

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
16th May 1871.

No. 217. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 2nd May 1871, No. 1,831 :—

Read the following letter from the Collector of Kurnool, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 3rd April 1871, No. 97.

I HAVE the honour to inform you, with reference to paragraph 8 of Proceedings of the Board, dated 4th January 1871, No. 11, that I consider it would be quite impracticable to carry out the suggestion of the Board.

2. The country is too feverish, and the dread of tigers is so great that no rational person would dream of taking up the lands situated near the Nandikanama Pass.

3. Even if land were taken up as suggested, it would be attended with great inconvenience. As an instance, I would draw your attention to Proceedings of the Board, dated 27th May 1868, No. 3,909. The land in the Nallamalla Hills, but not in the Pass, given over to Achayya, was considered such a trouble to the Forest Department that Government sanctioned that a bid should be made for it up to Rs. 1,500 (Government Order, dated 4th June 1868, No. 1,554.) The land, however, was never sold by the Court, and is still in the possession of the heirs of Achayya.

4. I believe that Government timber is constantly cut, without any license, on passes given by Achayya's heirs, and it is found impracticable to prosecute, for the evidence could only be of a negative kind, namely, that such land did not produce such trees. This land is not cultivated, and I believe never will be, the profit derived from giving passes to cut wood being far greater than any legitimate cultivation could produce.

5. With such an example before me, I am unable to agree with the suggestion made by the Board.

6. I beg to forward, for your information, the copy of Major Beddome's letter, No. 2,696, dated 27th March 1871.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From Major R. H. BEDDOME, Conservator of Forests, to the Collector of Kurnool, dated Ootacamund, 27th March 1871, No. 2,696.

My Assistant in your district informs me that the Board wish you to give up forest for cultivation in certain tracts on the Nallamallas, in the hope that the ravages of tigers may be lessened thereby. If there was any chance of permanent cultivation being established, I would not think of offering any objection; but I feel certain that if any of the tracts in question are handed over to natives, the result will be that they will fell the timber for sale, rob the Government forest adjoining, and then desert the tracts, leaving them to grow up into a far ranker jungle than the original forest; the fear of fever and tigers will, I am certain, deter any natives from settling in these tracts.

THE Board acquiesce in the Collector's view.

2. These Proceedings will be submitted to Government with reference to Government Order, 4th April 1871, No. 625.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
16th May 1871.

No. 218. ORDER THEREON, 16th May 1871, No. 866.

Miscellaneous.

Proceedings Revenue Department, 4th April
1871, No. 625.

of 400 yards width from either side of the road, the grantees covenanting to clear and keep down the jungle by burning or otherwise at a specified rate of progress.

2. The Collector of Kurnool now reports that "the country is so feverish and the dread of tigers so great that nobody would dream of taking up these lands." The Conservator of Forests also objects, and the Collector concurs with him that the only result would be that the grantees "will fell their timber for sale, rob the Government forest adjoining, and then desert the tracts, leaving them to grow up into a far ranker jungle than ever."

3. Under these circumstances the suggestion must be dropped. But the Government do not understand the difficulty about the tract of forest-land in this vicinity, which is held by the Achayya family. The Collector states, "I believe that Government timber is constantly cut, without any license, on passes given by Achayya's heirs, and it is found impracticable to prosecute, for the evidence could only be of a negative kind, namely, that such land did not produce such trees."

If, there being no Sal on Achayya's land, the proprietors nevertheless give A. B. a pass to cut Sal thereon, and A. B. is caught driving a cart down the ghaut with several logs of Sal in it, who is it that cannot be prosecuted? There seems no reason to doubt that A. B. would be convicted of the theft, and the proprietors of abetment.

4. The case, as put by the Collector, is obscure.

(True Extract.)

(Signed)

D. F. CARMICHAEL,

Acting Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.
,, the Conservator of Forests.
,, the Public Works Department.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

866. 16th May/71.

Pro. B. R. - No 1831 71

of 2d May - 71

To improve the communication between Cumbum and Kurnool via the Nandikanama ghaut, the Govt lately authorized the offer of grants of waste land free of assessment in a belt of 400 yds width from either side of the road, the grantees covenanting to clear & keep down the jungle by burning or otherwise, at a specified rate of progress.

2. The Collector of Kurnool now reports that the country is so feverish, & the dread of tigers so great, that nobody would dream of taking up these lands. The Conservator of Forests also objects, & the Collector concurs with him, that the only result will be that the grantees will fell their timber for sale, rob the Govt forest adjoining, and then desert the tracts, leaving them to grow up into a far ranker jungle than ever.

3. Under these circumstances, the suggestion must be dropped. But the Govt do not understand the difficulty about the tract of forest land in this vicinity, which is held by the

Pro. B. R.

4th April/71

No 625

Yes / JS

Achaya family. The Collr.
states 'I believe that Govt timber
is constantly cut, without any
license, on papers given by Achayas
'heirs, & it is found impracticable
to prosecute, for the evidence is only
of a negative kind, viz, that
'such land did not produce
'such trees -'

If, then being no sal on Achayas
land, the proprietors nevertheless give
A.B. a pass to cut sal trees, &
A.B. is caught driving a cart
down the ghaut with several logs
of sal in it - who is it that
cannot be prosecuted? There seems
no reason to doubt that A.B. will be
convicted of the theft, & the proprietors
be absolved.

4. The case, as put by the Collr., is obscure.

J. J. - 12/5/71

14. To the Collr. of Dist. (1)
13. To the Collr. of Forests
21. To the Depy.

No 217-218

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