M.R.O. 1—20,002—12-8-65.

(1) Number of Pages 81

(2) Date of repair 18. 4. 68

(3) Initials of the Referencer 24.4.68

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Reve DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. B.P. No.	1275	Press ~~Mis.~~
Dated	18. 9. 1875 ~~196~~ .	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
18th September 1875.

No. 149. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 15th June 1875, No. 1,627, Forest No. 107:—

Read the following letter from Captain C. WALKER, Officiating Inspector of Forests, to D. F. CARMICHAEL, Esq., Officiating Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, dated Ootacamund, 5th April 1875, No. 22:—

I HAVE the honor to submit my Inspection Report for North Arcot District.

2. I entered the district on the 19th February from Balpully, visiting the Mamandur reserve *en route*, and was met by Mr. Sheffield on the 24th at Chintagoontah, where I had gone to inspect some jungles, with regard to which there is a dispute betwixt the villagers of North Arcot and Cuddapah. After inspecting the forests in the Chendragherry Taluq, at present under Jungle Conservancy, including those on the western slopes of the Tiruputty Hill, I met the Collector (Mr. Whiteside) at lower Tiruputty on the 2nd March, ascended the Hill with him on the 3rd, and accompanied him to Ranepett, where we drafted the scheme for revision of establishments. After visiting some of the Casuarina plantations, I left the district on the 6th March.

3. Mr. Sheffield has recently assumed charge of the local jungles in addition to those under Imperial Conservancy. This will render it necessary and advisable to redistribute his establishment, and dovetail the working of the Imperial Department into that of the local conservancy, the receipts and expenditure only being kept separate as sanctioned in G. O., No. 423, dated 15th March 1875. An Overseer will have to be posted in the north of the district, which will then be divided into two ranges, nor[illegible]nd south, and it will probably be found advisable to place the whole of the Chendragherry forests, including those which it is proposed to reserve on the Tiruputty Hill, under Imperial Conservancy, transferring, if deemed necessary, other jungles in the district from Imperial to local.

4. The forests in the Chendragherry Taluq, bordering on the Cuddapah Subdivision, are probably the finest in the district, with the exception of those on the Jevadis recently transferred from Salem, but have evidently suffered much of recent years from unrestricted felling and want of any attempt at conservancy. This is but natural if we consider the daily increasing wants of the people, and the system pursued under the jungle or local conservancy which, as elsewhere, provides for the issue of passes, but no machinery for their recovery or checking the quantities brought on them, which, I fear, would be found to have been far in excess of that represented by the revenue collected.

The Red Sanders *(Pterocarpus santalinus)*, Thumbagia *(Vatica Thumbagia)*, and Yellama *(Conocarpus latifolia)*, are the prevailing description, but there are few mature trees remaining.

5. The Sub-Collector of Cuddapah, along with Messrs. Sheffield and Yarde, agreed upon a boundary line between the two districts, which I trust will settle the dispute amicably. I have referred to this in my Cuddapah Inspection Report, and it is that mentioned by Mr. Sheffield in his report in the Tiruputty Hill boundaries. (*Vide* paragraph 5 of his report recorded in G. O., No. 1,152, dated 9th September 1874).

6. I submit a separate report on the subject of the Tiruputty Hill forests which it is proposed to reserve. There is no forest worthy of the name on the top of the Hill, and much of the area which the Collector and Mr. Sheffield proposed to reserve is beyond the limits of the "sacred hills" altogether.

7. I visited the Casuarina plantation known as Thengal, Trivellum, and Keelminnel, and was much pleased with what I saw. A considerable portion of the Trivellum plantation has been cleared for the supply of the Vellore Jail, and Mr. Sheffield is busily engaged, having the ground prepared for replanting next season. It will be interesting to note the result of this treatment as it is found in Europe, that land must lie fallow for a year or two before being replanted unless the crop be changed. Keelminnel is a very fine plantation of 150 acres, planted for the most part last year. Mr. Sheffield finds it answer best to plant out strong well-grown seedlings once or twice transplanted in the nursery, and sometimes two or three feet in height. This is quite in accordance with suggestions made in my recent circular on planting operations, and I was naturally glad to find that the experiment with regard to Casuarina had proved successful. As full information regarding the plantations is given in the half-yearly reports, it is unnecessary to state more here. Casuarina planting in North Arcot may be considered a great success, both financially and as providing a supply of cheap posts, firewood, &c., which was much required. Judicious extension of planting operations should, I think, be encouraged; carefully framed estimates of probable expenditure and financial results being required in all cases before sanction is accorded.

8. I inspected Mr. Sheffield's books and records at Vellore, which are carefully kept. As I have already reported, there is great diversity of system and want of uniformity under the present arrangements, and amended and simplified forms for registers and returns are much required. The order by which a sum drawn must at once be charged off against some particular head of expenditure is difficult if not impossible to carry out, and must lead to cooking of accounts. The whole subject, which is a very difficult one, demands attention.

9. With the division of the district into two forest ranges, a careful revision of establishments, and the cessation of clashing betwixt Imperial and Jungle Conservancy, I think conservancy and with it forest revenue will improve. Mr. Sheffield deserves every credit for what he has already done, and I trust he will persevere with his increased duties and responsibility. I was glad to receive a good report from him of both his Overseers, Messrs. Newman and Newnan.

No. 23.

Submitted through the Collector of North Arcot and Revenue Board in accordance with G. O., No. 1,511, dated 7th December 1874.

Ootacamund, (Signed) C. WALKER, Captain,
5th April 1875. Officiating Inspector of Forests.

Submitted to the Board of Revenue.

Palmanair, (Signed) W. S. WHITESIDE,
20th May 1875. Collector.

Submitted for information of Government.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

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

2/1375

No. 150. Order thereon, 18th September 1875, No. 1,375.

Forests, No. 14.

In this report the Inspector of Forests details the result of his inspection of the North Arcot Forests and Plantations.

2. It is satisfactory to learn that the Casuarina plantations may be considered a great success both financially and as providing for the public wants.

3. The Government agree with the Inspector that judicious extension should be encouraged.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue.
,, the Officiating Inspector of Forests.

Exd. W. J. Lewis.

Govt. of 1875 Madras.

REVENUE.

To

The BOARD of REVENUE,

&c. &c. &c.

Dated September 18th

Recd. Encl.

G. O. 18th September 1875, No. 1,375.

SEPTEMBER.

Nos. 149-150.

Forests and Plantations of the North Arcot District.—With reference to the Inspector of Forests' Inspection Report on the —, concurring with that officer that judicious extensions of planting operations in respect to Casuarina should be encouraged.

7/1375

FOREST No. 107.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 15th June 1875, No. 1,627.

Read the following letter from Captain C. WALKER, Officiating Inspector of Forests, to D. F. CARMICHAEL, Esq., Officiating Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, dated Ootacamund, 5th April 1875, No. 22:—

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2. I entered the district on the 19th February from Balpully, visiting the Mamandur reserve *en route*, and was met by Mr. Sheffield on the 24th at Chintagoontah, where I had gone to inspect some jungles, with regard to which there is a dispute betwixt the villagers of North Arcot and Cuddapah. After inspecting the forests in the Chendragherry Taluq, at present under Jungle Conservancy, including those on the western slopes of the Tiruputty Hill, I met the Collector (Mr. Whiteside) at lower Tiruputty on the 2nd March, ascended the Hill with him on the 3rd, and accompanied him to Ranepett, where we drafted the scheme for revision of establishments. After visiting some of the Casuarina plantations, I left the district on the 6th March.

3. Mr. Sheffield has recently assumed charge of the local jungles in addition to those under Imperial Conservancy. This will render it necessary and advisable to redistribute his establishment, and dovetail the working of the Imperial Department into that of the local conservancy, the receipts and expenditure only being kept separate as sanctioned in G. O., No. 423, dated 15th March 1875. An Overseer will have to be posted in the north of the district, which will then be divided into two ranges, north and south, and it will probably be found advisable to place the whole of the Chendragherry forests, including those which it is proposed to reserve on the Tiruputty Hill, under Imperial Conservancy, transferring, if deemed necessary, other jungles in the district from Imperial to local.

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The Red Sanders *(Pterocarpus santalinus)*, Thumbagia *(Vatica Thumbagia)*, and Yellama *(Conocarpus latifolia)*, are the prevailing description, but there are few mature trees remaining.

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Hill, and much of the area which the Collector and Mr. Sheffield proposed to reserve is beyond the limits of the "sacred hills" altogether.

7. I visited the Casuarina plantation known as Thengal, Trivellum, and Keelminnel, and was much pleased with what I saw. A considerable portion of the Trivellum plantation has been cleared for the supply of the Vellore Jail, and Mr. Sheffield is busily engaged, having the ground prepared for replanting next season. It will be interesting to note the result of this treatment as it is found in Europe, that land must lie fallow for a year or two before being replanted unless the crop be changed. Keelminnel is a very fine plantation of 150 acres, planted for the most part last year. Mr. Sheffield finds it answer best to plant out strong well-grown seedlings once or twice transplanted in the nursery, and sometimes two or three feet in height. This is quite in accordance with suggestions made in my recent circular on planting operations, and I was naturally glad to find that the experiment with regard to Casuarina had proved successful. As full information regarding the plantations is given in the half-yearly reports, it is unnecessary to state more here. Casuarina planting in North Arcot may be considered a great success, both financially and as providing a supply of cheap posts, firewood, &c., which was much required. Judicious extension of planting operations should, I think, be encouraged; carefully framed estimates of probable expenditure and financial results being required in all cases before sanction is accorded.

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No. 23.

SUBMITTED through the Collector of North Arcot and Revenue Board in accordance with G. O., No. 1,511, dated 7th December 1874.

OOTACAMUND,
5th April 1875.

(Signed) C. WALKER, Captain,
Officiating Inspector of Forests.

SUBMITTED to the Board of Revenue.

PALMANAIR,
20th May 1875.

(Signed) W. S. WHITESIDE,
Collector.

SUBMITTED for information of Government.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

Acting Secretary.

To the Acting Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

Copy to the Collector of North Arcot.
" to the Officiating Inspector of Forests.

No 1375

In this report the Inspector of Forests details the results of his inspection of the North Arcot Forests & plantations — the Casuarina plantations.

It is satisfactory to learn that the Casuarina plantations may be considered a great success both financially and as providing for the public wants.

The Govt. agree with the Inspr. that judicious extension should be encouraged.

18 Sept/75

25 Aug/75 [illegible] 18 Sept/75

Res: 1875: Sept
No 2435

No 501

1875.

Board of Revenue,

MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 15TH JUNE 1875, No. 1,627.

Despd 29 June/75

Encl.

Circulate

Despatch

Received 25 June

JUNE.

Forest No. 107.

Forests—in North Arcot District.—Captain Walker's Inspection Report on —, submitted for information of Government.

~~Recorded~~

No 1375. 18 September 1875

With Order

22.6.75

Note. I do not think that Planting of Casuarina (a safe growth) shd be carried on at under the head of Imperial Rev & Expend. The use is absolutely local & while I approve of the Cas. extension, [illegible] compared [illegible] & jungle conservancy with its profit — we might debit a share of the cost of supervision to this head. I would instruct the Bd & Inspector accordingly & direct an estimate under jungle cons. for such extensions to be submitted with that Budget.

[illegible]

1/9

14 to the Board [illegible]
3 the Offg Inspector of Forests

I do not think that present [illegible] for the [illegible] purposes are not restricted "Jungle Conservancy" as distinguished from "Forest". These Casuarina plantations are not for local village purposes. [illegible]

Circulate

I agree with W. R. [illegible]