Revenue (1897) Department.

PRESS SERIES.

G.O., Nos 610-610A.

Dated 11th September

[Despatch Abstract.]

The draft notification under section 24 of the Madras Forest Act for the Disafforestation of a certain plot of land from the Nadu-vattam reserved forest, Nilgiri Dt: ordered to be published in the Fort St. George Gazette & the Nilgiri Dt: Gazette

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

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

0/18 4,000—18-10-98.

Revenue (1899) Department.

CURRENT No. 5491

Read again G.O. Mis. No. 2858-59 — (A)
8.8.99

Also letter from the Govt: of India,
Rev & Agri. Dept. No. 734/15-14 dd/19.8.99. (C. No. 5491) — (A)

From

The Govt of India,
Rev & Agri. Dept.

No. 734/15-14 R.

Dated 19.8.99

Received 25.8.99

Registered 25.8.99

Enclosures

Spare copies.

Govt No. 174

Order Press No 610 dd/11th September 1899

The notification will may be published in the Govt of India & the Bilginis Dt. Gazette, the 15th November being entered as the date from which declaration shall take effect.

11999

To the Board of Revenue (Land Rev) with reference to the Supd. Govt. Press, with reference to Govt No. 610A Copy to Govt of India, Rev & Agri. Dept.

Ans. 23-9-99

SUBJECT.

Sanctioning the exclusion from reserved forests in the Nilgiris district of a portion of land.

A&R 6.9.99.

18/8

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

No 734 F.
15-14

138

FROM

E. MACONOCHIE, Esq., I.C.S.,
Under-Secretary to the Government of India,

UNDER SECY. TO GOVT. 25 AUG 1899 REVENUE DEPT.

TO The Secretary to the Government of Madras, Revenue Departt.

Simla, the 19th August 1899.

Dept. of Rev. and Agri. *Forests.*

SIR,

IN reply to your letter No. 2859, dated the 8th instant, I am directed to convey the sanction of the Government of India, under section 24 of the Madras Forest Act (V of 1882), to the exclusion from reserved forests in the Nilgiri District of the land† specified in the draft notification appended to your letter. The sketch map received is returned.

† 1.72 acres in the Naduvattam reserve, Ootacamund taluq.

I have the honour to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient Servant,

E Maconochie

Under-Secretary to the Government of India.

R & A. Regr. No. 191-A.

G. C. Press, Simla.—No. 334 R. & A. D.,—25-6-98—100.

18/8

Government {1899} of Madras.
REVENUE.

Recd. } 1899. *Enclosures*

Regd. *Spare copies*

G.O., Nos. 610, 610A, 11th September 1899.

SEPTEMBER.

Disafforestation

The draft notification, under section 24 of the Madras Forest Act, for the — of a certain plot of land from the Naduvattam reserved forest, Nilgiri district, ordered to be published in the Fort St. George and the Nilgiri District Gazettes.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Read—again the following G.O., Mis. No. 2858, Revenue, dated 8th August 1899, and letter to the Government of India, No. 2859, of the same date.

Read—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue), Forest Reference No. 204, dated 13th July 1899:—

The Hon'ble Mr. J. Sturrock, I.C.S.

Read—again the following Reference from the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue), No. 167, dated 1st June 1899:—

Read—the following application from W. R. ARBUTHNOT, Esq., to the Secretary to the Commissioners of Land Revenue, dated Florence, Italy, 24th April 1899:—

[Proceedings, Forest No. 79, dated 13th February 1899.]

Mr. I. McKenzie, the Superintendent of my tea plantations at Naduvattam, has sent me the abovenamed papers, and I desire to express my acknowledgments to the Board and to the Government for their compliance with my application in regard to a plot of land upon which to build a tea factory. I feel some reluctance in occasioning more trouble in this connection, but hope that, under the circumstances which I will now, as briefly as possible, endeavour to explain the further request which I have now to prefer may be favourably entertained.

Mr. Hyde, the Engineer from Ceylon who selected the site for me two years ago, has now again visited the locality, and it has been ascertained after very careful examination, and taking of the levels in various directions, that, if in lieu of the 2½ acres in *one square block*, there could be substituted a certain narrow strip of land, fronting the stream, of equal acreage, and described to me as of similar quality, that is to say, "barren rock, unfitted for cultivation," it would give to the factory what I cannot but regard as the immense advantage of a 50-ft. direct fall of water for the turbine, being considerably more than that which could be obtained under the original scheme. I am not informed as to whether the strip of land now referred to comprises any portion of the square block already granted, or is wholly separated from it, but would say that I am quite willing to take up the land either in substitution for, or in addition to, the 2½-acre block as may be found most agreeable to the Forest Department or the Government.

I may, perhaps, be permitted to say that I have been carrying on this tea cultivation for many years under very great difficulties, the out-goings or expenses having been at all times largely in excess of the incomings. This has not, I think, been attributable to defective management, or to extravagance on the one hand or undue parsimony on the other, but mainly to the smallness of the yield per acre in comparison with that of warmer and more favoured tea districts. I might adduce also the fall in prices, which has more than kept pace with our improved methods both of cultivation and manipulation. In extending the area of cultivation I have been influenced by the hope of introducing still further improvement in method, and of effecting some economy under the head of "fixed charges." In the full assurance that the Government will desire, as I do, that the Nilgiris should be in a position to hold their own as regards the production of tea,—I have the honour, &c.

Reference—No. 167, dated 1st June 1899.

Referred to the Collector of the Nilgiris for very early report which should be submitted through the Conservator.

(Signed) LIONEL DAVIDSON,
Acting Secretary.

Read—also the following letter from S. G. ROBERTS, Esq., I.C.S., Acting Collector of Nilgiris, to the Secretary to the Commissioners of Land Revenue, Madras (through the Conservator of Forests, Southern Circle, Coimbatore), dated Ootacamund, 26th June 1899, Ref. on Petn. No. 113 of 1896-97:—

Adverting to Forest Ref. No. 167, dated 1st June 1899, forwarding the supplemental application of Mr. W. R. Arbuthnot for an improved site for the proposed tea factory for his prospect estate at Naduvattam, I have the honour to report that the land pointed out by Mr. McKenzie, his Superintendent, and shown on the accompanying sketch prepared by the district surveyor is on a slope of steep gradient falling towards the stream.

2. The site required includes a portion of the land already disafforested and the area now to be granted in addition is only 1·72 acres. The land is of no use to the department from a forest point of view and the District Forest-officer sees no objection to its alienation. It is a bare rocky and steep bit of grass land.

3. I beg to recommend the permanent transfer of the new and old sites on the same conditions given in G.O., No. 42, Revenue, dated 12th January 1899, embodied in Board's Proceedings, Forest, No. 79, dated 13th February 1899. Mr. Arbuthnot is willing to keep the remaining portion of the old size and its resumption by Government is unnecessary.

4. To save a further reference, the usual draft notification under section 24 of the Forest Act is submitted with the previous plan showing the addition, the land now recommended for disafforestation.

5. Mr. Arbuthnot's letter is herewith returned.

Endorsement by H. A. GASS, Esq., Acting Conservator of Forests, Southern Circle, dated Coimbatore, 4th July 1899, No. 62 of 1899–1900.

Forwarded.

I inspected the land whilst on tour in the Nilgiris. The alienation is unobjectionable.

Reference—No. 204, dated 13th July 1899.

In its order, No. 42, Revenue, dated 12th January 1899, the Government directed the exclusion from the Naduvattam reserved forest in the Nilgiris of 2·60 acres of land required by Mr. W. R. Arbuthnot for building a new tea factory adjoining his Prospect Tea Estate and sanctioned the grant of the land to him on patta subject to certain stipulations. In his letter, dated 24th April 1899, Mr. Arbuthnot represents that the site originally selected has been found after a careful examination to be somewhat unsuited for the purpose and requests that another site covering an extent of 2·50 acres which is reported to command a considerably greater water power for working his tea estates may be assigned to him. The Collector reports that the site now required by Mr. Arbuthnot includes a portion of the land already disafforested as shown in the sketch forwarded by him and that the additional area to be granted is only 1·72 acres. He adds that this site consists of bare and rocky grass land and is of no use to the Forest Department and accordingly recommends that it may be granted to the applicant on the conditions laid down in G.O., No. 42, Revenue, dated 12th January 1899, in addition to the old site which he is willing to retain. After a personal inspection of the locality, the Conservator agrees with the Collector in considering that the alienation is unobjectionable.

In these circumstances, the Board supports the Collector's recommendation and resolves to forward to Government the draft notification submitted by him in respect of the area now proposed for disafforestation for approval and publication after obtaining the previous sanction of the Government of India.

(Signed) LIONEL DAVIDSON,
Acting Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department,
with draft notification, two maps, Collector's letter,
and its enclosure to be returned.

Order—Mis. No. 2858, Revenue, dated 8th August 1899.

The draft notification will be forwarded to the Government of India with the request that its promulgation may be sanctioned.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) H. TREMENHEERE,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue).

Letter—from the Acting Secretary to the Government of Madras, Revenue Department, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Revenue and Agricultural Department, dated 8th August 1899, Mis. No. 2859.

With reference to the provisions of section 24 of the Madras Forest Act (V of 1882), I am directed to request that His Excellency the Governor-General in Council may be pleased to sanction the issue of the accompanying notification directing that a piece of land 1·72 acres in extent included in the Naduvattam reserved forest, Nilgiri district, shall cease to be reserved forest from a date to be hereafter fixed by this Government.

2. I am to explain that the land adjoins the plot of 2·60 acres in extent, the sanction for the disafforestation of which was conveyed in Mr. Maconochie's letter, No. 919—14–17-F., dated 28th November 1898, and is required for the extension of a tea factory as no site commanding so much water power is available on the land previously disafforested.

3. It is proposed to grant the land on the same conditions as those set forth in Mr. Forbes' letter, No. 4259, dated 2nd November 1898, namely, on payment of its value at Rs. 50 per acre subject to an annual assessment of As 8 per acre, which shall be liable to revision. The alienation of the plot, which is reported to be a steep piece of bare, rocky, grass-land, will in no way impair the value or utility of the reserve and the local revenue and forest authorities have no objection to the proposed disafforestation.

4. A sketch map of the land in question is enclosed for reference and favour of return. The final notification under section 16 of the Act issued in respect of the Naduvattam reserve will be found printed as appendix to the Proceedings of this Government forwarded with Mr. Price's endorsement, No. 693A, dated 16th July 1887.

Read—also the following letter from E. MACONOCHIE, Esq., I.C.S., Under Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Revenue and Agriculture (Forests), to the Secretary to the Government of Madras, Revenue Department, dated Simla, the 19th August 1899, No. 734—15–14-F.:—

In reply to your letter, No. 2859, dated the 8th instant, I am directed to convey the sanction of the Government of India under section 24 of the Madras Forest Act (V of 1882), to the exclusion from reserved forests in the Nilgiri district of the land * specified in the draft notification appended to your letter. The sketch-map received is returned.

* 1·72 acres in the Naduvattam reserve, Ootacamund taluk.

Order—No. 610, Revenue, dated 11th September 1899.

Forest No. 174.

The notification will now be published in the Fort St. George and the Nilgiri District Gazettes, the 15th November being entered as the date from which disafforestation shall take effect.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) H. TREMENHEERE,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue), with map.
" the Superintendent, Government Press, with notification.

Endorsement No. 610A.

Copy to the Government of India, Revenue and Agricultural Department.

(Signed) N. E. MARJORIBANKS,
Ag. Under Secretary to Government.

DRAFT NOTIFICATION.

His Excellency the Governor in Council, with the previous sanction of the Governor-General in Council, is hereby pleased to declare, under the provisions of section 24 of Madras Forest Act V of 1882, that the area specified below, which in Notification No. 277 published in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 26th July 1887, Part I, page 592, was declared to be reserved forest under section 16 of that Act, shall cease to be reserved forest with effect from the 15th November 1899:—

Specification of land disforested.

Name of reserve or portion of reserve disforested.	District.	Taluk.	Village.	Area in acres.	Boundaries.
Naduvattam	Nilgiris ..	Todanad division, Ootacamund taluk.	Naduvattam	About 1·72 acres.	*East.*—Starting from the point on the western bank of the stream (99-B) 50 feet southwards from where a small stream flows into the main stream (99-B), the said stream up to the north-eastern corner of the portion of the Naduvattam reserved forest recently disforested about 200 feet from the bridge across the stream. *South.*—Thence south-westward along the northern side of the last-named land up to a point about 160 feet westward from the bank of the stream. *West.*—Thence a curved line in a northerly direction running parallel to the river for a distance of about 480 feet and then turns westward for about 75 feet and thence north-westward to the starting point. *Note.*—The east and west boundaries meet at an angle in the north.

Brief description.—Nil.

Reasons for disforestation.—The land is required by Mr. W. R. Arbuthnot for building a new tea factory adjoining his Prospect estate as no site commanding sufficient water-power for working his tea estates is available on the property itself. The land previously disforested is not suited for the purpose.

Exd. Md. Pahilwan.

25 Copies.

First copy sent to Press.

Returned for signature.

Despatched in print.

Number of copies required. { Order complete. / Letter only. / Order complete with Letter.

Read again G.O. No. , dated
189 .

Consent No.

Enclosures to C. No.

Order of Government.

Letter of Government.

Statement with ditto.

Papers not filed up being meant for despatch in original.

N.B.—
A = Print in full.
B = Not to be printed.
P = Print abstract only.
Q = Print heading only.