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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.
B.P. No.

1675.A

Press
Mis.

Dated

22-11-1875 1968 .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
22nd November 1875.*

No. 256A. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 18th November 1875, No. 3,139, Forest No. 224 :—

IN continuation of the Board's Proceedings, dated 22nd October 1875, No. 215-2,933, forwarding the Forest Budget for 1876-77, the Board submit the following remarks with reference to paragraph 2 of the letter of the Government of India, communicated with the G.O., dated 25th February 1875, No. 298.

2. The Government of India observe that the estimated receipts of 1875-76 are nearly the same as those of 1869-70, while the charges are considerably higher ;

and call for a report showing in what respects the increased charges will confer any real benefit upon the country, and why the same ends might not be attained

at a less cost. The Government of India wish also to be informed whether the transfer of forests from a separate department to Collectors has really proved as efficient and economical as it was expected, when it was proposed in 1872.

3. The year 1869-70, taken by the Government of India for purpose of comparison, was exceptional. In that year, a sum of Rupees 41,000, the value of timber supplied to the Bombay Marine Department from the Anamallay Forests in 1868-69, was adjusted and brought to account.

4. The receipts and charges prior and subsequent to 1872-73, when the department was transferred to Collectors, were as shown below :—

		Receipts.	Working Charges.	Establishment Charges.	Total Charges.
		RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
Actuals	1862-63	1,82,449	81,518	94,259	1,75,777
	1863-64	2,43,642	1,10,919	93,384	2,04,303
	1864-65	3,30,569	1,02,487	94,170	1,96,657
	1865-66	3,21,581	1,43,933	1,15,869	2,59,602
	1866-67	3,38,607	1,20,895	1,03,120	2,24,015
	1867-68	4,24,185	1,48,781	1,24,059	2,72,840
	1868-69	3,91,179	1,31,919	1,37,781	2,69,700
	1869-70	4,95,789	1,46,908	1,39,783	2,86,691
	1870-71	3,39,762	1,56,779	1,38,081	2,94,860
	1871-72	4,18,882	1,94,814	1,50,902	3,45,716
Average		3,48,664	1,33,895	1,19,140	2,53,035
Actuals	1872-73	4,18,767	3,03,735	1,74,412	4,78,147
	1873-74	4,49,541	1,75,370	1,77,814	3,53,184
	1874-75	3,64,326	2,21,864	1,76,008	3,97,872
	1875-76	4,63,304	2,49,328	1,93,440	4,42,768
Regular Estimates, Budget Estimates,		1876-77	5,12,000	2,64,000	2,46,000
					5,10,000

From the above, it will be observed that the average receipts prior to 1872-73 show only a surplus of Rupees 95,000 over expenditure, and not Rupees 2,09,000 as was the case in 1869-70. But even compared with the average, the expenditure subsequent to 1871-72 shows a large increase disproportionate to the increase in the receipts. This is due to the following causes :—

(1.) When the forests were transferred to Collectors, the establishment of the Controlling officers was reorganized, and the cost increased by about Rupees 34,000.

(2.) In 1872-73 and 1874-75, there was an extraordinary expenditure of Rupees 1,00,000 and 25,000, respectively, for the purchase of forest lands in Malabar.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
22nd November 1875.*

(3.) In 1876-77, the cost of the subordinate establishments is proposed to be increased.

(4.) The extent of plantations and reserves has been considerably increased since 1871-72, to meet the growing demand for railway fuel, &c.; the average cost on account of plantations and reserves prior to 1871-72 was only Rupees 16,373, whereas the present cost is much in excess as shown below:—

		Working Charges exclusive of Establishment Charges.	
		RS.	
Actuals	1862-63	...	292
	1863-64	...	434
	1864-65	...	3,095
	1865-66	...	12,053
	1866-67	...	11,271
	1867-68	...	17,803
	1868-69	...	19,136
	1869-70	...	20,834
	1870-71	...	29,381
	1871-72	...	49,434
Average		...	16,373
Actuals	1872-73	...	60,970
	1873-74	...	51,624
	1874-75	...	65,020
Budget Estimate...	1875-76	...	91,905*
	1876-77	...	77,329*

5. Of course, the return for the increased expenditure under the above heads can only be expected gradually, as the forest conservancy develops and the plantations and reserves commence to pay. If the expenditure on account of establishments, reserves and plantations and purchase of forest lands is taken out of calculation, the receipts subsequent to the transfer of forests to Collectors compare with the charges more favorably than before, as shown below:—

		Receipts.		Charges exclusive of Establishments, Plantations, &c., and Cost of Land purchased.	
		RS.		RS.	
Actuals	1862-63	...	1,82,449	...	81,226
	1863-64	...	2,43,642	...	1,10,485
	1864-65	...	3,30,569	...	99,392
	1865-66	...	3,21,581	...	1,31,880
	1866-67	...	3,38,607	...	1,09,624
	1867-68	...	4,21,185	...	1,30,978
	1868-69	...	3,91,179	...	1,12,783
	1869-70	...	4,95,789	...	1,26,074
	1870-71	...	3,39,762	...	1,27,398
	1871-72	...	4,18,882	...	1,45,380
Average...		...	3,48,364	...	1,17,522
Actuals	1872-73	...	4,18,767	...	1,32,765
	1873-74	...	4,49,541	...	1,23,746
	1874-75	...	3,64,326	...	1,31,844
Estimate...	1875-76	...	4,63,304	...	1,57,423
	1876-77	...	5,12,000	...	1,86,671
Average		...	4,41,587	...	1,46,489
Deduct Receipts from Plantations, &c.		...	14,000		
		...	4,27,587		

* These figures have been taken from IV.1 and IV.2 in the Budget. They include to a slight extent charges for forests other than reserves and plantations. The exact amount is not known.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
22nd November 1875.*

6. The Board consider it too soon to offer an opinion regarding the effects of the transfer of forests to Collectors. Establishments are just being improved and organized, and plantations and reserves, to which considerable attention is being paid, have not commenced to pay. The Board are of opinion that at least five years more must elapse before a sound judgment as to the effect of the change can be arrived at.

7. The increase in expenditure is unavoidable, as conservancy is extended to new tracts and as the formation of new reserves and plantations becomes pressing. The present organization requires amendment in some points, and the matter is now before Government. The Board have advocated its continuance in principle, in the belief that it will conduce to greater efficiency in the management of the forests; but their recommendations have been based upon other grounds as well.

(A true Extract.)

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

(True Copy.)

Under-Secretary to Government.

Exd. W. H. French.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT,
FORT ST. GEORGE,
22nd November 1875.

No. 1,675A.

No. 256B.

To

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,

DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE,
AGRICULTURE, AND COMMERCE.

Forests, No. 8A.

SIR,—Adverting to paragraph 12 of
the memorandum that accompanied your
letter of the 2nd of February last, No. 120,

I am directed to forward, for the information of the Government of India, the accompanying paper containing a report, prepared by the Board of Revenue, on the working of the Forest Department.

2. I am to intimate that the Governor in Council considers that the recent increase in expenditure is satisfactorily accounted for, and that the comparative decrease in receipts is not perhaps greater than might have been expected, but am to state that this Government are not altogether prepared to endorse the views of the Board as to the present system, and have in view certain radical alterations which will shortly be communicated to the Government of India.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Signed) L. A. CAMPBELL,
Under-Secretary to Government.

Ed. F. R. Bantleman

Agriculture {1825} Department.

Government of Fort St. George.

Dated 22nd November 1875. } No. 1,675A.
Received } Enclosures.
5 spare copies.

D. No.	Progs.
L. No.	No.

Forwarding report on the working of the Forest Department. Stating that this Government are not altogether prepared to endorse the views of the Board as to the present system, and have in view certain radical alterations which will shortly be communicated.

Revenue Department

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue
Dated 18th November 1875

In continuation of the Board's Proceedings, dated 22nd October 1875, forwarding the forest budget for 1876-77, the Board submit the following remarks with reference to para 2 of the letter of the Government of India, communicated with the Government Order, dated 26th February 1875, No. 298.

The Government of India observe that the estimated receipts of 1875-76 are nearly the same as those of 1869-70.

while the charges are considerably higher and call for a report shewing in what respects the increased charges will confer any real benefit upon the country and why the same ends might not be attained at less cost. The Government of India wish also to be informed whether the transfer of Forests from a separate Department to Collectors has really proved as efficient and economical as it was suspected when it was proposed in 1872.

	1869-70.	1875-76
Receipts	495,789	504,000.
Charges	286,791	445,000.

The year 1869-70. taken by the Government of India for purpose of comparison was exceptional. In that year a sum of Rs 41000, the value of timber supplied to the Bombay Marine Department from the Annamallay Forests in 1868-69 was adjusted and brought to account.

The receipts and charges prior and subsequent to 1872-73. when the Department was transferred.

to Collectors were as shown below.

	Receipts	Working charges	Establishment charges	Total charges
1862-63.	182,449	81,518	94,259	175,777.
1863-64	243,642	110,919.	93,384	204,303
1864-65	330,569	102,487	94,170	196,654.
1865-66.	321,581.	143,933	115,869.	259,802.
1866-67.	338,604	120,895	103,120.	224,015.
1867-68	424,185	148,781.	124,059	242,840.
1868-69	391,179	131,919.	137,781.	269,700.
1869-70.	495,789	146,908.	139,783	286,691
70-71.	339,762	156,779	138,081.	294,860.
71-72	418,882	196,814	150,902	345,716
Average	348,664	133,895	119,140.	250,035
1872-1873.	418,764.	303,735	174,442	478,147.
73-74	449,541.	175,370	177,814	353,184
74-75	364,326	221,864	176,018	397,872.
1875-76. Regular Estimates	463,304	249,328	193,440	442,668
1876-77. Budget Estimates	512,000	264,000	246,000	510,000.

From the above it will be observed

that the average receipts prior to 1842-73 show only a surplus of Rs 95000 over expenditure, and not Rupees 209000. as was the case in 1869-70. But even compared with the average, the expenditure subsequent 1841-72, shows a large increase disproportionate to the increase in the receipts. This is due to the following causes.

I. — When the Forests were transferred to collectors the establishment of the Controlling Officers was reorganized and the cost increased by about Rs 34000.

II. — In 1842-73 and 1846-75, there was an extraordinary expenditure of Rupees 100,000 and 25,000 respectively for the purchase of Forest land in Malabar.

III. — In 1846-77 the cost of the Subordinate

establishments is proposed to be increased

IV. — The extent of plantations and reserves has been considerably increased since 1841-72. to meet the growing demand for railway fuel &c the average cost on account of plantations and reserves prior to 1841-72 was only Rs 163,73. whereas the present cost is much increased as shown below. —

	Working charges, inclusive of establishment charges.
1862-63.	292.
63-64	434
64-65	3095
65-66	12053.
66-67.	112,71.
1867-68.	17803.
1868-69	191,36.
1869-70.	200,34.
1870-71.	29381.
1871-72.	49434
	Average 163,73
1872-73.	Actual 609,40.
1873-74.	51624.
1874-75.	65020.
1875-76.	Budget 91905 +
1876-77.	Estimate 77329. +

+ These figures have been taken from II. 1 and II. 2. in the Budget. They include to a slight extent charges for forests other than reserves and plantations. The exact amount is not known.

Of course the return for the increase of expenditure under the above head can only be expected gradually as the forest

conservancy develops and its planta-
tions and reserves commence to
pay. If the expenditure on account
of establishments, reserves & plantations
and purchase of forest lands is
taken out of calculation, the receipts
subsequent to the transfer of forests
to collectors compare with the charges
more favorably than before as shown below:

Receipts:	Charges inclusive of Establishments, plan- tations, & cost of land purchased
1862-63. Actuals	182,449
63-64	243,642
64-65	330,589
65-66	321,581
66-67	338,607
1867-68	421,185
1868-69	391,179
1869-70	495,789
1870-71	339,762
1871-72	418,882
Average: 348,364	812,260
1872-73 Actuals	110,485
1873-74	99,392
1874-75	131,880
1875-76	109,624
1876-77	130,978
1877-78	112,788
1878-79	126,074
1879-80	127,398
1880-81	145,380
Average: 441,584	117,522
1881-82 Actuals	132,766
1882-83	123,746
1883-84	131,844
1884-85	154,420
1885-86	186,671
Average: 441,584	146,489
Deduct receipts from plantations &c 14,000	
427,584	

The Board considers it too soon to
offer an opinion regarding the effects
of the transfer of forests to collectors.
Establishments are just being improved
and organized and plantations and

reserves to which considerable attention
is being paid have not commenced to pay.
The Board are of opinion that at least
five years more must elapse before a
sound judgment as to the effect of
the change can be arrived at. The
increase in expenditure is unavoid-
able, as conservancy is intended to
new tracts and as the formation of
new reserves and plantations becomes
pressing. The present organization
requires amendment in some points
and the matter is now before Government.
The Board have advocated its conti-
-nuance in principle, on the belief that
it will conduce to greater efficiency in
the management of forests; but their
recommendations have been based
upon other grounds as well.

(Truehatch)

H. H. H. H.

To The Secretary of Government
Revenue Department.
Ag. Secretary
J. H. H. H.
J. H. H. H.

20 Nov 75

2566

Revenue 1875 Deficit
No 4479

Dated 18th Nov 1875
Rs 18-00-00
Rs 20-00-00

20 Nov 1875 A. 2566

Further instructions
to the Accountant
General
1875-76

Orders

Ref: 18 Nov 75.
Regarding increased
Expenditure in the
Forest Department.

It is presumed that
this paper may be
forwarded to the
Government of India
direct (not thro: the
Accountant General)
with the intimation
that while the
Government consider
that the increase
in expenditure is
satisfactorily accounted
for and the compara-
tive decrease in
receipts is not
perhaps greater
than might have
been expected still
they are not altogether
prepared to endorse

For advertisement of the
Government of India
the paper of the 18th Nov 75
1875 I am directed to
1. as the budget is
2. I am to
submit to the
Government of India

28/11

But am to take
the other forward

the Board's views
as to the present
system and have
in view certain
modifications which
will shortly be
communicated.

Yours
J. A. C.

To Orders

Prof. W. S. Williams
in closed session
in Forest Dep. &
Sagittaria
Judge of the
of the Forest Dept.

Special Circ.
Lal

W. S. Williams
on the
Board

c. 24/10/1875

Received
6 copies on 11/10/1875
No. 80

To

No. 1675 A.

The Secretary to the Govt. of India
Dept. of Rev. Agric. & Commerce

Sir

Adverting to para
12 of the Memorandum that
accompanied your letter of
the 2^d of February last No. 120,
I am directed to forward for
the information of the Govt.
of India, the accompanying
pages containing a report,
prepared by the Board of
Revenue, on the working
of the Forest Department.

I am to intimate
that the most noble

the

The Governor in Council
considers that the recent
increase in expenditure
is satisfactorily accounted
for, and that the comparative
decrease in receipts is not
perhaps greater than might
have been expected, but
am to state that this Govt.
are not altogether prepared
to endorse the views of the
Board as to the present
system, and have in view
certain radical alterations
which will shortly be
communicated to the Govt.
of India.

For order
of

W. E. P.

To the Govt. of India

Further regarding
Forest Budget 1876

77 -

1876