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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. 1953 Press
~~B.P. No.~~ ~~Misc~~

Dated 8.12.1876 196 .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
8th December 1876.

No. 159. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated November 1876, No. 2,813, Forest No. 99 :—

Read the following letter from Lieutenant-Colonel R. H. BEDFORME, Conservator of Forests, to the Honorable F. F. CARMICHAEL, Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, dated Ootacamund, 11th October 1876, No. 1,188.

With reference to the G.O., No. 1,346, of the 26th ultimo, I have the honor to inform you that in the interior of the Anamallays and in parts of Malabar, Coimbatore, and Madura there are tracts with a plentiful supply of bamboos and an insufficient market for their disposal; but these are almost unhealthy localities, where labor could scarcely be procured, and where there are no roads. I know of no place that I could recommend as suitable for the establishment of a factory as proposed, given the conditions required in paragraph 3 of the letter from the Government of India to Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India, and the supply is scarcely equal to the demand, and the market consequently good, and I feel sure that any attempt to carry out the scheme in unhealthy forests like the Anamallays would prove a failure.

2. Some bamboo localities, on the backs or slopes in the Plains are tolerably healthy, but in such places there is always a large demand for this article, and it is [illegible] for [illegible] ... [illegible] ... that all bamboo forests in the latter are more or less favorable, but much here depends with in the forests of the Travancore States than in any tracts under this Government.

3. When in England lately I had much correspondence with Mr. Routledge on this subject. He was under the impression that bamboo plantations could be easily and rapidly formed, and that the culms could be cut over annually; but as I differed on these points, and I tried to persuade him against the scheme, as I did not consider it practicable or even likely to succeed financially. Plantations are quite the exception, and from very sure he can have little idea of what he would have to contend against in our mountain forests, so that I strongly recommend that before embarking on the venture he should (as advised by the Government of India) visit India himself and consult practical persons on the ground.

From what Mr. Routledge told me I am under the impression that he must have one large bamboo (*Dendrocalamus strictus*) only; it should [illegible] (*Dendrocalamus*) at the Travancore and Cochin forests, but could not be procured, we could only [illegible] ... [illegible] ... [illegible] ...

Secretary to Government.

2. The Board concur with the Conservator. If plantations are to be formed suitably some of the pillagay lands along the Cauvery would give the best chances of success.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

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

No. 100. Office Minute, 8th December 1876, No. 1,033.

These Proceedings will be communicated to the Government of India with reference to the letter from the Secretary to Government, Department of Revenue, Agriculture, and Commerce, 9th September 1876, No. 25, 861–868.

2. The Government are not prepared to endorse the assertion of the Conservator in the latter part of paragraph 4 of his letter without further enquiry.

(True Extract.)

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

Result No. 7

To the Board of Revenue,
or the Conservator of Forests.

Ltd. T. N. Documents.

1933

FOREST No. 99.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 13th November 1876, No. 2,818.

Read the following letter from Lieutenant-Colonel R. H. BEDDOME, Conservator of Forests, to the Honorable D. F. CARMICHAEL, Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, dated Ootacamund, 14th October 1876, No. 1,188 :—

With reference to the G.O., No. 1,316, of the 26th ultimo, I have the honor to inform you that in the interior of the Anamallays and in parts of Malabar, Coimbatore, and Madura there are tracts with a plentiful supply of bamboos and an insufficient market for their disposal, but these are all most unhealthy localities, where labor could scarcely be procured, and where there are no roads. I know of no place that I could recommend as suitable for the establishment of a factory as proposed. Given the conditions required in paragraph 3 of the letter from the Government of India to Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India, and the supply is scarcely equal to the demand, and the market consequently good; and I feel sure that any attempt to carry out the scheme in unhealthy forests like the Anamallays would prove a failure.

2. Some bamboo localities on the banks of rivers in the plains are tolerably healthy, but in such places there is always a large demand for the article, and it is required for floating timber, &c., so that the mountains must be resorted to; and I fear that all bamboo forests in the latter are more or less feverish, but much more favorable conditions, both as to climate and abundance of the article required, can be met with in the forests of the Travancore Circar than in any tracts under this Government.

3. When in England lately I had much correspondence with Mr. Routledge on this subject. He was under the impression that bamboo plantations could be easily and readily formed, and that the culms could be cut over annually: he is quite mistaken on these points, and I tried to persuade him against the scheme, as I did not consider it practicable or likely to succeed financially. Plant-life are not in the plains, and I am very sure he can have little idea of what he would have to contend against in our mountain forests, so that I strongly recommend that before embarking in the venture he should (as advised by the Government of India) visit India himself, or send out a practical person on his behalf.

4. From what Mr. Routledge told me I am under the impression that he must have our large bamboo (*Bambusa arundinacea*) only, of the Elephant bamboo or Irul (*Beesha Travancorica*) of the Tinnevelly and Travancore Ghauts would answer the purpose, we could easily give him many square miles on the Tinnevelly mountains where the climate is healthy, communications not difficult, and labor easily obtainable.

No. 1,189.

FORWARDED to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, through the Board of Revenue, with reference to G.O., No. 1,316, dated 26th September 1876, Revenue Department.

(Signed) R. H. BEDDOME, Lieut.-Colonel,
14th October 1876. Conservator of Forests.

Submitted to Government.

2. The Board concur with the Conservator. If plantations are to be formed probably south of the paliagy lands along the Cavery would give the best chance of success.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

Acting Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

Copy to the Conservator of Forests.

Extd. T. D. Ryan.

Not to be folded if possible, but if

Dated 1876.

1876.

Board of Revenue,

MADRAS.

Proceedings, No. 4 November 1876, No. 2,219

Read

Received 23 Nov 1876

NOVEMBER

Forest No. 39.

Memorandum of the Board's Proceedings submitting for Government report of Conservator of Forests regarding certain petitions received in favour of —

Office of the Board of Revenue
Fort St. George, the 14th November 1876.

From the Secretary to the Board of Revenue,

To the Secretary to Government,

Public Department.

Sir,

I am directed to submit for the information of Government the accompanying petitions received in favour of the proposed reservation of the Kalrayan Hills, and to request that the petitioners may be informed that the matter is under the consideration of Government.

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