Revenue Department
Minutes of Consultations

2nd March 1858

Book No^s 61 – 62

Order Inst 270 D/ 2nd March 1858.

செப்பனிடுபவர் பெயர்

செப்பனிடுவதற்காக எடுத்துக்
கொள்ளப்பட்ட நாள் 4/08

செப்பனிட்டு முடித்த நாள் 6/08

சரிபார்க்கும் உதவி
முதன்மை. எழுத்தாளர்
கையொப்பம் கையொப்பம்

Fort Saint George, Revenue Consultation of 2d March 1858.

No. 61. Read the following letter from General M. CUBBON, Commissioner for the Government of the Territories of His Highness the Rajah of Mysore; to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Bangalore 16th February 1858, No. 6.

SIR,

In continuation of my letter of the 16th Ultimo, No. 1, I have the honor to transmit for submission to the Right Honorable the Governor in Council copy of a communication from Captain Pearse, Officiating Superintendent of Astagram dated the 11th Instant, No. 36, forwarding copy of a letter to his address from W. Robinson, Esq., Acting Collector of Malabar; and have only to add, that I have deemed it prudent under the circumstances to direct Captain Pearse not to notice any communication which he has received or may receive from a public officer so regardless of the proprieties of official correspondence.

From Captain L. PEARSE, Officiating Superintendent Astagram Division; to the Secretary to the Commissioner for the Government of the Territories of the Rajah of Mysore, Bangalore; dated Nunjungode 11th February 1858, No. 36.

SIR,

The letter received from Mr. W. Robinson, Acting Collector of Malabar, on the subject of the forest boundary having been submitted by me to the Commissioner for his instructions, it appears to me correct that previous to entering into any correspondence on the subject referred to in the accompanying letter from that Gentleman, I should submit the said letter with a detailed explanation to the Commissioner in the first instance, bearing, as the said letter does, directly both upon our forest arrangements and management. I have therefore the honor to state as follows:

The Forest Darogah of this Division constantly represented to me personally, and at length by urzee on the 3d of November 1857, that some steps should be taken to prevent depredations in the Mysore teak Forests by the numerous Piredars, who had rented or felled timber in the Hoolhully Forest belonging to a Pagoda in Wynaad, as he stated that these parties were in the habit of stacking their timber, at or near the same ford as that near which the beams of the Mysore Government lay, and that consequent upon their route out of the Hoolhully Forests being through from 10 to 12 miles of the Mysore Forests, where felled logs are lying on all sides, no amount of vigilance on his part could guard the Mysore Forests from being plundered, unless some arrangement was entered into with the owner of the Pagoda Forest, or some agreement taken from the renters and Piredars who fell and bring away the beams.

In reply, he was informed that he was not to allow timber from the Pagoda forest to pass over the ground where the timber of the Mysore Government lay felled. Unless in cases specially permitted by the Superintendent, and that such permission would only be granted in cases where the parties bringing the timber bound themselves by an agreement to abide by any loss which might accrue consequent upon the permission being granted, and as it was well known to myself and has been known for years to every public servant on this side of the frontier that the owners of the tract of forest belonging to this Pagoda have never felled a beam themselves but have invariably sublet or farmed out the right of cutting timber on their lands. It was suggested by myself personally to the forest Darogah that the simplest plan, if feasible for preventing both the depredations and annoyances to which these instructions would in all probability give rise hereafter, would be to try and induce the owners of this enam Pagoda to farm to us, instead of numerous sub-renters the right to cut a certain number of beams in their forest annually, paying them either a fixed sum, or so much per beam for the same.

In the beginning of December 1857, a certain Kookum Nair said to be one of the Proprietors of the Pagoda forest executed a document to the Darogah, stating that for Rupees 2,000 he was willing to farm the right of cutting teak for ten years. He promised to obtain the concurrence of the other 4 proprietors, and he authorized the Darogah to commence operations, if he failed to do as he said within 35 days.

A Mysore timber dealer named Sied Mohadeen who stated that the proprietors of the forest had rented the right of cutting timber to a certain brahmin named Soobramaney Bhutt who had subrented it to him, also came forward, and gave the forest Darogah a document

stating his willingness if permitted to remove 3000 logs already cut to deliver every log cut hereafter at a certain place if paid at the rate of Rupees 3-8-0 per log.

The Darogah submitted these two agreements for orders, and was informed that no arrangements could be entered into with renters, but that if the original proprietors offered to come to terms before the expiration of the time fixed by Kookun Nair he was to report the same.

When the time had been exceeded by 30 days, the Darogah took upon himself to write to the Tahsildar of Wynaad, requesting him to direct the attendance of the Nair, and stating that if the man failed to appear in 15 days he would act on the provisons of the Nair's kurrar, when the Darogah reported what he had done, he was at once informed that he had done wrong in writing in his own name to the authorities in the Company's District, and that without the special sanction of the Superintendent he was not to do so in future. The above order of the Superintendent was issued on the 19th of January. On the 29th of the same month, Mr. Robinson's letter on the subject of the Darogah's yadasht was received.

**Copy annexed.*

On the subject of the above mentioned letter,* I am anxious now to offer a few remarks. The Pagoda Forest is Enam. It has never been interfered with by the Malabar authorities, as regards its productions only in the matter of jurisdiction. It lies along the Mysore Frontier. The timber has been felled by renters and sub-renters at rates arbitrarily fixed by the proprietors for years, and is so still. The Malabar authorities have never interfered with those sub-renters. The proprietors had apparently every right to rent out the permission to fell timber. It was a matter of vast inportance to put a stop to the depredations and annoyances of the Piredars and those to whom they sold the timber arising from the transit of the same through the Mysore teak Forests, the only good road available being through our Forests, and, as I knew of no law, or practice which could under such circumstances interfere with a private arrangement which would make my Forest Department the sub-renter instead of a number of men living mostly in the town of Mysore itself. I attempted to make the said arrangement, which as far as I was able to see at the time, was not in the least objectionable, was likely to be attended with considerable advantage to the proprietors of the Forest and was I am free to admit an object of considerable importance in my Forest arrangements.

The above statements answer I think Mr. Robinson's objections on the subject of "intrusion" and "the right of entering into contracts with private ryots," but there is one point which I have not adverted to, and which would undoubtedly be excellent grounds for objection were there not certain circumstances of daily occurrance, which lead me to believe directly the reverse.

Mr. Robinson states that "the Government had a claim on the Forests in question, and the "matter is under enquiry." If this is really the case, I have only to ask Mr. Robinson how it is that I am up to this very date granting permission for hundreds of bandy loads of timber to pass out of this identical Pagoda Forest through the Mysore Forest. On the 7th of January last, I granted permission to one Piredar to bring out 300 beams, and on the 21st of the same month to another man to bring away 500, and on the 5th Instant to 3 others to bringa way 1200,

Another case being under conside. 'on.

and in personal interviews with these timber dealers they have informed me that they are still cutting. One man Sied Mohadeen states that he has 3000 bandies loads ready cut. I have only to ask how under these circumstances, I could presuppose that Government had any claim against the forest in question.

I have now only to refer to the last para. of Mr. Robinson's letter, viz. "that the transaction bears a most equivacal appearance," and with reference thereto I wish once again to bring to the notice of the Commissioner the extremely offensive style of this Gentleman's correspondence. His first letter having been placed before the Commissioner for his instructions, I have felt it my duty to lay this one also before him and state the case before answering it, but at the same time, I must express a hope that the Commissioner will give me his support if he thinks I have done nothing unworthy of it, as I must frankly admit that it has required a certain amount of self control to submit under the cloak of official correspondence to such uncalled for and unusual expressions and allegations as those which Mr. Robinson's letters contain.

Ad 3 2m

From W. ROBINSON, Esq., Acting Collector; to the Superintendent of the Astagram Division, Mysore; dated Mallapooram, 23rd January 1858, No. 191.

SIR,

From Tahsildar of Wynaad, dated 29th January 1858, No. 27, with 2 Enclosures to be returned.

With reference to the enclosure, I have the honor to request that you will abstain from the intrusion, apparently intended on the forest of the Pallpully Deshom, of the Wynaad talook of this District.

The Government has a claim on the forests in question, and the matter is under enquiry, and I cannot admit the right of the Mysore authorities to send, in the manner here done, for private Ryots of this District and enter into contracts of this character with them.

The transaction bears a most equivocal appearance.

(True Copies.)

(Signed) E. CUNNINGHAM,
Secretary.

No. 62. ORDER THEREON, No. 270; dated 2d March 1858.

Ordered to be communicated to the Board of Revenue, in continuation of Extract Minutes of Consultation, dated 9th Ultimo, No. 170. The Board will submit the report called for in the above Extract at an early date.

(Signed) H. FORBES,
Acting Secretary to Government.

Superintendents Office

No. 36. Nunjunagode 11th February 1858.

To

The Secretary to the Commissioner
for the Government of the Territories
of the Rajah of Mysore.
Bangalore.

Sir,

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Acting Collector of Malabar, on the subject
of the Forest boundary having been submitted
by me to the Commissioner for his instructions,
it appears to me correct that previous to
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he was not to allow timber from the Pagoda Forest to pass over the ground where the timber of the Mysore Government lay felled unless in cases specially permitted by the Superintendent and that such permission would only be granted in cases where the parties bringing the timber bound themselves by an agreement to abide by any loss which might accrue consequent upon the permission being granted, and as it was well known to myself and has been known for years to every public servant on this side of the frontier that the owners of the tract of Forest belonging to this Pagoda have never felled a beam themselves but have invariably sublet or farmed out the right of cutting timber on their lands. It was suggested by myself personally to the Tasildar Gurgoor that the simplest plan if possible for preventing both the depredations and annoyances to which these instructions would in all probability give rise hereafter, would

would be to try and induce the owners of this Cuam Pagoda to farm to me, instead of numerous subrenters the right to cut a certain number of beams in their Forest annually, paying them either a fixed sum, or so much per beam for the same.-

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The above statements answer I think Mr Robinson's objections on the

annexe to the authorities in the Company's District, and that without the special sanction of the Superintendent he was not to do so in future. The above order of the Superintendent was issued on the 19th of January. On the 29th of the same month Mr Robinson's letter on the subject of the Darogah's Yadasht was received.

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* Copy annexe

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Another case being under consideration

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I have now only to refer to the last para of Mr. Robinson's letter Viz. that the transaction bears a most equivocal appearance" and with reference thereto I wish once again to bring to the notice of the Commissioner the extremely offensive style of this Gentleman's correspondence. His first letter having been placed before the Commissioner for his instructions, I have felt it my duty to lay this one also before him and state the case before answering it, but at the same time I must

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sioner will give me his support if he
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it has required a certain amount of self
control to submit under the cloak of
Official correspondence to such uncalled
for and unusual expressions and alle-
gations as those which Mr. Robinson's
letters contain.

I have the honor to be &c.a.

(signed) J. L. Pearse

Officiating Superintendent

Astagraum Division

Malabar Collector's Office

on Circuit

No. 191. Mallapooram 23d January 1858.

To

The Superintendent of the

Astagraum Division

Mysore

Sir

With reference to the
enclosure

From Tahsildar of Wynaad 7/29th January 1858. No. 27 with 2 Enclosures

Recd

enclosure, I have the honor to request that you will abstain from the intrusion, apparently intended on the forest of the Pallpully Deshom, of the Wynaad Talook of this District.-

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The transaction bears a most equivocal appearance.-

I have the honor to be &c.a.

(Signed) W. Robinson

Acting Collector

(True Copy)

(Signed) J. L. Pearse

Officiating Superintendent

(True Copies)

Secretary.

1858.
No 1
Enclosed are a letter from
Commissioner of Mysore
Secretary to Govt. Fort St.
George dated 16th February
No 6.

P 240/58.

From
The Chief Secretary
to Government
Fort St George

To
Secretary to Commissioners
for Mysore

Dated 17th February

With reference to the
letter from this office dated
the 6th instant and enclosed
for submission to the Right Honorable
the Governor in Council
another from Mr
Officiating Superintendent
Trichinopoly dated the
instant

Mysore Commissioners Office

From

The Commissioner
for the Government of the Territories
of His Highness the Rajah
of Mysore.

To

The Chief Secretary
to Government
Fort St George

Dated Bangalore 16th February 1858.

Sir,

In continuation of my letter of the 16th ultimo No 1, I have the honor to transmit for submission to the Right Honorable the Governor in Council Copy of a communication from Captain Pearse Officiating Superintendent of Police Trichinopoly dated the 11th Instant No 36 forwarding Copy of a letter to his address from W. Robinson Esquire Acting Collector of Malabar; and have only to add that I have deemed it prudent under the circumstances to direct Captain Pearse not to

notice

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Received or may receive from a public
Officer, so regardless of the proprieties
of official correspondence. -

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your Most Obedient Servant
M Cubbon
Commissioner

Bangalore
16th February 1858

Revenue 1858 Reports
Con. 2d March
From
Commissioner
of Salsette
To
Chief Secretary
to Government
Fort St. George
Dated 16th February
Received 19 — Do —
From Bd of Rev. Sept. 5281 30th Dec. 11th Jany.

No. 6
Encl: 1

With an order
Cons: No 270. 2d March 58.
In continuation of
letter No 1 of the 16th Ult:
-imo transmits for sub-
-mission to Govt a copy
of a communication
from Captain Pearse
Off. Superintt Ag. Lagoon
forwarding copy of a Letr
to his address from Lt. Ellis
Engineer stating Collector of Mad
-ras

No 270

Ordered to be com-
municated to the Board
of Revenue in continuation
of Govt Cons: of 16th inst:
& Instant No 270. The
Board will be enabled the
report called for in the
above Extract at an
early date.

Fort St. George
2d March 1858

To the Bd of Rev

Lower Q. February 58. No 186 50

19/4/58 D.

1/ D.

C No 61062

C 22d Feby. No 26th