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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	802	Press
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	14.6.1876	196

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
14th June 1876.*

No. 163. Read the following letter from A. O. HUME, Esq., C.B., Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Revenue, Agriculture, and Commerce (Forests,) to the Hon. D. F. CARMICHAEL, Secretary to the Government of Madras, Revenue Department, dated Simla, 3rd June 1876, No. 454 :—

With reference to the correspondence with the Secretary of State for India, noted in the margin, I am directed to forward, for the information of His Grace the Governor in Council, copies of two letters from the Secretary to the Admiralty to the Under-Secretary of State for India, dated the 18th December 1875, and No. N.S. 5,274/73, dated the 4th January 1876, which have reference to the supply of fifty loads of curved Teak-timber from the Madras Presidency to Her Majesty's Dockyards in England.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From ROBERT HALL, Esq., Secretary to the Admiralty, to the Under-Secretary of State for India, India Office, dated Admiralty, S.W., 18th December 1875.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to request that you will convey to the Secretary of State for India their Lordships' thanks for the information contained in letter, dated 21st October last, transmitting copy of a despatch, with its enclosures, received from the Government of India; and to inform you that they are glad to learn the officers of the Forest Department of British Burma are prepared to supply the fifty loads of curved Teak-timber required for H.M.'s Navy according to the specification forwarded, 14th April last.

2. I am, also, to acquaint you that their Lordships are willing to allow direct communication on the subject of curved Teak-timber between Mr. Berthold Ribbentrop, the Conservator of Forests at Rangoon, and Mr. Thomas Laslett, the Timber Inspector to the Admiralty, who has had large experience in Teak-timber both at Moulmein and in England, and who will give every attention to matters of detail that may be required.

3. Referring to the letter of the Officiating Conservator of Forests, British Burma, No. 365-141, dated 7th May last, wherein it is shown how it is proposed, by the laborious process of using the "Naldtenfel," to obtain a supply of knee-timber, it is suggested that, so far as the requirements of the Navy are concerned, the experiment should not be tried, for there is almost no demand for such timber in the Royal Dockyards. Further, the scope for the employment of curved timber in the Navy is very limited, scarcely any being required except for the turrets of War-ships; the impression, therefore, which seems to be gaining on the minds of the Forest officers that large quantities are required should be at once removed to save trouble and needless expensé to the Forest Department.

4. It is, also, considered, with reference to paragraph 6 of Mr. Ribbentrop's letter, that the Forest officers should not attempt anything so impracticable as the production of squares of timber from both sides of the centre of the log, so as to deliver them without heart-shakes. There is no evidence to show that this has ever been done with squares for exportation to either the London or Liverpool markets, and it can only relate to some faulty trees fit only for local use.

5. Their Lordships 2½ years since gave an order for fifty loads to be so produced from Malabar Teak with the view of affording the Forest officers an opportunity of practically applying their faith in the process, but no advice has yet been received of this parcel being ready. It was supposed this would have been produced from trees much larger than are to be found in Burma. In the latter country, it seems probable that the largest squares they could possibly get, if taken from both sides of the log clear of heart-shakes, would only barely meet

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14th June 1876.*

the minimum sizes usually received for the Navy. They would not, therefore, justify the payment of a somewhat higher rate per ton which Mr. Ribbentrop thinks he could undertake to deliver the wood at, without heart-shakes.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.

From ROBERT HALL, Esq., Secretary to the Admiralty, to the Under-Secretary of State for India, India Office, S.W., dated Admiralty, S.W., 4th January 1876, No. N.S. 5,274/73.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to acknowledge the receipt of your communications, with enclosures, dated 16th November last, and 10th ultimo, relative to a supply of curved Teak-timber to H.M.'s Dockyards, and to acquaint you, for the information of the Secretary of State for India, that their Lordships are very pleased to learn that the 100 loads, ordered 14th April last, can be supplied in about equal quantities of fifty loads from the Madras and Burma Districts, respectively.

2. My Lords desire me, also, to inform you that in view of a supply of fifty loads of curved Teak-timber having been offered from the Madras Presidency and fifty loads from Burma, already accepted by their Lordships, no further quantities of this description of timber will at present be required from the India forests.

3. The opportunity for the employment of curved Teak-timber in the Royal Dockyards is so limited that their Lordships do not consider it expedient to order a further quantity at present; but in the event of the two parcels, now in course of preparation at Madras and Burma, proving suitable in character for the requirements of the Navy, orders for a further quantity could be given later on.

4. It is not mentioned in the paper marked "Proceedings of Government, 10th September 1875, No. 1,349" (enclosure to letter of 16th November 1875), that the curved Teak in the Madras Presidency will meet the specification of 14th April last, although, it is presumed, it will do so; it being very desirable that the Forest officers should accept that specification for their guidance in preparing this timber for exportation.

5. With regard to the requisition for canvas-patterns or drawings of the curves required none can possibly be given, for they are not usually known in ship-building until actually required; it should, however, be understood that, as a rule, there are only two pieces of one pattern employed in the construction of a ship, and that the curves vary considerably, and are in number infinite.

6. The Forest officers will thus be enabled to understand that every crooked piece will be suitable, provided the crook is not of a twisting character, but in one direction only; the breadth measured in the crooked direction should be the breadth of the tree, the taper being preserved; the siding or thickness, however, should be parallel and perfectly straight. The "wave" of two inches, which is to be left on each angle, is the natural rounded edge of the log with simply the bark taken off.

7. In view of the agreement that the price to be paid for this curved Teak-timber shall be the same as that of Teak in the London market at the time of delivery, plus 20 per cent. for its compass form, their Lordships would prefer to leave the arrangement for the shipment of this timber to the local officers in India, suggesting, however, that the curved Teak-timber at Madras should be sent with the straighter timber and plank ordered 10th May 1873, N.S. 1,983/3,439, and the curved Teak-timber at Burma in some freight ship leaving Moulmein, the whole being consigned to the Secretary of the Admiralty, London, for delivery to the Superintending Store-keeper at H.M.'s Naval Yard, Deptford.

8. With reference to Mr. Ribbentrop's inquiry (enclosure to letter of 10th ultimo, No. 1,718-141, 27th September 1875), as to the address of the officer with whom he is to open direct communication in all matters of detail on this subject, the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty wrote on the 18th ultimo (N.S. 4,501/9,689) to the Secretary of State for India, in

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
14th June 1876.*

reply to a former inquiry that Mr. Thomas Laslett, the Timber Inspector to the Admiralty, was the officer authorised to give every attention to matters of detail that may be required.

No. 164.

ORDER THEREON, 14th June 1876, No. 802.

Forests, No. 8.

COMMUNICATED to the Conservator
of Forests in continuation of G.O., 31st
March 1876, No. 451.

(True Extract.)

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

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

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

Admiralty S. W.

18th Decr 1875

To

The Under Secretary of State for India,
India Office

Sir,

I am commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to request that you will convey to the Secretary of State for India their Lordships thanks for the information contained in letter dated 21st October last transmitting copy of a despatch with its enclosures received from the Government of India, and to inform you that they are glad to learn the officers of the Forest Department of British Burma are prepared to supply the 50 Loads of Curved Teak Timber required for H. M. Navy according to the specification forwarded 14th April last.

2.

I am also to acquaint you that their Lordships are willing to allow direct communication

Obdt. of 1876

REVENUE.

THE CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS,

Do., Do., Do.

Dated June, 14th.

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 14th June 1876, No. 802.

JUNE.

Nos. 163-164.

Curved Teak-timber for Her Majesty's Dockyards in England.—Communicating to the Conservator of Forests papers from the Government of India regarding the supply from Madras of 50 loads of —.

communication on the subject of Curved Teak
Timber between Mr. Berthold Rihhentrop,
the Conservator of Forests at Rangoon, and
Mr. Thomas Laslett, the Timber Inspec-
tor to the Admiralty who has had large
experience in Teak Timber both at Moulmein
and in England and who will give every
attention to matters of detail that may be
required.

3. Referring to the letter of the Offi-
ciating Conservator of Forests, British Bur-
ma No. 365-141 dated 27th. May last wherein
it is shown how it is proposed by the
laborious process of using the "Kaldtenfel"
to obtain a supply of knee timber it is
suggested that so far as the requirements of the
Navy are concerned, the experiment should
not be tried for there is almost no de-
mand for such timber in the Royal Dock-
yards. Further, the scope for the employment
of curved timber in the Navy is very limi-
ted, scarcely any being required except for
the

the Turrets of War Ships; the impression
therefore which seems to be gaining on the
minds of the Forest Officers that large
quantities are required should be at once
removed to save trouble and needless
expense to the Forest Department.

4. It is also considered with
reference to Para. 6 of Mr. Rihhentrop's
letter that the Forest Officers should not
attempt anything so impracticable as the
production of squares of timber from both
sides of the centre of the log so as to
deliver them without heart-shakes. There
is no evidence to show that this has ever
been done with squares for exportation to
either the London or Liverpool Markets
and it can only relate to some faulty
trees fit only for local use.

5. Their Lordships 2 1/2 years since
gave an order for 50 Loads to be so pro-
duced from Malabar Teak with the view
of affording the Forest Officers an oppor-
tunity

tunity of practically applying their faith
in the process, but no advice has
yet been received of this parcel being
ready. It was supposed this would
have been produced from trees much
larger than are to be found in Burma.
In the latter country it seems probable
that the largest squares they could possibly
get, if taken from both sides of the
log, clear of heart shakes, would only
barely meet the minimum sizes usually
received for the Navy. They would not
therefore justify the payment of a some-
what higher rate per ton which Mr.
Rihbentrop thinks he could undertake
to deliver the wood at, without heart
shakes.

I am &c.

Genl Robert Hall

No.

No. 13.5274
73

Admiralty S.W.

14th January 1876

To

The Under Secretary

State for India

India Office

S.W.

Sir,

I am commanded by my Lords
Commissioners of the Admiralty to acknowledge
the receipt of your communications with
inclosures dated 16th November last, and 10th
ultimo, relative to a supply of curved teak
timber to H. M. Dockyards, and to acquaint
you for the information of the Secretary
State for India, that their Lordships are
very pleased to learn that the 100 Loads
ordered 14th April last can be supplied in
about equal quantities of 50 Loads from the
Madras and Burma districts respectively.

2. My Lords desire me also to
inform you, that in view of a supply of 50
Loads of curved Teak Timber having

been offered from the Madras Presidency and
50 Loads from Burma already accepted by
their Lordships, no further quantities of
this description of timber will at present be
required from the Indian Fore

The opportunity for the employment
of Curved Teak Timber in the Royal Dockyards
is so limited, that their Lordships do not
consider it expedient to order a further
quantity at present but in the event of the
two parcels now in course of preparation at
Madras and Burma proving suitable in
character for the requirements of the Navy,
orders for a further quantity could be given
later on.

It is not mentioned in the paper
marked "proceedings of Government 10th September
1875, A. 2. 1369" (enclosed to letter of 16th September
1875) that the Curved Teak in the Madras
Presidency will meet the specification of 14th
April last, although it is presumed it will do
so, it being very desirable that the Forest
Officers should accept that specification for
these

80/4
their guidance in preparing the timber for
exportation.

5 With regard to the requisition for
Curved Patterns or drawings of the curves
required, none can possibly be given, for they
are not usually known in Shipbuilding and
actually required; it should however be under-
stood that as a rule, there are only two pieces
of one pattern employed in the construction of
ship, and that the curves vary considerably,
and are in number infinite.

6 The Forest Officers will thus be
enabled to understand that every crooked piece
will be suitable provided the crook is not of a
twisting character but in one direction only,
the breadth measured in the crooked direction
should be the breadth of the tree, the taper be
preserved; the siding or thickness however should
be parallel and perfectly straight. The "wane" of two
inches which is to be left on each angle, is the
natural rounded edge of the log, with simply
the bark taken off.

7 In view of the agreement that the

price to be paid for this Curved Oak Timber
shall be the same as that of Oak in the London
Market at the time of delivery, plus 20 per
cent for its compass form, their Lordships
could prefer to leave the arrangement for the
shipment of this timber to the Local Officers in
India, suggesting however that the Curved Oak
Timber at Madras should be sent with the
straighten timber and plank ordered 10th May
1873. A.S. ¹⁹⁸³ 3439, and the Curved Oak Timber
at Burma in some freight ship leaving
Bombay, the whole being consigned to the
Secretary of the Admiralty, London, for
delivery to the Superintending Storekeeper at R.
Naval Yard Deptford.

With reference to Mr Ribbentrop's
enquiry (enclosure to letter of 10th ultimo A.S. 1718-
4. 27th September 1873) as to the address of
the Officer with whom he is to open direct com-
munication in all matters of detail on this
subject, the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty
note on the 18th ultimo (N.S. ¹⁹⁸¹ 4501) to the Secy.
of State for India, in reply to a former

enquiry that Mr Thos. Lavis the
Timber Inspector to the Admiralty
was the officer authorized to
give every attention to matters
of detail that may be required.

I am &c
Rd/Robert Hall

(True copies)

G. L. L. L.

Supdt. Forest Branch

No. 454

FROM

A. O. HUME, Esquire,

Secretary to the Government of India,
Department of Agriculture,
Revenue and Commerce,

To

The Secretary to the
Government of Madras
Simla dated 3^d June 1876.

Forests

SIR,

With reference to the correspondence
with the Secretary of State for India,

from Secy of State to Govt of
Madras No 4 dated the 3^d
June 1875.

from Govt of Madras to
Secy of State No 5 dated the
10th September 1875

noted in the margin,
I am directed to forward
for the information of

His Grace the Governor in Council
copies of two letters from the Secretary
to the Admiralty to the Under Sec-
retary of State for India, dated the
December 1875 and No 5 ⁵²⁷⁴/₇₃ dated
the 4th January 1876, which have
reference to the supply of 50 loads of
curved Teak Timber from the Ma-
draz Presidency to Her Majesty's Dockyard
in England.

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2014th June / 76-18802

Your most Obedt Servt

Bohorne

Secretary to the Govt of India

1066 July 1951 - 81 - 52
 — 10 Sept — - 95 - 56.
 — 31 May 96 - 312 - 13.

Nov: 1876. Bells
Thurs

The day - Feb. 1st - 1861
Supt. of Prison.

21. 457.

Oct 30 }
 Dec 12 to } June 1/76

Trace, for information,
 copies of 2 letters from the Assembly
 to the Hudson River State, making reference to the
 supply of 50 tons of cement for the Livingston
 Hudson River Lock. Mr. Beckwith in Aug 20
 1882

2/802

Communicated by the

Coastal Range 25
Continental 96 31 —

~~Continuation of No 31 -~~
Please copy to 4571.

14 June 1876

21 To the Conservation of Food & Drug Admin
24 To the Board of Dec 1