1124

M.R.O. 1—20,002—12-8-65.

(1) Number of Pages 44 27-12-66.

(2) Date of repair 27-12-66.

(3) Initials of the Referencer

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue. DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. 1124. Press
B.P. No. Mis.

Dated 3-9-1874 ~~196~~ .

to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
3rd September 1874.

Read the following papers:—

No. 5. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 3rd March 1874, Miscellaneous No. 1,454.

Read the following letter from J. R. COCKERELL, Esq., Commissioner of the Nilgiris, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Ootacamund, 2nd February 1874, No. 11.

I HAVE the honor to reply to petition from the Burgher inhabitants of Mékanád, forwarded to me for report by Government in petition No. 2,481 of 1873, dated 1st November last.

2. The first grievance of the petitioners consists in their being confined to the cultivation of the particular land specified in their puttas, and they request to be permitted, under the same grant, to occupy a duplicate plot in view to the two plots being alternately cultivated. This is, in effect, asking Government to revert to the Bhurty or shifting system of cultivation that obtained on these Hills before 1863, but which was abolished in that year (*vide* Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, No. 3,312, of 31st May 1864, and order of Government thereon, No. 1,132, of 1st July 1864). A reference to Proceedings of Government of 27th April 1865, Revenue Department, will further show that the petitioners on the score of ignorance pleaded for and obtained from Government a special concession of 730 bullahs of land, assessed at 878 [illegible] under the old rules, subject, however, to the condition that "the indulgence will not again be granted under any circumstances." I concur in the opinion expressed by the late Commissioner when reporting on a similar request made by the Burghers of the Koondahs (*vide* his letter printed in Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, No. 906, of 1st March 1871), that it would be a blunder to try and work the Waste Land Rules, and at the same time to allow the Burghers to extend their holdings on putta tenure."

3. The second grievance is that they are charged 2 Rupees for every tree they require for the construction of their dwelling houses. This has been the subject of previous complaint. The late Mr. Breeks notices it in his letter printed in Proceedings of the Board, No. 906, of 1st March 1871, and in his letter printed in Proceedings, No. 4,136, of 27th September 1871. I entirely endorse his views. It would be impossible to conserve the forests of these Hills and at the same time allow the hill-tribes free entry. The Burghers have the free use of timber for their agricultural implements and Keraals, and can cut firewood for domestic use. For building purposes the better kinds of timber are employed, which it would be undesirable to allow the hill-tribes to fell without some restriction.

THE Board observe that the petitioners allege that they are allowed to cut only one tree on each pass for which they pay 2 Rupees. The Commissioner will report on this assertion.

To the Acting Secretary to Government, Revenue Department,
with reference to their endorsement on Petition, dated 1st November 1873, No. 2,481.

Govt. of 1874 SEPTEMBER REVENUE.

To

THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

&c.

Dated September 3rd

Rect.

Read.

G. O. 3rd October 1874, No. 1124

SEPTEMBER.
Nos. 39—42.

3/1124

No. 104.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 10th January 1871.

Read the following letter from J. A. C. BOSWELL, Esq., Officiating Collector of the Kistna District, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Dachapalli, 12th November 1870, No. 4,895:—

WITH reference to the Board's Proceedings, dated 18th January 1870, No. 345, in which the Board requested me to submit a scheme for the conservancy of fuel reserves, I have the honour to state, that I have already made provision in the Jungle Conservancy Budget for 1871-72 for the following establishment for the entertainment of which from 15th April next, I request sanction:—

	RS.
1 Jungle Overseer on Rupees 50 a month, and Rupees 15 a month travelling allowance for the Masulipatam portion	780
1 Do. do. for the Guntoor portion	780
2 Peons, one to be attached to each Overseer at Rupees 5 a month	120

2. I propose to employ the Overseers first in travelling over their division, and selecting, in communication with the Tahsildars, as large tracts of waste land covered with jungle and brushwood as may be obtainable. These tracts I propose shortly to conserve either by fencing them in or by appointing peons to watch them, and keep cattle out. I have made provision in the Budget for twelve Watching peons, at Rupees 4 each, Rupees 576.

3. I also propose to improve these reserved tracts by experimental thickening of the jungle. I have allowed in the Budget Rupees 300 for the cost of collecting seeds of all sorts of trees, and I have provided for each division, a party consisting of a Maistry on Rupees 7 and ten Coolies each on Rupees 4 to be employed in planting operations for six months in the year, Rupees 564. I propose to run furrows with a plough across the reserved tracts, and sow the seeds of all sorts of trees suitable for firewood, and also to propagate trees by cuttings, and by experiment to see what class of trees grow quickest and best. As experience is gained, operations may be extended.

4. I also propose to entertain another similar planting party. In planting out salt brackish tracts with Inga dulcis, telugu Sima Chinta; Parkinsonia aculeata, telugu Jilaga; Acacia Arabica, telugu Tella Tumma; Mangrove, telugu Mada chettu, and any other trees that thrive on this sort of soil.

5. A further party I propose to employ for twelve months in the year in planting out and watering Casuarinas along the sandy tracts by the coast. This will be independent of the Casuarina plantations already commenced at Ipurpolem, and each of the Salt stations.

6. The Jungle Overseers I propose to place in charge of all existing jungles, and they will inspect them from time to time, and take measures for the systematic collections of seignorage, and the enforcement of Conservancy Rules.

7. The Talla Moturfa or tax on leaves and fruit of palmyras has recently been abolished. I would request sanction for crediting to the Jungle Conservancy Fund, whatever may be realized by the sale of palmyra leaves and fruit. If the proceeds from the sale of palmyras, 12 Annas per tree, could also be allowed to be credited to the Jungle Conservancy Fund, it would also be desirable to employ one or two parties for six months in the year in putting down the seeds of palmyra in waste lands in large numbers to provide for the future wants of the country. Palmyras in reserved tracts will afford some shade for the lower undergrowth which it is desirable to encourage.

8. I request sanction for the introduction of the accompanying set of rules (return requested) which are adopted for those which I prepared, and which are now in force in the Nellore District.

P. S.—In drawing up the Rules for levying of seignorage, I have adopted the rates suggested by the Officiating Conservator of Forests in his letter recorded in the Board's Proceedings, dated 1st September 1870, No. 5,553.

(Signed) J. A. C. BOSWELL,
Officiating Collector.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

CIRCULAR No. 13.

THE Collector publishes for general information, the following Rules for Jungle Conservancy sanctioned by the Board of Revenue in their Proceedings of the 9th December 1868:—

Kistna District Jungle Conservancy.

I.—The Conservancy of the Government Jungles and Topes devolves primarily upon the Village Officers who will be held responsible for permitting breaches of any of the following Rules:—

Firewood for Village use.

II.—Villagers for *bona fide* village consumption may cut firewood for domestic purposes in low jungles and brushwood without taxation within the limits of their respective villages as they have done hitherto but *not for sale*, or where the wood has been reserved.

III. The right to cut wood free of tax is extended only to villagers in respect of the jungles within the limits of their own village. If in any case they are permitted to cut wood beyond their own village boundaries, it will not be as a matter of prescriptive right, but as an indulgence which may at any time be withdrawn in any instance in which it may prove to have been abused. If any village has no available jungle of its own, the circumstance must be specially reported and permission sought for the villagers to cut wood for fuel and agricultural implements in the jungle of some adjoining village to be distinctly named.

IV.—No cutting of wood for fuel or any other purpose will be allowed in the tracts of jungle reserved by Government, and no cattle will be allowed to graze in these tracts until the trees have attained a sufficient height so as not to be injured.

V.—The land to be assigned for cutting fuel, etc., shall in all practicable cases be selected near the inhabited village, so that the clearings may prove an advantage to the residents.

Wood for agricultural implements, buildings, etc.

VI.—*Bona fide* ryots are allowed to cut the unreserved kinds of wood for agricultural purposes, but the wood so felled must not be more than 3 feet in circumference and 2 feet from the ground nor such as is likely to become fine timber eventually. In all these cuttings, it is necessary to preserve twenty-nine standard trees per acre.

VII.—Ryots will also be permitted to fell the stunted billu trees for agricultural implements without charge.

VIII.—No palmyras are to be cut on Government lands without the permission of the Tahsildar, and a fee of 12 Annas will be levied on each tree.

IX.—For wood required for building purposes, ryots must pay the same rates as others.

Fees for cutting firewood, burning charcoal.

X.—On fuel and firewood cut for sale, the following fees will be charged:—

	RS.	A.	P.
For one man's load (50 lbs.)	0	0	9
For one bullock load (200 lbs.)	0	3	0
For one bandy load drawn by one pair of bullocks (1,000 lbs.)	1	0	0
For boat load with 10 tons	6	0	0
For do. do. 20 tons	12	0	0
For do. do. 30 tons	18	0	0
For do. do. 40 tons	24	0	0

And so on, adding Rupees 6 for every 10 tons.

On reference a charge is made on small sticks not removed.

For boat load with 2 tons	0	5	0
For do. do. 5 tons	0	10	0
For do. do. 10 tons	1	4	0

And so on, adding Annas 10 for every 5 tons.

XI.—Charcoal burners may only cut in such places as may be assigned to them by the Jungle Overseer. Those who set fire to Government forests will be liable to be prosecuted for mischief. Charcoal burners will be charged the following rate of fees:—

	RS.	A.	P.
For one basket *(piled para)*	0	1	0
For one cavady load (2 baskets)	0	2	0
For one bandy load (27 baskets)	1	11	0

XII.—Village Officers are authorized to collect fees at the above rates. They will remit the collection to the Talook Treasury with the other collections of Revenue with a note of the amount distinguishing it from other public money as "Jungle Conservancy collections."

When firewood is cut for exportation, the money should be paid into the Talook Treasury before permission to cut the wood can be granted, and the permit must be delivered up to the Sea Custom authority of the Port when the wood is landed.

XIII.—Tahsildars will credit these monies to the Jungle Conservancy Fund in their accounts.

XIV.—The Head of the Village will keep a Register in the following Form A. which may be written by the Curnum:—

A.

Register of firewood, etc., allowed to be cut and taken away from the Government Jungles within the limits of the Village of in the Talook of during the month of 186 , in the District for Fusly 127 .

Date.	Number.	Name of the party who cut the wood and of the place of his residence.	Description of wood cut.	Quantity.	Amount of seignorage collected.	To whom permit was delivered.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1863. 1st September.	1	Ravur Mullana of Perur, in Amalapur Talook.	Firewood.	Bandy load 1. Bullock do. 1.	RS. A. P. 0 8 0 0 1 0	Ravur Subbanna.

XV.—Permits in the following Form B. will be drawn out and entered in the Register before being given to the applicant. The prescribed fees must always be collected before the permit is issued:—

No.

B.

Permit for cutting Timber, Firewood, etc., from the Government Jungles in the District, on payment of the prescribed duty.

Name of the Village and of the Talook in which wood is allowed to be cut down.	Name and residence of the person to whom permit is granted.	Description of wood.	Quantity.	Amount of seignorage.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5	6
Prattipad, in the Peddapur Talook.	Ravur Mullana of Perur, in Amalapur Talook.	Firewood ...	Bandy load 1...	RS. A. P. 0 8 0	
			Bullock do. 1...	0 1 0	

Station and date.

Signature of the Village Officers.

XVI.—At the end of every month a copy of the Register must be punctually submitted by each Village Officer to the Tahsildar who will satisfy himself as to the correctness of the entries after examination.

XVII.—Any extra collection, misappropriation of funds, etc., on the part of Village Officers will render them liable to the penalties provided in Regulation IX., of 1822.

XVIII.—All persons not expressly excepted as above, found felling trees or removing timber or charcoal or burning wood in the forest without a license or permit, will be liable to be prosecuted before the Sub-Magistrate for theft, mischief or criminal trespass, as the case may be, under the provisions of the Penal Code, and the timber or fuel, etc., to be confiscated and sold for the benefit of Government.

XIX —A commission of 20 per cent. will be allowed to Village Officers as remuneration on all actual collections made by them.

XX.—In the case of all confiscated timber, etc., sold by auction for the benefit of Government, 50 per cent. of the net profits will be given to the informer whether he be a public servant or not.

Fees for cutting timber.

XXI.—All persons wishing to cut timber, beam posts, etc., in a Government Jungle, must first pay the seignorage per bandy load at the rate specified into a Talook Treasury. On receipt of the money, the Tahsildar will give the party a numbered voucher in duplicate in the following form from the Voucher Charge book:—

No. ——.

No. 17.
Name ——————
No. of bandies 7.
Rupees 21.
Dated 10*th March* 1868.

Paid by A. B. of such a village, Rupees 21 the seignorage on seven bandy loads of Jungle wood.

10th March 1868.

(Sd.) A. B.,
Tahsildar.

XXII.—The party obtaining this voucher will take it to the Jungle Overseer of the Division, who, on receipt of the voucher, will grant a printed License for the number of bandy loads paid for and shall attach thereto the duplicate voucher, retaining one copy.

XXIII.—The number of bandy loads shall be checked off on the back of the license as the loaded bandies pass through the first village either by the Village authorities or by one of the Jungle Peons. When the full number of bandies specified in the License has been checked off on the back of the same, the document shall be detained by the Officer who makes the last checking, and be forwarded by him to the Tahsildar, who will, in due course, forward them direct to the Treasury Deputy Collector.

XXIV.—In every License the Overseer will distinctly specify the portion of the jungle where the wood is to be felled and name the description of wood. He will also state through what village the wood is to be taken to be checked. If taken by a different route, the wood will be liable to be confiscated.

XXV.—Parties felling or removing wood must be ready to produce their Licenses and vouchers whenever called upon.

XXVI.—The time allowed for a License to run, shall in no case exceed three months, ordinarily one month will be sufficient. All time expired Licenses must be given up, even though the timber paid for has not been removed.

XXVII.—The License will be granted in the following form:—

No. 17.

No. 17.
A. B. of such a village.
7 bandy loads.
Description of wood.
To be checked at Kavali.

This authorizes A. B. of such a village to cut seven bandy loads of wood in the portion of Akkapalli village, Kavali Talook, in Kandam No. 5.

Description of wood ——

The wood will be taken through Kavali to be checked.

14th April 1868.

(Sd.) C. D.,
Overseer.

XXVIII.—Trees growing on the sides of springs, channels and crests of hills are not to be cut for 20 yards on each side nor front trees.

XXIX.—The following is a list of the rates of seignorage to be charged on the different kinds of timber per bandy load of 1,000 lbs. to be drawn by one pair of bullocks only:—

No.	Telugu Name.	Botanical Name.	English Name.	Rate.
5	Yepi	Hardwickin binata	.....	Rs. 5, a bandy load.
[illegible]	...pa	Azadirachta Indica	Margosa tree	Rs. 4, do.
10	Yegi	Pterocarpus marsapium...	.....	
11	Sandra	Acacia Sundra	.....	
12	Billu or billudu	Chloroxylonswietenia ...	Satin wood.....	Rs. 3, do.
15	Nevali or Nevaliadugu	Ulmus integrifolia.....	Indians clue	
17	Battagadapa Bettaganapa	Nauclea Cardifolia	... ...	
18	Rela	Carthartocarpus fistule ...	.....	
20	Neredu	Syzygium Jambotanum ...	....	
21	Mamidi	Mangifera Indica	Mango tree.....	Rs. 2-8-0 , do.
22	Kunkudu.....	Sapindusemarjinatus.....	Soap-nut.....	
23	Chirumamidi...	Spondias Mangifera (?) ...	.....	
24	Dirisana	Acacia Speciosa.....	Siripa tree	
25	Mushti	Srychuod nuxvomica	.....	

XXX.—All jungle timbers not on the reserved List will be charged at the rate of 2 Rupees per bandy.

XXXI.—On bamboos, a seignorage of 1 Rupee a bandy load will be charged.

Split bamboos per bandy load 2 Rupees.

XXXII.—Persons cutting wood in Zemiadari and Shrotriem villages should obtain a pass from the Head of the Village where the wood is cut, to show whenever called upon by those watching the Government woods. These passes will only remain in force for one week from the date of issue.

KRISHNAPATNAM,
15th March 1869.

(Signed) J. A. C. BOSWELL,
Officiating Collector.

THE Board approve of the scheme proposed by Mr. Boswell for conserving fuel reserves etc.

2. In determining the tracts to be reserved great care must of course be taken to prevent undue encroachments on existing rights of pasturage, etc.

3. The rules must unavoidably cause some hardship, but the Board leave it to the Collector to work them carefully and prevent abuse.

4. With regard to the Rules themselves, although they are the ones in force in Nellore, a few observations seem to be called for—

Rule II. is indistinctly expressed and seems to prohibit cutting firewood for sale altogether.

In Rules VI. and VII. the word "Cultivators" should be substituted for "Ryots."

In Rule X. it is not clear why so little as Rupees 6 is charged for 10 tons of wood. A report is requested on this point. It should also be explained what is meant by "on reference a charge is made for small sticks not removed."

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) J. GROSE,
Acting Secretary.

To the Officiating Collector of the Kistna District,
with one enclosure returned.
Copy to the Conservator of Forests.

Exd. G. A. Turton.

1871.
Board of Revenue
MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 10TH JANUARY 1871, No. 104.

Received

Encl

JANUARY.
No. 104.

Conservancy of fuel reserves, &c.,—in Kistna District,—Scheme proposed by Collector for, approved.—Remarks passed on some of the Rules submitted by that officer.

No. 1,110.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 12th May 1874.

Read again letter from the Commissioner of Nilgiris, 2nd February 1874, No. 11, recorded in Board's Proceedings, dated 3rd March 1874, Miscellaneous No. 1,454:—

Read also the following letter from J. R. COCKERELL, Esq., Commissioner of Nilgiris, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Ootacamund, 27th March 1874, No. 28.

WITH reference to your Acting Sub-Secretary's Miscellaneous No. 1,454 of 3rd March 1874, and in continuation of my letter No. 11 of 2nd February, reporting upon a petition from the Burgher inhabitants of the Mekanad Division, I have the honour to state that the assertion of the petitioners, to the effect that they are allowed to cut only *one* tree on each pass for which they pay 2 Rupees, is correct. No hardship, however, in my opinion, is entailed by this restriction, since the villager who takes out the pass is allowed his choice both of the Forest from which he desires to take the tree and of the tree itself. The forest chosen by the applicant is usually one near his village, and except in the case of a reserve he is allowed to have the tree from there. The applicant also selects the tree he wants usually a large one with numerous lateral branches. The Forest Overseers inform me that, as a rule, they mark the tree pointed out by the applicant.

2. I am of opinion that a tolerably large tree affords sufficient material for an ordinary Burgher hut.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.—Petition.

IN the above letters the Commissioner of the Nilgiris reports upon a petition submitted by the Burgher inhabitants of Mekanad complaining—

1*st.* That the "Bhurty" system of cultivation which formerly obtained has been prohibited, and that they are now confined to the particular plots of land specified in their puttas.

2*nd.* That they are charged Rupees 2 for every tree they require for the construction of their dwelling houses.

2. With regard to the first point, the Board have already, on a similar complaint preferred by the inhabitants of the Koondah Division, declined to comply with the request, and to sanction a return to the Bhurty system.

3. With regard to the second point, however, the Board are of opinion that the petitioners have a grievance. The tax of Rupees 2 per tree is oppressive, and considerably in excess of the rates levied in any other part of the Presidency.

4. The Board further observe that the rate which received their sanction was a fee of Rupees 2 for a pass in force for seven days, and authorizing the holders to fell as many trees as they like during that period.

Vide Board's Proceedings, 1st March 1871, No. 906, and 27th September 1871, No. 4,136.

5. The Commissioner has no power to alter the Rules without reference to the Board, and as the necessity for a change has not been shown, he is directed

to revert to the rate of fee which has received the Board's sanction, until the necessity for a change has been demonstrated and approved.

6. The petitioners will be referred to the Commissioner.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

Acting Sub-Secretary.

To the Commissioner of the Nilgiris.

Copy to the Acting Secretary to Government, Revenue Department,
with reference to their endorsement on Petition No. 2,481 of 1873.

" to the Inspector of Forests.

" to the Collector of Malabar.

Endorsement to Petitioners.

Exd T. O'Connor.

Revenue Department

Miscellaneous No. 1454

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue
dated 3rd March 1874

No. 11 Read the following

From

Commissioner Nilgiris

To,

The Secretary to the
Board of Revenue
Madras

Sir,

I have the honor to reply to petition from the Burgher inhabitants of Mékanad, forwarded to me for report by Government in petition No. 2481 of 1873 dated 1st November last

2. The first grievance of the petitioners consists in their being confined to the cultivation of the particular land specified in their Puttahs and

Revenue 1874, Mepartt.

Board of Revenue,
MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 12TH MAY 1874, No. 1,110.

Despatched 1874.

Encl.

Received

APRIL.

No. 1,110.

Burgher inhabitants of Mekanad—on Nilgiris.—Request of — to be allowed to revert to Blurty system of cultivation formerly in vogue, not granted. Commissioner informed that passes granted to Burghers at 2 Rupees each for felling trees for construction of dwelling-houses are to be in force for 7 days, and to authorize holders to fell as many trees as they like.

40

Copied 23rd Sept 1874

SQ 3 September 1874

and they request to be permitted under the same grant to occupy a duplicate plot in view to the two plots being alternately cultivated. This is in effect asking Government to revert to the Bhurtz or shifting system of cultivation that obtained on these Hills before 1863, but which was abolished in that year vide Proceedings of the Board of Revenue No. 3312 of 31st May 1864 and order of Government thereon No. 1132 of 1st July 1864. A reference to Proceedings of Government of 27th April 1865, Revenue Department will further show that the petitioners on the score of ignorance, pleaded for and obtained from Government a Special

Special concession of 73 bullahs of land assessed at 87 Rupees — for the old rules, subject however to the condition that "the indulgence will not again be granted under any circumstances". I concur in the opinion expressed by the late Commissioner when reporting on a similar request made by the Burghers of the Koondahs - vide his letter printed in Proceedings of the Board of Revenue No. 906 of 1st March 1871, that it would be a blunder to try and work the Waste Land Rules and at the same time to allow the Burghers to extend their holdings on Puttah tenure.

3. The second grievance is that they are charged 2 Rupees for every tree they require for the construction of their dwelling houses &c. This has been the

the subject of previous complaint
The letter Mr. Brooks noticed it in his
letter printed in Proceedings of the
Board No. 906 of 1st March 1871 and in
his letter printed in Proceedings
No. 4136 of 27th September 1871. I entirely
endorse his views. It would be
impossible to conserve the forests
of these Hills and at the same time
allow the Hill tribes free entry. The
Burghers have the free use of timber
for their agricultural implements
and Heraals and can cut firewood
for domestic use. For building pur-
poses the better kinds of timber
are employed, which it would be
undesirable to allow the Hill tribes
to fell without some restriction.

I have &c.

Commissioner's Office
Ootacamund
2nd February 1874

(Sd.) J. R. Cockerell
Commissioner

To

The

9/1124

The Board observe that
the petitioners allege that they are
allowed to cut only one tree on
each pass for which they pay two
Rupees. The Commissioner will
report on this assertion.

| True copy & Extract |

(Signed) H. E. Stokes
Acting Sub Secretary

To,
The Commissioner of Nilgiris
with Petition - to be returned

| True copy |

H Stokes

To, Acting Sub Secretary
The Asst Secretary to Government
Revenue Department
with reference to their endorsement on
Petition dated 1st November 1873 No. 2481.

Cd. McNaras and Cherry

10/1124

MISCELLANEOUS No. 3621

REVENUE BOARD OFFICE,
Madras, 1st June 1874.

From

The Actg Sub-Secretary to the
Board of Revenue

To

The Actg Secretary to Government
Revenue Department

SIR,

It having been brought to the Board's notice that in passing their Proceedings dated 12th May 1874 No 1110 they inadvertently disposed of a petition referred by the Government for report and not for final disposal, I am instructed to request that the Proceedings in question may be taken as the Board's report and orders passed thereon.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedient Servant

G. J. Galton
Actg Sub Secretary

To,
The Actg Secretary to Government
Revenue Department
with Petition No 2481 of 1873.

Petition (Civil) Revenue 1874 Page
Proceedings of the
Board of Revenue

Dated 3rd March 1874

Rec'd 3rd — " —

Disp'd 5th June 1874 No 1110

Requesting Religious Commissioner to report on assertion of Purchaser inhabitants of Burghor in his Petition to Govt No 2481 of 1873 that they are allowed to cut only one tree on each piece for which they pay Rupees

SO 3 Petition 74 No 1124

Revenue Department.

No 1124

12/1124

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following papers

Proceedings of the Bd of Rev
Requesting Sanctiony
Govt to report on petition of
Burghers inhabitants of Mekaud
in their petition to Govt dt 24th
of 1873, that they are allowed
to cut only one tree in each
Nadu for which they pay Rs 2

Proceedings of the Bd of Rev.

Declining to comply with the
request of Burgher inhabitants
of Mekaud to be allowed to
revert to Bloody system of cut
ting trees by no rogue, and
forming Govt that proper grants
to Burghers at 2 Rs each for felling
trees for construction of dwelling
houses are to be in force for 3 days
and to discharge holders to fell
as many trees as they like

Letter from dy Secy Bd of Rev.

Requesting that Bd's Pro
dated 12th May 1874 No 1110 dis
posing of a Petition from Burgher
inhabitants of Mekaud may
be taken merely as Board's report
on the Petition, and orders passed
thereon -

I prefer simply order
ing the charge from
2 to 1 Rs. if the former rate
be too high. 25 yrs ago
the Cf. of Ds - after full

(Here enter 3rd March 1874 No 454)

(Here enter 12th May 1874 No 1110)

(Here enter 1st June 1874 No 1364)

His Excellency the
Governor in Council ap
proves of the instructions
contained in paragraph 2
of the Board's Proceedings
dated 12th May 1874 No 1110

ag

as regards the first complaint preferred in the Petition in question.

2. He concurs also in thinking that the petitioners have a grievance in the matter of the wood required for the building of their houses. The rule however which has required the sanction of the Board is likely to lead to waste while that which the Commissioner has been working heretofore is certainly too stringent.

3. The better plan is to let each Badaga and Toda have sufficient wood for building purposes without any payment but under the ordinary restrictions as to cap and actual requirements. It will be quite as easy to watch returns under a free as under a two rupee cap and the

Consideration described (v. Rule 21. Hedgehog Mamul) that at the Badagas & Todas kills had simply occupancy rights in the waste lands and directed special attention to the protection of Wooded tracts. The Badagas have not the same rights here as the inhabitants of the plains. and

---

^ the trees being marked by the Forest Officer.

The list of "Reserved trees" include here the

pass have "all the Shikar case in a Sealed Cover" and are to only be sent in the Division of Katayberry to be shot Badagas & to be let into a book.

A most substantial price cannot be caused & Mysore enlargement of the rules portion and work has been brought to light. There can be no doubt that our administration on the hills has been gradually but steadily protecting & narrowing the ancient users of the denizens - perhaps for the general good but with less attendant tribal inconvenience. The one under consideration is one which we clearly can restore without much cost to the State & without laxity administration. Safety & Thanks to be done as proposed by the Dpt.

2960 Good I know

the actual top lop & the consequent fund will be crippled. The rule to be followed will be that contained in paragraph 7 of the "Rules for the preservation of Jungles" contained in B.C. & C. No 86. If reserved woods are required a fee of 1 Rupee per tree should be enforced.

4. The Government is further of opinion that the time has arrived for publishing a revised set of Rules which should be generally applicable to all Forests and Jungles with such exceptions as may be necessary to meet the cases of particular localities. At present in both Forest and Jungle Conservancy Depts. there are various sets of Rules relating to different Districts and

and some confusion may
apparently follows. The
Board will be good
enough to communicate
with the Inspector of
Forests to take the
matter into consideration

PC&P

Despd in M.S. to Bd of Revenue
& Petition Sept 2nd 2 Petitions
3 Sept. 74
Draught of Letter
PC&P
12 Sept/74
do

Ad. to deal with at
the same time as the
Petn. from the Natives.
Wind-split not red
matter Ad. to neglected:
and, if the Petitn
cannot be found, a copy
of it, Ad. to be procured
obtained from the
Petitioners.

W 2/9.

no difference between the rights
of Borders and those of inhabitants
of Fijians - and I doubt the
propriety of creating one. WR

I have perused the
Draft. But I wish
to know what has
become of a similar
Petition (respecting
timber) from per-
sons the Bodera. The Petition
was sent to
report was made
under copy by my Secretary
Sec. to the Revenue
Bd. & was referred
with a note of my opin-
on the effect that I

Revenue Department.

No.

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Under date the June 1874.

READ the following papers:

Proc: Bd of Revenue.

Requesting Nilgiri Comr to report on assertion of Burgher inhabitants of Melkanad, in their Petition to Govt N. 2481 of 1873, that they are allowed to cut only one tree on each pass for which they pay 2 Rs — } N. 2. 3d March 1874 Mis: No 1452

Declining to comply with request of Burgher inhabitants of Melkanad, to be allowed to revert to Shunty system of cultivation formerly in vogue, and informing Comr that passes granted to Burghers at 2 Rs each for felling trees for construction of dwelling houses are to be in force for 7 days and to authorize holders to fell as many trees as they like. } " 12: May — " No 1110

Letter from Actg Sub Secy. Bd of Revenue.

Requesting that Bd's Proc: dated 12th May 1874 No. 1110, disposing of a Petition from Burgher inhabitants of Melkanad, may be taken merely as Board's report on the petition, and orders passed thereon } " 1st June — " Mis: No 3621

The Board's disposal of Petitioners' complaints has the approval of the Government and the Commissioner of the Nilgiris should be directed to carry out the instructions conveyed to him in para 5 of the Board's Proceedings

I differ from the Bd on to the 2 Rs. If it be too much reduce it by ule means — but to give a man leave to cut

R 5/9/74
D 5/9/74

C 20th July 174 Rd

Proceedings of 12th May 1874

No 1110

2. The Petitioners will be required to the Commissioners.

[illegible] for [illegible]
is obtained. A man
may take a stake
in it at time - &
rate he can is laid

1/2 d

10/5

Govt reduce the rate to one-half. We have several certainties the respective ancient prescriptive right of the hill tribes as respects the cultivation & grazing & disposing of land over which their cattle range & reservoir shall & that they had free access

Ex Books

16/1124

and I think that the prospect of a fee for building timber to which they have a prescriptive right free of tax - is more than probable - they are improving & titling their houses & [illegible] their efforts - Such as easy & valuable action under a fee as under a 2-rupee fee is a loss to the L.P. must be small indeed

13/6

What is our right to charge a fee at all? It is not to be that "villagers" have a right, to [illegible] to cut wood for their

own use, gratuitously?

while a "trespasser" or tax is levied on wood for sale?

Then as to cultivation, Project and the waste-land

under" to have respected
existing rights &
privileges ? and what
part have we three
have been in taking these
people's persons of
such rights ? It appears
that the Bd of Revenue
is really Sweall.

Sd

June 6/74

(22)

E 10th June/74 R 12th RC 12th R17th

Note

Pro: Board of Revenue.

Requesting Nilgiri commissioner to report on assertion of Burgher inhabitants of McKanad, in their Petition to Govt — No 2481 of 1873, that they are allowed to cut only one tree on each pass for which they pay 2 Rs. — R. E. 3rd March 1874 Mis. No 4

Declining to comply with request of Burgher inhabitants of McKanad, to be allowed to revert to Bhuntry system of cultivation formerly in vogue, and informing Commr that passes granted to Burghers at 2 Rs each, for felling trees for construction of dwelling houses, are to be in force for 7 days, & to authorize holders to fell as many trees as they like — R. E. 12th May — " — No 1110.

Letter from Bd dated Secretary Board of Rev

Requesting that Board's Proc: dated 12th May 1874 No 1110, disposing of a Petition from Burgher inhabitants of McKanad, may be taken merely as Board's report on the petition, Govt orders passed thereon — R.E. - 1st June — " — Mis. No 3/674

By
Four clauses stated
in the Note I over
enquired in the
Petition which I very
carefully Read ... the Dy Sct

The cutting of firewood
and timber is regulated
(1) By the Forest Conservancy Rules
in Districts where the
Special Dept. works and
(2) in other Districts by
Jungle Conservancy Rules
promulgated

promulgated by the Board of Revenue.

2. The tenth of the Forest Conservancy Rules provides that Ryots be allowed to cut the unreserved kinds of timber free of charge for agricultural purposes within their village boundaries; but if they require the reserved kinds of timber they must pay the fixed seigniorage", but neither it nor any other directly deals with timber required for building purposes. It appears, however, to have been customary to grant to ryots "timber of the unreserved classes & bamboos for the erection of houses destroyed by fire or other exceptional causes."

These words are taken from certain Supplementary Rules

not to charge any fee at all for unreserved timber cut by ryots for agriculture or building. The [illegible] as a rule, no fee is [illegible] charged for timber so cut in the plains (though there are some exceptions, which I think ought to be removed, unless any good reason can be shown to the contrary). It seems that the Board of Revenue took this view in 1871 [illegible] and called the [illegible]

18/1124

if there was any reason against the relaxation. No result seems to have followed the memorandum. I would now entirely exempt from fees wood cut by villagers in unreserved forests whether for agricultural or building purposes.

Conservator seems to have been given for the change as regards the "Bhurty" system, and it would appear that it ought not to be restored. W 16/7

Rules in use in the Madras District and one Rule (the [illegible]) specifies what "may be considered ample" for the erection of ordinary houses.

3. The General Jungle Conservancy Rules are published in Bd. S.O. 86 (pages 61-6[illegible] Dalyell's Edition) and they (rules 6 & 7) allow ryots to cut timber and wood for the erection of houses.

For some districts, however, special Rules have been sanctioned and in these the Board do not seem to have adhered to those in their S.O.

The Kistna is one of these districts. Its rules were sanctioned in 1871 & the IXth declares that "for wood required for building

building purposes ryots must pay the same rates as others."

These Kistna Rules taken from those in force in Nellore and thus if the rules are adhered to, the ryots in both Districts must pay for building timber though "villagers" are allowed to cut fire wood for their own use free of charge.

4. Thus, it seems, the custom of different Districts varies. The charge on the bullocks of 2 Rs for a pair appears to have been first brought to notice in 1871. Then the (Collr) Commissioner said the pass pass for seven days and the holders could fell as many trees as they like" subject to

See para. 4 of his letter dt. 30th March 71.

G.O. 22nd Sept. 62. No 2060
- 5th July 64. No 1132.
- 27th April 65. N: 866.

19/1124

to the making of the Forest Reserves. The Board did not directly interfere but asked the Comptr. to consider whether it would not be expedient to relax the rule as to "wood used by cultivators for building as is done in the low country." The rule seems to have been more rigorous and the Board never desire to publish the Comptr.'s views thereon came about.

5. With reference to the Burgher cultivation and the introduction of the waste land rules, attention is requested to the papers marginally noted.

From these it appears that since the Waste Land Rules were introduced a "general reduction"

25

25 per cent on the rate of assessment was allowed and timely notice given so that the Burghers might take up all the land they required. The matter went before the Secy of State who approved but desired to be informed of the working of the new system when it had been sufficiently tested to enable a judgment regarding it to be formed.

The Board was told to bear this requisition in mind but no report seems to have been made.

Y.

C.O.

* See Despatch in S.O. 12 June 13 No: 1027.

Note

In the subject of
certain complaints made
by Burgher inhabitants
of Mc Kaud - Melzem

1124

Note with reference
to H. E. the Governor's
remark on en-
closed Draft G.O.

13/7

C 14th July 1774

Government House.

21/
1124

Ken Dfs mer wend p.
Bicard Hinchcomt
to come (as to Tuesday
wh of Middayes a
Today
As the Dfs will be here
I foreme the 2nd
confirmed 16th
I do, with Dfs
leave to cease