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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

REVENUE DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. / B.P. No.	1235	Press / Mis.
Dated	29-9-1874	196

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
29th September 1874.

No. 261. Read the following Extract from the Proceedings of the Government of India in the Department of Revenue, Agriculture, and Commerce, (Forests,) dated 15th September 1874, Nos. 31/1,061—1,073 :—

Read—

Letter from the Secretary to the Financial Commissioner, Punjab, to the Government of the Punjab, No. 619, dated the 14th June 1873, together with a memorandum by the Financial Commissioner.

Letter from the Government of the Punjab, to the Secretary to the Financial Commissioner, No. 1,425, dated 27th October 1873.

Correspondence on the demarcation of the reserved forests in the Hazara district by Captain Wace, Settlement Officer, and Mr. Reynolds, Assistant Conservator of Forests.

Orders of the Punjab Government, noted in the margin, on the demarcation of the Dungagali forests and Khanpur Rukhs, together with the papers on which the orders were based.

No. 425, dated 6th April 1872.
„ 427, „ „
„ 428, „ „
Nos. 275 to 278, dated 20th July 1872.
No. 1,265, dated 2nd October 1873.

RESOLUTION.

THE correspondence on the demarcation of the reserved forests in Hazara will be useful to all forest officers employed on demarcation work. It shows how, under somewhat difficult circumstances, valuable and extensive reserves, aggregating 236 square miles, have been demarcated and placed under the control of Government without apparently in any way injuriously affecting the local population.

2. The Punjab Government has already expressed an opinion that these satisfactory results are mainly due to the care and judgment of Captain Wace, the Settlement Officer, and Mr. Reynolds, the Assistant Conservator of Forests, now attached to the Survey Branch of the Forest Department; the Governor-General in Council concurs in His Honor's approval of the services rendered in this matter by these officers.

ORDER.—Ordered that the correspondence above quoted, the memorandum by the Financial Commissioner of the Punjab, and the orders of the Punjab Government, together with this Resolution, be circulated to the Governments of Madras and Bombay and the local Governments and Administrations marginally noted, for communication to forest officers, and also to the Foreign Department.

Bengal.
North-Western Provinces.
Punjab.
Oudh.
Central Provinces.
British Burma.
Mysore and Coorg.
Ajmere.
Assam.
Berar.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) A. O. HUME,
Secretary to the Government of India.

No. 31/1,061.

To the Government of Madras.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From J. A. E. MILLER, Esq., Secretary to the Financial Commissioner, Punjab, to the Secretary to the Government of the Punjab, dated 14th June 1873, No. 619.

FORWARDS for orders of Government, Commissioner of Peshâwar's No. 964, dated 29th May, submitting a report by Captain Wace, Settlement Officer, Hazara, on the demarcation of the Kagan and Siran ranges of forests in the Hazara District, together with a memorandum by the Financial Commissioner on the subject.

Copy of Financial Commissioner's Memorandum on the Demarcation of reserved Forests in Kagan and Siran Ranges, Hazara District.

THIS report is a continuation of the report previously submitted on the demarcation of the reserved forests in Dungagali and Khanpur of the Hazara District. Captain Wace submits Mr. Reynolds's reports with his own remarks.

The demarcation has been made under Nos. 2, 3, and 4, of the Hazara Forest Rules of 1870, and Mr. Reynolds and Captain Wace have been guided by the same principles which were sanctioned by Government when the report on the Dungagali and Khanpur forest was submitted.

The tracts, which it is proposed to constitute reserved forests, have been selected with great care, and the rights of the people and their requirements have been duly considered. An ample area for grazing and for the supply of wood for the wants of the inhabitants has been left unreserved, and even in the reserved tracts rights of use of forest-products have been granted wherever it appeared necessary. Captain Wace's report is so clear and full that it is not necessary to recapitulate more than the points in it which require the orders of Government. These are—

Paragraph 8.

Paragraph 9.

I.—The concessions in *unreserved* forests in Kagan.

The proposals are contained in paragraph 10 of Captain Wace's report; they relate to the unreserved tracts in the higher villages of Kagan. Under the existing rules a written permission from the Government Thanadar is required before trees can be cut. These rules have not been strictly enforced hitherto, and if enforced now in this remote tract the people will be put to much inconvenience.

II.—Stoppage of cultivation in the reserved forests.

The proposals on this head are contained in paragraph 11 of Captain Wace's report.

The area is 1,143 kanals 3 murlas = 143 acres according to Mr. Reynolds's statement, but only 109 acres, in paragraph 11 of Captain Wace's report, belonging to 23 villages.

The land is poor and has been brought under cultivation recently and contrary to the forest rules. Captain Wace proposes to stop their cultivation without paying compensation: and, considering the circumstances under which the land has been occupied, and that in no case does it exceed 31 acres in any one village, I think the proposal should be sanctioned and the land resumed without payment of compensation.

The precautions which should be taken when a forest officer visits the Siran forest tracts are mentioned in paragraph 12 of Captain Wace's report, and deserve attention.

In paragraph 13 of the Settlement Officer's report, the absence of a topographical map, showing in detail exact boundaries of the reserved forests, is noted. There is no doubt that the completion of such a map is most desirable.

Captain Wace notices the services of Mr. Reynolds in paragraph 16 of his report with praise, and the Commissioner concurs in his remarks. Mr. Reynolds has completed the demarcation of 236 square miles of reserved forest, and furnished valuable maps of 114 square miles of it in 1½ years. Mr. Reynolds's services deserve the approval of Government.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
29th September 1874.

The Commissioner of Peshâwar, in submitting Captain Wace's report, notices the unpopularity which must always, in some degree, attend a measure of this kind. He notes the care and consideration with which the demarcation has been carried out, and he recommends that the proceedings of the Settlement Officer be approved tentatively.

Any modifications which may be necessary can be made before the final report of the Settlement Officer is submitted, and I concur in his recommendation.

From T. H. THORNTON, Esq., Secretary to the Government of the Punjab, to the Secretary to the Financial Commissioner of the Punjab, dated 27th October 1873, No. 1,425.

I HAVE laid before the Honorable the Lieutenant-Governor your letters, No. 619, dated 11th June, and No. 897, dated 16th August, transmitting reports by Captain Wace, Settlement Officer, and Mr. Reynolds, Assistant Conservator of Forests, on the demarcation of the forests of the Kagan and Siran ranges in the Hazara District, together with maps and appendices appertaining thereto, two transmitting letters of the Commissioner, and the Financial Commissioner's memorandum.

2. The demarcation of these valuable forest tracts appears to have been effected with the same care and judgment which was evinced in the demarcation of those of Khanpur and Dungagali, and the reports are clear and complete.

3. As recommended by Financial Commissioner, His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor approves and sanctions provisionally the proceedings of the Settlement Officer, and requests that his thanks be conveyed to Captain Wace and Mr. Reynolds for their services. I have to add that the services of the latter officer will be brought to the notice of the Inspector-General of Forests.

4. The concessions proposed in paragraph 10 of the Settlement Officer's report are sanctioned. With regard to the proposed resumption of certain lands in reserved forests recently brought into cultivation in breach of existing rules, His Honor agrees that their resumption is desirable and necessary; but, with reference to the recommendation that no compensation should be awarded to the cultivators, His Honor, while concurring in the opinion that these cultivators have no *right* to compensation, is nevertheless desirous that consideration should be shown and compensation granted in any case in which there may be any special ground for leniency.

5. With reference to the absence of a topographical survey map showing the exact boundaries of the reserved forests, remarked upon in paragraph 13 of the Settlement Officer's report, His Honor will be glad if the Financial Commissioner will submit definite proposals for supplying the deficiency.

6. The reserved forests can, as proposed, be made over to the Forest Department, the forest officers acting, as provided for in the rules, in subordination to the district officer.

No. 1,426.

COPY forwarded to the Conservator of Forests, Punjab.

From W. M. YOUNG, Esq., Officiating Secretary to Financial Commissioner, Punjab, to the Officiating Secretary to the Government of the Punjab, dated Lahore, 18th March 1872, No. 288.

I AM desired to forward, for the orders of Government, the original enclosures marginally noted, comprising a report on the demarcation of the forest in the Dungagali Range, in the Hazara District, with proposals for modifying the Hazara Forest Rules of 1870.

Commissioner, Peshâwar, No. 49, dated 29th February 1872, and enclosures.

2. The Financial Commissioner recommends that the demarcation of forest lands, which has been made with great care by Mr. Reynolds in communication with Captain Wace, be sanctioned. Mr. Egerton considers that the principles which have guided Captain Wace in determining the boundaries of these lands, as described in paragraphs 8 to 14 of his report, leave enough to the people, and, at the same time, assert the rights of Government in a proper way. Provision has been made for recording fully and completely the rights of Government and of the Zemindars in the settlement proceedings, and there will be no danger of error hereafter occurring from want of definition of these rights. It will be observed that half of the forest seigniorage in the reserved forests is proposed to be given to the Zemindars in whose village boundaries the reserved tracts are situated; so that their rights have not been extinguished, but have been limited and defined.

3. The Financial Commissioner concurs in the opinion expressed regarding the small area of cultivated land which has been included in the new forest boundaries. The cultivation is 362 acres in all,—a very small proportion, as the total area included is upwards of 40,000 acres. The land is either very poor or has been very recently occupied by outsiders for potato cultivation. The Settlement Officer proposes Rs. 16 an acre as the price to be paid for this land. The Commissioner considers Rs. 10 per acre sufficient. Mr. Egerton thinks the price named by the Commissioner should be the limit, and the amount charged to the Forest Department.

See paragraph 17 of the report.

See paragraph 5 of Commissioner's letter.

4. The Financial Commissioner concurs with the Settlement Officer and the Commissioner in thinking that where the forest boundary borders on cultivation the Forest Department should erect a fence, or else that no trespasses, which are not of an aggravated character, should be punished. The boundaries of the station at Tanawani, of all the military camps or civil settlements included within forest boundaries, should, in the Financial Commissioner's opinion, be defined, and the use of timber and other forest-produce, which is now unrestricted, should be governed by the rules of the Forest Department as proposed by the Settlement Officer and the Commissioner. It is even more necessary, Mr. Egerton observes, that this should be done than that the Zemindar's boundaries should be defined; for the European population and their servants are more wasteful and destructive in regard to timber than the villagers.

Paragraph 18 of report; 6 of Commissioner's letter.

5. The Commissioner recommends the alterations proposed by the Settlement Officer in the forest rules for sanction, and the Conservator of Forests concurs in the proposed alteration (see paragraph 33 of Settlement Officer's report).

These amended rules are intended to be substituted for those sanctioned by the Government of the Punjab in Land Revenue Notification, No. 164, dated 3rd March 1870.

6. It is proposed that the new rules take effect from 1st April 1872. They will require sanction of the Government of India, as Act III. of 1870 has been repealed. The Financial Commissioner concurs in the alterations proposed and recommends that the proposed rules be sanctioned.

7. The sanction to the Settlement Officer's proceedings other than the rules should not, Mr. Egerton thinks, be final and unreserved, but general and preliminary, leaving the final confirmation of the orders to be given by Government at the same time that the Hazara settlement is confirmed.

8. The services of Mr. Reynolds are prominently noticed both by the Settlement Officer and the Commissioner; he has worked exceedingly well, and his work is very valuable, and Mr. Egerton commends him to the notice of Government.

Captain Wace's report is marked by the same fulness and accuracy which stamp all his proceedings. It is satisfactory, the Financial Commissioner remarks, to have to deal with a subject which has been treated so well and thoroughly as this has been.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
29th September 1874.

From D. C. MACNABB, Esq., Commissioner and Superintendent, Peshâwar Division, to the Secretary to the Financial Commissioner of the Punjab, dated 20th February 1872, No. 49/409.

Forwards Settlement Officer's report on demarcation of Dungagali forest tract, with proposed Forest Rules.

I HAVE the honor to forward a letter from Captain Wace, Settlement Officer of Hazara, No. 299, of the 16th January 1872, being a report on the demarcation of reserved forests in the Dungagali Range, together with enclosures and annexures explanatory of all that has been done by himself and the Forest Officer, Mr. Reynolds, to carry out the intentions of Government with regard to forests without inflicting any material injury on the people of the country.

This has been no simple task; for while there is no doubt that Government has not stepped in a day too soon to save these forests from gradual destruction, there is, on the other hand, the fact that, if entirely cut off from the use of all forests, many villages must perish. I hope the Financial Commissioner will consider that the arrangements proposed by Captain Wace avoid the two extremes of rigor and lenience in dealing with the assumed rights of the people in the forests which have now the prescription of more than twenty-two years under our rules. He has left unreserved some detached portions of forest, thereby making his reserved area more compact and manageable; but his reservation is more complete and strict than was originally contemplated.

Dependence of the people on produce of herds and flocks.

2. I would draw attention to the 9th, 10th, and 11th paragraphs of Captain Wace's letter, as I think very few people are aware how densely these hills are populated in proportion to their culturable area, and how largely they depend on the produce of their herds and flocks. At the same time, I believe that their cattle have much increased since annexation, and that their full and free use of all the forests does not date much further back; for there is a marked want on the hills of trees aging from thirty to ten years, noting the time when the forests have been overrun by cattle and squatters without any attempt at preservation. Within the last ten years a good deal has been done to protect young trees, and the results are apparent.

Prohibition of grazing on open hill-tops.

3. At first notice it would seem to be a pity to prohibit grazing on the "Alps," or grassy slopes near the hill-tops that are covered with snow in the Winter and rich grass in the Summer; but I think the necessity of preserving such as come within the reserved forests, giving to the scant soil of the hills some chance of retaining longer the moisture of the periodical rains and keeping heavy cattle out of the forest altogether, is proved.

Stoppage of cultivation in isolated plots within forest.

4. In the same way it might seem a questionable act to throw again under forest land which has been reclaimed and cultivated for the production of human food; but any one who has observed the reckless wastefulness with which hillsides are stripped of verdure and valuable timber by immigrants from the plains, who reap a benefit from a few years' potato crops, and then, having exhausted the soil, which they are at no pains to retain and preserve by terracing, proceed to ruin in the same manner other portions of the hill, will at once agree that it is right and necessary to put a stop to this destructive system of cultivation.

There is no necessity to show any consideration to these squatters,—their occupation of the land is of only a few years' standing, and they are, for the most part, foreigners; and it is fortunate this necessity does not exist, as there is practically no spare land available for exchanges outside the forest limits.

Proposition to grant pecuniary compensation in a few special cases.

5. Captain Wace wished to be allowed, in a few exceptional cases where real hardship may have been done by stopping cultivation within the boundary, to pay a money compensation. As very few such cases exist, and the

amount to be paid would be inconsiderable, I would venture to suggest that this proposition might be favorably received, though I am inclined to consider the price he names (Rs. 16 an acre) too high, and think Rs. 10 would be sufficient, amounting, as it probably does, to twenty years' revenue on such land.

Fencing reserved forest when bordering on cultivation.

6. In paragraph 18 a question of detail is touched upon which most seriously affects the welfare of the villagers who cultivate in the neighborhood of reserved forests, *viz.*, fencing. It involves some outlay on the part of the Forest Department at starting, but will prevent the springing up of that feeling of antagonism between the Zemindars and the forest subordinates which unfortunately exists elsewhere, and is the cause of so much corruption among the latter and of such heavy expense and constant annoyance to the former.

Protection of forests in neighborhood of hill-stations and Summer settlements of troops.

7. The subject brought forward in paragraph 19 deserves immediate attention, more especially as there seems to be every probability that the system of locating European troops in detached settlements in the hills for the Summer will be greatly extended. I would add to the suggestions made by Captain Wace that the authorities concerned with these locations should be urged to have a care for the protection of the growth of timber within them, as much of their salubrity is owing to the shade afforded by the trees and their power of absorbing noxious elements in the atmosphere.

Proposed alterations in new Forest Rules of 1870.

8. In paragraphs 20 to 30 a detailed explanation is given of the considerations that have led the Settlement Officer to wish for the cancelment of the new Hazara Forest Rules (not yet in force) drafted in 1870 by the Conservator of Punjab Forests and himself, and the substitution in their stead of a modified set of rules which, he thinks, more fully meet the requirements of the case. As the principles on which these rules are framed formed the subject of frequent discussions between the Settlement Officer and myself last Summer, it is sufficient for me to say that I concur generally in the modification of the rules now proposed by him, and which he is anxious should come into force from the 1st April 1872.

Commendation of Mr. Reynolds.

9. I gladly endorse what Captain Wace has said of the able and practical manner in which Mr. Reynolds has carried out the duties that devolved on him in the demarcation of this forest tract.

Extract (paragraph 19) of Report from Captain E. G. WACE, Settlement Officer, Hazara, to the Commissioner and Superintendent, Peshawar Division, dated 16th January 1872, No. 299.

The demarcation of the locations occupied by soldiers' huts and of the civil station of Tandiani, *etc.*, is urgently called for:

*At Khairagalli.
" Changlagalli.
" Kalabagh.
" Baragalli.

THE 10th paragraph of Mr. Reynolds's report draws attention to another question which urgently calls for early attention, *viz.*, the demarcation of the small civil cantonment of Tandiani and of the sites of the soldiers' huts along the Murree and Abbottabad road. There are also six small houses at Dungagali on this road owned principally by officers stationed at Abbottabad. The manner in which these locations have sprung up is very anomalous. They are situated on the top of the mountain ridges at heights varying from 6,500 to 9,000 feet. When the huts were built their sites were virgin forest; and as it was not considered that the Zemindars had any right to such land, it was taken for the purposes for which it was required without any more formal procedure than an application to the Deputy-Commissioner. The huts built by private persons were at first of a rough and temporary nature, but the Tandiani cantonment has assumed a permanent character, and has been recognised by the Supreme Government.

The locations on the Murree and Abbottabad road were all originally intended to be of a purely temporary character, but of late years they have increased both in number and size. The system under which they at present exist, unless immediately modified, will result in great injury to the adjoining forest,—injury which will not be cured for years to come.

At present every one regards these locations as temporary ones; so all the camp-followers are sheltered in temporary huts; these huts last only one year. Under the system hitherto followed, the building of these huts is a very simple matter: dig out a flat place in the hill-side; take your hatchet and go off to the nearest trees; cut the youngest for your supports and main beams, and strip the older ones of their branches to cover over the interstices; cover the whole with beaten earth, and strip some more branches off the nearest tree to enclose the sides; and the hut is made. Where this system is followed only for one or two seasons by a handful of men, who believe that it will end with them, there is no great harm done; but it has now been going on for eight years, and the number of persons for whom shelter is provided in this way is annually increasing. I do not say that the roof of a hut built in the way I have described will not, if properly built, last for years; but then it will cost something, and even so the boughs used to enclose the sides need renewal every year: nor would it be just to blame the majority of the people who take advantage of so delightfully primitive a system of hutting themselves.

They are only there for four or five months at the outside, and they cannot be expected to spend more money on hut-building than they can possibly help.

But the result on the neighboring forests is lamentable; the Kalabagh spur, which only a few years ago was well clothed with a fine forest, is now perfectly bare, and the forest on its northern side is rapidly disappearing. I do not desire to exaggerate matters, but I wish to point out that the rough hutting-system, which is so admirably adapted to merely temporary locations, is utterly wasteful and suicidal if applied to longer periods, and that the time has now come when we can no longer prudently delay putting these locations on a well-considered footing, such as will put a stop to the present wasteful use of the forests and provide for their proper care and reproduction.

The first step in that direction would be the demarcation of the limits of these locations. The forest rules would then be vigorously enforced outside these limits, and the areas permanently attached to these locations can be left to the care of the authorities concerned with them.

From C. M. RIVAZ, Esq., Officiating Under-Secretary to the Government of the Punjab, to the Officiating Secretary to the Financial Commissioner, Punjab, dated Lahore, 6th April 1872, No. 426.

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 288, dated the 18th ultimo, and its enclosures, relative to the demarcation of the Dungagali forests in the Hazara District, and proposed modifications of the Hazara Forest Rules of 1870.

2. The demarcation of these lands has been effected by Mr. Reynolds, Assistant Conservator of Forests, in communication with, and under the supervision of, the Settlement Officer, Captain Wace. The reports furnished by these officers have been perused by the Lieutenant-Governor with much interest, and His Honor quite concurs in the commendations bestowed upon them by the Financial Commissioner.

3. These forest demarcations are, as recommended by the Financial Commissioner, sanctioned tentatively, final confirmation being reserved until the Hazara settlement is completed.

4. With reference to paragraph 13 of Captain Wace's report, I am to state that the peaks and ridges in question should undoubtedly be included in the forest area; but I am, at the same time, to remark that if, as would appear, the grazing in some of these tracts is sufficiently valuable to be leased out, it is somewhat difficult to understand how the villages have no tangible rights therein.

5. With regard to paragraphs 16 and 17, I am to intimate that His Honor is quite convinced of the expediency of stopping all cultivation in the reserved tracts, and this should be done at once. His Honor approves of Captain Wace's proposal to submit a list of such cases in which compensation should be awarded; but he agrees with the Financial Commissioner and the Commissioner of Peshâwar in considering that Rs. 16 per acre would be too high a price for land of this description, and that Rs. 10 per acre will be ample.

6. The questions discussed in paragraph 19 of Captain Wace's report will be considered by His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor in the Military Department.

7. I am to add, in conclusion, that His Honor concurs with the Financial Commissioner in approving the amendments in the Hazara Forest Rules of 1870, which are proposed by Captain Wace, and the sanction of the Supreme Government will be solicited to the amended rules.

Office Memorandum from Under-Secretary to the Government of the Punjab, to the Officiating Secretary to the Government of the Punjab, Military Department, dated Lahore, 6th April 1872, No. 427.

THE undersigned is directed to forward, for the orders of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, in the Military Department, upon the questions discussed therein, the accompanying extract (paragraph 19) of a report by the Settlement Officer of Hazara on the demarcation of forest lands in the Dungagali Range.

(Signed) C. M. RIVAZ,
Offg. Under-Secy. to the Govt. of Punjab.

From C. M. RIVAZ, Esq., Officiating Under-Secretary to the Government of the Punjab, to the Officiating Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, dated Lahore, 6th April 1872, No. 428.

AN amended set of forest rules for Hazara has been proposed by the Settlement Officer, Captain Wace, in place of the rules which were sanctioned by this Government in March 1870. The modifications proposed and the reasons for which they are considered advisable are explained fully in paragraphs 20 to 29 of the accompanying report by Captain Wace on the demarcation of forest lands in Hazara, which is herewith forwarded in original.

2. The Financial Commissioner, the Commissioner of Peshâwar, and the Conservator of Forests in this province, all concur in approving these amended rules.

3. His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor is also of opinion that, for the reasons given by Captain Wace, who has given much thought to this subject, the substitution of these new rules for the rules of 1870 is highly desirable. I am accordingly to recommend that the sanction of the Government of India, which is necessary since the repeal of Act III. of 1870, may be accorded to them, and that early orders may be passed on this reference.

4. The return of Captain Wace's report is requested when no longer required.

From B. H. BADEN-POWELL, Esq., Officiating Conservator of Forests, Punjab, to the Officiating Secretary to the Government of the Punjab, dated Dalhousie, 17th June 1872, No. 378A.

I HAVE the honor to enclose copies of a correspondence regarding the demarcation of the Dungagali Forest Range, and, with reference to it, have the honor to ask that Mr. Reynolds may be promoted to the 2nd grade of Assistant Conservator, under clause 7, paragraphs 1 and 2, of Circular No. 5 of the Inspector-General of Forests.

I beg to enclose certificate of his having passed in the lower standard, and his late work proves him to be an accomplished surveyor. As to his being competent to take charge of a division I can certify. On a recent visit to the Jhelum Division, I took a hasty view of the demarcation, and it gives me great pleasure to say I have the very highest opinion of Mr. Reynolds's merits.

I beg the enclosures, when done with, may be returned to this Office.

From W. M. YOUNG, Esq., Officiating Secretary to the Financial Commissioner, Punjab, to the Officiating Secretary to the Government of the Punjab, dated 21st June 1872, No. 602.

WITH reference to his Office No. 426, dated 6th April last, submits, in original, a letter, No. 143, dated 10th current, from Commissioner, Peshâwar Division, and enclosures from Settlement Officer, Hazara, and solicits the sanction of Government to the transfer of the Dungagali forests, in the Hazara District, to the Forest Department.

From C. M. RIVAZ, Esq., Officiating Under-Secretary to the Government of the Punjab, to the Officiating Secretary to the Financial Commissioner of the Punjab, dated 20th July 1872, No. 275F.

IN reply to your No. 602, dated the 21st ultimo, the enclosures to which are herewith returned, I am directed to convey His Honor's sanction to the transfer of the Dungagali forests in the Hazara District to the charge of the Forest Department.

No. 276 F.

COPY forwarded to Conservator of Forests, Punjab, for information and guidance.

No. 277 F.

MR. W. H. REYNOLDS, Assistant Conservator of Forests, 3rd grade, having fulfilled the conditions noted in Government of India, Public Works Department, Circular No. 21 F., paragraph 2, section 8, dated the 8th October 1869, is promoted to be Assistant Conservator, 2nd grade.

No. 278 F.

COPY forwarded to Conservator of Forests, Punjab, with reference to his No. 378, dated the 17th ultimo, the enclosures to which are herewith returned.

From W. M. YOUNG, Esq., Officiating Secretary to the Financial Commissioner, Punjab, to the Officiating Secretary to the Government of the Punjab, dated Lahore, 16th September 1872, No. 895.

I AM directed to submit, in original, a letter, No. 261, dated 31st August last, from the Officiating Commissioner, Peshâwar Division, giving cover to a report by Captain Wace, the Settlement Officer of Hazara, on the demarcation of the Khanpur Rakhs in that district.

2. The Commissioner in this letter recommends that the sanction of Government be given tentatively to the arrangements made, the final confirmation of them being reserved until the final sanction of Government to the Hazara settlement is accorded.

3. Captain Wace's report shows that the forest lands which have now been defined amount to 31,786 acres. They have been demarcated under the Hazara Forest Rules of 1870, sanctioned in the Proceedings of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, No. 164, dated 3rd March 1870; and the same course has been followed in this case as in the Dungagali forests, reported in this office No. 288, dated 18th March 1872.

4. The quantity of cultivated land included in the reserved forests is inconsiderable, and it is not considered necessary to grant any compensation for the occupation of it. Care has been

taken to leave an ample area of waste land in each village for the wants of the people and for grazing. In seven villages the area so left is small. The exceptional circumstances of these villages are explained in paragraph 6 of Captain Wace's report, and his proposals should, the Financial Commissioner thinks, be sanctioned.

5. The right of grazing in 713 acres of [illegible] reserved lands and the right of cutting grass in 1,906 acres has been reserved to the people [illegible] for the reasons stated in Mr. Reynolds's report. The Zemindars are, under No. 16 of the Hazara Forest Rules, entitled to one-half of the seigniorage levied for felling timber in these newly-[illegible]ed tracts.

6. The demarcation of these forests has been conducted by the Assistant Conservator of forests, Mr. Reynolds, under the supervision of the Settlement Officer. Mr. Reynolds's work is commended by Captain Wace, and it has evidently been done with much care.

7. The Financial Commissioner recommends that the demarcation of the Khanpur reserved forests be sanctioned temporarily until the completion of settlement operations, and that the control of these tracts be made over to the Forest Department, as recommended by Captain Wace in paragraph 9 of his report.

From D. C. MACNABB, Esq., Officiating Commissioner and Superintendent, Peshawar Division, to the Officiating Secretary to the Financial Commissioner of the Punjab, dated Abbottabad, 31st August 1872, No. 261-1,996.

I HAVE the honor to forward (under separate cover) the report of Captain Wace, Settlement Officer of Hazara, on the demarcation of what he styles the "Khanpur Rakhs" of timber and fuel forests on the ranges in the southeast of the Hazara District. Great pains and attention have been bestowed by Captain Wace himself and by Mr. Reynolds, who carried out the actual demarcation and survey of the tracts, to avoid as much as possible trenching on the actual requirements of the villagers in grazing and fuel while reserving as much as possible for proper conservation. I believe they have succeeded admirably in securing these objects.

2. The position of these preserves gives them considerable importance. They are situated within easy reach of the grand trunk road and the line of railway on which the demand for fuel will shortly become so great, and the timber from them finds a ready market in the town and cantonment of Rawalpindi. It is, therefore, a matter of great importance to have them protected; indeed, as Mr. Reynolds's report shows, it is much to be regretted that they have not been brought under the system of strict forest conservancy for years past.

3. A few utterly unimportant patches of hill cultivation have unavoidably been included within the limits of these rakhs, but the Settlement Officer does not consider that there is a case for compensation in any instance.

4. Should the arrangements made meet with the approval of the Financial Commissioner, I would venture to urge that the sooner they receive the tentative sanction of the local Government and the rakhs are handed over to the Forest Department, the greater will be the saving to Government of a supply of timber and fuel every day becoming more scarce and valuable.

From C. M. RIVAZ, Esq., Officiating Under-Secretary to the Government of the Punjab, to the Officiating Secretary to the Financial Commissioner of the Punjab, dated 2nd October 1872, No. 1,265.

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 895, dated the 16th September, and its accompaniments (herewith returned), relative to the demarcation of the Khanpur Rakhs in the Hazara District.

2. The demarcation of these rakhs, which, being situated in proximity to the cantonment of Rawalpindi, are of great value, has been conducted by Mr. Reynolds of the Forest Department, under the supervision of the Settlement Officer, Captain Wace, and the work appears to have been performed with care and judgment.

3. The arrangements proposed by Captain Wace in connection with the reserved tracts are approved by the Lieutenant-Governor, and His Honor accordingly sanctions their adoption tentatively, as recommended by the Financial Commissioner, final sanction being reserved till the completion of the Hazara Settlement. The control of these tracts may, as proposed, be made over to the Forest Department.

No. 262. ORDER THEREON, 29th September 1874, No. 1,235.

Forests, No. 22.

FORWARDED to the Board of Revenue for communication to forest officers.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue.

Lxd. F. R. Bantleman.

No. 288, dated Lahore, the 18th March 1872.

From—W. M. YOUNG, Esq., *Offg. Secy. to Financial Commissioner, Punjab,*

To—*The Officiating Secretary to Government of the Punjab.*

I AM desired to forward, for the orders of Government, the original enclosures marginally noted, comprising a report on the demarcation of the forest in the Dungagali Range, in the Hazara district, with proposals for modifying the Hazara Forest Rules of 1870.

Commissioner, Peshâwar, No. 49, dated 29th February 1872, and enclosures.

2. The Financial Commissioner recommends that the demarcation of forest lands, which has been made with great care by Mr. Reynolds in communication with Captain Wace, be sanctioned. Mr. Egerton considers that the principles which have guided Captain Wace in determining the boundaries of these lands, as described in paragraphs 8 to 14 of his report, leave enough to the people, and at the same time assert the rights of Government in a proper way. Provision has been made for recording fully and completely the rights of Government and of the zemindars in the settlement proceedings, and there will be no danger of error hereafter occurring from want of definition of these rights. It will be observed that half of the forest seignorage in the reserved forests is proposed to be given to the zemindars in whose village boundaries the reserved tracts are situated; so that their rights have not been extinguished, but have been limited and defined.

3. The Financial Commissioner concurs in the opinion expressed regarding the small area of cultivated land which has been included in the new forest boundaries. The cultivation is 362 acres in all—a very small proportion, as the total area included is upwards of 40,000 acres. The land is either very poor or has been very recently occupied by outsiders for potato cultivation. The Settlement Officer proposes Rs. 16 an acre as the price to be paid for this land. The Commissioner considers Rs. 10 per acre sufficient. Mr. Egerton thinks the price named by the Commissioner should be the limit, and the amount charged to the Forest Department.

See paragraph 17 of the report.

See paragraph 5 of Commissioner's letter.

4. The Financial Commissioner concurs with the Settlement Officer and the Commissioner in thinking that where the forest boundary borders on cultivation the Forest Department should erect a fence, or else that no trespasses which are not of an aggravated character should be punished. The boundaries of the station at Tandiani, of all the military camps or civil settlements included within forest boundaries, should, in the Financial Commissioner's opinion, be defined, and the use of timber and other forest produce, which is now unrestricted, should be governed by the rules of the Forest Department, as proposed by the Settlement Officer and the Commissioner. It is even more necessary, Mr. Egerton observes, that this should be done than that the zemindars' boundaries should be defined; for the European population and their servants are more wasteful and destructive in regard to timber than the villagers.

Paragraph 18 of report; 6 of Commissioner's letter.

5. The Commissioner recommends the alterations proposed by the Settlement Officer in the Forest Rules for sanction, and the Conservator of Forests concurs in the proposed alteration (see paragraph 33 of Settlement Officer's Report).

These amended rules are intended to be substituted for those sanctioned by the Government of the Punjab in Land Revenue Notification No. 104, dated 3rd March 1870.

6. It is proposed that the new rules take effect from 1st April 1872. They will require sanction of the Government of India, as Act III of 1870 has been repealed. The Financial Commissioner concurs in the alterations proposed, and recommends that the proposed rules be sanctioned.

7. The sanction to the Settlement Officer's proceedings, other than the rules, should not, Mr. Egerton thinks, be final and unreserved, but general and preliminary, leaving the final confirmation of the orders to be given by Government at the same time that the Hazara settlement is confirmed.

8. The services of Mr. Reynolds are prominently noticed both by the Settlement Officer and the Commissioner; he has worked exceedingly well, and his work is very valuable, and Mr. Egerton commends him to the notice of Government.

Captain Wace's report is marked by the same fulness and accuracy which stamp all his proceedings. It is satisfactory, the Financial Commissioner remarks, to have to deal with a subject which has been treated so well and thoroughly as this has been.

No. 43-409, dated the 29th February 1872.

From—D. C. MACNABB, Esq., *Commissioner and Superintendent, Peshâwar Division,*

To—*The Secretary to the Financial Commissioner of the Punjab.*

I HAVE the honor to forward a letter from Captain Wace, Settlement Officer of Hazara, No. 299 of the 16th January 1872, being a report on the demarcation of reserved forests in the Dungagali Range, together with enclosures and annexures explanatory of all that has been done by himself and the Forest Officer, Mr. Reynolds, to carry out the intentions of Government with regard to forests without inflicting any material injury on the people of the country.

Forwards Settlement Officer's report on demarcation of Dungagali forest tract, with proposed Forest Rules.

This has been no simple task; for while there is no doubt that Government has not stepped in a day too soon to save these forests from gradual destruction, there is, on the other hand, the fact that, if entirely cut off from the use of all forests, many villages must perish. I hope the Financial Commissioner will consider that the arrangements proposed by Captain Wace avoid the two extremes of rigour and lenience in dealing with the assumed rights of the people in the forests which have now the prescription of more than twenty-two years under our rules. He has left unreserved some detached portions of forest, thereby making his reserved area more compact and manageable; but his reservation is more complete and strict than was originally contemplated.

Dependence of the people on produce of herds and flocks.

2. I would draw attention to the 9th, 10th, and 11th paragraphs of Captain Wace's letter, as I think very few people are aware how densely these hills are populated in proportion to their culturable area, and how largely they depend on the produce of their herds and flocks. At the same time I believe that their cattle have much increased since annexation, and that their full and free use of all the forests does not date much further back; for there is a marked want on the hills of trees aging from thirty to ten years, noting the time when the forests have been overrun by cattle and squatters without any attempt at preservation. Within the last ten years a good deal has been done to protect young trees, and the results are apparent.

Prohibition of grazing on open hill-tops.

3. At first notice it would seem to be a pity to prohibit grazing on the "Alps," or grassy slopes near the hill-tops that are covered with snow in the winter and rich grass in the summer; but I think the necessity of preserving such as come within the reserved forests, giving to the scant soil of the hills some chance of retaining longer the moisture of the periodical rains and keeping heavy cattle out of the forest altogether, is proved.

Stoppage of cultivation in isolated plots within forest.

4. In the same way it might seem a questionable act to throw again under forest land which has been reclaimed and cultivated for the production of human food; but any one who has observed the reckless wastefulness with which hillsides are stripped of verdure and valuable timber by immigrants from the plains, who reap a benefit from a few years' potato crops, and then, having exhausted the soil, which they are at no pains to retain and preserve by terracising, proceed to ruin in the same manner other portions of the hill, will at once agree that it is right and necessary to put a stop to this destructive system of cultivation.

There is no necessity to show any consideration to these squatters,—their occupation of the land is of only a few years' standing, and they are for the most part foreigners; and it is fortunate this necessity does not exist, as there is practically no spare land available for exchanges outside the forest limits.

Proposition to grant pecuniary compensation in a few special cases.

5. Captain Wace wished to be allowed, in a few exceptional cases where real hardship may have been done by stopping cultivation within the boundary, to pay a money compensation. As very few such cases exist, and the amount to be paid would be inconsiderable, I would venture to suggest that this proposition might be favorably received, though I am inclined to consider the price he names (Rs. 16 an acre) too high, and think Rs. 10 would be sufficient, amounting, as it probably does, to twenty years' revenue on such land.

Fencing reserved forest when bordering on cultivation.

6. In paragraph 18 a question of detail is touched upon which most seriously affects the welfare of the villagers who cultivate in the neighbourhood of reserved forests, *viz.*, fencing. It involves some outlay on the part of the Forest Department at starting, but will prevent the springing up of that feeling of antagonism between the zemindars and the forest subordinates which unfortunately exists elsewhere, and is the cause of so much corruption among the latter and of such heavy expense and constant annoyance to the former.

Protection of forests in neighbourhood of hill stations and summer settlements of troops.

7. The subject brought forward in paragraph 19 deserves immediate attention, more especially as there seems to be every probability that the system of locating European troops in detached settlements in the hills for the summer will be greatly extended. I would add to the suggestions made by Captain Wace that the authorities concerned with these locations should be urged to have a care for the protection of the growth of timber within them, as much of their salubrity is owing to the shade afforded by the trees and their power of absorbing noxious elements in the atmosphere.

Proposed alterations in new Forest Rules of 1870.

8. In paragraphs 20 to 30 a detailed explanation is given of the considerations that have led the Settlement Officer to wish for the cancelment of the new Hazara Forest Rules (not yet in force) drafted in 1870 by the Conservator of Punjab Forests and himself, and the substitution in their stead of a modified set of rules which, he thinks, more fully meet the requirements of the case. As the principles on which these rules are framed formed the subject of frequent discussions between the Settlement Officer and myself last summer, it is sufficient for me to say that I concur generally in the modification of the rules now proposed by him, and which he is anxious should come into force from the 1st April 1872.

Commendation of Mr. Reynolds.

9. I gladly endorse what Captain Wace has said of the able and practical manner in which Mr. Reynolds has carried out the duties that devolved on him in the demarcation of this forest tract.

Extract (paragraph 19) of a report, No. 99, dated 16th January 1872, from Captain E. G. Wace, *Settlement Officer, Hazara, to the Commissioner and Superintendent, Peshawar Division.*

The demarcation of the locations occupied by soldiers' huts, and of the civil station of Tandiani, &c., is urgently called for.

The 10th paragraph of Mr. Reynolds' report draws attention to another question which urgently calls for early attention, *viz.*, the demarcation of the small civil cantonment of Tandiani, and of the sites of the soldiers' huts along the Murree and Abbottabad road.* There are also six small houses at Dungagali on this road owned principally by officers stationed at Abbottabad. The manner in which these locations have sprung up is very anomalous. They are situated on the top of the mountain ridges at heights varying from 6,500 to 9,000 feet. When the huts were built, their sites were virgin forest; and as it was not considered that the zemindars had any right to such land, it was taken for the purposes for which it was required without any more formal procedure than an application to the Deputy Commissioner. The huts built by private persons were at first of a rough and temporary nature, but the Tandiani cantonment has assumed a permanent character, and has been recognised by the Supreme Government.

* At Khairagalli
" Changlagalli.
" Kalabagh.
" Baragalli.

The locations on the Murree and Abbottabad road were all originally intended to be of a purely temporary character, but of late years they have increased both in number and size. The system under which they at present exist, unless immediately modified, will result in great injury to the adjoining forest—injury which will not be cured for years to come.

At present every one regards these locations as temporary ones; so all the camp-followers are sheltered in temporary huts: these huts last only one year. Under the system hitherto followed, the building of these huts is a very simple matter. Dig out a flat place in the hillside; take your hatchet and go off to the nearest trees; cut the youngest for your supports and main beams, and strip the older ones of their branches to cover over the interstices; cover the whole with beaten earth, and strip some more branches off the nearest tree to enclose the sides; and the hut is made. Where this system is followed only for one or two seasons by a handful of men, who believe that it will end with them, there is no great harm done. But it has now been going on for eight years, and the number of persons for whom shelter is provided in this way is annually increasing. I do not say that the roof of a hut built in the way I have described will not, if properly built, last for years; but then it will cost something, and even so the boughs used to enclose the sides need renewal every year: nor would it be just to blame the majority of the people who take advantage of so delightfully primitive a system of hutting themselves.

They are only there for four or five months at the outside, and they cannot be expected to spend more money on hut-building than they can possibly help.

But the result on the neighbouring forests is lamentable; the Kalabagh spur, which only a few years ago was well clothed with a fine forest, is now perfectly bare, and the forest on its northern side is rapidly disappearing. I do not desire to exaggerate matters, but I wish to point out that the rough hutting system, which is so admirably adapted to merely temporary locations, is utterly wasteful and suicidal if applied to longer periods, and that the time has now come when we can no longer prudently delay putting these locations on a well-considered footing, such as will put a stop to the present wasteful use of the forests and provide for their proper care and reproduction.

The first step in that direction would be the demarcation of the limits of these locations. The forest rules would then be vigorously enforced outside these limits, and the areas permanently attached to these locations can be left to the care of the authorities concerned with them.

No. 426, dated Lahore, the 6th April 1872.

From—C. M. Rivaz, Esq., *Offg. Under Secretary to the Government of the Punjab,*

To—The Officiating Secretary to Financial Commissioner, Punjab.

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 288, dated the 18th ultimo, and its enclosures, relative to the demarcation of the Dungagali forests in the Hazara district, and proposed modifications of the Hazara Forest Rules of 1870.

2. The demarcation of these lands has been effected by Mr. Reynolds, Assistant Conservator of Forests, in communication with, and under the supervision of, the Settlement Officer, Captain Wace. The reports furnished by these officers have been perused by the Lieutenant-Governor with much interest, and His Honor quite concurs in the commendations bestowed upon them by the Financial Commissioner.

3. These forest demarcations are, as recommended by the Financial Commissioner, sanctioned tentatively, final confirmation being reserved until the Hazara settlement is completed.

4. With reference to paragraph 13 of Captain Wace's report, I am to state that the peaks and ridges in question should undoubtedly be included in the forest area; but I am at the same time to remark that if, as would appear, the grazing in some of these tracts is sufficiently valuable to be leased out, it is somewhat difficult to understand how the villages have no tangible rights therein.

5. With regard to paragraphs 16 and 17, I am to intimate that His Honor is quite convinced of the expediency of stopping all cultivation in the reserved tracts, and this should

be done at once. His Honor approves of Captain Wace's proposal to submit a list of such cases in which compensation should be awarded; but he agrees with the Financial Commissioner and the Commissioner of Peshâwar in considering that Rs. 16 per acre would be too high a price for land of this description, and that Rs. 10 per acre will be ample.

6. The questions discussed in paragraph 19 of Captain Wace's report will be considered by His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor in the Military Department.

7. I am to add in conclusion that His Honor concurs with the Financial Commissioner in approving the amendments in the Hazara Forest Rules of 1870 which are proposed by Captain Wace, and the sanction of the Supreme Government will be solicited to the amended rules.

Office Memo. No. 427, dated Lahore, the 6th April 1872.

From—C. M. RIVAZ, Esq., *Under Secretary to the Government of the Punjab,*

To—*The Officiating Secretary to the Government of the Punjab*, MILITARY DEPARTMENT.

THE undersigned is directed to forward, for the orders of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, in the Military Department, upon the questions discussed therein, the accompanying extract (paragraph 19) of a report by the Settlement Officer of Hazara on the demarcation of forest lands in the Dungagali Range.

No. 428, dated Lahore, the 6th April 1872.

From—C. M. RIVAZ, Esq., *Offg. Under Secretary to the Government of the Punjab,*

To—*The Officiating Secretary to the Government of India*, FOREIGN DEPARTMENT.

AN amended set of forest rules for Hazara has been proposed by the Settlement Officer, Captain Wace, in place of the rules which were sanctioned by this Government in March 1870. The modifications proposed, and the reasons for which they are considered advisable, are explained fully in paragraphs 20 to 29 of the accompanying report by Captain Wace on the demarcation of forest lands in Hazara, which is herewith forwarded in original.

2. The Financial Commissioner, the Commissioner of Peshâwar, and the Conservator of Forests in this province, all concur in approving these amended rules.

3. His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor is also of opinion that, for the reasons given by Captain Wace, who has given much thought to this subject, the substitution of these new rules for the rules of 1870 is highly desirable. I am accordingly to recommend that the sanction of the Government of India, which is necessary since the repeal of Act III of 1870, may be accorded to them, and that early orders may be passed on this reference.

4. The return of Captain Wace's report is requested when no longer required.

No. 378A., dated Dalhousie, the 17th June 1872.

From—B. H. BADEN-POWELL, Esq., *Officiating Conservator of Forests, Punjab,*

To—*The Officiating Secretary to the Government of the Punjab.*

I HAVE the honor to enclose copies of correspondence regarding the demarcation of the Dungagali Forest Range, and, with reference to it, have the honor to ask that Mr. Reynolds may be promoted to the 2nd grade of Assistant Conservator, under clause 7, paragraphs 1 and 2, of Circular No. 5 of the Inspector General of Forests.

I beg to enclose certificate of his having passed in the lower standard, and his late work proves him to be an accomplished surveyor. As to his being competent to take charge of a division, I can certify. On a recent visit to the Jhelum Division, I took a hasty view of the demarcation, and it gives me great pleasure to say I have the very highest opinion of Mr. Reynolds' merits.

I beg the enclosures, when done with, may be returned to this office.

No. 602, dated the 21st June 1872.

From—W. M. YOUNG, Esq., *Officiating Secretary to Financial Commissioner, Punjab,*

To—*The Officiating Secretary to the Government of the Punjab.*

WITH reference to his office No. 426, dated 6th April last, submits in original a letter, No. 143, dated 10th current, from Commissioner, Peshâwar Division, and enclosures from Settlement Officer, Hazara, and solicits the sanction of Government to the transfer of the Dungagali forests, in the Hazara district, to the Forest Department.

No. 75F., dated the 20th July 1872.

From—C. M. RIVAZ, Esq., *Offg. Under Secretary to the Government of the Punjab,*

To—*The Officiating Secretary to the Financial Commissioner of the Punjab.*

IN reply to your No. 602, dated the 21st ultimo, the enclosures to which are herewith returned, I am directed to convey His Honor's sanction to the transfer of the Dungagali forests in the Hazara district to the charge of the Forest Department.

No. 276F.

COPY forwarded to Conservator of Forests, Punjab, for information and guidance.

No. 277F.

MR. W. H. REYNOLDS, Assistant Conservator of Forests, 3rd grade, having fulfilled the conditions noted in Government of India, Public Works Department, Circular No. 21F., paragraph 2, section 8, dated the 8th October 1869, is promoted to be Assistant Conservator, 2nd grade.

No. 278F.

COPY forwarded to Conservator of Forests, Punjab, with reference to his No. 378, dated the 17th ultimo, the enclosures to which are herewith returned.

No. 895, dated Lahore, the 16th September 1872.

From—W. M. YOUNG, Esq., *Offg. Secretary to the Financial Commissioner, Punjab,*

To—*The Officiating Secretary to the Government of the Punjab.*

I AM directed to submit in original a letter, No. 261, dated 31st August last, from the Officiating Commissioner, Peshâwar Division, giving cover to a report by Captain Wace, the Settlement Officer of Hazara, on the demarcation of the Khanpur rakhs in that district.

2. The Commissioner in this letter recommends that the sanction of Government be given tentatively to the arrangements made, the final confirmation of them being reserved until the final sanction of Government to the Hazara settlement is accorded.

3. Captain Wace's report shows that the forest lands which have now been defined amount to 31,786 acres. They have been demarcated under the Hazara Forest Rules of 1870, sanctioned in the proceedings of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, No. 164, dated 3rd March 1870; and the same course has been followed in this case as in the Dungagali forests, reported in this office No. 288, dated 18th March 1872.

4. The quantity of cultivated land included in the reserved forests is inconsiderable, and it is not considered necessary to grant any compensation for the occupation of it. Care has been taken to leave an ample area of waste land in each village for the wants of the people and for grazing. In seven villages the area so left is small. The exceptional circumstances of these villages are explained in paragraph 6 of Captain Wace's report, and his proposals should, the Financial Commissioner thinks, be sanctioned.

5. The right of grazing in 746 acres of the reserved lands and the right of cutting grass in 1,906 acres has been reserved to the people for the reasons stated in Mr. Reynolds' report. The zemindars are, under No. 16 of the Hazara Forest Rules, entitled to one-half of the seignorage levied for felling timber in these newly-formed tracts.

6. The demarcation of these forests has been conducted by the Assistant Conservator of Forests, Mr. Reynolds, under the supervision of the Settlement Officer. Mr. Reynolds' work is commended by Captain Wace, and it has evidently been done with much care.

7. The Financial Commissioner recommends that the demarcation of the Khanpur reserved forests be sanctioned temporarily until the completion of settlement operations, and that the control of these tracts be made over to the Forest Department, as recommended by Captain Wace in paragraph 9 of his report.

No. 261-1996, dated Abbottabad, the 31st August 1872.

From—D. C. MACNABB, Esq., *Offg. Commissioner and Supdt., Peshâwar Division,*

To—*The Officiating Secretary to the Financial Commissioner of the Punjab.*

I HAVE the honor to forward (under separate cover) the report of Captain Wace, Settlement Officer of Hazara, on the demarcation of what he styles the "Khanpur rakhs" of timber and fuel forests on the ranges in the south-east of the Hazara district. Great pains and attention have been bestowed by Captain Wace himself and by Mr. Reynolds, who carried out the actual demarcation and survey of the tracts, to avoid as much as possible trenching on the

actual requirements of the villagers in grazing and fuel while reserving as much as possible for proper conservation. I believe they have succeeded admirably in securing these objects.

2. The position of these preserves gives them considerable importance. They are situated within easy reach of the grand trunk road and the line of railway on which the demand for fuel will shortly become so great, and the timber from them find a ready market in the town and cantonment of Rawalpindi. It is therefore a matter of great importance to have them protected; indeed, as Mr. Reynolds' report shows, it is much to be regretted that they have not been brought under the system of strict forest conservancy for years past.

3. A few utterly unimportant patches of hill cultivation have unavoidably been included within the limits of these rakhs, but the Settlement Officer does not consider that there is a case for compensation in any instance.

4. Should the arrangements made meet with the approval of the Financial Commissioner, I would venture to urge that the sooner they receive the tentative sanction of the local Government and the rakhs are handed over to the Forest Department, the greater will be the saving to Government of a supply of timber and fuel every day becoming more scarce and valuable.

No. 1265, dated the 2nd October 1872.

From—C. M. Rivaz, Esq., *Offg. Under Secretary to the Government of the Punjab,*
To—The Officiating Secretary to the Financial Commissioner of the Punjab.

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 895, dated the 16th September, and its accompaniments (herewith returned), relative to the demarcation of the Khanpur rakhs in the Hazara district.

2. The demarcation of these rakhs, which, being situated in proximity to the cantonment of Rawalpindi, are of great value, has been conducted by Mr. Reynolds of the Forest Department, under the supervision of the Settlement Officer, Captain Wace, and the work appears to have been performed with care and judgment.

3. The arrangements proposed by Captain Wace in connection with the reserved tracts are approved by the Lieutenant-Governor, and His Honor accordingly sanctions their adoption tentatively, as recommended by the Financial Commissioner, final sanction being reserved till the completion of the Hazara settlement. The control of these tracts may, as proposed, be made over to the Forest Department.

Rev. 3350/74.
M. 29 Septr/74
Dn B No. 263

No. [illegible]9, dated the 14th June 1873.

From—A. E. Müller, Esq., *Secretary to the Financial Commissioner, Punjab,*
To—The Secretary to the Government of the Punjab.

Forwards, for orders of Government, Commissioner of Peshawar's No. 964, dated 29th May, submitting a report by Captain Wace, Settlement Officer, Hazara, on the demarcation of the Kagan and Siran ranges of forests in the Hazara district, together with a memorandum by the Financial Commissioner on the subject.

Copy of Financial Commissioner's memorandum on the demarcation of reserved forests in Kagan and Siran Ranges, Hazara District.

This report is a continuation of the report previously submitted on the demarcation of the reserved forests in Dungagali and Khanpur of the Hazara district. Captain Wace submits Mr. Reynolds' reports with his own remarks.

The demarcation has been made under Nos. 2, 3, and 4 of the Hazara Forest Rules of 1870, and Mr. Reynolds and Captain Wace have been guided by the same principles which were sanctioned by Government when the report on the Dungagali and Khanpur forest was submitted.

The tracts which it is proposed to constitute reserved forests have been selected with great care, and the rights of the people and their requirements have been duly considered. An ample area for grazing and for the supply of wood for the wants of the inhabitants has been left unreserved, and even in the reserved tracts rights of use of forest products have been granted wherever it appeared necessary. Captain Wace's report is so clear and full that it is not necessary to recapitulate more than the points in it which require the orders of Government. These are—

Paragraph 8.

Paragraph 9.

I. The concessions in *unreserved* forests in Kagan.

The proposals are contained in paragraph 10 of Captain Wace's report; they relate to the unreserved tracts in the higher villages of Kagan. Under the existing rules a written permission from the Government thanadar is required before trees can be cut. These rules have not been strictly enforced hitherto, and if enforced now in this remote tract the people will be put to much inconvenience.

II. Stoppage of cultivation in the reserved forests.

The proposals on this head are contained in paragraph 11 of Captain Wace's report.

The area is 1,143 kanals 3 marlas=143 acres according to Mr. Reynolds' statement, but only 109 acres in paragraph 11 of Captain Wace's report, belonging to 23 villages.

The land is poor and has been brought under cultivation recently and contrary to the forest rules. Captain Wace proposes to stop their cultivation without paying compensation; and considering the circumstances under which the land has been occupied, and that in no case does it exceed 31 acres in any one village, I think the proposal should be sanctioned and the land resumed without payment of compensation.

The precautions which should be taken when a forest officer visits the Siran forest tracts are mentioned in paragraph 12 of Captain Wace's report, and deserve attention.

In paragraph 13 of the Settlement Officer's report, the absence of a topographical map, showing in detail exact boundaries of the reserved forests, is noted. There is no doubt that the completion of such a map is most desirable.

Captain Wace notices the services of Mr. Reynolds in paragraph 16 of his report with praise, and the Commissioner concurs in his remarks. Mr. Reynolds has completed the demarcation of 236 square miles of reserved forest, and furnished valuable maps of 114 square miles of it in 1½ year. Mr. Reynolds' services deserve the approval of Government.

The Commissioner of Peshawar, in submitting Captain Wace's report, notices the unpopularity which must always in some degree attend a measure of this kind. He notes the care and consideration with which the demarcation has been carried out, and he recommends that the proceedings of the Settlement Officer be approved tentatively.

Any modifications which may be necessary can be made before the final report of the Settlement Officer is submitted, and I concur in his recommendation.

No. 1425, dated the 27th October 1873.

From—T. H. Thornton, Esq., *Secretary to the Government of the Punjab,*
To—The Secretary to the Financial Commissioner of the Punjab.

I have laid before the Honorable the Lieutenant-Governor your letters No. 619, dated 11th June, and No. 897, dated 16th August, transmitting reports by Captain Wace, Settlement Officer, and Mr. Reynolds, Assistant Conservator of Forests, on the demarcation of the forests of the Kagan and Siran ranges in the Hazara district, together with maps and appendices appertaining thereto, two transmitting letters of the Commissioner, and the Financial Commissioner's memorandum.

2. The demarcation of these valuable forest tracts appears to have been effected with the same care and judgment which was evinced in the demarcation of those of Khanpur and Dungagali, and the reports are clear and complete.

3. As recommended by Financial Commissioner, His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor approves and sanctions provisionally the proceedings of the Settlement Officer, and requests that his thanks be conveyed to Captain Wace and Mr. Reynolds for their services. I have to add that the services of the latter officer will be brought to the notice of the Inspector General of Forests.

4. The concessions proposed in paragraph 10 of the Settlement Officer's report are sanctioned. With regard to the proposed resumption of certain lands in reserved forests recently brought into cultivation in breach of existing rules, His Honor agrees that their resumption is desirable and necessary; but with reference to the recommendation that no compensation should be awarded to the cultivators, His Honor, while concurring in the opinion that these cultivators have no *right* to compensation, is nevertheless desirous that consideration should be shown and compensation granted in any case in which there may be any special ground for leniency.

5. With reference to the absence of a topographical survey map showing the exact boundaries of the reserved forests, remarked upon in paragraph 13 of the Settlement Officer's report, His Honor will be glad if the Financial Commissioner will submit definite proposals for supplying the deficiency.

6. The reserved forests can, as proposed, be made over to the Forest Department, the forest officers acting, as provided for in the rules, in subordination to the district officer.

No. 1426.

COPY forwarded to the Conservator of Forests, Punjab.

Rev. 3350/74.

Pl. D 29 Septr/74
L B N. 261.

Nos. 31 / 1061—1073.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Government of India in the Department of Revenue, Agriculture and Commerce,—dated the 15th September 1874.

[FORESTS.]

READ—

letter from the Secretary to the Financial Commissioner, Punjab, to the Government of the Punjab, No. 619, dated the 14th June 1873, together with a memorandum by the Financial Commissioner;

letter from the Government of the Punjab to the Secretary to the Financial Commissioner, No. 1425, dated 27th October 1873;

correspondence on the demarcation of the reserved forests in the Hazara district, by Captain Wace, Settlement Officer, and Mr. Reynolds, Assistant Conservator of Forests;

letters of the Punjab Government noted in the margin, on the demarcation of the Dungagali forests and Khanpur Rukhs, together with the papers on which the orders were based.

No. 426, dated 6th April 1872.
No. 427, " "
No. 428, " "
Nos. 275 to 278, dated 20th July 1872.
No. 1265, dated 2nd October 1872.

RESOLUTION.

The correspondence on the demarcation of the reserved forests in Hazara will be useful to all Forest Officers employed on demarcation work. It shows how under somewhat difficult circumstances valuable and extensive reserves aggregating 236 square miles have been demarcated and placed under the control of Government without apparently in any way injuriously affecting the local population.

2. The Punjab Government has already expressed an opinion that these satisfactory results are mainly due to the care and judgment of Captain Wace, the Settlement Officer, and Mr. Reynolds, the Assistant Conservator of Forests, now attached to the Survey branch of the Forest Department; the Governor General in Council concurs in His Honor's approval of the services rendered in this matter by these officers.

ORDER.—Ordered, that the correspondence above quoted, the memorandum by the Financial Commissioner of the Punjab, and the orders of the Punjab Government, together with this Resolution, be circulated to the Governments of Madras and Bombay, and the local Governments and Administrations marginally noted, for communication to Forest Officers, and also to the Foreign Department.

Bengal.
North-Western Provinces.
Punjab.
Oudh.
Central Provinces.
British Burma.
Mysore and Coorg.
Ajmere.
Assam.
Berar.

(True extract.)

No. 31 / 1061

Secretary to the Government of India.

To The Government of Madras

1874.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE, AGRICULTURE AND COMMERCE.

FORESTS.

RESOLUTION.

To

Nos. 31
1061—1073.

Dated Calcutta, the 15th September 1874.

SUBJECT.

CIRCULATES papers on the demarcation of the reserved forests in the Hazara district.

O. S. G. P., No. 1266, R., A. & C.—16-9-74.—100.