M.R.O. 14-5,450—23-10-25.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 2559 Press ~~Mis~~

592 593

Dated 31— 10 — 1867.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 31st October 1867.

No. 592. Read the following letter from the Conservator of Forests, to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Fort St. George, dated Madras, 24th October 1867, No. 342:—

1. An experimental Casuarina plantation was commenced last year as a famine work near Tiroovellum by the Collector of North Arcot, the extent of the ground enclosed is 198 acres. Wells have been dug, and nurseries formed. 18,000 young trees have been planted out with method and skill.

2. The plantation is situated close to the railway viaduct, at the confluence of the Poiney and Palar rivers, and may be enlarged to the extent of 160 acres, when it will cover a compact block of about 350 acres within ten miles of Vellore, and will form an important increment to the area of fuel-producing tracts for the South-West Railway.

3. The Collector wishes to hand over the plantation to the Forest Department on the 1st of January 1868, and I have the honor to request the sanction of Government to this arrangement. The plantation would then be placed under the Forest Officer in charge of the Cuddapah and North Arcot Range.

4. The cost of the existing establishment is Rupees 63 *per mensem*, but as much of this expenditure would more properly come under the head of working charges than establishment, I would suggest that it be met from the working charges of the range until the Forest Officer can organize a permanent fixed establishment.

5. I enclose a letter* giving the details of original cost of nurseries, fencing, &c., received from the Collector of North Arcot, and may be allowed to state that he has displayed great interest and judgment in conducting the experiment.

* No. 254, dated 12th October 1867.

From the Collector of North Arcot, to the Conservator of Forests, dated Chittoor, 12th October 1867, No. 254.

1. In acknowledging receipt of your demi-official note of the 1st instant, I have the honor to state that I shall be prepared to give over the experimental Casuarina plantation at Tiroovellum on the 1st January next. The number of young trees already planted out amounts, as last reported, to 18,000, and there are probably some 3,000 well-grown seedlings ready to transplant as soon as the rains have fairly set in. Spacious seed-beds have been formed, and the seed recently sent by you has already been put down. The entire area and enclosing embankments have been thickly sown since your visit with the seeds of the *Cassia Florida*, *Acacia Speciosa*, and *Acacia Arabica*, and as we have had some showers latterly, I am in hopes the seed will germinate and come away freely. The superficial extent of the plantation is 198 acres. The cost of enclosing it, protecting it at the head from river-floods, &c., executed as famine work last year, amounted to Rupees 1,177-12-0. The subsequent cost of raising nurseries, digging wells, planting out, conveyance of soil, watering, and establishment, amounted, on the 30th September last, to Rupees 1,878,* making up a total expenditure of Rupees 3,055-12-0.

* District Road Fund	Rupees 1,500
Jungle Conservancy Fund	,, 378
	1,878

2. The cost of the establishment (particulars as per margin) now entertained is Rupees 63 monthly. By the end of the year this can be considerably reduced.

	Rs.	A	P.
† 1 Pygust	7	0	0
1 Head Cooly	5	0	0
2 Coolies at Rs. 3½ each	7	0	0
22 Boys at Rs. 1-14-0 each	41	4	0
Sundries	2	12	0
	63	0	0

3. The plantation is situated close to the railway, at the confluence of the Poiney and

Palar rivers, in the finest tract of sandy soil in the district. The exposure is good, and water is abundant at from five feet to fifteen feet below the surface. The plantation admits of being enlarged to the extent of some 160 acres; but there are some petty vested rights in wells and cultivated plots which will have to be bought up, should it be eventually decided to place the experiment on a larger basis as I should recommend.

4. The temporary absence of the Tahsildar has somewhat retarded negotiation respecting the amount of compensation which will have to be paid on the new tract, but I hope to be able to communicate results to you within a week from this time.

No. 593. ORDER THEREON, 31st-October 1867, No. 2,559.

Forests, No. 17.

1. The Government approve and sanction the proposed arrangement, and desire that steps be at once taken to secure possession whenever required, of the tract stated to be available for an extension of the plantation.

2. The Government are much indebted to the Collector for this useful work.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Secretary to Government.

To the Officiating Conservator of Forests.
,, the Board of Revenue.
,, the Collector of North Arcot.
,, the Accountant General.

Ex[illegible]stin.

No. 2559 - 2

Refer to accompanying
sketches the proposed
arrangement. & desire
that steps be at once taken
to secure possession 2 Rooms
required for the tract stated
to be available for use
as Plantation
Refer to enclosed
in detail & the Cost for the
required work. L.B.

31st Oct. 67.

No.

13 Cases Tools &c for Overseers Houses &c
14 Cases do. do.
1 Bale Cloths for Negroes
6 Cases do.

50
6