678

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
2nd July 1873.

Read the following papers :—

No. 13. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 7th April 1873, No. 546, Forest No. 13 :—

Read again Board's Proceedings dated 6th March 1873, Miscellaneous No. 1,283.
Read also the following letter from Major R. H. BEDDOME, Inspector of Forests, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Mangalore, 10th March 1873, No. 1,731.

WITH reference to the Proceedings of the Board, Miscellaneous No. 1,283, dated 6th March 1873, I have the honour to inform you that the question of the proper conservancy of the eastern slopes of the Nilgiris is one of great importance, and requires immediate attention, now that the railway to Mettapolliem has been finished.

2. The subject is now before Government, as I reported very fully on it several months ago, forwarding, at the same time, letters from the Collectors of Coimbatore and Malabar; and I think that the present proposals from the Commissioner of the Nilgiris should be taken into consideration by Government or the Board together with those documents.

3. Some years ago, Government handed over the woods of the Nilgiris to Local Conservancy under the Commissioner of the Nilgiris, and they were entirely taken away, together with various plantations that we had formed on the higher plateau, from my department and from the supervision of our officers. This order, I believe, only referred to the sholas of the higher ranges and the upper portion of the slopes worked up to the plateau: the forests of the lower slopes still remain under Imperial Conservancy, and are worked by Colonel Morgan. From the present proposals of the Commissioner, he appears to treat them all as under Local Conservancy; Captain Murray, his local officer, only having been consulted. The forest of the lower slopes and about the foot of the hills is much of it first-class forest equal to any in the Presidency, contained very valuable timbers, and cannot, I think, be alienated from Imperial forests.

4. The opening of this new line of railway at once conferred great value on this latter tract, but equally so upon the forests on the right bank of the Bhowani, the forests about Copenairy and the Lampen's peak range, right round to Bolumputty, etc.; and I have reported to Government that the whole forms one very compact range which requires a separate forest officer. If the forests of the lower slopes of the Nilgiris were worked by one officer, and those in the vicinity of Copenairy by another, it would greatly facilitate smuggling, and hamper proper conservancy. I am not of opinion that any of these forests can be worked by an officer stationed on the plateau of the Nilgiris: his head-quaters must be at Coimbatore, and he must spend the chief portion of his time out at Mettapolliem and its vicinity. All the timber will be worked into the Coimbatore Collectorate, and the operations should, I think, be under the Collector of that district.

IN forwarding his Jungle Conservancy Budget for 1873-74, the Commissioner of the Nilgiris submitted proposals for forming a fuel and timber depôt at the foot of the Coonoor Ghaut, and working the hill slopes to supply it.

2. The Inspector of Forests states that the conservancy of the east slopes of the Nilgiris,—a question " of great importance and requiring immediate attention, now that the railway to Mettapolliem has been finished",—is before Government with a full report from the Inspector and letters from the Collectors of Coimbatore and Malabar.

3. These papers will accordingly be submitted to Government.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 6th March 1873, Miscellaneous No. 1,283.

Read the following letters :—

From J. R. COCKERELL, Esq., Commissioner of the Nilgiris, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Ootacamund, 22nd November 1872, No. 118.

I HAVE the honour to submit herewith for sanction the Budget-estimate for 1873-74 for the Nilgiri Jungle Conservancy Department.

2. In 1871-72 sixty-two acres of land were planted with 75,000 Australian trees, at 6 feet apart. In the current year 275 acres have been planted. The trees on 250 acres of this area have been put down at 9 feet apart. The balance of 25 acres has been planted with trees 6 feet apart. The wider planting in the current year has been done at Rupees 650 per 20,000 trees against 550 Rupees for the same number of trees in 1871-72. The increase of Rupees 100 has been owing to the contractor having had to clear more land to get down his trees than would have been necessary had he planted as usual at 6 feet apart. The change to planting 9 feet apart has been found necessary, because Eucalypti on forest-sites grow so rapidly that at 6 feet apart they choke each other in two years, while to thin them at this age is mere waste ; the sapling containing nothing but pulp, worthless for any purpose. Planted at 9 feet apart, on the other hand, the trees have room to grow until five years old, by which time they have hardened and come to some size, and, if necessary, to thin the thinnings are valuable.

3. The revenue of the Nilgiri Conservancy Department has been as under :—

	Rs.	A.	P.
1867-68...	4,002	9	0
1868-69...	2,774	4	6
1869-70...	6,926	11	1
1870-71...	11,997	11	4
1871-72...	14,741	14	9

4. This year the revenue is expected to reach about 18,000. The current year opened with a credit balance of Rs. 11,351-4-1.

5. The proposed expenditure for 1873-74 differs in various respects from the expenditure sanctioned for the current year. This year Rs. 240 was budgetted as additional allowance to two Revenue Inspectors, at Rs. 10 each. The allowance has, ever since the establishment of the Jungle Conservancy Department, been given to the two Revenue Inspectors in the district as an inducement to bring forward cases of illicit felling. The Inspectors have hitherto done nothing for the money, although it is known that illicit felling goes on, inasmuch as the departmental officers have successfully prosecuted annually cases within their knowledge in the following numbers :—

	Cases.	Persons.
1869-70 ...	... 12	36
1870-71 ...	... 18	70
1871-72 ...	... 19	63

and in the current year a conviction has been obtained against a contractor who has been for years evading the forest rules, and has felled thousands of Rupees worth of timber.

6. As the Revenue Inspectors are not earning the additional allowances, it is proposed, in 1873-74, to discontinue the payment. During the current year one of the Goomastahs of the department was made over to the Presidency Forest Department Establishment sanctioned for the reserves set apart at the foot of the ghaut in G. O., 25th September 1871, No. 1,671, Revenue Department.

7. The present budget accordingly shows this reduction as compared with the budget of 1872-73.

8 The working and planting charges, etc., were lumped together in the last budget, and set down at Rs. 6,140. The proposed similar charges in the present budget are put at the larger figure of 9,580, in view to planting out 250 acres in 1873-74. I should observe here that planting at 6 feet apart gives 1,210 trees to the acre, and that the current year's budget contemplating the putting down of 62 acres provided for 75,020 trees. The entry in the present budget provides for 134,250 trees, and the increase of expenditure proposed is about 50 per cent. The result is relatively cheaper work. The present budget, besides providing for planting, makes provision for putting down avenues,—a branch of work which has been undertaken recently by the Conservancy Department.

9. Looking at the balances in favour of the fund of the department at the end of each of the last two years, namely, Rs. 6,675-11-4 and Rs. 11,351-4-1, respectively, and the fact that the planting this year is nearly over, and there was a balance in hand, on the 1st instant, of Rs. 10,126-8-11, which the incomings in the remaining six months of the year will probably swell, although there will be outgoings for work done but not paid for. Looking also at the circumstance that the rail to Mettapolliem will be opened early next year, and will, it is assumed, take fuel and worked up timber, I have had it in contemplation to form fuel and timber depôts at the foot of the Coonoor ghaut, and to propose an establishment for the purpose. With this view Captain Murray has entered a sum of Rs. 5,000 in the present budget, and I beg for instructions in the matter. I append a memorandum on the subject from Captain Murray. In regard to the establishment required to work the slopes properly, I should propose that one 1st-class Overseer, on Rs. 130 per month, should be located at Mettapolliem, with the following subordinates : —

Two Goomastahs, at Rs. 20 each, and 4 Peons, at Rs. 8 each, making up the total cost to Rs. 202 per month.

Such an establishment will not appear excessive when it is considered that the establishment entertained by the Forest Department for looking after the three reserves at the foot of the Coonoor ghaut costs Rs. 157 per month. The slopes on the east face of the Nilgiri range alone are 40 miles long by about 7 broad, and are completely covered with forest.

10. The first outlay in forming depôts will probably be considerable, but the returns should in no long time make the expenditure profitable. The week before last I went down to Mettapolliem with Captain Murray, and visited the Reserve H referred to in G. O. No. 1,671, 25th September 1871. This reserve I found to consist of thorn jungle containing very little wood of sufficient size, even for fuel for the railway. The Overseer in charge stated it was not the present intention to fell in the reserve or in the other two reserves constituted by G. O. On the contrary, he said it was in contemplation to sink wells on the three reserves, and to plant the reserves with quick-growing trees. Assuming this plan to be carried out, the apparent expediency of forming timber and fuel depôts at once for the wood on the hill-slopes starts into prominence.

11. Of course, but very imperfect data are available for a conclusion with regard to the returns from depôts, as there are few or no instances with which I am acquainted of a railway running through a country barren of timber to the foot of forest slopes affording an enormous timber and fuel-supply. Judging, however, from what occurs on the Hills, it may be predicted with tolerable certainty that depôts at the foot of the slopes will prove remunerative. On the hills, the Conservancy Department cuts a thousand pounds of firewood for six Annas, and charges one rupee for the quantity which can be carted for one rupee per 10 miles.

Rupees

From the same officer, dated Ootacamund, 8th February 1873, No. 12.

I HAVE the honour to request the attention of the Board to my letter No. 118 of 22nd November last, submitting the Jungle Conservancy Budget for 1873-74 of the Nilgiris, and making certain proposals in reference to the conservancy of the slopes.

2. If the Board consider that steps should be taken to conserve the slopes, the matter should be put in hand without delay, as the rail to Mettapolliem must soon be opened.

THE Board resolve to request the Inspector of Forests to report on the scheme proposed by the Commissioner.

2. In the meantime, the conservancy of the forests on the lower slopes, which will now need more protection than ever, must be strictly attended to.

No. 14. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 7th May 1873, No. 734, Forests No. 20.

Read the following letter from J. R. COCKERELL, Esq., Commissioner of the Nilgiris, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Ootacamund, 8th April 1873, No. 33:—

SINCE writing my letter containing a proposition that the slopes of the Nilgiris on the eastern and south faces should be placed exclusively under my charge and an establishment appointed to preserve them and form fuel depôts for the supply of the railway about to be opened to Mettapolliem, on which the Board call for the opinion of the Inspector of Forests in their Proceedings, dated 6th ultimo, Miscellaneous No. 1,283, Revenue Department, I have travelled down the Kotagherry Ghaut along the southern ridge of the Coonoor Ravine and across the Colacambay and Tudoor valleys to Taimallay.

2. I have further received Proceedings of the Government, Revenue Department, dated 15th ultimo, No. 328, which contain the opinions of Major Beddome with reference to the slopes, and his answer, therefore, to the above requisition of the Board.

3. Major Beddome in paragraph 8 of his letter observes, "The forests along the lower slopes of the south-eastern portion of the Nilgiris will become of great importance now that a railway is about to be opened to Mettapolliem." He proposes that a separate officer should be appointed to work them including the forests on both sides of the Bhowani, as far on the outer side as Copanairy and Lampen's Peak and on the inner half a mile up the Nilgiri slopes, and he suggests in paragraph 9 that the revenue from the slopes down to the Bhowani and the Moyar should be credited to the Nilgiri District.

4. It appears to me questionable whether the arrangement proposed is compatible with the orders conveyed in Proceedings, Madras Government, Revenue Department, 24th January 1872, No. 148, which direct that the Collector in each district shall be Forest Conservator and relieves Major Beddome of all executive duties.

5. Major Beddome, in his letter in the G. O. of the 15th ultimo above adverted to, justly remarks that unless the limits of forest tracts are clearly defined there is great difficulty in preventing smuggling, and hence, in referring to the

Rupees

forests on the hither side of the Bhowani and Moyar, he recommends they should be under the officer appointed to manage that part of his proposed range outside these rivers.

6. I am not aware of the arrangements under the Collector of Coimbatore for the conservation of the Coimbatore Forests; but I would suggest for consideration whether it would not be a more simple arrangement to extend the Nilgiri Forest jurisdiction to the Bhowani and Moyar and appoint an officer under the Commissioner to work the tract than to follow Major Beddome's plan. At the same time it would be necessary, in my opinion, to retain the present administration of the plateau. There would, in fact, be two officers on these Hills with duties apportioned as follows—the Plateau Officer would plant the plateau on the Ootacamund side and look after the forests on the western slopes and Seegur slope, and the Coonoor Officer would take charge of the planting in that vicinity and would preserve the eastern and southern slopes, and, I would suggest, plant up with Mahogany the land about Burliar and below. At Burliar he might propagate the Ipecacuanha and make a plantation of this shrub.

7. The existing arrangement is at all events unsatisfactory. Lieutenant-Colonel Morgan now has the lower half mile of the Seegur and eastern slopes, and the very difficulty animadverted upon by Major Beddome occurs. There have been certainly two collisions between the plateau administration and the lower administration lately, from the latter refusing to recognize passes for timber issued by Captain Murray, the Plateau Officer. This difficulty is in no manner avoided by Major Beddome's present proposition. That plan will still leave an indefinite boundary between the jurisdiction of the Plateau Officer and that of Major Beddome's proposed officer, and opportunities of smuggling will arise.

8. I would suggest that either the officer proposed by Major Beddome should have a jurisdiction extending up to Coonoor on one side and the top of the Seegur Ghaut on the other, or that the arrangement I intimate should be made.

9. Major Beddome appears to think that the timber in the lower half of the slopes under Colonel Morgan is worked downwards and the timber above upwards. This is not the case as the collisions adverted to above show. An examination of the Nilgiri School Map will show the Board that the existing boundari of the Nilgiri District is ill-defined, passing along the courses of the Bhowani and Moyar through deep forest at the bottom of the Hills; on the other hand, there could be apparently no more clear boundary between forest jurisdictions than the rivers in question.

10. In paragraphs 13 and 14 of Major Beddome's annual report, in Proceedings of Government, Revenue Department, dated 16th April 1872, No. 144, the stock of timber in hand at Madumallay and Seegur is stated. This stock obviously consists in great part of timber felled in the Nilgiri District proper because Madumallay is in the Nilgiri District and some of the timber must have also come from the Seegur slope.

11. In conclusion, I may state that I saw large quantities of Vengay, Nager, and Blackwood on the Kotagherry side of the Hills, and that these will become accessible when the Kotagherry Ghaut is opened. On the Seegur Ghaut Teak

and Sandal prevail, and along all the slopes from Taimallay to Kullar and on the southern slopes, Soapnut, Vengay trees, Red and White Cedar, Teak, and Nager. I have no reliable data for estimating the quantity of fuel the rail at Mettapollium will take, but I learn the consumption on the branch line will be about fifty tons per annum per mile, which, as the line is twenty-five miles long, will entail an annual expenditure of 1,250 tons. The fuel would be supplied by the Conservancy at 6 Rupees a ton. I understand that the Madras Railway has fuel stored sufficient for two years' consumption. This store has been in great part obtained from the Warriore Jungles, but Colonel Morgan tells me these jungles are now nearly worked out. The Railway, however, has a contract for coal from abroad but it is about expiring, and the price of coal has risen so much that in all probability the Railway administration will be thrown back on the forests of this country for fuel. In this case the demand on the Nilgiri slopes should before long become urgent. Besides the fuel supply the timber now obtained on the slopes will show as swelling the revenues of the Nilgiri District.

SUBMITTED to Government in continuation of Board's Proceedings, dated 7th April 1873, No. 546.

No. 15. ORDER THEREON, 2nd July 1873, No. 678.

Forests, No. 2.

IN the order of Government dated 15th March 1873, No. 328, it has already been determined that the south-eastern slopes of the Nilgiri Hills shall form a portion of a new forest range attached to the Coimbatore District.

2. The Commissioner of the Nilgiris appears to overlook the fact that his Jungle Conservancy Establishment is a *local* one, and cannot, therefore, deal with forests "proper," which must come under the management of the Imperial Forest Department.

3. The strength of that department is not sufficient to allow of an officer being detailed for so small a charge as the southern slopes of the Hills, which, moreover, could not be managed by a forester with his head-quarters on the plateau. So far, however, as the Segoor and Mudumullay Forest Ranges are concerned, Lieutenant-Colonel Morgan will consider himself as attached to the Commissioner of the Nilgiri Hills, who will act as Conservator of those Ranges, receiving Lieutenant-Colonel Morgan's accounts, forwarding his reports, and generally overlooking his operations.

4. In respect to the other forest ranges, which are now under Lieutenant-Colonel Morgan's direction, he will act as Deputy-Conservator to the Collector of Coimbatore in whose district these ranges are situated.

5. As suggested by the Commissioner, the authority of the Imperial Forest officers will extend up the entire slopes of the Hills; the officer in charge of Jungle Conservancy and planting restricting his operations to the plateau, as directed in G. O., 11th March 1869, No. 653.

on the current year has been done at
Rupees

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
2nd July 1873.

... Collector of Malabar will be relieved of the control ... Chemmal State Range, the Nilambur plantations, etc.

... Collector of Coimbatore will act as Conservator of the Anamallay ... new range just created including the south-eastern slopes of the ... and those of Lieutenant-Colonel Morgan's ranges which are situated in ... District.

... of the new range, especially those portions about Lambton's ... Peak, should be carefully examined and reported upon. The tracts ... of the Hills, which have been selected as Railway Fuel Reserves, ... a map has been prepared, should be carefully worked, and measures ... to be taken to supply from them the needs of the branch railway at ...

(True Extract.)

(Signed) R. A. DALYELL,
Acting Secretary to Government.

Miscellaneous No 1283. Revenue Department

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue
dated 6th March 1873.

Read the following Minute

No 18

From

J. R. Cockerell Esqre
Conservator
Nilgiris

To

The Secretary to the Board of Revenue

Dated 20th

Subject

Have the honor to submit herewith for sanction the Budget Estimate for 1873-74 for the Nilgiri Jungle Conservancy Department.

2. In 1871-72 sixty two acres of land were planted with 75,000 Australian trees at 6 feet apart. In the current year 275 acres have been planted. The trees on 250 acres of this area have been put down at 9 feet apart. The balance of 25 acres has been planted with trees 6 ft. apart. The wider planting in the current year has been done at

Rupees

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Rupees

Expenditure 650 per 2000 trees against
Rs: for the same number of trees in 1871-72.
The increase of 100 Rs: has been owing
to the Contractor having had to clear
more land to get down his trees
than would have been necessary
had he planted as usual at
6 feet apart. The change to planting
9 feet apart has been found necessary
because Eucalyptus on Forest Sites grow
so rapidly that at 6 feet apart they
choke each other in two years. Side to
this tree at this age is more waste
the sapling containing nothing but pulp
worthless for any purpose. Planted
at 9 feet apart on the other hand the
trees have room to grow until 8
years old by which time they
have hardened and come to
some size and if necessary
both the trimmings are valuable.

5. The

3. The Revenue of the Nilgiri Conservancy
Department has been as under:—

1867-68	Rs. 4002-9-0
1868-69	2774-4-6
1869-70	6926-11-1
1870-71	11997-11-4
1871-72	14741-14-9

4. This year the Revenue is expected
to reach about 18,000. The current year
opened with a credit balance of
Rs. 11351-4-1

5. The proposed Expenditure for 1873-74
differs in various respects from the
Expenditure Sanctioned for the Current
year. This year Rs: 240 was budgetted
as additional allowance to two
Revenue Inspectors at Rs: 10 Each.
The allowance has been since the
Establishment of the Jungle Conservancy
Department been given to the two
Revenue Inspectors in the Districts
as an Encouragement to bring forward
cases of illicit felling. The Inspectors
have hitherto done nothing for the
money.

money although it is known that
illicit felling goes on in connection
as the Departmental Officers have themselves
prosecuted annually cases within their
knowledge in the following numbers.

1869-70 —— 12 Cases —— 36 persons.
1870-71 —— 18 Cases —— 70 persons.
1871-72 —— 19 Cases —— 65 persons.

and in the Current year a conviction
has been obtained against a Contractor
who has been for years evading the
forest rules and has felled thousands
of Rupees worth of timber.

6. As the Revenue Inspectors are
not earning the additional allowances
it is proposed in 1873-74 to discontinue
the payment. During the Current year
one of the Foremanships of the Department
was made over to the Presidency
Forest Department Establishment
Sanctioned for the Reserves set
apart at the foot of the Ghauts
in Government Order 25th September
1871 No. 1671. Revenue Department.

7. The present Budget according
shows this reduction as compared
with the Budget of 1872-73.

8. The working and planting charges
were lumped together in the last
budget and set down at Rs: 6140. The
proposed similar charges in the
present budget are put at the larger
figure of 9580 in view to planting out
250 acres in 1873-74. It should observe
here that planting at 6 feet apart
gives 1210 trees to the acre and that the
Current years budget contemplates
the putting down of 62 acres provided for
75020 trees. The Entry in the present
Budget provides for 184250 trees and
the increase of Expenditure proposed
is about 50 per cent. The result is a
relatively cheaper work. The present
budget besides providing for planting
make provision for putting down a new
branch of work which has been undertaken
recently.

recently by the Conservancy Department.

9. Looking at the balances in favor of the funds of the Department at the End of last of the last two years namely Rs: 6,675-11-4 and 11851-4-1 respectively and the fact that the planting this years is nearly over and there was a balance in hand on the 1st Instant of Rs: 10126-8-11. whilst the incomings in the remaining 6 months of the year will probably swell although there will be outgoings for work done but not paid for. Looking also at the circumstances that the Road to Metapollium will be opened Early next year, and will, it is assumed, take fuel and worked up timber, I have had it in Contemplation to form fuel and timber Depôts at the foot of the Coonoor Ghaut and to propose an Establishment for the purpose. With this view Captain Murray has entered a sum of Rs: 5000 in the present

present budget and I beg for instructions in the matter. I append a Memo on the subject from Captain Murray. In regard to the Establishment required to work the slopes properly I should propose that one 1st Class Overseer on Rs: 150 per month should be located at Metapollium with the following Subordinates.

2 Gomastahs at Rs: 20 Each and 4 peons at Rs: 8 Each making up the total Cost to Rs: 202 per month. Such an Establishment will not appear Excessive when it is Considered that the Establishment is entertained by the Forest Department for looking after the two Reserves at the foot of the Coonoor Ghaut Cost 157 Rs: per month. The Slopes on the East face of the Nilgiri Range alone are 40 miles long by about 7 broad and are completely Covered with forest.

10. The first outlay in forming the Depôts will probably be Considerable, but the returns should in no long time make the Expenditure profitable. The week before last I went down to Metapollium with Captain Murray and visited the Reserve

Reserve # referred to in Government
Order No 671. 25th September 87. This
Reserve I found to consist of three
Jungles containing very little wood
sufficient size even for fuel for the
Railway. The Overseer in charge stated
it was not the present intention to fell
in the reserve or in the Shevaroy Reserves
constituted by Government Order. On
the contrary he said it was in contem-
plation to sink wells on the three Reserves
and to plant the Reserves with quick
growing trees. Assuming this plan to be
carried out the apparent expediency
of reserving timber and fuel depots
above for the wood on the Hill Slopes
starts into prominence.

11. Of course but very imperfect data
are available for a conclusion with
regard to the Returns from depots
as there are few or no instances with
which I am acquainted of a railway
running through a country barren of
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an

8

an Enormous timber and fuel supply.
Judging however from what occurs on
the Hills it may be predicted with tolerable
certainty that depots at the foot of the
Slopes will prove remunerative. On the
Hills, the Conservancy Department sells
a thousand lbs of firewood for six annas
and charges one Rupee for the quantity
which can be carted for one Rupee per
10 miles.

12. At Metapollium carriage is much
cheaper than on the Hills. The Reserve
Overseer stated that he understands
the Railway pays along the present line
Rs. 2-4-2. per laden boat off and delivered
Captain Murray believes he could
deliver wood cut on the slopes at less
than this sum. The profits on timber
at the proposed Depots would it is believed
in aggregate more than the profits on fuel
and indeed from the main Revenue
from the Depots. All that is wanted to
make the slopes now almost valueless in
a Revenue point of view, of great
importance

importance is a market for the timber and such a market the opening of the Metapolliem Branch of Railway would seem to offer.

13. There are great quantities of very valuable timber on the slopes which merchants from Salem & Erode never visit Metapolliem to buy up. The timber consists of Vengay, Teak, Red and White Cedar and Blackwood. The Reserve Overseer supplies the following information respecting the value of Vengay on the slopes. Good average trees cut into 25 rafters worth at Metapolliem 2 Rs. at present rates. The tree thus aggregates 50 Rs. to a contractor obtaining a pass to fell. The Expenses of the Contractor were put by the Overseer at Rs. 27—13—0 as under thus—

Government fee	Rs. 5—0—0
Filing & setting up for the Saw	5—0—0
Sawing	12—8—0
Carriage	5—5—0
	27—13—0

Giving

giving a total profit of Metapolliem of Rs. 22—5—0. If Vengay and other valuable timber was cut departmentally and stored for sale Government would obtain the Contractors profits thus obtained by Contractors. The profits on blackwood are much greater than on Vengay becoming blackwood is the best wood for furniture. Mr Hemming one of your Conservancy Overseers informs me he had lately been down the new Kotagherry trace and that near Kullar there are very large quantities of blackwood which now that the trace is opened could be cut and carried to market.

14. The fee charged by the Jungle Conservancy Department for permission to fell the Valuable timbers above mentioned is 5 Rs. per tree. In all other cases the fee is Rs. 3 per tree Except on the hills to Badagas and Todas who pay a fee of Rs. 2. for Jungle woods. I should state that permission to cut Bamboos which abound near Kullar is leased Every six months by tender. The Existing lease is for 180 Rs.

The

The Lease includes the right to take and dispose of dead loads of fallen timber for firewood and also to Vellam bark.

15. If it is thought Expedient to establish Depôts, Bamboos like wood will be cut departmentally and the profits should be very large. All private contract felling will cease. I am informed that a considerable part of the Rail Carriage to Bangalore is derived from Bamboos.

16. In conclusion I should mention that I am awaiting a reply from the Railway Manager to whom I have written Enquiring the grant if final the Rail at Metapollium will probably take on the branch being opened and the price of fuel the Rail is in the habit of paying.

17. Should the Board Consider the Conservation of the Slopes in the manner suggested advisable, it will very

very likely be found necessary to retain the Services of Captain Murray as well as of Captain Jago the permanent incumbent of the Office Superintendent of the Conservancy Department and for whom Captain Murray is acting.

18. The item in the present budget "Commissions for Collections on account "of the Firewood sold in the Commissioners "Fore" is the Commission the Sowcar to who manages the Firewood passes in my absence receives. There was not a similar entry in last years budget because the Sowcar then deducted his Commission before paying in his receipts. The alteration now made is merely a matter of account. The item "Contingencies" is inserted for the Cost of printing passes and for Stationery.

Commissioners Office
Ootacamund.
22d November 1872

I have &c
(Sd) J. R. Cockerell
Commissioner

No 12.

From J. R. Lockerell Esqre
Commissioner Nilgiris

To the Secretary to the
Board of Revenue.
Madras.

Sir,

I have the honor to request the attention of the Board to my letter No 118 of 22d November last submitting the Jungle Conservancy Budget for 1873/74 of the Nilgiris and making certain proposals in reference to the conservancy of the slopes.

2. If the Board consider that steps should be taken to conserve the slopes, the matter should be put in hand without delay as the Rail to Metapalliem must soon be opened.

Commissioners Office
Ootacamund
8th February, 1873

I have &c
(Sd) J R Lockerell
Commissioner

The Board resolve to request the Inspector of Forests to report on the scheme proposed by the Commissioner

In the meantime the Conservancy of the Forests on the lower slopes shd. now need more protection than ever must be strictly attended to.

(True extract)
(Sd) J Grose
Secretary

To The Inspector of Forests.

(True copy)
J Grose
Secretary

Approved
Secretary

Revenue Department

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue
dated 7th April 1873.

Read again Board's Proceedings 6th March
1873. Miscellaneous No. 1285.

Read also the following:—
No. 1751.

From Major R. H. Bedford,
Inspector of Forests,
To J. Price Esquire
Secretary to the Board of Revenue
Sir,

With reference to the Proceedings
of the Board Miscellaneous No. 1285
dated 6th March 1873. I have the honor
to inform you that the question of the
proper Conservancy of the Eastern Slopes
of the Nilgiris is one of great importance
and requires immediate attention now
that the Railway to Mettapollium has
been finished.

2. The subject is now before Government

as

Revenue 1024/73

Enclosure in
Proceedings of
the Board of Revenue
dated 7th April 1873

Copy of Board's
Proceedings dated
6th March 1873. Misc.
No. 1285 regarding
the Conservancy
of the Nilgiris
Conservancy

requires a separate Forest Officer. If the forests of the lower slopes of the Nilgiris were worked by one Officer and those in the vicinity of Coonoor by another, it would greatly facilitate smuggling and hamper proper Conservancy. I am not of opinion that any of these forests can be worked by an Officer stationed on the plateau of the Nilgiris, his head quarters must be at Coimbatore and he must spend the chief portion of his time not at Mettapollium and its vicinity, all the timbers will be worked into the Coimbatore Collectorate, and the operations should I think be under the Collector of that District

Office of
Inspector of Forests
Camp: Mangalore
16 March 1875.

I have &c
(Sd) R. H. Beddome Major
Inspector of Forests.

3

In forwarding his Imperial Conservancy Budget for 1875-74 the Commissioner of the Nilgiris submitted proposals for forming a further depot timbers depôt at the foot of the Coonoor Ghaut, and working the hill slopes to supply it.

The Inspector of Forests states that the Conservancy of the Eastern slopes of the Nilgiris, a question of great importance and requiring immediate attention now that the railway to Metupolliem has been finished" is before Government with a full report from the Inspector and letters from the Collectors of Coimbatore Malabar.

These papers will accordingly be submitted to Government.

(True copy & extract)

J. Grote
Secretary

To
The Secretary to Government
Revenue Department
with Letter of Conservator: 6 March 1875 &c

Copied in Swingapore

G.O. 25 of Letters Rec'd 1873 Vol 32.
1873 — 173-178

Revenue 1873. Dept.

No. 1024

Conservancy of the Forests on the Neilgherry Hills.

Extract from Proceedings of Board of Revenue dated 7th April 1873.

Read the following letter from the Conservator of Forests, Southern Circle, dated 5th March 1873.

Read also G.O. dated 15th March 1873 No. 328.

1. The question of the conservancy of the lower slopes of the Neilgherry Hills was disposed of in the G.O. under date 15 March 73. No 328, a copy of which was forwarded to the Bd of Rev.

2. The Commissioner of the Neilgherries appears to have overlooked the fact that under G.O. dated 11 Mar 1869 No 653 it was intended to restrict the operations of his Local Jungle Conservancy Establishment to the Neilgherry Sholas & Hill Plantations, though they were subsequently extended to the slopes of the Hills without, apparently, any express authority.

MS.

Ag. Collr. 5/2/1873
C.D. Coll. 3/3/1873 Rept. & Copy

G.O. 25 of [illegible] 1873
Revenue [illegible]

Revenue 1873. Sept.
No. 1024

From Secretary to Govt
Bombay to the Collector
Dated 7th April 1873.
Received [illegible]
Read [illegible]

Sir,

I am directed to forward herewith for the information of Government a letter from Mr. Forest Commissioner & Inspector of Forests Central Provinces on the subject of the Reservation of Forests on the Hills in the Deccan and to request that you will favour Government with your opinion as to the advisability of the measures proposed by Mr. Forest Commissioner.

I have &c.
(Signed) [illegible]
Secretary to Govt.

1. The question of the conservancy of the lower slopes of the Hatkhamy Hills was disposed of in the G.O. under date 15 Mar 73. No 528, a copy of which was forwarded to the Bd of Rev.

2. The Commissioner of the Hatkhamis appears to have overlooked the fact that under G.O. dated 11 Mar 1869 No 653 it was intended to restrict the operations of his Local Jungle Conservancy Establishment to the Hatkhamy Shelas & Hill Plantations, though they were subsequently extended to the slopes of the Hills without apparently express authority.

[illegible]

Rec. 20 June 73 2 2 2 [illegible]
C.P. Cash B. 35. 39 Prop. R. 2 Aug. 73
Rec. 13 June

Memo for order on Nos 1024 & 1375

1. These papers are circulated

18

There can be no doubt that
the completion of the Railroad
to the Metaboliac mile
creates a condition of the demand
for fuel - and that unless
timely measures are adopted
[illegible] the Wood will be
destroyed - The reports of
the Gov.r and the Secretary of
State do not throw much
light on existing conditions
& arrangements - the former makes

Front Range, which was

Memo for orders on Nos 1024 & 1375

1. These papers are in relation

In orders as the second

19

to meeting of the Trustees
Debt. while the latter de-
clares that at the Elders de-
ferred to have always been
& still are in charge of the
Newspaper. The Com: ought
to have conferred with the Manager
Book Room before addressing
the Pres. of Conf.

Mr. Book Room states that
the S. S. Elders & the Missionaries
are under Col Morgan. Have
been thereby & blessed by him - and

balances formed & a book published by
the Book Room Debt. He adds his con-
viction that Col Morgan cannot possibly
attend thereto & the Elders without
neglecting much his other duties.

Under the circumstances
stated I think the first thing
to be done is to have these affairs
explained and an estimate, as
well as reliance can be placed,
formed, of their resources, present
& future value. and a plan pre-
mitted of the arrangements necessary
for the proper conservancy of the

Forest Range, which was

1113.

Memo for order on Pres 1024 & 1375

1. These papers are circulated

[illegible] the

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reports

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Hagan,

d ant,

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ndet

Board

ued

of a new

Forest Range, which was

[illegible] of the tract can be.

[illegible] bury, if Major B. thinks

desirable. But I would

[illegible] to Major B: that

work is to be thoroughly

[illegible], done for sale - and this

[illegible] not should be accomplished

[illegible] by the map but that he

[illegible] des as to visit his Subdivisions

[illegible] es he should be instructed.

I would further inquire

[illegible] statement showing the bonds

tract in future. If it can be shown that a certain Section is needed, for Depot of Supplies &c. I think the Subscriber should himself undertake the duty accompanied by Capt Murray - the Subdivision should be thorough - and limited to the Gallatin District - the transfer of the Public Lands from State of Colo. to the Govt being determined. I believe Capt Pope - the Government Civil Survey Officer - will be here soon. If so, Major B. can await his arrival. Col Hayden can take Charge

SIND.

hitherto denied from
these Offices by the Treas
Dept. and on Examination
of the Mechanism of Manage
ment. whether the Instru
ment be Central Control by
the Controller should
furnish the details of
his Revenue, he would be
better in a position by my way

SOL

Memo for orders on Nos 1024 & 1375

1. These papers are circulated

Memo for order on Nos 1024 & 1375

1. These papers are circulated for orders as the Second has arrived since the Hon Mr Sim's note was recorded on the first, and as Major Beddome reports that the South Eastern Rent & Stores have already been compleatly dispersed by Lieut Colonel Brazier Morgan, Fuel reserves marked out, and a map prepared by the Revenue Survey. ⊗

2. In his letter dated 23 Dec/72 which is recorded in the G:O dated 15 March /73. Lieut Morgan proposed the formation of a new Forest Range, which was

Ch Jany/73. R 13 June Rec 20/6

Memo for orders on Nos 1024 & 1375

1. These papers are circulated for orders as the Second has arrived since the Hon'ble Sec's note was recorded on the first, and as Major Beddome reports that the South Eastern portion of the Nilgiris has already been completely surveyed by Lieut Major Morgan, and reserves marked out, and a map prepared by the Revenue Survey.

In his letter dated 22 Dec/72 which is recorded in the G.O dated 15 March 73. Lieut Morgan proposed the formation of a new Forest Range, which was

in red pencil
in my newly proposed Range No. is altogether to the South of the Nilgiris beginning at the East at the junction of the Moyar & Bhowani rivers & extending to the West to Palghat - it is a very compact range & should I think include all the southern slopes of the hills worked from the Coimbatore side (Cockerill only attending to that is worked up to the plateau) One Officer can attend to the whole of this & he should work under the Collector of Coimbatore as far as the cultivation of Malabar - all the timber & fuel will be worked towards the Kattabettu Line railway & the main S. W. Line & Officers resident on the plateau of the hills and he ought not to be worked of the ways & supervising & attending to the works - the Western portion of this range i.e. Chenat nair & part of Walyar are in Malabar & the Officer should work these under the Collector of Malabar as he does at present.

I know that the Railway has made this range of much importance & extensive fellings

c/f June/73. R 13 June R.C 20/6

Memo for order on Nos 1024 & 1375

Re for their
Consideration
I think the ar-
rangement bes.
stated in Item 4
of Hon Mr Cole
Letter back.

L.O.S.

⊗ put in the bundle

1. These papers are circulated for orders as the Second has arrived since the Hon Mr Sim's note was recorded on the first, and as Major Beddome reports that the South Eastern Gold-mining slopes have already been carefully inspected by Lieut Major Morgan, Gold reserves marked out, and a map prepared by the Revenue Survey. ⊗

2. In his letter dated 23 Dec/72 which is recorded in the G.O dated 15 March /73. Lieut Morgan proposed the formation of a new Forest Range, which was

As contemplated, with a fitting planting &c (as wrong as it is not possible that Mr Dayles the Secretary there can look after it, he can do it in Addition to his other duties.

If Sim does not fully understand please get him to ask me or to explain it all - it is really a question of much importance - this new Railway will cause very rapid destruction unless the arrangements are very good & the Collector of Coimbatore is left situated for carrying out whatever is eventually planted

Yrs sincerely
Hot Stokes

c/6 June/73

c/6 June/73. R 13 June R.C 20/6

3. In the second paper noted above the Com[missione]r of the Neilgherries proposes that he should have an Officer under him for that portion of the new Range which is in the Neilgherry District and he also alludes to the ranges under Col Morgans which are entirely supplied from his District.

4. The Forest Rangers of the Malabar, Coimbatore & Neilgherry Districts entirely seem to require same arrangement, but it would be necessary to communicate to Gov[ernmen]t a separate Officer for so small a range as the south eastern slopes of the Hills, and so far

⊕ So Major Beddome says.

as this track is concerned probably the best arrangement is that which seems to have been carried out. To make up to the Conr. for the loss of his Front. Col Morgan might be placed under him as regards Fundamally & Seegon Ranges and under the Coll.r of Combatoor in regard to Collegal, Sattiamangalam & Bhowani ranges.

5.- With reference to the Conr.s remarks about timber passes granted by his Front Officer, who is only a local Officer in charge of Jungle Conservancy & planting

it will perhaps be advisable to point out to him that this Officer cannot deal with "Forests" proper, as the collections therefrom must be credited to the Imperial Govt. In the original order his operations were restricted to the conservation of the Shoolas on the plateau of the Hills, and the plantations. He was to have nothing to do with the timber in the slopes which were retained in charge by Col. Morgan as the Imperial Front Officer.

AAD.

Minute by His Ex: the President

The question of the fuel supply at the different European Stations on the Neilgherry Hills is one which may properly engage the attention of Government. Captain Sago, the Conservator of Woods in the District, expressed to me, during the recent residence of Govt. on the Hills, his serious anxiety in respect to the demand for firewood in Coming years on account of the rapid extirpation of the natural woods within reach of the several markets and the distance from which fuel will soon have to be carted and carried.

II. The Members of Govt. will probably agree with me that the felling of the natural woods or Sholahs can in reality only be

...pushed for the formation
of Tea, Coffee and Cinchona
Plantations which yield
profitable Commodities
and reproduce a Conv-
enient Vegetation on the
ground denuded. If we
consider the beauty of the
Sholahs, the value which
they probably possess in
attracting moisture and
cherishing the water Supply
of the plains and the
protection which they afford
to game, it will be allowed
that to cut them down for
firewood only, is a crime
which nothing but the
plainest necessity can
excuse and that as a
temporary expedient:
III. With regard to the
Sholahs I think that the
Govt. should lay down the
following rules.
(1). That in every case in
which a Sholah is felled
by Govt. agency or Govt.

firewood the area felled
shall be planted up in
the same year or at least
in the following year with
Australian trees as the
spontaneous reproduction
of the Sholah is often problem-
atic and at best imperfect:
(2) That in felling a Sholah
the trees shall be cut not
higher than four inches
from the ground so that
shoots may spring freely
and equally from the stools,
that the felling shall be
clean and complete, that
the top and lop shall be
dragged out to the edge
of the wood and that no
fires shall be lighted, for the
purpose of burning charcoal,
on any account within the
area of the wood but that
such fires shall always be
kindled at a safe distance
on the grass land.
(3) That liberty may be
granted to the Commissioner

and the preservation of Woods to this the Sholahs in Govt. ground within the reserved circle around Botacamund when it is, at present, forbidden to fell these woods. It has been represented to me that there is in these Sholahs a large quantity of dead & decaying trees which if it might be desirable to remove with a view to the benefit of the remainder and that such wood would yield a fair return and relieve the pressure upon the more distant Sholahs in some degree. It must however be understood that no Sholah within the reserved circle is to be thinned without the personal sanction and inspection of the Commissioner, that the work is to be done departmentally by the Govt. woodcutters and that

the area of such Sholahs is never to be diminished.

IV. The artificial plantations of Australian trees made by Govt. in these Hills are as follows:

(1) Near Coonoor and Wellington.

Planted before the Constitution of the District

	Acres.
The great Wood above Bleak House	160
The small plantation between Coonoor and Bleak House	40

Planted since the Constitution of the District in 1870-71

The Pelera plantation 6 miles from Wellington	40
	240

(2) New Botacamund.

Made since the Constitution of the District

Six plantations within three miles of Botacamund covering approximately	90

Made since the Constitution of the District in 1870-71.

Five plantations within five miles of Botacamund covering approximately	80
	170

We have thus an aggregate of four hundred and ten acres of various ages which are available for fuel or which will shortly be so.

V. I regret to say that I have not been able to arrive at any very reliable estimate of the gross

Amount of firewood
requisite for the Consumption
of the European Stations and
the Native population of the
Hills, or of the area of wood-
land which must be
annually thinned or felled
in order to meet that demand.
A great portion of the supply
has hitherto been furnished
from private sources of which
no account is kept.
In the year 1870. 71. however,
the Market of Ootacamund
was supplied by the Conservator
of Forests with 5.144000 lbs
of firewood and Coonoor
and Wellington were provided
with 1.749000 lbs: from the
same source, forming an
aggregate of 6.893000 lbs:
equal to 6893 Bandy loads
of 1000 lbs: each.— If the
Conservator is correct in
estimating the yield of one
acre of Shola at to Amount
to one-hundred and twenty
(120) bandy-loads the
demand of the European
Settlement would Consume

the wood upon 57 acres
of land, belonging to Govt.
As a matter of fact 51 acres
of Govt. wood were cleared
or thinned for the Consump:-
tion of the European Stations
last year and if we
make an allowance of six
acres for the amount of
wood obtained by thinning
we shall not be far wrong
in supposing the Consump:-
tion of the European Settle:-
ments actually involved
the clearance of 45 acres
of Govt. woodland.
VI. The rural population of
the Neilgherries outside of
the European Settlements
is represented by 6984
families or hearths. If we
allow each hearth 10 lbs:
of fuel daily we arrive at
a Consumption of 25:491600
lbs: of wood annually or
25:491 bandy-loads of 1000
lbs each. At 120 Bandy
loads per acre this would
imply the clearance of
212 acres of woodland
per annum. The rural
population do not how-

annually fell heavy
timber, they cut
saplings or decayed trees
or bring out dead wood
and branches from the
Sholahs. Some of what
the Common people use
is no doubt reproduced
yet still be cannot
doubt that the consumption
of the Badiyas and Todas
does cause a considerable
dilapidation of the woods
and diminution of their
area of which it would
be impossible to form
anything like a correct
estimate. Nothing is more
striking than the absence
of healthy growing young
trees throughout all the
Sholahs and this can
only be accounted for by
the prevailing practice
of the Native population
to cut seedlings and
saplings when they can
be conveniently appropriated.

VII. In the opinion of the
Conservator the area
cleared for the purpose of
selling firewood by
Private Proprietors is not
so large as the area cleared
by Govt. but it would not
be safe to estimate the
extent annually at less
than from twenty to thirty
acres per annum chiefly
in the vicinity of Coonoor.
In one form or another
the Govt will be safe in
Concluding that the
woodland of the Neilgherries
is wasted at the rate of,
at least, one hundred acres
per annum irrespective
of the extent felled in
order to make plantations
of profitable trees, and
that if be determined
merely to prevent the
further reduction of the
area of forest be annually
planted for several years
at the rate of, at least,
one hundred acres per
annum on grass land.

VIII. I would advise that Govt. should issue stringent orders that besides the area of Shola land felled and replanted the Conservator of Woods, acting under the Commissioner, should each year cause a maximum of 100 acres of Govt. land to be planted with Australian trees, three-fifths of which should be appropriated to the supply of Ootacamund and two-fifths for that of Coonoor and Wellington.

In forming plantations in grass lands I would lay down the following rules for the guidance of the Conservator.

(1.) The Plantations should, if possible, be made in two large Blocks, one within three miles of Ootacamund and one within three miles of Wellington & Th. the close to existing Cart roads. The plantation of each successive year would then be added on to the plantation of the last, so as to form eventually one mass of forest with broad avenues or passages of unplanted ground intersecting it in convenient directions. In this way the source of wood supply would be more accessible, more cheaply managed and more easily watched than if the plantations were made in scattered patches. The Shola grounds replanted each year should of course be appropriated to the great plantation on the grass land. They would remain apart.

(2). Trees of different species should never be mixed but should be carefully separated from each other by open paths.

By this provision the
growths of the various
kinds will be more easily
compared, estimates of
the relative values of
wood crops on given areas
will be more conveniently
made and systematic
cuttings will be better
effected.

IX. The formation of these
Plantations will involve,
perhaps, a greater outlay
than the resources of
the District can bear
without extraneous aid.
The cost of careful planting
being about Rs. 30 per acre
the whole annual outlay
for this purpose would be
about Rs. 3000.
I would inform the
Commissioner that, in
case of necessity, the
Conservator of Woods in
the District will be
assisted by a Contribution
from the receipts of the

The sale of existing
wood must not be
pressed in order to make
new plantations.

X. While these operations
are being conducted it
would be very desirable
to lighten the demand
upon the Govt. Forests, so
much as possible, by
bringing private wood
into the market. H. Conservt.
have excepted the Reservation
of Govt. that within
the limits of the Municipality of Ootacamund
there are in the Parks and
Gardens of numerous
Proprietors, thickets of the
Yellow flowering acacia
that might be cleared
out with advantage and
that there are hundreds
of the Indian mezereon
which stand untouched
in various stages of decay
from the attacks of
parasites, disfiguring

the landscape and probably infecting the neighbouring trees.
The absence of many of the Proprietors of land and houses may render it difficult to urge this Question but the Commissioner might be requested to use his influence, when it can be advantageously exerted, to promote cleaning and felling on private grounds.

XI. After the wants of the European Settlements have been provided for it will probably become necessary to form fuel reserves in the vicinity of the principal Burghs Villages both in order to preserve the Natural woods from gradual extinction and to prevent the use of cow-dung

to fuel, a practice excessively prejudicial to tillage.
This is a Question which may properly be reserved for Separate Consideration but the attention of the Commissioner might be directed to it.

Madras. F.S. 16. 1872
~~4th January 1872.~~

Napier

Dated 16 Febry 1872

Fuel Supply at the European Stations on the Neilgherry Hills.

35

I shall Lord Napiers observations regarding the future supply of fuel for the European stations on the Neilgherry Hills and I think his recommendations should be adopted.

The objects in view are very important & they can be secured at a reasonable outlay.

Ventures to differ from Mr Sim as to the practicability of private capital being invested on the Hills in fuel plantations and under the circumstances there seems no real objection to the fuel supply being

for some years to come under Govt
direction

Mr. Sims suggestion that the wood
from the Govt plantations be sold
at its real value plus a liberal
percentage of profit should be enforced.
This will prevent the discouragement
of private enterprize

If it is found that private capital is
being applied to fuel plantations, the
Govt planting can be reduced and
Eventually discontinued - In the mean

time the measures recommended by Lord
Napier ~~with regard to~~ may with advantage
be adopted

WH

Minute by His Excellency
Lord Napier

14

39

Revenue Department.

No. 678.

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

I think it will be found that the arrangement proposed in para 3 of this Lordship's Minute may be carried into effect.

With regard to the policy hereafter of preserving the Cinchona of Travancore, I refer to my letter 17 Dec. 1880 (No. 1081) and the Conservator's in 1869. Should further steps be taken to preserve Cinchona or Australian plantations from Rs 3500 to Rs 500 per annum, Wellington is in a safe but a new forest range attached

Minute by His Ex
Lord Napier

39

Revenue Department.

No. 678.

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

1873.

of the Hills - and for the improvement of the Military establishment there, as well as for the benefit of the Tamul Ryots. But in any thing but barely new timber & fire wood - but at the barely timber station - Ootacamund, Coonoor & Kotagherry there would be the best & private enterprise: A considerable extent of land about Ootacamund has lately been planted by private individuals - and more will be planted, if put & not completed in the market with the plantations. It certainly is not desirable that Govt should adhere

the transactions of private individuals and should debar the community from the means of investing their capital in that industry. Therefore, in forwarding this Govt letter to the Govt of Madras & the Conservator I would instruct the latter officer to investigate closely the means of private individuals, the demands & prices for a desire of [illegible] and the practicability of private persons planting on a sufficiently large scale. I would strongly urge that if Govt forests of plantations, the wood should be sold at its real cost plus a liberal percentage for profit. Merchants & private enterprise will be thereby encouraged &

No. 734.

Letter of 1873, No. 328, dated [illegible] with reference to the Nilgiris & the formation of a new forest range attached

Minute by His E
Lord Napier

The Govt should be in a position to take advantage of the liberal concessions sanctioned in July 1864 viz Allotment free of land tax for seven years.

In giving effect to the above terms that may be found necessary should be made to limit the planting of the Acacia decurrens. It is becoming a pest on the hills and the Conservator should be instructed accordingly.

J. D. S.

14

39

Revenue Department.

No. 678.

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Under date the 2 July 1873.

Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue

Submg: letters from Nilgiri Comm.r & Insp.r of Forests regarding formation of a fuel & timber depôt at foot of Coonoor Ghaut & the working of the hill slopes to supply it.	H. G. 4 April 1873,
Submg: letter from Comm.r containing observations on proposals of Insp.r of Forests in regard to conservancy of slopes of Nilgiris	H.E. 7 May 1873, N. 734.

In the Order of Govt dated 15 March 73, N. 328, it has already been determined that the south eastern slopes of the Nilgiri Hills shall form a portion of a new forest range attached to

J. D. S.

R. S. E.

to the Coimbatore District.

2. The Commissioner of the Nilgiris appears to overlook the fact that his Jungle Conservancy Establishment is a <u>local</u> one, and cannot therefore deal with Forests "proper," which must come under the management of the Imperial Forest Dept:

3. The strength of that Dept: is not sufficient to allow of an officer being detailed for so small a charge as the southern slopes of the Hills, which, moreover, could not be managed by a Forester with his head-quarters on the plateau. So far however as the Igoor and Mudumullay Forest Ranges are concerned Lt. Col: Morgan will consider himself attached to the Comm.r of the Nilgiri Hills who will act as Conservator of those Ranges, receiving Lt. Col: Morgan's accounts, forwarding his reports, and generally overlooking his operations.

4. In respect to the other Forest Ranges which are now under Lt. Col: Morgan's direction he will act as Deputy Conservator to the Collector of Coimbatore in whose District

District these ranges are situated.

5. As suggested by the Comm^r the authority of the Imperial Asst Officers will extend up the entire slopes of the Hills, the Officer in charge of Jungle Conservancy and planting restricting his operations to the Plateau as directed in G. O. 11 March 1869, No 653.

6. Under this Order the Collector of Malabar will be relieved of the control of the Muduma-lay Forests, but will retain the direction of the Wynad Range, the Chenat Nair Range, the Nilambur

Plantations

Plantations &c.

7. The Collector of Coimbatore will act as Conservator of the Anna-mullay Range, the new range now created including the south eastern slopes of the Nilgiris, and those of Lt. Col: Morgan's ranges which are situated in the Coimbatore District.

8. The capacities of the new ranges especially those portions about Lamptons peak and Copenaimy should be carefully examined and reported upon. The tracts on the slopes of the Hills which have been selected as Railway

Fuel

Fuel Reserves, and of
which a map has been
prepared, should be
carefully worked and
measures should at once
be taken to supply from
them the needs of the
Branch Railway at Metta-
polliem.

14 To the Board of Revenue 8th July 73 -
3 " Commissioner of the Nilgiris "
3 " Inspr of Mints "
1 " Lieut Col Morgan "
1 " Collr Coimbatore "

G. O

Forest Conservancy
Religious

Ord

14 h

Gl

No 13-15

C 20 Jeune 1/23 Rue Jacob

Z. to return
to the Chief Sec.
after Ld Inspr.
Maintr has com
pleted. Col.

17-2-17

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.
Government Records.

Revenue Department.

G. O. (Mis).

Dated 2-7-1873

No. 678

20 June/73 R 2d July