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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
15th July 1871.*

No. 191. From the Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Agriculture, Revenue, and Commerce—Agriculture and Horticulture, to the Secretary to the Government of Madras, dated Simla, 30th June 1871, No. 24.

THE attention of the Government of India has been directed to the evils resulting from the indiscriminate destruction of trees which is said to be going on in many of the agricultural districts of India, owing, it is believed, to the high prices which fuel commands. This subject has probably come under the notice of the local Governments, and I am to request that full information may be furnished to show to what extent there is reason to believe that such destruction of wood has occurred or is still occurring. His Excellency in Council would also be glad to learn what measures might, in the opinion of His Excellency the Governor in Council, be adopted to prevent or diminish so serious an evil in future.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) D. F. CARMICHAEL,
Acting Secretary to Government.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT,
FORT SAINT GEORGE,
15th July 1871.

No. 192.

No. 1,283.

To

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,
AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

Forests, No. 4.

SIR,—In reply to your letter
No. 24 of the 30th June, ultimo, I am
directed to state that the indiscriminate

destruction of trees, which is said to be going on in many of the agricultural districts of India, owing to the high price which fuel commands, has long been arrested in this Presidency, so far as it can be arrested by any measures which a Government can properly adopt.

2. Besides the conservancy of *forests* properly so called, the Forest Department is engaged in the planting of considerable tracts of land as "Fuel Reserves" in every district through which a railroad has been made, or is likely to be made; and throughout the country, since the year 1860, all jungle-lands, not under the control of the Forest Department, are placed under the Collectors of districts, strict rules being enacted for their preservation and for the promotion of nurseries and plantations.

3. There remain the Zemindaries which comprise about one-fourth of the Presidency. Many large estates are under the Court of Wards, where the matter is well attended to, and, as the results are profitable, is likely to be attended to when the Court's management is withdrawn. In some cases again Zemindary forests are leased to Government, and further efforts are being made to secure the lease of others, or, if preferred, to buy out the Zemindar's rights altogether. But in no case is there indiscriminate felling in Zemindaries any more than in Government tracts; on the contrary, the Zemindars, with more or less intelligence in their arrangements, endeavour to make their forests a source of revenue, thereby *pro tanto* conserving them.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Acting Secretary to Government.

Erd. F. R. Bantleman.

No. 24

From

A. O. HUME, Esq., C. B.,

Secretary to the Government of India.

To

*The Secretary to the Govt. of
Madras*

Dept. of Agriculture,
Revenue, and Commerce.
(Agriculture and Horticulture.)

SIMLA, the 20 June 1871.

SIR,

THE attention of the Government of India has been directed to the evils resulting from the indiscriminate destruction of trees which is said to be going on in many of the agricultural districts of India, owing, it is believed, to the high prices which fuel commands. This subject has probably come under the notice of the Local Governments, and I am to request that full information may be furnished to show to what extent there is reason to believe that such destruction of wood has occurred or is still occurring. His Excellency in Council would also be glad to learn what measures might, in the opinion of *H.E. the Commr.* be adopted to prevent or diminish so serious an evil in future.

I have the honor to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient Servant,

A. O. Hume

Secretary to the Govt. of India.

No. 1233

To be sent to the Govt of India
Agricultural Dept.

Sir,

In reply to letter No. 24 of
the 30th June ulto, I am directed to
state that the indiscriminate destruction
of trees, which is said to be going
on in many of the agricultural
districts of India owing to the high
price of fuel commands, has long
been arrested in his Presidency.
2. Besides the conservancy of forests
properly so called, the Forest Dept.
is engaged in the planting of
considerable tracts of land as
"Full Reserves" in every district
through which a Railroad has been
made or is likely to be made, and
throughout the country since he began
1860, all jungle lands, with the
the control of the Forest Dept., are
placed under the collectors of districts,
strict rules being enacted for their
preservation, and for the formation
of nurseries & plantations.
3. There remains the Zamindars, who

I should add
"So far as it can be
arrested by any measures
which a Govt. can adopt
that of limiting the
selling of timber a

perennial source, which
is directly important to the

Yr. A.

Recd. 18th July 1871
No. 2148

Secretary to the
Govt of India

Dated 30th June 1871

Recd. 1st July 1871

Ch. 24

No. 1233, 16th July 1871

Regarding full
information about what
is said there is no reason
to believe that indiscriminate
destruction of trees, which is said
to be going on in many
of the agricultural districts
of India, has
been arrested with
any success.

Ch. 24

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Ch. 24

compare a bout
one fourth of the Presidency. Many
large Estates are under the C. of Woods,
where the manager is well a bonded to,
and, as the results are profitable, is
likely to be attended to when the C's
management is under review. In some
cases again, Zamindari forests are
leased to Govt.; and further efforts
are being made to secure the lease of
others, or, if preferred, to buy out
the Zamindar's rights altogether.
But in no case is there indiscrimi-
nate felling in Zamindari
any more than in Govt. tracts;
on the contrary the Zamindars,
with more or less intelligence
in their arrangements, endeavour
to make their forests a source of
revenue, strictly pro tanto conserving
them.

D. S. J.

7-7-71.

15th July 1871

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Handwritten text, mostly illegible due to fading.

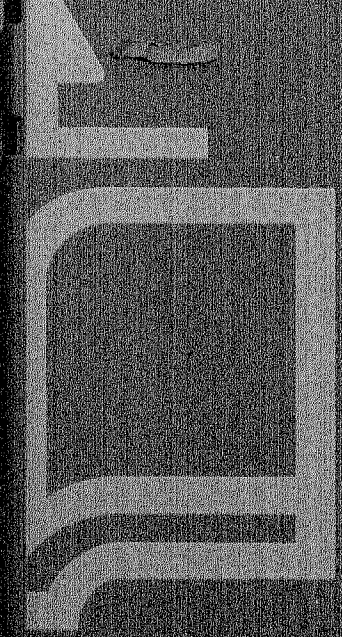
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~~8885 OK~~
RH

18 ⁹/₂₀₀₀ (RH)

C. J. Kelly / R. W. E.



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