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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Rev DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. / ~~B.P. No.~~	114	~~Press~~ / Mis.
Dated	17.7.1873	196 .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

114/1.

FOREST No. 32.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 5th July 1873, No. 1,200.

Read the following letter from Major R. H. BEDDOME, Inspector of Forests, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Ootacamund, 19th May 1873, No. 1,785:—

IN forwarding the enclosed letter from the Collector of Coimbatore, I have the honour to inform you that I cannot approve of the Collector's proposals: he appears to wish to take away all Colonel Morgan's ranges, except the Mudumallay forests. Colonel Morgan has very important Sandal-wood tracts and large Sandal-wood plantations in Collegal, all of which are far more accessible from the Nilgiris and Mudumallay than they would be from Coimbatore.

2. The Mudumallay Teak forest and our Teak plantations in that quarter are all in Malabar, but so out of the way that they can hardly be supervised or ever visited by either the Collectors of Malabar or Coimbatore. They are most accessible from the Nilgiris, but they are quite out of the Commissioner's range. These forests are not at present being worked to such an extent as to require the undivided attention of an officer.

3. I have already stated that it would be impossible for Colonel Morgan to undertake the new Mettapolliam range in addition to his present duties. This new range, including Bolampatty, etc., will be a very important one now that the railway is opened, and there will, I think, be plenty to occupy one of our young officers. At any rate, I think it quite impossible that this officer could also attend to Collegal, Sattiamungalum, and Bhowani (the hill-forests about Cauverypoorum north of Erode), nor should I like to place our Collegal and Tullaymallay Sandal-wood plantations under him.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From A. WEDDERBURN, Esq., Collector of Coimbatore, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 16th May 1873, No. 88.

I HAVE the honour to suggest, for the consideration of Government, through the Board of Revenue, the expediency of the Forest Ranges of this district being superintended by officers locally resident in the district, and with that view, and as another officer has been recently appointed to the district, whose range will by no means occupy his whole time, I would propose that the two Ranges should consist of North and South Coimbatore.

2. North Coimbatore consists of some jungles, the seigniorage of which is let on lease; the only special work is superintendence of two Sandal-wood plantations.

Coimbatore, Sattiamungalum, Bhowany, Collegal.

3. South Coimbatore Range has the Annamalay situated in the Pullachy and Oodumulpettah taluqs. There is no other special work. I think that two Deputy-Conservators are enough, and that there is no need for a third.

4. Both should be exclusively allotted to Coimbatore.

5. I forward this letter through the Inspector of Forests for his remarks.

SUBMITTED for the orders of Government.

2. There are now three forest officers working in Coimbatore:—

(1.) Colonel Morgan, living at Ootacamund, who supervises Sandal-wood tracts and plantations in Collegal as well as the Forests in Sattiamungalum, Collegal, and Bhowani, (he is also in charge of the Mudumallay Forest).

(2.) The supernumerary officer in charge of the new Mettapolliam Range, in accordance with G. O., 15th March 1873, No. 328.

(3.) The officer in charge of the Annamallay range.

3. The Collector proposes to substitute for these three officers, two: one having charge of all forests in the district north of Coimbatore; and the other of the forests south of Coimbatore.

4. The Inspector of Forests strongly objects to this. His chief argument rests on the impossibility of the same officer controlling the Mettapolliam Range and the forests in Collegal, etc., which are more easily accessible from Ootacamund than Coimbatore. He observes that the change would leave only the Mudumallay forests to Colonel Morgan; that these are so situated that they cannot readily be supervised from Coimbatore or Calicut; and that they are not so important at present as to require the undivided attention of an officer.

5. Looking to the description given by the Inspector of Forests of the great importance and extent of the Mettapolliam Range, given in his letter recorded with G. O., 15th March 1873, No. 328, the Board agree with him.

(True Copies and Extract.)

F. Grose
Secretary.

To the Acting Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

Copy to the Collector of Coimbatore.
" to the Inspector of Forests.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

No 114
Remded with reference to the G. O dated
2d July 1873 No 678.

17 Inclosures Rec'd 22 July 73.

No 114 - 17 July 73.

Received 12 July 1873.

17 July 73

Encl. 29 July 73

Encl

Board of Revenue,
MADRAS.
1873.

PROCEEDINGS, 5th JULY 1873, No. 1,200.

JULY.

Forest No. 32.

Forest Officers—of Coimbatore District.—Letter from Collector proposing that instead of three forest officers as now, there should be but two: one having charge of forests north of Coimbatore: and the other those south of it, submitted to Government together with letter from Inspector of Forests objecting to this proposal. Concurrence expressed with Inspector.

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