M.R.O. 14—5,450—22-10-25.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue- **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 2739 Press Mis.

343. 344

Dated 19—11—1867.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 343. Read the following letter from the Conservator of Forests, to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Fort St. George, dated Madras, 26th October 1867, No. 347 :—

1. With reference to Proceedings of Madras Government, 8th March 1866, No. 596, I have the honor to enclose a letter from the Collector of Coimbatore, dated 2nd October 1867, No. 35, intimating that about 600 acres are available for a firewood reserve on the east side of Walliar.

2. It had been proposed by me that a compact block of 5,000 to 6,000 acres should be demarcated for spontaneous reproductions, as the locality is particularly favorable for the growth of wood, but many difficulties were experienced by the Collector, who found that numerous small improving leases had been granted by his predecessor in the middle of the tract selected for reservation. Mr. Grant has used every exertion, but can only assign 600 acres for the railway reserve.

3. There are many bends and angles which will increase the expense of demarcation, this Mr. Grant estimates at 8,000 Rupees. One thousand is provided in the Budget, and there will be considerable savings to supplement this sum. The conclusion need not be completed this year, though it would be well to finish it at once.

4. It appears to be desirable that Lieutenant Gosling, the Forest Officer of the range, and an Assistant Collector should inspect the tract together, in order that an accurate record may be made, and with a view to compensating any ryot who might be willing to give up land for extending and consolidating the reserved tract. This arrangement might be carried out during the ensuing cold season.

No. 344. ORDER THEREON, 19th November 1867, No. 2,739.

Forests, No. 10.

1. Communicated to the Board of Revenue. The Government approve the Conservator's suggestion in paragraph 4, and desire that arrangements may be made for carrying it out.

2. The Collector will use his best endeavours to increase the reserved area to the extent desired, in as compact a block as possible.

3. Too much importance cannot be attached to this question of fuel reserves in the vicinity of railways.

4. The Officiating Conservator will consider, in communication with the Consulting Engineer for Railways, whether the rate of seigniorage now charged to the Railway Companies for fuel may not fairly be somewhat raised to meet the additional inevitable cost of these measures of conservancy.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.
,, the Officiating Conservator of Forests.
,, the Collector of Coimbatore.
,, the Consulting Engineer for Railways.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

Pro. No. 134. 135 d. 8.3.66