M.R.O. 1—20,002—12-8-65.

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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	1645	Press
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	13 - 11 - 1876	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

1645/1

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 13th November 1876.

No. 180. Read the following letter from Lieutenant-Colonel R. H. BEDDOME, Conservator of Forests, to the Hon. D. F. CARMICHAEL, Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Fort St. George, dated Ootacamund, 24th October 1876, No. 1,227:—

ADVERTING to paragraph 2 of G.O., dated 29th ultimo, No. 1,383, I have the honor to state that the excess credit of Rs. 1,364 in the accounts of the Examiner of Public Works Accounts, referred to in paragraph 3 of my letter, occurs in the Ranges marginally noted. The officers concerned have been addressed on the subject of the vouchers. On receipt of their answers the amount in question will be adjusted during the current official year in communication with the Examiner of Public Works Accounts.

Anamallay.
Collegal.
South Canara.
Nilgiri.
Wynaad.
Palghaut.
Kurnool.

2. As regards the further information required in paragraph 3 of the G.O. under acknowledgment, I beg to forward copy* of a circular, dated 29th March 1876, No. 4, issued by me to all forest officers requesting them to submit their annual statement of receipts and charges for 1875-76, so as to reach the Central Office at Madras on the 10th April following. Most of the entries under the sub-heads in the statements received did not correspond with those in the books of this Office. Explanations were called for from all the officers, with the exception of the one in charge of South Arcot, regarding the discrepancies between the monthly and annual accounts. These were not furnished by some of the officers in time, though reminders were *repeatedly* sent to them from this Office. A second Circular was, therefore, issued under date the 13th June 1876, copy† of which is also herein enclosed, and the replies were received on the dates specified in the margin. The general statement showing the actuals of receipts and charges was forwarded to the Accountant-General on the 5th of August last, after the receipt of Major Jago's explanation. It was returned duly verified by the Accountant-General on the 12th idem.

* Enclosure No. 1.

† Enclosure No. 2.

Mr. Morgan's reply was received on the 16th June 1876.
Mr. Brougham's on the 26th June 1876.
" Peet's on the 3rd July 1876.
" Douglas, on the 8th July 1876.
" Haynes, on the 11th " "
Major Jago's reply on the 4th August 1876, (enclosed herein.)

3. These documents would have been submitted within a fortnight after the receipt of the statement from that officer; but my Office establishment, which is not a large one, was fully engaged in the examination and compilation of the numerous statements, which were required to accompany the Administration Report for 1875-76, the submission of which on the 1st of September had been insisted on by Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India, as communicated in G.O., dated 31st July 1876, No. 1,029. It was also fully occupied from 7 A.M. to 7 P.M. in attending to several other requisitions, some of them quite out of the regular routine, *viz.*, in preparing the Fuel Reserves and Plantation Reports for 1875-76; in compiling the timber accounts from 1862-63 to 1873-74, specially called for by the Government of India; in preparing statements of receipts and expenditure, &c., from the formation of the Forest Department in 1856 to 1876 for submission to that Government; and in examining and

compiling the Budget Estimate, together with its several accompaniments for 1877-78, all of which are statements entailing much labor and care; in fact, I may say that my Office has never at any time before had such a heavy press of work put on it at one time. The documents in question, therefore, could not be got ready before the 12th of September when they were submitted to me, and I forwarded them from South Tinnevelly on the 19th of that month.

4. The only cause of there being any delay was the late submission of the returns from the different divisions, and if our officers would only submit their periodical reports and returns a few days, or even weeks, after they are due (and there is no reason why they should not), there would be no delay in this Office; but I am sorry to have to report that many have got into a sadly dilatory style in this respect, and do not attempt to send in these documents till months after they are due, and then only after repeated circulars, letters, and telegrams, causing great additional work and annoyance to this Office. If this is noticed by Government, they will probably be more careful in future.

5. The submission of returns through the Collector causes a good deal of extra trouble, expenditure on postage, and delay; the latter sometimes considerable if the Collector puts the documents on one side, and forgets them (a fact that has occurred, and is of course often likely to occur). I advocate the forwarding of all letters and documents relating to matters on which the Collectors have a voice or interest in through their Offices; but as regards periodical returns of mere routine, it is in no way necessary, and I would suggest that Rule III of the Forest Rules should be slightly modified.

No. 181. ORDER THEREON, 13th November 1876, No. 1,645.

Forests, No. 7.

IT is manifest from the above letter that the delay which has occurred was, to a great extent, unnecessary. It rests with the Conservator to enforce the punctual submission by his subordinates of periodical reports and returns; should his admonitions be ineffectual, he will report the defaulting officers' names to Government.

2. The Government await the Board's report on the propriety of modifying Rule III. The Conservator will be informed that the Government disapprove the aspersion against Collectors contained in paragraph 5 of his letter.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue.
„ the Conservator of Forests.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

Govt. of India

REVENUE.

NOVEMBER
Nos. 180-181.

Circular No 4

1645/3

Official Memorandum

With reference to the Board's Circular Official Memo dated 8th March 1875 No. 20A/346, Forest Officers are requested to forward through the Collectors of their respective Districts direct to the Central Office on or before the 10th of April next a Statement shewing the Receipts and Charges of their respective Ranges for 1875-76 compared with the Budget Estimate, as the General Statement which will be compiled therefrom, should reach the Government of India before the end of May. Vide G.O. dated 12th June 1874 No 725 Revenue Department.

2. This Statement should be accompanied by a Memo explaining the important Variations

between the Actuals and the Budget Grant under each Sub-head as shewn below:

Receipts	Budget Grant	Actuals	Remarks
1/c/	1000	2500.	The increase is owing to a large quantity of Sandal wood having been sold at high rates.

Working Charges	Budget Grant	Actuals	Remarks
I a/	1000.	1600.	The increase is attributable to more timber being required by the Dept of Public Works than usual

3. Forest Officers will bear in mind that explanation merely of important differences between the total Budget Grant and the total Receipts and Expenditure as was given in certain Ranges last year will not be accepted.

4 The Annual Administration Report for 1874-75 was delayed partly on account of the late Submission of the Range Reports and partly from the examination and compilation of several Returns relating thereto. It is particularly requested that all Accounts and Bills of the Current months should therefore be submitted together with the Annual Statement of Receipts and Charges alluded to in para 1 above, while the Range Administration Report which should be

prepared in accordance with the instructions conveyed in the Board's Proceedings dated 2nd September 1876 No 152. Should finds the Central Office not later than the 1st of May next

5. Any delay in the submission of the Reports and Returns beyond the prescribed time will be seriously noticed

Office of the Consy Genl
Calcutta
29th March 1876

/ Signed / R H Reddome
Offg Consy Genl

To

All Ranges

/ True Copy /

W Stevens Lt Col
Conservator of Forests

Enclosure No 1.
To a letter to Govt.
from the Conservator of Forests
No 122 dated 29th March 1876

To 4092/116

No 833.

1645/6

Official Memorandum

With reference to Circular dated 29th March 1876 from this Office, the Conservator observes that owing to the non-receipt of the Explanation called for from the Officers of the Department named in the margin, the Submission of the general Statement of Revenue and Charges under 1st "Conservancy and Works" and B "Establishment and Contingencies" to the Accountant General for Verification and eventual transmission to the Government of India is greatly delayed

Mr Brougham Letter dated 3d May 1876 No 239
" Douglas — do No 241
" Peel — do " 245
" Morgan — do 15th May 1876 No 283
" Sheffield — do No 288
" Hayne — do No 292
Major Sago Letter No 306 dated 14 & 20th May 1876
Mr Williams Letter dated 26th May 1876 No 316

2. The attention of the Officers concerned is directed to the necessity of submitting to the Central Office the requisite Explanations

so as to reach it not later than
the 20th Instant.

/sd/ R.K. Beddome Lt Colo
Offg Conservator of Forests

Ootacamund 10th June 1876

/ True Copy /

R.K. Beddome Lt Colonel
Conservator of Forests.

Enclosure 4 & 2.
to Letter to Govt.
from the Conservator of Forests
No: 1237 dated 24th October '76.

2/
OP 4098/76

account for December 1876 under Miscellaneous
3. Other Charges.

L 6/4

A. J. Pyo Major.
Deputy Conservator of Forests.

Forwarded to the Madras in charge
of Conservators office, Ootacamund

Ootacamund
Cons: office
2nd August 1876

A. J. Pyo
Dy. Conservator

Deputy Conservator's Office
Pata camund 26th July 1876.

No. 97.

1643/8

From.

The Deputy Conservator of Forests,
Bilgiris.

To. The Assistant in charge of Conservator's Office
Madras.
thro' Commissioner Bilgiris.

The correct distribution of the amount noted in para 1 of letter Rc. 814 of 24th May 1876 is as follows.

Expenditure

Under 1(a). Firewood and Charcoal Rs. 1028-8-0
2(b) " " " 267-9-0
Total Rs. 1296-1-0

In the abstract Statement of Bilgiri Forests for October 1875 there was exhibited under "2nd. Firewood and Charcoal" a sum of Rs. 924-10-0 of which Rs. 553-4-0 were advised to be debited to "1st. Firewood and Charcoal" for reasons stated in your Official Memo No. 62 dated 14th June 1876. Similar items occurring in subsequent months and debited to the head of account first named were altered at this Office adhering to the advice given in the Memo above quoted, though no instructions were received for doing so. Through a clerical inadvertance the

Received
the 29th July 1876.

Read. No. 3
to a Letter to Govt.
from the Conservator of Forests
No. 1237 dated 24th July 1876

Read. 28.
Rec. 31/VII/76.

No. 97

Reg. on this date the
written was altered
Book in the Assistant
Pata camund Nov 15/76.

the sum total however was shown under IX b. in March's accounts instead of as detailed above; it is therefore requested that the Annual accounts be altered as pointed out.

2 ——— It will be perceived from the detailed account particulars of the above charges Bill of the Neegir Forest for May 1876 that a sum of Rs 1.8.0 was paid as hire for conveying tools from Ooty to Nuddingoody which through an oversight was debited in the Abstract A to "I C Sandalwoods" instead of to its appropriate head IX "Timber and wood operations". The error was detected subsequently and the transfer effected.

3 ——— With reference to letter No. 006 of 20th May 1876 the undersigned has the honor to request that the amounts therein noticed be distributed as follows.

Receipts.

	Sandalwood removed from the Forest Depots	
	during the month	up to the month
Timber (a) Timber	94.0.0.	648.8.0.
(b) Firewood & Charcoal	1370.10.0.	12,441.13.0.
Bamboos & Reeds	———	4.——4.0
	1464.10.0	13,090.9.0

4 ——— With reference to objection Statement No. 61 dated 8th June 1876 it is requested that a deduction of Rs 2 be made in the Nidumallai Forest accounts

Office of Conservator of Forests
No. 1227. Ootacamund 24th October 1876.

1645/188

From,
Lieut-Col. R. H. Beddome,
Conservator of Forests,
Ootacamund.

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

Sir,

Adverting to para 2 of G.O. dated 29th ultimo, No: 1383 I have the honor to state that the excess credit of Rs. 1364 in the accounts of the Examiner of Public Works accounts referred to in para 3 of my letter accounts in the Ranges

Aruvamalay.
Collegal.
South Canara.
Neilgherry
Wynaad
Paulghaut
Kulmood

marginally noted, the Officers Concerned have been addressed on the subject of the Vouchers, on receipt of their answers the amount in question will be adjusted during the current official year in Communication with the Examiner of Public Works accounts.

As

2. As regards the further information required in para 2 of the G.O. under acknowledgment I beg to forward Enclosure, No 1 copy of a Circular dated 29th March 1876, No 6 issued by me to all Forest Officers requesting them to submit their Annual Statement of Receipts and Charges for 1875-76, so as to reach the Central Office at Madras on the 10th April following. Most of the entries under the Sub-Heads in the Statements received did not Correspond with those in the Books of this Office. Explanations were called for from all the Officers, with the exception of the one in Charge of South Arcot, regarding the discrepancies between the monthly and Annual accounts. These were not furnished by some of the Officers in time though Reminders were repeatedly sent to them from this Office. A

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Second Circular was therefore issued under date the 13th June 1876 *Enclosure No 2. *copy of which is also herein inclosed and the replies were received on the dates specified in the margin. The General Statement shewing the actuals of Receipts and Charges was forwarded to the Accountant General on the 5th of August last, after the receipt of Major Jago's explanation. It was returned duly verified by the Accountant General on the 12th idem.

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Mr. Haynes', on the 11th do —
Major Jago's reply on the 4th Augt 1876
*(Enclosed herein)

3. These documents would have been submitted within a fortnight after the receipt of the Statements from that Office; but my Office Establishment, which is not a large one, was fully engaged in the examination and Compilation of the numerous Statements, which were required

to

accompany the Administration Report for 1875-76, the Submission of which on the 1st of September had been insisted on by Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India, as Communicated in G.O. dated 31st July 1876, No 1029, it was also fully occupied from 7 A.M. to 7 P.M., in attending to several other requisitions, some of them quite out of the regular routine, viz:, in preparing the Fuel Reserves and Plantation Reports for 1875-76; in Compiling the Timber accounts from 1862-63 to 1873-74 Specially Called for by the Government of India; in preparing Statements of Receipts and Expenditure &c from the formation of the Forest Department in 1856 to 1876 for Submission to that Government and in examining and Compiling the Budget Estimate together with its several accompaniments for 1877-78, all of which are Statements entailing much labor and Care, in fact I may say that my Office has never at any time before had such a heavy press of work put on it at one time, the documents in question therefore could not be got ready before the 12th of September, when they were submitted to me and I forwarded them from South Tinnevelly on the 19th of that month.

The only cause of there being any delay was the late Submission of the returns from the different divisions and if our Officers would only submit their periodical reports and returns a few days or even weeks after they are due (and there is no reason why they should not) there would be no delay in this Office, but I am sorry to have to report that many have got into

into a sadly dilatory style in this respect and do not attempt to send in these documents till months after they are due and then only after repeated Circulars, letters and telegrams causing great additional work and annoyance to this office, if this is noticed by Government they will probably be more careful in future.

5. The submission of returns through the Collector causes a good deal of extra trouble, expenditure on postage, and delay the latter sometimes considerable if the Collector puts the documents on one side and forgets them (a fact that has occurred and is of course often likely to occur), I advocate the forwarding of all letters and documents relating to matters on which the

the Collectors have a voice or interest in through their office but as regards periodical returns of more routine it is in no way necessary and I would suggest that Rule iii of the Forest Rules should be slightly modified.

I have the honour to be

Sir,

Your Most Obed.t Servt

A.W. Sedgwick Lt.Col

Conservator of Forests

Order No 1645 — 13 November 1916.

It is manifest from the above letter that the delay which has occurred has to a great extent been unnecessary. It rests with the Commissioners to enforce the punctual performance of periodical reports & returns — should his admonitions be disregarded he will report the defaulting officers' names to Post

1. The Post await the Board's report in the first instance of modifying Rule 12

(his)

30.10.16

(Enclosure 3)

Submitting explanation for delay in sending Returns, and asking for further extension of time.

P.O. Wadebridge 26/10/16

Received 30 Oct 1916

Returns and Charges of Postmaster

Wadebridge Post Office

Cornwall

Postmaster

Wadebridge

Cornwall

Sir,

I am directed by the Postmaster General to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 26th instant, and to inform you that the Returns and Charges of the Postmaster of Wadebridge Post Office for the quarter ended 30th September last have not been received.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

Secretary.

Wadebridge

Cornwall

Sir,

I am directed by the Postmaster General to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 26th instant, and to inform you that the Returns and Charges of the Postmaster of Wadebridge Post Office for the quarter ended 30th September last have not been received.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

Secretary.