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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

REVENUE DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. 1388-89 Press
~~B.P. No.~~ ~~Mis.~~

Dated 29.9.1876 ~~196~~ .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Read again G.O., dated 22nd June 1876, No. 839.

Read also the following papers :—

No. 372. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 30th August 1876, No. 2,231, Forest No. 79.

Read also the following replies to Board's Miscellaneous Proceedings, No. 5,639, dated 5th July 1876.

From W. S. WHITESIDE, Esq., Collector of North Arcot, to C. A. GALTON, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Palmanair, 2nd August 1876, No. 354.

I HAVE the honor, with reference to the Proceedings of the Board, dated 5th instant, No. 5,639, communicating G.O., dated 22nd June last, No. 839, to report that I am of opinion that the arrangements now made to train young men in England for Forest Service in India is extremely satisfactory, and I have no observations to offer on that point, beyond suggesting that it would be a desirable plan to hold out inducements to respectable young men in India to proceed to England and study the science of forestry in view to their eventual employment in India in the Forest Department. I am aware that there are several such young men, some of them sons of Forest officers, who would be only too glad to avail themselves of such an opportunity of obtaining employment if it were allowed them. Men of this stamp, from their previous residence in India and from being conversant with the vernaculars of the country, would be far better suited for immediate service in the Forest Department, after passing the requisite test in England, than men who have not been acclimatized to the country, and who have to acquire a knowledge of the vernaculars after their arrival in India.

From A. J. STUART, Esq., Acting Collector of Tinnevelly, to C. A. GALTON, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Melagaram, 15th July 1876, No. 437.

IN reply to Board's Proceedings, Miscellaneous No. 5,639, dated 5th July 1876, I have the honor to state that I do not think, considering the rates of pay and prospects of officers of the Forest Department, more can be expected than is obtained by the present system of selection. The prospects are such that it can hardly be expected, at all events as a rule, to get men who have had the benefit of a University training. Moreover, this would probably interfere with their professional course.

2. The professional education seems to be very complete, and is if any thing in advance of our requirements in this Presidency. Doubtless in time we shall need all the professional skill we can get.

3. I observe from the list contained in the Asylum Press Almanac for 1876 that there are eighteen officers on the staff of the department. The service qualifying for pension is, I suppose, thirty years, or twenty-five on medical certificate. Presuming that it is not intended to increase the number of appointments above eighteen, and that the officers now at the head of the department have no intention of retiring until they are qualified for pension, it does not appear to me that it would be safe to apply for any increase in the staff for many years to come, as, in the event of a young

officer coming out, he would rank as a supernumerary and remain without chance of even a step towards promotion for a number of years, until he is absorbed into the present lowest grade.

4. I would strongly recommend that, as this department is to be officered from England, the length of service qualifying for pension be reduced and assimilated to that of the Covenanted Civil Service. This not only because twenty-five years is quite long enough for an officer to serve in India, but also because, if the present limit is retained, there is so little chance of promotion down the ranks for many years to come, and therefore so little opportunity of bringing into the service men who have had the advantage of professional training; moreover, the service is a hard one and unhealthy, and the limit for pension should be reduced on this account.

5. I think that while Native officers, as a rule, are able to serve in their own country and climate for thirty years, or for twenty-five on medical certificate, all officers of European extraction should have the pension limit fixed at least five years earlier.

6. If this is done, it will be matter for calculation how long it will take officers now in the first two classes to reach the pension limit of twenty-five years, at which limit, for the sake of the regularity of the service, I would compel them to retire, and I would arrange for the supply of officers from England to fill up the vacancies at the bottom of the list at such time and not before.

I think it would very much tend to the efficiency and general satisfaction of all the services if the limit assigned for pension were made in all cases compulsory, the exceptions being only such cases as those of promotion to the Revenue Board or Membership of Council in the Covenanted Service or corresponding promotion in other departments, which should give the officer promoted a new base of official life of five years' duration.

7. As regards the number of appointments of Forest officers required, supposing all to be trained and efficient men, as in time all will be, I think eighteen probably sufficient for the permanent staff, but what appears to be needed now is a thorough reform in the manner of managing the forests by the introduction whenever possible of the latest and most scientific methods of management.

8. For this purpose, and in order to train and instruct a body of Native Forest subordinates in the principles of forestry, I beg to suggest that the Government might enter into contracts with a number of already formed Foresters to serve under the existing staff for five years only, within which time I think they would have taught their Native Assistants the outlines of the business and might be dispensed with. There is too much for one man to do in any single existing officer's division, for reasonable hope that scientific forestry can be introduced for many years to come, the more so as many officers are practically unacquainted with the science. I therefore think that, without interfering with the regular and permanent staff, which might be continued at the present strength, recruited as officers retire by well-trained men from home, the most effective plan would be to go to some immediate expense for a few years in bringing out a body of trained Foresters in the proportion of about three to each officer's division to prepare the permanent working plans or system on which the forests are to be treated for the next 100 years, and to teach the Natives something of the science and art of forestry.

9. Twenty-one Foresters would fairly set going seven officers' divisions in five years, and might at the end of that time, if willing to serve another five years, be transferred to seven other divisions, and the management and treatment of the forest might then be put on a permanent system, having as its basis the latest knowledge on the subject, while no addition would be made to the permanent staff, which, for practical purposes, would probably be sufficient when these subordinates are properly taught and definite plans are settled for the treatment of the forests—plans to be adhered to for 100 years. Foresters so employed temporarily would require no pension or gratuity, only their expenses out and back and a salary of, say, 500 Rupees a-month.

10. The annual charges of such temporary establishment would thus amount to Rupees 1,60,000, at which rate, in two intervals of five years each, the whole Presidency might be put into working order at a total cost of Rupees 16,00,000 *plus* the charges for passage to and fro perhaps one lakh more, or 17 lakhs. The expenditure is considerable, but probably the work could not be done more economically in any thing like the same time, if at all, and once done properly it will never require to be done again. If not done, the chances are that forest management will not be in a satisfactory state for half a century to come, unless it be resolved to increase the permanent staff very considerably, for which I think, there is no occasion, and which would entail a subsequent reduction when the business of the department has settled down into a regular and methodical system.

11. In the interval which must elapse before such a scheme can be carried into execution, steps should, I think, be taken to ascertain and settle what rights in the various forests exist, and how far the Government is entitled to full control over them. Provision by legislation might also be made for such powers as the Government may think it necessary to take.

From A. WEDDERBURN, Esq., Collector of Coimbatore, to C. A. GALTON, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 15th July 1876, No. 140.

With reference to the Revenue Board's Proceedings, Miscellaneous No. 5,639, of 5th July 1876, communicating Proceedings, Madras Government, No. 839, of 22nd June 1876, and calling for opinion whether the present system of selection and professional education of the Forest Assistants sent out from Home satisfies the requirements of this Presidency, or whether any proposals suggest themselves for modifying or altering it, the only experience gained in this matter has been a very limited one. Coimbatore had two Deputy Conservators, both experienced officers; a third range was made to which one of the professionally-trained new officers was posted.

2. The range was then called the Mettapolliem and Bolumputty *cum* Sholakarray Range.

3. The work therein was not much improved by the superintendence of a newly-arrived Forest officer without local knowledge of soil and climate, so necessary in matters connected with practical forestry.

4. Doubtless larger experience might have rendered the officer more efficient, but there was the preliminary drawback or want of knowledge of the language.

5. I did not think the Sholakarray reserve was properly managed either in regard to planting up or conservancy.

6. It is needless however to refer further, as probably in future an inexperienced Forest officer will be placed under a superior officer of larger experience.

7. Some officers have been appointed in this country without previous forest training. This, if intelligent, they learn, and in some cases the benefit of intimate acquaintance with the Native languages and customs is of no small advantage.

8. With a limited experience I can, of course, only refer to a small part of the inquiry.

9. The conditions of forests owing to climate are a good deal different in Europe and India *cæteris paribus*; there is no doubt that a previous professional education is a desideratum.

From A. McC. WEBSTER, Esq., Collector of South Canara, to C. A. GALTON, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Mangalore, 29th July 1876, No. 1,503.

With reference to the Board's Miscellaneous No. 5,639, dated 5th instant, I have the honor to state that I have no opinion to offer on certain points referred to by the Government of India touching trained Forest Assistants, as no such officers have hitherto been posted to this district.

From W. LOGAN, Esq., Collector of Malabar, to C. A. GALTON, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Calicut, 22nd August 1876, No. 221.

Referring to G.O., Revenue Department, No. 839, dated 22nd June 1876, I have the honor to state that on receipt of the above, I requested Mr. Peet, who was one of the first of the trained Forest officers sent out to this country, to report any suggestions he had to make on the first of the points referred to by the Government of India, and I have the honor to enclose copy of his reply.

2. Mr. Peet considers that the two years spent in Europe is too short a time for the necessary training, and that the above should be supplemented by a further period of training in this country, and he suggests the formation of a practical forest training school in some central locality, and the adoption in this country to a certain extent of that portion of the training in France known as "les courses", *i.e.*, travelling from forest to forest to inspect the different systems at work under varying circumstances.

3. Mr. Peet is the only one of the trained Foresters whom I have met. His general attainments are of a high order, and I have no doubt that as soon as his range in Wynaad has become more defined, he will do good service to the department. At present he is much hampered by disputed and ill-defined boundaries, and it will be impossible for him to organize his staff efficiently till those are settled.

4. As regards Mr. Peet's proposals, the most obvious objection to the extension of the preliminary course is the additional expense which such an extension would cause to the State. The wider the experience and knowledge a Forest Officer has, the more useful he is likely to be, but I question much whether the State would be the gainer by an extension of the two years' course. At the same time there is much in what Mr. Peet says in paragraph 6 regarding the necessity for some practical training in this country before commencing district work, and it seems to me that the sooner a forest school can be established in this country the better it will be for the department.

5. Whether, however, the whole term of training should be spent in this country or not seems to admit of doubt. My own opinion is that the organization of a forest school for the whole of India should be steadily kept in view, but that until it is properly organized a part of the training should continue to be undergone in Europe.

6. I observe from Mr. Brandis's reports written in 1872 that certain subjects, viz., French or German, English, Mathematics and Freehand Drawing are obligatory subjects at the preliminary examination. To the Mathematical subjects I would feel inclined to add Elementary Statics and Dynamics, which any one who was able to pass in Algebra, Euclid, and Trigonometry could easily acquire.

7. The cultivation, working, protection, and general administration of forests should, it seems to me, be as soon as possible taught in this country. Botany, Chemistry, and the other necessary sciences as well as Drawing, Surveying, &c., could probably at present best be taught in Europe. Forest legislation and jurisprudence should also, I think, be studied in Europe, and taking all things into account, I think the two years of training should be spent in equal portions in Europe and in India.

Enclosure No. 1.

From A. W. PEET, Esq., Deputy Conservator, Wynaad Forests, to W. LOGAN, Esq., Collector of Malabar, dated Sultan's Battery, 22nd July 1876.

In answer to your letter, No. 1,662, of the 12th instant, I have the honor to say, with reference to point (1) mentioned in Board's Proceedings, No. 839, of the 22nd June 1876, that when I was in France the opinion was being mooted that two years' study at the forest school was not enough for the French Forester, and a third year's course was, according to the proposition then put forward, to be added. I have no doubt that this third year's course is added by this time, and I have written to try and get a list of the subjects.

2. In the meanwhile I would state my own opinion that the course of training for two years on the Continent is an excellent commencement to a forest career; for it is a great matter to have clearly instilled into one that forestry is a science and by no means an easy one, and to learn the rudiments more or less thoroughly.

3. I think that a longer time could not be spent out of India with the maximum of advantage. Two years or two years and a-half is certainly as much time as the average number of English candidates can afford to spend without sufficient remuneration, and without the time so spent counting as service. But it is not presumed that forestry and the cognate subjects, such as surveying, house-building, construction and working of saw-mills, road-tracing, botany and chemistry are learnt or can be learnt thoroughly in that time.

4. I think that there should be a further period of practical study in India.

5. In the first place the vernacular has to be learnt, and can be learnt properly only in this country. This would always be a difficulty even in the scheme I would propose, for the vernaculars are so numerous that if any one place were chosen for the training school, the greater number of the vernaculars would have to be learnt from individual munshis.

6. However, the conditions in this country are so different from those of Europe that some practical acquaintance with them would be of great advantage before actually commencing district work.

7. What I would venture to propose would be that a further term of a year should be spent at a forest training school situated within easy distance from some large place, say Bombay, where saw machinery, the requirements of trade for gun carriages, carts, house-building, &c., the export trade, the best means of fashioning, hoisting, and transporting timber in this country, could be practically studied, and where surveying, road-tracing, house-building, and bridge-making could be further learnt. Also where chemistry, as bearing on the utilization of forest products, Indian botany, &c., could be practically gone into.

8. But beyond this it would be of immense advantage to have a practical acquaintance with Indian forests of various descriptions, and therefore proximity to the railway would be desirable. One of the most instructive portions of the training in France was that which went by the name of "les courses," that is travels from forest to forest so as to see the different methods of working forests in the plains and forests in the hills.

9. Under the present system, a candidate arrives from Europe, is posted to a district, and there he remains as a rule, knowing nothing of the work going on in other forests of the Presidency, except what he may gather from the dry bones of reports.

10. Even under the present system, I venture to suggest that much advantage would accrue if subordinate Forest officers were allowed by rotation to go part of the rounds with the Conservator every year. This course would tend to enlarge one's ideas of this immense country. There would certainly be fresh suggestions to be learnt in each district, and the tendency would not be so marked—

"To take the rustic murmur of your bourg,
For the great wave that echoes round the world."

(True Copy.)

(Signed) W. LOGAN,
Collector.

In the foregoing order the Board were called upon to state their views, after consulting a few selected officers on the points referred by the Government of India in connection with the general question of recruiting the Forest Service in India. The Board accordingly consulted the Collectors of the districts marginally noted, and the letters read above are the replies received. The Collector of Ganjam has not yet furnished his report, but as the Board's reply is required by the 1st September, they will not defer the submission of their observations on this account.

Ganjam.	Coimbatore.
North Arcot.	South Canara.
Tinnevelly.	Malabar.

2. The Board have no means of estimating the number of forest officers that will be required annually on an average in order to maintain the staff of the Forest Department in this Presidency in an effective state, and presume that the Conservator of Forests will deal fully with this question. As regards the suitability or otherwise of the present system of selection and professional education, the Board are hardly in a position to offer a definite opinion or to suggest modifications with the very limited experience of the working of the new system which they possess. Only three* officers trained at home have been posted to this Presidency, of whom one died after a very short service and one has not been a year in the country and has not yet held an independent charge. Only two of the Collectors consulted, Messrs. Wedderburn and Logan, have had any personal experience of the manner in which the officers selected at home have performed their duties. The former considers that the administration of the range entrusted to Mr. Ross, deceased, was not conducted successfully owing to want of local knowledge of soil and climate and ignorance of the language, and seems to be of opinion that, although professional training is very desirable, intimate acquaintance with the Native languages and customs is of almost more importance. Apparently he advocates a certain period of training in this country.

* Messrs. Peet, Ross, and Gass.

3. Mr. Logan speaks in a very favorable manner of the general ability and professional attainments of Mr. Peet, and submits a letter embodying the latter's opinion on the question. This communication is well considered and shows Mr. Peet to be not only well versed in professional matters and capable of offering an opinion on forest administration, but also affords proof of his having received a good general education; and for the administrative duties in connection with the department with which these officers will be entrusted, this is as much an essential as a thorough technical training. He is of opinion that two years is as long a period as can be spared for study out of India, but considers that a further term of practical training in India is necessary, and suggests that a year should be spent at a forest training school at some central place for the study of operations suitable to the requirements and circumstances of this country, and that the students should visit the various forests within reach to see the different methods of working employed. He also suggests that even under the present system subordinate forest officers should in turn accompany the Conservator on his tours; the proposal is a good one, and the Board commend it to the consideration of Government.

4. Mr. Logan approves the suggestion in regard to the establishment of a forest school if financial considerations will admit of the cost being incurred, and proposes that the period of training should be spent in equal portions in Europe and India, the cultivation, working, protection, and general administration of forests being taught in this country.

Mr. Whiteside recommends that inducements should be held out to young men in India to proceed to England and study forestry with a view to their employment in the Forest Department eventually, as their previous residence in India and acquaintance with the vernaculars would make them better suited for immediate service. Mr. Stuart considers the professional education secured by the present system very complete and if anything in advance of present requirements; he anticipates very tardy promotion in the department, however, and with a view to hold out improved prospects to those who are invited to adopt the career, he suggests that the length of service qualifying for pension should be reduced to twenty-five years, and that retirement at the expiration of that period should be compulsory.

He also puts forward a scheme for training and instructing the Native Forest subordinates in the principles of forestry by engaging a number of trained forest officers under contract to serve five years, and posting them to the several divisions, in addition to the permanent staff, to prepare the permanent working plans or system on which the forests are to be treated for the next century and to teach the Natives forestry. The scheme is, in the Board's opinion, quite impracticable apart from the expense; but Mr. Stuart's proposal that the term of service should be shortened in consideration of the risk to health incurred by forest officers and the hardships undergone is deserving of consideration.

5. The Board do not think that any extension of the period of Home training is advisable, for, although more knowledge can doubtless be acquired in three years than two, it would entail additional expense without proportionate advantage, and taking into consideration the different requirements and circumstances of Europe and India, they think that the principles of the science having been mastered at home, the practical application of those principles could best be studied in this country. The proposal to establish an Indian Forestry School to which the selected officers should be attached for a year or two after their arrival in this country commends itself to the Board; such a scheme would, of course, include in its curriculum the feature of

"*les courses*" or travels from forest to forest so deservedly appreciated by Mr. Peet; these travels should not be confined to one Presidency but should be as extended as possible. The difficulty in the way of any such scheme is the financial aspect of the question, and of course considering the strength of the department, there is no possibility of a special educational institution for this Presidency; it might be possible, however, to establish a central school for all India with a view to a further period of study and probation in this country which the Board consider very desirable. For the present it must be left to the Conservator to train his Assistants as best he can on their arrival.

6. So far as the Board can judge, the present system secures men of the right stamp and class, but as already remarked their opportunities of forming an estimate have been so limited that they hesitate to express a decided opinion.

(True Copies and Extract.)

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

No. 373. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 26th September 1876, Forest Miscellaneous No. 87/8,240.

Read the following telegram from the Collector of Ganjam, dated 22nd September 1876.

Board's Proceedings, 5th July last, No. 5,639, regret delay been unable to obtain information. Cannot offer an opinion.

SUBMITTED to Government in continuation of Board's Proceedings, dated 30th August 1876, No. 2,231.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

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

No. 374. From Lieutenant-Colonel R. H. BEDDOME, Conservator of Forests, to the Hon. D. F. CARMICHAEL, Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Ootacamund, dated Mettapolliem, 12th July 1876, No. 944.

WITH reference to G.O., No. 839, of the 22nd of June last, I have the honor to inform you that we can well dispense with the Forest Assistant promised to this Government for 1877, as we now have three supernumeraries.

2. Regarding the *first* question from the Supreme Government, I must report that, until we have a forest training school and Museums of Economic Botany in this country, nothing I think can be done towards altering the present system of selection and education. I have lately gone most thoroughly into the whole system of education and training at the French School at Nancy, where all future candidates are to be sent, and I think it most admirable in its way, and I am thoroughly well satisfied with the young Assistants assigned to this Presidency; but, at the same time, there can be no doubt that the present arrangement is a very expensive one: a training of $2\frac{1}{2}$ years causes a great expense to Government. Continental languages are acquired instead of Indian ones and much else that might be dispensed with; and at the end of this period

these young officers require a training of at least six months, if not a year, in this country before their services can be made of much use. It might be advisable, therefore, to somewhat curtail the time spent at the Continental schools.

3. Regarding the *second* question, I think that one candidate every second year would probably meet our requirements; this would be about the average, but then several vacancies may occur and often have occurred in one and the same year followed generally by a slack period. Life is uncertain in the Forest Department, and it is difficult to estimate our requirements. With the exception of Messrs. Yarde and Ferguson, who will probably be taking their pensions some two years hence, all our officers are very young and of short service.

No. 375. MINUTE BY HIS GRACE THE GOVERNOR.

I WOULD transmit the replies of the Collectors and Conservator to Government of India, and suggest that the questions be replied to as follows:—

That Government can do without another Assistant in 1877.

That with reference to the questions asked the recruiting in India—

1*st*.—The experience is but small—only three having been appointed—of whom one died after a short service during which his range was not considered to have been very successfully administered;

One has done excellent service;

One has not yet been in charge of a range.

That these persons appear to have been of a good class and education; but that a training in India and a knowledge of the (Tamil or Telugu or other) language is essential before they can be placed in charge of a range; and that it would seem desirable, having regard to the totally different conditions of climate and seasons in India, that the European training should be shortened in order to allow of the study of the language and acquiring a knowledge of Indian forestry and vegetation.

That it is not possible to predicate with any certainty the number who may be required, but the Governor in Council is not of opinion that more than one in two years would be needed, as the Government expect to recruit the department, to a considerable extent, by Natives who, it is expected, may be trained to be efficient forest officers under good supervision.

2. I would not say more because the Forest Department is in an uncertain condition, and no law or regulation is needed to enable the Madras Government to put in Native officials.

20*th September* 1876. BUCKINGHAM AND CHANDOS.

No. 376. MINUTE BY THE HON. SIR W. ROBINSON, K.C.S.I.

I WOULD forward these letters and reports to the Government of India, and comply with their desire that we should relinquish further supply of forest officers from England till 1879. Indeed, the department has Supernumeraries, is in difficulty with its budget, and wants relief; and I would offer a transfer as a temporary measure.

2. On the second point, I would submit that, so far as the needful supply from England is concerned, the present system fulfils all requirements; and the results have been good.

3. But I must record a conviction that an Indian Executive Department, which does not provide for a due admixture of the well-educated and intelligent class of Natives in its higher grades—more especially one which in most respects is so intimately connected in its working, with the people and their rights, sympathies and needs, as is the Forest Department—fails in one of the first essentials of sound administration and acceptableness with the people. Here, as in all countries, we must accept, as I believe, the increasing unpopularity of forest administration and enforcement of forest action; and great care is needed in this, as in every country to prevent their growing into a political difficulty and source of popular discontent; if not of wide spread

ill-will. If, in these circumstances, we are to rest for our administration, on a constant flow of Englishmen—who are at present very new to the country, out of sympathy with its people, and little careful to study its institutions—we may be failing to provide in the best manner for the future administration of this important department.

4. I confess that I hope that in the interest of the country and its sympathies, and of the smoothness of our rule, a considerable and potential addition to the admission of Native into the higher places of Forest administration, will gradually be provided for. And I do not hesitate to say what no branch of our administration will need, and at this moment possibly may need, Native admixture—that indigenous link with the people and their sympathies—as the Forest Department; more especially now that the professional part is separated from the Revenue Administration. These general considerations probably belong more intimately to the matter now urgently before us, in connection with the larger admission of Natives into the civil administration of the country; but I would not lose this opportunity of pointing out the importance, at least so far as this Presidency is concerned, of providing and providing liberally for the admission of Natives into the higher ranks of Forest administration; and putting things in train for affording them the qualifications required.

5. On the third point I would submit to the Government of India that, for the present, the department is sufficiently supplied with European officers; and that after 1879 we are not likely to want more than the average of the last [illegible] years, to keep up the supply. But that this Government would desire another year's experience before giving a definite reply.

20th September 1876. W. ROBINSON.

No. 376A. MINUTE BY THE HON. R. S. ELLIS, C.B.

THESE reports show that the scheme under which a certain number of officers for the higher grades in the Forest Department are trained in Europe has been, on the whole, successful. The defect of the system is that on arrival these officers are deficient in knowledge of our Indian forests and their conservancy, and that they have to acquire the vernacular languages of this Presidency, without a knowledge of which they are scarcely efficient.

2. The suggestion that the time of training in Europe should not be extended, or perhaps should be curtailed, and that there should be established a school of forestry for all India in some central position seems worthy of the consideration of the Government of India. This teaching which will include "les courses," as described by Mr. Peet, may be combined with the study of the vernacular languages of India. In this respect the Madras Presidency labors under a disadvantage in the number of its vernacular languages; but this difficulty may probably be overcome.

3. I am not averse to making efforts, locally, to train Natives for service in the Forest Department, and we may probably obtain some success in improving the qualifications of the employés in the subordinate grades; but I very much doubt the forest service becoming popular with Natives. This service involves considerable hardship and exposure. Forest work is antagonistic to fixed residence and the presence of families; it entails the probability of frequent change of country and climate, all of which are distasteful to educated Natives.

4. I think a letter should be addressed to the Government of India in the sense of the remarks of His Excellency the Governor.

27th September 1876. R. S. ELLIS.

No. 377. ORDER THEREON, 29th September 1876, No. 1,388.

Forests No. 24.

ORDERED that the following letter be despatched to the Government of India.

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

REVENUE DEPARTMENT,
OOTACAMUND,
29th September 1876.

No. 378.

No. 1,389.

To

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,
DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE,
AGRICULTURE, AND COMMERCE.

Forests No. 25.

SIR,—I am directed, with reference to your letter, No. 496, 9th June 1876, to forward, for the information of the Right Honorable the Governor-General in Council, a copy of the Proceedings of this Government, No. 1,388, containing a letter from the Conservator of Forests and the Proceedings of the Board, giving expression to their opinions on the questions raised in your letter above quoted.

2. I am to state that His Grace the Governor in Council is willing to forego the trained Assistant promised for 1877, on the understanding that an officer is posted to this Presidency in 1879.

3. It will be gathered from the Minutes recorded in the order that the opinion of this Government is generally in favor of the system of training now pursued, though the experience of the capabilities and work of the officers so educated has of necessity been slight. It is suggested that the time of training in Europe might be curtailed in order to allow young officers, on arrival in this country, to study the vernaculars and to gain some acquaintance with Indian forestry and the history of Indian vegetation, before being placed in executive charge of a division.

4. As regards the recruiting of the department in this country an opinion is expressed in favor of the more extensive employment of Native agency, though doubts are entertained whether the service will prove popular with the people of the country.

5. It will be observed that the number of fresh officers required for the higher grades of the service will not be large. Probably one officer every second year will suffice.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

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

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

Agriculture (1876) Sept.

Government of Fort St. Geo...

Dated 20th September 1876.

Received

D. No. Progs.

D. No. No.

Ver 6-354/77

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

MINUTE BY HIS GRACE THE GOVERNOR.

I would transmit the replies of the Collectors and Conservator to Government of India, and suggest that the questions be replied to as follows:—

That Government can do without another Assistant in 1877.

That with reference to the questions asked as to the recruiting in India—

1st.—The experience is but small—only three having been appointed—of whom one died after a short service during which his range was not considered to have been very successfully administered;

One has done excellent service;

One has not yet been in charge of a range.

That these persons appear to have been of a good class and education; but that a training in India and a knowledge of the (Tamil or Telugu or other) language is essential before they can be placed in charge of a range; and that it would seem desirable, having regard to the totally different conditions of climate and seasons in India, that the European training should be shortened in order to allow of the study of the language and acquiring a knowledge of Indian forestry and vegetation.

That it is not possible to predicate with any certainty the number who may be required, but the Governor in Council is not of opinion that more than one in two years would be needed, as the Government expect to recruit the department, to a considerable extent, by Natives who, it is expected, may be trained to be efficient forest officers under good supervision.

2. I would not say more because the Forest Department is in an uncertain condition, and no law or regulation is needed to enable the Madras Government to put in Native officials.

BUCKINGHAM AND CHANDOS.

20th September 1876.

Travancore Collector's Cutcherry. Calagaram
15th July 1876.

No. 437.

From

A. J. Stuart Esq
Acting Collector

To

C. A. Galton Esq
Secretary to the Board of Revenue
Madras.

Sir,

In reply to Board's Proceedings, miscellaneous
No. 5639 dated 5 July 1876.
I have the honor to state that
I do not think, considering
the rates of pay and prospects
of officers of the Forest De-
partment, more can be ex-
pected than is obtained
by the present system of selection.
The prospects are such

that

that it can hardly be expect-
=ed, at all events, as a rule,
to get men, who have had
the benefit of a University
training. However, this would
probably interfere with their
professional course.

2. The professional
education seems to be very
complete, and is, if anything,
in advance of our require-
=ments in this Presidency.
Doubtless, in time, we shall
need all the professional
staff, we can get.

3. I observe from the
list contained in the statement
Prefatory to the Estimate for 1876, that

there are 18 officers on the
staff of the Department.
The service qualifying for
pension is, I suppose, ~~is~~ 20
years, or 25, on medical
certificate. Presuming that
it is not intended to increase
the number of appointments
above 18, and that the offi-
=cers now at the head of the
Department have no inten-
=tion of retiring until they
are qualified for pension,
it does not appear to me
that it would be safe to
apply for any increase
in the staff for many
years to come, as, in the event

of

of a young officer coming out, he would rank as a supernumerary and remain without chance of even a step towards promotion, for a number of years, until he is absorbed into the present lowest grade.

4. I would strongly recommend that, as this Parliament is to be officered from England, the length of service qualifying for pension be reduced and assimilated to that of the Covenanted Civil Service. This not only because 25 years is quite long enough for an officer to serve in India, but also because, if the present limit is retained, there is so little chance of promotion down the ranks for many years to come, and, therefore, so little opportunity of bringing into the service men, who have had the advantage of professional training; moreover, the service is a hard one and unhealthy and the limit for pension should be reduced on this account.

5. I think that, while Native officers, as a rule, are able to serve in their own country and climate for 30 years or for 25 on medical certificate,

all officers of European extraction should have the pension limit fixed at back 5 years existing.

6. If this is done, it will be matter for calculation, how long it will take officers now in the first 2 classes to reach the pension limit of 25 years, at which limit, for the sake of the regularity of the service, I would compel them to retire, and I would arrange for the supply of officers from England to fill up the vacancies at the bottom of the list, at such time, and not before. I think it would very much tend to the efficiency and general satisfaction of all the services, if the limit assigned for pension were made, in all cases, compulsory; the exceptions, being only such cases as those of promotion to the Command and membership of Council, or selection for the Commanded Service or corresponding promotion in other Departments, which should give the officer promoted a new lease of official life of 5 years duration.

7. As regards the number of appointments of Forest officers

officers required, supposing
all to be trained and efficient
men, as in time all will be,
I think 18 probably sufficient,
for the permanent staff, but
what appears to be needed
now is a thorough reform in
the manner of managing
the forests by the introduction,
whenever possible, of the latest
and most scientific methods
of management.

8. In this purpose and
in order to train and instruct
a body of Native Forest Sub-
=ordinates in the principles of
forestry, I beg to suggest that
the Government might enter

into Contracts with a number
of already formed foresters
to serve under the existing
staff for 5 years only, within which
time, I think, they would
have taught their native
assistants the outlines of the
business and might be dispen-
=sed with. There is too much
for one man to do in any single
existing officer's division,
for reasonable hope that scient-
=ific forestry can be intro-
=duced for many years to come,
the more so, as many officers
are practically unacquaint-
=ed with the service. I, therefore,
think that without interfering
with

with the regular and permanent staff, which might be continued at the present strength, recruited as officers retire by well trained men from home, the most effective plan would be to go to some immediate expense, for a few years, in bringing out a body of trained foresters in the proportion of about 3 to each officers division to prepare the permanent working plans, or systems, on which the forests are to be treated for the next 100 years, and to teach the native something of the science and art of forestry.

9 21 foresters would be fairly set going & officers division, in 5 years, and might, at the end of that time, if willing to serve another 5 years, be transferred to other divisions and the management & treatment of the forest might then be put on a permanent system, having as its basis, the latest knowledge on the subject; while no addition would be made to the permanent staff, which, for practical purposes, would probably be sufficient, when these subordinates are properly

wi[illegible] taught and definite plans
= [illegible] are called for the treatment
C of the forests. plans to be ad-
= hered to for 100 years. Foresters
= employed temporarily on
[illegible] would require no pension
= [illegible] or gratuity; only their expenses
[illegible] out and back and a salary
of say 500 Rupees a month.

10. The annual charges
of such temporary establish-
3 = ment would, thus, amount
[illegible] to Rupees 160,000, at which rate
[illegible] in two intervals of 5 years each,
[illegible] the whole Presidency might be
[illegible] put into working order at a total
[illegible] cost of 16,00,000 Rupees plus the
[illegible] charges for passage to and fro,
perhaps one lac more, or 17 lacs.

The expenditure is consi-
= derable, but probably the
work could not be done more
economically, in any thing
like the same time, if at all,
and once done properly, it will
never require to be done again.
If not done, the chances are
that Forest management
will not be in a satisfactory
state for half a century to
come, unless it be excluded
to increase the permanent
staff very considerably,
for which I think, there is no
occasion and which would
entail a subsequent reduction,
when the business of the Department
has settled down into a regular

and methodical system.

11. In the interval which must elapse before such a scheme can be carried into execution, steps should, I think, be taken to ascertain and settle what rights in the various forests exist, and how far the Government is entitled to full Control over them. Provision by legislation might also be made for such powers as the Government may think it necessary to take.

I have &c
Dpt A. F. Studdy
Actg Collector.
True Copy

Encl
G.B.

W. Walton
Actg Secretary

Coimbatore Collector's office
15 July 1876.

No. 140.

From

A. Wedderburn Esquire
Collector of Coimbatore.

To

C. A. Galton Esquire
Actg. Secretary to the Board of
Revenue - Madras

Sir,

With reference to the Revenue Board's Proceedings, Mis: No 5639 of 5th July 1876, communicating Proceedings Madras Government No 839 of 22nd June 1876, and calling for opinion whether the present system of selection and professional education of the Forest Assistants sent out from Home satisfies the requirements of this Presidency, or whether any proposals suggest themselves for modifying or altering it, the only experience gained in this matter has been

Board's Proceedings in Connection with Proceedings to the Secretary to Government: dated 30 September 1876.

Rev 2/3603/76

Copy of Collr Coimbr Letter dated 15th July 1876 forwarding Opinion of the Conservator of Forests on the Revenue Board's Proceedings of 5th July 1876.

been a very limited one - Coimbatore had
2nd Deputy Conservators, both experienced
officers, a third range was made to
which one of the professionally trained
new officers was posted.

2. The Range was then called the Mettu-
-pollium and Bahmputty cum Shola-
-karray range.

3. The work therein was much improved
by the superintendence of a newly arrived
Forest officer, without local knowledge
of soil and climate - so necessary in matters
connected with practical Forestry.

4. Doubtless larger experience might
have rendered the officer more efficient
but there was the preliminary drawback

of want of knowledge of the language.

5. I did not think the Sholakarray
reserve was properly managed either in
regard to planting up, or conservancy.

6. It is needless, however, to refer fur-
-ther, as probably, in future, an in-
-experienced Forest Officer will be placed
under a superior officer of larger
experience.

7. Some officers have been appointed
in this country without previous forest
training - This, if intelligent, they learn
and in some cases, the benefit of inti-
-mate acquaintance with the native
languages and customs, is of no small
advantage.

8. With a limited experience, [illegible]

course only refer to a small part of the
Enquiry.

Q. The conditions of forces, owing to climate, are a good deal different in Europe and India. caeteris paribus, there is no doubt that a previous professional education is a desideratum.

I have &c
Wm A. Wedderburn
Collector.

True Copy

Wm Walton
Actg Secretary

No 1503.

South Canara Collectors
office - Mangalore 29 July 1856

From

A. McC. Webster Esqre
Collector of South Canara.

To

C. B. Galton Esqre
Ag Secretary to the Board of
Revenue - Madras.

Sir,

With reference to the Boards Miscellaneous No 5639, dated 5 instant, I have the honor to state that I have no opinion to offer on certain points referred to by the Government of India touching trained Forest Apistants, as no such officers have hitherto been posted to this District.

I have &c.

(Signed) A. McC. Webster
Collector.

(True Copy)

C. B. Galton
Ag: Secretary

Copied

Enclosure in Boards Misc. Cons. No 5639 dated 5th Augt 1856.

Rev 3/3603/56

Copy of Letter from Collector of Kanara dated 15th July 1856, No 140.

3

20

North Arcot Collectorate
Office Camp Palmanair
2nd August 1876.

No 354.

From

W. S. Whitecside Esquire
Collector of North Arcot

To

C. A. Galton Esquire
Ag Secretary to the Board of
Revenue. at Madras

Sir,

I have the honor, with refer-
ence to the Proceedings of the Board dated
5th Instant, No 5639, communicating G.O.
dated 22nd June last, No 839, to report
that I am of opinion that the arrange-
ments now made to train young men
in England for Forest Service in India
is extremely satisfactory, and I have
no observations to offer on that point,
beyond suggesting that it would be
a

Conclusion in Board's
Proceedings of the Secretary
to Government, Revenue
Dept. dated 30 August 1876.

Rec 5/3603/76

Copy of letter from Collector
of North Arcot -

a desirable plan to hold out inducements to respectable young men in India to proceed to England and study the science of Forestry in view to their eventual employment in India in the Forest Department. I am aware that there are several such young men, some of them sons of Forest officers, who would be only too glad to avail themselves of such an opportunity of obtaining employment, if it were allowed them. Men of this stamp, from their previous residence in India and from being conversant with the vernaculars of the country, would be far better suited for immediate service in the

the Forest Department, after passing the requisite test in England than men who have not been acclimatized to the country, & who have to acquire a knowledge of the Vernaculars after their arrival in India.

I have &c
(Sd) W. S. Whitcombe
Collector

True Copy

H. Carter
Ag Secretary

Copd

Malabar Collectors Office
Calicut 22nd Sept 1876.

No 221.

From W. Logan Esq
Collector of Malabar

To L. A. Galton Esq
Acting Secretary to the
Board of Revenue Madras

Sir.

Referring to G.O. R.D
Dt 9 June 1876, I
have the honor to state that on
receipt of the above, I requested
Mr Peck, who was one of the
first of the trained forest
officers sent out to this County,
to report any suggestions he
had to make on the first of
the points referred to by the Govt
of

Enclosure in Board's
Proceedings Attd Secretary
to Government Revenue
Dept dated 30th August
1876.

Rd 1/360 3/

Copy of letter from
Collector of Malabar
dated

of India; and I have the
honor to send a copy of his re-
-ply.

2. Mr Peel considers
that the two years spent in
Europe is too short a time for
the necessary training, and
that the above should be supplemented
by a further period of training
in this country and he suggests
the formation of a practical
forest training school in some
central locality, and the
adoption in this country to a
certain extent of that portion
of the training in France known
as "Lectures", i.e, travelling

the different systems at work
under varying circumstances.

3. Mr Peel is the only
one of the trained foresters
whom I have met. His general
attainments are of a high
order, and I have no doubt
that as soon as his range
in Nyasaland has become
more defined, he will do
good service to the Depart-
-ment. At present he is
much hampered by disputed
and ill-defined boundaries
and it will be impossible
for him to organize his staff
efficiently till those are
settled

As

to your Executive's
proposals, the most obvious
objection to the extension
of the preliminary course is the
additional expense which
such an extension would cause
to the State. The wider the
experience and knowledge
a forest officer has, the more
useful he is likely to be, but
I question much whether
the State would be the gainer
by an extension of the two
years course. At the same
time there is much in what
Mr. Peet says in para. 6
regarding the necessity for

some practical training
in this country before com-
mencing District work, and
it seems to me that the newer
a Forest School can be esta-
blished in this country, the
better it will be for the De-
partment.

5. Whether, however,
the whole term of training
should be spent in this coun-
try or not seems to admit
of doubt. My own opinion
is that the organization
of a Forest School for the whole
of India should be steadily
kept in view, but that until
it is properly organized, a

a part of the training should
continue that undergone
in Europe.

6 I observe from Dr
Brandis' report written in
1872 that certain subjects
viz French or German, Eng-
=lish, Mathematics and
Freehand Drawing are obliga-
=tory subjects at the preliminary
=ary examination. To the
Mathematical subject I
would feel inclined to add
elementary statics and
Dynamics which any one
who was able to pass in Alg-
=ebra, Euclid and Trigonometry
could easily acquire.

7. The cultivation, work-
=ing, protection and general
administration of Forests
should, it seems to me, be
as soon as possible taught
in this country. Botany
Chemistry and the other neces-
=sary sciences as well as draw-
=ing, surveying &c. could pro-
=bably at present best
be taught in Europe. Forest-
legislation and jurisprue
=dence should also I think
be studied in Europe and
taking all things into ac-
=count. I think the two
years of training should

be spent in equal portions
in Europe and in India.

I have &c
(Sgd) W. Logan
Collector

Enclosure.

From
A. W. Peet Esq
Deputy Conservator
Wynaad Forests

To
W. Logan Esq
Collector of Malabar &c

Sir,

In answer to your
letter C. No. 862 of the 12th instant
I have the honor to say, with
reference to point (1) mentioned
in Board's Proceedings C. No.
839 of the 22nd June 1876, that
when I was in France the
opinion

opinion was being mooted
that two years study at the
Forest School was not enough
for the French Foresters, and
a third years course was, ac-
=cording to the proposition
then put forward, to be added.
I have no doubt that this
third years course is added
by this time, and I have
written to try and get a list
of the subject.

2. In the meanwhile I
would state my own opinion
that the course of training
for two years on the continent
is an excellent commencement
to a forest career; for it is

a

a great matter to have clear-
-ly instilled into me that
forestry is a science, and
by no means an easy one, and
to learn the rudiments more
or less thoroughly.

3. I think that a longer
time could not be spent out-
of India, with the maximum
of advantage. Two years, or
two years and a half, is ever-
-tainly as much time as the
average number of English
Candidates can afford to
spend without sufficient
remuneration, and without
the time so spent counting
as service. But it is not

presumed that forestry and
Cognate subjects, such as
Surveying, house-building, Con
-struction and working of
Law hills, Road making,
Botany and Chemistry are
learnt or can be learnt tho-
-roughly in that time.

4. I think that there
should be a further period
of practical study in India.

5. In the first place
the Vernaculars has to be learnt,
and can be learnt properly
only in this country. This would
always be a difficulty even
in the scheme I would pro-
-pose; for the Vernaculars are

so numerous, that if anyone place were chosen for the train-=ing School, the greater number of the Vernaculars would have to be learnt from individual observation.

6. However the conditions in this country are so different from those of Europe that some practical acquaintance with them would be of great advantage, before actually commencing District work.

7. (What) I would venture to propose would be that a further term of a year should be spent at a Forest training School

School situated within easy distance from some large place, say Bombay, where Law machinery, the requirements of Trade for Gun Carriages, Carts, house-building &c the export trade, the best means of fashioning, hoisting and transporting timber in this Country, could be practi-=cally studied, and where Surveying, Road tracing, house-building and bridge Making could be further learnt. Elsewhere Chemi-=stry, as bearing on the uti-=lization of forest products, Indian botany &c could

be practically gone into.

8. But beyond this it would be of immense advantage to have a practical acquaintance with Indian forests of various descriptions, and therefore proximity to the Railway would be desirable. One of the most instructive portions of the training in France, was that which went by the name of "Les Loires", that is travels from forest to forest, so as to see the different methods of working forests in the plains and forests in the hills.

9. Under the present system, a candidate arrives from Europe, is posted to a District, and there he remains as a rule, knowing nothing of the work going on in other forests of the Presidency, except what he may gather from the Dry bones of reports.

10. Even under the present system I venture to suggest that much advantage would accrue, if subdivisional forest officers were allowed by rotation to go part of the rounds with the Conservator every year. This course would

tend to enlarge our ideas
of this immense Country; there
would certainly be fresh
suggestions to be heard in
each district and the
tendency would not be so
marked.

"To take the entire measure
of your bravery,
In the great wave that echoes
round the world."

Camp Sultan's Battery
22-7-76

I have &c
[Sgd] A. W. Reed.
Deputy Quartermaster
[True Copy]
[Sgd] W. Logan
Colonel
[True Copy]

Ed Hall

Ulysses Colton
Lieut Colonel

Revenue Department

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue

Dated 25th August 1876, No 2231

Read again Government Order dated 22nd June 1876, No 829.

Read also the following replies to Board's Miscellaneous Proceedings, No 5639, dated 5 July 1876.

From the Collector of North Arcot dated 2nd August 1876 No 952

" — Dr — Tinnevelly dated 15th July 1876 No [illegible]

" — Dr — Coimbatore dated 15th — Do — No 440

" — Do — South Canara dated 29th — Do — No 15

" — Do — Malabar dated 22nd August 1876, No 221

In the foregoing order the Board were called upon to state their views, after consulting a few selected officers on the points referred by the Government of India in connection with the general question of recruiting the forest service in India. The Board accordingly

Enclosure in Proceedings of Board of Revenue to the Government of Madras, dated 30th August 1876.

Rev 5
3603/76

Copy of letter from the Secretary Madras to the Secretary G of I Rev Dept dated 22 August 1876 No 221, with Enclosure.

accordingly consulted the Collectors of the Ganjam, North Arcot, Tinnevelly, Coimbatore, South Canara & Malabar. districts marginally noted, and the letters read above are the replies received. The Collector of Ganjam has not yet furnished his report, but as the Board's reply is required by the 1st September, they will not defer the submission of their observations on this account.

The Board have no means of estimating the number of Forest Officers that will be required annually on an average in order to maintain the staff of the Forest Department in this Presidency in an effective state and presume that the Conservator of Forests will deal fully with this question. As regards the suitability or otherwise of the present system of selection and profession-al education, the Board are hardly in a position to offer a definite opinion or to suggest modifications with the very limited experience of the working of the new system which they possess. Only three officers trained at home have been posted to this Presidency, of whom one died after a very short service and one has not been a year in the country and has not yet held an independent charge. Only two of the Collectors consulted, Messrs. Wedderburn and Logan have had any personal experience of the manner in which the officers selected at home have performed their duties. The former considers

† Messrs Peet, Rose & Gage.

that the administration of the range entrusted to Mr Ross, deceased, was not conducted successfully owing to want of local knowledge of soil and climate and ignorance of the language, and seems to be of opinion that although professional training is very desirable intimate acquaintance with the native languages and customs is of almost more importance. Apparently he advocates a certain period of training in this country.

3. Mr Logan speaks in a very favourable manner of the general ability and professional attainments of Mr Peet, and submits a letter embodying the latter's opinion on the question. This communication is well considered and shows Mr Peet to be not only well versed in professional matters and capable of offering an opinion on Forest Administration but also affords proof of his having received a good general education and for the administrative duties in connection with the Department with which these officers will be entrusted this is as much an essential as a thorough technical training. He is of opinion that two years is as long a period as can be spared for study out of India, but considers that a further term of practical training in India is necessary and suggests that a year should be spent at a Forest training school at some central place for the study of operations suitable to the requirements and circumstances of

of this country, and that the students should visit the various forests within reach to see the different methods of working employed. He also suggests that even under the present system Subordinate Forest officers should in turn accompany the Conservator on his tours; the proposal is a good one and the Board commend it to the consideration of Government.

4. Mr Logan approves the suggestion in regard to the establishment of a forest school, if financial consi-
=derations will admit of the cost being incurred, and proposes that the period of training should be spent in equal portions in Europe and India, the cultivation, working, protection and general administration of forests being taught in this country.

Mr Whiteside recommends that inducements should be held out to young men in India to proceed to England and study Forestry with a view to their employment in the Forest Depart-
=ment eventually as their previous residence in India and acquaintance with the Ver-
=naculars would make them better suited for immediate service.

Mr Stuart considers the profession-
=al education secured by the present system very complete and if anything in advance of present requirements; he anticipates

anticipates very hardy promotion in this Department, however, and with a view to hold out improved prospects to those who are invited to adopt the career, he suggests that the length of service qualifying for pension should be reduced to 25 years and that retirement at the expiration of that period should be compulsory. He also puts forward a scheme for training and instructing the native forest subordinates in the principles of forestry by engaging a number of trained Forest officers under contract to serve 5 years, and posting them to the several divisions in addition to the permanent staff to prepare the permanent working plans or system on which the forests are to be treated for the next century and to teach the natives Forestry. The scheme is in the Board's opinion quite impracticable apart from the expense, but Mr Stuart's proposal that the term of service should be shortened in consideration of the risk to health incurred by Forest Officers and the hardships undergone is deserving of consideration.

5. The Board do not think that any extension of the period of home training is advisable; for although more knowledge can doubtless be acquired in three years than two, it would entail additional expense without proportionate advantage,

and

and taking into consideration the different requirements and circumstances of Europe and India, they think that the principles of the science having been mastered at home, the practical application of those principles could best be studied in this country. The proposal to establish an Indian Forestry School to which the selected officers should be attached for a year or two after their arrival in this country commends itself to the Board; such a scheme would of course include in its curriculum the feature of "les courses" or travels from forest to forest as deservedly appreciated by Mr Peet; these travels should not be confined to one Presidency but should be as extended as possible. The difficulty in the way of any such scheme is the financial aspect of the question and of course considering the strength of the Department there is no possibility of a special educational institution for this Presidency, it might be possible, however, to establish a central school for all India with a view to a further period of study and probation in this country, which the Board consider very desirable. For the present it must be left to the Conservator to train his Assistants, as best he can

on

on their arrival.

6. So far as the Board can judge the present system secures men of the right stamp and class, but as already remarked their opportunities of forming an estimate have been so limited that they hesitate to express a decided opinion.

/True Extract/

Ag Secretary

To

The Secretary to Government
Revenue Department with
Copies of Collectors letters.

Revenue Department

Forest Miscellaneous No. 87/8240

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue

Dated 26th September 1876

Read the following Telegram from the Collector of Ganjam dated 22nd September 1876: —

"Board Proceedings 5th July last number 5639 regret delay been unable to obtain information cannot offer an opinion."

Submitted to Government in continuation of Board's Proceedings Dated 30th August 1876 No. 2231.

(True Copy and Extract)

A Eteveris
Ag. Secretary

To
The Secretary to Government
Revenue Department



Office of Conservr. of Forests.

No. 944 Camp, Mettapollium, 12th July 1876.

From,

Lieut. Col. R. H. Beddome,
Conservator of Forests.

To, The Hon: D. F. Carmichael,
Secretary to Government,
Revenue Department.
Ootacamund.

Sir,

With reference to G.O. No. 839 of the 22nd of June last I have the honor to inform you that we can well dispense with the Forest Assistant promised to this Government for 1877 as we now have 3 Supernumeraries.

2nd Regarding the first question from the Supreme Government I must report that until we have a Forest training School and Museums of Economic Botany in this Country nothing I think can be done towards altering the present system of Selection and Education.

I

I have lately gone most thoroughly into the whole system of Education and training at the French School at Nancy, where all future Candidates are to be sent and I think it most admirable in its way, and I am thoroughly well satisfied with the Young Assistants assigned to this Presidency, but at the same time there can be no doubt that the present arrangement is a very expensive one, a training of 2½ Years causes a great expense to Government, Continental languages are acquired instead of Indian ones and much else that might be dispensed with, and at the end of this period these Young Officers require a training of at least 6 months, if not a year in this Country, before their Services can be made of much use, it might be advisable therefore to somewhat curtail the time spent at the Continental Schools.

3. Regarding the Second question I think that one Candidate every Second Year would probably meet our requirements, this would be about the average but then several vacancies may occur and often have occurred in one and the same Year followed generally by a blank period, life is uncertain in the Forest Department, and it is difficult to Estimate our requirements, with the exception of Messrs Yarde and Forgeson, who will probably be taking their pensions some two Years hence, all our Officers are very young and of short service.

I have the honor to be
Sir,
Your most Obed. Servt.
R. Maconochie Lt. Col.
Conservator of Forests

I would transmit the
replies of the Collectors Comm.
& I suggest that
the questions be replied
to as follows
That Govt. can do without
another assistant in 1877

That with reference to the
questions asked as to
the necessity in the
1st The experience is that
small - only 3 having
been appointed - If when
I desire after a short service
during which he is engaged
he should be found to have been
duly successfully administered

I has been excellent
service
I has not yet been

in charge of a range

That these persons appear to have been of a good class of education

That that in training in India or in knowledge of the language and habits of India or Malay is essential & that utility can be placed in charge of a large

that it would seem desirable that in addition to the totally different conditions of climate & seasons in India that the European training should be shortened - in order to allow of the study of the language

and acquiring a knowledge of Indian habits & expectation —

That it is not possible to predicate with any certainty the number who may be required - but the Govt. of Bengal is not of opinion that more than 2 years would be needed as the Govt. of Bengal expect that a considerable proportion of the appointments will be filled by natives of India

I have no objection to this being stated, it appears to be also the opinion of Sir W. R. Pink I doubt whether French work is suitable to educated natives nor do I think the service will be popular. - A.E.

to be trained for Forest appointments

under good supervision

I cannot not say more than this - because the Govt. department is in an uncertain

Revenue Dept.

46
1368

Memo for Orders.

Letters from Governor of Straits
12 July 1876 - 544 -
Com: Bd of Revenue 30 Aug: 1876

In letter from
Govt of Straits No. 456 - 5th
June 1876, their Govt were called on
(1) to state whether they could
conveniently wait for a final
decision until 1875.
(2) to report on the general
question of recruiting the Govt
service in India", and, further,
"stating the views of the Govt of
Madras on the following points: —
(a) does the present system of
selection and professional
education of assistants suit our
from home satisfy the wants of Govt, or do
they wish to modify or alter it
(b) How many assistants recruited at home,
will be required annually for the various
Presidencies"

Govt forward Revenue letter
report the Govt of India -
& Govt with their views that on
Govt requested further copy of
Forest officers for Ceylon until
1879. Indeed the Govt has
representations in hand
with the Indian authorities
of Govt upon a transfer as
a temporary measure.

As the 2d point - Govt
submit that so far as the
need for staff for England the
present system fulfils all
requirements & the results have
been good - Govt Madras Govt
Bengal Bombay Revenue Secretaries Govt

No 375

Rec'd
Go 29 September
No 1368

Assistants for 1877

On the first point the Conservator states that, as there are now 3 supernumeraries an assistant will not be required in 1877.

It is submitted that the Sup. of India may be informed accordingly

With reference to the second point, viz: the recruiting of the Asst Service in India, it is submitted that the meaning is not so clear as it might be. Does it simply imply the recruiting of the Indian Asst Arms, or the recruiting in India of that Service?

Further, does the report required refer simply to the Deputy Conservators' branch of the Service, or to the other grades as well?

Until doubt provails for a due admixture of the well educated & intelligent classes of natives in the higher grades - more especially one third in more respects is so intimately connected with the people & their needs as the Forest Dept fails in one of the most essential of its administration & acceptable to the people - Here as in Countries or must accept as inseparable from Forest administration & oppression of Forest Laws & here elsewhere the city will rapidly grow - if the growth has not already attained considerable dimensions - into a political despotism & source of public discontent & ends spread & still - and if in these circumstances we can trust on a continued flow of Englishmen, educated at present expense & the consequent of sympathy with the people & still corrupt & study of institutions we can hardly surely suggest by a crisp test will, with rising independence increased political intelligence & growing coloness towards

more than one branch of our executive administration, have long before another generation is passed to a dispassionate consideration of the whole question of the steps taken in the interests of the country & its agriculturists & Ryots & of the wide & considerable & potential advantages of the native administration in higher places will gradually be established - indeed it must come - & I do not hesitate to say that no branch of our administration will need - & at this moment urgently needs reinforcement & recruitment, the independent sympathies with the people & their requirements now as the Forest department now especially upon that the professional part is separated from the Revenue administration by Revenue administration. The general considerations proper to belong more intimately & the matter now urgently before us in connection with the larger admission of natives into the Civil administration of the Country, but do not to be lost sight of in impressing on the Secretary of India the importance of at least so far as this Presidency is concerned of providing & providing liberally for the admission of natives into its higher ranks & putting steps in train for affording the qualification

In consequence of this want of explicitness, in the papers now furnished it seems to be wanting in definiteness. The Commissioner virtually does not touch the general question of recruiting, merely remarking that, until we have Forest schools, and museums & Economic Botany, nothing can be done towards altering the present system.

He confines himself to the general answers to questions (a) and (b), the answer to question (a) being anything but exhaustive.

The Board of Revenue, too, barely enters upon the general question of selection &c &c, there

Some of the Collectors,
especially Messrs Whitcombe
and Stuart, &c.

With regard, however,
to Question (a) it is impossible
to express any definite opinion,
as the papers detailing
the exact nature of the
competitive
of the final Examination do
not appear to have been
communicated to this Govt,
nor the details of the course
of study pursued by successful
candidates during the period
of training at Home.
The Board possess no
knowledge, and Col. Waddams,
though he states he has gone
thoroughly into the system
in force at Nancy
and considers it "most
admirable", finds no
details

and shd take the matter up
carried in this view.
On the 5th Augt Govt intimated
to the Govr of Bengal that for the pre-
sent the departure is suspended
supplied with European officers
and that after 1879 no one will
take leave until the Commissioners
of the last few years have left
the country. But that this
desire and the years hereafter
before giving a definite reply
2/9. [illegible]

Sirs the subjects in which
the S. Ds inquired
be examined = but it does
not appear whether or
the Govt of State
their suggestions

details, simply remarking
that "Continental Languages
are acquired instead of
Indian ones and much
else that might be
dispensed with"
It would have been well
if Col: Waddams had stated
in what this "much
else" consists.
The Board of Revenue,
with appear not to be satisfied
with the attainments of the
3 first Assistants who
have come to this Province,
but with respect to one of these
only (Mr Peal) can any
opinion as to their success
as District Officers be expressed
Mr Rose did what he
could be tested, and
Mr Gasc has only been in

in independent charge.

Mr. Sat Lowers appears to have proved himself an excellent officer.

The Board Harcourt Butler agree that it would be well if arrangements could be made for a short training in India before the new recruits proceed to District work.

But it is submitted that the best in view might be more successfully attained by letting such young Officers on the working of his Dept. in the more important Districts before posting him finally to a particular District. Probably a residence of 2 or 3 months in a District would suffice. Meanwhile, the

the Officer should be called on to select the enumerations or remarks in which he proposes to read, and begin the study. Attention is particularly called to the Board's remarks on Mr Peel's suggestion regarding the system known as "les courses".

If a Central Pool should be decided, it is submitted that it is so, not for the benefit of trained officers from Home, but for enabling natives and then to join admission to the Dept., and untrained men therein to qualify for Dist. Management, or promotion from lower grades to the higher.

L.L.

vide p. 7 of the Sel of Statis Orders
24th Nov. 68 (So. 7th May 69)
also Para 3 & 4. Govt. India Letter
15th Feb 68 (So. 7 May 69)

Letter para 2, 3 & 4 Circular
from Govt. of India. 28th Aug. 69
(So. 14th August 69 - No 2,335)

It is desired that the present system of admission to the higher grades of the Dept be given consideration. The Rules (G.O. 24 Jany 1872 & 148. para 20) were framed at the time of the reconstitution of the Dept as an integral part of the Internal Revenue Administration. That system has been abrogated, but the rules are still in force, though subsequent orders have, to some extent, modified them.

Rule I. places the patronage of the controlling branch in the hands of the Local Govt and the Secretary of State.

Rule II provides that such appointments shall, as a rule, be to the grade of Probationers, though reserve the right of occasional appointments to higher grades on special nomination, but under G.O. 6. Nov. 1874, Govt have directed that the grade of Probationers be absorbed, and that appointments, as a rule, shall be made direct from Subordinate to the grade of 4th Class Deputy Conservator.

Again, Rules III, IV, & V deal with promotions from the Probationers Class, a class which no longer exists. It was

no therein provided that no promotion to the grade of Deputy Surveyor should be made until the Probationer had passed in the Mensuration, had obtained the certificate of qualification for a first-class from the Inspector of Forests, and, under later orders, had passed in Surveying.

G.O. 6. July/96 N 1011.

The case therefore stands thus - that Govt. may still appoint to the higher grade of the Forest Dept. though it is allowing the right to be demanded, and that when it does so appoint the only test is a knowledge of Mensuration, a most unpractical test

first Surveying, and a certificate of competency for managing a District from the Head of the Forest Dept. But these tests are applicable naturally only to the probationary system, which may be regarded as virtually abolished.

It is submitted that the altered conditions of the Department require that a code of rules for admission thereto in this country should be provided, and that such rules, especially those relating to an entrance examination, should, as far as possible correspond to those in

Free

Grace at Home, in order that the future Officers of the Service may be more or less on an equal footing as regards General acquirements.

It is also to be remembered that no provision is now made for promotion from the inferior grades to the superior

It is submitted that it would be for the benefit of the Dept to establish a way by which the upper subordinate servants might enter the superior grades. Such a measure would be absolutely necessary were a School of Forestry ever established in the Country.

Compare Proceedings of Govt of India above quoted – especially Circulars of 28th Aug 69 – p. 3

The rules recently sanctioned by Govt (G.O. 11th May 1876 N. 604) provide a probationary examination for admission to grade of Sub Asst Conservator and Ranger, but only for a passage from these to the Class of Deputy Conservator.

Attention is especially drawn to the Board's remarks regarding a Central School, also to their suggestion that the Conservator should select subordinate Officers to accompany him on his tours.

The expediency of reducing the term of service for Asst Officers is also discussed. This proposal seems

seems to hinge on
the general question as
to the opening of such
great Docks being is an
rule for Russia &c

With regard to the
number of Dock Masters
required annually (question
(6)), Col. Holcombe thinks
that one appointment in
2 years would suffice.
The Board keeps no
Minutes.

Attention is
drawn to Col. Holcombe's remarks
regarding the Rank system of the
Officers, a fact which must
very seriously affect promotion.

Memo for Orders
on question of recruiting for
Forest in India, &c

GO 29 September 76
No. 1388

No 376

29 Sept 1876

Memo

These reports show that the scheme under wh a certain number of officers for the higher grades in the Forest department are trained in Europe, has been on the whole successful.
The defect of the system is that on arrival these officers are deficient in knowledge of our Indian forests & their conservancy, & that they have to acquire the Vernacular language of their Presidency, without a knowledge of which they are scarcely efficient.
The question that of time of training in Europe, should not be extended, & perhaps should be curtailed, & that

Colleague Sir W. Robinson

there should be established an Indian school of Forestry for all India, in some central position seems worthy of the consideration of the Govt of India. This teaching may be combined with the study of the Vernacular languages of India - In this respect the Madras Presidency labors under a disadvantage in the number of its Vernacular languages - But this difficulty may probably be overcome..

I am not aware of making efforts, locally, to train Natives for service in the Forest departments - & we may probably obtain some success in improving

- which will include "les courses" as described by Mr Pate

the qualifications of the employés in the subordinate grades - but I very much doubt the Forest service becoming popular with Natives. This service involves considerable hardship & exposure - Forest work is antagonistic to fixed residence & the presence of families. It entails the probability of frequent change of country & climate - all of which are distasteful to Educated Natives.

I think a letter should be addressed to the Govt of India, in the sense of the remarks of His Excellency the Governor.

I observe that my hon'ble Colleague Sir W. Robinson

No 376

purposes that his remarks should be recorded in the form of a Minute.

I therefore desire to record my dissent from the opinion expressed by my Honble Colleagues on the general question of the policy of the Madras Govt in relation to Forest conservancy in this Presidency.

I gather from the observations of Sir W. Robinson that he is of opinion that this policy has been oppressive and that it has engendered a general feeling of discontent which may become a menace to the peaceful administration of the country.

With all deference to my Honble Colleagues I cannot but think that he takes a very exaggerated view of this question - and I deprecate most earnestly the invention of a popular cry which has not yet been raised -

At any rate, I do not think that the Government are as yet open to attack for their conduct.

The course proposed and followed by the Govt is to follow the example of the Govt of India, & to place both the conservancy of the Forests & such communal rights in Forests as may be

8

founded in Existence, under
the protection of a well. con-
-sidered Forest Law.
We have had a committee
of very competent officials
English & Native engaged
in the preparation of the
draft of this Law.
It will shortly come under
the consideration of Govt &
in due course be introduced
into the Leg. Council, &
ample opportunity will be
afforded for further
discussion.
I may add, tho' I am
aware it sounds paradox-
-ical, that I firmly believe
that in no hands are the
rights of Natives safer
than in those of highly educated
& conscientious English officials.
Undoubtedly there again
and they seek the aid of
Native Officials - both Euro-
-pean but think that the
past history of Indian
Administration proves
that the discovery & protection
of Native rights has been
due to English officials
and that this will con-
-tinue so I am persuaded.
As I have said above
I do not desire to exclude
Natives from Forest Appts,
but I do not think that
in this Presidency, and
at the present time,
of the country.

Forests

Natives are well fitted for this work.
I do not wish to enter here into the general question of the admission of Natives into the higher offices of the state, to which my Hon'ble Colleague alludes in his Minute.
That very important question is now under the consideration of the Govt and can best be dealt with separately

R. Ellis
27/9/76.

No 376a

GI 29 Septr 1876
No 1388

Proceedings of Govt. No.

Rec'd Govt. Gen. 22nd June 76 No 809
Read Govt. Gen. & Rev. 30th Sept. 87
— " " — " — 26th Sept. 8240
— Letter to the Secretary of S.

No 944. 12th Oct 76.

— Journals of the Govt.
Sir H. Rivers Wilson Kcsi. 20th Sept. 76
Govt Gazette Suppl. — 20 —
Hon'ble R. S. Ellis 27 —
C.S.

Ordered that the following letter be despatched to the Govt of India

Govt Letter No 1389 dated 29th Sept 1876

Forests

GI 29 Septr 1876
No 1388

Order — Fort

Ref 1889 - 8129 Sept 1876

Sent to Govt. Sepn. Dept. R.A.C. Dept.

Sir

I am directed with reference to your letter No 496, 9th June 1876, to forward for the information of the Right Hon'ble the Governor General in Council a copy of the Proceedings of this Govt. No 1388 — containing a letter from the Secretary to Govt. and the Proceedings of the Board assembled for the purpose of taking evidence in the questions noted in your letter above quoted —

I am to state that the Govt. in Council is willing to forego the Travel Allowance for 1877, on the understanding that an officer is posted at this Presidency in 1877 —

It will be observed from the Order in the letter indicated above recorded, that the Govt. of India are of opinion that the members of this Govt. — viz. in France

59/1366

of the system of training were formed, the work
the experience of the Capabilities, & the
the officers so educated, has to necessarily
been slight — It is apparent that
the time of training in Europe
might be curtailed in order to
allow young officers to arrive in
the country, sooner, the vernaculars
and topics more acquaintance with
Indian Forestry, and the history &
Indian operations, upon which
placed in executive charge of
a division —

As regards the recruiting of the
Dept. in this country, the system
is expected to procure of the
more extensive employment of native
agency. This should be entertained
whether the service will prove
popular with the people of the country.

It will be found that the
number of people offering themselves for the higher
grades of the service will not be large —
Probably one officer may succeed year
with success