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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue. DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.
B.P. No.

1347.

Press
Mis.

Dated 19-10-1874. 196 .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
19th October 1874.*

No. 253. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 15th September 1874, No. 2,614, Forest No. 166:—

Read again Board's Proceedings, dated 27th July 1874, No. 1,964, Forest No. 113.

Read also the following:—

Proceedings of the Madras Government, dated 25th August 1874, No. 1,080, Revenue Department.

ABSTRACT.—*Mettapolliem, etc., Forest Range, Coimbatore District.*—Communicating to Revenue Board Inspection Report of the Acting Inspector of Forests on the —; requesting them to report on paragraphs 2 to 4; calling upon the Collector of Coimbatore to report whether it is desirable to continue an expenditure on the Walliar reserve which has produced inadequate results, while more promising reserves are being acquired within the Malabar District; and directing the Board to call the attention of the Collector of Coimbatore to the Inspector's remarks in paragraph 11 regarding the boundaries of certain private lands, and arrange for the demarcation of the boundaries between the two districts in the Bolamputty Valley.

From Captain C. WALKER, Officiating Inspector of Forests, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Trichinopoly, 26th August 1874, No. 257.

With reference to Board's Proceedings, Forest No. 113, of 27th ultimo, I have the honor to forward an extract from my Inspection Report of the Mettapolliem, etc., range now before Government, which contains information on the subject of the so-called fuel-reserves H, K, and M.

2. It will be observed that I quite agree with the Collector as to the injurious and unnecessary attempt at curtailment of customary grazing rights, and propose to move back the line of reserve, retaining the present line as the boundary of cultivation only and closing such portions of the inner tract from time to time as may be found advisable.

3. I have since heard from the Collector that he proposes to extend this system along the line of hills, demarcating the line of cultivation, retaining a belt as communal jungle, and the inner portion as Imperial reserves to be looked after by watchers drawn from the jungle-tribes.

4. I think these measures most judicious, and have no doubt that they will result in improved conservancy and reduction of the people's grievances to a minimum; but they appear to require a law to support and enforce them and render them more permanent. Under existing circumstances, the next Collector entertaining different views may alter all Mr. Wedderburn's arrangements, and any Magistrate may even now decline to enforce them as based upon no legal enactment.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.—Extract from the Inspection Report, dated 15th July 1874.

THE Collector of Coimbatore has already called attention to the difficulties referred to in paragraphs 2 and 4, and the Board resolve to recommend Govern-

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
19th October 1874.*

ment to adopt the proposals made by him in the letter recorded with Board's Proceedings, dated 27th July 1874, No. 1,964 (Forest No. 113), which are approved by the Inspector of Forests.

2. The Inspector is wrong in attributing the infringement on land needed by the Coimbatore villagers to Mr. Galton. It will be seen from Mr. Galton's letter, recorded with G. O., dated 25th September 1871, No. 1,671, that, although he had been only directed to inquire into the circumstances and rights of the Irlers with regard to the proposed reserves, he drew attention to the way in which the rights of Coimbatore villagers were involved. It was for the Coimbatore authorities to see that the wants of the Coimbatore villagers were duly considered, and this duty was performed "when the question of enclosure" came under consideration.

3. The Collector of Coimbatore will report on paragraphs 2 and 3 of the order of Government read at the head of these Proceedings.

No. 254. ORDER THEREON, 19th October 1874, No. 1,347.

Forests, No. 12.

THE Government approve of the adoption of the measures proposed by the Collector, subject to the further

report called for in G. O., 25th August 1874, No. 1,080.

2. Mr. Wedderburn should also be called on to explain what is the nature of the measure referred to by the Acting Inspector as "demarcating the line of cultivation."

(True Extract.)

(Signed) C. G. MASTER,
Acting Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.

"the Inspector of Forests.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

3
1847

FOREST No. 113.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 27th July 1874, No. 1,964.

Read the following letter from A. WEDDERBURN, Esq., Collector of Coimbatore, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 27th June 1874, No. 151:—

With reference to the establishment of certain fuel reserves at Metapolliem,

1 Plan by parcel post.

sanctioned by Government in G. O., dated 25th September 1871, I have the

honor to bring to notice my opinion that these reserves, all situated in the Coimbatore District, should be much circumscribed in extent.

2. My opinion was only asked in reference to paragraph 6, Proceedings, Madras Government, dated 2nd March

Vide plan.

1871, about a proposed reserved tract,

called A of 2 square miles, near Nellittoray, proposed to be reserved by the Conservator of Forests in G. O., dated 14th June 1871, No. 1,055, and I reported strong objections to its enclosure, which were considered valid and adopted.

3. The reserves K, H, and M not referred for opinion were, however, subsequently sanctioned by Government on the report of the then Assistant Commissioner, Neilgherries, without further reference to the Collector of Coimbatore, in which district they are situated.

4. They were sanctioned on the apparent understanding of being under "Neilgherry District conservancy" and that no "immole" villages were invaded; but when the question of enclosure comes to be considered, and parties excluded, these reserves in the Coimbatore District are exposed to objections, and should, I think, be greatly reduced in extent.

5. Reserve H adjoins the Coimbatore Village of Tekamputty, inhabited by Ookiliars or cultivators, and no sufficient allowance has been made for communal purposes. I am consequently of opinion that this reserve should be reduced by one half of its extent, leaving only to be reserved the section abutting on the river.

Vide plan.

6. And with reference to M reserve, the Coimbatore ryots, villagers of Halhatti, complained of the invasion of their customary rights of grazing, and of the stoppage of the road, which led from their village to the foot of the Kotergherry Ghaut, and that they had been obliged to send their cattle to graze in Mysore District. I think that a line should be drawn from the foot of the Kotergherry Ghaut eastward along the spurs of the hills and that on the hill side should be reserved, and that the village grazing ground should be restored. This will also obviate the necessity of giving compensation for putta land, which the reserve would otherwise enclose. The same remark applies also to H reserve. The Inspector of Forests, whom I accompanied, concurs in these views.

7. I remarked in my letter quoted in Proceedings, Madras Government, dated 14th June 1871, that "it will always be found that scrub jungle near villages is availed of by the villagers, and that it would seem desirable to make reserves at a greater distance," and suggested a distance of five miles from villages which does not seem to have been adopted on this occasion.

19-2-17

Cont. of 11874 J. G. R. M.

REVENUE.

To

THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

cc, cc, cc.

Dated October 18th.

Recd.

Encl.

G. O., 19th October 1874, No. 1,347.

OCTOBER.
Nos. 253-254.

Fuel-reserves in Coimbatore District.—Approving the adoption of the Collector's proposals for reducing the extent of—, subject to the further report called for in G. O., 25th August 1874, No. 1,080; and directing that that officer be called on to explain the nature of the measure referred to by the Acting Inspector of Forests as "denmarking the line of cultivation."



18th Oct. 1874
J. G. R. M.
19-2-17

The Collector of Coimbatore has already called attention to the difficulties referred to in paragraphs 2 and 4, and the Board resolve to recommend Government to adopt the proposals made by him in the letter recorded with Board's Proceedings, dated 27th July 1874, No. 1,964 (Forest No. 113), which are approved by the Inspector of Forests.

2. The Inspector is wrong in attributing the infringement on land needed by the Coimbatore villagers to Mr. Galton. It will be seen from Mr. Galton's letter, recorded with G. O., dated 25th September 1871, No. 1,671, that, although he had been only directed to inquire into the circumstances and rights of the Irulers with regard to the proposed reserves, he drew attention to the way in which the rights of Coimbatore villagers were involved. It was for the Coimbatore authorities to see that the wants of the Coimbatore villagers were duly considered, and this duty was performed "when the question of enclosure" came under consideration.

3. The Collector of Coimbatore will report on paragraphs 2 and 3 of the order of Government read at the head of these Proceedings.

(True Copies and Extract.)

J. Grose
Secretary.

To the Acting Secretary to Government, Revenue Department,
with Board's Proceedings, dated 27th July 1874, No. 1,964, and one Plan.
,, the Collector of Coimbatore, with G. O., dated 25th August 1874, No. 1,080.
,, the Inspector of Forests.

Copy to the Collector of Malabar, with G. O.

Ed. F. R. Bantleman.

*The following is a copy of the letter
sent to the Collector of Coimbatore
for in No. 25th August 1874, No. 1,080.*

*8th March 1874 No. 34. 36
14th June 1874. 173. 172
25th Sept 1874. 831. 132
25th Aug 1874. No. 1,080.*

BOARD OF REVENUE
MADRAS.

Rev 1874. 24th Sept

PROCEEDINGS, 15th SEPTEMBER 1874, No. 2,614

Copy 18 Sept 1874

25th Sept 1874 - 19th Oct 1874

SEPTEMBER.
FOREST No. 166.

Reserves-in Coimbatore District.-
Government recommended to adopt proposals
made by Collector in regard to reduction of
extent of - in his letter, dated 27th June
1874, No. 151. Collector requested to report
whether it is desirable to continue expenditure
on improvement of the Walliar reserve, as well
as regarding boundaries of certain private land
where falling is proceeding, and arrange
demarcation of boundaries between this district
and the Nilgiris in the Bolampatty Valley.

*Capt. Walker suggests "retaining the
present line as the boundary of
cultivation only". I should like to
have some further explanation of
this. I don't think that to prevent
Insects at the expense of cultivation
cannot be justified unless it be
for the purpose of preventing the
destruction of jungle adjacent to
towns & villages - ~~as a consequence~~
is so as to prevent any waste
or leakage of soil there (2) for the
purpose of maintaining a supply*

of post. for Railways, at an easy
distance from the place of demand.
It is not understood that either of
these purposes will be served
by reducing cultivation in the
present case.

P 10/60

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N. 1347

Proceedings of the Madras Government
Under date the 19th Oct 1876

Read the following Pro-
ceedings of the Board
of Revenue

Regarding the Fuel
revenues in the Coimbatore
District. } (Here enter 15 Sept 76 to 26th)

The Government ap-
prove of the adoption of
the measures proposed
by the collector subject
to the further report
called for no G.O. 25th
August 1876 at 1080.

2. Mr. Hadderbari should
also be called on to ex-
plain what is the nature
of the measure referred
to by the Acting Collector

18/10
16/10

Md
17/10

Current the
revenue

Mr. Campbell

as demarcating the
line of cultivation -

Feb

10th Jan. paper by the Minister
2nd Jan. address by
accordance with
H.E. 1847

11th To the Boarding School
3rd The Inspection of Forests

8
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