Revenue (1896.) Department.

PRESS SERIES.

G.O., No. 573.

DATED 6th October

[Despatch Abstract.]

Sanctioning the scheme for further reclamation in the Tinnevelly District.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Revenue (189 6) Department.

CURRENT No. 6 to 8 Col

The Hon'ble Mr. J. Eyre. C. S. I. &

CHIEF SECRETARY'S
7 SEP 1896
GOVERNMENT OF

SECL. GOVT. RECTD.
7 SEP 96
REV. DEP.

From The Board of Revenue
Land Revenue
Forest Branch

Order of the Govt. 14/10/96
No 573

The Government concurs with the Board in the opinions expressed in para 8 of its Proceedings and accords its sanction to the release for further reservation in the Timmerally Pt.

No. 395

Dated 28 August 1896
Received 7-9-96
Registered 8-9-96
Enclosures
Spare copies

To the Board of Revenue, Rr. Dcl. 17-10

Note. The question is dealt with fully by the Bd and no remarks would appear to be called for.

SUBJECT.

Recommd. Govt. for final sanction, proposals of the Collr. of Timmerally for further reservation in the Pt

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
B.R.(L.)	375		15.8.96
T.O	253		13.6.96
	220		28.5.96
	348		19.5.94
	422		23.5.89

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Board of Revenue (Land Revenue), Forest No. 395, 28th August 1896.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE

(Land Revenue).

Read—again Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue), Forest No. 252, dated 14th April 1894. in G.O. 348 19.5.94

Abstract.—Submitting to Government report on the subject of further reservation of land and of supply of small timber and fuel to the agricultural population in the Tinnevelly district.

Read—again the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue), Forest Mis. No. 985, dated 31st July 1894:—

Read—the following letter from B. MACLEOD, Esq., Acting Collector of Tinnevelly, to the Secretary to the Commissioners of Land Revenue (through the Conservator of Forests, Southern Circle), dated 3rd July 1894, No. 1351:—

I have the honour to reply to paragraph 1 of Board's Proceedings, No. 252-F., dated 14th April 1894, and No. 371-F., dated 9th June 1894, regarding the correct extent of lands proposed for reservation in each taluk of the district. * Comp G.O. 348 19.5.94

2. Since the date of this office letter of the 28th February 1893, No. 134, the District Forest-officer, Mr. Thornton, has, with the assistance of Mr. Moss, the Acting District Forest-officer, inspected the district and proposed many more reserves (*vide* statement enclosed). It is to be regretted that, in spite of instructions to Mr. Thornton to send them up, they reached the Collector only in March last, so that they have not all had his approval.

3. The District Forest-officer's proposals have since been sent to divisional and jamabandi officers for investigation and report. On receipt of their reports the case of each reserve proposed by Mr. Thornton will be considered on its merits, and submitted to the Board for reservation after preliminary demarcation and mapping. The reserves proposed by Mr. Thornton in Tinnevelly taluk and in part of Sankaranayinárkóyil taluk have been dealt with and the reserves included in the monthly progress statements A for April and May 1894.

4. From the statement enclosed it will appear that Mr. Thornton has proposed 160 additions to existing reserves and 144 new reserves with a total area of 135 square miles against 82 square miles reported in this office letter No. 134 of the 28th February 1893. Besides, 217 tanks with an area of 48 square miles have been proposed for reservation; I am not prepared to approve of them at present but with a few exceptions, as many of the tanks are less than the prescribed area of 200 acres and should be had recourse to only when there are no other fuel and fodder reserves near at hand.

ENCLOSURE.

STATEMENT of lands proposed for reservation in the Tinnevelly district.

Taluk.	Total area of the taluk.	Total area of Government lands.	Total area of Government unoccupied lands.	Particulars of area proposed to be reserved by the District Forest-officer.							Area of existing reserves in square miles.	Total area of existing and proposed reserves excluding tanks.	Percentage of column 13 to 3.	Percentage of column 13 to 4.
				Extension to existing reserves.		Isolated blocks.		Total area of proposed reserves in square miles.	Tanks proposed for reservation.					
				Number of blocks.	Area in acres.	Number.	Area in acres.		Number.	Area in square miles.				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	SQ. MLS.	SQ. MLS.	SQ. MLS.											
Tenkarai	630·3	499·	143·3	16	1,454	18	22,512	37·4	18	4·1	30·7	68·1	13·6	47·5
Ottappidáram	1,155·3	814·6	49·1	1	65	17	9,100	14·3	17	3·6	1·6	15·9	5·0	32·4
Nánguneri	701·3	548·1	233·9	11	425	32	13,615	22·4	46	8·1	80·3	102·7	15·8	43·1
Ambásamudram ..	495·4	468·3	281·1	23	2,184	19	3,639	9·1	25	1·4	144·9	154·0	33·2	64·8
Tenkási	423·6	212·7	80·5	17	4,467	4	322	7·5	6	0·9	37·5	45·0	21·2	55·9
Sankaranayinárkóyil ..	649·8	342·9	129·8	28	576	10	3,280	6·0	28	8·0	42·4	48·4	14·1	37·4
Srivilliputtúr	607·6	480·5	195·6	69	3,916	13	6,237	15·9	32	10·0	71·5	87·4	18·2	44·7
Sáttúr	502·	265·4	34·7	..	..	6	1,150	1·8	35	8·0	..	1·8	·7	5·2
Tinnevelly	318·3	281·4	75·2	4	1,417	25	11,875	20·8	16	3·9	1·7	22·5	8·0	29·9
Total ..	5,883·6	3,507·9	1,222·6	169	14,504	144	72,030	135·2	217	47·9	410·6	545·8	15·5	44·6

Endorsement by J. W. CHERRY, Esq., Conservator of Forests, Southern Circle, dated Coimbatore, 18th July 1894, No. 1328.

Forwarded.

Resolution—Forest Mis. No. 985, dated 31st July 1894.

Recorded.

2. The Collector is requested to submit definite and complete proposals as to the area to be reserved in each taluk.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) L. M. WYNCH,
Secretary.

To the Collector of Tinnevelly, through the
Conservator of Forests, Southern Circle.

READ—also the following letter from A. W. B. HIGGENS, Esq., Collector of Tinnevelly, to the Secretary to the Commissioners of Land Revenue (through the Conservator of Forests, Southern Circle), dated 15th June 1896, B. and C. Cur. No. 343 :—

Referring to paragraph 2 of Board's Proceedings, Forest Mis. No. 985, dated 31st July 1894, and in continuation of this office letter No. 3793-9548, dated 2nd December 1894, I have the honour to enclose a statement showing definitely the area that has been proposed to be reserved in each taluk of this district.

2. It would appear from the enclosed statement that fifteen blocks comprising 8,794·55 acres have already been notified under section 4 of the Forest Act. The only other reserved land is the Vaippár jungle poramboke notified under section 26. This has since been recommended by the Board to be notified under section 4 with some additional area (*vide* Board's Proceedings, Forest No. 171, dated 15th April 1896). Thus it will be seen that there are no other cultivable waste lands declared reserved land under section 26 requiring to be notified under section 4 of the Forest Act. In

all 44 blocks comprising 21,120·66 acres have been proposed to be reserved, out of which notifications under section 4 for 20 blocks comprising 12,289·26 acres have been submitted, and for the rest they are under preparation and will be submitted shortly. These proposed areas, for which notifications under section 4 are yet to issue, have not previously been declared reserved land under section 26, but will become so as soon as they are notified under section 4.

3. Originally a large number of blocks were proposed for reservation, but under the recent orders of the Board and Government prescribing a one square mile limit, several of them were at once thrown out as useless. The small blocks which were notified under section 4 before receipt of these orders fixing the minimum extent have, for the most part, been since abandoned and the original notifications cancelled. The enclosed statement excludes such abandoned areas.

4. In his recent inspection of the district the Conservator has proposed the reservation of all tank-bed areas in the district on account of their good babul growth. The enclosed statement does not, however, take into account the tank-bed areas.

ENCLOSURE.

Name of the taluk.	Area of the taluk.	Area of Government villages.	Occupied extent under Government.	Unoccupied extent under Government.	Area of already existing reserves.	Area of reserves for which notification under section 4 has issued in the gazette.	Area of reserves for which notification under section 4 has been submitted but not published.	Area of reserves for which notification has not been submitted.	Total of columns 7 to 9.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Tinnevelly	208,289	183,462	132,377	47,869	1,153·95	*6,116·82	..	900·	*7,016·82
Nánguneri	393,518	372,025	266,000	91,267	51,401·06	..	..	1,315·77	1,315·77
Ambásamudram ..	168,821	159,375	116,804	38,360	92,750·73	*1,260·50	..	..	1,260·50
Tenkási	324,276	109,588	84,802	20,326	24,035·40	..	*614·17	3,868·76	4,482·93
Sankaranayinárkóyil ..	388,765	182,095	136,685	32,294	27,114·55	*342·57	..	910·	1,252·57
Srivilliputtúr	301,936	249,028	182,283	61,546	45,785·71	..	..	1,836·87	1,836·87
Sáttúr	365,034	182,450	147,705	22,164	..	..	..	..	..
Ottappidáram	679,172	202,325	169,937	31,957	1,002·71	*2,197·57	..	..	*2,197·57
Srivaikuntam	346,768	332,021	227,835	91,515	19,665·69	1,073·52	..	..	1,073·52
Total ..	3,076,379	1,972,379	1,464,428	431,728	2,629·20	*10,990·98	*614·17	8,331·40	*20,436·55

* Corrected by the Board.

Endorsement by E. D. M. HOOPER, Esq., Acting Conservator of Forests, Southern Circle, dated Coimbatore, 20th June 1896, Ref. No. 4017

Forwarded. The Conservator's remarks are now probably before the Board.

RESOLUTION—Forest No. 395, dated 28th August 1896.

In his letter of 28th February 1893 (disposed of in Board's Proceedings, Mis. No. 297, dated 29th March 1893) read in Board's Proceedings, Forest No. 252, dated 14th April 1894, the Collector of Tinnevelly submitted proposals for the further reservation of forest areas in his district. The Board then called for more exact figures of area, as the Collector's estimate was admittedly a rough one. After some further correspondence the Collector has now submitted a statement showing definitely the area proposed for reservation in each taluk.

2. It was originally proposed by the District Forest-officer that, in addition to the 411 square miles then notified as reserves, about 135 square miles in the plain taluks should be taken up, besides 217 tanks with an aggregate area of about 48 square miles; but the Collector was not prepared to approve of the proposal to reserve the tanks, most of which are less than 200 acres in extent, and considered that such a proceeding should be resorted to only when there were no other fuel and fodder reserves near at hand. The proposals now submitted exclude these tank-beds, which are scattered over the entire area of the district. The Conservator in his inspection report disposed of in Board's Proceedings, Forest No. 375, dated 15th August 1896, recommended the reservation of all these areas without exception, but the Board has not been able to accept the Conservator's suggestions for reasons detailed in the Board's Proceedings just quoted.

3. The total extent of lands already constituted "reserved forests" is 408 square miles exclusive of the areas disafforested under Government Order, No. 263, Revenue, dated 13th June 1896; and about 17 square miles notified under section 4 are pending settlement. It is now proposed to add only 15 square miles, the original selections having been considerably curtailed in pursuance of the recent orders on the subject of reservation. The total reserved area of the district will thus eventually come to about 440 square miles.

4. The following statement shows the area already reserved and proposed to be reserved talukwar, and the percentages of the forest area to the total area of the Government lands and the unoccupied Government lands in the several taluks:—

Name of taluk.	Total area of the taluk.	Area of Government lands in the taluk.	Extent of Government		Forest area.			Total forest area to be eventually reserved excluding the tank-beds.	Percentage of	
			Occupied lands.	Unoccupied lands.	Already reserved (excluding disforested).	Under settlement.	Newly proposed.		Column 9 to column 3.	Column 9 to column 5.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	sq. mls.									
Tinnevelly	* 318·3	287	207	75	2	9·5	1·5	13	4·4	17·6
Nángunéri	701·3	581	416	142	80	..	2·	82	14·1	57·7
Ambásamudram	495·4	† 392	182	† 196	143	2	..	145	37·	74·5
Tenkási	423·6	† 213	132	† 81	38	..	7·	45	20·9	55·3
Sankaranayinárkóyil ..	649·8	† 326	214	† 92	41	0·6	1·5	43	13·3	47·2
Srivilliputtúr	607·6	† 481	285	† 196	71	..	3·	74	15·4	37·9
Sáttúr	502·	285	231	35	..	..	..	..	..	..
Ottappidáram	1,155·3	516	285	49	2	3·	..	6	1·6	10·1
Srivaikuntam	580·3	519	356	143	31	2	..	33	6·2	22·5
Total ..	5,383·6	3,400	2,288	1,008	408	17	15·	440	12·9	43·6

* The figures in column 2 are those given in column 2 of the statement in Board's Proceedings, Forest No. 252, dated 14th April 1894.

† Includes also unsurveyed area.

5. It will be observed that the percentages of unoccupied Government lands already reserved and proposed to be reserved (column 11) are large in the ghât taluks of Nángunéri, Ambásamudram, Tenkási, Sankaranayinárkóyil and Srivilliputtúr, the largest being 74 per cent. in Ambásamudram. The reserves are mostly hill forests and their reservation is in accordance with the proposals of the Select Committee referred to in paragraph 579 of Dr. Brandis' suggestions. The Board considers that reservation in these taluks is adequate. The percentages in the plain taluks of Tinnevelly, Ottappidáram and Srivaikuntam are small, while no reservation at all is proposed for the Sáttúr taluk. The unsuitability of waste lands in the Tinnevelly and Ottappidáram taluks for the purposes of reservation has already been explained in the Proceedings first read above. The extent of unoccupied Government lands is small and the requirements of the people, as regards fuel and fodder, can be met from their own patta lands as well as from such waste lands as there are, including the well wooded tank-beds referred to in

paragraph 2 *supra*. In the Proceedings just quoted, about 2·6 square miles were shown as proposed for reservation in the Sáttúr taluk, but this area has now been omitted probably in consideration of the recent ruling restricting reservation to areas of more than one square mile. The alteration should, however, have been explained. As regards the Srivaikuntam taluk also, the sources of fuel supply from private lands are reported* to be considerable. In these circumstances the reservation already made and now proposed in the plain taluks may be regarded as sufficient, and the Board recommends the present scheme to Government for final sanction.

* *Vide* paragraph 5 of District Forest-officer's note printed at page 2 of Government Order, No. 422, Revenue, dated 23rd May 1889.

(True Copies and Extract.)

Acting Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
" Collector of Tinnevelly.
" Conservator of Forests, Southern Circle.

Rad. C. M. Thumbusawmy.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

1896.

Board of Revenue

(Land Revenue),

MADRAS.

Printed September th.

Proceedings, Forest No. 395, 28*th August* 1896.

Recommending to Government, for final sanction, proposals of the Collector of Tinnevelly for further reservation in his district.

Government {1896} of Madras.

REVENUE.

Recd. } 1896. *Enclosures*

Regd. } *Spare copies*

G.O., No. 513, 6th October 1896.

OCTOBER.

Further Reservation.

The scheme for the — in the Tinnevelly district, sanctioned.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue), Forest No. 395, dated 28th August 1896 :—

Read—again Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue), Forest No. 252, dated 14th April 1894.

Abstract.—Submitting to Government report on the subject of further reservation of land and of supply of small timber and fuel to the agricultural population in the Tinnevelly district.

Read—again the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue), Forest Mis. No. 985, dated 31st July 1894 :—

Read—the following letter from B. MACLEOD, Esq., Acting Collector of Tinnevelly, to the Secretary to the Commissioners of Land Revenue (through the Conservator of Forests, Southern Circle), dated 3rd July 1894, No. 1351 :—

I have the honour to reply to paragraph 1 of Board's Proceedings, No. 252-F., dated 14th April 1894, and No. 371-F., dated 9th June 1894, regarding the correct extent of lands proposed for reservation in each taluk of the district.

2. Since the date of this office letter of the 28th February 1893, No. 134, the District Forest-officer, Mr. Thornton, has, with the assistance of Mr. Moss, the Acting District Forest-officer, inspected the district and proposed many more reserves (*vide* statement enclosed). It is to be regretted that, in spite of instructions to Mr. Thornton to send them up, they reached the Collector only in March last, so that they have not all had his approval.

3. The District Forest-officer's proposals have since been sent to divisional and jamabandi officers for investigation and report. On receipt of their reports the case of each reserve proposed by Mr. Thornton will be considered on its merits, and submitted to the Board for reservation after preliminary demarcation and mapping. The reserves proposed by Mr. Thornton in Tinnevelly taluk and in part of Sankaranayinárkóyil taluk have been dealt with and the reserves included in the monthly progress statements A for April and May 1894.

4. From the statement enclosed it will appear that Mr. Thornton has proposed 169 additions to existing reserves and 144 new reserves with a total area of 135 square miles against 82 square miles reported in this office letter No. 134 of the 28th February 1893. Besides, 217 tanks with an area of 48 square miles have been proposed for reservation ; I am not prepared to approve of them at present but with a few exceptions, as many of the tanks are less than the prescribed area of 200 acres and should be had recourse to only when there are no other fuel and fodder reserves near at hand.

Enclosure.

Statement of lands proposed for reservation in the Tinnevelly district.

Taluk.	Total area of the taluk.	Total area of Government lands.	Total area of Government unoccupied lands.	Particulars of area proposed to be reserved by the District Forest-officer.							Area of existing reserves in square miles.	Total area of existing and proposed reserves excluding tanks.	Percentage of column 13 to 3.	Percentage of column 13 to 4.
				Extension to existing reserves.		Isolated blocks.		Total area of proposed reserves in square miles.	Tanks proposed for reservation.					
				Number of Blocks.	Area in acres.	Number.	Area in acres.		Number.	Area in square miles.				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	sq. mls.	sq. mls.	sq. mls.											
Tenkarai	530·3	499·	143·3	16	1,454	18	22,512	37·4	13	4·1	80·7	68·1	13·6	47·5
Ottappidáram	1,155·3	314·6	49·1	1	65	17	9,100	14·3	17	3·5	1·6	15·9	5·0	32·4
Nánguneri	701·3	648·1	233·9	11	426	32	13,915	22·4	46	8·1	80·3	102·7	15·8	43·1
Ambásamudram ..	495·4	468·3	287·1	23	2,184	19	3,629	9·1	26	1·4	144·9	154·0	33·2	54·8
Tenkási	423·6	212·7	80·5	17	4,467	4	322	7·5	5	0·9	37·5	45·0	21·2	55·9
Sankaranayinárkóyil ..	649·8	842·9	129·3	28	578	10	3,280	6·0	28	8·0	42·4	48·4	14·1	37·4
Srivilliputtur	607·6	480·5	195·5	69	3,918	6	1,180	1·8	35	8·0	..	1·8	..	0·2
Sáttúr	502·	265·4	34·7	..	..	13	6,287	15·9	32	10·0	71·5	87·4	18·2	44·7
Tinnevelly	318·3	281·4	75·2	4	1,417	25	11,875	20·8	16	3·9	1·7	22·6	8·0	29·9
Total ..	5,383·6	3,507·9	1,222·6	169	14,504	144	72,030	135·2	217	47·9	410·6	545·8	15·5	44·6

Endorsement by J. W. CHERRY, Esq., Conservator of Forests, Southern Circle, dated Coimbatore, 18th July 1894, No. 1328.

Forwarded.

Resolution—Forest Mis. No. 985, dated 31st July 1894.

Recorded.

2. The Collector is requested to submit definite and complete proposals as to the area to be reserved in each taluk.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) L. M. WYNCH,
Secretary.

To the Collector of Tinnevelly, through the
Conservator of Forests, Southern Circle.

Read—also the following letter from A. W. B. HIGGENS, Esq., Collector of Tinnevelly, to the Secretary to the Commissioners of Land Revenue (through the Conservator of Forests, Southern Circle), dated 15th June 1896, B. and C. Cur. No. 343 :—

Referring to paragraph 2 of Board's Proceedings, Forest Mis. No. 985, dated 31st July 1894, and in continuation of this office letter No. 3793-9548, dated 2nd December 1894, I have the honour to enclose a statement showing definitely the area that has been proposed to be reserved in each taluk of this district.

2. It would appear from the enclosed statement that fifteen blocks comprising 8,794·55 acres have already been notified under section 4 of the Forest Act. The only other reserved land is the Vaippár jungle porambóke notified under section 26. This has since been recommended by the Board to be notified under section 4 with some additional area (*vide* Board's Proceedings, Forest No. 171, dated 15th April 1896). Thus it will be seen that there are no other cultivable waste lands declared reserved land under section 26 requiring to be notified under section 4 of the Forest Act. In

all 44 blocks comprising 21,120·66 acres have been proposed to be reserved, out of which notifications under section 4 for 20 blocks comprising 12,289·26 acres have been submitted, and for the rest they are under preparation and will be submitted shortly. These proposed areas, for which notifications under section 4 are yet to issue, have not previously been declared reserved land under section 26, but will become so as soon as they are notified under section 4.

3. Originally a large number of blocks were proposed for reservation, but under the recent orders of the Board and Government prescribing a one square mile limit, several of them were at once thrown out as useless. The small blocks which were notified under section 4 before receipt of these orders fixing the minimum extent have, for the most part, been since abandoned and the original notifications cancelled. The enclosed statement excludes such abandoned areas.

4. In his recent inspection of the district the Conservator has proposed the reservation of all tank-bed areas in the district on account of their good babul growth. The enclosed statement does not, however, take into account the tank-bed areas.

Enclosure.

Name of the taluk.	Area of the taluk.	Area of Government villages.	Occupied extent under Government.	Unoccupied extent under Government.	Area of already existing reserves.	Area of reserves for which notification under section 4 has been issued in the gazette.	Area of reserves for which notification under section 4 has been submitted but not published.	Area of reserves for which notification has not been submitted.	Total of columns 7 to 9.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Tinnevelly	208,282	183,462	132,377	47,863	1,153·95	* 6,116·82	..	900·	* 7,016·82
Nánguneri	393,518	372,025	266,000	91,267	51,401·06	..	..	1,315·77	1,315·77
Ambásamudram ..	168,521	159,375	116,804	38,360	92,750·73	* 1,260·50	..	..	1,260·50
Tenkási	324,879	109,538	84,802	20,326	24,036·66	..	* 614·17	3,868·76	4,482·93
Sankaranayinárkóyil	388,765	132,095	136,886	82,294	27,114·56	* 242·57	..	910·	1,152·57
Srivilliputtúr ..	301,936	249,038	182,283	61,548	45,785·71	..	..	1,836·87	1,836·87
Sáttúr	855,934	182,450	147,705	32,164	..	..	..	..	..
Ottappidáram ..	279,172	202,325	169,937	31,887	1,002·71	* 2,197·57	..	..	* 2,197·57
Srivaikuntam ..	346,763	332,021	227,885	91,515	19,665·69	1,073·62	..	..	1,073·62
Total ..	3,076,379	1,972,379	1,464,428	491,723	2,529·20	* 10,990·98	* 614·17	8,831·40	* 20,436·66

* Corrected by the Board.

Endorsement by E. D. M. HOOPER, Esq., Acting Conservator of Forests, Southern Circle, dated Coimbatore, 20th June 1896, Ref. No. 4017.

Forwarded. The Conservator's remarks are now probably before the Board.

Resolution—Forest No. 895, dated 28th August 1896.

In his letter of 28th February 1893 (disposed of in Board's Proceedings, Mis. No. 297, dated 29th March 1893) read in Board's Proceedings, Forest No. 252, dated 14th April 1894, the Collector of Tinnevelly submitted proposals for the further reservation of forest areas in his district. The Board then called for more exact figures of area, as the Collector's estimate was admittedly a rough one. After some further correspondence the Collector has now submitted a statement showing definitely the area proposed for reservation in each taluk.

2. It was originally proposed by the District Forest-officer that, in addition to the 411 square miles then notified as reserves, about 135 square miles in the plain taluks should be taken up, besides 217 tanks with an aggregate area of about 48 square miles; but the Collector was not prepared to approve of the proposal to reserve the tanks, most of which are less than 200 acres in extent, and considered that such a proceeding should be resorted to only when there were no other fuel and fodder reserves near at hand. The proposals now submitted exclude these tank-beds, which are scattered over the entire area of the district. The Conservator in his inspection report disposed of in Board's Proceedings, Forest No. 375, dated 15th August 1896, recommended the reservation of all these areas without exception, but the Board has not been able to accept the Conservator's suggestions for reasons detailed in the Board's Proceedings just quoted.

3. The total extent of lands already constituted "reserved forests" is 408 square miles exclusive of the areas disafforested under Government Order, No. 265, Revenue, dated 13th June 1896; and about 17 square miles notified under section 4 are pending settlement. It is now proposed to add only 15 square miles, the original selections having been considerably curtailed in pursuance of the recent orders on the subject of reservation. The total reserved area of the district will thus eventually come to about 440 square miles.

4. The following statement shows the area already reserved and proposed to be reserved talukwar, and the percentages of the forest area to the total area of the Government lands and the unoccupied Government lands in the several taluks:—

Name of taluk.	Total area of the taluk.	Area of Government lands in the taluk.	Extent of Government		Forest area.			Total forest area to be eventually reserved excluding the tank-beds.	Percentage of	
			Occupied lands.	Unoccupied lands.	Already reserved excluding disforested.	Under settlement.	Newly proposed.		Column 9 to column 3.	Column 9 to column 5.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	sq. mls.									
Tinnevelly	* 318·3	287	207	76	2	2·5	1·5	13	4·4	17·6
Nánguneri	703·3	581	416	142	80	..	2·	82	14·1	57·7
Ambásamudram ..	495·4	† 394	132	† 196	143	2	..	145	37·	74·5
Tenkási	423·6	† 213	132	† 81	38	..	7	45	20·0	55·3
Sankaranayinárkóyil	649·8	† 326	214	† 92	41	0·5	1·5	43	13·3	47·2
Srivilliputtúr ..	607·6	† 481	285	† 196	71	..	8·	74	15·4	37·9
Sáttúr	502·	285	231	36	..	..	..	..	..	..
Ottappidáram ..	1,155·3	316	205	40	2	3	..	5	1·6	10·1
Srivaikuntam	630·3	510	356	143	31	2	..	38	6·2	22·5
Total ..	5,383·6	3,400	2,288	1,008	408	17	15·	440	12·9	43·6

* The figures in column 2 are those given in column 2 of the statement in Board's Proceedings, Forest No. 252, dated 14th April 1894.
† Includes also unsurveyed area.

5. It will be observed that the percentages of unoccupied Government lands already reserved and proposed to be reserved (column 11) are large in the ghát taluks of Nánguneri, Ambásamudram, Tenkási, Sankaranayinárkóyil and Srivilliputtúr, the largest being 74 per cent. in Ambásamudram. The reserves are mostly hill forests and their reservation is in accordance with the proposals of the Select Committee referred to in paragraph 579 of Dr. Brandis' suggestions. The Board considers that reservation in these taluks is adequate. The percentages in the plain taluks of Tinnevelly, Ottappidáram and Srivaikuntam are small, while no reservation at all is proposed for the Sáttúr taluk. The unsuitability of waste lands in the Tinnevelly and Ottappidáram taluks for the purposes of reservation has already been explained in the Proceedings first read above. The extent of unoccupied Government lands is small and the requirements of the people, as regards fuel and fodder, can be met from their own patta lands as well as from such waste lands as there are, including the well wooded tank-beds referred to in

paragraph 2 *supra*. In the Proceedings just quoted, about 2·6 square miles were shown as proposed for reservation in the Sáttúr taluk, but this area has now been omitted probably in consideration of the recent ruling restricting reservation to areas of more than one square mile. The alteration should, however, have been explained. As regards the Srívaikuntam taluk also, the sources of fuel supply from private lands are reported * to be considerable. In these circumstances the reservation already made and now proposed in the plain taluks may be regarded as sufficient, and the Board recommends the present scheme to Government for final sanction.

* *Vide* paragraph 5 of District Forest-officer's note printed at page 2 of Government Order, No. 422, Revenue, dated 23rd May 1889.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) R. C. C. CARE,
Acting Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
" Collector of Tinnevelly.
" Conservator of Forests, Southern Circle.

Order—No. 513, Revenue, dated 6th October 1896.

Forest No. 218.

The Government concurs with the Board in the opinions expressed in paragraph 5 of its Proceedings and accords its sanction to the scheme for further reservation in the Tinnevelly district.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) G. STOKES,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue).

Rad. C. M. Reigan.

30 Copies.

Fair copy sent to Press.

Returned for signature.

Despatched in print.

Read again G.O., No. dated 189

Current No.

Enclosures to G. No.

Order of Government

Letter of Government

Draft sent with ditto.

Papers not filed up being kept for reference in original.

N.B.—
A = Form to fill.
B = Not to be printed.
P = Plans attached only.
L = Print lasting only.

Number of copies required: Letter only. Order complete with Letter.