M.R.O. 1—20,002—12-8-65.

(1) Number of Pages 31.

(2) Date of repair 9-12-66.

(3) Initials of the Referencer

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue. DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. / B.P. No.	1080.	Press / Mis.
Dated	25-8-1874 196 .	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

1080

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
25th August 1874.

No. 240. Read the following letter from Captain CAMPBELL WALKER, Officiating Inspector of Forests, to C. G. MASTER, Esq., Acting Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, dated Kodaikanel, 15th July 1874, No. 207 :—

I HAVE the honor to submit my Inspection Report for the Mettapolliem, *etc.*, forest ranges, the Coimbatore District, at present under the charge of Mr. R. W. Morgan, Deputy-Conservator of Forests, who recently assumed charge from Mr. [illegible].

2. Accompanied by the Collector and Mr. Morgan, I inspected the fuel-reserves H and M near Mettapolliem, and regret to have to report that the boundary line, as originally fixed, appears, both to the Collector and myself, to trench injuriously on the privileges and immemorial rights of the inhabitants of some of the adjoining villages, running, as it does, quite up to, and [illegible] even including, portions of the land under cultivation.

These boundaries were sanctioned by Government in G. O., No. 1,671, dated 25th September 1871, on receipt of a report from Mr. Galton who, being at the time Assistant Commissioner of the Nilgiris, did not, I fear, bestow sufficient consideration on the wants of the Coimbatore villagers with whom he had, at the time, nothing officially to do. The fence of *Inga dulcis*, which has since been planted at considerable expense, is of no use, and the reserves have, as a matter of fact, existed only in name. I have recommended that the present boundaries, slightly modified so as to allow of rights of way, *etc.*, should be retained as the limits of cultivation, and that an inner line be marked off as the boundary of an *open reserve* similar to those in South Arcot in which cattle may be allowed to graze under certain restrictions, portions being temporarily enclosed, from time to time, to admit of planting up and re-production.

The belt between the line of open reserve and cultivation will be quite free for grazing, removal of fire-wood, timber for agricultural purposes, *etc.*, but must not be cleared or cultivated on any pretence whatever. Mr. Wedderburn approved of my suggestion, which met the wishes of the ryots, and is addressing [illegible] on the subject through the Revenue Board.

3. Mr. Morgan has been directed to visit the H reserve, which has not yet been fenced in, with the Deputy-Tahsildar, Forest Overseer, and villagers, arrange the boundary, and report to the Collector.

4. By these means we shall remove what I cannot but consider would have been a substantial grievance, had the orders regarding the reserves been acted up to, and still, I trust, be able to conserve and improve these fire-wood jungles, which must sooner or later prove of great use and value, both as regards the local and railway supply.

5. Mr. Morgan has also been directed to consult with the plateau officers as to the measures necessary for conservancy and working of the Nilgiri slopes in accordance with [illegible] dated 4th June 1874, to arrange for felling timber departmentally and opening a depôt at Mettapolliem,—a suitable site for which and an Overseer's office was selected,—and for the better working and supervision of the license and voucher system at Mettapolliem, Copanairy.

Inquiries are being made in Coimbatore with a view to the early disposal, at remunerative rates, of the stock of fire-wood now lying at Mettapolliem, which the Railway Company refuse to receive.

6. *Bolamputty.*—The system of working to be maintained in this portion of the range was discussed, and Mr. Morgan proposed a mode of working the license and voucher system which recommended itself to myself and the Collector who directed Mr. Morgan to report further on the subject after fuller inquiry. Some Rosewood logs lying in the forests, to which the title of Government is undisputed, have been ordered to be removed to Bolamputty or Coimbatore and sold.

It is proposed to open a timber-yard at Coimbatore, whence timber from the Bolamputty and Anamallay forests can be sold at fixed rates or by auction; this arrangement will be economical for both ranges.

At Coimbatore I had a consultation with the Deputy-Superintendent of Revenue Survey, the Collectors of Coimbatore and Malabar, and Mr. Morgan, as to the settlement of the boundary line

between the Coimbatore and Malabar Districts, which the former is about to undertake. Mr. Wedderburn instructed Mr. Morgan to look up the matter, and be prepared to meet Captain Cloete, and represent Government so far as the Coimbatore boundary is concerned at Soondapatty on the 14th instant.

7. *Walliar.*—I visited the fuel-reserve with Mr. Morgan and the Overseer, and regret that I cannot report favorably of the progress which has been made or the results obtained, which is the more to be deplored, as the situation, climate, and rain-fall, offer every advantage for the speedy re-production of wood-fuel if operations had been conducted with ordinary care and prudence.

8. The fence is not perfect, and admits cattle and goats to enter. I observed quite recent tracks of the former. Fire ran through the whole tract last hot weather, and, I believe, has never been excluded for any time. It is probably caused by native Shikarries and cow-herds who should be rigidly excluded, as there are no rights over the tract, most of which has been purchased from private individuals. The fire-traces did not appear to have been properly kept up. What I saw of the results of planting up was most disheartening: notwithstanding the expenditure on nurseries, pitting, *etc.*, and the upkeep of a large establishment (one maistry and eight coolies), amounting to nearly Rs. 12,000 since 1868, there was scarcely any show of young trees coming on, the only species planted, which were doing fairly well, being the Poonga (*Pongamia glabra*), which is nearly worthless for any purpose. Mr. Morgan informed me that there was a small patch of Babul (*Acacia Arabica*) doing well, but I did not see it. This reserve cannot have been properly attended to, and great blame appears to attach to the late Overseer in charge (Mr. Lloyd), who probably refrained from visiting the place as he ought, owing to its reputed feverishness.

9. I have recommended to the Collector, who was unfortunately unable to accompany me, to have the fence thoroughly put in order and extended up the hillsides, embracing as much of the surrounding forest-land as possible, to dispense with the services of the maistry and eight coolies, and only employ two watchers, who must be held strictly responsible to the Overseer for the prevention of all trespass by men or cattle and the exclusion of fire, or apprehension of the offenders.

As much seed as is procurable of the Acacias should at once be sown in furrows to be run with the plough; but it will probably not be possible to do much in this year towards the "reboisement" of bare spaces, which must be provided for next year at the very commencement of the south-west monsoon, so as to secure the best results. The expensive system of nurseries and pitting should be altogether abandoned, as it is quite unnecessary in a climate like Walliar. The planting out of timber-trees, such as Teak, Acha, *etc.*, should also be put a stop to, as it is fire-wood,—not slow-growing timber-trees,—which is the aim and object of the reserve. By such measures,—particularly the exclusion of fire, cattle, and goats,—I am confident that in a few years we would witness a marvellous re-production in this tract, and be enabled to work it systematically block by block, into which it should be at once divided and inspection paths cut. I explained this to Mr. Morgan on the spot, and have informed the Collector of my suggestions, in order that he may issue such orders as he may think necessary.

10. I hope that this fuel-reserve, which, from its situation, should be one of the finest we have got, may receive more of Mr. Morgan's attention, and that Government may yet receive an adequate return for the money and labor which has been expended on it to such little purpose. It should be considered a *close* reserve; no one save the forest servants being admitted on any pretence whatever.

11. *Sholacurray.*—These forests which, with the Walliar reserve, were formerly under the Palghaut Overseer and worked with Chenat Nair in Malabar, are now under Mr. Morgan and the Bolamputty Overseer, and are not being worked. With careful conservancy they ought, in a few years' time, to show great improvement, and eventually yield fine logs. Valuable forest-land at foot of the hills up the valley of the Walliar stream appears to have been given away on durkhast and cowle, and the proprietors are now working out the timber along a road constructed or repaired at considerable expense by the Forest Department. There is some doubt as to the limits and extent of this private land, which Mr. Morgan should be at once instructed and empowered to set at rest, and the boundaries be clearly marked out. Precautions must be taken against timber

from the Government forest being removed as private, and it is open to question whether the use of the road might not be prohibited or granted only on certain conditions.

12. I believe that the establishment of peons, *etc.*, formerly employed has all been transferred to Chenat Nair and Palghaut on the re-organisation, and it is possible that some of the coolies employed as at Walliar have been employed as watchers in Sholacurray. It may be necessary to appoint temporary peons, and it will probably be found advisable, on revising the establishments, to transfer the Sub-Overseer now at Mettapolliem, where it is stated his services are not required, to charge of this forest and Walliar under the orders of the Bolamputty Overseer.

13. There are a considerable number of logs lying at the Walliar chuttrum, which should be sold as early as possible, although I doubt if they will realise much as they appear to have been felled years ago and left lying in the forest whence they have been removed by the present Overseer acting under Mr. Ross's orders.

14. *General Remarks.*—In considering the generally unfavorable nature of this report, I beg that Government will not lose sight of the peculiar circumstances of the forests which form this recently constituted range. They have, indeed, until quite lately been detached fragments tacked on to the charge of the nearest forest officer, and received only as much of his time and supervision as could be spared from his more immediate duties.

Thus Mettapolliem was originally under Colonel Morgan, who had charge of the Mudumalla, Seegur, Sattiamungalum, Collegal, and Bhowany forests, with the Nilgiri sholas and plantations, to supervise. In 1869, the forests were partially transferred to the Commissioner of the Nilgiris, who could naturally not bestow much attention to them, as his duties rarely demanded his presence in the plains, and the management was, therefore, mainly entrusted to an Overseer. Bolamputty Sholacurray, and Walliar again were under the charge of the Anamallay forest officer, who could only exercise a limited control over the Overseer (Mr. Lloyd) who appears latterly to have quite neglected his duties. It is not to be wondered at if, under these circumstances, the forests and forest establishment were neglected and evil practices perpetrated and perpetuated.

15. On the constitution of the new range, consisting of the Nilgiri slope towards Mettapolliem and Copanairy, the Bolamputty forests, Sholacurray, and the Walliar reserve in Coimbatore, Mr. Ross, the officer selected, was new to the country, nature of the forests, and method of working, and had no office or well-organised establishments to guide him. He was obliged, therefore, to take matters much as he found them, and was only inaugurating reforms and exploring and reporting on the forests, of which he has prepared a map, when he was transferred to the Nilgiris as a temporary measure. During the time he had charge he has organised the office (though only allowed one temporary writer), which I found in remarkably good order, though most of the records referring to the range remain mixed up with those of other ranges in the offices of the Deputy-Conservator in charge of Mudumallay, the Superintendent of the Nilgiri Sholas, the Deputy-Conservator in charge of Anamallays, and the officer in charge of Sholacurray, *etc.*, (in Malabar). I consider, therefore, that no blame attaches to him, and the Collector is fully satisfied with the manner in which he performed his duties.

16. Mr. Morgan will, I trust, make a great improvement under the Collector's orders, and I think there is every reason to hope that the constitution of the new range will eventually prove beneficial, both as regards conservancy and increase of revenue which is already important. It will probably be found advisable ere long to extend the jurisdiction of the officer to the taluqs in the Coimbatore District further west, now under the charge of the officer in charge of Mudumallay, *etc.*; but this is a matter for future consideration. Meanwhile, there is ample work in the forests now under his charge.

17. I have furnished the Collector with a memorandum of the suggestions contained in this Report, in order that he may issue what orders he may deem necessary on any points which presented themselves when he was not present.

I trust the Government will approve of this course as many suggestions and instructions suggest themselves when in the forests with the officer in charge, and are best conveyed to him on

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,

15th August 1874.

the spot; the l[illegible] purport being afterwards reduced to writing, and [illegible] communicated to the Collector for his information and approval. A similar plan prevails in the Bombay Presidency where the local forest officer [illegible] also under the Collector's orders.

No. 241. ORDER THEREON, 7th August 1874, No. 1,080.

Forests, No. 16.

COMMUNICATED to the Board of Revenue, whose early attention is requested to paragraphs 2 to 4, upon which they should submit a report to Government.

2. The improvement of the Walliar reserve is attended with greater difficulties than the Acting Inspector appears to be aware of, and the Collector of Coimbatore should report whether it is desirable to continue an expenditure which has produced very inadequate results, while more promising reserves are being acquired within the district of Malabar.

3. The Board should call the attention of the Collector of Coimbatore to the Inspector's remarks in paragraph 11, regarding the boundaries of the private land where felling is proceeding, and arrange for the demarcation of the boundaries between the two districts in the Bolamputty valley.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) C. [illegible] MASTER,
Acting Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.
" the Inspector of Forests.

Engd F. R. [illegible]nan.

Circuit Office of Inspector of Forests
No. 207. Camp to Rodukanal Pulney Hills
13th July 1874.

From

Captain Campbell Walker
Officiating Inspector of Forests

To

C. G. Master Esquire
Acting Secretary to Government
Revenue Department

Sir,

I have the honor to submit my Progress Report for the Mettupolleem Forest Range in the Coimbatore District at present under the charge of Mr. R. W. Morgan Deputy Conservator of Forests who recently assumed charge from Mr. Ross.

2. Accompanied by the Collector and Mr. Morgan I inspected the [illegible] and [illegible] N, near Mettupollieem, and reserved [illegible] to report that the boundary line, as ungenerally fixed, appears both to the Collector and myself to trench [illegible] on the privileges and immemorial rights of the inhabitants of some of the adjoining villages, running as it does, quite up to, and sometimes even including, portions of the land under cultivation.

These boundaries were sanctioned by

by Government in G. O. No. 1671 dated 25 September 1871 on receipt of a report from Mr Galton who being at the time Assistant Commissioner at the Nilgherries, did not, I fear, bestow sufficient consideration of the wants of the Coimbatore villagers with whom he had at the time, nothing officially to do. The fence of Inga dulcis which has since been planted at considerable expense is of no use, and the reserves have, as a matter of fact, existed only in name. I have recommended that the present boundaries slightly modified so as to allow of rights of way &c. should be retained as the limit of cultivation to be strictly adhered to, and that an inner line be marked off as the boundary of an open reserve similar to those in South Arcot in which cattle may be allowed to graze under certain restrictions, portions being temporarily enclosed from time to time to admit of planting up and reproduction.

The belt between the line of open reserve and cultivation will be quite free for grazing, removal of firewood, timber for agricultural purposes &c., but must not be cleared or cultivated on any

any pretence whatever. Mr Ward's own approved of the suggestion which met the wishes of the ryots, and it is awaiting Government on the subject through the Revenue Board.

3. Mr Morgan has been directed to visit the K. reserve which has not yet been fenced in with the Deputy Tahsildar Forest overseer and villagers, arrange the boundary and report to the Collector.

4. By these means we shall remove what I cannot but consider would have been a substantial grievance had the orders regarding the reserves been acted up to, and still I trust to able to conserve and improve these firewood jungles which must, sooner or later, prove of great use and value both as regards the local and railway supply.

5. Mr Morgan has also been directed to Consult with the platform officer as to the measures necessary for conservancy and working of the Nilgiri slopes in accordance with G.O. No. 89 dated 4th June 1874, to arrange for felling timber departmentally and opening a depot at Mettupollium, a suitable site for which and an overseer's office was selected, and for the better working and supervision of the License and Voucher System

at

at Collectorate Coimbatore Coparcary, &c.

Enquiries are being made in Coimbatore with a view to the early disposal at Union rates of the stock of firewood now lying at Mettapollium which the railway Company refuse to receive &c.

6. The system of working to be maintained in this portion of the range was discussed and Mr. Morgan proposed mode of working the licence and voucher system which recommended itself to myself and the Collector who directed Mr. Morgan to report further on the project after fuller enquiry. Some rosewood logs lying in the Forests, to which the title of Government is undisputed, have been ordered to be removed to Bolampatty or Coimbatore and sold.

It is proposed to open a timber yard at Coimbatore, whence timber from the Bolampatty and Anamullay Forests can be sold at fixed rates & by contract. This arrangement will be economical for both Ranges—

At Coimbatore I held a consultation with the Deputy Superintendent

Revenue

Bolam

Revenue Survey, the Collector of Coimbatore and Malabar, and Mr. Morgan as to the settlement of the boundary line between the Coimbatore and Malabar Districts which the former is about to undertake. Mr. Wedderburn instructed Mr. Morgan to look up the matter and be prepared to meet Captain Close and represent Government so far as the Coimbatore boundary is concerned at Soonda-patty on the 10th inst.

Wallair

7. I visited the fuel reserve with Mr. Morgan and the overseer, and regret that I cannot report favorably of the progress which has been made or the results obtained which is the more to be deplored as the situation, climate and rainfall offer every advantage for the speedy reproduction of wood fuel if operations had been conducted with ordinary care and prudence.

8. The fence is not perfect, and admits cattle and goats to enter. I observed quite recent tracks of the former. Fire ran through the whole tract last hot weather and I believe has never been excluded for any time. It is probably caused by natives

She Carries

Shikarees and Cow-herds who should be rigidly excluded as there are no rights over the tract, most of which has been purchased from private individuals. The fire traces did not appear to have been properly kept up. What I saw of the results of planting up was most disheartening - notwithstanding great expenditure on nurseries, pitting &c and the upkeep of a large establishment (1 Maistry and 8 Coolies) amounting to nearly Rupees 12 000 since 1868. There was scarcely any show of young trees coming on, the only species planted which were doing fairly well being the Poonga (Pongamia Glabra) which is utterly worthless for any purpose. Mr. Morgan informed me that there was a small patch of Babul (Acacia Arabica) doing well but I did not see it. This reserve cannot have been properly attended to and great blame appears to attach to the late overseer in charge (Mr Lloyd) who probably refrained from visiting the place as he ought owing to its reputed feverishness.

9. I have recommended to the Collector, who was unfortunately unable to accompany me, to have the fence thoroughly put in order & kept up the hill sides embracing as much of the surrounding forest land as possible, to dispense with the services of the Maistry and 8 Coolies and employ 2 watchers who must be held strictly responsible to the Overseer for the prevention of all trespass by men or cattle, and the exclusion of fire, or apprehension of the offenders.

As much seed as is procurable of the acacias should at once be sown in furrows to be run with the plough, but it will probably not be possible to do much in this year towards the "reboisement" of hard spaces which must be provided for next year at the very Commencement of the South West Monsoon so as to secure the best results. The expensive system of Nurseries and pitting should be altogether abandoned as it is quite unnecessary in a Climate like Wallon.

The planting out of tender trees such as teak, acha &c should also be put a stop to as it is fire-wood not slow grown timber trees which is the aim and object of the Reserve.

By

By such operations, particularly the exclusion of fire, cattle and goats, I am confident that in a few years we would witness a marvellous reproduction in this tract, and be enabled to work it systematically block by block, into which it should be at once divided and inspection paths cut. I explained this to Mr Morgan on the spot and have informed the Collector of my suggestions in order that he may issue such orders as he may think necessary.

10 I hope that this fuel reserve from its situation should be one of the finest we have got, may receive much of Mr Morgan's attention and that Government may get adequate return for the money and labor which has been expended on it to such little purpose. It should be considered a close Reserve, no one save the Forest Servants being admitted on any pretence whatever.

11. This forests which with the Walliar Reserve, were formerly under Sholacanay

under the Palghat Div and worked with Chenat Nair in Mr Pelsaert are now under Mr Morgan and the Pelampatty overseer and are not being worked. With careful conservancy they ought, in a few years time, to show great improvement and eventually yield fine logs. valuable forest land at foot of the hills up the valley of the Walliar stream appears to have been given away on derkhast and Cowle, and the proprietors are now working out the timber along a road constructed or repaired at considerable expense by the Forest Department. There is some doubt as to the limits and extent of this private land which Mr Morgan should be at once instructed and empowered to set at rest, and the boundaries be clearly marked out. Precautions must be taken against timber from the Government forest being removed as private, and it is open to question whether the use of the road might not be prohibited, or granted on, or on certain

12. I believe that the establishment of peons &c formerly employed has not been transferred to Chenat Nair and Palghat on the reorganization, and it is possible that some of the Cooties charged as at Walliar have been

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It may be necessary to appoint
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establishments to transfer the sub-
overseer now at Mettapollium, where
it is stated his services are not required
to charge of this Forest and Walliar
under the orders of the Bolamputty
overseer.

13. There are a considerable number of
logs lying at the Walliar chuttrum
which should be sold as early as
possible although I doubt if they
will realize much as they appear to
have been felled years ago and
left lying in the Forest whence they
have been removed by the present
overseer acting under Mr. Ross orders.

14. In considering the generally un-
favorable nature of this report I beg
that Government will not lose sight
of the peculiar circumstances of
the forests which form this recently
constituted range. They have, indeed,
until quite lately been detached
fragments tacked on to the range
of the nearest Forest officer, and
received only as much of his time
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spare from his more immediate duties.

General Remarks

Thus Mettupollium was originally
under Colonel Morgan who had al-
ready the Mudumullay, Seegoor,
Sathiamungalum, Collegal, and
Bhowany Forests with the Nilgiri
Sholas and plantations to supervise.
In 1869 the forests were partially trans-
ferred to the Commissioner of the Nilgiris
who could naturally not bestow much
attention to them, as his duties rarely
demanded his presence in the plains,
and the management was therefore
mainly entrusted to an overseer.
Bolamputty Sholacurray and Walliar
again were under the charge of the Anamallay
Forest officer who could only exercise a
limited control over the overseer (Mr. Lloyd)
who appears latterly to have quite neglected
his duties. It is not to be wondered at
if, under these circumstances, the Forests
and Forest establishment were neglected
and errors perpetrated a[illegible] reported to

15 On the constitution of the [illegible]
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Mettapollium and Copanary, the
Bolamputty Forests, Sholacurray and the
Walliar reserve in Coimbatore, Mr. Ross
the officer selected was new to the

Country

country & nature of the forests, & my
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or well organized establishments to
guide him. He was obliged therefore
to take matters much as he found
them, and was only inaugurating reforms
after exploring and reporting on the Forests,
of which he has prepared a map, when
he was transferred to the Nilgiris as a
temporary measure. During the time
he had charge he has organized the
office (though only allowed one ex
temporary writer) which I found in
remarkably good order though most
of the records referring to the range re-
mains mixed up with those of other ex
ranges in the offices of the Deputy Con-
servator in charge of Mudumallays,
the superintendent Nilgiris Sholas,
the Deputy Conservator in charge of
Anamullays, and the officer in charge
of Sholacurray Vs (in Malabar). I
consider therefore that no blame ex
attaches to him, and the Collector is
fully satisfied with the manner in
which he performed his duties.—

16. Mr Morgan will, I trust, make a
great improvement, under the Collector's
orders, and I think there is every ex

reason to hope that the constitution of
the new range will eventually prove as
beneficial both as regards Conservancy
and increase of Revenue which is
already improving. It will probably
be found advisable ere long to extend
the jurisdiction of the officer to the
taluqs in the Coimbatore District
further west now under the charge of
the officer in charge of Mudumullay
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consideration. Meanwhile there is
ample work in the Forests now under
his charge.

17. I have furnished the Collector
with a Memorandum of the suggestions
contained in this Report in order that
he may issue what orders he may
deem necessary on any points which
presented themselves when he was
not present.

I trust the Government will ap-
prove of this Course, as many sugg tion
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in charge and are best conveyed t
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Afterwards.

afterwards reduced to writing and
communicated to the Collector for his
information and approval a similar
plan prevails in the Bombay Presidency
where the local forest officer is also
under the Collector's orders.

I have the honor to be
Sir,
Your most Obedient Servant
Captain
Officiating Inspector of
Forests.

Compd
Asst
H. Clerk

Revenue 1874-75

~~Forest~~ Department

No 2455.

From

The Officiating Inspector
of Forests

To

The Acting Secretary
to Government
Revenue Dept.

Dated 15th Dec. July 1874
Despatched 18th
Recvd 23rd

Enclosures none

No 207.

Subject

Submitting Inspection
Report for the Methupallem
Forest Range in the
Coimbatore District

SO 25 August/74 No 1086

240

C6 Aug 74 R 18/8/74.

Klo

Reserve is sorry we prepare the
plants cannot be counted.

I have watched the plantation
reserve for some years & hope
we shall avoid this fate.

I have just come down from
Pellambun where the young
plantations are looking very
satisfactory - we have had
charming weather in the week
at last -

I hope King the Geologist
will really come. I wish I
knew when to find his address.

It is said that some land
richer rock has been met with &

With kind regards to Mrs Robinson
Believe me
Yours truly
Walter Hooper

Dear Robinson

Reserve

We & I are perfectly agreed as to
the proper system to adopt
& trench with plough & not
to attempt planting
I stopped planting
trenching
the system & trenched
Plants dropped for
Could read. Our days the
were distributing
Coming up thick. Dalbul is per-
fectly right in proposing
the system of counting
in full leaves. It is simply
abound. As to rest of the

Revenue Dept. Final.
Proceedings of the Madras Government. 12/1080
Under date the 6th August 1874.

Read the following Letter from the Offg. Inspector of Forest.

Submitting Inspection Report for the Mettapolliam Forest Range in the Coimbatore Dt.

Dated 22nd ultimo
Report of Inspection

C.C. 15th July 1874. No. 2071

Communicated to the Board of Revenue.

2. It is very necessary that the Mettapolliam reserve should, under the existing arrangements, receive more undivided attention than the Amamallay Forest Officer was formerly able to bestow on it. The work of improvement is attended with greater difficulties than the acting Inspector appears to be aware

3. For several years past

past Forest entitled show, [illegible] constant endeavours have been made to plant up the clear spaces on different systems including that now advocated [as recommended para 13] by Captain Walker and their almost total failure as well as the unexpected slow reproduction of the natural forest is commented upon by [illegible] generally climate [illegible] Mr Douglas in his last report. He there shows that the rainfall is now of short duration and that the stream by which it was intended to irrigate the plantations and thus mitigate the effects of the lengthened drought has of late years wholly failed though said to have been "never dry previously."

4. In his Report for 1871-72 the same officer suggested the formation of reserves on the neighbouring hills and the scheme is one worthy of consideration and trial.

The

More [illegible] reserves are [illegible] [illegible] within the Dist. Malabar

[illegible] papers [illegible] to 18[illegible] Mr Douglas [illegible] G.O. 24th April [illegible] 1856. (The place is marked with red tape.)

It is submitted that Capt. Walker['s] strictures on those who have had charge of this reserve are unfounded & the result of ignorance.

Capt. Gosling was a most hardworking officer who never shirked the jungles & he was succeeded by Mr Douglas whose zeal & efficiency is well known. Capt. Walker knows nothing of this part of the country but has simply paid it a hasty visit in the burst of the monsoon & he has evidently not taken the trouble to make himself acquainted with the history of the reserve.

All those who know this part of the country [illegible] well [illegible] & now also have [illegible] [illegible] that since the [illegible] line of the jungles the [illegible] [illegible] has receded further [illegible]

[illegible]

Not shown by result

The reports are not results. What are the [illegible] grounds [illegible]

Not likely

5. [illegible] should call the attention of the Collector of Malabar to the Inspector's remarks in para 11 regarding the boundaries of the private land where felling is proceeding.

and arrange of the demarcation of the boundary between the two Districts in the Bokarambatt valley —

[illegible]

I have known the Comp between Walayar & [illegible] before [illegible] since 1846 and have little doubt that the unsatisfactory results are attributable to circumstances of soil climate &c. — & admit of little mitigation — As to the falling off of the monsoon I don't believe the fact at all — Men have to account for failure & too readily ascribe to nature a fickleness — the tract always was dry subject to scorching wind — West of the ridge we have more suitable ground & the Coll. [illegible] first whether he [illegible] [illegible] maintaining the reserve — the cost has been very heavy. Since then [illegible] are fine [illegible] on the Malabar side

[illegible]

Para 3. It is not necessary and would be accuracy in Mark. Not.

Revd Department 14/100

Proceedings } No 1090 of the Madras Government. Under date the 25th August 1874.

Read the following Letter from the Offg Inspector of Forests.

Submitting Inspection Report for the Mettapolliam & Forest Range in Coimbatore Dt. } (M.C. 15th July 1874 No 207)

Communicated to the Board of Revenue whose early attention is requested to paras 2 to 4, upon which they ~~have~~ should submit a report to Govt.

2. The improvement of the Wallia Reserve is attended with greater difficulties than the acting Inspector appears to be aware of and the Collector of Malabar should report whether it is desirable to continue an expenditure which has produced very inadequate results while more promising reserves are being acquired within

Mark & Observ[illegible]
Mr. Maclean D.C. Not
Hat Capt. Ch's Rep[illegible] relate

within the district.

3. The Board should call the attention of the Collector of Malabar to the Inspectors remarks in para 11 regarding the boundaries of the private land where felling is proceeding and arrange for the demarcation of the boundaries between the two districts in the Bolampatty valley.

Yes

7 Bos/Rems
Inspector of Schools 27/5/9-24

Yes Clearance of the Reserve forests / not Malabar-Kow: This Dfr - Should be served this in my notes. Pr. Dfr. acknowledge the same accordingly 24/8. No.1

15/1080

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R 27/8/74
D 12/8/74 3

240-241.

C 11th Aug 74 R 21st

17-2-17

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government Records.

Revenue Department.

G. O. (Mis).

Dated 25-8-1874

No. 1080

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