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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.

278.

B.P. No.

164 - 165.

Press

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Dated

15. 5. 1874. 196-.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
15th May 1874.*

Read again G. Os., dated 20th January 1874, No. 88, and 13th February 1874, No. 109.

No. 164. Read also the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 21st April 1874, No. 935, Forest No. 55:—

Read the following letter from A. WEDDEBURN, Esq., Collector of Coimbatore, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 10th March 1874, No. 57:—

In reply to Forest Memorandum, No. 35-799, Proceedings Board of Revenue, 6th February 1874, referring certain correspondence for report, I have the honour to observe that the Deputy Conservator, Annamally Forest, has reported direct to the Inspector of Forests on the question of the cost and price of Annamally Teak. I beg to annex Mr. Douglas' reply to a letter from me (also enclosed) on the subject of developing a local market.

2. Until we try a local auction it cannot be decisively said whether or not the prices will be remunerative.

3. I noted that a very inferior lot, realized full book prices at Coimbatore, when auctioned by the Tahsildar under my instructions in April last year.

4. My suggestion was to try an auction at the depôt at the foot of the ghaut instead of carting the timber forty-five miles to Coimbatore, and as regards sawyers' charges and cart hire, I fancy that native purchasers could compass the same more cheaply in a town, than a Government Department in a feverish forest.

5. There is no objection to send the superior teak to Bombay if the rates there are remunerative, but the chief matter is to get a good price, the means of ascertaining which I have suggested.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From A. WEDDERBURN, Esq., Collector of Coimbatore, to C. G. DOUGLAS, Esq., Deputy Conservator of Forests, Annamally Range, dated 14th February 1874, No. 64.

I HAVE the honour to request a report on the subject of Major Beddome's letter, in Proceedings Madras Government, forwarded by Board of Revenue, with order dated 6th February 1874.

2. It would further be important to know the local demand for, and prices likely to be obtained from the sale of, timber, at the local depôt, say at Adivaram, or on the spot if sold in the forest, and removed by purchasers. The last sale at Coimbatore of inferior pieces was not discouraging.

3. A remunerative price in the local market would obviate the trouble, expense, and risk of sending the timber to more distant markets and simplify accounts. Local auctions might be advertised, or superior timber stored for periodic sales at Coimbatore as an experiment.

From C. G. DOUGLAS, Esq., Deputy Conservator of Forests, Annamally Range, to A. WEDDERBURN, Esq., Collector and Conservator of Forests, Coimbatore, dated 23rd February 1874, No. 903.

I HAVE the honour to reply to your letter No 64 of the 14th current, regarding the question of a market* for Annamally timber.

* Note i.e., local market.

2. I do not think that we shall, for some years at all events, command a remunerative price for superior teak locally, in such quantities as to render us independent of the great timber markets on the Coast or Bombay, and it seems to

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
15th May 1874.*

me, from Major Beddome's report on the Bombay trade, that the prospect there is on the whole encouraging, and I think his suggestions should be entertained. It would certainly be preferable to sell in the district at decent rates; it would, as you say, obviate expense, trouble and risk. But it should be remembered that immense quantities have for the last thirty years been shipped to Bombay from the Annamallys and the only hitch, that ever occurred, happened recently, as you may remember. But, while I am of opinion that we should look for our main profits from the Bombay trade, I think every effort should be made to establish our wood in markets nearer home. Formation of depôts, periodical sales, and judicious advertisement are, as you have pointed out, the means by which this may be effected. It is probable that there will be a steady demand for some years from the Railway Company for sleepers; I have, as you are aware, secured the indent for the coming year, and if results are satisfactory, I see no reason why we should not retain it.

3. I believe that the most profitable method of utilizing our present large stock would be sawing it into various scantlings. We might thus sell every scrap of wood and save much of the wastage allowance which buyers of timber in the rough are granted in conformity with custom. Of course a certain quantity of wood in log would be kept unsawn, but I am sure there is an immense portion of our existing stock that will sell very much better if cut up. This work could be accomplished next year as our felling operations will be limited and supervision will be available, and as nearly the whole of the timber has now been brought out of the forest, there would not be much difficulty in getting sawyers.

4. I do not know whether you have seen a memorandum with which I furnished Major Beddome on the subject of the cost of Annamally teak, probably you have, as it has lately been published with further proceedings of Government.

(True Copies.)

(Signed) A. WEDDERBURN,
Collector.

In the letter recorded with G. O., dated 20th January 1874, No. 88, the Inspector of Forests recommends that all the Annamally Teak and Rosewood in excess of requirements for the Gun Carriage Manufactory, the Railway, and the Public Works Department in Coimbatore and Trichinopoly should be sent annually to Messrs. Nicol and Co. or the Marine Timber Dockyard to be sold by auction, and that a trial consignment of 30 or 40 tons of teak should be sent to Messrs. Nicol and Co. at once.

2. The Collector of Coimbatore thinks that superior teak might be sent to Bombay, but that auctions should be held at the foot of the ghaut so as to ascertain what price can be realized on the spot.

3. The Deputy-Conservator in charge of the Annamallys is in favour of sending superior teak to Bombay to keep open the market there, of establishing the wood in the local markets by a judicious system of depôts, sales and advertisement, and of sawing up much of the existing large stock of timber into scantlings.

4. The Board think that all these suggestions are good and would recommend that superior teak should be sent to Messrs. Nicol and Co. for sale by auction in Bombay, that well advertised periodical sales should be held at the foot of the hills in a place or places not reputed to be feverish, and that the result of sawing up the timber should be tried.

5. The result of all these operations should be carefully watched, and it will be discovered before long what is the most remunerative method of disposing of the teak and what price can be realized for it.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
15th May 1874.*

No. 165.

ORDER THEREON, 15th May 1874, No. 593.

Forests, No. 4.

THE experimental consignment of 30 or 40 tons of Annamally Teak to Messrs. Nicol and Co. of Bombay to be sold by them at auction is sanctioned. A small quantity of Blackwood might also be sent, and Lieutenant-Colonel Beddome's suggestion as to Kiral Boghi (*Норса парвифлора*) should not be lost sight of.

2. The Government have already suggested that periodical auctions of timber should be regularly held on fixed dates at Ponani and Coimbatore or elsewhere.

3. They do not consider that auctions at a place so difficult of access and so unhealthy as the foot of ghaut are likely to be successful, and desire that sales be first attempted at the places and in the manner indicated by them.

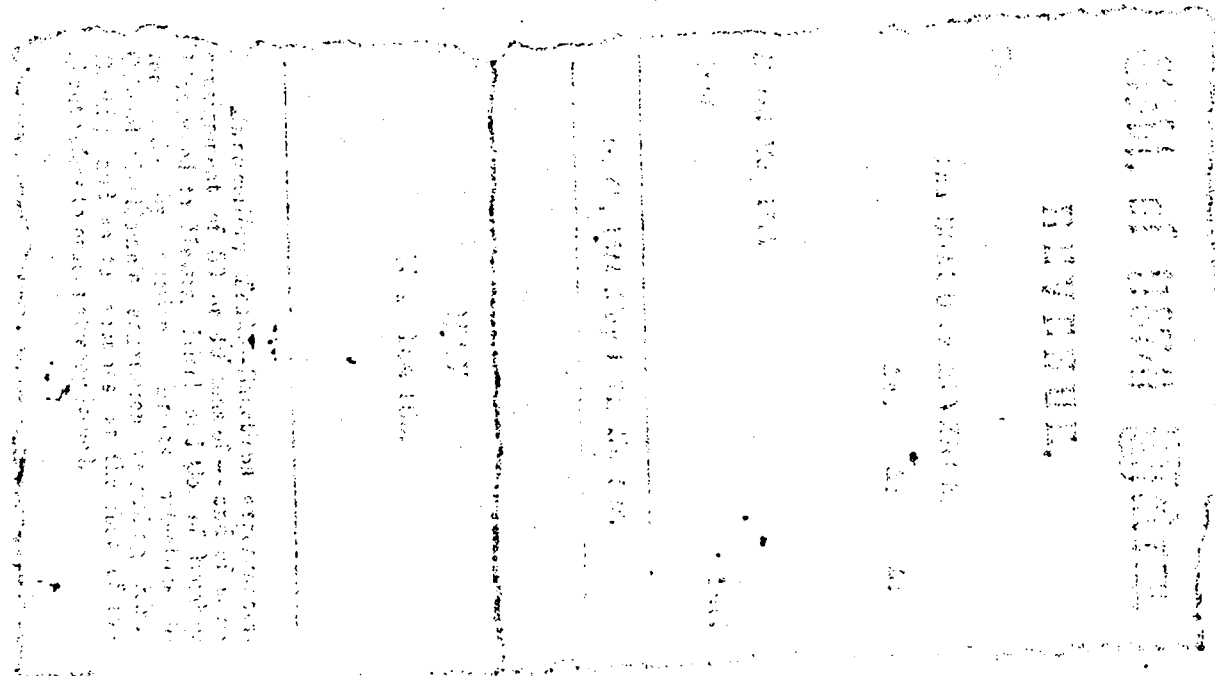
(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue.
.. the Accountant-General.

the Secretary of Forests.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.



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598

FOREST No. 55.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 21st April 1874, No. 935.

Read the following letter from A. WEDDEBURN, Esq., Collector of Coimbatore, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 10th March 1874, No. 57:—

In reply to Forest Memorandum, No. 35-799, Proceedings Board of Revenue, 6th March 1874, referring certain correspondence for report, I have the honour to observe that the Deputy Conservator, Annamally Forest, has reported direct to the Inspector of Forests on the question of the cost and price of Annamally Teak. I beg to annex Mr. Douglas' reply to a letter from me (also enclosed) on the subject of developing a local market.

2. Until we try a local auction it cannot be decisively said whether or not the prices will be remunerative.

3. I noted that a very inferior lot, realized full book prices at Coimbatore, when auctioned by the Tahsildar under my instructions in April last year.

4. My suggestion was to try an auction at the depôt at the foot of the ghaut instead of carting the timber forty-five miles to Coimbatore, and as regards sawyers' charges and cart hire, I fancy that native purchasers could compass the same more cheaply in a town, than a Government Department in a feverish forest.

5. There is no objection to send the superior teak to Bombay if the rates there are remunerative, but the chief matter is to get a good price, the means of ascertaining which I have suggested.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From A. WEDDERBURN, Esq., Collector of Coimbatore, to C. G. DOUGLAS, Esq., Deputy Conservator of Forests, Annamally Range, dated 14th February 1874, No. 64.

I HAVE the honour to request a report on the subject of Major Beddome's letter, in Proceedings Madras Government, forwarded by Board of Revenue, with order dated 6th February 1874.

2. It would further be important to know the local demand for, and prices likely to be obtained from the sale of, timber, at the local depôt, say at Adiyaram, or on the spot if sold in the forest, and removed by purchasers. The late sale at Coimbatore of inferior pieces was not discouraging.

3. A remunerative price in the local market would obviate the trouble, expense, and risk of sending the timber to more distant markets and simplify accounts. Local auctions might be advertised, or superior timber stored for periodical sales at Coimbatore as an experiment.

Rev. Secy.
 598.
 Proceedings of the Madras Government
 Under date the 15th May 1874.
 Read again G.O. 20th Jan 1874.
 188 & 13th Feb 1874, etc. 1874.
 Read also the following No.
 of the Board of Revenue.

Only papers regarding
 disposal of Annamally teak
 in excess of requirements of
 Gun Carriage Manufacturing
 Railway & P.W. Dept in Coimbatore
 & Trichinopoly and recommending
 that surplus teak should be
 sent for sale by auction in
 Bombay & that periodical
 sales should be held at foot
 of the Ghaut.

A.L. 21 April 1874, No. 935.

The experimental
 consignment of 30 or 40
 tons of Annamally
 teak to Messrs. Steel & Co.
 of Bombay to be sold
 by them at auction is
 sanctioned. A small
 quantity of Blackwood
 might

G.O. 20th Jan 1874 & 18th Feb 1874
 11th Feb 1874 42. etc.

No. 143.

Revenue 1874, Appendix A.

Board of Revenue,

MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 21st APRIL 1874, No. 935.

G.O. 20th Jan 1874.
 Encl.

Received 30th April 1874

APRIL.
 Forest No. 55.

Annamally Teak—in excess of requirements
 of Gun Carriage Manufactory, Railway, and
 Public Works Department, in Coimbatore and
 Trichinopoly.—Papers regarding disposal of—
 submitted to Government, and recommendation
 made that surplus teak should be sent for sale
 by auction in Bombay; that periodical sales
 should be held at foot of the Ghaut, and that
 such of existing large stock of timber should
 be sawn up into scantlings.

G.O. 10th May 1874.

C. 12th May 1874 R. 13th

11/4.

might also be sent, and
Lieut. Col. Beddome's
suggestion as to Kinal
Boghi (*Hopea Parviflora*)
should not be lost sight
of.

2. The Govt have always
suggested that periodi-
cal auctions of timber
should be regularly
held on fixed dates at
Ponani & Coimbatore or
elsewhere.

3. They do not consider
that an auction at a
place so difficult of
access and so unhealthy
as the fort of Chant is
likely to be successful,
and desire that sales
be first attempted at
the places and in the
manner indicated by

Para: 13 G.O. 24 22/1/4, 1858

then. J. C.

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164-165
C. 12th May 1745 R. 15th

164-165
C. 12th May 1745 R. 15th