

577/13

M.R.O. 1-20,002-12-3-55.

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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

.....DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	577	Press
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	8. 5. 1874	196.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
8th May 1874.*

Read the following :—

No. 120. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 18th April 1874, No. 918,
Forest No. 54.

Read the following letters :—

From R. K. PUCKLE, Esq., Collector of Tinnevely, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 13th December 1873, No. 705.

With reference to the Board's Proceedings, No. 2,176, dated 24th October last, I have the honour to inform you that I have visited the Kattalai Mallai Hill, and have ascertained that the Zemindar is unwilling to accept the Board's terms, as he apprehends that the lease may be terminated at the option of Government.

2. He is willing to accept, however, an assignment of revenue from lands at the foot of the hill, and as there are several large landholders of the same caste as the Zemindar who are willing to pay to him instead of to Government, I request that I may be authorized to make an assignment of 4,000 Rupees from their assessment, when the Village of Vikramasingapuram comes to be settled.

3. With reference to paragraph 3 of the Board's Proceedings, Major Beddome merely valued the timber that might fairly be cut on the hill at 500 Rupees per annum, but I value the right of keeping smugglers out of our forest at very much more, and as explained in several of my former letters, I think it worth while to pay highly to protect the wooded slopes at the head of our river.

From R. K. PUCKLE, Esq., Collector of Tinnevely, to J. HUNTER-BLAIR, Esq., Inam Commissioner, Madras, dated 9th February 1874, No. 75.

As requested in your Official Memorandum, No. 39, dated 24th ultimo, I have the honour to forward, herewith, an Extract from Mr. Cotton's register relative to the Kattalai Mallai.

2. The definition in this register could hardly be vaguer; the Kattalai Mallai being in reality an isolated ridge, some two miles in length from its western extremity, facing the Pandiyan Kottei to its eastern extremity, on the bank of the Tambrapurney, it stands far back in among the ghaut mountains, some ten miles from Vikramasingapuram, and though Vikramasingapuram is the nearest Village on the Tinnévely side, the Kattalai Mallai and the adjacent mountains form no part of that village, but lie between Vikramasingapuram and the Travancore territory.

3. There are no recorded boundaries of Vikramasingapuram in Mr. Cotton's register; by Revenue Settlement, they extend up to the neighbourhood of the Surveyar, a stream half way between the Village and the Kattalai Mallai.

(True Copy)

(Signed) J. HUNTER-BLAIR,
Inam Commissioner.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
8th May 1874.

Enclosure No. 1.
Extract from the Register of Maniams.

Num-ber.	Name of the original gran-tee.	Names of the present gran-tee.	Name of the vil-lage in which the Maniam-dar is living.	Age.	Feet.	In-ches.	The villages in which the Maniams are situated.	Recamaniam.			MANIAM IN GRAIN.			For what purpose grant- ed.	By what authority granted.	Date of the grant.
								Carr.	Pesha-num.	Total.						
1,244	Velapooja Cut-talay to Pau-pavasa Swa-my's Pagoda, instituted by Valangapooly Periyasawmy Teven.	Vareendamoctoo Pillay, present Manager and Gunastah of Valangapooly Periyasawmy Teven, grand-son of original In-stitutor.	Paupa-venasam.	36	5	2	South side mountain of Vikra-masinga-puram, in the Bra-madesam Taluq.	Per annum.	35	0	0	Crs. F. C.	This amount of Maniam being collected from the Hill produce.	For perform-ing ceremony to the Swamy at 7 o'clock in the morn-ing.	Mamool.	Andu 911.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) R. K. PUCKLE,
Collector.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. HUNTER-BLAIR,
Inam Commissioner.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
8th May 1874.

SUBMITTED for the orders of Government with reference to G. O., dated 13th November 1873, No. 1,262.

2. The Kattalai Mallai Forest is said to be property of the Papanassem Pagoda in the possession of the dispossessed Zemindar of Chockamputti, and the importance of obtaining a lease of it has been urged by the Collector and admitted by the Board and Government. In their Proceedings of the 17th May 1873, No. 826, (Forest No. 23) the Board recommended that Government should lease the Singamputti Forests and if they consented to do so, should also rent the Kattalai Mallai Forest at Rupees 4,000 per annum. In G. O., 4th July 1873, No. 685, Government approved of these proposals.

3. It has since been decided that the Singamputti forests shall be managed by the Forest Department until the Minor comes of age, and that he shall then be offered a rent which he will probably accept, viz., Rupees 11,000 per annum.

4. The case of the Kattalai Mallai Forest is still undecided. The Collector now reports that the occupant will not accept a money rent of Rupees 4,000 a year but will accept an assignment of land revenue of the same amount on land in Vikramasingapuram. There are several large landholders in that village who are willing to pay their dues to the occupant of the Kattalai Mallai instead of to Government, and the Collector proposes to make the assignment when he settles the village.

5. As it is of great importance to gain immediate possession of the forest the Board think the assignment should be sanctioned, but only on the condition that Government Rights to the Kattalai Mallai Forest shall not be affected thereby, and that if the Courts decide that the forest belongs to Government the assignment made in compensation for it shall cease to be of any effect.

6. With regard to the title of Government to the Kattalai Mallai Forest the Board after consulting with the Inam Commissioner are decidedly of opinion that further inquiry should be made.

7. It has hitherto been unquestioned that the Inam title-deed granted to the Papanassem pagoda for a hill maniam called the "Kattalai Mallai maniam," applies to the tract which forms the subject of these Proceedings, but the Title-deed describes it thus:—"This is a hill maniam. Its position is described in the Register of Mr. Cotton as 'south side mountain of Vikramasingapuram.' The extent of the Mallai is according to the

* Acres 3,463.46.

Survey Account Sangili 951-8-0* the assessment of which at the dry rate of the village is Rupees 1,659-10-0;" and in another part of the deed the tract is said to be "Mallai Punjah or Hill Dry Maniam." The map shows that the locality thus described is on the right bank or south of the Tambrapurney at the bend which it takes near Vikramasingapuram and the Board believe there is a tract in that position which might be called Hill punjah. The tract now claimed as the Kattalai Mallai is ten miles away to the south-west on the left bank of the Tambrapurney, and could not by any stretch of imagination be called Hill punjah. It seems probable therefore, that the original Kattalai Mallai having been denuded the occupants seized the present Kattalai Mallai, without having even a colourable title to it.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
8th May 1874.*

8. It will be contended that the description in Mr. Cotton's Register and the Inam Title-deed are wrong because the Curnam who supplied them was ignorant, and that the tract which was intended in both is the tract now called the Kattalai Mallai. Further inquiry will throw light on this question. In 1840 it appears that the Kattalai Mallai was attached as part of the Chockamputty Zemindari and leased to a contractor. It is not obvious why the Kattalai Mallai which is said to have been given away to a pagoda forty years before should have been attached, and the fact is awkward as it seems to admit some right to the hill on the part of the Chockamputty Zemindar, but inquiries should be made as to why the attachment took place, and what tract was actually occupied by the contractor.

9. If the result of the investigation is to show that it is doubtful whether the tract now called the Kattalai Mallai is the tract referred to in Mr. Cotton's Register and the Inam Title-deed, and whether it was occupied sixty years ago, the Board think a suit to recover the property should be filed on behalf of Government. The right of the Chockamputty Zemindar to an isolated hill twenty miles from his Estate, and therefore his right to give such a hill away to a pagoda can no doubt be disputed with success.

10. Should it be found feasible to file this suit and should it be successful it may be possible to revive the claims of Government to immense tracts of forest land which have been endangered by the encroachments of hill Zemindars in Madura or Tinnevely.

No. 120a. From Captain C. WALKER, Officiating Inspector of Forests, to C. G. MASTER, Esq., Acting Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, dated Ootacamund, 29th April 1874, No. 48.

With reference to the Board's Proceedings of 18th April, Forest No. 54, regarding the Kuttalai Mullay forest in the Tinnevely District, I have the honour to bring to the notice of Government that the fact of the area now claimed being identical with that described in the Inam title-deed has not "hitherto been unquestioned," as the Board suppose (paragraph 7).

2. In my report, dated 12th November 1870 (recorded with G. O. of 3rd June 1871, No. 981) on all these hill forests, I say, with reference to the Kuttalai Mullay: "I see nothing to connect either of these entries with a block of valuable forest land, only a comparatively small portion of which has ever been cultivated as punjah," etc., etc. But even if it be established that the tracts are identical, I consider the annual sum, which is proposed to pay (Rs. 4,000), very high and far beyond its value to the Inamdar.

3. I must express regret that more vigorous action was not taken with regard to all these hill forests in 1871 after the issue of the G. O. already quoted; and I cannot concur with Mr. Puckle in his view recorded in subsequent Proceedings that it is only with the southern forests that we need concern ourselves.

4. I consider all these ghaut forests of great value both with regard to climatic considerations, water, and timber supply; and I beg respectfully to suggest the appointment of a Commission to carry out the Board's proposals as to

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
8th May 1874.*

further inquiry, and vested with full powers to investigate, define the extent and boundaries, etc., and lay before Government definite proposals for the final settlement of the matter.

5. I made a similar proposal in 1869 or 1870, when Deputy-Conservator of the range, and feel sure it is the only way to arrive at definite conclusions just and satisfactory to all the parties concerned.

No. 121. ORDER THEREON, 8th May 1874, No. 577.

Forests, No. 3.

If the Zemindar will acquiesce in the conditions prescribed by the Board in paragraph 5 of their Proceedings

recorded above, the arrangement suggested in paragraph 4 should be carried out at once.

2. In any case, the further inquiries indicated should be made quickly.

3. Such a Commission as that proposed by Captain Walker is out of the question; nor would the Zemindars, who are in possession, agree to anything of the kind.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue.
.. the Officiating Inspector of Forests.
.. the Accountant-General.

Mrd. F. R. Bantleman.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 18th April 1874, No. 918.

From R. K. PUCKLE, Esq., Collector of Tinnevely, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 13th December 1873, No. 705.

2. He is willing to accept, however, an assignment of revenue from lands at the foot of the hill, and as there are several large landholders of the same caste as the Zemindar who are willing to pay to him instead of to Government, I request that I may be authorized to make an assignment of 4,000 Rupees from their assessment, when the Village of Vikramasingapuram comes to be settled.

3. With reference to paragraph 3 of the Board's Proceedings, Major Beddome merely valued the timber that might fairly be cut on the hill at 500 Rupees per annum, but I value the right of keeping smugglers out of our forest at very much more, and explained in several of my reports, I think, why it is worth while to pay highly to protect the wooded slopes at the head of our river.

From R. K. PUCKLE, Esq., Collector of Tinnevely, to J. HUNTER-BLAIR, Esq., Inam Commissioner, Madras, dated 9th February 1874, No. 75.

As requested in your Official Memorandum, No. 39, dated 24th ultimo, I have the honour to forward, herewith, an Extract from Mr. Cotton's register relative to the Kattalai Mallai.

2. The definition in this register could hardly be vaguer; the Kattalai Mallai being in reality an isolated ridge, some two miles in length from its western extremity, facing the Pandiyan Kottei to its eastern extremity, on the bank of the Tambrapurney, it stands far back in among the ghaut mountains, some ten miles from Vikramasingapuram, and though Vikramasingapuram is the nearest Village on the Tinnevely side, the Kattalai Mallai and the adjacent mountains form no part of that village, but lie between Vikramasingapuram and the Travancore territory.

3. There are no recorded boundaries of Vikramasingapuram in Mr. Cotton's register; by Revenue Settlement, they extend up to the neighbourhood of the Surveyar, a stream half way between the Village and the Kattalai Mallai.

(True Copy)

(Signed) J. HUNTER-BLAIR,
Inam Commissioner.

1940

1874

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

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ENCLOSURE No. 1.
Extract from the Register of Maniams.

Num-ber.	Name of the original grant-tee.	Names of the present grantees.	Name of the village in which the Maniam-dar is living.	Age.	Feet ches.	In-cludes.	The villages in which the Maniams are situated.	MANIAM IN GRAIN.			For what purpose grant-authorized.	By what authority granted.	Date of the grant.
								Carr.	Pesha-num.	Total.			
1,244	Velapooja Cat-talay to Pau-pavenasa Swa-my's Pagoda, instituted by Valangapooly Periyasawmy Teven.	Vayecandamoote Pillay, present Manager and Gunastah of Valangapooly Periyasawmy Teven, grand-son of original Instructor.	Paupa-pa-pavenasa.	36	5	2	South side mountain of Vikramasingapuram, in the Pradesam Taluq.			This amount of Maniam being collected from the Hill produce.	For perform-ing ceremony to the Swamy at 7 o'clock in the morn-ing.	Mamool.	Andu 941.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) R. K. PUCKLE,
Collector.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. HUNTER-BLAIR,
Inam Commissioner.

SUBMITTED for the orders of Government with reference to G. O., dated 13th November 1873, No. 1,262.

2. The Kattalai Mallai Forest is said to be property of the Papanassem Pagoda in the possession of the dispossessed Zemindar of Chockamputti, and the importance of obtaining a lease of it has been urged by the Collector and admitted by the Board and Government. In their Proceedings of the 17th May 1873, No. 826, (Forest No. 23) the Board recommended that Government should lease the Singamputti Forests and if they consented to do so, should also rent the Kattalai Mallai Forest at Rupees 4,000 per annum. In G. O., 4th July 1873, No. 685, Government approved of these proposals.

3. It has since been decided that the Singamputti forests shall be managed by the Forest Department until the Minor comes of age, and that he shall then be offered a rent which he will probably accept, viz., Rupees 11,000 per annum.

4. The case of the Kattalai Mallai Forest is still undecided. The Collector now reports that the occupant will not accept a money rent of Rupees 4,000 a year but will accept an assignment of land revenue of the same amount on land in Vikramasingapuram. There are several large landholders in that village who are willing to pay their dues to the occupant of the Kattalai Mallai instead of to Government, and the Collector proposes to make the assignment when he settles the village.

5. As it is of great importance to gain immediate possession of the forest the Board think the assignment should be sanctioned, but only on the condition that Government Rights to the Kattalai Mallai Forest shall not be affected thereby, and that if the Courts decide that the forest belongs to Government the assignment made in this connection for it shall cease to be of any effect.

6. With regard to the title of Government to the Kattalai Mallai Forest the Board after consulting with the Inam Commissioner are decidedly of opinion that further inquiry should be made.

7. It has hitherto been unquestioned that the Inam title-deed granted to the Papanassem pagoda for a hill maniam called the "Kattalai Mallai maniam," applies to the tract which forms the subject of these Proceedings, but the Title-deed describes it thus:—"This is a hill maniam. Its position is described in the Register of Mr. Cotton as 'south side mountain of Vikramasingapuram.' The extent of the Mallai is according to the Survey Account Sangili 951-8-0* the

* Acres 3,463-46. assessment of which at the dry rate of the village is Rupees 1,659-10-0;" and in another part of the deed the tract is said to be "Mallai Punjah or Hill Dry Maniam." The map shows that the locality thus described is on the right bank or south of the Tambrapurney at the bend which it takes near Vikramasingapuram and the Board believe there is a tract in that position which might be called Hill punjah. The tract now claimed as the Kattalai Mallai is ten miles away to the south-west on the left bank of the Tambrapurney, and could not by any stretch of imagination be called Hill punjah. It seems probable therefore, that the original Kattalai Mallai having been denuded the occupants seized the present Kattalai Mallai, without having even a colourable title to it.

Board's Proceedings, dated 5th November 1871,
No. 4,640.

10. Should it be found feasible to file this suit and should it be successful it may be possible to revive the claims of Government to immense tracts of forest land which have been endangered by the encroachments of hill Zemindars in Madura or Tinnevely.

(True Copies and Extract.)

Copy to the Inam Commissioner.
 „ to the Inspector of Forests.

Ex-l, G. A. Terton.

Secretary,

PROCEEDINGS, 18TH APRIL 1874, No. 318.

No 1354
Decr. 1874. Sept.
Board of Aldermen,
MADRAS.

Encl

Ms. A.5.77-6 May 1944
Entered by 23

April.
Forest No. 51

Authorial Matter: Forest—said to be property of Zaminadar Partha, in possession of dispossessed Zaminadar of Chockanpatty, in Tinnevely District.—A recommendation made to Government that an assignment of land revenue, amounting to Rspees 4,000 a year, should be made to Zaminadar on certain conditions, in favour of— which should be taken possession of by Government, and that further inquiry should be made with regard to title of Government to the Forest.

Revenue Department.

No. 577

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

C No. 1354.

From *Board of Revenue*
Dated *18th April* 1874.

F. O R D E R S.

If the given doc. will
acquire in the con-
ditions prescribed by
the H. H. the proposed
arranged ^{must} book better
be a bound & carried as
it once. Any how the

ed in paragraph 4
should be carried out at
once.

2. In any case the
further

8. It will be contended that the description in Mr. Cotton's Reg Inam Title-deed are wrong because the Curnam who supplied them v. and that the tract which was intended in both is the tract now called

FOR ORDERS.

Revenue Department.

No. 577

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Under date the 8th May, 1874.

READ the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, and letter from the Off^r & Sec^y of Forests.

Regarding possession of Kallalai Mollai Strad in Tinnevely District.

H. E. 18th April 1874 N. 918 and 29th April 1874 N. 28.

1. If the Zemindar will acquiesce in the conditions prescribed by the Board in paragraph 5 of their Proceedings recorded above the arrangement suggested in paragraph 4 should be carried out at once.

2. In any case the further

MADRAS.

PRINTED 18TH APRIL 1874, No. 918.

Compd 22/5/74 -

Encl.

No. 46577 - 8 May 1874.

23

APRIL.

Forest No. 54.

2. Mollai Forest - said to be property of Kallalai, in possession of diptar of Chockanputty, in Tinnevely - Recommendation made to Government an assignment of land revenue, to Rupees 4,000 a year, should be eminent on certain conditions, in lieu of which should be taken possession of by Government and that further inquiry should be made regard to title of Government to the

C. S. M. R. 7th

For orders

CLIC

Further enquiries indicated should be made quickly.

3. Such a commission as that proposed by Captain Walker is out of the question; nor would the Zemindars who are in possession agree to any thing of the kind.

WLL

WLL

14 To the Rev Secy May 174 -
311 Offg Inspy. Genl -
6 " Secy Genl -

120-121

No. 48.

From

Office of Inspector of Forests,
Coatacamund 29th April 74.

Captain Campbell Walker,
Offg Inspector of Forests.

To,

C. G. Master Esqre
As Secretary to Government
R. D.

Sir,

With reference to the Board's
Proceedings of 18th April, Forest
No 54, regarding the Kuttalai
Mullay Forest in the Tinnerelly
District, I have the honor to bring
to the notice of Government that
the fact of the area now claimed
being identical with that described
in the Inam title deed has not
hitherto been unquestioned as the
Board suppose (Para 7). -

2. - In my Report dated 12th

November

November 1870 (recorded with L.C. of
3rd June 1871. & 951.) on all these
hill Forests, I say with reference
to the Kattalai Mulla, I see
nothing to connect either of these
entries with a block of valuable
forest land only a comparatively
small portion of which has ever
been cultivated as puziah" &c &c

But even if it be established that
the tracts are identical I consider the
annual sum which is proposed to
pay (Rs. 1,000) very high, and far
beyond its value to the Inamdar.

3.- I must express regret that
more vigorous action was not
taken with regard to all these hill
Forests in 1871, after the issue of
the L.C. already quoted, and I cannot
concur with Mr. Puckle in his view
recorded in subsequent proceedings
that

that it is only with the Southern
Forests that we need concern ourselves.

4.- I consider all these Great
Forests of great value both with re-
gard to climatic considerations,
water, and timber supply, and I
beg respectfully to suggest the ap-
pointment of a Commission to carry
out the Board's proposals as to
further enquiry, & vested with full
powers to investigate, define the
extent and boundaries &c, and lay
before Government definite proposals
for the final settlement of the
matter.

5.- I made a similar proposal
in 1869 or 1870, when I was Conservator
of the Range, and feel sure it is the
only way to arrive at definite con-
clusions just and satisfactory to
all the parties concerned.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most Obedt. Servt.

~~Campbell~~ ^{Captain}
Offg. Inspector of Forests.

It can be seen in
out of the ground - how
much the ground
who are in possession
agree to any thing of
the kind.

Mal
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10/5
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I have the honor to

Sir,

N^o. 1384.
Revenue 1874-75, Sept.
Forest Department

From

The Inspector of
Forests

To

The Secy. Secy.
to Govt. R. D.

Dated 29th April 1876.
Received 1st May.

N^o. 48.
S.D. No. 577-8 May 1876
Enclosure here

Subject

Brings to notice, with
reference to Board's Pro: of
18th April, Forest No 54,
the facts of the area now
claimed by ^{mostly} Kattalai, forest
in the Tirunelveli District.

120 A.

C¹st May 1876 R7th