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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	376.	Press.
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	12. 2. 1828-197.	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

CIRCULAR No. 11F.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Government of India in the Department of Revenue, Agriculture and Commerce, dated Calcutta, the 31st January 1878.

[FORESTS.]

READ—

Circular letter by the Government of India, this Department, No. 12, dated the 14th June 1876, forwarding copies of a report by Major Peyton, Conservator of Forests of the Southern Division, Bombay, on the working of the saw machinery set up in the Kanara forests, up to the 31st October 1875.

Read—

A letter from the Government of Bombay No. 6899, dated the 17th November 1877, forwarding a further report by Lieutenant-Colonel Peyton on the working of the saw mills in Kanara from the 1st November 1875 to the 31st March 1877, together with a copy of the Resolution thereon by the Government of Bombay.

RESOLUTION.—THE Governor General in Council directs that paragraphs 3 to 17, of Lieutenant-Colonel Peyton's report, with two of the eight statements appended to it, and the orders of the Government of Bombay thereon, be circulated for the information of Forest Officers in the provinces under the Government of India.

Extract from a Report by Lieutenant-Colonel PIRON, No. 1779, dated the 31st October 1877.

3. As Mr. Barrett reported specially to me the six months ending with the 30th April 1876, and again, now, from 1st May 1876 to 31st March 1877, I will remark on and give the details separately. Moreover, by doing so, a better example could be afforded of the difference between a prosperous season and the reverse in the working even of a saw mill, which only keeps pace with, or does but little business or indents and orders for material on it.

4. The first period here reported on, viz., between the 1st November 1875 and the 30th April 1876, was prosperous, and exhibits very favorable results inasmuch as the outturn of the machine during the six months was only 4,401 cubic feet less than the following eleven months, that between the 1st May 1876 and 31st March 1877; whereas as regards actual profit in working the first period or six months shows a profit of Rs. 8,959 compared with Rs. 5,964 of the second period or eleven months.

5. Further, the rate for sawing per 100 cubic feet ran up from Rs. 19-12-3 during the first period to Rs. 30-11 in the second.

6. The reasons for this are plain enough. Up to the monsoon of 1876, we had orders that kept the mill fairly well employed, when they almost ceased, and those subsequently received did not give one-fourth the work the mill can do thereby throwing the charges, on a comparatively small outturn, of a considerable establishment that I dare not dismiss with the certainty before me of getting it back again as things became more prosperous. I was also averse to doing much more than actual orders, removing shs from rough logs and cutting up battens, for it is not desirable to have large stocks of converted wood which exposed to the influences of a Kanara climate soon deteriorate, and therefore, having no store houses to protect converted stock, I considered it better to check work than the mill have full swing in cutting up to meet such orders as we might afterwards get.

7. I felt bound to keep this in view, for overhauling stock in October 1876 that was lying out exposed, I could not shut my eyes to the plain fact of cracks and other influences of season made manifest; so much so that I felt it judicious to reduce the value of our stock of converted wood on hand from the averages obtained at the mill of Rs. 2-8 and Rs. 3 per cubic foot respectively, on teak scantlings, planks, &c., to an average of Rs. 2-4, and the rates on jungle-wood from Rs. 1-10 and Rs. 2-2 to an average of Rs. 1-9 per foot.

8. It is at the latter rates that all stock on hand during both first and second periods have been calculated. Further no value is attached to the refuse slabs which are not brought on account as stock, but will return something later.

9. Regarding these reductions in valuation of stock and the refuse wood now no longer brought on stock, I give extract below of Mr. Brett's reforwarding memorandum, dated the 25th November 1876, with report on the first period's working which, after an examination of stock with him, I sent back for correction.

10. From the last paragraph of this reforwarding memorandum it will be observed that a demand for the refuse wood had begun, and that's 185 worth had actually been sold.

I was present myself at this sale and know it was the only one of the kind owing to the severity of the famine, and, moreover, at the greater part of the purchase lies still where it was in October 1876, there being no demand or carriage to remove it since.

"Memo—By Mr. H. BARRETT, Deputy Conservator of Forests, dated the 25th November 1876."

"2. The undersigned desires to state, in explanation, his retransmitting the saw mill report for the six months beginning with November 1875 and ending with 30th April 1876, that on receipt of it by the

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Conservator of Forests, Southern Division, under the Collector's endorsement No. 2507, dated the 18th July last, Major Peyton went over the whole working of the saw mills for that period with the undersigned.

"3. The material converted was likewise jointly examined, and it was found that much of the timber and scantlings, owing to cracks, flaws and unsoundness, caused by exposure to the sun and weather (which had escaped the notice of the establishment at the mills) would, at the time when delivery was made, be rejected on account of the defectiveness already pointed out.

"4. In order therefore to prevent any exaggeration of our anticipated receipts, or outturn from the mills, it was considered advisable to adopt the following measures, viz.:-

"Firstly.—To reduce the value of the converted stock on delivery from Rs. 2-8 and Rs. 3 per cubic foot; for teak scantlings, baulks and planks, an average price of Rs. 2-4 per cubic foot, also by reducing the rates of our jungle-wood from Rs. 1-10 and Rs. 2-2 to an average of Rs. 1-9 per cubic foot.

"Secondly.—It was also proposed and determined to strike off altogether the refuse and outside slabs, as the demand for this kind of wood is at present dull and uncertain. However, it is quite possible, and very probable, that more than these rates will be realized, and it is very unlikely that the average figures and rates above noted will not be received.

"6. This new valuation of our stock at the mills, which was made at the desire of the Conservator of Forests, Southern Division, naturally reduces the anticipated receipts shown in the former statements that accompanied this report, yet taking the new figures into less unfavourable light as shown in the statements now submitted, the results of the mills will doubtless still appear most satisfactory.

"7. It will also be seen that the statements for six months exhibit an increase of Rs. 2,017, i. e., Rs. 1,008-8 per quarter in excess when compared with the same period realized in the report for an equal period, viz., August, September and October 1875.

"8. In conclusion, it should also be stated that the outturn of the mills will still be more favourable, in the event of a demand springing up for the slabs and refuse timber for which no estimated value is at present shown in the accounts. In fact, the demand would appear to have begun, as in the early part of October Rs. 185 were realized for jungle-wood slabs."

11. A full description of the machinery was given in my report ending with the 1st October 1875, and, excepting an additional sharpener, nothing has been added to it since. I would, however, desire to state that it has worked smoothly and well without one single exception, and that the wear and tear has been trifling and nothing beyond what might have been expected. Some repairs were done from time to time, but nothing of any consequence or beyond the powers of our native foreman, who has proved himself very fit and competent, and would have, I am sure, had opportunity offered itself, turned out four times and more the work of the second period reported on (from 1st May 1876 to 30th March 1877); but for the reasons before stated I did not consider it desirable to exceed by anything like a large margin the public and private orders received, and therefore the mill did not do, or get to do, more than a fraction of the work it can perform during the last eleven months here reported on. A glance at the two Statements D and H will at once show this, for the results of the first period or six months nearly equalled in contents and measurement that of the second period or eleven months; whereas in net profit the return was considerably greater, owing to the difference in charges of six compared with eleven months.

12. The work done by our saw mills during the first period, or six months, under report though not up to what may yet be looked for is a considerable improvement over the months of August, September and October 1875, is best of the first ten months reported on in my report No. 1780 of the 1st November 1875 inasmuch as the former shows an actual net profit of Rs. 8,959 in six months to Rs. 3/1 of the latter, or three months. The total also of the charges amounts to Rs. 19-12-3 per cubic foot during the former period, compared with Rs. 30-1-6 of the latter. This is very good progress indeed and is a sure indication that experience in working the machines is being gained. Moreover, in considering the second period, or eleven months from the 1st May 1876 up to the 31st March 1877, this should not be lost sight of, and to the bad season of famine passed through, which has left our mills without orders and therefore work for the time being before explained, must alone be attributed the great falling-off in profit, and the increase in charges from Rs. 19-12-3 to Rs. 30-1-6 per cubic foot.

13. The value of our Kanara saw mas would appear to me beyond doubt. They most certainly enable the department to sell much wood that it otherwise would not, where converted timber is a *sine qua non* of purchasers, who it has most certainly become with the Public Works Department; besides it also enables to utilise much old timber that the axe could never have brought into the market owing to hollows and general defectiveness. Indirectly, too, they save much to Government in the cost and carriage of timber for public buildings and bridges as the following extract from a semi-official received by me from the Executive Engineer, Belgaum, will show:—

"I am glad to hear your mills are doing well. If they pay the Forest Department, I suppose they will be kept up; there is another indirect benefit obtained from them: they have lowered the price of timber in Belgaum very much and doubtless have done so in other divisions."

14. I have also received similar acknowledgments from the late Executive Engineer, Dharwar, Mr. Scott, to whose division alone we sent Rs. 24,950 worth of scantlings, planks and battens during 1875-76.

15. The following is an account of the first period's working, viz., that between the 1st November 1875 and the 30th April 1876, details of which will be found in the Statements A, B, C and D attached.

16. The mills worked for 161 days at an average rate of nine hours daily, and during this time they converted 1,004 teak and 473 jungle-wood logs, having a total rough measurement of 28,333 cubic feet.

17. The outturn of this in clean timber is shown in Statement A to have been 21,123 cubic feet, viz., 12,882 of teak and 8,241 of jungle-wood, the wastage being no less than 7,210 cubic feet, or about $\frac{1}{4}$ of the whole. The latter will doubtless be thought excessive, but

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I would observe that most of the logs operated on were more or less defective, the sound ones being between $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of the total number.

I.—Statement of Work done by Saw Mill, from the 1st November 1875 to the 30th April 1876.

Statement of Work done by Saw Mills, 1907-8

TIMBER CUT UP.		FEET CUT.		Kind and description of timber.	OUTTURN.	N	Number of pieces.	Cubic feet.	CURRENT CHARGES.		REMAINS.
Logs.	Cubic feet.	Running feet.	Superficial feet.						Rate per 100 cubic feet.	Total.	
1,004	17,307	278,132		Teak-wood					Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	
				1. Planking	8,818	2,618					
				2. Sleepers							
				3. Scantlings below 25 square inches in cross section	6,706	6,473					
				4. Ditto between 25 and 100 ditto	1,154	3,227					
				5. Beams above 100 ditto	1	22					
					11,679						
				6. Battens, running feet...	82,825	541					
						12,882					
						10 12	4,175 0				
473	11,138	57,016		Jungle-wood							
				1. Planking	1,238	1,276					
				2. Sleepers	464	513					
				3. Scantlings below 25 square inches in cross section	1,713	1,654					
				4. Ditto between 25 and 100 ditto	693	2,725					
				5. Beams above 100 ditto	167	2,046					
					4,116						
				6. Battens, running feet	4,116	27					
						8,241					
						19 12 8	4,175 0 0				
1,477	28,333	335,148	309,894				15,794	21,123			

II.—Detailed Statement of Charges from the 1st November 1875 to the 30th April 1876.

	Amount.		Total.	
	Rs.	A. P.	Rs.	A. P.
1. Pay and allowance of Engineer	672	0 0		
2. Establishment employed on the machine	2,569	3 0		
3. Establishment employed on the timber				
4. Fuel	165	4 6		
5. Watering	691	15 6		
6. Oil, grease and stores for working	76	9 0		
7. Repairs				
8. Contingencies				
9. Extraordinary charges				
A. Total of current charges			4,175	0 0
B. Add cost of establishment maintained for the Mill during the recess			2,256	8 0
C. Add $\frac{1}{2}$ of 10 per cent. of capital outlay on machine			6,431	8 0
Total charges				
Deduct value of other work done by Saw Mill			6,431	8 0
Net charges against the outturn of the six months			41,861	1 0
The value of the outturn at current rates was				
			Rs. As. P.	
Deduct value of rough timber according to auction sale average rates of 1875-76	26,469	14 1		
Total charges of the Mill from 1st November 1875 to 30th April 1876	6,431	8 0	32,901	6 1
Remains actual net profit of Saw Mill			8,959	10 11

I.—Statement of Work done by the Kanara Saw Mill from the 1st May 1876 to the 31st March 1877.

TIMBER CUT UP.		PART CUT.		OUTTURN.			CURRENT CHARGES.		REMARKS.
Logs.	Cubic feet.	Running feet.	Superficial feet.	Kind and description of timber.	Number of pieces.	Cubic feet.	Rate per 100 cubic feet.	Total.	
Teak-wood									
1,329	20,567	367,877	238,660	1. Planking	...	...	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	
				2. Sleepers	...	...	...	...	
				3. Scantlings below 25 inches in cross section	...	...	...	...	
				4. Ditto between 25 and 100 ditto	...	...	...	...	
				5. Beams above 100 ditto	...	...	...	...	
				6. Battens, running f	...	...	...	...	
Junglewood									
578	13,309	78,324	68,889	1. Planking	...	...	50 11 0	7,832 2 2	
				2. Sleepers	...	...	...	...	
				3. Scantlings below 25 inches in cross section	...	...	...	...	
				4. Ditto between 25 and 100 ditto	...	...	...	...	
				5. Beams above 100 ditto	...	...	...	...	
				6. Battens, running f	...	...	...	...	
Plank									
1,507	33,896	461,101	327,449	Running feet	...	...	...	...	
				...	...	...	...	...	

II.—Detailed Statement of Charges from 1st May 1876 to the 31st March 1877.

	Amount.	Total.
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
1. Pay and allowance of Engineer	...	...
2. Establishment employed on the machine	...	...
3. Establishment employed on the timber	...	...
4. Fuel	2,335 8 0	...
5. Watering	3,277 9 0	...
6. Oil, grease and stores for working	...	...
7. Repairs	243 3 0	...
8. Contingencies	1,932 4 2	...
9. Extraordinary charges	43 10 0	...
A. Total of current charges	...	...
B. Add cost of establishment maintained during the recess	...	7,832 2 2
C. Add $\frac{1}{11}$ of 10 per cent. of capital outlay on machine	...	4,136 14 8
Total charges	...	11,969 0 10
Deduct value of other work done by Saw Mill	...	...
Net charges against the outturn of the eleven months.	...	11,969 0 10
The value of the outturn at current rates	...	50,629 10 0
Deduct value of rough timber according to rates of 1876-77	...	...
Total charges of the Mill from 1st May 1876 up to 31st March 1877	32,696 1 4	...
Remains actual net profit of Saw Mill	11,969 0 10	44,665 2 2
	...	5,964 7 10

RESOLUTION—By the Government of Bombay, No. 6898, dated the 17th November 1877.

Lieutenant-Colonel Peyton's report is clear and concise, and, but for the bad season of 1876-77, compelling him partially to stop work, there is little doubt but that the financial results of the year's operations would have been more satisfactory. Owing to this cause also the estimated value of timber already cut and stacked had to be considerably reduced, as it was found that its quality from lengthened exposure to water had largely deteriorated.

2. The only addition made to the working plant was a saw sharpener, and Government are glad to learn that all the machinery worked smoothly and well, and that the native foreman, Durgappa, to whom high praise is justly awarded by the Conservator of Forests, was able to effect such slight repairs as were necessary.

3. The outturn of work and the financial results are gathered from the statements appended to the report, and it is sufficient here to say that for the six months ending 30th April 1876 both were highly satisfactory, the value of the outturn of clean timber being Rs. 41,861, while the charges against the mill were Rs. 32,901, leaving a net profit of Rs. 8,960. For the period from 1st May 1876 to 31st March 1877 the value of the outturn of timber was Rs. 50,630, while charges amounted to Rs. 44,665, thus leaving a profit of Rs. 5,965. This cannot be regarded as satisfactory, but the great cessation in the demand for timber caused by the famine fairly accounts for this, and it may be accepted as certain that with the return of better times more favourable results will be obtained.

4. The report may be forwarded to the Government of India, as desired by them. In future years the Conservator of Forests, Southern Division, should submit his annual report on the working of these mills as soon as possible after 31st March.

2. The present report relates to two periods, the first of 6 and the second of 11 months. According to Colonel Peyton's previous report the cost of the machinery, including its carriage and erection, appears to have amounted to Rs. 43,709.* The addition of a small circular saw bench and other outlay appears to have increased this amount to Rs. 45,130, five per cent. of which, viz., Rs. 2,256-8-0, is charged against the work of six months, while a proportionate charge is made for the second period of 11 months.

3. The maintenance charges, including establishment, amounted on an average to Rs. 700 per mensem.

4. The quantity of sawn timber turned out was 21,123 cubic feet during the first and 25,524 cubic feet during the second period, and the short outturn during the second period was due to the insufficient demand for timber on account of the famine.

Colonel Peyton states that had opportunity offered, the machinery would have turned out four times and more the work of the second period. This would be at the rate of 111,000 cubic feet per annum.

5. The data recorded in the statements show that the following has been the quantity of timber cut up, as compared with the outturn:—

First period	1,477 logs, measuring 28,333 cubic feet, and yielding 21,123 cubic feet of clean outturn.
Second	" 1,807 " 33,896 " 25,524 " "
Total	3,284 " 62,229 " 46,647 " "

Of the logs cut up 2,233 were teak and 1,051 woods of other kinds. The average cubical contents per log in the rough was 19 cubic feet, and they yielded 75 per cent. of sawn marketable timber.

6. An annual outturn of 111,000 cubic feet clean sawn timber would therefore require an annual outturn of 147,000 cubic feet in the rough.

With such a supply and a corresponding demand, the saw mills would, it is evident from the data recorded in Colonel Peyton's report, yield a very considerable surplus; the difficulty, however, in that case would be to obtain so large an annual supply of timber from the forests in the immediate vicinity of the saw mill in their present condition without exhausting their resources. It might become necessary to carry the logs to the mill from a distance, and this would considerably increase the cost of the operations.

7. These considerations show that as soon as there is a certain prospect of the demand increasing considerably, it will be necessary to lay down a carefully considered working plan for the forests, from which the timber for the saw mill is drawn.

ORDER.—Ordered, that a copy of the above Resolution be forwarded to the
Local Governments and Adminis-
trations noted in the margin, and
to the Superintendent of Forest
Surveys, for communication to
the officers of the Forest Depart-
ment.

Bengal.
North-Western Provinces and
Oudh, with reference to the
Assistant Secretary's endorsement
No. 393F.C., dated the 1st Sep-
tember last.
Punjab.

Central Provinces
British Burma.
Mysore and Coor-
Ajmere.
Assam.
Hyderabad.

Ordered also, that a copy be forwarded to the Governments of Madras and
Bombay, and the Financial and Public Works Departments for information.

(True Extract).

M. Hatten
Officiating Secretary to the Government of India.

To
The Secretary to the Govern-
ment of Madras.

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G.O. 28 June 1878

Revenue Dept

1878.

1878.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE,
AGRICULTURE AND COMMERCE.

FORESTS.

RESOLUTION.

To

Circular No. 11F.

Dated Calcutta, the 31st January 1878.

Recd 9 Feb 78.

40576
Communicated to the Conservators of Forests.

12 Feb 78.

SUBJECT.

FORWARDS an extract from Lieutenant-Colonel Peyton's report on the working of the saw mills in Kanara from the 1st November 1875 to the 31st March 1877, with the orders of the Government of Bombay thereon.

With Order

1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9. 10. 11. 12. 13. 14. 15. 16. 17. 18. 19. 20. 21. 22. 23. 24. 25. 26. 27. 28. 29. 30. 31. 32. 33. 34. 35. 36. 37. 38. 39. 40. 41. 42. 43. 44. 45. 46. 47. 48. 49. 50. 51. 52. 53. 54. 55. 56. 57. 58. 59. 60. 61. 62. 63. 64. 65. 66. 67. 68. 69. 70. 71. 72. 73. 74. 75. 76. 77. 78. 79. 80. 81. 82. 83. 84. 85. 86. 87. 88. 89. 90. 91. 92. 93. 94. 95. 96. 97. 98. 99. 100.