

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

2nd August 1880, No. 913.

No. 3. READ THE FOLLOWING PAPER:—

From F. C. DAUKES, Esq., Under Secretary to the Government of India, Home, Revenue, and Agricultural Department (Public), to C. G. MASTER, Esq., Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, dated Simla, the 23rd June 1880, No. 1,060.

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter* No. 525, dated the 10th ultimo, recommending the grant of an honorarium of Rs. 2,000 to Mr. R. W. Barlow, Commissioner of the Nilgiris, as a special recognition of his services in obtaining 7,000 lb. of Chinchona bark from the Melkunda plantation.

* To the Department of Finance.

2. In reply, I am to say that, while acknowledging the good services rendered by Mr. Barlow in the matter, the Governor-General in Council considers that the proposed grant is inadmissible, and regrets his inability to accord sanction thereto.

* * * * *

No. 4. ORDER THEREON, 2nd August 1880, No. 913.

Miscellaneous.

COMMUNICATED to Mr. Barlow.

(True Extract.)

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

To R. W. Barlow, Esq.

Ed. W. H. French.

25 Copies.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT,
OOTACAMUND,
2nd August 1880.

No. 5.

No. 914.

To

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,
HOME, REVENUE, AND AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

Miscellaneous.

From Government of India, dated 23rd June 1880, No. 1,060, para. 3, asking for a report as to the abandonment in 1871 of the Melkunda plantation.

SIR,—In reply to the concluding portion of the letter noted in the margin in which a report is called for as to the circumstances under which the Melkunda Chinchona Plantation was abandoned in 1871 and has since been neglected as of no value, I am directed to forward copies of the accompanying

Proceedings, &c., of this Government relating to this plantation.
2. In submitting the annual report on the Government plantations for 1869-70, the Commissioner of the Nilgiris reiterated the opinion—which he had already expressed a few months earlier—that it was “not worth while incurring further expense on this plantation.”

Proceedings, 21st December 1870, Nos. 401, 403.
He reported that the plantation consisted of two clearings—an upper and lower at some distance apart—“in the great forest which covers the hills” in that locality, and that while in the upper clearing “the few acres planted seemed to be eaten off by the Sambar,” the trees (*succirubra*) in the lower clearing, though “doing fairly well,” suffered greatly, he was informed, “from the violence of the monsoon winds.” The outlay on this plantation had already reached upwards of 42,000 rupees, and the Government observing that its cost (Rs. 562 per acre) “exceeded that of all the rest,” considered it inexpedient to incur any further expense on its account and called for the opinion of the Superintendent (Mr. McIvor) “as to the best mode of utilising the outlay already incurred.”

3. About this time the Government* became “desirous of effecting a sensible reduction in the charges of the Nilgiri Chinchona Plantations” and asked the Commissioner if there was any prospect of effecting “a sale on reasonable terms of both the Melkunda plantations.”

They further directed that he should “consider the expediency of abandoning the upper portion” altogether and of leaving the lower “to develop as a Chinchona copse,” stopping all expenditure not necessary “for fencing, watching and collecting the bark.”

4. This decision was communicated to the Secretary of State, and as the Despatch No. 6 of 1871, dated 7th February, paragraph 3. Commissioner reported that he despaired of finding a purchaser on reasonable terms, he was told to turn the lower plantation “into a wild Chinchona wood as an experiment,” getting rid, if possible, of the upper clearing which was “useless” for Chinchona planting.

Govt. of India
1880

REVENUE.

To

R. W. BARLOW, Esq.

Dated August 2nd.

Printed 106th.

Recd.

G.O., 2nd August 1880, No. 913.

Encl.

AUGUST.

Nos. 3-4.

Memorandum of Rs. 2,000.—Communicating to Mr. Barlow, Commissioner of Nilgiris, letter from Government of India declining to allow the proposed—to him.

5. In his annual report for 1872-73, the Superintendent stated that the experiment did not promise to be successful and was accordingly asked if he would "propose a small annual outlay in order to clear the undergrowth." Being unable to advocate any expenditure as the trees were stunted and not of a valuable kind, while the plantation was much overgrown, the Commissioner was told it need not be retained.

6. No one had in the mean time come forward as a purchaser of the upper clearing, and both it and the lower plantation remained uncared for until, in 1878, the Commissioner (Mr. Barlow) reported that he thought the trees still remaining were sufficiently numerous to make it worth while at existing prices to collect and dispose of the bark.

Upon this, after a thorough inspection and enumeration of the trees by Major C. Walker, it was resolved* to grub up the whole, and this has since been done with the result already reported to the Government of India.

7. In conclusion I am to invite attention to a recent report† made by the Conservator of Forests upon these deserted plantations after personal inspection, in which he gives it as his opinion that their locality is unsuited to planting owing to its "wind-blown exposed high elevation."

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

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

Exd. W. H. French.

25 Copies.

Original

Agriculture (1880) Department.

Government of Fort St. George.

Dated 2nd August 1880.

Received.

D. No.

L. No.

Progs.

No. 5.

FORWARDING copies of the Proceedings, &c.,
of this Government relating to the abandon-
ment in 1871 of the Melkunda Chinchona Plan-
tation in the Nilgiri District.

R. D.
2 JUL 80

From,

J. C. Daubkes Esq.

Under Secy. to the Govt. of India

To, The Secretary to the Government of Madras.
Madras, the 23 June 1880.

House, Revenue & Public
Dept.

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 25th, dated the 16th inst., recommending the grant of an honorarium of Rs. 500/- to Mr. R. W. Barlow, Commissioner of the Nilgiris, as a special recognition of his services in obtaining 7000 lbs of Chinchona bark from the Melkunda plantation.

In reply, I am to say that, while acknowledging the good services rendered by Mr. Barlow in the matter, the Governor General in Council considers that the proposed grant is inadvisable, and regrets his inability to accord sanction thereto. I am at the same time.

time to ask for a report of the circumstances under which the Melkunda plantation was abandoned in 1871 and has since been neglected as of no value. The policy of abandoning the plantation would seem to be open to question in view of the large quantity of valuable bark which has recently been obtained from it owing to Mr. Barlow's exertions.

I have the honor to be

Sir
Your most obedient Servant

F. Drumnes

Under Secy. to the Govt. of India

Letter to G.P. 10-5-80 to 525.
No 6-4-80-74-75.

Revenue 1880. Dept.

7-3998.

From
The Government of India
H. P. & A. Dept. 1060.

8/23rd June 1880.
By 2nd July 1880.

Regretting inability
to sanction the honorarium
of Rs 2000 recommended to
Mr. R. W. Barlow, Commr. of the
Nilgiris and requesting to be
furnished with a report of the
circumstances under which
the Melkunda plantation was
abandoned in 1871.

C31.7
2317

U.S.

Done

6 X 7

Do No 913 27th August 1880

From Mr. Gladstone
d: 23 June 80
No 1060.

Para 1 & 2.
declining to allow
the proposed
honorarium of Rs 2000
to Mr. Barlow
Commr. Nilgiris.

Communicated to
Mr. Barlow.

L
que

1 To Mr. P. L. O. Barlow, Commr. Nilgiris 1880

From do —
do — do —
para 3.
Asking for a
Report as to the
abandonment in
7 of the Melkunda
plantation

Do No 914 27th August 1880

To the Government of India
H. P. & A. Dept. 1060.

Sir in reply to the

Concluding portion
of the letter noted
in the margin
in which a
report is called
for as to the
circumstances
under which
the Cullunda
Cinchona plantation
was abandoned
in '71 and ~~and~~
has since been
reflected as of
no value. I am
directed to forward
copies of the
accompanying
Rep^{ts} of this fort
relating to this
plantation.

2. In submitting
the annual report

Rep: 21 Dec 71

Nos 461-463

on the San. Plantations
for 1870 the
Compr. of the Virginia
reiterated the
opinion - which he
had already expressed
a few months earlier
- that it was
"not worth while
incurring further
expense on this
plantation"

He reported that
the plantation
consisted of two
clearings - an upper
lower at some
distance apart -
"in the present forest
which covers the
hills" in that
locality and that
while in the
upper clearing
"the few acres
planted seemed

utilizing the
outlay already
incurred.

+ 300 774 71
11/17-91

3 About this time
the 2nd became
"desirous of effecting
a sensible reduction
in the charges of
the Volpini Cinnamon
Plantations" asked
the Comptroller if there
was any prospect
of effecting a sale
on reasonable terms
of both the land
= Kunda Plantations
The Comptroller
decided that he
should "consider the
expediency of
disbanding the
upper portion" of the
plantation the
lower "to develop
as a cinnamon
copse" stopping

the estate. After
the "sumbar" the
(Amirulm)
resides in the
lower clearing
though "being
fairly well"
suffered greatly
he was informed
"from the violence
of the monsoon
winds". The outlay on
the plantation had
already ^{reached} ~~been~~ ^{reported}
~~of 42000 Rs~~ ^{of 42000 Rs} ~~the~~ ^{the}
~~approx. cost~~ ^{approx. cost} (Rs 2562
per acre) "exceeded
that of all the rest"
considered it
inconvenient to
incur any further
expense on its
account & called for
the opinion of the
Asst. (Mr. M. W.) as
to the best mode

all expenditure
not necessary
"for fencing & clearing
collecting the bush".

4. This decision
was communicated
to the Sec of State
and as the Compt.
reported that he
despaired of finding
a purchaser on
reasonable terms
he was told to
turn the lower
plantation "into
a wild *Cruciana*
wood as an
experiment -"
getting rid of
the whole of the
upper clearing
which was
"valuable for *Cruciana*
planting."

Reported by
R. J. H. J. para 3

Mr. J. J. J.
Chas. H. H.

Para 13 Sept 73
No 60-99.

Para 3 para 74
No 25-96

Para 2 & 3 para 74
No 10-96

5. In his annual
report for 72/73 the
Sup^r. stated that
the experiment
did not
promise to be
successful and was
accordingly asked
if the word "propose"
a small animal
to be in order to
clear the under-
growth; that
being unable to
advocate any
expenditure as
the trees were
stunted and of
a kind which
the plantation
was similar
to. The
Compt. was told
it need not be
retained.

6. As one had in
the meantime
come forward as a

Purchaser of the
upper clearing & both
it & the lower
plantation remained
uncared for until
in 78 the Capt (Mr
Barlow) reported
that he thought
the trees still
remaining were
sufficiently numerous
to make it worth
while at existing
prices to collect &
dispose of the bark.

Upon this after
a thorough inspection
& enumeration of the
trees by Major C
Walker it was
resolved to grub
up the whole & this
has since been
done with the
result already
reported to the M. J.

B. No 28 Dec 78
A. No 293-6.

B. No 51 April 79
A. No 65-66.

+ B. No 2 June 80
A. No 42-43.

107
7. In conclusion I
am to invite attention
to a recent report
made by the Commandant
of Forests upon these
deserted plantations
after personal inspection
in which he gives
it as his opinion
that their locality
is unsuited to
planting wind
bills
"wind-blown"
supposed high
elevation.

See 9/11

10.
 Honorable Mr
 Below letter to
 G. J. L. in 18
 Melkenda plantation

10.
 1880

Honorable Mr

PRINT
 N. S.

Please Department
 For: Ent. & a. 8. 10
 1880

C31.7
 1231.7

13-4
 1880