REVENUE DEPARTMENT,
OOTACAMUND,
30*th July* 1872.

No. 252.

No. 1,137.

To

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY, MAURITIUS.

Forests, No. 18.

SIR,—In reply to your letter of 5th April 1872, No. 599-A, I am directed to transmit to you copies of the Forest Reports of this Presidency for the last ten years, with copy of a memorandum (with enclosures) by the Conservator of Forests, explanatory of the working of the system hitherto in force here.

2. This system, however, is about to be modified in one material respect by constituting the Collector and Magistrate of each district the Conservator of the Government forests situated in it, and making the District Forest-officer his Deputy ; the officer now styled Conservator of Forests for the Presidency being converted into an Inspector General of Forests, whose duties will be those of inspection and advice to the Collectors, and of reporting to Government annually on the working of the department, and at any time, when he sees defects, calling for interference.

3. It is believed that this change of system will render the administration of the department far more effective by enlisting the interest and influence of the District Revenue Authorities in the cause of forest conservancy, and removing much antagonism between the departments, while it will, at the same time, afford an effective guarantee for the communal rights of the people in the forests which has been hitherto much wanting.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Secretary to Government.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

Copy Rec'd 3 Sept 72

Revenue Department

30 July 1872

No 1127

To

The Colonial Secretary

Mauritius.

Sir

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To

The Colonial Secy

Nuwara Eliya

Working of the Forest Dept in Province Oriey