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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	516.	Press.
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	6-5-1880.	197

Not to be folded or roughly handled

515
1

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

6th May 1880, No. 515.

No. 30. READ THE FOLLOWING PAPERS:—

From Colonel R. H. BEDDOME, Conservator of Forests, to J. H. GARSTIN, Esq., C.S.I., Acting Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, dated Sullavaindla, 28th February 1880, No. 1,446.

ADVERTING to paragraphs 2 and 3 of the G.O., No. 35, of the 8th January last, I have the honor to forward a letter*
*No. 1,267, dated 21st February 1880, from the Deputy Conservator of Forests, South Coimbatore Division, to Conservator of South Coimbatore Forest Division.

2. It will be seen that an auction was held at the village of Anaimalai and that the rates realized were less than the actual cost of the timber.

3. I can report from the experience of many years that there is no sale for the Anaimalai teak at Anaimalai village; it has constantly been tried both on a large as well as small scale, and the results have always been failures. Except from the Madras Gun Carriage Factory and the Public Works Department, there never have been, and are never likely to be, any demands eastward for the superior teak of the Anaimalais; it cannot compete as to price with that from Burma, and it is apparently only establishments like the Gun Carriage Factory or the Bombay Marine that understand or at least care for its superiority to that from the eastern peninsula; it can therefore only find a market on the Western Coast. A large sum might be made at once by selling in this latter market at a low rate, but I have no wish, or see any occasion, to force the market. The supply of teak is failing at Calicut, and we are sure to be able to sell at good rates shortly; and the timber if stacked in the shade at depôts in the forest at the top and foot of our timber slips will not deteriorate in quality at least for some years.

4. The Government have sanctioned the closing of our expensive establishment kept up on the Anaimalais chiefly for felling operations and the appointment only of a Sub-Assistant Conservator under the orders and supervision of the North Coimbatore Forest Officer. The duties of this latter officer will first be directed to getting all the timber out from the forests and storing it as above, the elephant establishment can then be dispensed with, and operations should be confined to portioning out the forest into blocks, fire-tracing, and the conservancy of saplings and existing trees, &c., in anticipation of reopening the forest for systematic working in the future. This forest has yielded a large nett revenue since operations first commenced about 1850, but this is chiefly owing to there having been a large and certain demand at a fair profit from the Bombay Dockyard, and partly to the establishment having formerly been on an economical scale. There has of late years with few exceptions been a considerable annual deficit, and this would continue if we attempted to keep up an expensive establishment when the supply is failing and the demand most uncertain; there are still undoubtedly a fair sprinkling of large ripe trees, but most of them are necessary to the up-keep of the forest (the crop

after that now coming on), and it would be a bad policy to fell them out; there are also a considerable quantity of stag-headed over-ripe trees and of ringed or dead trees which perhaps ought to be felled, but it would be better to leave them to their fate than to attempt to keep up an establishment for such work, particularly as the timber contained in them is inferior. A small establishment will always be necessary for conserving the magnificent crop coming on, and if this can be protected from fire the cost will be amply repaid in the future, and it is hoped that the collection of hill produce, grazing dues, and certain license and voucher revenue will more than cover the establishment that will be necessary.

5. In Mr. William's explanation of the charge of supervision he only accounts for 8 annas, not 12; the extra 4 annas was entered for seigniorage (or value of standing timber), but as this is supposed to be Annas 8 and not 4 only for teak, he has only partly included seigniorage.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From R. WILLIAMS, Esq., Deputy Conservator of Forests, South Coimbatore Division, to Colonel R. H. BEDDOME, Conservator of Forests, Madras, dated Anaimalai, 21st February 1880, No. 1,267.

In reply to your letter, No. 1,342, dated the 13th ultimo, I have the honor to state that I sold by auction in Anaimalai last year 4,000 cubic feet of teak which only realized Rs. 1,749 or about 7 annas a foot. This was discouraging, for I had carefully advertised the sales by beat of tom-tom and I have not held another auction.

2. The cost of supervision asked for in your paragraph 2 was set down as in G.O., No. 199, of 13th February 1874, viz.—

	RS.	A.	P.
Conservancy	0	1	3
Temporary Establishment and sundries	0	0	3
Establishment, &c.	0	6	6
	0	8	0

No. 31. Read the following letter from Colonel R. H. BEDDOME, Conservator of Forests, to L. A. CAMPBELL, Esq., Under Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, dated Ootacamund, 25th March 1880, No. 1,616.

In reply to your Official Memorandum, No. 97, of the 10th instant, I have the honor to inform you that no orders or authority can be traced in this office for the calculation of seigniorage or value on standing timber, but it has always been customary to make these calculations; and the rates of 8 annas on teak and blackwood, and 4 annas or 2 annas on other timbers, were fixed, I think, before I became Conservator.

2. Government possess in their own right valuable tracts of forests, and other tracts are leased either at an annual rental or at a stump fee of so much per tree; so it is of course necessary in selling the timber to make a calculation of its value over and above all expenditure on superintendence, felling and transport. The rates for teak were, I believe, fixed with regard to its actual value standing, as there have been many offers from timber merchants to enter our teak forests of the Anaimalais and Wynaad for the removal of teak on a payment of 8 annas per cubic foot, all felling and transport charges devolving on themselves.

3. It would of course be impossible to fix a hard and fast seigniorage rate on any description of timber throughout the Presidency, as in some localities trees may be in such inaccessible places or so far from market that it would not pay to remove them, and in other localities they may be so close to a market that their value far exceeds any average rate. I consider 8 annas per cubic foot a fair average rate for the value of teak standing, and it is certainly as nearly as possible its value in those portions of the Anaimalais which have been worked of late years.

No. 32.

ORDER THEREON, 6th May 1880, No. 515.

Forests, No. 3.

THE Government observe from the Deputy Conservator's report that the experimental auction at Anaimalai village was apparently only locally notified "by beat of tom-tom" and that the instructions of Government to have it "widely advertised" were ignored. It is therefore improbable that there could have been any healthy competition for the timber, but in the absence of full information as to its nature, age and quality, it is impossible to decide whether the prices realized were relatively fair. Serious blame attaches to the disregard of the Government instructions.

2. In regard to the supervision charges on the timber sent to the Admiralty the Government observe that the Deputy Conservator has apparently debited all supervision charges for the year against this transaction as in the case of the figures quoted by him from the statement in G.O., 13th February 1874, No. 199, which, moreover, were based on the supposition that 30,000 cubic feet of timber would be annually felled and sold.

3. The stock still in hand is very large, and all that can be done, is to sell the timber in the best market, and, as much of it has been felled many years, while the capital it represents has been for a long time unutilized, delay is both costly and inexpedient. The Conservator will take steps to realize this timber without any lengthened delay.

(True Extract.)

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

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

Exd. W. H. French.

80 Copies.

No. 1446

Office of Conserv. of Forests
Camp, Sullavaindla
28th Feb 80

From,
Colonel R. N. Reddome,
Conservator of Forests.

To, J. N. Garstin Esquire, C.B. I.
Secy. Secretary to Government,
Revenue Depart.
Fort St. George.

Sir,

Adverting to paras 2 and 3 of the
Government Order No. 55 of the 8th January
last I have the honor to forward a letter from
No. 1267 dated 21st Feb'y '80 the Deputy Conservator
from the Depy. Conserv. of the South Coimbatore
to Conserv. of Forests. Forest Division.

2. It will be seen that an auction was
held at the village of Anamalai and that
the rates realized were less than the actual
cost of the timber.

3. I can report from the experience of
many years that there is no sale for the
Anamalai teak at Anamalai village,
it has constantly been tried both on a
large as well as small scale and the
auctions have always been failures. Except
from the Madras Gun Carriage Factory
and the D. P. M. there never have been,
and are never likely to be, any demands
eastward for the superior teak of the
Anamallays, it cannot compete, as to
price with that from Birma, and
it is apparently only establishments
like the Gun Carriage Factory or the
Bombay Marine that understand or
at

Cashmere Co.

Boht. of (1880) 21st Feb'y

REVENUE.

THE CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS.

Secy. Secy. Secy.

Dated May 04.

Printed 12th.

Recd.

Dist.

G.O. No. 1149 1880, No. 515.

MAY.

No. 80-32

Under at Anamalai:—Expressing inability
on account of imperfect information to decide
whether the proceeds of the sale by auction of
are relatively fair; and referring on the con-
duct of the Deputy Conservator for disapproval of
Government instructions requiring wide notice
of sale; and requesting Conservator to
realize timber in stock without any long delay.

at least Carl. for its superiority to that from the Eastern Peninsula; it can therefore only find a market on the Western Coast. A large sum might be made at once by selling in this latter market at a low rate, but I have no wish, or see any occasion, to force the market, the supply of Teak is failing at Calicut and we are sure to be able to sell at good rates shortly, and the timber if stacked in the shade at Depots in the forest at the top and foot of our timber clips will not deteriorate in quality at least for some years.

4. The Government have sanctioned the closing of our expensive establishment kept up on the Anamallays chiefly for felling operations, and the appointment only of a Sub Assistant Conservator under the orders and supervision of the North Coimbatore Forest Officer, the duties of this latter Officer will first be directed to getting all the timber out from the forests and storing it, as above, the Elephant establishment can then be dispensed with, and operations should be confined to portioning out the Forest into Blocks, fire tracing and the Conservancy of saplings and existing trees for in anticipation of re-opening the Forest for systematic working in the future. This forest has yielded a large net revenue

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revenue since operations first commenced about 1850, but this is chiefly owing to there having been a large and certain demand at a fair profit from the Bombay Dockyard, and partly to the establishment having formerly been on an economical scale; there has of late years with few exceptions been a considerable annual deficit and this would continue if we attempted to keep up an expensive establishment when the supply is failing and the demand most uncertain: there are still undoubtedly a fair sprinkling of large ripe trees but most of them are necessary to the upkeep of the forest (the crop after that now coming on), and it would be a bad policy to fell them out, there are also a considerable quantity of stag-headed over ripe trees and of ringed or dead trees which perhaps ought to be felled but it would be better to leave them to their fate than to attempt to keep up an establishment for such work, particularly as the timber contained in them is inferior; a small establishment will always be necessary for conserving the magnificent crop coming on, and if this can be protected from fire the cost will be amply repaid in the future, and it is hoped that the collection of full produce, grazing dues and certain License and Voucher Revenue will more than cover the establishment that will be

be necessary.

5. In Mr. Williams's explanation of the charge of supervision he only accounts for 8 Annas, not 12, the extra 4 Annas was entered for Seignorage (or value of standing timber) but as this is supposed to be Ann: 8 and not 4 only, for Leak, he has only partly included Seignorage.

I have the honor to be

Sr^y m^o: obed^t serv^t

John Dutton Col. (Com^d of Fort)

Office of Conserv. of Forests
Cotacamund, 25th March '80.

No. 1616.

From
Colonel R. H. Beddome,
Conservator of Forests.
To, L. A. Campbell Esquire,
Under Secretary to Government,
Revenue Department,
Fort St. George.

Sir,
In reply to your Official
Memo No. 97 of the 10th inst: I have
the honor to inform you, that no orders
or authority can be traced in this Of-
fice for the calculation of size, age
or value on standing timber, but it
has always been customary to make
these calculations, and the rates of
8 Annas on Teak and Blackwood,
and 4 Annas or 2 Annas on other
timbers were fixed I think before
I became Conservator.

2. Government possess in their
own right valuable tracts of Forests,
and other tracts are leased either at
an annual rental or at a stump
fee of so much per tree, so it is
of course necessary in selling the
timber to make a calculation of
its

2013 Feb 11/12 to 11/12-13.
2013 Jan 1/80 - 95 - 96

Revenue 1880-1881
Forest Dept.

2/10/1301

For the Cons. of Forests

To the Secy to Govt.
R. D.

Dated 28th Feb 1880

Recd. Bellamkall 1880

No. 1446

Enclosure 1.

Subject:

Answer of G.O. 35. 8th Jan
80. on to question
sent at Srirangapatna
on subject for supervision
on drainage in Teak.

10/1/1301

its value over and above all expen-
-diture on Superintendence, felling and
transport, the rates for Teak were
I believe fixed with regard to its
actual value standing, as there
have been many offers from timber
merchants to enter our Teak forests
of the Anamallays and Wynad for the
removal of Teak on a payment of
8 Annas per cubic foot, all felling
and transport charges devolving on
themselves.

3. It would of course be impossi-
ble to fix a hard and fast ~~seigno-~~
~~riage~~ rate, on any description of timber
throughout the Presidency, as in
some localities trees may be in such
inaccessible places or so far from
market that it would not pay
to remove them, and in other loca-
-lities they may be so close to a
market that their value far
exceeds any average rate. I consi-
-der 8 Annas per cubic foot a fair
average rate for the value of Teak
standing, and it is certainly as
nearly as possible its value in
those portions of the Anamallays
which

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which have been worked of late years.

I have the honor to be
Sir,
Your most obed^t Servt.
H. D. D. Colonel,
Conservator of Forests.

Proceedings of the Madras Government.
Under date the

Read the following paper.
Letter from the Conservator of
Forests of 20th Decy: 1880 No. 46,
regarding the auction of timber
held at Anaimalai.

Letter from — do — do —
of 25 March/80, No. 16, regarding
the calculation of Seigniorage on
standing timber.

The Govt. observe
from the Deputy Conser-
vator's report that the
experimental auction at
Anaimalai village was
apparently only locally
notified "by heat of
of tom tom" and not
widely

Noted with
See also

This the note
about the

1879-80
Revenue - Madras

From 10/19/19.
The Conservator of Forests
to the Secretary to Govt.
Rev. Secy.
[PRINT] For the Secy.

Re: 25th March 80
No. 29

(Encl. 2)

Ref. O.R. 97 of 10 March 80

Noting that no order
of authority can be traced
for the calculation of Seigniorage
on standing timber, and
making certain observations
thereupon.

Back No. 31

C. 7/12/80

"widely advertized" as ^{was} ~~was~~ ^{known} ~~known~~
directed by Govt. It ^{x para 4 p. 1}
^{4th May 78 No. 660.}

is therefore improbable
that there could have
been any healthy
competition for the
timber, but in the
absence of full inform-
ation as to its nature,
age and quality, it
is impossible to decide
whether the prices realized
were relatively fair

2. In regard to the timber
charged for the 1st instance
that the Dept. has
apparently decided all timber
charges for the year
from section as in the
case of the figures quoted
by him from the statement
in P.O. 13 78 No. 199,
which were
based on the supposition
that 30000 cubic feet
of timber would be annually
felled & sold.

3. In regard to the timber
charged for the 2nd instance
that the Dept. has
apparently decided all timber
charges for the year
from section as in the
case of the figures quoted
by him from the statement
in P.O. 13 78 No. 199,
which were
based on the supposition
that 30000 cubic feet
of timber would be annually
felled & sold.

2. The stock in hand
is very large (and it
is impossible to determine
with any accuracy its
cost to Govt. per cubic
foot)

3. In regard to the timber
charged for the 2nd instance
that the Dept. has
apparently decided all timber
charges for the year
from section as in the
case of the figures quoted
by him from the statement
in P.O. 13 78 No. 199,
which were
based on the supposition
that 30000 cubic feet
of timber would be annually
felled & sold.

first. The calculation
given in the statement
read in P.O. 13 February
1874, No. 199, is relied
upon by the present
local forest officer
but was framed by the
then Deputy Conservator
on the supposition that
30000 cubic feet of timber
were annually felled
and sold. All that
can be done is to
sell the timber in
the best market, and
as much of it has been
felled many years
(it is probably deteriorating)
while

1. In regard to the timber
charged for the 1st instance
that the Dept. has
apparently decided all timber
charges for the year
from section as in the
case of the figures quoted
by him from the statement
in P.O. 13 78 No. 199,
which were
based on the supposition
that 30000 cubic feet
of timber would be annually
felled & sold.

2. In regard to the timber
charged for the 2nd instance
that the Dept. has
apparently decided all timber
charges for the year
from section as in the
case of the figures quoted
by him from the statement
in P.O. 13 78 No. 199,
which were
based on the supposition
that 30000 cubic feet
of timber would be annually
felled & sold.

while the capital
it represents has been
for a long time
unutilized, delay is
both dangerous and
costly. J. J. [unclear]

Note J. J. [unclear]

This Amalai
timber has given
trouble for years.

I was sent to
an auction at
Bombay in 74
but realized very
poor prices. The
timber is good
but has been badly
prepared & much
of it was felled years
ago. See papers in
J. J. May 75 No. 1.

No 2. The fact is
that these forests were
long in charge of
inexperienced officers
who felled unintelli-
gently. Gault & [unclear]

The [unclear]
State [unclear]
This timber [unclear]
any [unclear] delay
[unclear]

If [unclear]
[unclear]
[unclear]

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Revenue Department.

No. 515

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Under date the 6th May 1880

Read the following papers

Letter from the Conservator of Forests, dated 28th February 1880, W. 1446, regarding the auction of timber held at Anaimalai.

Letter from — do — do — dated 26th March 1880, W. 1616, regarding the calculation of remuneration on standing timber.

The Government observe from the Deputy Conservator's report that the experimental auction at Anaimalai village was apparently only locally notified by beat of drum and that the instructions of Government to have it widely advertised were ignored. It is therefore probable that

Re-circulated to the Honorable W. H. D. C. as directed by His Grace the Governor.

per

HC 224, 00 18204
C. 7/4/80 R. 204 80

para 4 G.O. 4 May 1880, No 660.

that there could have been any healthy competition for the timber, but in the absence of full information as to its nature, age and quality, it is impossible to decide whether the prices realized were relatively fair. Serious blame attaches to the disregard of the Government instructions.

2. In regard to the supervision charges on the timber sent to the Admiralty the Government observe that the Deputy Conservator has apparently debited all supervision charges for the year against this transaction as in the case of the figures quoted by him from the statement in G.O. 1374 of 1874, 1879, which moreover were

56/19
were based on the supposition that 30,000 cubic feet of timber would be annually felled and sold.

3. The stock still in hand is very large and all that can be done is to sell the timber in the best market, and as much of it has been felled many years while the capital it represents has been for a long time unutilized, delay is both costly and inexpedient. The Conservator will take steps to realize this timber without any lengthened delay.

From orders in
Council 30.4.80.

21 To H. Conservator of Forests by his order
20 The R. of Sec. 5
21 The R. of Sec. 5

5/80
Sept 14/80

*Timber Port
H. St. Germain*

1884

8. 5. 80

Revue Department

Proc. Cont. D. b'Elloy/800

D. N. 575