M.R.O. 14—10,000—21-4-22.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 119	Press Mis.
236-237	
Dated January	1864.

Printed copies with Index &c

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 4,235.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 18th September 1860.

Read the following letter from V. H. LEVINGE, Esq., Collector of Madura, to J. D. SIM, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, Fort Saint George, dated 8th September 1860, No. 186 :—

1. I have the honor to report for the information of the Board of Revenue, that I have had a consultation with the Forest Superintendent in this District who has now visited all these Forests ; we have come to the conclusion that the only Forests worth conserving are,

1st. The Karanda-malai jungles. The Karanda-malais are a block of hills lying to the west and north of Nattam overgrown with jungle, yielding some valuable kinds of wood which is now cut and carried off by traders to Trichinopoly and Tanjore.

2nd. The north slope of the Palani range from the Palani limits, on the west to the eastern boundary of the Virupatchy hills, adjoining the western boundary of the Kannivadi hills. The east slope of the Palani range belongs to the Zemindar of Kannivadi.

3rd. The southern slope of the Palani range lying between the Kannivadi and Bodinayakanur Zemindars' limits.

4th. The southern end of the Kambam valley.

5th. The jungles on the top of the Palni hills, both upper and lower ranges.

2. The northern slope of the Sirumalai hills might also perhaps be conserved, but they have not yet been inspected, and it is not expected that they will be found to contain any valuable or large timber.

3. All the other jungles in the District contain nothing but stunted trees only fit for firewood and for making small posts and rafters for building small houses. The wood in these jungles is not worth preserving, nor would it be worth while to entertain an establishment to levy duty on the wood cut in them.

4. Before the arrival of Mr. Sperschneider, no revenue whatever was derived from the forests.

5. In the first month of his conservancy, July, Rupees 102-8-0 were collected, and in the month of August, Rupees 237-0-0, total Rupees 339-8-0. For the present I have carried this sum to the head of deposit.

6. As Mr. Sperschneider has not been allowed any establishment I have been obliged to allow him the services of four Taluq Peons, with whose assistance he has been able to collect the above sum. On the introduction of the new Police it will be necessary to give him an establishment of his own, as I shall have no Peons to spare him, and I have no doubt that, if he is allowed an efficient establishment, to be paid out of the sale proceeds of the timber, the collections will increase.

7. We agreed that the following establishment is absolutely necessary, in order that the Forests be conserved and at the same time a paying revenue be derived from them, and if the Board approve of the proposed establishment, I beg that it may be submitted for sanction. Perhaps the proposition should have been submitted through the Conservator of Forests, but as Dr. Cleghorn has obtained sick leave and as Mr. Beddome is not, I believe, acquainted with all the localities, and to prevent any further delay which only causes injury to the forests for the want of watchers, I have taken upon myself to apply direct.

		Per mensem.
For the 1st or Karanda-malai Range.	1 Maistry..... ...	Rupees 10
	1 Peon.....	,, 4
The 2nd or North Palani Range...	1 Maistry..... ...	,, 10
	2 Peons, at 4 each.	,, 8
The 3rd or Periakulam Range, south face of the Palanis.....	2 Peons, at 4 each.	,, 8

		Per mensem.
The 4th or Kambam valley.....	1 Maistry.....	Rupees 10
	3 Peons, at 4 each.	„ 12
For the Forest Superintendent..... ...	1 Gumasta...	„ 15
	2 Peons, at 5 each.	„ 10
Stationery, &c.....		„ 3
	Total Rupees...	90

8. This establishment would be sufficient for all that is required and not the least apprehension need be entertained that it will entail any new expenditure on Government; it will pay itself and also the salary of the Superintendent amounting to Rupees 80 per month and leave a surplus.

9. For the present I have not proposed Peons for the top of the Palanis, as the Peons at the foot can stop all wood being carried down clandestinely, and at present there is no market on the hills; in time it will probably be necessary to have an establishment on them.

10. The jungles in this District especially those about Nattam are exceedingly feverish; the persons proposed to be employed as Maistrys and Peons will be inhabitants of villages adjoining or situated within the different jungles, who are better seasoned to the localities and will not be so likely to fall sick, nor have the same inclination to feign sickness to get away from the jungles, as servants brought in from distant places would have.

11. The pay of the Peons attached to the Superintendent is placed at 1 Rupee per month higher than the others as they will have to travel about with the Superintendent.

12. The system of licenses without payment alluded to in the Board's Proceedings, No. 3,856, dated 23rd August 1860, has been done away with in the jungles under the Conservancy Department, and they will not be required to be taken out in the jungles not under that Department.

---

1. Transferred to the Conservator of Forests for disposal.

2. The Board concur in Mr. Levinge's views generally, but they think it essential that the Pulney Hills should be included in the Conservancy. If this is not done the Timber on the top at the Kodin Kanal Settlement will be destroyed by the followers of the residents for firewood, and the little left on the lower Pulneys at Tondigoody and Paruyur will be destroyed as the villagers extend their cultivation. The jungles not mentioned in paragraph 1 of this letter will the Board presume, be under the Collector's charge, and on this point the Board request the Conservator's views when he replies to their Proceedings, dated 23rd ultimo, No. 3,856.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) J. D. SIM,
Secretary.

To H. Cleghorn, Esq., M. D., Conservator of Forests.

Copy to V. H. Levinge, Esq., Collector of Madura.

Exd, J. Wright.

No. 5,735.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 7th December 1860.

Read again letter from the Collector of Madura, dated 8th September 1860, No. 1,860.

(In Cons. 11th September 1860, No. 4,549.)

Read also the following letters :—

From H. CLEGHORN, Esq., Conservator of Forests, dated 26th September 1860, No. 192 :—

With regard to the application of Mr. Levinge, Collector of Madura* for a Forest Establishment under Mr. Sperschneider, I beg to offer the following remarks :—

* Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, No. 3,856, dated 23rd August 1860.
Do. do. No. 4,235, dated 18th September 1860.

1. I have already stated in my Administration Report, the urgent necessity of an Establishment in Madura* and was waiting for the report of Mr. Sperschneider to press the subject on the attention of Government. I consider that the number and pay of servants named is almost too small, though at first it may be sufficient.

2. When I visited the Pulni Hills last year, and conferred with Mr. T. Clarke, it was our opinion that the tops of the Pulnis especially should be conserved, and all the slopes of the Cumbum valley, at the further extremity of which (near the confines of Travancore,)† we saw a few fine Teak trees, a good deal of Blackwood, and a great abundance of superior jungle trees.

† In the tract marked "High waving mountain forming the source of the Shurly, overrun with dark impenetrable forest"—See Trigonometrical map.

3. The other jungles not alluded to in paragraph 1 of Mr. Levinge's letter should remain under the Collector at present.

4. The Madura District being very similar in physical features to Coimbatore, the "Rules‡ for the preservation of the jungles" should be adopted.

‡ Lately sanctioned by the Board.

5. In conclusion, I would make one addition to Mr. Levinge's proposal, viz., that Mr. Sperschneider should be allowed travelling allowance at the rate of 1 Rupee per diem.

6. I shall feel obliged if the Board of Revenue will submit this letter to Government, as it will obviate my troubling them.

From Lieutenant R. H. BEDDOME, Officiating Conservator of Forests, dated 6th November 1860, No. 240.

1. With reference to the 2nd paragraph of the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 18th September last, No. 4,235, stating their opinion that the tops of the Pulnis require conservancy, and for which no provision was made by the Collector of Madura, in his letter to the Board recorded in the above Proceedings, I have the honor to state that that Officer has now submitted his recommendation that two Peons should be appointed, one for the upper range at the Kodin Kanal Settlement, and the other on the lower Pulnis at Tondigoody and Purnyur, on a salary of Rupees 5 each. The pay of these Peons is fixed at 1 Rupee per month higher than the others as they have to live on the Hills where provisions, &c., are much dearer.

2. I, therefore, request that you will urge the Board to add this additional sum to the Establishment, formerly proposed, making a total sum of Rupees 100 instead of Rupees 90.

---

1. Ordered that the above papers be submitted to Government, with reference to their Proceedings, dated 7th September 1860, No. 1,544, R.-D., on the subject of the Conservancy of the Pulni Forests.

In Cons. 11th September 1860, No. 4,545.

Pulni Tondigudie Purnyur

2. Mr. Levinge has been in communication with Dr. Cleghorn and with Lieutenant Beddome, and the subject would more properly have been submitted to Government by the Conservancy Department, but illness prevented both of the Officers named from disposing of it, and as requested by them, the Board submit application for the Establishment which in communication with Mr. Levinge they approved.

3. Mr. Sperschneider is now in charge of the Forests in the Madura District, and the Collector has consulted with him after inspection of the Forests.

4. Five Forest ranges have been selected as worth conserving.

The Establishment proposed are—

		Per mensem.
1st Range	1 Maistry	Rs. 10
	1 Peon	
2nd do.	1 Maistry	„ 4
	2 Peons at 4 each ...	„ 10
3rd do.	2 Peons do.	„ 8
4th do.	1 Maistry	„ 8
	3 Peons at do	„ 10
5. Pulni tops ...	2 Do. at 5 each ...	„ 12
6. For the Supt.	1 Gumastah	„ 10
	2 Peons at 5 each ...	„ 15
Stationery, &c.	... ...	„ 10
		„ 3
	Rupees.....	100 per mensem.

5. Dr. Cleghorn further proposes that the Forest Superintendent shall have a travelling allowance of 1 Rupee per diem when moving on duty.

6. The pay of the Superintendent's Peons and of those proposed for the 5th Range is fixed at 1 Rupee per mensem higher than in the other ranges, as in the first instance the men have to travel with the Superintendent, and in the second they have to reside on the Hills where provisions are much dearer than in the plains.

7. The total expense is Rupees 100 per mensem, to which has to be added that of the Superintendent himself amounting to Rupees 80 per mensem, and Mr. Levinge is confident that the returns to be obtained by employing this Conservancy Establishment will much more than repay the whole cost even at present.

8. In the two first months of employment without any proper Establishment, the Superintendent collected Rupees 339½, and this will no doubt be rapidly increased when the resources of the Forests are developed.

9. The proposed Establishment being approved by Dr. Cleghorn, and appearing to be no more than is adequate for the purpose in view, the Board recommend that sanction be granted for its entertainment.

(True Copies and Extract.)

Acting Secretary.

To J. D. Sim, Esq., Acting Secretary to Government, R. D.

Copy to Captain H. R. Morgan, Officiating Conservator of Forests.
„ V. H. Levinge, Esq., Collector of Madura.

Exd. J. Wright.

Pro. 4th September No. 119 1860

Rev. 1860 Depart.t
From Govt for Salem No. 161 1923
Proceedings of the
Board of Revenue

Dated 17th
Desp Rec.d 12th } December 1860.
13th
E.I.

No. 5735

Submitting for orders correspondence with the Collr of Madura and the Conservator of Forests on the subject of the Conservancy of the Pulni Forests and recommending that the Establishment proposed by the Collr and approved by Dr Cleghorn be sanctioned.

No. 119. 17th January

With an order

No. 119

~~No. 119~~ 119

The Governor in Council approves the arrangements proposed in these Pros: for the conservancy of the forests in the district of Madura. Early application will be made to the Government of India for the Establishment proposed in para 1

2 The question of Travelling ~~for a travelling allowance if the~~ allowance to the Overseer will ~~Rupee per diem to the Guard~~ be considered in connection with that ~~Superintendent when moving on duty~~ of such allowances in the Department ~~assessment~~ recommended by Dr Cleghorn

18 Copies
To The Board of Revenue
Cuddr 18
" Ag. Cons.r of Forests
" Civil Auditor
Fort St. George
17th Jan.y 1861

No. 236 & 237.

C. 20th Dec. 1860