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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.
B.P. No. Press Mis.

Dated 19

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 802.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 23rd February 1877.

Read the following letter from Lieut.-Colonel R. H. BEDDOME, Conservator of Forests, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Bangalore, 5th December 1876, No. 1,388 :—

ADVERTING to the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated the 6th ultimo, No. 95-2,749, I have the honor to report that I have not hitherto specially noted the dates on which all periodical returns have been despatched by Deputy Conservators to Collectors and by the latter to the Conservator of Forests; but I shall do so henceforward. It often happens that the Collector or the Deputy Conservator, or both, are absent on tour from their head-quarters; in such cases great delay must necessarily occur in the transaction of public business. In Tinnevelly, Mr. Hayne reported that he forwarded his Timber Stock Account through the Collector's office on the 31st of August last, and that on the 21st of September he received it back with a request that it should be forwarded direct. As noted below returns from the Tinnevelly and Nilgiri Divisions have been delayed for long periods in the offices of the Collectors:—

Divisions.	Name of Return.	For what Month.	Date of Return.	Date of despatch from Collector's Office.	Number of days delayed in the Collector's Office.	Date of Receipt by the Conservator.
Tinnevelly.	Office Contingent Bill,	Oct. 1876.	9th Oct. 1876	7th Nov. 1876	59	10th Nov. 1876
Nilgiris ...	Statements A, B, C, and D.	July "	1st Nov. "	23rd "	22	25th "
Do. ...	Working Charge Bill.	July "	31st Oct. "	23rd "	23	25th "

2. As regards the advantage to be derived by the Forest Accounts being examined in the Collector's office, Mr. Webster in his memorandum dated the 16th ultimo, No. 2,128, states "that the *circular of the Board of Revenue referred to was issued when the Forest Department was directly under the orders of the Revenue Department," and does not therefore, in his opinion, apply to the present circumstances; and observes that the covers of the Judicial and Public Works Departments are examined by their own departments. In this opinion, I doubted, but that several other Collectors concur. Mr. Wedderburn in his letter to the Board of Revenue, dated the 8th May 1876, No. 93, remarks that "considerable inconvenience is caused to the despatch of Forest business, by all correspondence between the Conservator and his Assistant passing through the Collector's office. It is quite unnecessary, as when the Collector's opinion is wanted it can be asked for. It only encumbers the Collector's office with unnecessary correspondence requiring registry and involving delays and can serve no useful purpose." In transmitting the returns for October 1876 direct to the Central office, Mr. Hayne, the Deputy Conservator of Forests, Tinnevelly, reported in his letter, dated the 10th ultimo, No. 181, that he was requested so to do by the Collector of his district, who endorsed on a contingent bill as follows :—

* No. 1-1, dated 4th January 1873.

2.

Draft to Deputy Conservator, suggesting that such purely account business as this might hereafter be direct."

3. With reference to the subject of giving the Collector an opportunity of remarking on the deductions in the Forest receipts and charges in the periodical returns, I beg to observe that heretofore I have not been favored with such observations from Collectors of districts. The fact is that they cannot command the time required to do so without delaying the accounts, &c.

Secretary to Government with reference to Board's Proceedings, dated 6th November 1876, No. 2,742, and G.O., dated 23rd November 1876, No. 1,764.

4. Under the circumstances stated by the Conservator, the Board think that the best course will be to allow Deputy Conservators to forward the periodical returns, including bills of travelling allowance, &c., direct to the Conservator, sending at the same time copies thereof to the Collector for any observations he may have to make. All correspondence, other than routine and of a purely professional character, must pass through the Collector.

5. The Collectors of Tinnevelly and the Commissioner of Nilgiris will explain regarding the proposal by the Conservator of Forests.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

Sub-Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

Sir,

With reference to the Secretary with copy of Order dated 23rd ultimo, No. 1,764, Revenue Department.

I have the honor to forward herewith the Statements A, B, C, and D, and Working Charges for the Nilgiris, with the Deputy Conservator of Forests.

Ed. W. D. Ryall.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
8th March 1877.

41. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 23rd February 1877, No. 802:—

Read the following letter from Lieut.-Colonel R. H. BEDDOME, Conservator of Forests, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Bangalore, 5th December 1876, No. 1,388.

Adverting to the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated the 6th ultimo, No. 2,742, I have the honor to report that I have not hitherto specially noted the date on which all periodical returns have been despatched by Deputy Conservators to Collectors and by the latter to the Conservator of Forests; but I shall do so hereafter. It often happens that the Collector or the Deputy Conservator, or both, are absent on tour from head-quarters; in such cases great delay must necessarily occur in the transaction of public business. In Tinnevelly, Mr. Hoyne reported that he forwarded a Timber Stock Account through the Collector's office on the 21st of August last, and that on the 21st of September he received it back with a request that it should be recorded (Encl. A). As noted below returns from the Tinnevelly and Nilgiri Divisions have been delayed for long periods in the offices of the Collectors.

Nos.	Name of Return.	For what Month.	Date of Receipt.	Date of Despatch from Collectors Office.	Number of Days delayed in the Collectors Office.	Date of Receipt in the Conservator's Office.	Number of Days delayed in the Conservator's Office.	Remarks.
	Office Contingent Bill.	Oct. 1876.	2nd Oct. 1876.	2nd Nov. 1876.	28	10th Nov. 1876.	8	
	Statements A, B, C, and D.	July	1st Nov.	2nd	28	29th	26	
	Working Charges Bill.	July	31st Oct.	2nd	28	29th	26	

As regards the advance to be drawn by the Head Accounts Department in the Collector's office, Mr. Webster in the memorandum dated the 16th ultimo, No. 2,125, states that the cheque of the Board of Revenue referred to was when the Forest Department was a branch of the Revenue Department, and does not therefore, in his opinion, apply to the present constitution of the Department of the Inspector and Deputy Conservators of Forests. In this opinion I do not but there several other cases where Mr. Webster, in his letter to the Board of Revenue, dated the 14th ultimo, No. 2,0[illegible], remarks that "some serious inconvenience is caused to the Forest Branch by the correspondence between the Conservator and the Collectors through the Collector's office. It is often unnecessary, in which the Collector's opinion is wanted from subordinates. In many cases the Collector's office is the unnecessary correspondence, requiring copying and forwarding, and can serve no useful purpose." In explaining the returns for October [illegible] in the Central office, Mr. Dyson, the Deputy Conservator of Forests, [illegible] dated the 10th ultimo, No. 761, that it was regretted

as to do by the Collector of his district, who endorsed on a contingent bill as follows:—

"The Deputy Conservator suggesting that such purely trivial business as this ought to be carried on direct."

2. Whilst concurring in the object of giving the Collector an opportunity of remarking on the features in the Forest receipts and charges in the periodical returns, the Board observed however that they were not favourably impressed with such observations if the effect of them is to delay the submission of the returns. The fact is that they cannot command the time required to deal with and verify the accounts, &c. &c.

Order No. 18 (Government with reference to Board's Proceedings, dated 8th November 1876, No. 2,740, and 13th, dated 23rd November 1876, No. 1,764.

After the explanations submitted by the Conservator, the Board think that the best course would be to allow Deputy Conservators to forward the periodical returns, including travelling allowance, &c., direct to the Conservator, sending at the same time a statement to the Collector of any observations he may have to make. All matters of a purely professional character, such as

Government agree with the Conservator of Salem will explain [illegible] recommended by the Conservator of Forests.

(Sd.) [illegible] and Secretary.

No. 248 dated Fort St. George, 6th March 1877, No. 696.

Forwarded. (The Board's suggestions are approved.

(True Extract.)

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

For [illegible]
[illegible]

REVENUE