

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
22nd June 1872.*

No. 217. Read the following letter from Major R. H. BEDDOME, Conservator of Forests, to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Fort St. George, dated Ootacamund, 17th June 1872, No. 1,305 :—

With reference to G. O. No. 609 of the 16th April 1872, paragraph 19, I have the honour to forward two letters* from Mr. Cherry, the forest officer of the South Canara Range. From these it will

* Dated 25th Sept. 1871, No. 310.
,, 29th May 1872.

be seen that Mr. Cherry had a careful valuation of the stock in hand at the end of the year 1870-71, and that as he only valued it at Rs. 22,646 against Rs. 29,749-3-7, (which sum represented its supposed value if the sales of the year only were deducted), he recommended that the difference, namely, Rs. 7,103-3-7, should be written off, and the only heading that this can come under is, "Destroyed by fire, white-ants, etc." The Valuation List appears to have been kept up for eight or nine years, and no deductions made annually for deterioration and loss by fire or flood, etc.; hence the necessity of an unusually large deduction in one particular year. Much of the timber appears also to have been too highly valued at the outset.

2. Hitherto in most of our ranges the timber in depôt has been roughly valued at or near its supposed selling price. This is, I think, a mistake; it should be valued only at the actual cost of felling and conveyance, etc., *plus* the supposed seigniorage value of the timber standing in the forest, and this valuation should ~~be increased~~ (if the timber remains on hand) only be increased by the actual cost of transport as the timber is brought nearer to the market. When the timber is sold its valuation in our accounts will represent its cost to the department, and the difference between that sum and the selling price will represent the profit to the department *minus* a percentage for cost of superintendence. I would suggest that this plan should be adopted in future for all timber brought into depôt after the 1st of April 1872, so that it would come into full force eventually when all the present stock has been disposed of.

No. 218.

ORDER THEREON, 22nd June 1872, No. 962.

Forests, No. 15.

THE Government approve the suggested method for valuing stock and request Major Beddome to issue the necessary instructions for its adoption.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Secretary to Government.

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

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

N^o 1305.

From

To,

Sir,

Office of Conserv. of Forests.
Coatacamund 17th June 1872.

Major R. H. Beddome
Conservator of Forests

The Honorable W. Suddleston
Secretary to Government
R. D.

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* N^o 310 of 25th
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cost of felling and conveyance,
plus the supposed seigniorage
value of the timber standing
in the forest, and this valuation
should year by year (if the
timber remains on hand) only be
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transport as the timber is brought
nearer

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to the Department and the differ-
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^{Sir,}
Your Most Obedt. Servt.

R. W. Edmonds Major
Conservator of Forests

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