Read the following papers :—

No. 34. From the Commissioner of the Neilgherries, to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Fort Saint George, dated Ootacamund, 27th July 1870, No. 34.

WITH reference to paragraph 2 of Government Order enclosed, I have the honour to inform you that the tract between Metapolliem and the foot of the hills as transferred from the Forest Department to the Commissioner of the Neilgherries on the 1st April 1869 under the Government Order, dated 11th March 1869, No. 653.

2. The Neilgherry Range of the Forest Department, with its establishment as it existed under Colonel Morgan, was transferred in its entirety, and included the tract abovementioned.

A Gumastah on 28 Rs., stationed at Metapolliem to look after the slopes of the hills, which are roughly considered to extend to the Bhowany, was handed over with the rest of the establishment. That Gumastah is still stationed at Metapolliem under the immediate orders of my Wellington Forest Overseer.

3. The greater part of the tract alluded to between Metapolliem and Kullar is puttah land planted with beetle, palm, cocoanut, jackfruit, and such like, with small patches of sholah here and there.

No. 35. From Major R. H. BEDDOME, Conservator of Forests, to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, dated Ootacamund, 11th November 1870, No. 2,413.

WITH reference to the Government Order, No. 1,097, of the 16th of July last, I have the honour to forward Colonel Morgan's report on the forests in the vicinity of Metapolliem at the foot of the Neilgherries and his sketch map of the same.

2. By Colonel Morgan's report it will be seen that 20 or 21 square-miles of jungle are available in the tracts marked A. C. D. and E.; this is more than will be required for the Metapolliem extension, but as we can supply fuel also for the line between Erode and Palghat, I would suggest that Colonel Morgan should be allowed to demarcate (with boundary stones) and reserve the whole of this tract, and to fence-in all or any portions that may require it. The tract marked G. is too distant to be considered a fuel reserve, but as this tract contains valuable building timber, it should also be demarcated and reserved; its extent is 10 square-miles.

3. It will not be necessary to take up any occupied or open land for planting, but the tracts which I now propose to reserve must be regularly kept up and planted, where necessary, with coppice trees, such as *Acacia amara, Inga dulcis, Inga saman, Cassia florid*, etc.

4. Colonel Morgan proposes the following establishment :—

		Rs.		Rs.	
Forests	1 2d-class Overseer...	60	+	15	Travelling.
	1 Gumastah	20	+	15	
	4 Peons, at 8 Rs. each	32			
		112 per mensem.			

this should, I think, be sanctioned at once, so that we may be able to demarcate the tracts and commence pitting and planting where it is required.

5. Colonel Morgan's map will be useful, and I request sanction for having it lithographed after he has demarcated and mapped in accurately the portions of forest to be reserved.

6. All the forests alluded to in this report, except the block marked A., are at present under the Commissioner of the Neilgherries. It is impossible that the Overseer at Coonoor can look after them; I would, therefore, request that the whole of the forests at the foot of the hills on the eastern side, and as much of the slopes as are worked from below, should again be handed over to the Forest Department; the upper portions of the slopes, or such tracts as can be worked for the use of Coonoor and Wellington, remaining under the Commissioner.

7. An expenditure of about 4,000 Rs. on blasting in the bed of the Bhowany, between Chengal and Metapolliem, will enable us to raft down timber and fuel; this is not required immediately, and should be considered when the railway is completed and the demand on the forests more correctly ascertained.

8. As the line is not at present to go beyond Metapolliem, it will not be necessary to clear the jungle along the proposed extension between Metapolliem and Colar.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From Lieutenant-Colonel H. R. MORGAN, Deputy-Conservator of Forests, to the Conservator of Forests, dated Ootacamund, November 1870.

IN reply to your letter, No. 2,242, of 1st August 1870, I have the honour to inform you that I have inspected the Metapolliem jungles, and beg to forward my report with a sketch map.

2. Within two miles of Metapolliem, south of the river, there are two square-miles of small jungle (marked A. on the map), consisting of *Acacia amara* and other trees useful for railway fuel for burning lime and bricks. The whole of this jungle is Circar land. On the south bank of the river up to Nerritory, the land has been taken up by ryots, with the exception of about 2 acres (marked B.), which I have applied to the Collector for as a timber and fuel depot, the line crossing the river at this spot if carried on to the hills.

3. Above Chengal on the north bank there is small jungle extending to Sundaputty near Manaar, marked G.G. on the map, and 10 square-miles in extent, but distant from the railway 10 to 20 miles.

4. On the north bank of the river, extending from the Metapolliem bridge to Kullar river, nearly the whole of the land is taken up by ryots; between the Kullar river and the slopes of the hills there is a large tract of jungle extending from the Coonoor river on the east to beyond Chengal on the west, marked C. With but 3 or 4 Irola clearings, 8 square-miles of jungle are available from 2 to 8 miles from the railway. To the west of the Coonoor and at the foot of the hills some 2,000 acres of fair land are available for planting (marked D.) at present, covered with low jungle.

5. From Nerritory to Chengal (marked C.) there are a few clearings, but the greater part of the jungle, amounting to some 10 square-miles, is Circar land. It produces Acha, Black[illegible] Vengay, Acacia speciosa, etc.

6. To the north of the Metapolliem road and ghaut there is a strip of land (marked E.) about 8 miles long and 1 broad, covered with low jungle, and suitable for railway fuel to be reserved.

7. On the whole there are at least 20 square-miles of jungle suitable for the supply of the people and railway, distant from 2 to 10 miles from the railway.

8. Plantations on open land will not be necessary, but we should have to plant as we fell out.

9. As the railway is at present not to go beyond the river, no jungle need be cleared away as a sanitary measure, there being no forest south of the river.

10. To reserve the 20 square-miles of jungle, demarcate it, and re-plant it as required, it will be necessary that I should have under my orders, as soon as possible, a 3rd-class Overseer on Rs. 60 and 4 Peons on 8 Rs. each with a Gumastah on Rs. 20, with travelling allowance of Rs. 15 to Overseer and 8 Rs. to Gumastah as a tentative establishment. When the demand for timber increases a further establishment will be necessary.

11. I examined the Bhowany river from near Chengal to the bridge by boat. Near Chengal there are two very dangerous falls, over which no boat could live; 2 miles below Chengal we got into the boat, and soon passed a very dangerous fall. There were four more falls to Nerritory. Below this place there is a very dangerous fall of some four feet which will require much blasting; we had to leave the boat and walk round. Below this fall there is rough water in one or two places, but nothing of any importance. Indeed, we passed natives rafting small pieces of timber to Metapolliem. In all there are eight reefs or rocky barriers which require blasting. In many reaches of the river the water was almost still, but in descending the falls, we shot along at a rate of six miles an hour; when once these barriers are removed, the bed of the stream being more uniform, rafting will not be difficult. The cost may be estimated at 4,000 Rs. To make a good cart-road of ten miles in length would cost much more, and the carriage per ton would not be under Rs. 2-8-0; whereas by rafting the cost cannot exceed 8 Annas a ton. The rafts will be smaller than those used on the Cauvery, as the river is very narrow though deep. At present it will not be advisable to commence floating until the demand by the people and railway for wood is ascertained.

12. There would be no difficulty in rafting firewood from the river at Metapolliem bridge to Erode if the Calingaroyan channel is widened and deepened. At present the channel is too much silted up for rafting, and to unload the raft at the anicut, carry the wood across to the Cauvery, and re-make the raft, would be far too expensive.

13. In conclusion, I have to remark that these jungles have hitherto been under Overseer Newman; as it was not considered advisable to take them over, no work of importance being carried on. Under the present orders of Government it will be impossible for this Overseer to look after these jungles. The Forest Department should now re-assume charge of the forests to the foot of the hills and for about one mile up the slopes; and if the railway is ever carried up the Coonoor Ghaut, it will be absolutely necessary that Overseer Newman should be prepared to supply at least ten miles with fuel which will represent a plantation of 500 acres. It would be advisable at once to secure all ground near the present road at the top of the ghaut to the extent of 500 acres. In G. O., No. 1,685, of 1st of November, 1870, the Keelkondah tract marked F. has been ordered to be reserved. A plantation at this point would only be suitable for the low country. At this spot the only one suitable for planting purposes on that face of the hills, 2,000 acres could be obtained.

14. If the accompanying map is lithographed, it will be of great service to the Forest Department, the Collector of Coimbatore, the Commissioner of Neilgherries, and the Survey Department.

No. 3 ORDER THEREON, 2nd March 1871, No. 378.

Forests, No. 1.

IT does not appear from Major Beddome's or Colonel Morgan's report that the Collector of Coimbatore has been consulted on their proposals, and from the map it would seem that they desire to appropriate as reserves nearly the whole of the unoccupied land in the tract of

country included in it, without any reference to the requirement of the people in the way of pasturage, fuel, or leaves for manure. The papers will be referred to the Collector, for early report on these points; and the Government desire that Major Beddome will understand that the Revenue authorities of districts affected by his proposals are not to be ignored in the manner adopted in this instance.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Secretary to Government.

No. 34

Commissioner's Office
Ootacamund
27 July 1870

From J. W. Breeks Esqr.
Commissioner
Neilgherries

To The Secretary
to Government
Revenue Department
Ootacamund

Sir With reference to paragraph 2 of Government Order enclosed, I have the honor to inform you that the Tract between Metapollium and the foot of the Hills was transferred from the Forest Department to the Commissioner of the Neilgherries on the 1st April 1869 under the Government Order dated 11th March 1869 No. 653.

2. The Neilgherry Range of the Forest Department with its Establishment as it existed under Col. Morgan was transferred in its entirely and included the tract above mentioned.

a.

A Gumastah on 28 Rs stationed at Metapollieni to look after the Slopes of the Hills (which are roughly considered to extend to the Bowany) was handed over with the rest of the Establishment. That Gumastah is still stationed at Metapollieni under the immediate order of my Wellington Forest Overseer.-

The greater part of the tract alluded to between Metapollieni and Kullar is Puttah land planted with Beetle Palm, Cocoanut, Jackfruit and such like with small patches of Sholah here and there.-

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your Most Obedient Servant
[illegible]
Commissioner

Office of Conservator of Forests
Camp Ootacamund 11th Novr 1870.

No. 2413.

Nil. From

Major R. H. Beddome
Conservator of Forests.

To,

R. A. Dalyell Esqre
Ag. Secretary to Government
R. D.

Sir,

With reference to the Government Order No. 1097 of the 16th of July last, I have the honor to forward Colonel Morgan's report on the forests in the vicinity of Mettapolliam at the foot of the Nilgiris and his sketch map of the same.

2. By Colonel Morgan's report, it will be seen that 20 or 21 square miles of jungle are available in the tracts marked A. C. D. and E, this is more

Revenue 1070 Sept
From
The Commissioner
Nil Parcels
To
The Secretary
to Government
Revenue Dept.

Dated 27 July 1870
Received on
No. 34.
Sale 378 - 2d March 71
Reference G. O. No.
1097 of 16 July 1870.
Reports that the tract
of land between Mettapolliam and the foot
of the Hills was transferred by the Forest
Department to Commissioner
and that it contains
Pattah land planted
with Cotton trees with small

No. 34

Colonel Morgan
Recd. 22 Nov 71

more than will be required for the Mettapollium extension, but as we can supply fuel also for the line between Erode and Palghat. I would suggest that Colonel Morgan should be allowed to demarcate (with boundary stones) and preserve the whole of this tract and to fence in all or any portions that may require it. The track marked G is too distant to be considered for Fuel reserve, but as this track contains valuable building timber it should also be demarcated and reserved; its extent is 10 Square miles.-

3.- It will not be necessary to take up any occupied or open land for planting, but the tracts which I now propose to reserve must be regularly

kept

kept up, and planted where necessary with coppice trees such as Acacia amara, Inga dulcis, Inga saman, Cassia flori- da &c &c.-

4.- Colonel Morgan proposes the following Establishment.-

	Rs	Travelling
1. 3d Class Overseer ...	60	+ 15.
1. Gumashtah	20.	+ 15.
4. Peons @ 8 Rs each —	32.	
	112 Rs per mensem.	

This should I think be sanctioned at once, so that we may be able to demarcate the tracts, and commence filling and planting where it is required.-

5.- Colonel Morgan's Map will be useful and I request sanction for having it lithographed, after he has demarcated and mapped in accurately

the

the portions of forest to be preserved.-

6.- All the forests alluded to in this report except the block marked A are at present under the Commissioner of the Nilgiris; it is impossible that the Overseer at Coonoor can look after them; I would therefore request that the whole of the forests at the foot of the Hills on the Eastern side, and as much of the slopes as are worked from below should again be handed over to the Forest Department, the upper portions of the slopes or such tracts as can be worked for the use of Coonoor and Wellington remaining under the Commissioner.-

7.- An expenditure of about 1500 Rs. on blasting in the bed of the Bhowani between Chengal and Mettapolliam will enable us to raft down timber and fuel, this is not required immediately, and should be considered when the Railway is completed and the demand on the Forests more correctly ascertained.-

8.- As the line is not at present to go beyond Mettapolliam, it will not be necessary to clear the jungle along the proposed extension between Mettapolliam and Colar.-

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your Most Obedient Servt.

A. T. Beddome. Major

Conservator of Forests.

From Ottawa Ontario
Col. W. P. Morgan
Dr. Consr. of Forests
To Major R. H. Beddome
Conservator of Forests
Ottawa

Sir,
In reply to your letter No. 2242 of 1st August 1870, I have the honor to inform you that I have inspected the Metropolitan Singles and beg to forward my report with a sketch map.

Within 2 miles of Metropolitan South of the river, there are 2 square miles of small Single (marked A on the map) consisting of acacia amara and other trees useful for Railway fuel, for levering lines and bricks. The whole of this Single is circar land. On the South bank of the river is the territory, the land has been taken up by regots with the exception of about 2 acres (marked B) which I have applied to the Collector for as a timber and fuel depot, the line

Pro: 16 July 1870 No. 175
– 11 March 69 – 281 – 282
– 1 Nov. 70 – 13 – 14

Rev. 1870-71
Forest Department

From No. 3549
The Conservator of Forests

To
The Ag. Secretary to Govt.
Rev. D.

Dated 11th
Received 15 } November 70

No. 2415
Enclosure No. 2
1 Map Sent to Colonel Morgan
Subject
S.O. No. 378 – 2d March 71
Submits Colonel Morgan's report and sketch map of the vicinity of Metropolitan with certain proposal on the subject of Railway fuel plantations.

35

c. 22 July 71

line crossing the river at this spot if carried on to the Hills.

3 Above Chengul on the north bank, there is small Jungle extending to Sundaputty near Manaar marked GG on the map and 10 square miles in extent, but distant from the Railway 10 to 20 miles.

4 On the north bank of the river, extending from the Metropolitan bridge to Kullar river, nearly the whole of the land is taken up by ryots; between the Kullar river and the slopes of the Hills, there is a large tract of Jungle extending from the Coonoor river on the east to beyond Chengul on the west marked C. with but 3 or 4 Irola clearings, 8 square miles of Jungle are available from 2 to 8 miles from the Railway. To the west of the Coonoor and at the foot of the Hills some 2000 acres of fair land are available for planting (marked D) at present covered with low Jungle.

5 From Nerritorry to Chengul (marked C) there are a few clearings but the greater part of the Jungle amounting to some 10 square miles is circar land. It produces Acha, Blackwood, Vengay, acacia speciosa &c.

6 To the north of the Metropolitan road and ghaut, there is a strip of land (marked E) about 8 miles long and 1 broad covered with low Jungle and suitable for Railway fuel to be reserved.

7 On the whole there are at least 20 square miles of Jungle suitable for the supply of the people and Railway, distant from 2 to 10 miles from the Railway.

8 Plantations on open land will not be necessary, but we should have to plant as we fell out.

9 As the Railway is at present not to go beyond the river, no Jungle need be cleared away as a sanitary measure, there being no forest south of the river.

10 To reserve the 20 square miles of Jungle, demarcate it and replant it as required; it will be

necessary

necessary that I should have under my orders, as soon as possible a third Class Overseer on Rs 60 and 4 Peons on 8 Rs each with a Gunnastah on Rs 20, with travelling allowance of Rs 15 to Overseer and 8 Rs to Gunnastah as a tentative establishment, when the demand for timber increases, a further establishment will be necessary.

11 I examined the Bhowany river from near Chengul to the bridge by boat, near Chengul there are two very dangerous falls, over which no boat could live; 2 miles below Chengul, we got into the boat and soon passed a very dangerous fall; there were four more falls to Territory, below this place there is a very dangerous fall of some four feet which will require much blasting, we had to leave the boat and walk round - below this fall there is rough water in one or two places but nothing of any importance.

Indeed we passed natives rafting small pieces of timber to Metropolium. In all, there are 8 reefs or rocky barriers which require blasting; in many reaches of the river the water was almost still, but in descending the falls, we shot along at a rate of 6 miles an hour, when once these barriers are removed the bed of the stream being more uniform, rafting will not be difficult. The cost may be estimated at 4000 Rs. To make a good cart road of 10 miles in length, would cost much more, and the carriage per ton would not be under 2-8 - whereas by rafting the cost cannot exceed 8 As a ton. The rafts will be smaller than those used on the Cauvery, as the river is very narrow though deep. At present it will not be advisable to commence floating until the demand by the people and Railway for wood is ascertain

12 There would be no difficulty in

in rafting firewood from the river at Mettoopollum bridge to Erode, if the Calingaroyan channel is widened and deepened. At present the channel is too much silted up for rafting, and to unload the raft at the anicut, carry the wood across to the Cauvery and remake the raft would be far too expensive.

In conclusion I have to remark that these Jungles have hitherto been under Overseer Newman, as it was not considered advisable to take them over, no work of importance being carried on. Under the present orders of Government it will be impossible for this Overseer to look after these Jungles. The Forest Department should now reassume charge of the forests to the foot of the Hills and for about 1 mile up the slopes; and if the Railway is ever carried up the Coonoor ghaut, it will be absolutely necessary that Overseer Newman should be prepared to supply at least 10 Miles with fuel which will represent a plantation of 500 acres. It would be advisable at once to secure all ground near the present road at the top of the ghaut to the extent of 500 acres. In G O No. 1685 of 1st of Novr/70, the Keelkondah tract marked F has been ordered to be reserved, a plantation at this point would only be suitable for the low country. At this spot the only one suitable for planting purposes on that face of the Hills, 2000 acres could be obtained.

If the accompanying map is lithographed, it will be of great service to the Forest Depatt, the Collector of Coimbatore, the Commissioner of Neilgherries and the Survey Depatt.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your Most obedt Servt.

[signature] Rolle

Dr Conser of Forests

Enclosure

In a letter No. 2413 of 11th Nov. 70 from the Cons. to the Sec. Secretary to Govt. R.D.

1870 871

Forest Department

From

The Dy Cons. of Forests Astacammed

To The Cons. of Forests Astacammed

Rec. 3549/70

Dated 5 November 1870.

Date of Letter Received

No. 246

Enclosure one

Subject

Forwards a report on the Mettoopallum Jungles

G.O. 2d March 71

35

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

No. 2259

From Commissioner, of the Neilgherries, No. 34

Dated 27 July 1870.

FOR ORDERS.

The tract in question, I presume, is under Mr. Brooks' jurisdiction only as regards Forest conservancy. Territorially it is stale, I pray, part of the Coimbatore District. Mr. B.'s letter may lie over till he get the other replies. Other J.S.

L. D. S.

Revenue Department.

No.

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Under date the February 1871.

Read the following letters

From the Commr. Neilgherries

Reporting with reference to G.O. No. 1097, of 16 July 1870, that the tract of land between Matapollism & foot of the Hills was transferred by the Forest Dept. to Commr. & that it contains puttah land planted with certain trees

H.E. 27 July 1870, No. 34.

From the Conservator of Forests.

Submg. Co. [illegible] disposal and sketch map of the vicinity of Metapollism with certain proposal on the subject of Railway fuel plantation

H.E. 11 Nov. 1870, No. 1413

The Govt. approve of the Conservator's proposal to demarcate [illegible] & [illegible] to fence in the tracts of jungle at the foot of the Neilgherries selected by Colonel Morgan, and they desire

[illegible]

Neither Col. Morgan nor Major Reddoni seem to have been communicated with the Collr. of the District. Judging by the Map they wish to

desire that early measures may be taken with this end.

2. The establishment proposed by Colonel Morgan for maintaining the reserves involves a monthly charge of Rs 135, but Major Beddome has increased the cost to Rs. 142 by allowing Rs. 15 instead of Rs 8 for the Travelling allowance of the Goomastah whose pay is Rs. 20. The lesser amount is in the opinion of Govt. sufficient, and the establishment, the cost of which is Rs 135 per

mensem

appropriate every acre of unoccupied land, without any reference to the requirements of the people in the way of pasturage, fuel & manure. I would send the paper to the Collr. for early report on these points and tele Major B. not to ignore the Revenue authorities in this Jurisdiction. It only causes delay and increases of irritation

I.G.S.

270

mensem, is sanctioned. It is presumed that this charge can be met from the Forest Budget of the current year.

3. The adoption of the proposed scheme for floating timber must depend on the demand of the Railway and the success of the project of the same character authorized by G. O. dated 9th December 1870, No 1788.

4. The necessary ~~cost~~ arrangement for lithographing Colonel Morgan's map will be made in the Survey Office ~~sanctioned~~ as soon as

the

the map is completed.

5. With reference to Mr. Breck's letter dated 27 July 1870, No. 34 and to para 6 of the Conservator's letter, the Govt. observe that although the effect of G. O. dated 11 March 1869, No. 653 ~~has been~~ was to transfer the jungles between Metapolliem and the foot of the Ghaut which were ~~therefore~~ included in the Neilgherry Forest range

range to the Commissioner charge, the object of that order merely had reference to the ~~shelaho and plantations~~ sources of Fuel & Timber supply for the Hill ~~tions on the Neilgherries~~ stations.

The Govt. are disposed to doubt whether the Neilgherry establishment can effectually supervise the jungles in question and their retransfer to ~~and~~ they resolve to request the Commissioner to express his opinion on ~~this point~~ Major Beddome's suggestion. His

the Forest department seems advisable.

attention should be specially directed to the reserve of all tracts likely to be wanted for fuel plantations in the event of the Rail way being carried up the Ghat.

L. H.

Revenue Department.

No. 378.

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT

Under date the 2d March 1871

Read the following letters

From the Commr. Nilgherries.

Reporting with reference to G.O. No. 1097 of 16th July 1870 that the tract of land between Metapolliem and foot of the Hills was transferred by the Forest Dept. to Comr. & that it contains puttah land planted with certain trees.

H. E. 27th July 1870 No. 34.

From the Conservator of Forests.

Subg. Col. Morgan's report and sketch map of the Vicinity of Metapolliem with certain proposal on the subject of Railway fuel plantations

H. E. 11th Novr. 1870 No. 2413.

It does not appear from Major Beddome's or Col. Morgan's report that the Collr. of Coimbatore has been consulted on their proposals and from the map it would seem that they desire to appropriate, as reserves

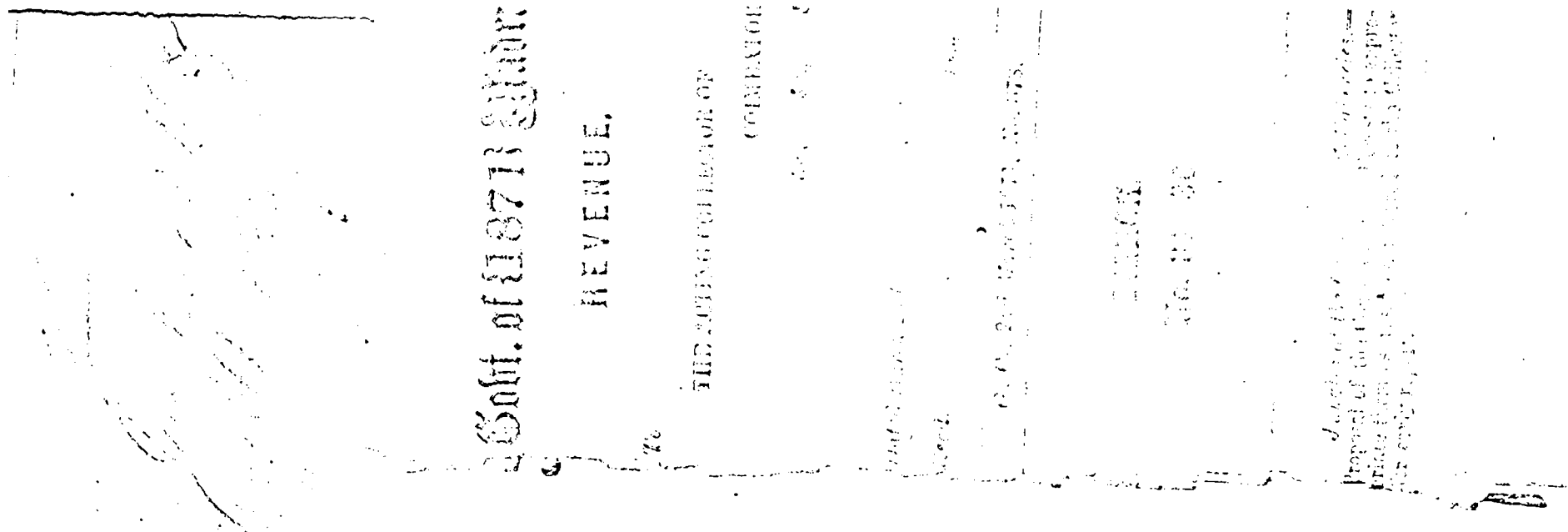
nearly the whole of the unoccupied land in the tract of country included in it without any reference to the requirement of the people in the way of pasturage, fuel, or leaves for manure. The papers will be referred to the Collr. for early report on these points and the Govt. desire that Major Beddome will understand that the Revenue authorities of districts affected by his proposals are not to be ignored in the manner adopted in this instance.

1 To the Ag. Collr. of Coimbatore with
13 —— Consr. of Forests
3 —— Comm. to the Neilgherry Pr.

Sup. Dept. 8

16
34 + 35

L



16
34 + 36