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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

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

97

Press
Mis.

Dated

15-1-1875 196

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 475

Office of Inspector of Taxes
Camp N. Kanara 3rd Dec.
1874.

From
Captain Campbell Walker
Officiating Inspector of Taxes to
To. C. G. Master Esquire
Ag. Secretary to Govt. P. D.
Madras

Sir,
With reference to G. O. No. 1380
dated 30th October/74, I have the
honour to state that I had not
overlooked the Government orders
referred to regarding the Saptur
Zemindar's claim as might have
been observed by my quoting one
of them, No. 810 of 21st May 1872, in the
second para of my report.

The papers recorded in the
several G. O.^s simply prove that the
Collector

Collector of Madras decided the matter without hearing any thing that the Forest officer of Tinnevely or the Wartrap villagers, who are the parties most immediately concerned, had to say, and that the question, so far as the Tinnevely District is concerned, remains unsettled. This Mr. MacDuff himself informed me - but it has not prevented the Zemindar from asserting a right to the Forests above Wartrap of which the villagers complain, and claiming miles of Forest which this Department, after the Censure conveyed in GO No 467 dated 16th March 1872, feel diffident

2/27.
diffident in questioning though well assured that they are unfounded.
2. I would remark that the officers referred to in para 3 of the GO under reference differed in their opinion as to the extent of the Zemindar's claim though Mr. Symonds allowed that this Government, before they were represented by a special branch for the supervision and Conservation of Forests, had allowed the Zemindar's agents to encroach on Government Forests.

I am not aware that this constitutes a right as against Government and the Communities, though Government ~~may~~ deem it expedient to admit it as a privilege.

3. I am not unaware that Government in 1873 endorsed Mr. Puckle's views regarding the North Tinnevelly Forests referred to in para 3 of my report, but I do not think that the importance of these Forests and the results likely to ensue from their denudation has been sufficiently represented to Government.

It is well known that Mr. Puckle's solicitude centres in the Tamrapurney and its affluents, but are not the rivers of North Tinnevelly deserving of some consideration?

4. In the docket of G.O. under reference

Mr. Puckle wrote that the portion range - viz. the water supply being consequent to Government villages. See para 4 of letter in G.O. No 685. L.

3/87
reference it is stated that the Inspection Reports should have been submitted through the Revenue Board. I have received no orders to that effect.

I have the honour to be
Sir

Yours most obedt servt

Cumprasad Walker

Offg Inspector of Forests

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