

(1) Number of Pages 8.(2) Date of repair 1. 2. 62(3) Initials of the Referencer 13. 2. 68**MADRAS RECORD OFFICE****GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS**Revenue DEPARTMENTG.O. No.
B.P. No.

361.

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Dated

5. 2. 1875 196.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
5th March 1875.*

No. 64. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 13th February 1875, No. 336, Forest No. 19 :—

Read again Board's Proceedings, No. 2,603, dated 14th September 1874.

Read also the following letter from Captain C. WALKER, Officiating Inspector of Forests, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Kurnool, 14th January 1875, No. 512 :—

WITH reference to Board's Proceedings, No. 164—2,603, dated 14th September 1874, I have the honor to report that I do not agree with Mr. Thomas.

2. I consider it our duty to endeavour to introduce so-called *Jungle-woods* to markets where they can have a fair trial, and experience teaches me that this cannot, as a rule, be done in this country, without direct Government intervention in the first instance.

In almost every district in which I have served there are local prejudices and superstitions with regard to certain descriptions of timber which prevent their being used, although they are well known to be valuable.

3. I consider that we should spare no pains to make a market for our timber other than Teak, Blackwood, and Vengay, the demand for which may be assumed to exceed the supply.

By adopting this course we shall, I hope, lessen the drain on those descriptions, make a large supply of timber for general purposes available, and by securing remunerative rates for many of the "*Jungle-woods*," be enabled to introduce more systematic working and regeneration of our mixed forests.

4. I trust that, in the course of a few years, if we improve the conversion and means of transporting our timber, we may be able to ship trial consignment to Europe, where alone the value of some of our Indian timber is likely to be appreciated. I think too little has hitherto been done in thus developing our forest resources.

5. Once let the value of any description be realized, and then I have little doubt the middleman will step in and save us from the trouble and expense of transport beyond the district limits. The Forest Department will then have done its duty by introducing a more or less valuable product to the market, benefiting trade, and increasing the value of the State property in its charge at the same time.

6. I find that Poonspars are in great demand in Bombay, whilst at Mangalore they are almost unsaleable, and the Dockyard are willing and anxious to give the *Kiral boghi* a fair trial. I have, therefore, requested Mr. Webster to direct Mr. Cherry to send up his Poonspars and a few logs of *Kiral boghi* as an experiment to the Superintendent of Marine.

7. I agree with Mr. Thomas as to the necessity of improving the preparation of our timber, though I do not see that we are called upon to season it more than we do, and do not know what he means by "*open sale at fixed prices*" (paragraph 5).

8. A full report on the proposed arrangements for working the South Canara Forests will shortly be submitted with reference to Board's Proceedings, No. 167-A—2,640.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
5th March 1875.*

9. I fear that Mr. Thomas is right in supposing that most of the "Kiral boghi" which Major Beddome saw was on Kumaki land, in which case it will, under recent orders of Government, be sacrificed to individuals to the loss of the State.

SUBMITTED to Government, with reference to G.Os., dated 20th January and 15th May 1874, Nos. 88 and 598.

2. The Board concur with the Acting Inspector of Forests, and see no objection whatever to a trial consignment of "Kiral boghi," and Poonspars being made. It is observed that Captain Walker has communicated with the Collector in view to this being done.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

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

No. 65.

ORDER THEREON, 5th March 1875, No. 361.

Forests, No. 6.

APPROVED.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) D. F. CARMICHAEL
Secretary to Government.

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

Exd. J. Wright.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 14th September 1874, No. 2,603.

Read the following letter from H. S. THOMAS, Esq., Collector of South Canara, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Mangalore, 19th August 1874, No. 1,594 :—

I HAVE the honor to submit the report called for in Board's Proceedings, dated 6th February 1874, Forest Miscellaneous No. 35-799.

2. It is evidenced by the Public Works Department and a part of the public going to Malabar merchants for trustworthy timber that we cannot supply even our own local demand for seasoned timber. It seems premature there-

fore to look for a larger market. It would further be positively injurious to our future prospects to supply to Bombay such timber as would serve to gain us only a bad name and a closed market. When our timber is good and in demand it will find its own way to Bombay without any difficulty whatever, just as the timber of the Malabar merchants now finds its way to Mangalore, and beats us in our own market. Our first duty is to improve our timber by proper seasoning.

3. When we have timber fit to expose to the scrutiny of the skilled purchaser and the competition of other producers, then it will be time to consider the means by which we should introduce it to the Bombay market. That we should undertake the risks of taking it there ourselves is not in my opinion advisable. I look upon the estimates of profit per cubic foot as problematical, and the cost of carriage to Bombay as likely, under Government management, to be unnecessarily high, there being deductions also from profit on account of wastage by rotting while waiting a sale by speculation by *bona fide* loss and injury in carriage.

4. My idea is that the work of taking timber to distant markets can best be done by middle men. If the timber is such in quality and value that Government can profit by taking it to Bombay, much more will the middleman benefit himself. If he does he will come to us again, and then we shall soon find a way of sharing profits with our pioneer.

5. I would create the middleman by fixing prices at fixed prices, as proposed in paragraphs 100—102 of my letter, No. 1,489, dated 10th August 1874. Those prices too should not be fixed at the highest attainable, which must be left to the retail seller, but at a wholesale ready money price, still further fixed per centage reductions being made in favor of large purchasers. Thus we might hope to create timber merchants. South Canara does not want men of money and energy enough to undertake such a trade if opened to them. The chief Timber Contractor of North Canara is a man of Mangalore.

6. Such timber merchants would probably buy up our stocks even in our inland depôts near the forests, and themselves arrange for carriage to the coast. But if experience showed they did not, then we might carry our surplus to our coast depôts but no further. These the timber merchants might be expected to buy up and send to Bombay; but I do not entertain the hope that they will do anything of the sort till our timber is made worth their purchasing.

7. In my opinion, therefore, we must commence by fixing our prices and improving our timber, and the rest will follow of its own accord.

8. Similarly we do not hawk our coir about. It is, I believe, the best in the world, and the consequence is that merchants make telegraphic arrangements from great distances for local agents to purchase for them, and we have no lack of market for it.

9. My Deputy Conservator's views are very different. His letter is enclosed.

10. My impression is that the quantity of Kiral bogi (*Hopea parviflora*) which Major Beddome saw here is almost all in Kumaki land, the "Tom Tittler's ground" from which the Forest Department are always itching to be "picking up gold and silver."

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From J. W. CHERRY, Esq., Deputy Conservator of Forests, to H. S. THOMAS, Esq., Collector of South Canara, dated Mangalore, 11th June 1874, No. 326 :—

In reply to your communications, marginally noted, I have the honor to observe that after perusal of the papers referred to, I do not gather on what particulars I am required to report.

Enclosures Nos. 342 and 517, dated 20th February 1874 and 16th March 1874.

South Canara Timbers.—Approving the suggestion of the Inspector of Forests to send certain to Bombay for sale.

MARCH.
Nos. 64-65.

G.O., 5th March 1874, No. 361.

Dated March 5th.

THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

REVENUE.

Govt. of 1875 Mangalore.

2. I have for some time advocated the advantage to this Department of having its own timber good in Bombay, or some other arrangements by which our timber may be received and disposed of in that great market, and I fully concur in the Inspector's proposal, that the experiment should be made of sending different timbers up to some Firm there to be disposed of.

3. My belief is, that timber of all descriptions will fetch a price in Bombay that will yield a greater profit on the cost of delivery, than that realized at our local coast markets.

4. Even should the difference not be very marked, the advantage of so largely extending our chance of sales is obvious.

5. One description of wood is almost as expensive to deliver at the coast as another, and I think I have fair grounds for setting down the cost (including supervision) at 10 Annas per cubic foot for all descriptions of ordinary logs throughout the district.

6. Logs of unwieldy dimensions or from forests extraordinarily difficult of access, would of course average more.

7. Assuming 10 Annas as a fair rate, and adding 2 Annas for freight to Bombay, I anticipate a profit by sales in Bombay of at least 4 Annas per cubic foot, as I do not think

Dalbergia Latifolia.
Calophyllum Wightiana.
Ropea Parviflora.
Xylia Dalabriformis.
Artocarpus Hirsutus.
Terminalia Tomentosa.

Largestamia Macracarpa.
Terminilla Poniculata.
Pterocarpus Marsupium.
Diosphyros Assimilis.
Artocarpus Integrifolia.

any of the timber trees, which I would propose to send up, (and here mention in the margin) would realize there, less than 1 Rupee a cubic foot, whereas our local coast sales of these timbers does not on an average exceed 12 Annas

a cubic foot or only a gain of 2 Annas per cubic foot over working expenses.

8. Poon spars would sell well in Bombay. They have little or no remunerative value here.

9. Should Government approve of the Establishment of a Timber Depot agency in Bombay, I shall be prepared to take the first opportunity of despatching thither sundry timbers to be disposed of on trial.

10. I have the honor to return the Government Proceedings, No. 199, dated 13th February 1874, as requested in your second endorsement under reply.

(Signed) H. S. THOMAS,
Collector.

REFERRED to the Inspector of Forests for his remarks.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) J. GROSE,
Secretary.

To the Inspector of Forests.

Copy to the Collector of South Canara.

" " of Coimbatore.

Ed. G. A. Turton.

South Canara timbers.—Report from Collector on suggestion of Major Beddome, late Inspector of Forests, to send certain — to Bombay for sale, referred to Officiating Inspector of Forests for his remarks.

SEPTEMBER.
Forest No. 164.

Received

Ans-602/75

Encl

PROCEEDINGS, 14th SEPTEMBER 1874, No. 2,603

BOARD OF REVENUE,
MADRAS.

1874.

FOREST No. 19.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 13th February 1875, No. 336.

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(A true Copy and Extract.)

[Signature]
Acting Secretary.

To the Acting Secretary to Government, Revenue Department,
with copy of Board's Proceedings, 14th September 1874, No. 2,603.

Copy to the Inspector of Forests.
" to the Collector of South Canara.
" to the Collector of Coimbatore.

Exd. J. Wright.

20th January 74
15th May 74
2 June 74
18th Feb 75

*14 To the Secy. of the Board
15 To the Secy. of the Board*

No 602

Received 1875. *de pte*

Board of Revenue,
MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 13TH FEBRUARY 1875, No. 886.

Copy 17. 2nd 1/75
Encl. 1

Received 18th Feb 75

FEBRUARY.
Forest No. 19.

South Canara Timbers.—Views of Inspector of Forests in regard to the suggestion to send certain — to Bombay for sale, submitted to Government. Concurrence expressed with Inspector in thinking that a trial consignment of "Kiral boghi" and Poonspars should be made.

[Signature]
24th Nov 1874