

(1) Number of pages 16

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CONCERNS BOTH BRITISH INDIA
AND INDIAN STATES.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. <u>1317</u>	Press
<u>148-149.</u>	Mis.
Dated <u>13. 10.</u>	<u>18 74.</u>

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 148. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 21st September 1874, No. 2,699:—

Read the following letters:—

From A. MACGREGOR, Esq., Collector of Malabar, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Calicut, 3rd August 1874, No. 172.

I have the honor to acknowledge Board's Proceedings, dated 2nd ultimo, Miscellaneous No. 4,424, referring for opinion G. O., dated 10th June 1874, No. 712, on the subject of the boundary dispute between Travancore and Cochin and British territory.

2. The first point on which I desire to express a very strong opinion is the inadvisability of in any way mixing up the negotiations regarding the *two* Native States.

3. If the two disputes are treated as perfectly distinct each will be found quite sufficiently complicated and tedious to try to the utmost the patience of every one engaged in its settlement, and if the two are thrown together the task will be hopeless.

4. From what I know of the nature of the country through which in the south the boundary line runs, and the character of the disputes regarding it, I should be inclined to estimate years where Mr. Puckle estimates months.

5. To come to particulars as regards Cochin and Malabar, this portion is referred to in the middle of paragraph 2 of Mr. Ballard's Memorandum, where he mentions Vengoly (wrongly printed Vengaly) peak as the trijunction of Coimbatore, Cochin, and Malabar. This point is, I believe, contested, there being land south-west of that mountain which all three parties claim.

6. Starting from whatever point may be decided on here the boundary runs for a distance of about twenty miles to a point where the barrier of hill is crossed and the plains reached, half-way between Potugoodatavalum and Pyaloor station.

7. This portion which, as regards the dispute between Malabar and Cochin, may be called Section I traverses throughout a very difficult country, in which even to travel, far less to camp with a large party.

The disputed teak forests referred to in paragraph 3 of the G. O. under report lie in this section, so also does the dispute referred to in paragraph 3 of my letter of the 20th March 1871, No. 81, printed with Board's Proceedings, dated 17th May 1871, No. 2,056. I have just been informed by the Dewan of Cochin that the Cochin Government has authorized their Conservator of Forests, Mr. Stevenson, to meet the authorities of this district and Coimbatore, and I have no doubt that in a few days the inquiry will have been fairly commenced. I have deputed the Head Assistant, Mr. Knox, on behalf of this district and have warned the Collengode Nambiddy to be represented, and I presume that Mr. Douglas, the Deputy Conservator, Annamallays, will act for Coimbatore, and that the inquiry will be under the direction of Captain Cloete. So far, therefore, everything is in train for settlement.

8. The next section of boundary runs for the first part in the plains, and I do not suppose there will be much difficulty here, as the land is all under cultivation.

The Head Assistant and Dewan Peshkar could go over it in a couple of days. The dispute begins where the forests are again entered, at the point near the word Veelaly in the Trigonometrical map. There have been numerous collisions lately

Vide G. O., 26th February 1853.

all along this part of the line. A settlement was effected, on an inquiry con-

ducted by Mr. Robinson, of part of this dispute; but as appears from my letter printed with G. O., dated 15th October 1870, No. 324, it has again cropped up, timber has been seized, British subjects kidnapped, elephants confiscated, &c. This section may be conveniently described as extending to the intersection of the Warakancherry and Trichoor road, about forty miles.

9. There is a long stretch from here, probably 100 miles in length, to the coast near Cranganore, the country being throughout under cultivation and the line generally following large rivers; there are, so far as I know, no disputes, and I question the utility of surveying it until the operations of the Survey Department bring them into this part of the country.

10. I do not think that there is any chance of the Cochin Government agreeing to appoint a Plenipotentiary to visit the forests in communication with the Survey authorities and make a final decision. The interests involved are too important to them, and the necessity of securing every possible acre is considered by their politicians too paramount to admit of any compromise anything short of their whole claim.

11. All that can be done, therefore, is for the Survey officers to prepare a map, showing the natural features and localities in greater detail than is done in the Trigonometrical map, and showing clearly the two rival lines of boundary claimed. The representatives accompanying the survey will have to draw up a report, or if they differ reports setting forth the grounds supporting their views; and on this the Native State and the Collectors must have an opportunity of making their remarks, and finally the actual line to be adopted as the boundary must be settled by Government.

12. I think that it would be a great advantage if Section 1 were reported on and decided before commencing with Section 2. The out-door work of the first section could probably be disposed of during this year's working season, which ends at the end of October. Section 2 might be gone on with as soon as that is disposed of by Government, as the portion in the plains could be worked at in any season. The hill portion, if commenced in July next year, might be got through by the end of the season.

13. It appears very desirable that Government should request the Cochin authorities not to attempt to remove timber from the disputed localities, pending settlement.

14. I have just received a report from the Deputy Conservator of the Anamallays that he caught Cochin forest officials in the act of removing from the disputed forest logs of timber which had been seized and stamped by his predecessor while in course of removal by the Cochin Forest Department eight years ago. The dispute having for eight years slumbered it is an obvious impropriety if one of the parties, on the eve of an inquiry, attempts to fabricate evidence in support of its claims by filching logs behind the other's back.

From A. WEDDERBURN, Esq., Collector of Coimbatore, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 15th August 1874, No. 199.

With reference to Miscellaneous Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, No. 1424, of 2nd July 1874, regarding the demarcation of the boundary of the Coimbatore District with the Travancore and Cochin States, I have the honor to state that the line of demarcation is so extensive that it cannot be satisfactorily commenced this year, at this period.

2. The Acting Superintendent of Revenue Survey seems to have been uninformed as regards paragraph 3 of his letter to the Board, recorded in these Proceedings, as it appears that seven or eight years ago Captain Gosling impounded certain timber which was being transported from forests south of the Vengoly mountain. The demarcation of the line ordered by Government in Proceedings, dated 15th December 1854, No. 1,662, was never made. Captain Michael, on 4th November 1854, reported that, according to the colored boundary on the T. S. map, the line so marked was far from a natural boundary. He wrote, "Near 'Paulcuddu' and 'Anamallaychairy' the rivers are evidently the natural boundary, but the line from thence to Vengoly peak, which runs through teak forest, is most eccentric and must remain obscure until marked by a ditch, and if it appears obscure on a map, the scale of which is four miles to an inch, how much more so must it be in reality to a person walking through tangled brushwood." He recommended a demarcation, which was ordered, but never carried out.

3. The line of demarcation shown in Map No. 62 is certainly open to these remarks, and as the distance is some fifty miles through dense forest and tangled brushwood it may fairly be considered as a difficult and extensive line, and not like the comparatively easy scrub jungle and grazing grounds of Courtallum referred to in the letter of the Collector of Tinnevely, paragraph 5.

4. Under these circumstances Major Cloete proposes, and I support the proposition, (copies of his letters are appended,) that the work should be postponed until early in next working season.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From Captain J. G. CLOETE, Deputy Superintendent, No. 1. Revenue Survey, Coimbatore, to J. H. STEVENSON, Esq., Acting Conservator of Forests, Cochin, dated 11th August 1874.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt this day of your letter, No. 24-1,049, of the 8th instant, stating that you cannot possibly meet the Malabar and Coimbatore representatives on the Anamallays before the 8th September.

2. As your letter will necessitate further reference to the authorities of those districts, to whom again the date named by you may be inconvenient, I am of opinion that the season will then be too far advanced to commence inquiries into what appears an extensive boundary dispute. Under these circumstances, and in view of a general scheme for the settlement of the Cochin and Travancore boundaries being under the consideration of Government, (G. O. No. 712, of 10th June 1874,) I think that little good can result from such partial inquiry, or from the demarcation of such small portion of the line as we should be able to do during the last few weeks of the working season.

3. I beg, therefore, that the determination of the boundary may be considered to be postponed until further notice.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) J. G. CLOETE, Captain,
Deputy Supt., Revenue Survey.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
13th October 1874.*

From Captain J. G. CLOETE, Deputy Supt., No. 1 Revenue Survey, to A. WEDDERBURN, Esq.,
Collector of Coimbatore, dated 11th August 1874.

With reference to your letter, No. 92, of 30th ultimo, and my reply, No. 852-539, of 5th instant, I have the honor to forward copy of a letter I have addressed to the Conservator of Forests, Cochin.

2. I trust you will agree with me as to the unadvisability of commencing the work this season under the circumstances detailed in my letter enclosed.

(True Copies.)

(Signed) A. WEDDERBURN,
Collector.

SUBMITTED to Government with reference to G. O., dated 10th June 1874, No. 712.

2. These papers refer to the boundary between Cochin and Coimbatore and Malabar.

3. It may be divided into five sections, viz.:—

(1.) Coimbatore and Travancore, from the point where Madura, Coimbatore, and Travancore meet to the point where Coimbatore, Cochin and Travancore meet.

(2.) Coimbatore and Cochin, from the point at which Coimbatore, Cochin and Travancore meet to the point at or near the Vengoly peak where Coimbatore, Malabar and Cochin meet.

(3.) Malabar and Cochin, from the trijunction of Coimbatore, Malabar and Cochin to a point where the boundary reaches the plains, about twenty miles from the Vengoly peak.

(4.) Malabar and Cochin, from the point just mentioned to the intersection of the Warakanaherry and Trichoor road.

(5.) Malabar and Cochin, from the intersection of this road to the coast near Cranganore.

4. Sections 1 and 2 are described by the Collector of Coimbatore as extensive and difficult and in parts disputed. He recommends that the work of demarcating the boundary should be deferred until next working season.

5. In the letter recorded in Board's Proceedings, dated 28th May 1874, No. 1,288, the Acting Superintendent of Revenue Survey intimated his intention of surveying the Coimbatore boundary at the Vengoly peak and south of it, and asked for early orders to secure the attendance of representatives of the parties concerned. The Board instructed the Collector of Malabar to send a representative, and Government requested the Cochin authorities to do the same. The Collector of Malabar now reports that he has deputed the Head Assistant Collector, Mr. Knox, to be present on his behalf, and warned the Collengode Nambiddy to be in attendance, and that the Cochin Government have deputed their Conservator of Forests, Mr. Stevenson. When writing on the 3rd August he expected that the inquiry would commence in a few days. From the enclosures to the letter from Coimbatore it appears, however, that the Survey Department have altogether relinquished their intention of demarcating the boundary this season, so that no inquiry has been commenced.

6. The Board think that there is yet time for useful work to be done. It appears that there is a dispute at the trijunction, and that there is land south-

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
13th October 1874.*

west of the Vengoly peak claimed by both Malabar and Cochin, and (the Collector of Malabar says) by Coimbatore also. Mr. Douglas, the Deputy Conservator of the Anamallays, on behalf of Coimbatore should meet Mr. Knox on behalf of Malabar, Mr. Stevenson on behalf of Cochin and the Collengode Nambiddy's representative and inquire into the dispute. They should be attended by Surveyors from the Coimbatore party, and if necessary a sketch showing the characteristics of the locality and the disputed lines of boundary at the trijunction should be prepared for the orders of Government.

7. The demarcation of the boundary south of this point to the trijunction between Coimbatore, Malabar and Cochin may, the Board think, be deferred until next season.

8. Section 3 (called by Mr. Macgregor Section 1.) This section runs for twenty miles through very difficult country and includes important disputes.

9. After the trijunction at or near the Vengoly peak is settled, Mr. Knox and Mr. Stevenson might proceed along this line, demarcating the line where it is undisputed and getting sketches prepared of the disputed parts, which will enable Government to pass final orders.

10. Section 4 (called by Mr. Macgregor Section 2). This consists of a part in the plains which passes through cultivated land, and which "the Head Assistant Collector and the Dewan Peshkar could go over in a couple of days," and of a part passing through forests and difficult country which is full of disputes. Each part is about twenty miles long. It will be impossible to do anything for the second part this year, but the Board think the first part should be settled at once and demarcated.

11. Section 5. This contains the remainder of the boundary as far as the coast, and is 100 miles long. There are no disputes regarding it now, and the Board agree with the Collector that it should not be demarcated at present.

12. With regard to paragraphs 13 and 14 of Mr. Macgregor's letter the Board resolve to advise Government to request the Cochin Circular not to interfere with the wood in disputed tracts until the disputes are settled, undertaking that their own officers will also abstain from interference.

No. 149. ORDER THEREON, 13th October 1874, No. 1,317.

Miscellaneous.

THE Board's proposals are approved
and sanctioned.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

No. 367

1400

Dated 24th Dec 1871

FOR ORDERS.

I would accept the
first proposal. The other
three are the same. In fact
are settled, the latter

Arthur

2/10/74

8/10

[illegible]

100

100

1. The first step is to identify the problem or question that needs to be addressed. This involves understanding the context and the specific requirements of the task.

FOR ORDERS.

No. 2,699.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 21st September 1874.

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5. To come to particulars as regards Cochin and Malabar, this portion is referred to in the middle of paragraph 9 of Mr. Ballard's Memorandum, where he mentions Vengoly (wrongly printed Vengaly) peak as the trijunction of Coimbatore, Cochin, and Malabar. This point is, I believe, contested, there being land south-west of that mountain which all three parties claim.

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12. With regard to paragraphs 13 and 14 of Mr. Macgregor's letter the Board resolve to advise Government to request the Cochin Circular not to interfere with the wooded disputed tracts until the disputes are settled, undertaking that their own officers will also abstain from interference.

(True Copies and Extract.)

R. R. R.
Secretary.

To the Acting Secretary to Government, Revenue Department,

„ the Collector of Coimbatore.

„ the Collector of Malabar.

Copy to the Collector of Madura.

„ to the Collector of Tinnevely.

„ to the Inspector of Forests.

„ to the Superintendent of Revenue Survey.

Rd. J. Tulloch.

5 On 22nd/11/2009-91
26 Oct 2009-8
15 Dec 2009-24-85-

14. B. O. O. O.

[illegible]

Dec: 1874. Depati
Edward A. B. Irvine,
MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 21ST SEPTEMBER 1874, No. 2, 699.

Doc 29 6/17/74
Encl.

Received of *Wm. L. 7/10*

Novbr - in October 1874

SEPTEMBER.
No. 2, 699.

Boundary dispute—between Cochin, Coimbatore, and Malabar.—Papers on subject of—submitted to Government with remarks. Government advised to request the Cochin Government not to interfere with the wood in disputed tracts until disputes are settled, undertaking that their own officers will also abstain from interference.

Wittolin.
~~Wittolin~~