

(1) Number of pages 26

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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. <u>760</u>	Press <u> </u>
	Mis.
Dated <u>3.7.1880</u>	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Direct Revenue

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

3rd July 1880, No. 760.

Read again G.O., No. 1,612, dated 2nd August 1879.

No. 24. READ ALSO THE FOLLOWING PAPER:—

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 22nd April 1880, No. 543.

ABSTRACT.—Submitting remarks on letter from Conservator of Forests forwarding report of Forest Committee regarding reserves to be created in South Coimbatore.

No. 25. ORDER THEREON, 3rd July 1880, No. 760.

Forests, No. 1.

Paragraph 4, G.O., 2nd August 1879, No. 1,612.

Coimbatore will be declared reserved forests as soon as they have been demarcated and surveyed, and the record of the right of way, &c., in these tracts, now forwarded, calls for no special orders.

2. As regards the leased forest, the Government agree with the original* Committee in considering that no necessity for redeeming the rights reserved

* Paragraph 8 of their report, dated 9th October 1878.

by the Nambiddi has yet been shown.

3. The points raised in paragraphs 3 and 4 of the Conservator's letter were settled in paragraph 17 of G.O., 2nd August 1879, No. 1,612. Major Walker's duty in each district ends with the submission of the report therein ordered.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue, with thirteen original enclosures returned,
„ the Conservator of Forests.

Exd. W. H. French.

65 Copies.

2-7-13
2-7-13
6-3-16
3-11-17
6-12-18

Sketch of Forests in South Coimbatore.—Stating with certain remarks, that the Government have already on the first report of the Committee intimated that the — will be declared reserved forests as soon as they have been demarcated and surveyed; and agreeing with the original Committee as regards the leased forest in considering that no necessity for redeeming the rights reserved by the Nambiddi has yet been shown.

JULY.
Nos. 21-25.

G.O., 3rd July 1880, No. 700.

Recd.

Printed 7th.

Dated July 3rd.

Ac.

Ac.

Ac.

THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

REVENUE.

Bohl. of 1880

Major Walker

No. 543.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 22nd April 1880.

Read the following letter from Colonel R. H. BEDDOME, Conservator of Forests, to J. H. GARSTIN, Esq., c.s.i., Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Fort St. George, dated Ootacamund, 13th March 1880, No. 1,545 :—

In accordance with G.O., No. 1,612, of the 2nd August last; I have the honor

- *1. South Coimbatore Committee's Report, 21st October 1879.
2. Copy of the Nambiddi's case.
3. English Depositions of No. I Reserve for 1878, with six petitions.
4. English Depositions of No. I Reserve for 1879.
5. Original letter from Head Assistant Collector of Coimbatore, to the Collector of Coimbatore, dated 27th September 1879, No. 227.
6. Vernacular Depositions of No. I Reserve for 1879.
7. Copy of Board's Proceedings, 6th December 1872, No. 2,334.
8. English Depositions of No. II Reserve for 1878, with two petitions.
9. English Depositions of No. II Reserve for 1879.
10. Vernacular Depositions for No. II Reserve for 1879.
11. English Depositions for No. III Reserve for 1878, with six petitions.
12. English Depositions for No. III Reserve for 1879.
13. Vernacular Depositions of No. III Reserve for 1879.

to forward a further and final report* of the South Coimbatore Forest Committee on the South Coimbatore Forest Reserves, together with memoranda of all the claims recorded.

2. By paragraphs 14 and 15 of the Board's Proceedings, and by paragraph 6 of the Government Order above alluded to, on the previous report of this Committee, all communal rights beyond those of the hill men have already been disallowed within these three hill reserves, and it was hardly necessary for the Committee to listen to or record the different claims now advanced to the right of grazing or cutting timber.

3. It appears to me that all the reports of the different District Committees should be deposited in the office of the Deputy Conservator of the Forest Division to which they relate, so that he should be able to mark off (after the survey is completed) on the four-inch maps the different rights of way and user as allowed by the Committee and finally sanctioned by Government, and that it is the intention of Government that Major Walker's present connection with each Forest Division ceases when he finally quits it for another district. I wish, however, a further expression of the wishes of Government on this point, as Major Walker thinks it should be clearly laid down what office is responsible for the safe keeping of all papers and maps connected with his work, and also the prosecution of the work in each district until the demarcation and survey are completed and the four-inch maps prepared. I should be glad to see this all devolve on Major Walker's office, if I did not fear that it might, as work progresses, greatly hamper his office and take up so much of his time that the immediate selection of reserves, the work he is really deputed to would suffer and be retarded.

4. Major Walker rightly considers that a Forest Division is not finally disposed of until the reserves are demarcated, surveyed, and mapped and the claims and objections finally settled; our revenues are, I fear, not such as to authorize a separate branch of the department in addition to Major Walker's for this object, and if economy is to be considered Government must also look to Major Walker's work being brought to a conclusion within a reasonable time. I do not, however, see why a Revenue Officer and the Divisional Forest Officer of each district cannot settle and finally dispose of the whole matter under a legislative enactment, but without a Forest Act we are working at a great disadvantage, and it is quite possible that the work might have to be done all over again in the future.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

Memoranda of Claims and Objections in respect of the Forest Reserves Nos. I, II, and III in the South Coimbatore Forest Division.

The District Forest Committee have the honor to submit the report on the Forest Reserves of the South Coimbatore Division along with memoranda of rights and objections as required by G.O., No. 1,612, dated 2nd August 1879, paragraphs 16 and 24.

The position and approximate limits of these reserves has already been indicated on maps, and their demarcation is now in progress.

The Committee recorded evidence at Anamalai, Kotoor, Ponachi, Dhulli, and Eliamutur, due notice having been given to all concerned in the neighbouring villages.

The evidence now elicited differs in no essential feature from that given before the District Committee of last year, but the Committee deem it right in submitting the formal record to analyse it briefly.

The reserves are dealt with seriatim in respect of—

- (i) The existence of any private forests within the selected area.
- (ii) Do. of any rights of way.
- (iii) Do. of pasturage.
- (vi) Do. of cutting timber or fuel.
- (v) Gathering minor forest produce or making charcoal.

2. No. I RESERVE, TUNAKADAVU.—The villages from which claims or petitions have been received and the inhabitants of which have been examined are the following:—

In 1878—Vettakaranputhur, Udeiyakulam, Anamalai, Sittandenaikenpoliem, Serungachettiputhur, Kaliapuram.

In 1879.—Anamalai, Udeiyakulam Kaders of Tunakadavu.

- (i.) The only private forest within the selected area is that leased from the Kallankod Nambiddi. A copy of the lease is submitted to facilitate reference; the second proviso of paragraph 2, Clause I, by which the Nambiddi reserves the Jenmi rights to minor produce, &c., requires attention—*vide* paragraph 8 of the report by last year's Committee.

With regard to Ramasami Mudaly's claim, the Committee find that the Board of Revenue passed orders so far back as 1872, distinctly refusing to grant the forest land since known as the Cooch Mulla or Goodaravurray reserve (*vide* Board's Proceedings, No. 2,334, dated 6th December 1872). A portion of this forest has therefore been included in the new reserve now constituted. Any settlement with Ramasami Mudaly rests with the district revenue authorities.

- (ii.) From the evidence before the Committee there appears to be a cart road from Tekady to Kalianakodal along the outskirts of the north-west boundary of the leased forest over which the Nambiddi has a right of way. From Kalianakodal to Telikul and from Telikul *via* Soolyalyankutti and Pillaikul there are foot-paths leading into the Cochin territory over which the Nambiddi and Government Kaders claim sole right of way; "the same applies to the path leading from Tunakadavu into the Cochin territory *via* the Anagoondy pass. With reference to the recommendations of the Committee of 1878, regarding roads in the Goodaravayal portion of the reserve, the Committee consider that all tracks including the Government road may be closed at will as they lead only to the forest, and there is no right of way, nor has any been claimed.

The concession to the Nambiddi's contractors of making use of the Government road for transporting timber on pass issued by the Forest Department may be continued to them.

The Committee found on inspection that the road by the foot of Cooch Mulla is merely a foot-path which is left outside the reserve, and is therefore free to all.

- (iii.) No specific claims are advanced by communities or individuals to grazing rights within the limits of the reserve, and it is evident that none such exist, although the privilege of grazing cattle, sheep, and goats in the Government forests generally has doubtless been more or less enjoyed for many years. This principle will still be retained in the open portions of the protected or village forests on payment of the prescribed fees and subject to such regulations and conditions as may from time to time be prescribed.

The village jungle and grazing grounds in the plains have all but disappeared and the extreme limit of clearing has been reached.

All the evidence adduced goes to substantiate the truth of what Mr. Tromenhere wrote last year, viz., "the practice of grazing cattle in the mountains which rise from the south of the Pollachi Taluk is of recent origin, nor has it been uninterrupted."

It cannot therefore be considered that these villagers have established their claims to grazing or other rights so far as any particular part of the forest is concerned."

- (iv.) The remarks as to pasturage rights apply also to the cutting of timber and fuel; the locality where such may be cut has been fixed by the Forest Department for several years past, and the evidence substantiates no right to the contrary.
- (v.) No claims to collect or share in the value of the minor forest produce from the Government reserve have been advanced except by the Kaders whose privileges in this respect are not gainsaid, and are fully recognized by the Government order under which the Committee is constituted.

The Nambiddi's right to the minor produce in the leased forest is definitely secured to him under the terms of the existing lease as already noticed under paragraph 1.

This right will have to be acquired or greatly modified by special arrangement with the Nambiddi if Government are to secure complete control of the forest at all seasons.

No claims to burn charcoal were advanced; it is customary to burn it only where permitted by the Forest Department.

3. No. II RESERVE, PONACHI.—The villages from which claims or petitions have been received are as follows:—

In 1878—Kotur, Thoriyur, Manjanaiknur, Kariyanchettipoliem, Sangampoliem, Nallur, Angalacurachi, Bommanaikenputti, Jallipatti, Kambalapatti, Malaiyandepatnam, Nallur II, Partyur, Kodangepatti, Ardanaripoliem, Pilluchinnampoliem, Chittoor, Somathurai, Virlapatti, Amarampoliem, Thondamuthur, Dalanoyepoliem, Vagapoliem.

In 1879—Kotur, Malaiyandepatnam, Thondamuthur, Nallur, Partyur, Ardanaripoliem, Jellipatti, Kodangepatti, Kambalapatti, Sangampoliem, Angalacuruchi.

- (i.) There are no private forest within the limits of the reserve, the lands held by Ramasami Mudaly and others having been excluded in accordance with the orders of Government.
- (ii.) A right of way must be conceded through the reserve by what is known as the Government road leading from the foot of the hills to Goondrave, Vandal, and beyond.

The Ummencovil alluded to in paragraph 12 of the report of last year's Committee has now been excluded from the reserve, and a free right of way to it thereby conceded. The other paths or cattle tracks may be closed without public inconvenience.

- (iii.) It will be observed that claims to pasturage within the reserve were preferred by all the villages examined by this year's Committee. Last year such claims appear to have been made in but a few instances, viz., Kariyanchettipoliem, Pilluchinnampoliem, Sangampoliem, Chittoor, and it appears clear to the Committee that the villagers having become aware of the situation and limits of the proposed reservation by the erection of cairns and clearing lines for demarcation, made a point this year of preferring claims to this especial tract.

The Committee do not doubt that they have, when occasion required, been in the habit of depasturing their cattle within the boundaries of the reserve as elsewhere, but there is an utter absence of proof of any right on the part of any village or group of villages to this particular tract as against all others, and the Committee consider that an ample margin is left to them sufficient to satisfy any reasonable claims to privileges which have doubtless been long enjoyed. The value of the evidence recorded may be judged, not only from a comparison of this year's statements with those of last year, but from the deposition given by *Peria Gavenden of Partyur* who stated in reply to a question that the sale of a few acres of land to Ramasami Mudaly and others had "caused great inconvenience" and "loss of cattle," and the extent of the claims now made from the statement of *Vellai Gavenden*, ryot of Angalacuruchi, that "they require all the forest for grazing purposes." Again, the villagers were unanimous in stating that none of their cattle were on the hills at the time the Committee sat at Kotoor. Next day the Committee proceeded to the hills and found cattle everywhere (viz., Goondron, Manadap, Poondy, &c.) in large numbers *except* at Ponachi where the "Putti" was certainly empty. The Committee after such statements attach but little weight to the claims preferred, and it is self-evident that the reservation of the small area (some 4,000 or 5,000 acres) cannot injuriously affect the privilege, if it be one of hill grazing for which hundreds of thousands of acres are left available.

(iv.) Few claims to cut timber in the reserve were advanced, and even these were, as a rule, withdrawn. It is out of the question to suppose that the people would go twelve miles up a steep ghat to get wood for agricultural purposes which could be obtained close at hand. The attempt to claim it only proves how determined the villagers here are to grasp at all they can, or have the slightest chance of getting. No claim to firewood from the reserve has been advanced.

(v.) No claims to gathering minor forest produce or making charcoal were brought forward. The Muduvars who live at times within or on the border of the reserve were absent, but the few Pulliers employed in clearing demarcation lines by the Forest Department complained of the visits of Chetties and low country people to collect myrobalans, &c. This can be prevented in future under the provisions of G.O., No. 1,612, and the privileges of the hill tribes (Muduvars, Pulliers, Kaders, &c.) to collect secured to them.

4. No. III RESERVE, TULANJI.—Claims and statements from the following villages were received and recorded:—

In 1878—Dhalli, Pallarpoliem, Palarapatti, Devanurputhur, Karatur, Pungamuthur, Andigiem, Kallapuram, Udakampolliem, Depalputti, Chellapanpoliem, Erasanamputti, Kodanpatti, Reddipolliem, Jellapanaikenpoliem, Sirkarputhur, Jellipatti.

In 1879—Dhalli, Jellipatti, Depalpatti, Vencatapuram, Erasanamputti, Kodangiem, Udakampolliem, Zellapanaikenpoliem, Kallapuram, Eliamuthur, Komaralingam, Gurupanaikanur, Manupatti, Sadaian Moopen of Pulliers residing at Ponachi.

(i.) There is no private forest within the selected area. The cultivation at Tulanji and Kodanthur, hamlets of Manupatti village, which are within the limits of the reserve, will be excluded and separately demarcated.

(ii.) Rights of way to the two hamlets above mentioned and to the Travancore country beyond must be conceded as claimed by the villagers of Eliamuthur, Kallapuram, Manupatti, &c., viz., to Tulanji from Eliamuthur, Kallapuram and the neighbourhood via the present Kallapuram Reserve and the Muthalkanavai and to Kodanthur from Manupatti and other villages via Chenatakunavai.

All other paths and tracks through the reserve may, the Committee consider, be closed without public inconvenience or unnecessary hardship to individuals.

(iii.) It will be observed that the right or privilege of grazing is claimed by one village only (Vencatapuram) in what may be styled the Dhulli Circle. This village appears not to have advanced any claim last year, and the Committee believe that it is now made solely on the inspiration of the moment. The other hills mentioned by the villagers in this circle are outside the limits of the proposed reserve. The ryots of Manupatti, Eliamuthur, Gooropanaikanur, and Kallapuram advance claims to rights of grazing within the reserved limits, although the Kallapuram people state they are only in the habit of doing so in times of scarcity. There is but little doubt that it has been the custom to graze cattle all over the valley in which the reserve is situated going further and further in as cultivation extended, and the jungle and grazing deteriorated through annual fires and damage by men and cattle. The Committee cannot, however, see ground for admitting any right to this grazing as against other villages or even taluks or districts still less to the detriment of the public generally and the large and important interests involved in the maintenance of an adequate and regular supply of water in the Amaravati river. It appears all-important in these interests that the forest should be preserved and systematically conserved, and this cannot be done if hundreds or thousands of cattle are to roam there at will. The privileges hitherto enjoyed by a few individuals or villages must clearly give way before the large and more important interests concerned. The jungle is clearly deteriorating rapidly and requires to be closed and carefully conserved in order to protect the water-supply and provide timber and firewood as suggested by the Committee of 1878. This Committee have therefore no hesitation in recommending that claims put forward be not admitted, and that grazing be restricted to tracts outside the reserve. These will include the Kallapuram reserve (so called) and extensive hill tracts between the Tulanji reserve and Dhulli, Manupatti, &c., and any hardship or inconvenience thus be mitigated and reduced to a minimum.

(iv.) No special claims to cut timber or fuel within the reserve have been advanced. The supply for agricultural purposes, &c., must be drawn from the protected and village forests to be constituted hereafter.

(v.) No claims to minor forest produce or charcoal were preferred. The Manupatti Monigar (Seshaien) affirmed that no myrobalans are brought from the Government Forests only from Travancore. The truth of this is doubtful. Anyhow arrangements can readily be made for the collection of the minor products in the Government Forests by the Pulliers and Muduvars residing in and on the borders of the reserve, none of whom unfortunately put in an appearance. A petition from some Chetties at Dhulli appears to have been received last year by Mr. Tremenhoe which is recorded. In it they ask permission to go freely to the hill tracts (not within the reserve) for purposes of trade. This they are of course at liberty to do subject to any arrangements made by the local forest officer for the collection of the forest products by the hill men or others and their disposal outside the forests as directed by G.O., No. 1,612.

The Deputy Conservator will also provide for the transport of forest produce *bonâ fide* gathered in the Travancore country through the reserve under such a system of passes and checks as may be found absolutely necessary.

5. In conclusion, the Committee desire to place on record their entire concurrence with the views expressed by the Committee of 1878 on the subject of unrestricted hill grazing. This practice may be necessary to save cattle in seasons of unusual drought and scarcity when tracts could doubtless be thrown open for the purpose, but this custom of keeping large numbers of cattle in the hill forests more or less throughout the year appears to the Committee not only utterly subversive of any system of forest conservancy, but inimical to the best interests of the ryots themselves. The manure is lost and their lands exhausted by no portion being left fallow for grazing. The area of the reserves is, comparatively speaking, small, and ample grazing ground for many thousands of cattle remains open. The Committee would gladly see this extent circumscribed by degrees and the grazing fees gradually raised to a point that should cause the ryots to turn their attention to the systematic treatment of their own lands and of the village jungles with a view to ensuring a regular supply of forage for their cattle independent of that from the Government Forests.

They consider, however, that any considerable surplus remaining from this source after payment of protective establishments, &c., should be devoted to planting and conservancy and improvement of the jungles still remaining in the plains and on the low outer hills.

Nowhere is the necessity for conservancy and planting more clearly visible than in this treeless and wind-swept portion of the Udampeta Taluk. The Committee desire also to call attention to the necessity of securing the control of the head waters of the Amaravati in the Travancore country. They fully endorse the Conservator's view in forwarding the report of last year's Committee, viz., "The main water-supply of this river comes from the Travancore country, i.e., from all the ravines around the Amundi mountains (not marked in Captain Walker's map), and I shall not consider the water-supply of the Amaravati at all well protected unless the Travancore Government can be called upon under the Forest Act to protect these forests."

PALGHAT,
21st October 1879.

(Signed) J. CAMPBELL WALKER, Major,
Deputy Conservator of Forests,
on Special Duty.

(Signed) F. A. NILCHOLSON, C.S.,
on Special Duty.

(Signed) R. WILLIAMS,
Deputy Conservator of Forests,
South Coimbatore Division.

ENCLOSURES Nos. 2 to 13.—Records.

REFERRED to the Board of Revenue for remark.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
24th March 1880.

(Signed) L. A. CAMPBELL,
Under Secretary to Government.

THE Conservator forwards with the letter above read the report of the Forest Committee on the reserves to be created in South Coimbatore. This report is the subsidiary report required in paragraph 16, G.O., dated 2nd August 1879, No. 1,612, relating to—

(1) the existence of any private forests within the areas selected;

- (2) the existence of any rights of way, pasturage, cutting timber or fuel, gathering minor forest products, or making charcoal, within the said areas.

No map is forwarded with the report as required by Government, but the Committee remark that the reserves in question have already been indicated on maps and their demarcation is now in progress. The Board would remark that this action seems somewhat premature with reference to the instructions contained in paragraph 17 of the Order above quoted.

2. TUNAKADAVU RESERVE.—The Committee first deal with the Tunakadavu or the Anémalf reserve. The inhabitants of eight villages appear to have presented themselves before the Commission. As regards the Kallankód Nambiddi's right to ivory, honey, cardamom, &c., the Board think that the Collector should be instructed on behalf of the Forest Department to endeavour to arrange with the Nambiddi to accept a money compensation for the loss of these privileges. A similar course should be followed in the case of Ramasami's claim, and the Collector should also report what action was taken on paragraph 3 of Board's Proceedings, dated 6th December 1872, No. 2,334. The Board consider that the Committee's proposals as to rights of way may be approved. As regards grazing rights and the right to cut fuel the information before the Board is not sufficient to enable them to decide how far the villagers can be equitably restricted in the exercise of these rights, and where such rights exist it is practically useless to reserve unless they can be dealt with perhaps somewhat in the same manner as proposed for the Kallankód Nambiddi, viz., by the payment of compensation, and this the Board believe might be very easily arranged at a moderate cost. In any case they believe that restrictions should only be carried out under a Forest Law. They doubt whether a transgressor of any restrictive order could be punished for his transgression under the Penal Code, and unless restriction is enforced under the sanction of the law, the effect must be demoralizing to the village communities. It is noted that no claims of right to collect minor products were presented or of right to burn charcoal.

3. PONACHI RESERVE.—The Board support the Committee's recommendations in regard to this reserve, subject to the same remarks on the restriction of grazing and fuel-cutting rights.

4. TULANJI RESERVE.—The Committee's suggestions as to rights of way commend themselves to the Board. Those regarding rights of grazing and of cutting fuel are subject to the general objection above stated by the Board. The Committee's remarks regarding the minor products are unobjectionable if the policy of the Government is to close the forests against Chetty traders.

5. As regards the Committee's remarks on the preservation of forests, protecting the sources of the Amarávati, lying within Travancore territory, by means of a Forest Act some day to be passed, the Board observe that no legislation for British India can extend to an independent Native State. If such forests are to be protected must be by the spontaneous action of the Native State itself.

(True Copies and Extract.)

W. S. P. J.
Acting Sub-Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department,

„ Collector of Coimbatore.

„ Conservator of Forests.

with thirteen original enclosures returned.

Exd. A. Grubert,

Office of Conservator of Forests
Coimbatore, 13th March '80.

To, 1545
From,
Colonel R. F. Beddome
Conservator of Forests
To J. N. Gairdner Esquire, C.B.I.
Secretary to Government,
Revenue Department,
Fort St. George.

Sir,
In accordance with G.O.
No. 1612 of the 2nd August last I
have the honor to forward a
further and
final Report
of the South
Coimbatore
Forest Com-
mittee on the
South Coim-
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Memoranda
of all the
Claims re-
corded.

2. By paras 14 and 15 of the Board's
Proceedings and by para 6 of the Govern-
ment Order above alluded to, on the
previous

1880.

Board of Revenue,

MADRAS.

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

Dated April 22nd.

Printed by

Received

PROCEEDINGS, 22ND APRIL 1880, No. 543.

Copy 13/5/80 sent

APRIL.

No. 543.

Reserve to be created in South Coimbatore.—
Submitting remarks on letter from Conservator
of Forests forwarding report of Forest Com-
mittee regarding —.

U.S.

Previous report of this Committee all communal rights beyond those of the Hill men have already been disallowed within these 3 Hill Reserves and it was hardly necessary for the Committee to listen to or record the different claims now advanced to the right of grazing or cutting timber.

3. It appears to me that all the Reports of the different District Committees should be deposited in the Office of the Deputy Conservator of the Forest Division to which they relate so that he should be able to mark off (after the survey is completed) on the 4 inch maps the different rights of way and uses as allowed by the Committee and finally sanctioned by Government and that it is the intention of Government that Major Walker's

present connection with each Forest Division ceases when he finally quits it for another District I wish however a further expression of the wishes of Government on this point as Major Walker thinks it should be clearly laid down what Office is responsible for the

safe keeping of all papers and maps connected with his work, and also the prosecution of the work in each District until the demarcation and survey are completed and the 4 inch maps prepared, I should be glad to see this all devolve on Major Walker's office, if I did not fear that it might, as work progresses, greatly hamper his office and take up so much of his time that the immediate selection of Reserves, the work he is really deputed to, would suffer and be retarded.

4. Major Walker rightly considers that a Forest Division is not finally disposed of until the Reserves are demarcated, surveyed, and mapped and the claims and objections finally settled, our Reserves are I fear not such as to authorize a separate branch of the Department in addition to Major Walker's for this object, and if economy is to be considered Government must also look to Major Walker's work being brought to a conclusion within a reasonable time, I do not however see why a

a Revenue Officer and the Divisional Forest Officer of each District cannot settle and finally dispose of the whole matter under a legislative enactment, but without a Forest Act we are working at a great disadvantage, and it is quite possible that the work might have to be done all over again in the future.

I have the honor to be

Sir,

Your most Obedt Servt.

W B Cotton Colonel
Conservator of Forests.

Orders

C. No 2969 - Bds. Pro:
22 April 1880, No 5743 -
S. Coimbatore Forest.
Reserves of - Record of
rights etc in.

This record of the
rights of way etc
in the proposed
reserves in the
South Coimbatore
division (Forest)
would require no
orders as Govt.
have already
declared that
"they will be prepared
to declare" them
"Reserved forests"
as soon as they
have been
demarcated &
surveyed" (a point
which the Board
in para. 1, have
overlooked) W.C.

para 4 f. 0
2 Aug. 79 No: 1012

Wm. is present
for determining the
boundary of reserved
2. 8th. & 10th. lands
not for the proposed
the necessity appears
in 20th.

Decided 31st March 1880
Enclined & returned 7 April

W.C.
Secretary

Reference to the Board of Revenue
note for remarks -

4th & 5th
24th March 1880
Under Secretary & Secy

1879-80 Defult
Revenue of
24th March 1880
The Government of Madras
to the Secretary to Government
Revenue Department
Madras.
Order 1374
Recd: 18th March 1880
C. No. 15745 -
(Enclosure - 13)
Subject
Forwarding for order
a final report of the Forest
Committee on the S.
Coimbatore Reserves
together with a statement
of claims recorded.

W.C.

it not for the
accepting of conti-
=dering whether
any action is
necessary in
regard to the
right of collecting
wax, honey etc
reserved by the
Kallankod Nam-
=bidhi in the
leaf forest he
has leased to
Gov.

The Board thinks
the collector
might be
authorized to
repay a money
compensation
with the Nambidhi
for the loss of
these privileges.

The original
Forest Committee

para 8.

thought no
steps necessary-
Cardamoms did
not exist in the
hill & ivory
could be handed
over.

As a matter of
fact the quantity
of the latter can
be but small if
existent now.

The Board's
remarks as to
the grazing claims
are altogether
beside the mark.

The former Committee
went into them
and as observed
by Gov. (in the para-
graph quoted above,
"the grazing of
cattle in them
is comparatively
recent origin". The

Board had
no map before
them & are ignorant
of the localities.

As a fact the
villages which have
plate years grazed
their cattle in
these forests have
no claim at all.

The ^{hills} jungles are
miles away
from their limits
and were separated
off by jungle
in the plains.

This last has
gradually disappeared
before the plough
& so the cattle
had to be sent
up into the hills

to "right" past
& for the cattle
abundant grazing
has been left.

The preservation
of the sources of the
Amravati referred
to in para 5 by
the Board is
before Govt. with
another paper.

Para 17 of O 2ⁿ
Aug. 79 No: 1012
Means to settle
the points raised
in paras 3 & 4 of
Col: Beddome's
letter. Major Walker
has done his work
of selection. The local
Forest officer & Mr. Rogers
do the rest.

Yr
J. E.

Handwritten:
Smt. [unclear]
[unclear]

Handwritten:
[unclear]

Revenue Department.

No. 760

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Under date the 2nd July 1880.

Read the following:—

C. No. 2969.

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 22nd April 1880, No. 543, relative to the report of Forest Committee regarding Reserved forests created in South Coimbatore.

Read again G. O. No. 1612, dated 2nd August 1879.

The Government have already on the first report of the Committee, intimated that the selected forests in South Coimbatore will be declared reserved forests as soon as they have been demarcated and surveyed and the record of the rights of

para 4, f.o. 2nd August 1879, No. 1612.

C. No. 5
No. 146
No. 166
No. 17

ways &c in these
tracts now forward
- and calls for no
special orders.

2. As regards the
leased forest, the
Government agree
with the original
Committee in con-
- sidering that no
necessity for re-
- leasing the rights
is served by the
hambiddi has
yet been shown.

3. The points raised
in para 3 and
4 of the Conservator's
letter were settled
in para 17 of G.O.
2nd August 1879,
No. 1612. Major
Walker's duties in
each District are
with the subcom-
- mission of the report
therein ordered.

*
Para 8 of their report
dated 9th October
1878.

20. For the Board of Directors
21. The Conservator of Forests
with the same by letter

Handwritten notes, possibly "P. ..."

Print
3-780

PRINT
6. 7. 80

Handwritten notes, possibly "P. ..."

Revenue Department
Res: Govt: 83. 7. 80
no 760

C. 10. 6.
11-7