873

M.R.O. 1—20,002—12-8-65.

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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

~~G.O. No.~~ / B.P. No.	873.	Press / Mis.

Dated 13th July 196 1874

Not to be folded or roughly handled

1/873

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
13th July 1874.

No. 104.

Forests, No. 3.

Dated 13*th July* 1874, *No.* 873.

His Excellency the Governor in Council has been informed by the Collector of Malabar that a block of land, estimated to contain 2,000 acres, adjacent to the Walliar Fuel Reserve, the purchase of which was approved in the orders of Government, dated 6th and 20th June 1873, Nos. 578 and 637, is in the market, and may probably be purchased for Rs. 20,000.

2. The tract in question lies to the north and west of the existing reserve; its boundaries are clearly defined by streams; and its acquisition would enable the reserve to be extended up to the banks of the Walliar stream right bank, the Sholacurray forests of Coimbatore being on the opposite or left bank.

3. The general character of the soil is said to resemble closely that of the existing reserve and to be very favorable to the growth of Teak and other timber trees as well as of descriptions fit for railway fuel. The situation as regards proximity to the railway, rain-fall, and access generally, is stated to be very fair, while in the tract there is a considerable quantity of timber more or less valuable, and seedlings of Teak, Vengay, Rosewood, *etc.*, are springing up on all sides.

4. Both the Collector and Inspector of Forests are of opinion that the acquisition of this block would be most advantageous to the State, and as its sale may take place at any moment the Governor in Council [illegible] instruct the Collector to bid

5. The Board of Revenue will report whether the sum required for its purchase can be provided from savings. If not special application for the amount will be made to the Government of India.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue.
„ the Collector of Malabar.
„ the Inspector of Forests.

Exd F. R. Bantleman.

Govt. of India Forest
REVENUE.

To

The Board of Revenue,

Dated Dept. 188

Read.

G.O. [illegible] 188

No. 104

Letter adjoined to the Madras Civil Service Manual, Volume [illegible] Revenue Department—Authorizing the Collector to bid for the purchase of the — up to 20,000 Rs. and requesting the Revenue Board to report whether the sum can be provided from savings.

Recd. Cert. 862 fol 4 for R? 23-7-74.

Revenue Department

1/823

5/103

2/873 June 20th

My dear Master.

A few days ago when Lieutenant Walker was inspecting the reserves at Waltzar I showed him a large block of land, adjoining that purchased by Govt. last year, which is much attached of the Kandyan Chief Judge thinks the Govt should

I send a memo drawn up by Walker from which it will be seen that he considers the land well worth 10 Rs an acre.

The area is not known - but is estimated by the Court at 2000 acres - it is probably very little under that if at all

Taken 20th 7/74

ment dated 6th & 20th June 1873 Nos 578 and 837

to

If it is intended to purchase the Land I should have anything at once to the extent of 20.000 Rs as it may be sold at a few days notice; in fact it was actually put up at auction about 3 weeks ago but owing to an irregularity in the attachment the sale was not confirmed.

I consider myself that the ... has a most desirable position, that as better site for depôt of fuel could not possibly be got, & that the depôt of valuable timber trees on the Land such as Teak & Rosewood is such as to secure a considerable set off against the expence of purchasing Land —

3/53

The position of the block to with reference to the existing Reserve as well as with reference to the Kolabarry Road in Coimbatore is such as to render its acquisition very desirable as considerable inconvenience might arise from it falling into the hands of native timber speculators whose operations would be conducted transverse our reserves. There would also be great economy in fencing, enclosures &c. owing to the peculiar position of the tract.

The jungles in question are the furthest Eastward of those receiving the full benefit of the South West Monsoon consequently there is no place where the

Memt dated 6th & 20th June 1873 Nos 578 and 837

cost of carriage towards the arid tract
of Countries Teichmitsj would be too.

Believe me
Yours sincerely
A Schlagintweit

Enclosure dated 6th & 20th June
1873 Nos 578 and 837

873 No 2128.

Revenue 1874. Depart.

Special

From

A. Macgregor Esq
Coll. of Malabar

Dated 30 June
Rec'd 1 July } 1874.

Encl.

Intimates that a large block of land at Walliyar adjoining that purchased by Govt last year is to be sold by a writ of attachment, and requests, for reasons stated, authority to purchase it for 20,000 Rs.

For orders

C 1st July 1874 R 0th

Revenue Department

873

No 2128

From A. Macgregor Esq Coll. of Malabar

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For orders

C 1st July 1874 R 0th

To

Memorandum on the proposed purchase of land adjoining the existing Walliar (Malabar) Reserve recently purchased by Govt

I have visited the place and in company with Mr. Morgan & Mr. King surveyed the boundaries pointed out by the hill men, and agreed to by the agent of the neighbouring proprietor.

The tract adjoins the existing Reserve lying to the North & West of it, the boundaries are clearly defined by streams and the land is mostly mountainous & situated with regard to the existing Reserve as to extend its limits up the Walliyar Stream right bank - having the Thekkumpuzy Forest of Cunnibatore on the (i.e left) bank - The extent of the land to be purchased is estimated as 1600 acres as I may it will be found to be fully that from its configuration & the hilly nature of part of the block it is difficult to form an estimate with any claim to accuracy - The general character of the soil closely resembles that of the existing Reserve & is very favorable to the growth of

Agreement dated 6th & 20th June 1873 Nos 578 and 837

Revenue Department

1/623

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teak, Venjay - Rosewood + other timber trees as well as of descriptions fit for railway fuel notably the A. Lencophlea ~~of~~ (Vel Velam) which appears to grow particularly well - The situation both as regards proximity to the railway contiguity to the existing Govt. Forest means of checking clandestine felling and rainfall is all that could be desired and the means of access are very fair compared with most Govt forests and could be made excellent at comparatively little cost -

There is already a considerable quantity of timber more or less valuable in the block and some of the teak has been conservancy well & pruned & the native ~~Mysoreans~~ Sivarayan who is skilled to realise as much as Rs 5 = a piece for trees in trimmings varying from 8" to 12" in diameter Seedlings of teak, Venjay - Rosewood &c are springing up on all sides although no attempt has been made to exclude fires and cattle a considerable number yare in the tract throughout the year -

On the whole I consider the tract would be a very valuable acquisition especially as it is situated at what may be called the extreme limit of the S.W. Monsoon which marks also the limit of coped re-production of timber-fuel trees and from which we must in great measure look for the supply of timber for the local markets & the eastward until the railway as far as Coimbatore or even Erode -

I should therefore not hesitate to recommend its purchase at any reasonable price not to exceed Rs 10 per acre which was the price paid for the existing Reserve — were it not for the recent orders of Govt regarding the restrictions (so called) on the free entry of traders & others into the forests classed as Reserved Forests which it is, of course, my duty to carry out and which seem to deprecate any attempt at control or interference on the part of officers charged with the conservancy of forests, even when such measures have been carefully considered & have the approval of the Collector of the District & Board of Revenue - If portions of the forests can not be closed from time to time for conservancy & re-production, the necessary & recognized effects of which being lost unintelligible with, I cannot recommend Govt to go to any expense either in the

Report dated 6th & 20th June 1873 Nos 578 and 637

Revenue Department

No 823

[illegible] clause in lease of private lands, in attempting encroachment in their own, which, under the conditions expressed, cannot fail to prove abortive + unsatisfactory. Mr. Macpherson has pointed out to me that the circumstances in Malabar differ widely from those in most other Districts that there are no communal rights + that the private proprietors from whom we may lease or purchase forest lands claim + exercise an undoubted right which we be hampered to us, + close the Forests wholly or in part to man + beast. This is undoubtedly the case but the same holds with regard to the Nambiddy's forest leased by us on the Annamullays + Mr. Macpherson himself said that they do not intend to exercise any such rights, even when strongly recommended to do so by the Forest Officer + the Collector, in order to preserve + improve some of the finest teak forests in the Presidency, leased for a considerable sum with a view to their preservation + systematic working. I presume that Govt will not wish to enforce restrictions in purchased forests which they deprecate + forbid in leased tracts or State forests even although the restrictions might not be so severely felt in one place as another - Any proper Forest Conservancy must interfere with the customs of the people, as it has in all countries, and time alone can prove to them that it is for the good + welfare of the population + at large that they are conceived - For it will + should be exercised every day by Coffee planters + others which the hesitate to enforce themselves for the undoubted benefit of the country in the preservation of the forests -

The question is too large to be argued in this Memorandum which, besides, has merely reference to the question of the advisability of seizing the present opportunity of acquiring this valuable Forest property - an opportunity not likely to occur again.

As I have said, I should not hesitate to recommend it were I convinced that Govt were determined fully to initiate + carry out a system of Forest Conservancy such as is being matured + enforced throughout the rest of India, irrespective of the personal predilections of individual Officers of the Revenue Department who may be in charge of Districts and therefore not liable to be changed from time to time. Failing this + in the face of the recent orders of Govt the Madras Govt which seem to point in the other direction I cannot recommend any expenditure on this or any other account.

Camp Beedee 20th June 1873

Memo dated 6th & 20th June 1873 Nos 578 and 837

Revenue Department

No. 823

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

From A. Mac Gregor Esqre

Dated 30th June 1874

FOR ORDERS.

Revenue Department

82/873

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82/873

Capt Campbell Walker states
that he does not
recommend the purchase until
Jet ~~able~~ can abandon to us
all interest of the
Indians in respect of the
Allender. The 1st known
(as understood) that there
are no further rights
that can exist as we will
have determined

Capt Campbell writes

on the orders of Govern-
ment dated 6th & 20th June
1873 Nos 578 and 637

for a writ under the ex-
ecutive and will make
a supplementary part. The
land if purchased must be
free & cleared as the
rest of the tract, also fenced
& put in

J. D.

7. 4/87

Revenue Department.

No 823

19/873

FOR ORDERS.

Revenue Department

No 873

No 873

to block & strictly license

it.

L.O.L

6.7. We cannot have laws
in Malabar by-laws &
class - Res[tricted] to
public purpose & Specific
-ic demarcation & Sanction
the purchase.

I agree with Mr. Lee
Mr Collector should reserve
Mr Seller by
Woods - or more Poles of
Wood - & Mr Collector to
Forest Land - & Mr Collector the
-ject of the Bill now before the
Govt of India - But this is
a Special and Reasonable
case. As Jenkins in Hall's
Mr + Conservator 2/7 BH

Mr Collector of [illegible]

ment dated 6th & 20th Jan
1873 Nos 578 and 837

heavily means I think,
that if here - as on the
Annamallays - any body else
pleases may enter the land
there can be no remedy in behalf
and it is intolerable to keep the
land. As I have already urged
in the case of the Annamallays
there are no communal or
other rights there or here - but
I am in the minority & this
section - I would certainly keep

Revenue Department

II/823

№ 873.

Proceedings of the Madras Government

Under date the 13th July 1874.

His Excellency

the Governor in Council

has been informed by

the Collector of Madura

that a block of land

estimated to contain

2000 acres adjacent

to the Wallair Fuel

Reserve the purchase

of which was approved

in the orders of Govern-

ment dated 6th & 20th June

1873 №s 578 and 837

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2. The tract in question lies to the North and West of the existing Reserve, its boundaries are clearly defined by streams and its acquisition would enable the Reserve to be extended up to the banks of the Walliar stream right bank, the Sholacurray forests of Coimbatore being on the opposite or left bank.

3. The General character of the soil is said to resemble closely that of the existing

13/68

existing Reserve and to be very favorable to the growth of Teak and other timber trees as well as of descriptions fit for railway fuel. The situation as regards proximity to the railway, rainfall, and access generally is stated to be very good while in the tract there is a considerable quantity of timber more or less valuable and seedlings of Teak, vengay, Ironwood &c are springing up on all sides.

4 Both the Collector and Inspector of Forests are of opinion that the acquisition of this block would be most advantageous to the State and

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813

and as its sale may take place at any moment the Governor in Council resolves to instruct the Collector to bid for it up to Rupees 20,000.

5. The Board of Revenue will report whether the sum required for its purchase can be provided from the ordinary Forest Budget? If not, if he cannot safely borrow, if time the Budget is passed, to apply to me.

E M

Recd 22 H.S. 13-7. PC 22-7-14

To The Bd of Rev. " Collr of Malabar. Inspr of Forests 22-7-14.

Office Note

The Collr's letter being demi official cannot be printed with the G.O.

G.C.

Regarding purchase of land at Wanganui

No. 47.

Can be sent by Land Direct

Despatched via Auckland

Answered

C 11th July 1874 R 13th