

C.C.S.

Revenue (1892) Department.

MISCELLANEOUS SERIES.

G.O., No. 1917

No 578.

DATED 9 April 1892

[Despatch Abstract.]

Declining to reconsider the order passed regarding
the purchase of the Hong Kong, South Sea Islands

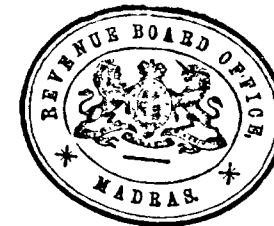
BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Confidential



Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue).

Dated 29th March 1892
Forest No. 333. Mis.

The Hon. Mr. J. G. G. G.

READ the following letter from Mr. Bumergue Esqre,
Collector of Malabar, to the Secretary to the
Comms of Land Revenue, (thru the Comr of
Forests, Southern Circle,) dated 14th March 1892.
Ref on C. No. 230.
Fr. 92.

*The Encls. refd
by the Board with
the Progs. are
resubmitted.*

With reference to Board's Proceedings
dated 26th November 1891, Forest No. 916 Mis
Communicating G. O. dated 19th November 1891
No. 5961 Mis, in which Government negatived
the proposal to purchase the Peria block No.
7 in the list, I have the honor to submit as
copy of an office note dated the 10th Instant
from the District Forest Officer, North
Malabar, from which it will be seen that
Paraparavan Bavotte Haji, the owner of the
block in question, is now willing to accept
Rs 20000 for it.

2. After the decision arrived at by Government I would not venture to suggest a reconsideration of the matter, were it not for two facts. The first is that the price now asked is Rs 10,000 less than the actual value, as estimated by the District Forest Officer, and the purchase, therefore, is likely to be a profitable one.

3. The second is, that the abandonment of the forest will not only involve loss in respect of the Cardamom plantation opened by the Forest Department within the limits of the block, but is also likely to lead to litigation or dead loss in respect of land actually bought by Government in the Forest. This land was originally sold by Government to Mr. Dittmas who in turn sold it to Mr. Fletcher. When it was proposed to constitute the block a reserved forest, Government not only paid Mr. Fletcher Rs 3,000 in money for the land but also made over to him some land at Khamoth. The land thus bought by Government from Mr. Fletcher is a part of Barotte Hajis' claim and as the whole of this claim was allowed in appeal by the High Court, it would probably be hopeless to contest any part of it now. If so, the three thousand

thousand Rupees and the land at Khamoth given to Mr. Fletcher represent so much dead loss to Government.

4. I regret that the fact of which is known as "Fletcher's Cardamom garden" being actually included in Barotte Hajis' Peria claim was not brought to the notice of the Board earlier, but I ascertained it only recently on personal inspection of the locality.

5. My inspection also confirmed me in the opinion I expressed in my letter Reference on C. No. ^{F. 91} 722 dated 19 September 1891, that as the whole block forms a wedge between two blocks of Government forest, its surrender will seriously prejudice the management of the blocks.

Under these circumstances, I submit that the question deserves reconsideration.

Read also the following endorsement of the Conservator of Forests, Southern Circle, dated 22nd March 1892, No 699.

Forwarded.

I agree with the District Forest Officer,
and

2 and the Collector that the sum of Rs 20,000 now wanted is worth consideration.

It represents about Rs 4 an acre all round. Mr. Elur Hardie's valuation was Rs 3,000, Mr. Morgan's Rs 4,000, and the prices demanded originally varied from 1 1/4 Rs to 4 lacs!

I recommend the purchase on the ground, that to secure a continuous block of reserved forest along the flats from the Peria to the Kuttadi roads, is important.

That the financial success in minor produce at present, and major produce in the future, is probable.

And that the acquisition in regard to the two plantations and the probable litigation which the Collector refers to is expedient.

Resolution

Submitted to Government, with reference to Government Order, dated 19th November 1891, No 5961.

2. The Board supports the Collector's
and

and Conservator's renewed recommendation to purchase the block in question. They give further reasons for the acquisition and the Board therefore begs to recommend a re-consideration of the decision already arrived at, seeing that the cost has been reduced from Rs 4,000 to Rs 20,000.

1 True copies and Extracts

Lt. Genl
Ag. Secretary.

To
The Secretary to Government R.D.
with Enc. in reply to be ret'd.
" Conservator of Forests, S.C.
" Collector of Malabar.

D

28/11

Confidential No 35

1892

Board of Revenue

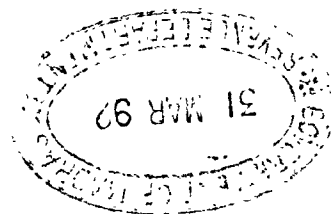
(Land Revenue),

MADRAS.

Current Number 3067.

To

The Secretary to
Government. R.D.



Proceedings, dated 29 March 1892
Forest No. 333 Mis. Enclosures/
Revenue.

Subject:

Enbarg: to sub. with Board's
support letter from Conservator
of Forests, S. Circle, asking
to purchase the Peria Forests
(Block No 2) N. Malabar

Letter No. 3067/92

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

C No. 3067/92

From The Board of Revenue

Dated 29th March 1892.

FOR ORDERS.

The question of the advisability
of buying the Peria Forests
was discussed in the note for orders
under G.O. 5961 dt. 19-11-91.
The proposal then made was to
purchase them from Parath
Haji their reputed owner for not more
than Rs 40,000 ~~and~~ ^{and} not decided
in the above G.O. that the case
for the purchase was very weak
i.e. that the forest was not worth
buying at all.

2. Mr. Eberhardie the S.D.
Forest Officer of North Malabar
has now reported the question
to the Board through the
Collector of Malabar, Conservator Southern Circle. He
recommended the purchase of the forest
by Govt on the grounds:—
(1) That the owner is now willing
to accept Rs 20,000 for the forest.

the purchase, at that price, is likely to be a profitable investment as he considers that there is a great future for iron-wood with which it abounds.

FOR ORDERS.

(2) That the Forest Cuts the Periyar Range in two & the purchase is therefore desirable in order to make the range compact.

(3) That if the Forest is not purchased, ^{its} ~~the~~ rendition to Perotti Raji under the terms of the Theft Court decree, will perhaps involve litigation for ^{in any case} damages, and will cause a loss of Rs 3000/- which they paid for Fletcher's Candamam garden, that Govt will also lose a plantation opened by the Forest Dept called the Mukki Candamam garden.

The ~~Conservator~~ Collector, Conservator & Board all recommended the purchase of the Forest on the above grounds.

3. ~~The purchase is financially~~
~~not profitable~~
~~and the loss will be~~
~~indefinite~~
~~and the loss will be~~
The only new reasons adduced for purchasing the Forest are (1) the low price now asked and (2) the loss that its rendition will entail to Govt. The facts connected with

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

No.

From

Dated

18

FOR ORDERS.

the purchase of Fletcher's Candamam ^{the Collector's} garden are explained in the letter read at the current Board's Proceedings. It appears that when it was proposed to cut the block a reserved forest, Govt bought out Mr. Fletcher the owner of the garden, which was situated in the block, for Rs 3000/- & also gave him some land at a place called Kammuthi, as the garden forms part of the block which has been decreed to Perotti Raji it will have to be given up & Govt will lose the money with the loss. It is not clear how Govt is to avoid this loss by purchasing the Forest, as by so doing it will pay over again for Fletcher's garden which forms part of the block to be purchased. The loss to

lost by litigation for damages which
 Mr. Ober Kaidie apprehends is not
 likely to be extensive and is ^{not likely} ~~not~~ ^{likely}
 and further ~~and~~ injured the Forest
~~and~~ it seems therefore that the
 ground of possible loss to Govt is
 a very strong one in favour of
 the purchase.

3. Assuming that Boudhi
 Nagi has a valid title Govt.
 is likely to make a profitable
 investment of at purchase the
 Forest for Rs 20,000, a sum
 which is considerably less than
 its estimated market value, but
 must it not be seen from para
 8 of the Board's Proceedings
 read in G.O. 5961 of 19-11-91
 that the Forest is more or less
 inaccessible ^{at present} of little commercial
 value and that its reservation is
 of great importance for climatic
 reasons. It is submitted therefore that
 no good can be done by purchase has
 been now been made out that
 Govt should adhere to its former decision
 not to purchase the Forest. ~~otherwise~~
~~therefore~~. Cases are likely to arise
 in which Govt will find it necessary
 to purchase private forests in other

FOR ORDERS.

3

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

No.

From

Dated

18

FOR ORDERS.

parts of the Presidency for real
 climatic reasons. One case of the sort
 which has actually arisen is
 that of the Bodinayakam Forest
 the papers in connection with which
 were circulated shortly, and
 it is thought that Govt should
 not spend needlessly, in the present
 case, money which it may require
 in the immediate future ^{to spend} for bonds
 for climatic ~~several~~ purposes

Pull

3-2-92

Govt. refuse to buy. I
 fear that the origin has been
 his profit offer by me half
 is a proof that he would
 for more than it was
 bought. I fear that
 for present purposes it is
 practically worthless & that
 unless it is sold for
 1000 Rs. it is worth nothing
 buying it - It is
 6/4/92

I am, Sir, very respectfully,
 Yours truly,
 W. G. G. G.

W. G. G. G.

Ch
 4/4

FOR ORDERS.

C No 3067/92

Re:
Purchase of the
Peria Forest in Malabar

Mr. H. W. Gardner C.S.
Mr. H. W. Stokes C.S.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read ~~the~~ C. No 3067.

G.O. ^{file} No 1917 dated 9 April 1892

The Govt sees no reason to
reconsider its order No 5961. dt.
19-11-91. ^{now} The fact that the
owner has reduced the price demanded
to one half of the sum which
he formerly agreed to accept
is no argument for buying a
Forest, which, it has already been
decided, is of no value either
from a Commercial or a
climatic point of view, and
on other grounds in favour of the
purchase which the District
Forest Officer has now brought forward
against the Govt. Considers, sufficiently
strong to outweigh the above
consideration. The Govt adheres
therefore to its former decision not
to purchase the Forest.

Decl

7. 4. 92

Ch
S/4

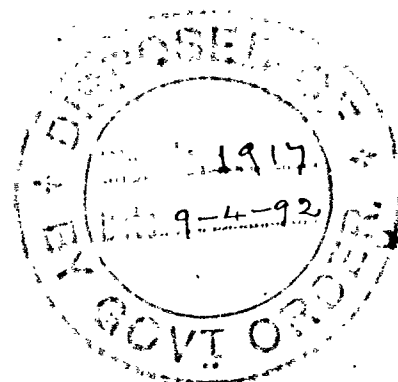
To the Comptroller & R.

Draft - G.O.

devising to purchase
the Peria Forest, h. Malabar
for Rs. 20,000 from
Pravathi Naga.

Leag.

(from orders)



When given for copying _____
When copied _____
When examined _____
When signed _____

189

READ AGAIN G.O., No.
189

DATED

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURES TO C. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT

A A A A A A A

LETTERS OF GOVERNMENT

STATEMENT WITH DITTO

PAYERS NOT FILLED UP, BEING MEANT FOR DESPATCH
IN ORIGINAL.

F.B.—

A = Copy in full.
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