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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	1262	Press
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	24. 8. 1967	196

For

Not to be folded or roughly handled

1262
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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
24th August 1875.*

No. 211. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 9th June 1875, No. 1,555, Forest No. 104.

Read the following letters:—

From A. WEDDERBURN, Esq., Collector of Coimbatore, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 2nd April 1875, No. 82.

WITH reference to Forest Miscellaneous No. 101-2,406, of 23rd March 1875, requesting me to report on paragraph 5 of G. O., 16th March 1875, No. 430, where the inequality of the proposed Nilgiri and North Coimbatore Ranges is noticed, and requesting the Board to consider whether a better division cannot be made, I have the honor to observe that the only way in which the North Coimbatore Range could be lightened in this district would be by re-transferring the Bolampatty and Sholakarray Forests to the Deputy Conservator of the Anamallays.

2. Major Beddome was opposed to this, as the Anamallay and Sholakarray working season being the same, he apprehended that the same officer could not well look after both.

3. Since that opinion was expressed, I have made a full inspection of the said forests, and a report that the forests in question, which were to include the upper Bhowani or Gopanairy Forests, supposed to be of immense but unknown extent and value, do not quite support Major Beddome's view of their importance; but still there can be little doubt that the duties of the Anamallay forest officer are of no light nature, and I would hesitate to entail this work upon him. He has a very heavy range as it is, and has only recently been able to inspect the eastern part of it, which borders on the Pulney Hills and Madura frontier.

4. As Government have remarked on the inequality of the Nilgiri and North Coimbatore Deputy Conservator's proposed ranges—one being 950 and the other 1,700 square miles—perhaps the best addition to the Nilgiri Range would be the adjoining and above ghaut, part of the Sattiamungalum Taluq, called the Talavady Division—this is nearest to the Mudumallay and Seegoor Forests.

5. This range comprises the Sandal-wood plantation at Tallamallay and the depôt there. The extent being about 350 square miles, would make the Nilgiri Range 1,300, and North Coimbatore 1,350 square miles.

6. It is true that the Anamallay officer has a smaller range (say 400 or 500 square miles) calculated by square miles, but his is all forest, whereas the other, notably the Nilgiri Range, is inclusive of open land.

7. The deduction of the tract in question would so far lessen the work of the North Coimbatore officer, whose duties including the supply of rafted fuel from North East Coimbatore to the Railway, and the proposed planting of padugays in the Cauvery shoals for a similar purpose, will be by no means light—and North Coimbatore has, I think, suffered in its interests by the want of a locally-resident Deputy Conservator, who is now supplied.

8. The lower slopes of the Eastern Nilgiris are naturally worked into Mettapolliem, and this seems to preclude the transfer of these to an officer resident on the plateau—such was the opinion of Major Beddome coincided with by Government—I have consequently made the only proposal which appears to meet the case.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
24th August 1875.

From Captain C. WALKER, Officiating Inspector of Forests, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Ootacamund, 26th April 1875, No. 97.

With reference to Board's Proceedings, Forest Miscellaneous No. 101-2,406, dated 23rd March, I have the honor to state that I have no suggestions to make, as I have already stated that I consider the present arrangement the best under the circumstances.

2. I do not consider the ranges unequal; if anything, the Nilgiri one is the more important.

3. A suggestion has been made to replace the Bolamputty and Sholakarray Forests under the Anamallay forest officer; but, considering that this was found not to answer formerly, and that the Anamallay officer has his hands full with large indents for public departments, and probably the boundary settlement with Cochin to attend to, I do not recommend any extension of his division for the present at least.

From J. R. COCKERELL, Esq., Commissioner of the Nilgiris, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Ootacamund, 8th May 1875, No. 43.

Government Order dated 16th March 1875, No. 430, inquires whether a better division than has been proposed cannot be made with regard to the forest country comprising the new Nilgiri and North Coimbatore Ranges.

2. When the ranges were settled by Captain C. Walker, Inspector of Forests, and myself, we went minutely into the question before submitting our views to Government.

3. The ranges still appear to me to divide the country in the most convenient manner. Though they are dissimilar in size, the Nilgiri Range has a larger revenue than the North Coimbatore Range.

4. The only parts of the latter range that could be joined to the Nilgiri Range are the Collegal Forests or the Sattiamungalum Forests. Collegal is eighty miles as the crow flies from Mudumallay, and Sattiamungalum sixty miles. The Mudumallay Forest requires a great deal of attention, which could not be bestowed if the officer in charge had to be constantly travelling to Collegal or Sattiamungalum. There is much work to be done in connection with the Nilgiri plantations.

5. The Government Order under reply remarks that the Nilgiri Range is within a ring fence of twenty miles round Ootacamund; the facts are, however, that Mudumallay is thirty-five miles from Ootacamund, and Sultan's Battery, the end of the range, sixty miles from it.

THESE letters will be submitted to Government with reference to G. O., dated 16th March 1875, No. 430.

2. The only suggestions made for lightening the work of the North Coimbatore Range are the transfer of the Sholakarray and Bolamputty Forests to the Anamallay Range, or of the Talavady Division, which is the portion of the Sattiamungalum Taluq above the ghauts, to the Nilgiri Range.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
24th August 1875.

3 The former is not recommended by the Collector of Coimbatore, and it is said not to have answered when it was tried before. As for the other suggestion, it does not appear that the Sattiamungalum Forests are much more conveniently reached from Ootacamund than from Coimbatore; and the North Coimbatore officer would still have to travel to Collegal, and in doing so, must pass through Sattiamungalum.

4. None of the officers concerned are in favor of change, and the Inspector states that in his opinion the Nilgiri Range, as at present constituted, is more important than North Coimbatore. The Board think that the ranges should be left as they are.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) H. E. STOKES,
Acting Secretary.

MINUTE BY HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.

No. 212.

I AM unable to join my Honorable Colleagues in sanctioning this arrangement, because I consider that it fails to make the most of a Deputy Conservatorship in the Imperial Department, because it is unduly expensive for a charge so limited, and because the low-country charges within Coimbatore are left too extensive and onerous, and, at the same time, under men of inferior grade and salary.

2. Far too much importance is, I feel satisfied, attached to the woods and sholas of the hills (9/10ths, probably 19/20ths, of the plateau is open land) and recent plantations. The former are of little or no imperial value; they are mere local fire-wood reserves. The latter are plantations of Wattle tree and Eucalyptus which need little care and no skill to grow on these Hills. These woods and sholas were managed by the Revenue-officers of this moderate-sized taluq (as they would be in any other part of the country), until we found that, even with Captain Jago's aid, obtained from the Military Department almost gratis, the thing proved a dead loss. The woods were then transferred to imperial charge, and now we practically continue the same unsatisfactory condition in part by giving a large share of Captain Jago's time to them. I am satisfied that the hill-woods and sholas could still be managed with but little addition of cheap labor, under the Commissioner as Conservator of his charge. I doubt, indeed, whether this part of the charge should be allowed any serious weight whatever in deciding the proper charge for an officer of the grade we are now considering. If the Commissioner require special advice, &c., the Inspector, who resides at Ooty for several months in every year, is more than competent to give it.

3. However, I have no objection to the Hills being the headquarters of the range so long as this comparative insignificance is recognised, because Ooty will prove a healthful retreat for the officer in charge of Colonel Morgan's late range, to which, in fact, I consider Captain Jago has succeeded.

4. The working of the Mudumallay forest clearly requires the supervision of a Deputy Conservator. But I hold that this is really only part of the range as proposed, which is of sufficient importance to be considered as a Deputy Conservator's charge, and it is far less than an officer of this grade should be able to perform.

5. I strongly advise, therefore, that this 3rd-class Deputy Conservator's charge be made conterminous with the range as it has long obtained, and that Collegal Taluq be continued under the Nilgiri officer.

6. I attach no importance whatever to the fact that the charge so arranged would include part of more than one district as heretofore. Mudumallay is not on the Hills.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department.
24th August 1875.

7. I recorded a Minute on this subject in Proceedings, Madras Government, dated 23rd October 1874, No. 1,362.

3rd August 1875.

(Signed) W. ROBINSON.

No. 213.

ORDER THEREON, 24th August 1875, No. 1,262.

Forests, No. 14.

THE Government agree with the Board that the ranges should be left as they are, more especially since a change such as that suggested in regard to Sattiamungalam would place the Nilgiri Forest Officer under two Conservators.

(Signed) A. MACGREGOR,
Acting Secretary to Government.

FOREST No. 104.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 9th June 1875, No. 1,555.

Read the following letters:—

From A. WEDDERBURN, Esq., Collector of Coimbatore, to H. E. STOKES, Esq.,
Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 2nd April 1875,
No. 82.

WITH reference to Forest Miscellaneous No. 101-2,406, of 23rd March 1875, requesting me to report on paragraph 5 of G. O., 16th March 1875, No. 430, where the inequality of the proposed Nilgiri and North Coimbatore Ranges is noticed, and requesting the Board to consider whether a better division cannot be made, I have the honor to observe that the only way in which the North Coimbatore Range could be lightened in this district would be by re-transferring the Bolampatty and Sholakarray Forests to the Deputy Conservator of the Anamallays.

2. Major Beddome was opposed to this, as the Anamallay and Sholakarray working season being the same, he apprehended that the same officer could not well look after both.

3. Since that opinion was expressed, I have made a full inspection of the said forests, and a report that the forests in question, which were to include the upper Bhowani or Gopanairy Forests, supposed to be of immense but unknown extent and value, do not quite support Major Beddome's view of their importance; but still there can be little doubt that the duties of the Anamallay forest officer are of no light nature, and I would hesitate to entail this work upon him. He has a very heavy range as it is, and has only recently been able to inspect the eastern part of it, which borders on the Pulney Hills and Madura frontier.

4. As Government have remarked on the inequality of the Nilgiri and North Coimbatore Deputy Conservator's proposed ranges—one being 950 and the other 1,700 square miles—perhaps the best addition to the Nilgiri Range would be the adjoining and above ghaut, part of the Sattiamungalum Taluq, called the Talavady Division—this is nearest to the Mudumallay and Seegoor Forests.

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Obt. of 1875

REVENUE.

To

THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

Ko.

Secy.

Ac.

Dated August, 24th.

Encl.

G. O., 24th August 1875, No. 1,262.

AUGUST.

Nos. 211—213.

New Forest Ranges of the Nilgiris and North Coimbatore.—Concerning with the Board that the —should be left as they are.

1262
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(True Copies and Extract.)

Acting Secretary.

To the Acting Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

Exd. W. H. French.

2018 March / 25 - Nov 2019 - 2022

24 Aug 75

A. M.

Qu.: 1895: 2 of 1

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Board of Revenue,
MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 9TH JUNE 1875, No. 1,555

Decr 21 June 175

Arch

Received 28 June

JUNE.

Forest No. 104.

New Forest Ranges, Nilgiri and North Coimbatore.—Letters from Collector of Coimbatore, Commissioner of Nilgiris, and Officiating Inspector of Forests, reporting regarding—, submitted to Government. The Board think that the ranges should be left as they are.

Ch 1262. - 2115 Aug 21 1873

Admitt. paper.

Revised Proof

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

No. 212.

MINUTE BY HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.

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2. Far too much importance is, I feel satisfied, attached to the woods and sholas of the hills (9/10ths, probably 19/20ths, of the plateau is open land) and recent plantations. The former are of little or no imperial value; they are mere local fire-wood reserves. The latter are plantations of Wattle tree and Eucalyptus which need little care and no skill to grow on these Hills. These woods and sholas were managed by the Revenue-officers of this moderate-sized taluq (as they would be in any other part of the country), until we found that even with Captain Jago's aid obtained from the Military Department almost gratis the thing proved a dead loss. The woods were then transferred to imperial charge, and now we practically continue the same unsatisfactory condition in part by giving a large share of Captain Jago's time to them. I am satisfied that the hill-woods and sholas could still be managed with but little addition of cheap labor, under the Commissioner as Conservator of his charge. I doubt, indeed, whether this part of the charge should be allowed any serious weight whatever in deciding the proper charge for an officer of the grade we are now considering. If the Commissioner require special advice, &c., the Inspector, who resides at Ooty for several months in every year, is more than competent to give it.

3. However, I have no objection to the Hills being the headquarters of the range so long as this comparative insignificance is recognised, because Ooty will prove a healthful retreat for the officer in charge of Colonel Morgan's late range, to which, in fact, I consider Captain Jago has succeeded.

4. The working of the Mudumallay forest clearly requires the supervision of a Deputy Conservator. But I hold that this is really only part of the range as proposed, which is of sufficient importance to be considered as a Deputy Conservator's charge, and it is far less than an officer of this grade should be able to perform.

5. I strongly advise, therefore, that this 3rd-class Deputy Conservator's charge be made conterminous with the range as it has long obtained, and that Collegal Taluq be continued under the Nilgiri officer.

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3rd August 1875.

(Signed) W. ROBINSON.

Recorded a minute at the Subd. in Proc
Mons. for. of 23 October 1874. No 1362

I am unable to join my Honorable Colleagues in sanctioning this arrangement as I consider that it fails to make the most of a Deputy Conservatorship in the Imperial Department; it is unduly expensive and the charge too limited for an officer on the grade and salary of Captain Jago - while the low country charges within Comblatone are left too extensive & onerous and at the same time under men of inferior grade & salary.

(note.	Mr. Douglas.	500.	150.
	Mr. Morgan.	350.	150.
	Capt. Jago.	350.	150.

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men

we are now considering. If the Commissioner
requires special advice of the Inspector who resides
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However I have no objection to the Hills
being the Head Quarters of the range so long
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I attach no importance whatever
to the fact that the charge laps over another
District as heretofore - Mudumallak is not
on the hills.

S/D

W. D. Morgan

A. H. to Mr W. D. is apparently under
a misconception in supposing that Capt. Jago
is in a superior grade to Mr. W. D. Morgan.
The fact being that he is in an inferior
grade to Mr. W. D. Morgan. In the same grade
as Mr. W. D. Morgan. While positively he draws
less pay than the latter than his Mil. Fund
Sub. is deducted & absolutely less than
he draws when he had only the Hilgini
charge. & A. H. that if Mudumallak has
now been added. The S. D. of B. H. has
also apparently gone in assuming that

Hilgini Officer charge is within a
range of 20 miles from Retard. as
Mudumallak is 35 miles away. &
Luthans Buttery 60 miles off.

9
I have been quite per-
sured & include the Pularadi section
of Luthans Buttery in the
Hilgini charge if the Officers who are
acquainted with the facts advocated - but
being that none of them do so. I am
disposed to dictate it. So far
as I know Mr. Morgan has little
planting & supervise of the C. D. Capt. Jago.
concerning the Hilgini range as now
constituted & he if anything more
important than Mr. W. D. Morgan -

I side by my former opinion that
it is best to leave matters as they are

I entirely agree with Mr. Huddleston's view
of this question as is supported by the B. D. of Revenue &
the Inspector of Forests. W. D.

Minute by His Excellency
the Governor.

Dated 3^d August 1875

Res. 24 August 75

N^o 1262—

18 August 75

24 Aug 75, No 1262