*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 9th October* 1871.

No. 92. Read the following letter from the Conservator of Forests, to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Fort St. George, dated Ootacamund, 5th October 1871, No. 550 :—

At the south-west end of the Cumbum valley (Madura District) on the ghauts above the villages of Goodalore, Cumbum, and Combay, there lies a considerable tract of good forest containing much Teak, Vengay, and Blackwood and other valuable timbers. This tract has not been worked as yet, and as it can only be worked eastward through our forests on the slopes and at the foot of the hills, and as we have an establishment and Deputy-Conservator working the Government forests of the Cumbum valley, I think it very desirable that our department should obtain the lease of this tract, if the same can be arranged with the Travancore Government.

2. I spoke to the Dewan of Travancore on the subject, and he seemed favourable to the scheme, but referred me to Mr. Munro, who is in charge of all that part of the country and the Cardamum Hills, a tract adjoining. Mr. Munro says that he would prefer to see his own Government work the forests in question, if they would sanction the necessary outlay for roads, establishment, etc., but, as he feels sure that they will not do this, he views my proposals with favour, and thinks that this Government should make an offer to Travancore.

3. There is at present a large and increasing drain upon our Madura forests, which already require rest in certain parts, and it is very important that the tract in question should be worked for the Madura market. I deprecate the idea of the Travancore Government working it through our forests, as I believe it would lead to many disputes, etc., in future time, and I am still more strongly opposed to their working it on a petty scale without proper establishment, roads, etc., and only bringing down small timber. I would therefore suggest that this Government should agree that, in the event of the Travancore Sirkar granting them a long lease of the tract in question, they will make a first class cart-road up the ghaut above Goodalore (towards Peermede), and engage to work the forests under a European officer, with due regard to conservancy, planting, etc. The ghaut-road towards Peermede will be an expensive work (probably 30,000 Rs.), but will be of great value on other considerations, and we should also have to make other forest-roads above ghaut, which, however, will not cost much ; but if Government undertake to make the ghaut-road, I think that the forest should be given on reasonable terms, and I would suggest a fee on the cubic foot as the fairest arrangement. The agreement might be for three Annas per cubic foot for Teak and Blackwood, two Annas for Vengay, and one Anna and six Pies for other timbers, (subject perhaps to a slight increase after ten years). All the timber might be sold periodically by auction at depôts near the foot; these preliminaries being agreed to by Travancore, a regular agreement might be drawn up.

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No. 93. Order thereon, 9th October 1871, No. 1,763.

Forests, No. 10.

Before coming to any decision on this proposal the Government resolve to direct the Collector of Madura to com-

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,*
*9th October* 1871.

municate with the Superintending Engineer of the division on the subject of the suggested "first class cart-road up the ghaut above Goodalore towards Peermede," and to furnish them with an approximate estimate of the probable cost of the work, with any remarks on the general proposals which he may wish to offer.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
*Secretary to Government.*

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Office of Conservator of Forests.
Ootacamund 5th October 1871.

No. 550.

From

Major R. H. Beddome
Conservator of Forests.

To,

W. Hudleston Esqre
Secretary to Government
R. D.

Sir,

At the South West end of the Cumbum Valley (Madura district) on the ghats above the villages of Goodalore, Cumbum and Combay, there lies a considerable track of good forest containing much Teak, Vengay and Blackwood and other

other valuable timbers, this track has not been worked as yet, and as it can only be worked eastward through our Forests on the slopes and at the foot of the hills, and as we have an establishment and Deputy Conservator working the Government forests of the Cumbum valley I think it very desirable that our Depart=ment should obtain the Lease of this track if the same can be ar=ranged with the Travancore Government.-

2.- I spoke to the Dewan of Travancore on the subject and he seemed favorable to the scheme, but referred me to Mr. Munro who is in charge of all that part of the country and the Cardamum hills a track adjoining; Mr. Munro says that he would prefer to see his own Government work the forests in question if they would sanction the necessary outlay for roads &c., establishment &c., but as he feels sure that they will not do this, he views

views my proposals with favor
and thinks that this Government
should make an offer to Travancore.-

3.- There is at present a large and
increasing drain upon our Madura
forests which already require rest
in certain parts and it is very im-
portant that the track in question
should be worked for the Madura
market. I deprecate the idea of the
Travancore Government working it
through our forests as I believe it
would lead to many disputes &c.

in future time and I am still more
strongly opposed to their working
it on a petty scale without proper
establishment, roads &c., and only
bringing down small timber. I would
therefore suggest that this Government
should agree that, in the event of
the Travancore Sirkar granting them
a long lease of the track in question,
they will make a first class cart
road up the ghat above Goodalore
(towards Peermede) and engage to work
the forests under a European Officer with

with due regard to Conservancy=
planting &c.ᵃ- The ghat road to=
-wards Peermede will be an expensive
work (probably 30.000 Rᵉ) but will
be of great value on other considera=
=tions and we should also have to
make other forest roads above=
ghat which however will not cost
much; but if Government undertake
to make the ghat road I think that
the forest should be given on rea=
=sonable terms and I would suggest
a



arrangement:-
a fee on the cubic foot as the fairest
the agreement might be for 3 annas
per cubic foot for Teak and Black=
=wood, 2 annas for Vengay and 1ᵃ.6ᵖ.
per other timbers. (subject perhaps
to a slight increase after 10 years)
all the timber might be sold perio=
=dically by auction at depôts near
the foot; these preliminaries being
agreed to by Travancore, a regular
agreement might be drawn up.-

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most Obedtᵗ Servtᵗ
R. Maddox Major
Conservator of Forests

Rev. 1871-72 Dept.

Forest Department.

No. 3201

From

The Conservator of Forests

To,

The Secretary to Govt.

R. D.

Dated 5th October 1871

Received 6th October 1871

No. 550.

Enclosure from

Subject

Submits proposals for obtaining lease of certain forest tract that belongs to Travancore Sirkar

No. 1763 - 9 October 1871

Forwarded

Secretary to Govt.

No. 1763.

Before coming to any decision on this proposal the Govt. desire to direct the Cons. of Madura to communicate to them the English Chief of the Division on the subject of the suggested "first class" and "second class" and of the plant "strong coloured trees" and "furnish" - and to furnish them with an approximate estimate of the probable cost of the work. Literary Extracts of the several proposals &c to be sent with

1 Fol. P. Challenge Cons. 13 Oct.
13 - Ch. Conservancy Forests
21 - Ch. Engr. & S. Rly
14 - Ch. Off. & Ors
5 - R. Collins Esq. 4 Jany 72

No. 92-93

Govt. of {1871} Madras

REVENUE.

To

THE COLLECTOR OF MADURA,

&c., &c., &c.

Dated October 9th.

Read. 1871.

G. O., 9th October 1871, No. 1,763.

OCTOBER.
Nos. 92-93.

*Forest tract in Travancore.*—Letter fr
Conservator of Forests, submitting prop[illegible]als
obtaining lease of certain —, with orders there