No. 263. Read the following letter from the Conservator of Forests, to the Acting Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Fort Saint George, dated Ootacamund, 22nd April 1871, No. 103:—

With reference to paragraphs 1 and 2 of the Government Order, No. 389, of the 4th of March last, I have the honour to inform you that no jungles in any of our districts are leased out to contractors in the way that Government suppose.

2. I would refer you to my letter, No. 2,060, of the 18th April 1870, and to a letter from Colonel Morgan, No. 836, of the 12th April 1870, both recorded in the Proceedings of the Board, No. 3,805, of the 4th of June last. As the contract-system, lately introduced by Colonel Morgan in some of his ranges, is fully explained therein, it will be seen that these contracts are only with reference to firewood, bamboos, and charcoal; that the contractor fells nothing himself, but only purchases the right to receive the seigniorage on these articles, and that he cannot interfere with ryots entering the jungles with free passes. Colonel Morgan reports that this system works admirably; his peons are relieved from much troublesome work of a petty nature, such as checking passes or tickets for head-loads of firewood, or receiving sums only amounting to few Pies, and he is enabled to employ them in the forests themselves. This system has not as yet been introduced into any other district, but might be so, with advantage, in some cases with reference to the supply of certain towns with firewood, bamboos, and charcoal.

3. Along the lines of railway the locomotive fuel is cut by contractors. They are allowed to enter certain tracts allotted to them by the Forest Department. They fell the wood and deliver it to the Railway Company, and the seigniorage on the amount of wood delivered is paid monthly by the railway authorities to the credit of the Forest Department in the nearest treasury.

4. In the Salem Range the Assistant Conservator has lately given out, as an experiment, a contract for the right to fell bamboos in a certain marked off area.

5. Besides the above, there are no contracts in force in any of our ranges.

6. With reference to paragraph 3 of the Government Order above quoted, I forward a letter* from the Forest-officer of the South Arcot Range, by which it will be seen that the ryots of Trinomallay have never been entitled to charcoal free of seigniorage. In all districts ryots have always been allowed to bring firewood out of the jungles for their domestic use free of seigniorage, but nowhere have they ever been allowed to enter the jungles for the purpose of making charcoal. The consequence of introducing such a privilege can be easily imagined.

7. Letters† as per margin from the officers of the Coimbatore and Salem Ranges are enclosed for perusal.

* No. 8, dated 14th April 1871.

† No. 534, dated 10th April 1871.
,, 10, ,, 17th ,, ,,

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No. 264. Order thereon, 20th May 1871, No. 887.

Forests, No. 17.

The Government learn from this report that the right of felling firewood jungles is nowhere leased to contractors as they were led to gather was the case when promulgating their Order of the 4th

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,*
*20th May* 1871.

March last, No. 389. In some cases a contractor leases the right to receive the seigniorage payable by the ryots making use of the junglo—a procedure apparently of much general convenience when the alternative (the checking system by the Forest Department Peons) is considered. But His Excellency in Council desires to learn the opinion of the Collector of Coimbatore as to its operation in those ranges under Colonel Morgan, where it has been introduced.

2. The Government further learn that the privilege of making charcoal *in the jungles* has never been conceded to the ryots of Trinomallay, as supposed by the Board, and it is certainly very undesirable to initiate any such permission.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Conservator of Forests.
,, the Collector of Coimbatore.
,, the Board of Revenue.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

4 May/71 R15

4 Grants Nos 60-62
22 Jan 1872 — 259-260

Govt. of 1871 Madras.

REVENUE.

To

THE CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS.

&c, &c, &c.

Dated May 20th

Recd. 1871

G. O., 20th May 1871, No. 857

MAY.

Nos. 263-264.

*Felling trees and Jungles.*—Letter from the Conservator of Forests reporting that no right is nowhere leased to contractors, with orders thereon.

V No 2225/71
V Cpy 2706/71

Office of Conservator of Forests
Camp Cottacamund 22nd April 1871.

No 103.

From

Major R. H. Beddome
Conservator of Forests

To

The Secretary to Government
Agl Department
Madras

Sir,

With reference to paragraph 182 of the Government order No 389 of the 4th of March last, Mode the manner to carry out Chapter IV of the Code, I have the honor to report that the limits of four districts are decided. The remainder of the districts are decided, and the Conductors in the way that will be completed during the present season.

Government surveyor.

2.— Should reference you to my

letter № 2060 of the 18th April 1870,
and to a letter from Colonel Morgan
№ 836 of the 12th April 1870, both
recorded in the Proceedings of the
Board № 3,805 of the 4th of June
last, as the Contract system lately
introduced by Colonel Morgan,
in some of his ranges is fully ex-
plained therein, it will be seen that
these Contracts are only with re-
ference to Firewood, bamboos and
charcoal, that the Contractor fells
nothing himself but only purchases
the



the right to receive the seigniorage
on these articles and that he cannot
interfere with ryots entering the
jungles with free passes. Colonel
Morgan reports that this system
works admirably, his peons are re-
lieved from much troublesome and
work of a petty nature such as
checking passes or tickets for head
loads of firewood or receiving sums
only amounting to few pie and he
is enabled to employ them in the
forests themselves. This system
has

has not as yet been introduced, into any other district but might be so with advantage in some cases with reference to the supply of certain towns with firewood, bamboos and charcoal.-

5.- Along the Lines of Railway the Locomotive fuel is cut by Contractors, they are allowed to enter certain tracts allotted to them by the Forest Department, they fell the wood and deliver it to the Railway Company and the seignorage on the



the amount of wood delivered is paid monthly by the Railway authorities to the credit of the Forest Department in the nearest Treasury.-

4.- In the Salem range the Assistant Conservator has lately given out as an experiment a contract for the right to fell bamboos in a certain marked off area.-

5.- Besides the above there are no Contracts in force in any of our ranges.-

6.- With reference to para 3 of the

the Government Order above quoted I forward a× letter from the Forest Officer of the South Arcot range by which it will be seen that the ryots of Trinomolly have never been entitled to charcoal free of seigniorage; In all districts ryots have always been allowed to bring firewood out of the jungles for their domestic use free of seigniorage, but nowhere have they ever been allowed to enter the jungles for the purpose of making charcoal,

× N.o 8 of 14th April 1871.

the consequence of introducing such a privilege can be easily imagined.-

7.- Letters* as per margin from the Officers of the Coimbatore and Salem ranges are inclosed for perusal.

* N.o 531 of 10 April 1871
N.o 10 of 17th April 1871.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your Most Obedient Servt.

R. Beddome Major
Conservator of Forests.

20 May 1871

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No 887.

Read letter from Conservator Forests
No 103 S/22-4-71.

The Govt learn from this report that the right of felling firewood Jungles is nowhere leased to Contractors, as they were led to believe was the case when promulgating their Order of the 4th March last, No 889. In some cases a Contractor leases the right to receive the seignorage payable by the Ryots making use of the Jungle; a procedure [obviously] apparently of much general convenience, where the alternative - the checking system by the Forest & Police Peons - is considered. But the G. in Council learns the opinion of the Chief Conservator, as to its operation in some ranges under his charge*

2. The Govt further learn that the privilege of making charcoal in the Jungles has never been conceded to the Ryots of Tirunelly, as supposed by the Board; and it is certainly very undesirable to initiate any such permission.

I think this Style of Contract is quite as objectionable as the other & should like to allow it. Whenever practicable the best Contractor generally sells [illegible] at the highest price

I am not sure about this.

Council

A. E.
for I. S. N.

A. P.

April 27/71

I would not interfere with Morgan's system. If any, I think, has some advantages, & no complaints by Collectors against it. N.P.

13 Collectorates of Trichinopoly 3 Sheets Dated 22 Apl
1 — Collector of Coimbatore
1 — Anantapur

* was it [illegible]

Encl to Govt Order No 1331 Rev dated 18th May 1871

Copy of Govt Order No 1331 Rev dated 18th May 1871

Copy of Govt Order No 1331 Rev dated 18th May 1871 to the Conservator of Forests.

Copy of Govt Order No 1331 Rev dated 18th May 1871 to the Secy to Govt P.W.D.

Madras 22nd Read 25th April 1871

No 103.

Encloses for G.O. Letter from Collector of Salem Report No 889 of 4th March 1871 on the subject of Contract Coupes.

Ans 262.

Encl to Govt Order No 1331 Rev dated 18th May 1871

F.C. 4 March 1871 Nos 60-62
22 June 1871 - 257-69.

Ap 2-63-764

Contract between
[illegible]
[illegible]