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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue. DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	1485	Press
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	2.12.1874	196 .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

1285

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
2nd December 1874.*

No. 24. Read the following letter from Captain C. WALKER, Officiating Inspector of Forests, to C. G. MASTER, Esq., Acting Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, dated Ootacamund, 18th November 1874, No. 441 :—

With reference to Board's Proceedings, No. 203/3066, dated 22nd October, I have the honor to state that I would much prefer if the forest establishments in North Arcot were allowed to remain as they are, pending the general revision, the details of which I shall arrange with the Collector when I visit the district in January or February; otherwise claims may be created and complications arise which would interfere with the general scheme which I propose to recommend.

2. If the receipts from the transferred jungles are to continue to be credited to Jungle Conservancy, to which I see no objection, I think it would be in every way preferable to employ separate subordinate establishments to be paid from Jungle Conservancy Funds, although working under the orders of the Deputy-Conservator and his Forest Overseers, as in the case of Imperial and Local Fund Public Works.

3. This is the plan adopted in the adjoining district of South Arcot, where it works well and is, I think, preferable to dividing the salaries of individuals. Of course some of the Imperial employes will deserve increased pay for performing increased duties; all this will receive consideration on the revision when I think it will be advisable to divide all the establishments into Imperial and local.

4. I trust that the Collector's proposal to transfer the Gudiatum jungles to Imperial may receive early consideration with reference to the supply of wood-fuel to the railway.

No. 25. ORDER THEREON, 2nd December 1874, No. 1,485.

Forests, No. 4.

COMMUNICATED to the Board of Revenue with reference to G. O., 12th November 1874, No. 1,440.

2. Pending Captain Walker's further recommendations to the Board, the alterations proposed in their Proceedings, dated 22nd October last, No. 3,066, will be held in abeyance.

3. The suggestion in paragraph 2 of the present letter should be considered by the Board in due course.

(True Extract.)

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

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

Exd. W. H. French.

1485

GOVT. OF 1874

REVENUE.

THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

No. 1874, No. 1875.

Dated December 2nd.

Recd.

DEC 24 25.

Forest Lands in North Arcot - Com.

Inspector of Forests on the subject of - and

relating the attention proposed by the Board to

remain in obedience.

FOREST No. 16.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 23rd April 1873, No. 626.
Read the following letter from Major R. H. BEDDOME, Inspector of
Forests, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated
Ootacamund, 17th February 1873, No. 1,689:—

In reply to the Proceedings of the Board, No. 171 of the 7th February 1873,
I have the honour to inform you, I lately had a consultation on forest matters with
the Collector of North Arcot and the Forest Officer of that Range, and we all agreed
that to carry out conservancy arrangements properly, it was necessary to place
the regular forest tracts of Goriattum and Chendragherry under the Special Depart-
ment, they have hitherto been managed without any regular establishment or
proper checks or supervision, and the result has been anything but satisfactory; a
long time ago the Board was informed of the great loss to Government in one
year from the evasion of the seignorage on Railway fuel in Goriattum, and lately
it has come to light that the Engine Drivers were carrying on a private trade in
fuel between Goriattum and Madras.

THE Collector should submit a detailed report on the change of management
and conservancy which he proposes, describing the situation of the jungles with
regard to villages, and the communal rights which exist in them.

2. No change which extinguishes any communal rights without compensa-
tion can be allowed.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed)

J. GROSE,

Secretary.

To the Collector of North Arcot.
Copy to the Inspector of Forests.

Exd. G. A. Turtan.

which

Forest tracts of Goriatum and Chendragheri—in North Arcot District.—Collector requested to submit a detailed report on change proposed by him in management and conservancy of—

APRIL.
Forest No. 16.

Received

1891/74

Encl.

PROCEEDINGS, 23RD APRIL 1873, No. 626.

1873.
BOARD OF REVENUE,
MADRAS.

FOREST No. 32.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 24th March 1874, No. 661.
Read the following letter from W. S. WHITESIDE, Esq., Collector of North Arcot, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Sathivizianagaram, 26th February 1874, No. 107:—

I HAVE the honour, with reference to the Proceedings of the Board, dated 23rd April last, Forest No. 16-626, to submit the report therein called for regarding the transfer of the forests in the district now under Jungle Conservancy to the Forest Department.

2. The most important of these forests are those situated in the Chendragheri and Gudiamtham Taluqs. It is in the Chendragheri Forests only that really good building timber can now be found; there is also a large quantity of redwood possessing a high market-value growing there. That part of the forest situated between the Kalastri Zemindari and the sacred hills of Tripati have been under the Forest Department for some years. The portion now proposed to be given over extends from the sacred hills to the western corner of the taluq joining Punganur and north to the Cuddapah frontier.

3. The Gudiamtham Forests are next in importance. They extend through the whole length of the taluq on the hills, but the principal forests are reported to be situated north of, and between the towns of, Gudiamtham and Amboor along the borders of the Chittoor and Palmanair Taluqs. There is no large building timber, it is said, in these forests, but there is a great deal of young wood growing up. Some sandalwood is also reported to be growing in these forests about fifteen miles north-east of Amboor.

4. The Palmanair Forests on the borders of the Gudiamtham Taluq, Kangundi Zemindari, and the Mysore territory are very poor and require a great deal of care for years to come. Of building timber there is none. Several casuarina plantations are now being formed at Palmanair, and a sandalwood plantation also has been formed there which is already in a very satisfactory condition.

5. The jungles in the Chittoor Taluq are scattered over six different localities; those on the north and west are very fair jungles containing some timber trees.

6. In the taluqs of Arcot, Wallajah, and Wandewash there are no jungles worth the name.

7. The forests in the Vellore and Poloor Taluqs were transferred to the charge of the Forest Department some years ago.

8. The forests in this district all produce the same kinds of wood, etc., and Chendragheri has redwood, thumba, and jalari, which the others have not.

9. All the villagers of a taluq look to the jungles of that taluq for their firewood and agricultural timber, etc., but permission is granted them to fell in the jungles nearest their village without regard to the taluq.

10. Every one has a right to graze his cattle in any of the jungles of the district, in those at present under the Forest Department as well as in those now proposed to be handed over, and the ryots have been allowed to enjoy the same privileges by the Forest Department as by the District Conservancy. It would, of course, be improper and unjust to prohibit this grazing of cattle in the jungles; but there is no doubt that the depredations of cattle in the hot season, which graze in the jungles for several months continuously every year, do far more damage than the illicit smuggling of firewood. A drove of cattle in a day will with ease destroy scores of fine young saplings that if left alone would grow in splendid trees.

11. The jungles at present under District Conservancy are managed by the Tahsildars assisted by Monegars called "Forest Rangers." These latter issue licenses and receive money, which they remit monthly to the Taluq Treasury; but neither they nor the Tahsildars ever go into the hills where the forest is thickest. The forest is never inspected, they do not know what portions are overworked and require rest, and what portions are overcrowded and require thinning; there is no guard on the forests, and there is no real check on the quantity of timber actually brought out.

12. On the transfer of the District Jungles to the Forest Conservancy Department they will be frequently visited by the Forest Officer and his subordinates; the felling will be regulated and supervised more carefully. When a portion is found overworked it will be closed against felling and allowed time to recover; spots that contain good timber will be known and preserved for departmental felling; care will be taken that no unnecessary waste occurs in felling or working up the timber in the forests, and the voucher and license system of the Forest Department will be introduced. By this system the money for the quantity of timber, etc., required is paid into the Taluq Treasury; in exchange the man gets a voucher for the money signed by the Tahsildar and a license to fell signed by the Forest Officer. He may then go to the jungle and cut the wood paid for, but on his way from the forest with the wood he is required to pass a certain village named in the license (any he may choose where a forest peon or Monegar is stationed), where his license is separated from his voucher and detained by the Forest Department, and on the back of the voucher which he takes away with him is entered the quantity and quality of the wood taken, the date, and the owner's name, which is signed by the peon or Monegar as correct. With this pass or docketed voucher he may pass anywhere with the wood, but without it he is liable to be stopped, and if within the limits of the Tannah station his wood confiscated and himself prosecuted.

13. By the transfer of the jungles to the Forest Department no communal rights will be invaded; the people will then, as now, have the right to firewood, agricultural wood, leaves for manure, and the right to graze their cattle; in short, the change will be entirely to the good of the people, who will retain all their present privileges and have in addition the benefit of the Forest Officer's experience in the preservation of their woods, for while the Forest Officer works under the direct orders of the Collector, who is the guardian of the people's interests, it is not likely that any invasion of the forest rights will be attempted or allowed if attempted.

The Collector will report what establishment will be required and what the effect will be on Forest and Jungle Conservancy revenues.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) J. GROSE,
Secretary.

To the Collector of North Arcot.
Copy to the Inspector of Forests.

Ed. A. S. Rodgers.

1874.
Board of Revenue,
MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 24th MARCH 1874, No. 601.

Received

MARCH.
Forest No. 32.

Forests in North Arcot District, now under
Jungle Conservancy department. — Collector is
report what establishment will be required and
what will be the effect on Forest and Jungle
Conservancy revenues if transfer of
Forest department is made.

No. 441.

Office of Inspector of Forests
Ootacamund 18th November 1874.

From

Captain Campbell Walker

Offg Inspector of Forests

To

C. G. Master Esquire

As Secretary to Government P. D.
Madras

Sir,

With reference to Board's
Proceedings No. ²⁰³/₃₀₆₆ dated 22^d October, I
have the honor to state that I would
much prefer if the Forest Establishments
in North Arcot were allowed to remain as
they are, pending the general revision, the
details of which I shall arrange with the
Collector when I visit the District in
January or February — otherwise claims
may be created and complications arise
which

which would interfere with the general scheme which I propose to recommend.

2. If the receipts from the transferred jungles are to continue to be credited to Jungle Conservancy, to which I see no objection, I think it would be in every way preferable to employ separate subordinate establishments to be paid from Jungle Conservancy funds although working under the orders of the Deputy Conservator and his Forest Officers, as in the case of Imperial and local fund public works.

3. This is the plan adopted in the adjoining District of South Arcot, where it works well and is, I think, preferable to dividing the salaries of individuals. Of course some of the Imperial employees will deserve increased pay for performing

increased duties; all this will receive consideration on the revision when I think it will be advisable to divide all the establishments into Imperial and local.

4. I trust that the Collector's proposal to transfer the Gadattum jungles to Imperial may receive early consideration with reference to the supply of wood fuel to the railway.

5
I have the honor to be
Sir

Yours Most Obedt Servt
Campbell Walker Captain

Offg Inspector of Forests

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

No. 4068

From *Inspector of Forests* Dated *18 November* 1874.

FOR ORDERS.

See list of letters sent

[Signature]

18 Nov 12. Received 14.07.1874

30.4.068
Received 18/4/75 at 10.00

Chief Magistrate

From

Off. Secy to the Govt

Postmaster

To

As Secretary to the

Off. Secy to the Govt

18.07.1874

18.07.1874

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FOR ORDERS.

*H. S. 1001
Estab.*

C 26/11/74. R 27/11/74. R C 28/11/74 R 30/1/75

Revenue Department

No. 1485

Proceedings of the Madras Government.

Under date the 2^d Dec^r 1874

Read the following

Letter from the Off^r Insp^r

of Forests.

Informing that
with reference to Boards

Pro. No. 203 dated 22^d Oct^r
3066

1874 it is preferable if the

Forest Estates in N. Arcot

were allowed to remain

as they are pending the

general revision.

H.C. 15th Nov^r 1874 No. 1461

Communicated

to the Board of Revenue

with reference to G.O.

12th November 1874 No.

1440.

2. Pending Captain

Walker's further re-

commendations to the

Board

H.S.

28/11

Board the alterations
proposed in their
Proceedings dated 22nd
October last No. 3066
will be held in
abeyance.

3. The suggestion
in paragraph 2 of
the present letter
should be considered
by the Board in due
course.

W

14- To the Board of Revenue
By the Inspector of Forests

W

Board the alterations
proposed in their
Proceedings dated 22nd
October last No. 3066
will be held in
abeyance.

3. The suggestion
in paragraph 2 of
the present letter
should be considered
by the Board in due
course.

W

14- To the Board of Revenue
By the Inspector of Forests

W

24-25.

1st
Regulating Matter
2nd Estate in
North Coast Dist

1st
2nd
3rd