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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Revenue . DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	512	Press.
B.P. No.		Misr
Dated	4-5-1880	197 .

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GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

4th May 1880, No. 512.

READ THE FOLLOWING PAPERS:—

No. 23. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 26th January 1880, No. 130.

ABSTRACT.—Submitting for orders report from Conservator of Forests on forest reserves of Trichinopoly District, with Collector's remarks thereon.

No. 24. From Colonel R. H. BEDDOME, Conservator of Forests, to C. G. MASTER, Esq., Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, dated Ootacamund, 30th March 1880, No. 1,631.

ABSTRACT.—Forwards the within-mentioned correspondence, and informs that he thinks it very important that early orders should be passed on his last inspection report on the Trichinopoly Division, for reasons stated within.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From G. HADFIELD, Esq., Deputy Conservator of Forests, Trichinopoly, to Colonel R. H. BEDDOME, Conservator of Forests, Ootacamund, dated 24th March 1880, No. 260.

ABSTRACT.—Requesting that licenses and vouchers and the passport system should be early introduced and a proper establishment entertained to check the cutting of timber and firewood on Government waste or passed on the plea that they are felled on putta.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.

From C. W. W. MARTIN, Esq., Acting Collector of Trichinopoly, to G. HADFIELD, Esq., Deputy Conservator of Forests, Trichinopoly, dated 2nd March 1880, No. 3.

ABSTRACT.—Stating that the introduction of the proposed system is impossible, and that matters must remain as they are until the introduction of the Forest Bill.

ENCLOSURE No. 3.

From G. HADFIELD, Esq., Deputy Conservator of Forests, Trichinopoly, to C. W. W. MARTIN, Esq., Acting Collector of Trichinopoly, dated 13th February 1880, No. 214.

ABSTRACT.—Requesting that he may be empowered to confiscate wood, &c., brought into Trichinopoly without proper license, issued by village rangers, &c.

No. 25. ORDER THEREON, 4th May 1880, No. 512.

Forests, No. 2.

* Paragraph 3 of report in G.O., 7th December 1874, No. 1,511.

In 1874 it was stated* by the (then) Inspector of Forests that some portions of the Elamanur plantations would be "ready to fell for coppice in another year or eighteen months," and the Conservator now reports that there is a danger of the trees growing too large and possibly failing to shoot from the stool when coppiced.

It is, therefore, desirable that the older portions at all events of these plantations should be utilized. The Government accordingly sanction the coppicing of such portions. As the South Indian Railway Company appear to be willing to take the wood at a fair price if stacked at the nearest point of the line to each plantation, a market is secured.

2. The felling and removal of the wood will probably be done most economically by contract, but this is a matter of detail which, with the Collector's suggestions, can be considered and settled by the Conservator.

3. The immediate marking off by a forest officer of the tract about to be felled and its immediate survey after felling are very necessary, and the gradual correction of the measurements of all the plantations very desirable. The Revenue Survey Department will be instructed to survey the portion now to be felled, at an early date, subsequent to its being cleared.

4. With reference to the Pachamalais, the Government concur with the Conservator, the Collector and the Board in thinking that the charge of the forests on these should be transferred to the Forest Department as an Imperial matter; but until the forest bill is passed, existing arrangements under which these tracts, though managed under the Jungle Conservancy rules, are supervised by the Forest Department should continue in force. The Conservator, in concert with the Collector, will take action for their better conservation and for the immediate setting out of some close reserves therein of the more denuded tracts.

6. Paragraph 4 of the Board's Proceedings will be referred to the Public Works Department in order that the necessary action may be at once taken, and the Chief Engineer will be requested to inform Government how it is that the report of Major Vibart quoted from has not been placed before Government in the Irrigation Department.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue.
„ the Conservator of Forests.
„ the Superintendent of Revenue Survey.
„ the Public Works Department.

Exd. W. H. French.

100 Copies.

17-4-18

W. C. K. ...

Printed 11th

G.O. 4th May 1880, No. 512

M. A. Y.
Nos. 23-25.

Forest Reserves of the Trichinopoly District.
Passing orders on papers relating to the ...



Govt. of (1880) ...
REVENUE.
THE BOARD OF REVENUE.
...
...

512/3

No. 130.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 26th January 1880.

Read the following letter from C. W. W. MARTIN, Esq., Acting Collector of Trichinopoly, to C. A. GALTON, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 28th November 1879, No. 388:—

I HAVE the honor to forward Colonel Beddome's report on the Forest Reserves of this district. I have detained the report until I had gone over the Padugay plantations, as there are several points with regard to them which I wished to be able to give an opinion on.

2. The system of conservancy generally in this district is different from what I have seen elsewhere. The plantations along the Cauvery are exactly the kind of plantation which might have succeeded under the plan of Jungl Conservancy intended by Government, while the conservancy from Jungle Conservancy Funds of a tract of country (the Pachamalais) comprising three villages with 59 hamlets I think quite beyond the province of those funds. These hills will never be required for the supply of village firewood; their conservancy is necessary for the control of flood water which now causes extreme damage according to Major Vibart's report, and the revenue to be derived from them is principally of a kind that can be managed more properly by the Imperial Forest Department than by a Petty Jungle Conservancy Establishment.

3. I do not advocate the taking away of the Padugay plantations from the Forest Department; on the contrary I would give the department the entire control of every acre of padugay along both banks of the Cauvery and Coleroon that can be given to them. This land is all of the character which Colonel Beddome's report and the growth of the plantations show to be excellently adapted for tree-producing; and if placed under the department it would be insured from future encroachment, and the quality and quantity of timber obtainable from it would enable the Forest Department to drive competition out of the market.

Those padugays which used to be managed by the Department of Public Works have been transferred to the Forest Department by G.O., No. 88-I, dated 11th February 1879, but have never up to the present been handed over by them. I have asked for an explanation of the cause of this. As an instance of the impropriety of allowing them to be retained under the department I may mention that I noticed a most painful destruction of trees on the north bank of the Cauvery, a little west of the Upper Anicut; every tree was entirely deprived of branches and leaves and the place looked as if a hurricane of fire had passed over it. On inquiry I learned that two miles of this padugay had been rented out by a Public Works Department Overseer for Rs. 22 to a villager for the express purpose of being cut and hacked into pieces to supply the neighboring paddy fields with leaves as manure; so little care had been taken to define the limits within which cutting should take place that trees so close to the road, that they took the place of avenue trees, had shared in the general destruction. Even under the Government Order quoted the Public Works Department retain certain plantations in consequence of their proximity to regulating works or of their being the only available source from which to obtain materials for groynes, &c., but I cannot see why they should do so. Their requisition for the supply of the necessary and available materials can be immediately met, and there is an objection to such materials being under the control of maistries and petty subordinates who have a strong temptation to use them in repairs carried out on estimates in which the cost of such materials is provided for.

If the whole padugays were under the protection of the Forest Department the arrangements for their management would be systematic and intelligible. Now it is very difficult to say who manages any particular patch of padugay, and here and there by fraudulent connivance of Revenue officials patch after patch gets into putta and cannot be recovered.

4. The plantations are, as described by Colonel Beddome, very successful, and it ought now to be possible to obtain a large sum from them. I have talked a good deal about them with Mr. Gass, and I am aware that he can obtain a contract from the Railway at Rs. 4-12-0 a ton, and that he will be allowed by the contract to stack the wood at the nearest point of the line to each plantation. The cost of carriage will thus be reduced to a minimum. The cost of felling and cutting into the logs required for the Railway will still, however, remain a very serious item, unless Government can assist to diminish it by allowing Mr. Gass the use of one of the three horse-power circular saws which, I am informed, are at present lying idle in the Government workshops in Madras. The Railway officials would probably see no objection to sparing the services of a skilled hand for a few days to teach a forest subordinate the way to manage the engine and saw. The cost of supplying cut wood by help of this saw (I think 12 annas a ton) is so small as to make all attempts at competition by native contractors absolutely futile and the object of the conservancy will be attained while the deforestation of the district so much dreaded by Colonel Beddome must cease.

5. Sections 21 to 26 of Colonel Beddome's report deal generally with the evils resulting from the failure to conserve the Pachamalai Hills and the question of how to find funds for their conservancy and especially for the continued employment of a Deputy Conservator for this district. This question is very important, for it is impossible that the Madura Deputy Conservator can attend to anything beyond his most important and difficult range, and I wish therefore to state how I think it can be answered.

6. (1) The plantations are, as stated by Colonel Beddome, fit for immediate felling, and the sooner extensive felling is carried out the better, lest the stools lose their power of reproduction. They are valuable property, and will now pay nearly enough to justify the retention of an officer for their supervision and protection. There is no need that I can see for a survey preparatory to blocking them out. The majority are so situated that they are almost rectangles bounded by the river on one side and the Railway line or a road on the other. They can be divided into appropriate lengths, and blocks formed by lines perpendicular to the river meeting the Railway. Systematic felling need not therefore be delayed. (2) There is a deal of work to be done towards systematic conservancy of the Pachamalais and the other padugays along the river. And (3) there are the Village Jungle Conservancy operations to be attended to.

7. I think that if the Imperial Revenue can contribute three-fourths of Mr. Hadfield's salary the Jungle Conservancy Fund can supply the other fourth.

8. I also propose during the next year to ask for a grant from Local Funds for a ghat-path from Musiri Taluk up to a central point on the Pachamalais and down on the other side into the Perambalur Taluk; and if Mr. Hadfield would be allowed to undertake to learn tracing and to carry out this road the cost of his services to the Forest and Jungle Conservancy Fund might considerably be diminished for one year at least.

The hills are only about 2,000 feet high; their inaccessibility interferes immensely with their conservancy and general usefulness; the inhabitants pay a road-cess. Mr. Hadfield has probably by this time acquired the necessary *eye for country* to fit him in that respect for ghat-tracing, and the acquisition of such an accomplishment by a Forest Officer would often be very useful to the department itself, as well as to the hill people generally.

9. The following is a detail of Jungle Conservancy Funds up to 31st March 1881, from which one-fourth of Mr. Hadfield's pay may be met:—

Balance, 31st March 1879	Rs.
Probable receipts to 31st March 1880, based on receipts to 30th September 1879 (Rs. 3,568)	2,184
	7,000
Total	9,184

Expenditure after deducting the pay of Overseers and Rangers (not required if the Pachamalais are handed over to Imperial Conservancy) Rs. 3,410

Total ... 5,774

Probable receipts, 1880-81 7,000

/ Do. expenditure omitting Overseers and Rangers ... 3,500

Excess for 1880-81 3,500

Add excess for 1879-80 as above... .. 5,774

Total fund unallotted ... 9,274

A further sum of Rs. 600 and odd can be made available by giving up the seven gardens entered in the budget by name, and no doubt a further sum by giving up some of the gardens maintained from the lump allotment of Rs. 1,159 and odd for the Udayarpalaiyam gardens. A reference to the details of these gardens show that they are the kind of fruit-tree-garden which does not fulfil the conditions for which the Jungle Conservancy Fund was constituted; they are enormously expensive, and I recommend that they be sold at once and their proceeds also credited to the fund.

10. The fund will then be free to start with a large credit on the task of providing regular village fuel reserves, and it will be an immense advantage to have the operations controlled by an experienced Forest Officer to whom Rs. 1,000 or Rs. 1,500 out of the fund might with ease I think be paid, for the cost of *watching* a village jungle or reserve of any sort is so much less than that of *rearing* or fostering a fruit tree that many of the former can be maintained out of the funds at present spent on the latter, and the altered mode of administering the fund can be introduced with the same amount of expenditure as is now in force.

11. I have to remark with reference to and in answer to Board's Proceedings, No. 10,061, of the 27th October 1879, which has connection with this subject, that the cause of the excess expenditure which diminished the balance from Rs. 10,472 in 1874-75 to Rs. 2,184 in 1878-79 was partly the high cost of Department of Public Works Supervision for maintaining and planting channel banks, and no repetition of such excess expenditure is at all necessary.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From Colonel R. H. BEDDOME, Conservator of Forests, to J. H. GARSTIN, Esq., c.s.i., Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, dated Ootacamund, 22nd October 1879, No. 1,022.

I HAVE the honor to inform you that I have lately visited the Trichinopoly plantations with Mr. Gass, the Deputy Conservator of Madura, under whose charge they have temporarily been placed, whilst Mr. Hadfield is in charge of Tinnevely.

2. The following is a list of all the plantations and reserves, the approximate (not surveyed) acreage, acreage planted up, and receipts and charges.

No. 1.—Statement of the Cauvery Plantations and Reserves showing present Acreage and Receipts and Expenditure up to 1st September 1879.

No.	Plantations and Reserves.	Area.	Area Planted.	Receipts.	Expenditure.	Remarks.
1	Ellamanur	84	84	Rs. 1,774	Rs. 9,936	Padugay plantation: 3 acres recently taken up.
2	Kulitalai	58	58	635	7,932	Padugay plantation.
3	Manahattai	33½	15½	203	2,750	Do.
4	Sottalavai	107	107	544	6,630	Do.
5	Sekkanam	122	122	640	2,363	Tank-bed plantation.
6	Kottalai	55	55	244	6,557	Padugay plantation: 18 acres washed away by the Ambravatti.
7	Pudar	100	86	348	389	Tank-bed plantation.
8	Adavathur and Punganur	308	...	1,662	168	Do. reserve with some adjoining Poramboke land.
9	Lalapetti	106	...	2,528	5,130	Partly plantation, partly reserve.
	Total ...	973½	527½	8,578	41,936	

No. 2.—Statement of the Coleroon Plantations and Reserves showing present Acreage, and Receipts and Expenditure up to 1st September 1879.

No.	Plantations and Reserves.	Area.	Area Planted.	Receipts.	Expenditure.	Remarks.
1	Kollamanikkam	242	97	Rs. 564	Rs. 4,023	Padugay plantation and reserve.
2	Arumanaikurchi	35	35	506	1,559	
3	Korraipakkam	163	60	744	1,443	Padugay plantation and reserve: 91 acres given up to the Public Works Department.
4	Teruvenganur	105	31	460	851	Padugay plantation and reserve: 77 acres given up to Public Works Department.
5	Varappakurchi	192	150	248	1,250	Padugay plantation and reserve: 12 acres given up to the ryots.
6	Sattambadi	195	44	122	1,253	
7	Valakurchi	130	13	205	92	Padugay plantation and reserve: 20 acres recently taken up.
8	Anugarempetai	92	24	186	189	
	Total ...	1,064	454	3,025	10,765	Padugay plantations and reserves. Lately taken up.
1	Sriparandan	486	...	866	2,298	
						Reserve only: 23 acres recently taken up.

No. 3.—Statement of Hill Reserves showing present Acreage, and Receipts and Expenditure up to 1st September 1879.

No.	Reserves.	Area.	Receipts.	Expenditure.	Remarks.
1	Tuvagudi	944	Rs. ...	Rs. 741	211 acres abandoned to the ryots.
2	Tenimallay	640	...	1,245	
3	Minakaradu	1,000	...	665	
4	Ponjantangi	1,000	8	1,596	
	Total ...	3,584	8	4,243	

3. The plantations are almost entirely of Babul and *Inga dulcis* (Kurlapiilay), but here and there a few blocks of *Casuarina* have been planted in sandy tracts where it was thought nothing else would succeed, and there is some *Cassia florida* and *Dalbergia sisu*.

4. With the exception of the *Casuarina* the plantations are exceedingly good, the growth is thick, and above all very even, and the trees all healthy and flourishing. The *Casuarina* is not such a success, a few of the trees show very fine growth, but taken as a whole it is very indifferent and the trees are constantly dying out when there is much drought; these trees do not besides grow from coppice, so I intend if possible to replace them with other growth when they have been felled; neither the Babul nor *Inga dulcis* will grow in these sandy tracts, but I hope to succeed with *Inga saman* (an introduced tree), or with *Prosopis spicigera* (Parambo), or *Acacia leucophylla* (Tollatuma), and I have directed Mr. Gass to make experiments in this direction.

5. The Cauvery plantations are now quite fit for felling, but systematic felling is not possible until they have been surveyed, planned, and divided into blocks, so I request the orders of Government that the Survey Department may at once survey the seven Cauvery plantations, the area is quite level, and the survey would not take much time, probably less than a month. Mr. Gass could then block them all out and the blocks could be systematically worked in rotation as there may be a demand.

6. There will be little demand unless the South Indian Railway indent for the fuel or the Madras Railway are willing to take it at Erode, and as this is an all-important question with reference to the future treatment of these plantations I am most anxious to come to some definite arrangement with one or both of these Companies.

By G.O., No. 1,900, of the 22nd November 1878, it would appear that the South Indian Railway are not anxious to procure wood fuel, but this was only with reference to higher rates than I think we need now ask, as I learnt that a contractor was supplying them largely from various parts of the district at the rate of Rs. 5 per ton for billets from 4 to 9 inches in diameter.

7. Mr. Betts, the South Indian Railway Agent, says that the relative value of wood to coal is $3\frac{1}{2}$ to 1, and that he can get coal at Rs. 18, he can therefore afford to pay Rs. 5 per ton for wood and cause a small saving, but his estimate of $3\frac{1}{2}$ to 1 refers, I believe, to the ordinary supply from our indigenous jungles (such as his contractors supply), the relative value of which is generally given at 3 to 1; but I have seen large quantities of the sawn up blocks of this plantation wood, and it is far superior to any supplies from the jungles, the wood being all solid and of healthy growth, and the Babul, *Inga dulcis*, and *Casuarina* all being woods of very high caloric power.

8. The South Indian Railway take $67\frac{1}{2}$ cubic feet as the ton; the *Inga dulcis* weighs 40 lbs. per cubic foot when seasoned, so $67\frac{1}{2}$ cubic feet when seasoned weighs 1 ton and 460 lbs. Babul weighs 50 lbs. per cubic foot when seasoned, $67\frac{1}{2}$ cubic feet being therefore slightly more than $1\frac{1}{2}$ tons.

9. The Babul and *Inga* trees in these moist padugays grow very rapidly where the soil is loam, and are producing most wonderfully from coppice wherever they have been felled, so to work these plantations profitably they must be felled over every six years or so on a regular systematic plan in rotation, for if the trees are left to grow large they will fail to grow from the stools; it is therefore clearly our interest to sell at a low figure rather than not to sell at all, a market in fact must be created.

10. When visiting the plantations last year I observed that they would be much improved by thinning, and as it was desirable to test the quality of the wood and the growth from coppice, and also to ascertain what we could sell it at, I requested Mr. Hadfield to thin out trees where the growth was very thick and stack a certain quantity of tons and sell if possible to the Railway; these operations devolved on Mr. Gass, and he entered into a contract in February last with a fuel contractor, who was supplying the South Indian Railway to cut and remove 1,000 tons of fuel (thinnings) in the different Cauvery plantations; the contractor has now completed about one-third of this, but he has had difficulties from the flooding of the plantations, want of labor, &c., and his contract time has been extended up to 31st December 1879. The prices paid by the contractor are as follows:—Rs. 3 per ton of $67\frac{1}{2}$ cubic feet for all wood of from 4 to 9 inches in diameter, so-called sized-wood; Rs. 1-10-0 per ton for all wood of 2 and more than 2 inches and less than 4 inches, and more than 9 inches in diameter.

11. The largest girth of tree felled by contractor was 7 feet 2 inches, or about 2 feet 4 inches in diameter. The smallest girth was 1 foot or 4 inches in diameter. The average girth has been about 2 feet 3 inches, or about 9 inches in diameter.

12. In the Ellamanur plantation Mr. Gass estimates the average yield per acre to be about 50 tons; in some instances the yield will be as much as 70 tons, and in others much less. Mr. Gass has marked all the trees to be taken out by the contractor, and he estimates these thinnings at 5 tons per acre; the fellings extend over 50 acres in "Ellamanur," and Mr. Gass has calculated the amount taken or to be taken out from this plantation alone at 250 tons. The growth is so thick that where the thinnings had been completed I could hardly observe any difference in the general appearance or density of the plantation, and the regrowth from the stools both in the case of the *Inga dulcis*, and the Babul is wonderfully rapid, even though the stools had not been adzed over.

13. It must not for a moment be supposed that this thinning out is the proper way to treat fuel plantations that reproduce rapidly as these do from coppice; it is of course a far more expensive way than felling by regular blocks in rotation, and will not give us the same data; it is only an experiment which will afford us a certain amount of data, and as I have already explained felling in blocks by rotation is impossible until the plantations are surveyed, and not of course desirable until we have a fixed and certain market.

14. The contractor gets Rs. 5 per ton from the South Indian Railway, we get from him a clear profit of Rs. 3 per ton for the sized-wood out of the balance he has to sell, saw up and deliver, and make his own profit; the plantations are all so close to the line that there is little charge on transport.

15. Both Mr. Gass and I are of opinion that Rs. 3 clear profit per ton of $67\frac{1}{2}$ cubic feet is about the lowest figure that we could accept if the plantations are to recoup expenditure; accurate estimates are at present of course not available with our present data, but the division of the plantations into blocks and the systematic felling over certain areas will be a step in this direction. Mr. Gass also states that he thinks he can easily supply the Railway with 5,000 tons annually, viz., 3,000 tons from the Cauvery plantations, and 2,000 tons from the Hill reserves.

16. I have been in correspondence with the South Indian Railway, and they appear willing to take 5,000 tons annually if we agree to deliver at Trichinopoly or Dindigul at Rs. 4-12-0 per ton, but it is impossible that we can realize the profit of Rs. 3 per ton unless the Railway agree to pay

Rs. 5 and unless they agree to allow us to stack at certain points near our plantations or reserves and carry it themselves free of charge to their principal depôts; the question is therefore still in abeyance, and Mr. Gass is to meet the South Indian Railway officials for a conference on it. It will be a great pity if it should fall through from the Railway not paying a reasonable rate, as these plantations were instituted entirely for the object of supplying Railway fuel, and if native contractors are to be allowed to go on supplying the fuel it must be met chiefly from putt lands, and the country will in time be terribly deforested; the whole question is I think one that Government should take up, and the future of these plantations and reserves quite depends on a permanent demand at a reasonable rate being established; small contracts with middlemen are objectionable, and cannot be to the interests either of this department or of the Railway Company.

17. No felling has as yet taken place in the Hill reserves, as there has been no demand except at doubtful rates.
18. Mr. Gass has gone most carefully over all these plantations, and into the working and treatment of each, he is thoroughly master of his work.
19. The following statement shows the amount felled out up to date by the contractor:—

Statement of Timber felled.

Plantation.	SIZED WOOD.		UNSIZED WOOD.		TOTAL.		Amount.
	Tons.	Cubic Feet.	Tons.	Cubic Feet.	Tons.	Cubic Feet.	
Kamanur	107	28½	37	0½	144	28½	Rs. A. P. 883 6 3
Kulitulai	36	14½	33	22½	69	36½	162 13 1
Manathattai	12	32½	1	63½	14	23½	40 9 10
Lalapett	...	...	...	61½	...	61½	1 7 2
Do.	32	24½	17	20½	49	45½	125 8 3
Total	188	31½	90	34	278	65½	712 7 7

20. I observed in some places where cattle had got in the young coppice shoots were much nibbled off, this would of course induce a stunted growth, and be utterly antagonistic to successful coppice growth; it will be much easier to exclude the cattle from certain blocks as they are felled over than generally from the whole plantations. Cattle can do very little injury when the surplus coppice shoots have been pruned off, and those to remain have grown to a certain size, but in the infancy of the coppice growth their ingress would be simply ruin.

21. *Jungle Conservancy—The Pachamalais and other scattered Jungles.*—In paragraph 20 of my report* on this district for 1876 I strongly recommended that the Pachamalais should be considered Imperial forests, as great deforestation was being carried on, and the change desirable till the passing of the Forest Act. On a report from the Collector the Board of Revenue deprecated any change (*vide* their Proceedings, No. 408, of the 15th February 1878). The Board subsequently modified their views, and Government in their Proceedings, No. 893, of the 12th June 1878, directed that these jungles should be worked under the District Jungle Conservancy Rules by the Deputy Conservator. On receipt of this Government order the Collector placed the charge of all the Jungle Conservancy under Mr. Hadfield and directed the Executive Engineer to hand over, from the 1st of April 1879, all the river and channel bank plantations, which had been formed out of Jungle Conservancy Funds, with the exception, however, of one at Vypur in the Udayar-palaiyam Taluk, none of these latter have yet been handed over. The two Forest Rangers have since given supervision to Jungle Conservancy generally, but as funds have not been available from the Jungle Conservancy Department for any extra establishment nothing has as yet been done towards conservancy on the Pachamalais, although the Forest Ranger has inspected and reported on them. In their Order, No. 1,189, of the 31st May last, on the Jungle Conservancy Budget, Government sanctioned a small establishment† as proposed to the Collector by Mr. Hadfield for the conservancy chiefly of the Pachamalais, but up to the time of my visit this had not been appointed, although Mr. Gass had twice addressed the Collector on the subject requesting his sanction to entertain it; since this, however, Mr. Gass informs me that the Collector gave sanction on the 11th instant, and he is now entertaining this establishment.

* *vide* G.O., No. 1,605, dated 1st May 1877.

† 1 Forester Rs. 20
14 Guards, at Rs. 6 each 84
Total ... 104

512/6

22. The Pachamalais come under this department in a very deforested condition, there has been no attempt at conservancy even in its milder sense, and kumari cultivation and smuggling of timber has been going on quite unchecked; it will now I think be necessary to close the forests on the Trichinopoly (or southern) slopes, even against grazing, if they are to have a chance of recovering themselves; the northern slopes on the Salem side have been under conservancy for some years, and they contrast very favorably with the portions where there has been no attempt at conservancy. Major Vibart, the Executive Engineer of the Trichinopoly District, has lately written to the Collector regarding these hills, and the irrigation depending on their streams as follows:—

"I have the honor to inform you that during the last week I have visited the country in the neighbourhood of Turiyur at the foot of the hills in the north-west portion of the Musiri Taluk. In this short tour I have observed the disastrous effects of the floods from these hills on the irrigation works at their foot. You are I know fully aware how scantily the hills I allude to are covered with trees, and I understand you contemplate placing these hills under the control of the Forest Department with the view of checking the denudation of the hill sides and encouraging the growth of trees on them. I trust you will lose no time in taking the matter up. If matters are allowed to remain as at present I fear that the time will not be far distant when irrigation near these hills will be a thing of the past. On all sides are to be seen the violent effects of floods on channels, tanks, &c. The margins of the channels are violently eroded, causing a loss of valuable land. Tanks are breached causing not only loss of revenue, but entailing very heavy expenditure for their repair. Indeed the expenses of repair are in some cases so great as to actually prohibit the restoration of the works.

"There are three anicuts across the river (Tholugaiyur) and all these are in great need of repair owing to the uncontrollable nature of the floods which evidently bring down stones and coarse sand in such quantity as actually to work grooves in the brick-work on the crests of the anicuts, and some of the deep holes scoured in the bed of the river below the anicuts may shortly become dangerous to their stability.

"The Venkatachellapuram tank is supplied by a channel from the Tholugaiyur river. This tank's natural supply is from a hill stream to the north-east of it; some years ago this stream was cut off from the tank by a channel leading it to another stream passing to the south-east of the tank. In 1877 the hill stream breached this cut, found its way into the tank, and the result was the ruin of the tank. There are no less than three breaches of great size, a sluice having been carried away. In addition to these three large breaches there are, I believe, no less than fourteen smaller ones. To put this tank into proper order will probably cost more than Rs. 4,000, a sum which is probably almost prohibitive. Again, the Kottapoliem tank, is in a bad state and suffers severely from heavy floods.

"Ryots near Venkatachellapuram complained of the state of the Zominari tank of Sekkattambur, which they stated was sadly in need of repairs. I was not able to visit the tank, but the Sub-Magistrate informed me that the statement was correct.

"Another evil result of the disforestation going on is that the tanks get filled up with sand and in time will probably become useless. The large tank at Turiyur is a notable example of this. In the map the tank bank is shown as extending a distance of 2½ miles from the town, but its capacity is so largely diminished by deposit in the upper part of the tank that the water-spread did not exceed to three-fourths of a mile from the town at the time of my visit. During my stay near these hills I observed large fires on them nearly every night in three or four different places, and I understand the villagers on the hills are in the habit of burning down trees and brushwood with the view of clearing ground for cultivation, and that they never cultivate the same ground two years in succession. This must necessarily cause enormous destruction of forest and the practice, in my opinion, should be put a stop to at once and the strongest measures taken to check it."

23. I think these remarks of the Engineer must convince any one that the deforestation of mountain slopes cannot go on without serious damage to the irrigation below and the water storage in tanks on which depends the welfare of the district.

24. I do not consider it sufficient that these hills should only be placed under the Local Conservancy Department, this will not be a sufficient guarantee that conservancy shall henceforth be permanently established, they should be placed under Imperial Conservancy, together with the other scattered hills and jungles in this district, scanty as it is in woodland.

25. Mr. Hadfield, the Trichinopoly Forest Officer, is at present in temporary charge of Tinnevely; the plantations and general conservancy of Trichinopoly are under Mr. Gass, who is the Forest Officer in charge of Madura; the Madura work is very heavy, the division being a very large and important one, and it is impossible that Mr. Gass can give much attention to anything in Trichinopoly except the plantations without his own division suffering. If this department is to have charge of the Pachamalais and other jungles the sooner Mr. Hadfield returns the better, and his salary would be then authorized against the division, but the plantations alone cannot

now afford his salary; if he be allowed therefore to return whilst the conditions remain as at present it must be understood that half his salary be debited to the "Jungle Conservancy Department."

26. I must record my opinion that this district will suffer very materially in time if the Railway are to be allowed to get their fuel requirements from native contractors as at present; the scattered jungles and putta lands of the ryots will soon be denuded of trees, a proceeding likely to be most injurious in a scantily wooded district like this. The Railway must draw their fuel supplies from our Padugay plantations which were established on purpose to meet this demand and where under systematic management there will be a constant reproduction.

No. 1,023.

FORWARDED to Government through the Collector of Trichinopoly and the Board of Revenue, Madras, with reference to Rule VIII published with G.O., No. 1,662-A, of the 19th November 1875, Revenue Department.

OOTACAMUND,
22nd October 1879.

(Signed) R. H. BEDDOME, Colonel,
Conservator of Forests.

THE Conservator of Forest's report on his inspection tour in Trichinopoly, and the Collector's remarks thereon, will be submitted for the orders of Government.

2. In paragraphs 2 to 21 Colonel Beddome discusses the future of the Padugay plantations, which seem to be in an eminently satisfactory condition, and states that he is negotiating with the South Indian Railway Company in the hope that he will be able to induce them to take their supply of wood from the plantations instead of from native contractors, who are at present denuding the scattered jungles and putta lands of the ryots. In paragraph 5 he requests that the Survey Department may be requested to at once survey the seven Cauvery plantations, so that if a market be obtained they may be divided into blocks to be systematically felled by rotation. The Collector thinks that a survey may be dispensed with, and the cost of felling reduced by the use of a circular steam saw, so that a contract may be entered into with the Railway Company at a lower rate than that fixed by Colonel Beddome as a minimum and operations commenced at once. He further proposes to aid the department by meeting a portion of the Assistant Conservator's pay from Jungle Conservancy Funds, Colonel Beddome having stated in paragraph 25 of his report that an Assistant Conservator cannot be retained for the Trichinopoly District alone unless half his salary be debited to Jungle Conservancy.

3. The last of these proposals has been definitely negatived by Government in their Proceedings, dated 21st November 1878, No. 1,870, and need not now be discussed. The other suggestions are of a technical nature and may be considered by the head of the department.

4. In paragraph 3 of his letter the Collector reports that the Public Works Department have not yet complied with the instructions issued in G.O., Public Works Department, dated 11th February 1879, No. 88-I, that all plantations on river banks should be made over to the Forest Department except such as it is considered desirable to retain in consequence of their proximity to regulating works or of there being the only available source from which to obtain materials for groynes, &c. Orders are requested on this point, and consideration might also be given to Mr. Martin's proposal that even those from which material is required might be placed under the protection of the Forest Department, who would always supply what was necessary on requisition.

5. In paragraphs 21 to 24 of the report Colonel Beddome reverts to the old question of the advisability of placing the Pachamalais under the Forest Department, and quotes largely from a report by Major Vibart on the necessity of conserving these forests in the interests of the cultivation of the country. The Board fully concur in all that is said on the necessity for conservancy and will be prepared to recommend the transfer of the forests in question as soon as a Forest Act has been passed.

6. With reference to paragraph 11 of his letter the Collector is informed that Board's Proceedings, dated 27th October 1879, Miscellaneous No. 10,061, must be replied to in a separate communication.

(True Copies and Extract.)

Shunth
Acting Sub-Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

" Collector of Trichinopoly.

" Conservator of Forests.

Exd. J. Tulloch.

512/5

56.10. March 10.

My dear Master /
Some Camp will
write on the 5th for infor-
mation about the expedi-
ture on the Pandurup
plantations in T. & G. I
have been absent on
tour & only got back
late last night

The whole of the
Pandurup plantations along
the Coouy - Coleroon
have been entirely found
want from the
hands, they were

219 Jan 1780 - 23rd 30th
1st Dec 77 - 9-11
21st Dec 78 - 22-30
22 Jan - 14-42
21st Dec 79 - 25-55
22 - 318-19
11 Dec 79 - 938th

Decr 1880. D^r
Board of Revenue,
MADRAS.

To
THE SECRETARY TO GOVT.,
REVENUE DEPARTMENT,
&c., &c., &c.

Dated January 26th. P.H.
Printed rd.
Received Feb 11

PROCEEDINGS, 26TH JANUARY 1880, No. 130.
(Dy. 10/2/80)
JANUARY.
No. 130.

Forest Reserves — of Trichinopoly District.
— Submitting for orders report from Conserva-
tor of Forests on —, with Collector's remarks
thereon.

512/5

Revenue Department.

No.

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Under date the

READ the following

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue,
dated 26th January 1880, No. 130,
submitting report from Conservator of Forests on Forest Revenue of Sitchinopoly District, with Collector's remarks thereon.

*Para 3 of report in L.O.
7th December 1874 No. 1511.

In 1874 it was stated by the (then) Inspector of Forests that some portions of the Kharu - more plantations would be ready to fell for coffee in another year or eighteen months, and the Conservator now reports that there is a danger of the trees growing too large and failing to shoot from the stool when coppiced.

continued by this
Dept. at my suggestion
~~was~~ in same 6 or
7 years ago & they
have never been under
proper control in any
way.

W. S. Kimball
J. S. Kimball

ASL

It is therefore desirable that the older ^{plantations} portions of these plantations should be utilized, and as the S. S. ^{The Government is anxious to acquire of them, some of the plantations.}

Rep. Compt. appear to be willing to take the wood at a fair price if stacked at the nearest point of the line to each plantation a market is secured.

* Para. 1 of Col. Letter.

2. The felling and removal of the wood will probably be done most economically by ~~private firms~~ ^{contract} but this is a matter of detail which, with the Collector's suggestions, can be considered and settled by the Conservator. The plantations

done it is understood have been promised to the S. S. people for use in the S. S. people's hands. The charges for the wood are to be settled according to the S. S. people's requirements.

3. The immediate survey of the tract about to be filled is very necessary and the gradual measurement of all the plantations

marked off by a line of the forest

5/10
very desirable but the Govt fear that the recent reduction of establishment and the pressing need for forest surveys generally render it improbable that the Revenue Survey Department will be able to undertake the duty at an early date. 4. The Conservator will therefore arrange for the survey being carried out under the supervision of ~~the Forest Dept.~~ ^{the Forest Dept.} who will probably be able to secure temporarily the services of some of the surveyors recently thrown out of employment.

5. With reference to the Pachamalai the Government under the jungle Conservancy rules they are now supervised by the Forest Department, which should at

Consent with the Conservator, the Govt. of the B. S. is the only one that has charge of the B. S. and the Forest Dept. is the only one that has charge of the Forest Dept. G.O. 12 June 1878/1879. The Forest Dept. is the only one that has charge of the Forest Dept. and the Forest Dept. is the only one that has charge of the Forest Dept.

The Commissioner
at once, in concert with the
collector, taking action for the
conservation of the more
decided tracts.

6. Paras. of the Board's Proceedings will be referred for consideration in the Public Works Department.

Order: *Myrica latifolia* L.

25/2/50

Wasson: do the same
himself - Any piece of
any intelligence can
run on outside money
with a private confession
& plot it after 10 minutes
working.

28/2/50

"A competent surgeon!"

In Fort-officer's survey
vide Tripetty - a stone
with a wrong station
The

9/11/15

Revenue Department
 Govt. of Madras
 No. 512

Dec. 21-14 80. R. 15 100
 C. S. Branch / Rs. 10 / 100

Office of Conserv. of Forests.
 Cochin, 30th March '80
 No. 1631.
 From, ⁵¹²
 Colonel R. F. Beddome
 Conservator of Forests.
 To, C. G. Master Esquire,
 Secretary to Government,
 Revenue Department,
 Fort St. George.

Sir,
 I have the honor to forward Correspondence, as per margin, and to inform you, that I think it very important that early orders should be passed on my last inspection report on the Trichinopoly District (vide Proceedings of Board of Revenue No. 130 of 26th January '80), as much damage is resulting from reckless felling for Railway fuel over a hot arid District, where we have specially planted to meet this demand, and to obviate the necessity of felling all the scattered Jungles &c.
 2. It is impossible to check this illicit felling and smuggling unless we have a proper system of passports and

1. Letter from the Trichinopoly Forest Officer to the Conserv. of Forests. No. 260 of 24th March '80.
2. Copy of letter from the Collector of Trichinopoly to the Secy. Conserv. of Forests. No. 2 of 2nd March '80.
3. do. - from the Secy. Conserv. of Forests to the Col. Cochin. No. 14 of 12th Feb'y '80.

and if this cannot be authorized
by Government without an Act I
trust the Act may not be longer
delayed, every month is of importance
as the welfare of this and other Dis-
tricts are in the meantime suffering.

I have the honor to be

Sir,
Your most Obedt Servt.

Wm Duddell Colonel,
Conservator of Forests.

24-4-89.
1875-1876

Towards the under m...
toward England and
inform that he would
it very important that
every order should be
forwarded on his last in-
struction report on the
whiching party Revenue
for reasons stated
within.

1879-80
Revenue ~~1880~~ 1881
from the Conservator of
Forests
to the Secretary to Govt.
R. S.
1880. 20th March 1880
Received. 24th April
No. 1631
Enclosures. No. 3.
Subj:
Toward the under m...

Revenue Dept
No 572
Proceedings of the Madras Government
under date the 10th May 1880

Read the following paper.
H. E. 26th June 1880
Conservator of Forests
on Forest Reserves in
the Vichinopoly 2.
Conservator of Forests
soliciting early order on
the above.
30 March 1881

* Para 3 of report in
G.O. of 22nd July 1874 No 1511.

At this point
came 22nd July 1874
the P. G. was in
circulation for
proposed to be
the 22nd July 1874
the 22nd July 1874
the 22nd July 1874

the 22nd July 1874
the 22nd July 1874
the 22nd July 1874
the 22nd July 1874

In 1874 it was
stated by the (then)
Inspector of Forests
that some portions
of the Channare
plantations would
be ready to fell
for coffee in another
year or eighteen
months, and the

the Conservator now
reports that there
is a danger of the
trees growing too
large and possibly
failing to shoot
from the stool
when coppiced.

It is therefore
desirable that
the older portions
at all events, of
these plantations
should be utilized.

The Govt accordingly
sanction the coppicing
of these portions
of the plantations.

As the S. P. Ry. Company
appear

Para: 4 of Mr's letter.

51/15
appears to be willing
to take the wood
at a fair price if
stacked at the nearest
point of the line
to each plantation,
a market is secured.

2. The felling and
removal of the wood
will probably be
done most eco-
nomically by
contract but this
is a matter of
detail which, with
the Collector's suggestions,
can be considered
and settled by the
Conservator. The
~~plantation~~

© Kato.
Some doubt

it is understood,
been formed and
maintained from
the District Jungle
Conservancy funds
and supervised
generally by the
District Forest Officer.
The charges and
profits should
be debited and
credited accordingly.

3. The immediate
marking off by a
Forest Officer of the
tract about to be
felled and its
immediate survey
after felling is
very necessary, and
this

was felt to be
for these
plantations which
been created from
Jungle Conservancy
funds. And by the
report of the
Magistrate 1808
I learned incidentally
that the District Forest
Officer had been told
by the District
Collector that
is the fact.
He replied
"The whole of the
Madagay plantation
have been
explained, opened up
from District Forest
funds & have
never been under
Jungle Conservancy
in any way."
S

52/16

the gradual completion
of the measurements
of all the plantations
very desirable. The
Revenue Survey Dept
will be instructed
to survey the
portion now to be
felled, at an early
date subsequent
to its being cleared.

4. With reference
to the Pachamalis
the Govt. concurs
with the Conservator,
the Collector and
the Board in
thinking that the
charge of the
Forest

forests on these
 should be transferred
 to the Forest Dept
 as an Imperial
 matter; but until
 the Forest Bill
 is passed existing
 arrangements under
 which these tracts
 though managed
 under the Jungle
 Conservancy Rules
 are supervised by
 the Forest Dept
 should continue
 in force, the Con-
 servator in concert
 with the Collector
 taking action for

512
 97

their better conservation
 and for the immediate
 setting out of some
 close reserves therein
 of the more denuded
 tracts.

b. Para: 4 of the
 Board's Proceedings
 will be referred to
 the P.W. Dept in
 order that the
 necessary action may
 be at once taken
 and the Chief Engineer
 will be requested
 to inform Govt how
 it is that the report of
 Major Vibart quoted from
 has not been placed
 before Govt in the signature
 Dept.

20 To the (D. & D. Dept)
 20. The Conservation Dept
 7. The Dept of the Forest
 21. The P.W. Dept

W. H. B.

PRINT

7-5-80

Revenue Department
Proc. Govt. 84 May 80
No 512

To the Hon. Secy of the

Revenue Department

Calcutta

From

Mr. J. B. ...

...

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...

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...

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22-4-80
23-5-80

23-5-80