of agricultural stock, notoriously deficient generally in the Presidency, should be carefully regarded, and they (the Board) are somewhat apprehensive that the area required for pasturage, as well as for the supply of fuel, to which the ryots are entitled by usage free of tax, may possibly have been unduly trenchanted.

In the first place I have been requested to state the actual conditions on which the pasturage-tracts of the district have been let, and the sum they realized in the preceding year. In August 1866, Mr. Dykes issued an order prescribing the following conditions to be observed in the sale of pasture-farms:—

(1.) That land under wood should not be let as pasture-farms, and that cattle should be prevented from grazing on them.

(2.) That lands destitute of boundary or divisions marked out in the demarcation.

(3.) That if any division consisted of pasture-farms and Pulary waste, the whole should be let as pasture, giving other land in lieu of the latter, or allowing a proportionate remission of Pulary when no land was available.

In the month of December 1866, these orders were modified by Mr. Dykes as follows:—

In the talook of Rapur, the pasture-farms were ordered to be let as usual in all the villages west of the line from Marlapudi to Chejerla. In the remaining villages it was then intended that the original orders should be carried out. But at the Jummahbundy Mr. Dykes allowed most of these farms also to be let as usual after personally inspecting the wood of many villages and discussing the question with the parties concerned.

In the Udayagiri talook, the pasture-farms were ordered to be let as usual, and in the Atmakur talook the farms were likewise let with a few exceptions. In the Kavali talook thirty-four villages had pasture-farms, of which the lands of eleven villages were reserved under the orders of August 1866. In the Nellore talook all the pasture-farms were reserved, other land being allowed to the villagers for grazing purposes. In the Gudoor talook pasture-farms existed only in six villages. I

enclose a Villagewar Statement* showing the pasture-farms let in Fuslies 1275 and 1276, as well as the extent ordered to be let for

* Marked A.

for this year. The following is an abstract thereof:—

Talooks.	Pasture-farms let in Fusly 1275.			Pasture-farms let in Fusly 1276.			Pasture-farms ordered to be let in Fusly 1277.	
	Number of Villages.	Extent of the Farms.	Amount at which let.	Number of Villages.	Extent of the Farms.	Amount at which let.	Number of Villages.	Extent of the Farms.
		Acres.	RS.		Acres.	RS.		RS.
Gudoor ...	6	1,926	399	2	243	105	1	232
Rapur ...	51	45,272	5,793	37	68,444	7,680	35	73,593
Nellore ...	9	5,775	705	...	...	...	...	...
Atmakur ...	44	25,958	5,706	41	40,323	6,398	43	50,207
Kavali ...	34	19,939	1,239	24	8,641	893	33	21,438
Udayagiri ...	29	27,299	1,227	30	49,284	2,132	30	49,283
Total ...	173	1,26,169	15,069	134	1,66,935	17,208	142	1,94,753

The extent entered in Fusly 1275, is not accurate as it was in many cases given roughly with reference to the extent usually shown, less the extent taken up for cultivation. In Fusly 1276, the Tahsildars were ordered to enter the extent with reference to the Demarcation Kandams. Where the survey area was available, it has been duly entered. In other cases the extent is still shown roughly.

Before issuing orders for the sale of pasture-farms this year, I called upon the Tahsildars to consider fully the Board's remarks contained in

No.	Rapur.	No.	Atmakur.
97	Gilakapadu	13	Rajavolu.
...	Pokurupalli.	14	Dubagunta.
...	Veminabhi.	52	Gouravaram.
105	Cherlopalle.	91	Navuru.
101	Yepura.	Total four villages.	
73	Utukur.		
80	Timmasamudram.		
Total seven villages.			

paragraph 7, and directed them to make due provision to meet the inconvenience of villagers where the pasture-farms have been reserved. The Tahsildars were also ordered to report if in any villages pasture-farms might be newly recognised. Proposals to let new farms have been received from the Tahsildars of Rapur and Atmakur, and they have been sanctioned by me for this year.

In my letter, dated 22nd June 1867, No. 185, I reported that I had taken up 23,000 acres north of the Pennair river in addition to the 26,000 acres south of the river taken up by Mr. Dykes. These figures were round numbers. The actual extent reserved south and north of the river is given in the enclosed Statements B and C, respectively.

in the Statement, are placed in charge of this wood.

North of the river, eighteen villages of the Nellore talook, one village of the Atmakur talook, and one village of Kavali talook have been taken up. Out of 31,626 acres of wood found in these villages, Acres 21,178 have been reserved and placed in charge of four watchers, and the remaining extent of 10,448 acres have been allowed to the villagers.

Where the extent allowed to the villagers out of the wood-land has been found inadequate, other land having no jungle on it has been allowed to them in addition, as will be seen from the remarks in Statement A.

This is not all the area reserved. There are also other villages in which the pasture-farms usually let have been reserved for the protection of the young wood they bear. The extent so reserved is given in the remarks entered in Statement A. The village authorities are held responsible for taking care of these tracts, but they are not allowed any special aid for this purpose.

Mr. Dykes's order of August 1866, interfered greatly with the convenience of the ryots. On further consideration he modified his original orders materially so as to remove all inconvenience to the ryots of many villages. This year I have made further provision on obtaining requisite reports from the Tahsildars, and I consider that due provision has been made for securing to villagers the requisite supply of fuel free of tax as usual, and pasture for maintaining the agricultural stock. Should, however, in any individual case further provision appear necessary due notice will be taken of such claims.

The lists referred to in paragraph 7 of Mr. Dykes's letter of the 2nd February 1867, No. 27,* have been called for only from the Rapur talook. The details furnished by the Tahsildar are embodied in Statement marked A,

in which I have given the lists for the whole district.

When four watchers were appointed in August 1865, Mr. Dykes fixed their pay at Rupees 4. In employing three watchers south of the river in February 1867, he gave them five Rupees. From paragraph 9 of his letter above referred to, the Board will observe that he was of opinion that five Rupees was a fair remuneration. In June 1867, when I appointed four watchers I allowed them four Rupees as the rate on which the first set were engaged, but the difference of pay is not due to any difficulty or facility of obtaining the services of watchers in different localities.

Finally these reserved tracts of jungle are an undoubted success, and will furnish a most valuable supply of firewood for the future wants of the district and of the Presidency town. The trees where preserved from the ravages of cattle, grow rapidly, and after they have reached a certain stage there will be no objection to let them out as grazing-tracts. It is only where the trees are young that they are liable to be damaged by cattle. As the trees on the reserved tracts gradually grow up, and get beyond the risk of being injured, they may be leased out as grazing-grounds, and fresh tracts out of the present pasture-lands of the district taken up to be strictly conserved for a few years. When the trees are fit to be cut certain tracts may be selected and let out to be cut down for firewood with the same restrictions as are enforced in the case of the preserved jungles of Striharikota. I do not see any reason to suppose that the extent of land at present taken up will interfere with the agricultural interests of the district, or restrict the adjoining villages beyond their requirements for the purpose of pasturage and fuel. Had this been the case, we should have certainly had complaints to that effect. When the first tracts were taken up there were some such complaints, but full provision has been made for all wants, and the parties are satisfied. In the case of the lands more recently taken up to be reserved no complaints have been advanced. I think we may therefore, safely infer that the necessary area for grazing is not unduly encroached upon, and the customary rights of the villagers are everywhere scrupulously respected.

VIII. STRIHARIKOTA JUNGLES.—As requested by the Board in their Proceedings, No. 5,226, dated 13th August 1867, I visited these jungles in the month of September. I examined Kandams No. 2 which was cut last year; No. 3 which has just begun to be cut this year; and Nos. 4 and 5 which will be taken up in the next succeeding years. It is wonderful the extent to which the jungle renews itself in eight years. This I attribute to the fact that the firewood contractor is entirely dependent on the residents of that tract to cut wood for him. He does not import labour. The woodmen, whose living is dependent on the perpetuation of the jungles, are very careful to cut the branches in such a way as not to injure the trees and so as to encourage future growth. The stems are pollarded to a certain extent, but some of the larger branches always left. There is no reckless cutting or destruction of the wood. The large trees are not touched and they afford shelter for the undergrowth, so very necessary in the care of jungle. So strictly is this rule enforced that one continually meets with dead trees which might with advantage be removed, but as the contractor has no right to them they are suffered to lie there till the Yenadies occasionally come and set fire to them. These dead trees might with advantage be collected, brought down to the canal bank, and sold by auction. The villagers have an abundant supply of fuel in the trimmings of the firewood exported to Madras. All the smaller branches and twigs are left on the ground, and allowed to be collected by them. There does not appear to be much, if any, illicit felling.

While I note the remarkable way in which the jungle renews itself in eight years, my observations lead me to think that, in spite of all precautions, it still grows thinner to some extent. Many of the bushes cut down die off, and the seedlings that newly come up seem very few; hence there is some deterioration. As to the adoption of any measures to check this, the 30 acres experiment does not encourage us to attempt planting by seed. There are a few descriptions of trees such as the Accacia, the Ficus, &c., that may be rapidly propagated by cuttings, and which make excellent firewood, but it is very doubtful whether cuttings would take root in a purely sandy soil such as that of Striharikota. The attempt, however, might be made with a small establishment. Any way the cuttings would require to be watered the first year or so, which would entail considerable expense.

IX. TREE NURSERIES.—The Board in their Proceedings, No. 6,396, dated 7th October 1867, sanctioned the establishment of eight tree Nurseries which I proposed should be under the superintendence of the Public Works Department. One at Sarvapalli at Rupees 450 per annum, and the other at Narrainreddipett, Libur, Buchireddipalem, Atmakur, Kodavallur, Alluru, and Tettu each at Rupees 300 per annum. These nurseries will furnish trees for avenues, channel banks, Government topes or any other purposes. The proposal had the entire approval of the Superintending Engineer.

X. JUNGLE CONSERVANCY MANAGEMENT.—The revenue of the Jungle Conservancy Fund is now so large in this district, (about Rupees 50,000 available this year,) and the operations are of so extended and varied a nature, that, to secure the profitable outlay of the money, I do not think the work can any longer be left to the Revenue Department. I am sure that the interests of the district will suffice if this course be continued. What I would recommend is that an Officer of the Forest Conservancy Department skilled in Forestry should be put in charge of the district jungles and directed to superintend all planting and conservancy operations under the immediate control of the Collector. Of course this would entail an additional charge on the Jungle Conservancy Fund, but I am convinced that it would be far more than made up by the increase of revenue which would accrue from careful conservancy, and the enforcement of seigniorage on all wood cut. The present rate of seigniorage on fuel is Annas 8 a bandy load on wood cut for sale, but there is good reason to believe that there is a great deal of illicit felling, which, without a regular system of licenses and vouchers, it is hard to check. There is a very large exportation of firewood from this district, some of it by sea; but if the carts are stopped on the road they invariably state that the wood has been cut

in Zemindary tracts, which it is hard to disprove. It would be very desirable if parties, cutting wood in Zemindaries, could be required to bring a certificate to pass the wood from the officer of the village where it has been cut. With regard to the burning of charcoal also, some rules ought to be introduced, for under the present want of system there is much reckless destruction of jungle.

There is another point which I lately brought to the Board's notice in my letter, No. 816, dated 20th September 1867; there are no rates for timber in this district, and wood cut for building purposes is taken at the firewood rate of Annas 8 a bandy load. I suggested an increased rate for timber of Rupees 3 a bandy load; for it is a great waste to allow timber to be cut at firewood rates. This is an important point, for which there is no provision in the Rules for the preservation of jungles published in Board's Standing Circular No. 86. Parties take a license to cut firewood, cut wood fit for building purposes, pile up their bandies, and yoke four bullocks to drag it out.

I need not dwell on the information of conservancy, and the introduction of systematic outlay in respect of the jungles of this district, seeing that Madras is almost dependent on Nellore for its supply of fuel. I trust, therefore, that my proposal, for the appointment of a separate officer to be put in charge of the woods in this district, will receive the serious consideration of the Board and Government. The Conservator of Forests would be the best person to consult as to the class of officer that should be sent, and the establishment he would require. I think for the first few years at any rate it would be desirable that he should be attached to the Collector.

Since writing the above I received Board's Proceedings, No. 7,607, dated 22nd November 1867, with regard to the establishment of Training Schools for Forest Subordinates at cost of Local Funds. The proposal commends itself to me as an excellent one, and I think two pupils might be placed at once in training for eventual employment in this district; but I trust that this will not stand in the way of the present appointment of an Assistant Conservator of Jungles. Mr. Dykes used to avail himself of the services of a Second Assistant to depute him to the particular duty, but this district has had no Second Assistant since I joined, and the due discharge of my other duties will not allow me to give such attention to the jungles of the district as I could wish. To do these jungles justice, they ought to have a separate officer for their supervision.

ENCLOSURE No. 1, A.

ABSTRACT.—Statement showing the pasture-farms in the Nellore district.

ENCLOSURE No. 2, B.

ABSTRACT.—Reserved tracts south of Pennair.

ENCLOSURE No. 3, C.

ABSTRACT.—Reserved tracts north of the Pennair.

1. The Collector reports that no inclination is shown to form Village Topes, although the villagers are well aware of the assistance which Government are ready to give them from the Jungle Conservancy Fund. Such topes are intended entirely for the benefit of the community, and until they see the desirability of planting, all the Collector can do is to reserve a few acres of land belonging to Government in each village, so that a site may be available when it is wanted.

2. But few applications are made under the Rules for Private Topes, and it is expected that Casuarina Planters will cut down all their trees at the expiration of the term for which they hold their land rent-free, and take up other ground, rather than begin to pay assessment. This is a matter which may require grave consideration hereafter, but if it becomes necessary, the Collector must submit a special report on the subject.

3. Planting avenues is an expensive operation in Nellore. The labour involved is so great that the people are not induced to supply it by the prospect of eventually enjoying the usufruct, and contractors have to be employed. Mr. Dykes planted 1,513 tope and avenue trees at a cost of

Rupees 7,455. Mr. Boswell has got a contractor to plant and tend for five years an avenue one mile long for Rupees 920. Avenues are a great comfort to travellers, but considering the great demand for expenditure on the roads themselves, the Board think it advisable, for the present at all events, to restrict planting to favourable localities where the expense will be comparatively light. If it costs Rupees 920 to raise an avenue a mile in length, it would be of more use to travellers if the money were devoted to building small Chuttrums with a few trees and a well, say five miles apart. The plan of employing avenue coolies is expensive, and the difficulty in securing adequate Superintendents insurmountable.

4. In the Government plantations 7,18,558 Palmyras and 1,06,475 Casuarinas have been planted out, and 1,43,508 of the former and 86,912 of the latter are reported to be still alive. The operations have been carelessly and unsystematically performed, and the Collector intends to propose measures which will insure better results. The Board await his communication.

5. Mr. Boswell considers that the attempt at planting firewood authorized by Government Order, dated 10th November 1864, No. 6,745, and tried on 30 Acres of ground near Nellore, is still a failure. The Board look upon it as an experiment which may supply useful data though financially unsuccessful, and wish it to be continued for another year.

6. The result of reserving 7 Acres of jungle as described in Mr. Dykes's letter, recorded in Government Proceedings, Revenue Department, dated 21st March 1860, No. 331, is so far satisfactory. The sums expended on these two experiments up to the end of 1866-67 amounted to Rs. 962.

7. The reservation of jungle-tracts has also been successful. The modifications introduced into the original scheme have removed the objections raised to it on the score of the undue pressure on the agricultural classes which would be caused by want of pasturage, firewood, &c. No complaints on the subject are now made. The Collector may at his discretion equalize the pay of the Watchers employed in these tracts.

8. The Striharikota jungles have been visited by the Collector, and he reports that they are exceedingly well-managed. The jungle renews itself rapidly, and the woodmen are careful not to damage the source of their livelihood. The reservation of large trees should be strictly enforced. Dead trees may be removed as suggested by the Collector. If further observation and inquiry shows that any permanent deterioration is taking place re-planting should be tried.

9. Eight nurseries are to be instituted in the district at a cost of Rupees 2,550 per annum.

10. The Board do not consider it expedient to place the Nellore jungles under the Conservancy Department, but they are prepared to sanction the employment of Overseers, at from Rupees 50 to Rupees 60 per mensem, to act under Tahsildars and Divisional Officers. They believe that with a suitable establishment the Revenue Department will be fully equal to the management of the conservancy. Three or four natives of the district should be sent to learn conservancy work under the Conservators in Cuddapah and Kurnool. The license and voucher system should be introduced wherever it is deemed advisable. The Collector's influence should be used to persuade Zemindars to cause passes to be issued for wood cut in their villages; they can hardly fail to see that such a course will be advantageous to them as well as to Government.

11. The question as to the seigniorage to be charged for timber cut for building purposes will be settled in disposing of the Collector's letter of the 20th September 1867, No. 816.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) J. GROSE,
Sub-Secretary.

To the Acting Collector of Nellore.

Exd. J. Wright.

Issuing instructions on certain points raised in Collector's report on operations of Jungo Conservancy Fund in Nellore District, and directing the institution of 8 nurseries and sanctioning employment of Overseers to act under Tahsildars and Divisional officers.

No. 2,022

Dated 21st March 1863.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

No.

1863.

Department

From A. WEDDERBURN, Esq., Collector of Bellary, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Camp at Hatcholi, Adoni talook, 5th December 1867, No. 224.

1. With reference to the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 22nd November 1867, No. 7,607, requesting to submit views relative to establishment of training schools, for Forest subordinates, at cost of Local Funds, and to report probable eventual requirements of District, as regards trained foresters, I have the honour to state that there are no forests in this District, and that, consequently, a training establishment for conservancy, would be a useless expense.

2. A great many village topes were planted by a former Collector, Mr. Robertson, upwards of a generation back. The cost of these, I understand, was about two lacs of rupees. These topes were sold on Government account, about seven years ago, (they realized a quarter of the cost price,) as it was supposed that, if private individuals considered it for their benefit to preserve the trees, they would be preserved; if otherwise, that it was not desirable that they should be preserved.

3. From my inspection of these plantations from Madakasira in the south, to Adoni in the north, of the District, it appears that the new owners of the topes have, to a considerable extent, taken the latter view of the question, and the large demand for trees by the contractors of the Railway, is likely to cause, in certain talooks, a further clearance of these topes. Being now private property, the Collector is powerless to interfere.

4. The planting of trees under the Tope rules is not likely to attract capital to such an investment, and trees, if planted by private persons, must be more for the sake of charity, than from a commercial object, even if land were given rent-free in perpetuity for such a purpose.

5. In the Cuddapah District, there were many Government topes, though not planted by any Collector; they had been chiefly planted by influential Heads of villages out of charity, in old times, but were classed by the Mahommedan Government, as Circar topes, and the produce rented out, and credited to Government revenue. When Collector of that District, I did not sell any of these topes, being under the impression that if they were sold they would not be long preserved.

6. I find that in the Raichore Doab, where they are very scarce, no trees are allowed to be cut, and that this consequently increases the demand for wood in this District for Railway building purposes.

7. It is difficult to suggest a remedy in this arid, and comparatively timberless District. I have just inspected a Babul plantation, made by one of the Railway Engineers at Katchapoor, for which I granted 60 acres of land under the Tope rules. Enclosing the plantation by trenches, involves too much expence; a dry thorn fence would be stolen, and used as firewood; it is too expensive to keep watchers, and the young trees are eaten up by the cattle of the villagers. I am taking steps to have the Cattle Trespass Act more fully enforced; but village cattle have generally been allowed to stray over all the waste lands in the village.

8. The hills in this District are generally isolated rocks, with large boulders, and no soil to grow timber, or even brushwood, thereon. Village topes, in the plains, seem, therefore, the only likely means of growing trees.

9. The plan I am now pursuing is to plant trees, and to contract with persons to take charge of, and water them, at so much per hundred. It is expensive, but the only way of rearing trees; for this purpose, trained foresters are only required.

Exd. J. Wright.

From F. B. MOLONY, Esq., Acting Collector of Cuddapah, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 15th February 1868, No. 20.

1. On the subject of trained Foresters for this district, referred* with Orders of Government, No. 2,618 of 5th November last, for the opinion

* Vide Board's Proceedings, dated 22nd November 1867, of Collectors, I have the honour to inform you that we have no forests in this district, except

those in charge of the Forest Department, of extent or value sufficient to make the expenditure of money from Local Funds on training and salaries of Foresters advisable.

2. The portions of this district where alone valuable timber is grown are all in the hands of the Forest Department, so that unless at some future time plantations should be formed for growing timber trees, we have no necessity for trained Foresters, and have other work on which our Local Funds can be more profitably spent.

Exd. T. Cartledge.

From T. A. N. CHASE, Esq., Collector of Kurnool, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 10th December 1867, No. 370.

1. In reply to the Board's Proceedings, dated 22nd November 1867, No. 7,607, I have the honour to state that the suggestion made, by the Conservator of Forests, for the establishment of a Training school at Nellumboor, for the instruction of the subordinates of the Forest Department, might be carried out with advantage, and that two persons might be trained for employment in this District.

2. I forward, herewith, copy of a letter received from the Assistant Conservator of Forests on the subject.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From Mr. T. SHEFFIELD, Assistant Conservator of Forests, to the Collector of Kurnool, dated Camp at Eranapad, 6th December 1867, No. 142.

In answer to your endorsement on Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 22nd November 1867, No. 7,607, (returned,) I have the honour to state that two persons would, in my opinion, be sufficient for the present wants of this District, but those two persons should be pretty well educated, and intelligent, as a great deal would depend on their judgment. There is a great difference between the climate of Malabar and Kurnool, there is also great difference of soil, &c., and the operations which are so successful at Malabar would have to be greatly modified to be successful here; hence the necessity for intelligent persons being sent.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) T. A. N. CHASE,
Collector.

Exd. J. Wright.

From G. THORNHILL, Esq., Acting Collector of the Madras district, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated on Circuit at Trivellore, 25th July 1868, No. 251.

1. With reference to Board's Proceedings, No. 7,697, dated 22nd November 1867, regarding the establishment of a Training school for Forest subordinates for eventual employment in the different districts, I have the honour to state that in this district the only jungles which seem to require Conservancy are those lying contiguous to the range of hills extending from Naggery in North Arcot district, northwards, and a few detached places north of Madras.

2. Mr. Fane proposed a small Conservancy establishment in these jungles to enable them to get sufficient head to be available as firewood reserves. I am not sufficiently acquainted with the state of these jungles to pronounce an opinion as to whether they are likely to be available for any other purposes, and whether the timber is likely, if preserved, to be of much value.

3. It is probable, however, that one trained subordinate might, after a time, be profitably employed as a Supervisor of the Forests in the north of the district.

4. I would suggest that the expenses of the proposed school should be met by a per-centage on the Forest collections of all the districts in the Presidency, and that subordinates should be allotted, when trained, to the districts most needing them at first, and eventually to all.

Encl. T. Cartledge.

From J. D. ROBINSON, Esq., Collector of North Arcot, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue dated Chittoor, 26th February 1868, No. 54.

1. In reply to the Proceedings of the Board, dated 12th and 22nd November last, Nos. 7,391 and 7,607, communicating Government Order, No. 2,618, of the 5th idem, I have the honour to state that, as the more valuable forest tracts—those lying south of the Palar river—have been made over to the Forest Department, the only remaining jungles in which reserves for the supply of timber and fuel might be formed with success would be those situated in the western and south-western parts of the Chendragherry talook, and two or three belts of hill forest in the Gudiathum talook at the foot of the Synegunta Pass, leading up to the western highlands.

2. The principal forest clumps in the Chendragherri talook have already been named in my letter, No. 345, of the 18th December last, and are now grouped with reference to situation, and entered in the statement which accompanies this letter. In this statement is shown the income derived during the last two years from each of these jungle tracts under the "Commission" system of management; and if the Board will be pleased to refer to the list which accompanied my letter aforesaid, they will find full information respecting the different varieties of hard wood growing in them.

3. These forests all lie within a radius of from ten to thirty miles of the North-West Line of Railway, and are already for the most part accessible to carts. The timber from the Gudiathum belts would find its way to the South-West Line.

4. The capabilities of the district being thus circumscribed, one trained Forester to be attached to the Revenue Department and paid from Local Funds is all the professional agency that could at any time be required. The salary which it is proposed to give is not mentioned in the papers to which I am replying, but Rupees 25 a month should, in my opinion, secure the services of an intelligent native apprentice.

Having thus stated generally my ideas on the project as it applies to this district, I now beg that it may be allowed to stand over for the present.

5. The Board will have learned from recent reports, that the rain-fall in January has been less than one inch in the Chendragherry talook, and that thus pasture and water for the farm stock will be very scarce in the more open parts of the talook.

6. As now administered, forest restrictions do not interfere with village rights and grazing privileges, nor indeed need it be otherwise in ordinary seasons with a well considered system of reserves. But the introduction of such a system under the present circumstances of the country would be ill-timed and deservedly unpopular.

7. The project need not be lost sight of, although, for the present, its introduction may not be advisable. In ordinary years, the appropriation of some of these forest belts as reserves might, I am sure, be effected without any vexatious interference with the comfort of the people or the well-being of their cattle.

Exd. T. Cartledge.

From C. W. READE, Esq., Collector of South Arcot, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Cuddalore, 8th July 1868, No. 157.

1. In acknowledgment of Board's Proceedings of the 22nd November 1867, No. 7,007, requesting my views on the subject of sending Pupils from this district to be trained as Forest subordinates at Nellumboor, in Malabar, I have the honour to state my belief that no one would be willing to accept the proposal from a prejudice and reluctance so universal in this part of the country to the climate of the western coast.

2. But that a few trained Forest subordinates would be very useful in every district there can be no question, as for want of these, Local Jungle Conservancy does not flourish as it might, despite the best efforts of our local agency.

3. On a former occasion, some few years back I was applied to for workmen and others on excellent salaries from this district, but the offer was generally refused, and the few who did accept returned from Malabar almost immediately owing to sickness, arising, as it was thought, from climate, etc., and the fact has, of course, not been encouraging to the public generally.

4. I should be very glad to have one or two trained men to whom I could give the supervision of our district nurseries and plantations, etc., in connection with the District Jungle Conservancy, and if the Forest Department could supply these, I am ready at once to employ them; but men will not go from this to be trained as Forest gardeners, and, therefore, while a training establishment of the kind proposed would, I think, prove valuable, I cannot hope that South Arcot would furnish any indigenous pupils, and all that this district could do in the way of supporting such an Institution would be by giving employment to two or three trained men from the Jungle Conservancy Funds.

Exd. T. Cartledge.

From G. L. MORRIS, Esq., Collector of Tanjore, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated
Adanakotta, in Pudukotta territory, 3rd December 1867, No. 235.

With reference to the Board's Proceedings, dated 22nd November 1867, No. 7,607, I have the
honour to state that there are no forests or jungles in this district, except the two small strips at
Kolikarai, near Point Calimere, and Shialli. These are comparatively of little importance, and I,
therefore, do not think that any trained professional superintendence is necessary for them, as they
can be very well looked after by ordinary gardeners and watchers.

Exd. J. Wright.

From C. T. LONGLEY, Esq., Acting Collector of Trichinopoly, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 17th February 1868, No. 31.

1. With reference to the Board's Proceedings, No. 7,607, dated the 22nd November 1867, I have the honour to state, that there are no forests in this district requiring the services of trained Foresters.

2. The scanty brushwood jungles contain no valuable timber, and the Jungle Conservancy Fund is not sufficient to cover the expenses of a Training establishment.

Edw. T. Cartledge.

From the Honourable D. ARBUTHNOTT, Collector of Madura, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 13th May 1868, No. 124.

With reference to the Board's Proceedings, dated 22nd November last, No. 7,607, I have the honour to state that the present state of the Local Funds will not admit of the expense of training Forest subordinates.

Exd. T. Cartledge.

From R. K. PUCKLE, Esq., Collector of Tinnevely, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue
dated 13th December 1867, No. 688.

In reply to the Board's Proceedings, No. 7,697, dated 22nd November 1867, I have the honour to state that I consider real Forest conservancy to be one of the greatest blessings that could be conferred on a district, and to be likely to prove most remunerative to Government; by conservancy I do not mean issuing licenses to fell valuable trees, and so drawing a small revenue from the forests; but the systematic planting and watching the banks of water-courses and other suitable spots (thinning out as required) on the hills, and fencing and planting the banks of rivers, tanks, and channels, and every available space where trees will grow in the low country as well; all that is needed to render this the best wooded-district in Southern India is the entertainment of a few trained hands, and the judicious outlay of the Jungle Conservancy Fund; each tree put in and cared for is worth ten times the cost of planting it, and there is available space on the river, tank, and channel banks alone to plant some millions of trees; a trained Overseer and a Maistry Gardener in each talook would be invaluable, and they would actually cost Government nothing, all expense being met from the Jungle Conservancy Fund; with two untrained Overseers, and a few gardeners assisted by village labour, I have got in some 50,000 trees this year, and could plant at least a lac annually with more efficient assistance; one or more trained hands might be induced to come here from the Western Coast; but I doubt whether any native of this district would go to the Western Coast to be trained.

Exd. J. Wright.

From P. GRANT, Esq., Collector of Coimbatore, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated
10th December 1867, No. 345.

With reference to paragraphs 7, 8 and 9 of Government Order, dated 5th November 1867, No. 2,618, communicated in the Board's Proceedings of the 22nd idem, No. 7,607, I have the honour to inform you that, with the exception of those parts of the District now under the management of the Conservator of Forests, I do not imagine that the services of a trained forester will be of any appreciable use in the rest of the District for half a century to come. The want of water, the very light rain-fall, and the tearing—I use the word advisedly—the tearing high winds, which prevail for months during the year, present difficulties in the way of growing trees, that render all attempts at arboriculture almost futile. My predecessor was well-known as an enthusiastic and successful planter of trees, and yet after a residence of twelve years in this District, as Collector, he has hardly left any traces of his attempts to plant. He certainly planted a number of Palmyra trees, but for their culture a trained forester is not required.

Exd. J. Wright.

20

From C. N. POCHIN, Esq., Collector of Salem, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated
on Circuit at Puthragowndenpoliem, Ahtoor talook, 30th January 1868, No. 27.

With reference to the Board's Proceedings of the 22nd November last, No. 7,607, I have the
honour to state that six pupils to be paid from the District Planting Fund, might with advantage
be trained up to forest duties, for employment in the different talooks to superintend planting
operations, etc. The pay of each pupil might be fixed at 7 Rupees a month to begin with, to be
raised hereafter.

Md. T. Cartledge.

From H. S. THOMAS, Esq., Acting Collector of South Canara, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Mangalore, 20th January 1868, No. 92.

1. With reference to the Proceedings marginally quoted, I think it highly desirable that Foresters should be trained as therein proposed; but, as I have already shown, * the District Jungle Conservancy Funds are here quite unequal to the burden, unless supplemented, as I have suggested.

Dated 22nd Nov. 1867, No. 7,607.

* Vide my letter of this date, No. 91.

2. If that be done, then I shall be in a position to attain the double advantage of proposing the training of two youths, and of providing them a field for operations.

3. To save the Board the trouble of reference, I append an extract from my letter above alluded to. It will be seen, I ask no more than seems to be already the practice in other districts.

4. I am not a little interested in arboriculture, and this district is a peculiarly favourable one. I shall be glad, therefore, if the Board will allow of my making a hurried run on duty from the border of my district to the Nellamboor Conolly Plantation. My Jummahbundy will in any case take me to my southern boundary in March, and from thence the trip might occupy a week or ten days, during which time I could safely provide for the discharge of emergent business, and I should probably return in a position to conduct District Conservancy, both more efficiently and economically. At present I am in danger of holding heterodox views; for instance, I cannot understand, and wish to learn why the Government and such an authority as Dr. Cleghorn, desire to encourage solely teak, instead of mixed plantations, whereas I have observed, that in nature it is, though open to exception, not usually so, Providence having arranged that birds and monkeys shall carry the seeds to a distance, and sow them from the branch of some other tree, so that trees of different sorts may exhaust the soil of different mineral ingredients, and thus interfere less with each other, than two trees of the same sort feeding side by side on the same nourishment. Thinking as I do at present, I should be disposed to suggest that teak and other valuable timber trees should be sprinkled about my proposed firewood preserves; but as I am in danger of being mistaken; I should be glad to have an opportunity of learning practically all that can be taught me in conversation at the Conolly Plantation.

Extract from letter to Board, dated 20th January 1868, No. 91.

Paragraph 3. The heavy monsoon on this coast is peculiarly favourable to the growth of firewood in the manner desired by the Board, and extensive forests having been ruthlessly cleared under the elastic pass system, and the price of firewood being double what it is in Madras, and the export of it to Bombay considerable, there is every room and reason for extended operations. Properly conducted they would eventually prove highly remunerative to Government, as well as a great relief to the main body of the people. These operations, however, are sadly crippled by want of funds, the estimate of the year's income being only Rupees 2,000.

4. Much as I would desire to enclose a few large plots now quite denuded of their former woods favourably situated near water carriage to the large towns and ports, I have had to limit my operations to closing in such woods as are being this year cleared, my plan being to allot roughly one-fifth of the available firewood for this year's use, mark it off into small plots of 5 or 6 acres, and putting up to auction the liberty to fell and clear that for six months, to take care that stumps and roots are not removed; that directly the clearing operations are over all the plots are enclosed by one ring fence, and good jungle seeds sown broad-cast just before the rains.

5. But I should wish to be in a position not only to struggle to stand still by getting no worse, but to make up leeway by redeeming the devastations of former years, and commencing to conserve firewood on such a scale as would hold out some prospect of our making a sensible impression on the exorbitant market price thereof.

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6. The Conservancy Department has a large unexpended balance,* and, as the Government

Collections for 1866-67	Rs. 23,924
Charges for "	19,587

Surplus... 4,337

* G. O., 5th Oct. 1867, No. 2340, para. 15.

desire conservancy of timber and firewood rather than of balance sheets, I would seek that this be placed at my disposal. The district proceeds from the sale of bamboos belong, I believe, in other districts, to District not Imperial Funds. These collections alone average here Rupees 3,000 a year. The surplus this year expected will be nearer Rupees 12,000.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) H. S. THOMAS,
Acting Collector.

Exd. T. Cartledge.

From G. A. BALLARD, Esq., Collector of Malabar, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue,
dated Calicut, 22nd January 1868, No. 21.

1. Adverting to the Board's Proceedings, No. 7,607, dated 22nd November last, I have the honour to observe that the forest lands in Malabar over which Government have any claim are now and are likely to remain under the Forest Department, and as no firewood or other plantations are likely to be undertaken by the Revenue Department here, where the tenures and conditions of soil and climate are so different from those obtaining on the Eastern Coast or Central districts, I do not consider that it is desirable to place any pupils in training under the Forest Department, at the cost of Local Funds, for eventual employment under the Collector.

2. I may be allowed to observe, however, that I advocate most strongly that pupils in the Forest Department should have the advantage of a course of training at such an excellent school as Nilambur affords.

Exd. T. Cartledge.

Rev. 366/70

Prov. 13 June 70 L. 152

Rev. 366

Rev. 865

13 June 70

Ordered to be met
until the proposals
for the re-organization
of the Forest Dept.
are disposed of.

MS

14 The Bd of Rev. 11 June

13 The Com^r of Forests

14