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(3) Initials of the Referencer

TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. / B.P. No:	1336.	Press. / Mis.
Dated	19.8.1878.	197 .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Archives 1—5,806—24-2-78.

1336/1

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

19th August 187[illegible] No. 1,336.

Read the following paper:—

No. 251 Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 20th June 1878, No. 1,694.

Read the following letter from Lieutenant-Colonel R. H. BEDDOME, Conservator of Forests, to C. G. MASTER, Esq., Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, dated Ootacamund, 16th April 1878, No. 95:—

I HAVE the honor to inform you that I have lately been on tour in the North Coimbatore Forest Division.

2. I visited the Bolumputty and Sholaykarry forests and the Sholaykarry reserve with Mr. Morgan, the Deputy Conservator. I did not go over the other forests of division as I visited all these at my last tour.

3. *The Bolumputty Forests*—are situated 13 miles due west of Coimbatore, area supposed by Mr. Morgan to be about 200 square miles; they are almost surrounded by private forests, the proprietors of which fell indiscriminately and undersell the department; there is little or no Teak, but they contain much valuable Rosewood (*Dalbergia latifolia and sissoides*), Vangay (*Xylocarpus moluccensis*), Irura Maram (*Terminalia tomentosa*), Red Cedar (*Soymida febrifuga*), White Cedar (*Cedrela Toona*), Iron wood (*Mesua*), Vellay Naga (*Anogeissus latifolia*), besides White Dammer (*Vateria*), Poonspar (*Calophyllum*), Gamboge (*Garania*), and also many jungle timbers. They were handed over to this department at the close of 1862-63 (*vide* G. O., No. 321, dated 12th Feruary 1863), previous to which they had been worked by the Revenue authorities and much Rosewood had been removed.

4. There are no reserves whatever properly speaking, and no protection against fire in the deciduous forests of the slopes. Besides their value as a timber-supply for the future including the indents of the Madras Gun Carriage Department Rosewood, these Bolumputty forests have special value for climatic considerations, as portions protect the water-supply of the river Noel which fills some large tanks in the Coimbatore plains, and the large tracts of the heavy forests above the ridge in what is called the Siruvani or Upper Bolumputty valley protect the drainage into some of the principal feeders of the Bhowany and reservation here is of the utmost importance; the Government title to portions, however, is disputed, and as large alienations are being attempted in tracts above the ghauts lately placed under the Malabar Colectorate, the Collector of that district has taken the question up, and it is likely to come before the Courts. I visited portions of the forest with that official, but special reports on the subject are before Government, and I need not here allude to them further.

5. It is, I think, indispensable that the demarcation and survey of these forests should be taken in hand at once, but the boundaries of the surrounding private forests should of course be first settled, and some officials may say that we must wait for an Act, but if there is much delay great mischief may be done, and every year adds to the difficulties of reservation in many ways and alienation of course goes on.

6. The greater portion of these forests should be formed into a strict reserve partly for timber and partly for climatic reasons; on the slopes where our best timber grows and in the jungles below the slopes there are grazing rights to a certain extent, and if these cannot be confined to the jungles below it is very important that they

should not be indiscriminate over the whole of the slopes, but restricted to certain arrears so that the remainder can be re-traced and strictly reserved. The heavy moist forests above ghaut so important in connection with surface drainage and the water storage below are safe from fire, but have to be protected against the axe of the Kumri cultivation and the coffee planter; the rights and privilages in these are not of a nature to interfere with conservancy; a few hill-men (Irulers) have here and there many patches of cultivation, and they might be entirely excluded from the bulk of the forest by certain areas being demarcated for their exclusive use; there is valuable timber and many valuable forest products in these evergreen forest, but the former is just at present too far removed from a market to be worked at a profit as there are no communications; there is however, no saying how soon it may be not be required. Cardamoms could be profitably cultivated in many portions of these forests.

7. From the 1st of January 1866 to March 1872 these Bolumputty forests and the Chenant Nair forest were worked together by the officer in charge of the Anamallays (now the South Coimbatore Division). The Bolumputty tract is now under the officer of North Coimbatore, and the Chenant Nair forest, although under this department, is worked by the Palghaut Revenue Officer.

8. On the Bolumputty slopes a small tract in the heart of the Rosewood forests was alienated by putta to certain Parsee merchants in Coimbatore, but the Rosewood was reserved by the rules then in force; these merchants never claimed it but the mortgage of the land one Andu Sait afterwards asserted a right to cut it on payment of seigniorage, and I believe that the claim has been allowed even without the payment of seigniorage; at least this department had to give up certain logs which they had felled for the Gun Carriage Manufactory; it is very desirable that we should again, if possible, get possession of this tract either by purchase or by exchange for an equivalent area elsewhere.

Vide Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, No. 534, dated 23rd January 1868.

9. In 1875 a contract was given by Mr. Morgan* under the Collector for felling 900 logs of Rosewood and Vengay in the Bolumputty forests; 450 only of these have been felled as the demand proved to be different to what was expected, and 337 of these have been delivered in Coimbatore at 8¾ Rupees per candy; offers for these were lately received by the department at Rupees 1-5-0 and 1-6-0 *per cubic foot* which will give a good profit, but I did not allow the immediate sale at those rates as I thought it too low and that better rates would be obtained. But as the Arakurchi Nair is bringing a large quantity of Rosewood to Karramudi on the Mettapolliem railway line from some Malabar forests which are now workable since the Coimbatore Local Board have improved the road up the Bhowany valley to Copanairy, we shall, I expect, be obliged to accept low rates as this Malabar timber can be sold at very reduced rates where there is no expense on conservancy or establishment to be taken into consideration.

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10. The Bolumputty forests are at present worked chiefly on the License and Voucher system which is the best under present circumstances for realizing a fair revenue with a small establishment; when we are able to form reserves and have strict conservancy and can exclude fire, departmental working must be introduced.

11. The Jaghiredar of Vellaymullay now claims portions of these forests and lays claim to 107 of the trees felled by Mr. Morgan's contractor as having been felled on his land; the Collector, I am informed, has applied to the Revenue Survey Department to demarcate this Jaghire, but the matter is still undisposed of; this department will continue to work a great disadvantage until our forests are properly demarcated.

12. In 1862 the original establishment of this forest consisted of one Duffadar and two Peons; this was afterwards increased to a staff of one Overseer (on 50 Rupees) and 5 Peons at 6 Rupees each.

13. By Captain Campbell Walker's scheme this range was amalgamated with the Mettapolliem range, and the establishment for both now stands as per margin. Rupees 254 was the sum however allowed on Captain Walker's scale, but some reductions were necessary to meet retrenchments made by the Government of India, and I am doubtful if the revenue authorizes the higher scale; at any rate I think that any further change should be delayed until we have the Forest Act and our boundaries are settled.

	Rs.
1 3rd-class Ranger	60
Horse allowance	15
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8 Forest Guards, at 7 Rs. each	56
1 Ranger's Clerk	10
Total	201

14. The statement below shows the receipts and charges of this range from 1863-64 to 1877-78:—

	Receipts. Rs.	Expenditure. Rs.
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1871-72	7,838	9,751
1872-73	3,559	1,417
1873-74	4,598	2,631
1874-75	3,178	2,631
1875-76	4,892	7,150
1876-77	8,019	7,267
1877-78, 11 months only	6,584	5,600

15. *The Sholaykarray Reserve.*—This is situated a little to the east of Walliar between Coimbatore and Palghaut, north of the railway; it is an irregular parallelogram with its south-eastern end abutting on the railway line; it was surveyed in 1874-75; and by the survey map in Mr. Morgan's office, dated 11th August 1875, it contains an area of 1,425 acres, of which only 246 acres were purchased by the Collector in March 1868 and handed over to this department, the rest being Government waste when taken up.

16. In order to distinguish it from the reserve of the same name in the Malabar District a little to the west of it, its designation was altered from "Wallier" to "Sholaykarry." (*Vide* Proceedings of the Board of Revenue of the 15th March 1875, No. 37-621).

17. It is very similar to the Walliar fuel reserve reported on in G.O., No. 338, dated 4th March 1878, Revenue Department, and contains Teak, Bamboos, and the same sort of firewood trees; but being a little further east receives still less of the south-west monsoon, so that the growth is somewhat inferior; the growth however is good and the soil fertile, and if cattle and fire can be effectually kept out natural reboisement will be easy.

18. Considering the long time it has been under this department the results are very unsatisfactory, but this must be attributed to the fact that the proper treatment of these tracts has not been understood till lately.

19. Cattle have been constantly let in on the supposition that the grazing down of the grass would lessen the chance of fires and diminish their damages when they occur; the consequence is that there has been little or no natural reboisement, and the reserve is in much the same condition as when we took it over as far as density is concerned, though of course the standing trees (then very small coppice) have increased in size; seedlings have no chance with herds of cattle, they are all trodden or eaten down.

20. Considerable expense has been incurred in several years for artificial planting out from nurseries, and there are fair traces of this in some parts, but owing to cattle, fires and drought it may be said to be on the whole very unsatisfactory and not at all commensurate with the expense, and this artificial planting was put a stop to several years ago.

21. Fire-tracing has received attention to at considerable expense, but the traces have not been broad enough, although along the railway line where the sparks from the engine are carried often 80 or 100 yards and fires have been of frequent occurrence.

22. Fire and cattle must both be kept out at whatever expense may be necessary, and in a few years the growth will naturally become so dense that the grass will be kept down and the danger of fires very much lessened and the surface soil and tree growth will be much improved.

23. In 1868-69, the reserve was enclosed where necessary by a trench 3' × 3' with an embankment 3 feet in height planted with an aloe hedge at a cost of Rs. 950, but owing to the prevalence of wild pig, the hedge is much damaged. If this is not found sufficient to keep out cattle the ditch and embankment must be enlarged; cattle, however, are not numerous in the neighborhood, and they can probaby be kept out by a little vigilance on the part of the watchers—the damage on this score hitherto having been from cattle that have been let in on payment.

24. *Contemplated Operations.*—I have instructed Mr. Morgan to rigorously exclude all cattle (it may be mentioned that there are no communal rights).

25. To divide the reserve into four nearly equal blocks with broad rides between.

26. To fire-trace the whole, the traces to be 60 yards wide; that along the railway line to be 150 yards from the railway, the intervening space to be burnt off just before the fire season sets in, the same burning off to be carried out elsewhere if found necessary.

27. To employ extra guards during the fire season if thought necessary.

28. Increased expenditure on these operations will amply repay.

29. *Expenditure and Receipts.*—The expenditure under all heads including purchase of land, &c., up to November 1877, has been Rupees 15,148; this, however, does not include interest on money laid out, or a percentage on the salary of the Deputy Conservator or his Ranger.

30. The receipts have been Rupees 3,381, which have chiefly been from the sale of bamboos.

31. *Other Portions of the Division.*—I did not go over any of the other forests this tour with Mr. Morgan as I did so, thoroughly, during my last tour, and their state is much the same as reported in my last inspection report recorded in G.O., No. 298, of the 23rd of January 1877.

32. In the Mettapolliem forests—the forests on the slopes of the Nilgiris and in the Bhowany valley a regular system of reserves both Imperial and Communal and a definition of grazing tracts are very necessary and demarcation should not be delayed; this is all pointed out in my last report, in which definite proposals for reserves were submitted, and need not be recapitulated here; all action is, however, in abeyance in accordance with paragraph 7 of the Government order just alluded to. The M, H, and K Reserves are only such on paper—cattle and cattle-drivers with their axes and bill-hooks having free ingress which, of course, also would render all attempts at fire-tracing valueless.

33. In the Sandalwood and Acha country or in the vast forest country situated in the talugs of Collegal, Bhowany and Attiamungalum (fully described in my last report), there is ample room for much reservation both of timber-producing forests and of valuable Sandalwood tracts; but as year by year slips away, the difficulty becomes greater and alienation goes on apace; the question here however is less pressing than in the Mettapolliem and Bolumputty ranges, but I trust it will not be long lost sight of.

34. The receipts and charges of the whole of the North Coimbatore Division from the commencement of conservancy are given below:—

Years.	Receipts.	Charges.		
		"Conservancy and Works."	"Establishment."	Total.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1859-60	2,593	243	1,905	2,148
1860-61	11,657	4,601	600	5,201
1861-62	25,007	5,050	593	5,643
1862-63	27,641	8,062	5,508	13,570
1863-64	39,212	15,605	1,143	16,748
1864-65	47,299	12,509	3,035	15,544
1865-66	60,261	16,854	7,877	26,731
1866-67	60,076	21,146	7,122	28,268
1867-68	75,070	20,756	8,187	28,943
1868-69	59,031	18,797	9,652	28,449
1869-70	69,021	20,387	9,811	30,198
1870-71	43,429	21,798	9,335	31,133
1871-72	64,100	40,917	9,764	50,681
1872-73	66,666	38,444	10,074	48,518
1873-74	52,101	29,941	14,681	44,622
1874-75	55,702	31,176	15,762	46,938
1875-76	70,742	35,115	17,112	52,227
1876-77	60,894	17,094	17,266	34,360
1877-78	38,572	12,181	15,374	27,555
Total ...	9,33,174	3,72,676	1,64,801	5,37,477

No. 96.

FORWARDED to Government through the Collector of Coimbatore and the Board of Revenue with reference to Rule 8 embodied in G.O., No. 1,662-A, dated 19th November 1875.

(Signed) E. H. BEDDOME, Lt.-Col.,
Conservator of Forests.

No. 135.

FORWARDED to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Madras, with the following remarks.

2. *Paragraph* 5.—The Collector fully endorses Colonel Beddome's remarks as to the necessity for effectually reserving the forests in the Bolumputty valley and to the south of the Bhowany river, but he does not think these reserves can be made without a Forest Act.

3. *Paragraph* 8.—On a perusal of the correspondence which passed since the year 1868 in regard to this alienation, and which ended with G.O., No. 241, dated 4th February 1871, it does not appear that the reservation of the trees within the boundary of the land in question was specially conditioned in the putta. The extent of this tract is 80 bullahs or about 320 acres, and if it is the wish of Government that this tract should be taken up for forest purposes either by purchase or by exchange for an equivalent area elsewhere, as suggested by Colonel Beddome, the Collector will negotiate with the parties concerned.

4. *Paragraph* 11.—The Survey Department was requested on the 8th October 1877 to demarcate the shrotriem village.

On receipt of the papers from the Survey Department steps will be taken for the early settlement of the matter.

COIMBATORE,
24th May 1878.

(Signed) A. McC. WEBSTER,
Collector.

COLONEL Beddome's inspection report on the Bolumputty and Sholaykarry forests will be submitted for the orders of Government.

2. The Bolumputty forests are estimated to be about 200 square miles in extent and are reported to be surrounded by private forests, the proprietors of which fell indiscriminately and undersell the Department. There are no reserves and no protection against fire, but their conservancy is of great importance for climatic considerations as well as on account of the valuable timber which they contain. The Board fully concur with the Conservator and the Collector in considering that the demarcation and survey of these forests should be taken in hand. There is nothing to prevent this being done at once, though the satisfactory settlement of the communal rights over the portions on and below the slopes cannot be looked for until an Act has been passed. The Board have discussed the question of the protection of forests from coffee and other planters in recent proceedings on the Tinnevelly forests, and the matter need not again be gone into here. With reference to the concluding sentence of paragraph 7, Colonel Beddome might be authorized to commence the experimental cultivation of Cardamom on a small scale in a likely tract.

3. As the Conservator considers it to be very important that the patch of forest referred to in paragraph 8 should be [illegible] see no objection to the Collector entering into negotiations in view to its acquisition by exchange.

4. It is observed that the demarcation of the shrotriem referred to in paragraph 11 is now in the hands of the Survey Department.

5. The portion of the report relating to the Sholaykarry Reserve does not call for much remark. It is to be hoped that more satisfactory results may be obtained in future now that it is believed that the proper treatment of such tracts is understood. The contemplated operations described in paragraphs 24 to 27 seem judicious.

6. The Conservator did not visit on this occasion the other forests of the North Coimbatore Division as they were fully reported in his letter recorded with G.O., dated 23rd January 1877, No. 298, paragraph 7 of which negatived the main proposals then made by Colonel Beddome and supported by the Board.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) J. STURROCK,
Acting Sub-Secretary.

No. 252. ORDER THEREON, dated 19th August 1878, No. 1,336.

Forests, No. 11.

THE selection and formation of reserves in the Bolumputty forests will engage the attention of Captain C. Walker in due course under the orders noted in the margin. The Government, in reviewing the Forest Report for 1872-73, remarked* "that it was a question how far any denudation of these forests should be permitted," and desired that "the subject should receive special attention. They also intimated that the trees to be felled should be "previously selected and marked by the Department;" but there is nothing to show that these instructions have been followed. The Conservator will report on this point.

G.O., 20th July 1878, No. 1,105.

* Para. 14, G.O., 24th April 1874, No. 5[illegible]

2. In referring to Andu Sait's land [illegible] Conservator deals with the question as though ignorant of its history and [illegible] whereas he should be aware that in a

G.O., 22nd February 1868, No. 498.

grant were specially reserved in the puttat [illegible] t from him in February 1868 it was ded that, unless the timber on this

G.O., 5th September 1868, No. 2,326.

ing Conservator of Forests, was asked if [illegible] vernment could not claim it. The [illegible]ar was noticed by the Secretary of [illegible], and Colonel Beddome, then Officiat- uld recommend the land being taken on payment of compensation. He

G.O., 18th December 1868, No. 3,146, paragraph 5.
G.O., 6th March 1869, No. 577.
G.O., 10th September 1869, No. 2,555.

ied that until the grant was demar- ed he could not ascertain what tracts re included in it. The puttahdar's n was then demarcated and surveyed 1,29.

when it was found to amount to only acres

3. This result was communicated wi[illegible] the plan to Colonel Beddome; but it oes not appear that until the present ccasion he has made any further refer-

G.O., 4th February 1871, No. 241.

ence as to the desirability of acquiring this land, and in now bringing the matter forward as a suggestion of his own, he makes no allusion to the lengthened correspondence that passed in 1868—71.

4. Some portion of the grant has probably been cleared, and the Government desire that the Conservator will now obtain a report from the range officer, showing the extent he thinks should be acquired, the timber on it, and its probable value. This report with his remarks thereon he will forward through the Collector of the district, who will give his views as to the advisability of taking up the land. The survey plan should accompany the report.

5. The condition of the Sholaykarry reserve is unsatisfactory, and the Government observe that grazing has been allowed in view to make a revenue. The management of this reserve is entirely a matter for the decision of the Conservator, and funds for its efficient protection should be provided in future Budgets.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) C. G. MASTER,
Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.
" the Conservator of Forests.
" Captain C. Walker.
" the Accountant-General.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

1336/5

No. 1,694.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 20th June 1878.

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† *Note by Collector.—Believed to be cubic foot, and not 11 candy.*"

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1336/6

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1873-74	4,598	2,631
1874-75	3,178	2,631
1875-76	4,892	7,150
1876-77	8,019	7,267
1877-78, 11 (months only.)	7,584	5,660

15. *The Sholaykarray Reserve.*—This is situated a little to the east of Walliar between Coimbatore and Palghaut, north of the railway; it is an irregular parallelogram with its south-eastern end abutting on the railway line; it was surveyed in 1874-75; and by the survey map in Mr. Morgan's office, dated 11th August 1875, it contains an area of 1,425 acres, of which only 246 acres were purchased by the Collector in March 1868 and handed over to this department, the rest being Government waste when taken up.

16. In order to distinguish it from the reserve of the same name in the Malabar District a little to the west of it, its designation was altered from "Wallier" to "Sholaykarray." (*Vide* Proceedings of the Board of Revenue of the 15th March 1875, No. 37-621).

17. It is very similar to the Walliar fuel reserve reported on in G.O., No. 338, dated 4th March 1878, Revenue Department, and contains Teak, Bamboos, and the same sort of firewood trees; but being a little further east receives still less of the south-west monsoon, so that the growth is somewhat inferior; the growth however is good and the soil fertile, and if cattle and fire can be effectually kept out natural reboisement will be easy.

18. Considering the long time it has been under this department the results are very unsatisfactory, but this must be attributed to the fact that the proper treatment of these tracts has not been understood till lately.

19. Cattle have been constantly let in on the supposition that the grazing down of the grass would lessen the chance of fires and diminish their damages when they occur; the consequence is that there has been little or no natural reboisement, and the reserve is in much the same condition as when we took it over as far as density is concerned, though of course the standing trees (then very small coppice) have increased in size; seedlings have no chance with herds of cattle, they are all trodden or eaten down.

20. Considerable expense has been incurred in several years for artificial planting out from nurseries, and there are fair traces of this in some parts, but owing to cattle, fires and drought it may be said to be on the whole very unsatisfactory and not at all commensurate with the expense, and this artificial planting was put a stop to several years ago.

21. Fire-tracing has received attention too at considerable expense, but the traces have not been broad enough, at least along the railway line where the sparks from the engine are carried often 80 or 100 yards and fires have been of frequent occurrence.

22. Fire and cattle must both be kept out at whatever expense may be necessary, and in a few years the growth will naturally become so dense that the grass will be kept down and the danger of fires very much lessened and the surface soil and tree growth will be much improved.

23. In 1868-69, the reserve was enclosed where necessary by a trench 3' × 3' with an embankment 3 feet in height planted with an aloe hedge at a cost of Rs. 950, but owing to the prevalence of wild pig, the hedge is much damaged. If this is not found sufficient to keep out cattle the ditch and embankment must be enlarged; cattle, however, are not numerous in the neighborhood, and they can probaby be kept out by a little vigilance on the part of the watchers—the damage on this score hitherto having been from cattle that have been let in on payment.

24. *Contemplated Operations.*—I have instructed Mr. Morgan to rigorously exclude all cattle (it may be mentioned that there are no communal rights).

25. To divide the reserve into four nearly equal blocks with broad rides between.

26. To fire-trace the whole, the traces to be 60 yards wide; that along the railway line to be 150 yards from the railway, the intervening space to be burnt off just before the fire season sets in, the same burning off to be carried out elsewhere if found necessary.

27. To employ extra guards during the fire season if thought necessary.

28. Increased expenditure on these operations will amply repay.

29. *Expenditure and Receipts.*—The expenditure under all heads including purchase of land, &c., up to November 1877, has been Rupees 15,148; this, however, does not include interest on money laid out, or a percentage on the salary of the Deputy Conservator or his Ranger.

30. The receipts have been Rupees 3,381, which have chiefly been from the sale of bamboos.

31. *Other Forests of the Division.*—I did not go over any of the other forests this tour with Mr. Morgan as I did so, thoroughly, during my last tour, and their state is much the same as reported in my last inspection report recorded in G.O., No. 298, of the 23rd of January 1877.

32. In the Mettapolliem forests and the forests on the slopes of the Nilgiris and in the Bhowany valley a regular system of reserves both Imperial and Communal and a definition of grazing tracts are very necessary and demarcation should not be delayed; this is all pointed out in my last report, in which definite proposals for reserves were submitted, and need not be recapitulated here; all action is, however, in abeyance in accordance with paragraph 7 of the Government order just alluded to. The M, H, and K Reserves are only such on paper—cattle and cattle-drivers with their axes and bill-hooks having free ingress which, of course, also would render all attempts at fire-tracing valueless.

33. In the Sandalwood and Acha country or in the vast forest country situated in the taluqs of Collegal, Bhowany and Sattiamungalum (fully described in my last report), there is ample room for much reservation both of timber-producing forests and of valuable Sandalwood tracts; but as year by year slips away, the difficulty becomes greater and alienation goes on apace; the question here however is less pressing than in the Mettapolliem and Bolumputty ranges, but I trust it will not be long lost sight of.

34. The receipts and charges of the whole of the North Coimbatore Division from the commencement of conservancy are given below:—

Years.	Receipts.	Charges.		
		A, "Conservancy and Works."	B, "Establishment."	Total.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1859-60	2,593	243	1,905	2,148
1860-61	11,657	4,601	600	5,201
1861-62	25,007	5,050	593	5,643
1862-63	27,641	8,062	5,508	13,570
1863-64	39,312	15,605	1,143	16,748
1864-65	47,299	12,509	3,035	15,544
1865-66	60,261	18,854	7,877	26,731
1866-67	60,076	21,146	7,122	28,268
1867-68	75,070	20,756	8,187	28,943
1868-69	59,031	18,797	9,652	28,449
1869-70	68,021	20,387	9,811	30,198
1870-71	43,429	21,798	9,335	31,133
1871-72	64,100	40,917	9,764	50,681
1872-73	66,666	38,444	10,074	48,518
1873-74	59,101	29,941	14,681	44,622
1874-75	55,702	31,176	15,762	46,938
1875-76	70,742	35,115	17,112	52,227
1876-77	60,894	17,094	17,266	34,360
1877-78	38,572	12,181	15,374	27,555
Total ...	9,33,174	3,72,676	1,64,801	5,37,477

No. 96.

Forwarded to Government through the Collector of Coimbatore and the Board of Revenue with reference to Rule 8 embodied in G.O., No. 1,662-A, dated 19th November 1875.

(Signed) R. H. BEDDOME, Lt.-Col.,
Conservator of Forests.

No. 135.

Forwarded to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Madras, with the following remarks.

2. *Paragraph* 5.—The Collector fully endorses Colonel Beddome's remarks as to the necessity for effectually reserving the forests in the Bolumputty valley and to the south of the Bhowany river, but he does not think these reserves can be made without a Forest Act.

3. *Paragraph* 8.—On a perusal of the correspondence which passed since the year 1868 in regard to this alienation, and which ended with G.O., No. 241, dated 4th February 1871, it does not appear that the reservation of the trees within the boundary of the land in question was specially conditioned in the putta. The extent of this tract is 80 bullahs or about 320 acres, and if it is the wish of Government that this tract should be taken up for forest purposes either by purchase or by exchange for an equivalent area elsewhere, as suggested by Colonel Beddome, the Collector will negotiate with the parties concerned.

4. *Paragraph* 11.—The Survey Department was requested on the 8th October 1877 to demarcate the shrotriem village.

On receipt of the papers from the Survey Department steps will be taken for the early settlement of the matter.

COIMBATORE,
24th May 1878.

(Signed) A. McC. WEBSTER,
Collector.

COLONEL Beddome's inspection report on the Bolumputty and Sholaykarry forests will be submitted for the orders of Government.

2. The Bolumputty forests are estimated to be about 200 square miles in extent and are reported to be surrounded by private forests, the proprietors of which fell indiscriminately and undersell the Department. There are no reserves and no protection against fire, but their conservancy is of great importance for climatic considerations as well as on account of the valuable timber which they contain. The Board fully concur with the Conservator and the Collector in considering that the demarcation and survey of these forests should be taken in hand. There is nothing to prevent this being done at once, though the satisfactory settlement of the communal rights over the portions on and below the slopes cannot be looked for until an Act has been passed. The Board have discussed the question of the protection of forests from coffee and other planters in recent Proceedings on the Tinnevelly forests, and the matter need not again be gone into here. With reference to the concluding sentence of paragraph 7, Colonel Beddome might be authorized to commence the experimental cultivation of Cardamom on a small scale in a likely tract.

3. As the Conservator considers it to be very important that the patch of forest referred to in paragraph 8 should be in the hands of the Department, the Board can see no objection to the Collector entering into negotiations in view to its acquisition by exchange.

4. It is observed that the demarcation of the shrotriem referred to in paragraph 11 is now in the hands of the Survey Department.

5. The portion of the report relating to the Sholaykarry Reserve does not call for much remark. It is to be hoped that more satisfactory results may be obtained in future now that it is believed that the proper treatment of such tracts is understood. The contemplated operations described in paragraphs 24 to 27 seem judicious.

6. The Conservator did not visit on this occasion the other forests of the North Coimbatore Division as they were fully reported in his letter recorded with G.O., dated 23rd January 1877, No. 298, paragraph 7 of which negatived the main proposals then made by Colonel Beddome and supported by the Board.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

Acting Sub-Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, with copy of Board's Proceedings, dated 23rd January 1868, No. 534.
Copy to the Collector of Coimbatore.
" " Conservator of Forests.

Exd. W. H. French.

Revenue Department

No 1056

Proceedings of the Madras Government

Under date the 19 August 1878

Read the following

Para of the Bd of Revenue

dated 20th June 1878 No 1694,

submitting Inspection Report

of Conservator of Forests

on the Bélumputty and

Sholayhanny Forests, on

North Coimbatore Division.

—

The selection and formation of reserves in the Bélumputty forests will engage the attention of Capt. C. Walker on duty noted in the margin. The Govt on perusing the Forest

GO 25 July 1878 No 1105.

Revenue Report
Copy
1878.

Board of Revenue,
MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 20TH JUNE 1878, No. 1,694.

Despatch to Encl

Dated 19th August 1878

Received

JUNE.
No. 1,694.

Bélumputty and Sholayhanny Forests — in North Coimbatore Division. — Submitting to Government Inspection Report of Conservator of Forests on the —, and concurring with this officer and the Collector in considering that the demarcation and survey of the Bélumputty forests should be taken in hand.

Ref-S-Pkg
No 257

Forest report for 1872-73 remarked "that it was a question how far any denudation of these forests should be permitted & dressed that "the subject should receive special attention". They also intimated that the trees to be felled should be previously selected & that marked by the Dept "but there is nothing to show these instructions have been followed. The Conservator will report on this point.

2. In referring to Asadu Sait's land the Conservator deals with the question as though ignorant of its history and merits whereas he should be aware that.

Para 14 Gp. 24 April 1874 No 503.

Gp. 22nd July 1868 No 498.

Gp. 5 Sept 1868 No 2326.

Gp. 18 Dec 1868 No 3146 para 4.

Gp. 6 March 1869 No 577

Gp. 10 Sept 1869 No 2555

that on a report from him on 7 July 1868 it was decided that unless the timber on this grant were specially reserved in the Puttalam Govt could not claim it. The matter was noticed by the Secretary of State and Col. Bridgeman then officiating Conservator of Forests was asked if he would recommend the land being taken up on payment of compensation - He replied that until the grant was demarcated he could not ascertain what tracts were included in it. The Puttalam claim was then demarcated and surveyed when it was

was found to amount
to only. Acres 304–29.

3. This result was
communicated with
the plan to Col Beddome
but it does not appear
that until the present
occasion he has made
any further reference
as to the desirability
of acquiring this land
and in now bringing
the matter forward as
a suggestion of his own
he makes no allusion
to the lengthened cor-
respondence that passed
in 1868–71.

4. Some portion of the
front has probably been
cleared and the Govt.
desire that the Conservator
will

G.O. 4th July 1871 Nº 241

will now obtain a report
from the range officer
showing the extent he
thinks shall be re-
quired, the timber on
it and its probable value.
This report with his re-
marks thereon he will
forward through the
Collector of the District
who will give his views
as to the advisability
of taking up the land.
The Survey plan should
accompany the report.

5. The condition of
the Sholay Karry reserve
is unsatisfactory and
the Govt observe that
grazing has been allowed
in view to make a rev-
enue. The management

of

of this record is entirely
a matter for the decision
of the Conservator and
funds for its efficient
protection should be pro-
vided in future budgets.

14. To the Board of Examiners and Pilots
21. The Conservator of Forests Sir
1. Capt. Walker
6. The Accountant General Sir

1336
12

90

Botanical Dr
Harley Fund
Trees & Shrubs