

Revenue (1897) Department.

MISCELLANEOUS SERIES.

G.O., No.

609

DATED 2nd Feb 1897

[Despatch Abstract.]

Recording B.P. recording with remarks,
Inspection report of ^{the} Turnout forests by Com^r of
Forest & C. & C.

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

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

CURRENT No.

2/24/97
The Hon. Mr. Isaac C. 28 Feb 1897
Order misc No. 6097 2nd 30/1/97
From

From *The Board of Revenue
Land Revenue
Forest Branch*

No. 522

Dated 18 November 1896
Received 11th January 1897.
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Enclosures
Spare copies

SUBJECT.

But has not Gov^t directed
that simple trespass shall
not be punished. *Be*

that simple response shall
not be furnished. (21-5)
Example incorporates
is with an offence
under Sec 44 of the P. of Forests, N. Circle.
The AO referred to
by the Under Secy is
the Record on the
last Forest Admin.
Report on page number
with red label

$\frac{14.7}{2.5-1.5}$

C. 28/1/97
R. 2/2/97

June 1977

G O.	No.	Department.	Date.
	95.e		18-2-95
	1734		1-5-95
	530		8-2-94
	870 e		12-12-94
	714 e		5-10-94
	294 e		10-5-93

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE
(LAND REVENUE).

Subject.—Inspection Tour in Kurnool.

I have the honour to state that I began an inspection tour in Kurnool in March 1895, but was unable to complete it because I was temporarily incapacitated by an injury to my foot. I was summoned to England suddenly shortly afterwards, and I propose to give here the result of this tour together with that of one lately taken.

2. The period spent on the tour in 1895 was from 7th to 31st March; the period during my tour during 1896-97 was from 15th January to 28th February 1896. In both cases I was accompanied by Mr. Lodge, the District Forest-officer; but in neither case could we carry out our proposed tours entirely, owing to difficulties of communications and transport. In 1895 I met Mr. Lodge at Chelama in the Nallamalais spending a few days between that and Gazulapalle, inspecting the firetraced blocks, where I noticed some improvement in the density of the tree growth. I saw also the improvement fellings through which a useful bee-line had been made as an inspection path.

3. Near the Chelama station some permanent sheds were being built for line peons with stone walls and corrugated iron roofing. These were well built and much needed. Improvements for a well at Chelama were proposed.

The water difficulty is much felt at Chelama. A contribution of Rs. 300 was accordingly offered to the Southern Mahratta Railway for digging a well, but the Agent reports that the Company's Engineer, judging from the conformation, is doubtful whether it would be possible to obtain a good supply of water. He promises however to sink a trial shaft and advise me of the result.

(Intld.) C. M. M.,
Collector.

4. We went on to *Nandyal* chiefly to meet a Railway officer and an Engineer about a question whether the railway could undertake to make a siding to join the canal. It is a great pity that this was not done in the first instance; but now although there is no practical engineering difficulty, the railway authorities were averse to going to the expense of making the siding and keeping it up, for it would entail the presence of some establishment. Another consideration was that the canal in its present state seems hardly navigable except for very light boats. The suggestion has not been carried out.

In paragraph 3 of Board's Proceedings, No. 163, dated 18th June 1895, the Board remarks —

"The Board is not satisfied that the project should be dropped. As already remarked, the position is one in which facilities for traffic must be afforded before traffic can spring up. One of the many disappointing features of the canal has been its failure, for want of an outlet, to carry the heavy traffic in goods and passengers. The railway now crosses it at right angles and it would seem unwise to grudge the comparatively trifling outlay required to enable the one line of communication to feed the other. For 50 miles to the north and south of the line the canal offers a cheap means of carrying the surplus produce of the *Nandyal* valley to the railway and when it becomes possible to load goods straight from the barge into the railway truck and *vice versa*, it seems improbable that so excellent a means of transport will remain long unutilized."

The estimates for a basin, wharf and siding are pending with the Superintending Engineer.

The question of navigation on the canal is receiving attention.

(Intld.) C. M. M.,
Collector.

5. From *Nandyal* we went back to *Gazulapalli* and on to *Mallamma*. There is an excellent pool of water here; and there seems no doubt that the whole catchment area of the *Palar* river should be carefully preserved. We went on to *Byreni* with carts and here the road stopped. There is excellent water here again.

The water-supply of the *Nallamalais* is very peculiar and deserves close study. Streams appear and disappear at intervals and there are some springs at high elevations. This matter will be adverted to again in this report.

6. On the march from *Mallamma* to *Byreni* it was noted that a road dam was wanted where the road crosses the *Palar* with a bamboo raft for the monsoon.

The forest seemed favourable for future working. About *Mallamma* the growth of grass or rather of reeds was gigantic, and if this is to be kept up as a range shed, a good area round the shed must be systematically cleared.

This was inspected by the Board Member.

(Intld.) C. M. M.,
Collector.

Yes.

(Intld.) C. M. M.,
Collector.

All these sources will, I hope, be shown in the Forest Survey maps about to be prepared.

(Intld.) C. M. M.,
Collector.

Yes. An estimate will be prepared.

(Intld.) C. M. M.,
Collector.

It would be better to move the shed to a better site.

(Intld.) C. M. M.,
Collector.

7. We went on and visited *Bundlapenta*, the site of one of Mr. Sim's former houses, a picturesque site, the drawback being that the water was rather inaccessible.

Yes; but the line of road should be carefully selected.

(Intld.) C. M. M.,
Collector.

Whether it will be advisable to have another camp here I am doubtful. There is no doubt however that the road should be opened up.

During our stay at *Byreni* the fires were very numerous. In fact under present conditions almost the whole forest is burnt over every year. *Chentzus* and cattle graziers are the chief agents in this mischief.

8. From *Byreni* we went down to *Mahanandi* at the foot of the *Nallamalais*, where there is the known temple, in a more or less ruined condition, the main feature of which is a very large tank fed by a perennial spring of thermal mineral water exceedingly clear. Although it was late in March there was a large outflow from this tank, and the water can be seen bubbling up strongly.

The distance to *Nandyal* is full 10 miles and the cost would be very great, whereas just above *Nandyal* are the two fine large tanks supplied by the canal, the water of which only wants filtration.

(Intld.) C. M. M.,
Collector.

The stream runs eventually into the *Nandyal* tank. The practical question for consideration seems to be whether this water should not be utilized for a permanent water-supply for *Nandyal* in enclosed pipes.

This is the largest spring at the foot of the *Nallamalais*, but there are several others. As most of these springs are, I believe, thermal mineral springs, their origin may be independent of the water-supply on the plateau; but there can be no doubt about the importance of guarding and increasing this by all means in our power, as it must influence the sub-soil water-supply in the plains.

Yes; but how?

(Intld.) C. M. M.,
Collector.

9. From *Mahanandi* we went along the foot of the hills to *Honkaram*; another spring. There is a sudden alteration in the vegetation, as these springs are perennial; and we find not only wet cultivation, but cane brakes and evergreen trees. It is like a path of moist west-coast forest transplanted into open small deciduous forest.

10. After *Honkaram* we visited *Ernipad* *dépôt*, which is a new undertaking, in order to supply legitimate demands for timber, as permits for the better kinds had been stopped. The sales were very good, the chief timbers sold being *yegi* (*Pterocarpus marsupium*) and *maddi* (*Terminalia tomentosa*). The timber work in the forests is done by a gang of *Wodders* at fixed rates, for they not only fell, but drag the logs out to forest *dépôts*. The

question about how to deal with these Woddors is rather an anxious one and will be referred to later in this report.

11. After this I had to return to *Nandyal* and give over the tour for the time, as I was quite incapacitated by an injury to my foot.

12 My tour in the present year was begun at *Kurnool*, where I met the Collector, Mr. Mullaly, and went into several questions which were pending. I examined the office.

13. Thence I went with Mr. Lodge to *Gadidemadugu*, a small rather stony reserve with a sprinkling of *Hardwickia binata*. It is a useful reserve on account of its proximity to Kurnool and its position on the canal. The area is about $4\frac{1}{2}$ square miles.

The boundary is unfortunately rather irregular. Mr. Lodge is attempting by degrees to get the stones cleared off the boundary lines and placed along the sides, which serves the double purpose of making a good path and clearly indicating the lines. In very stony places however this programme cannot be carried out successfully. It would, I think, be advantageous to buy out the pattadars, whose lands cause the great irregularity of boundary.

The District Forest-officer will be directed to prepare a list of the pattadars and report the cost of buying them out.

(Intld.) C. M. M.,
Collector.

14. We went thence to *Nandikotkur*, where a camping tope has been bought by the Forest Department for the benefit of travelling officers. It is a good site and the local officers showed foresight in securing it. A little planting has been begun.

15. We met a Public Works officer here and accompanied him when choosing a site for a taluk cutcherry. The most convenient site adjoins the camping tope. There was a question about adding a range office to the taluk cutcherry, but we do not want it here. There is a very good range house at *Atmakuru* and that is the most convenient head-quarters. There is much difficulty in moving during the rains, owing to the heaviness of the roads, and *Atmakuru* is nearer the main forests.

16. We saw the Tahsildar here and asked him to take special precautions to keep the well clear for drinking purposes. It is a very fine well, built with solid stone sides and steps.

The well will be kept for drinking purposes, as it will supply the taluk cutcherry as well as the camping ground.

(Intld.) C. M. M.,
Collector.

It is looking up now.
(Intld.)

C. M. M.,
Collector.

17. We went thence to *Jupad*, where there is an extraordinarily fine canal bungalow, the style and workmanship of which make one regret the more the comparative failure of the canal.

18. Thence we went to *Atmakuru*, where there is a very good range house; also a flat roofed rest-house, useful at any rate during the dry weather, though I should think that the rain would rather beat in during the monsoon. This was originally built for a temporary purpose during the erection of the permanent range quarters.

19. There were a good many questions to settle at *Atmakuru*. We had just lost a very good Ranger, Mr. Viswanatham Pantulu, whose death is very much regretted. He was supposed to be proof against fever, but he died after a very short illness at *Velgode*. There was some suspicion of foul play, and although this is not impossible and unfortunately is not even improbable, as this Ranger since his transfer from the *Gódvári* district had fought steadily against abuses, which were rampant, yet nothing whatever could be proved. His accounts were in slight confusion, and a sum of Rs. 200 could not be accounted for. We had strong suspicions as to the person who took this money, but there was not sufficient proof; and there were more than enough arrears due to the Ranger to cover the deficiency.

20. There is a big trade in stolen wood about *Atmakuru*, chiefly in yegi (*Pterocarpus marsupium*) cart wheels. These are fashioned roughly in the forests and brought out at nights. Mr. Lodge tells me that this cart wheel manufacture was carried on at the villages of *Guvvalagunta*, *Kurukunda*, *Sivapuram*, &c., and had now shifted down to *Talamudipi* and *Gudivemala*.

21. The chief cover for the frauds was the possession of one or two old permits from the Nizam's territory. The possession of a sale license from our depôt at *Ernipad* similarly covers a multitude of thefts. There is a regular cordon of natives round the *Nallamalais* who during certain seasons devote themselves to exploiting these forests, paying when they are forced and stealing when they can. So much is this the case that they traffic in timber and neglect agriculture; and one of the efforts of the local officers has been to divert the excess traffic in timber, as the forests have been much overworked.

The vast surveyed area which has lapsed into jungle sufficiently proves Mr. Peet's statement.

(Intld.) C. M. M.,
Collector.

22. Throughout our marches, whenever we came unannounced to almost any part of these forests, we found some illicit practices being carried on; whether they took the form of felling without permits, or in excess of permits, or of removals of superior produce under permits for inferior.

Shows the necessity of strengthening the staff.

(Intld.) C. M. M.,
Collector.

23 Besides thefts of timber much Tangedu bark (*Cassia auriculata*) is stolen under cover of the Nizam's permits, the small patch of Nizam's territory south of the Tungabhadra river being the place which gives the greatest opportunity for these frauds. The only practical method of combating these frauds seems to me to place an abnormally strong establishment on the outskirts of this tract (when our establishment is increased) and use the strongest repressive measures till the practice is broken. When a "mamool" is established, we can safely reduce the numbers of the protective cordon, but not till then.

24. From Atmakuru we went on to Bairnuti at the foot of the Nallamalais.

25. There is a stone house here with a flat roof, with a pent roof of thatch over it very much in need of repairs. It was however just as well that these repairs had not been done, for I have heard lately that the thatched roof was burnt. Whether this was accidental or not has not yet been reported, but it is quite possible that this was the work of the Nagaluti Chentzus, who are notoriously bad among Chentzus, and are held responsible for many dacoities and other crimes.

The Nagaluti Chentzus are about the worst in the district. There are two murders recorded against them since December last.

(Intld.) C. M. M.,
Collector.

26. It is true that a reward by results had been offered to certain Chentzus if some blocks of forest about here escaped from fire; but, on the other hand, we had a difference of opinion with a drunken (or hemp-drugged) Chentzu from these parts later on when we ascended the plateau, and it is quite possible that this fire was his answer.

27. One of the questions at Bairnuti was the doing up of an old building for out-houses for part of the camp. The walls are sound and very thick, and Mr. Lodge had cleared the debris of the fallen roof. The building dates back from the time of an English settler here. It seemed that it was well worthwhile utilizing these old walls. A separate kitchen near the bungalow is much needed and stabling.

Rs. 180 have been sanctioned for a kitchen and the work is in hand, and Rs. 305 for out-houses.

(Intld.) C. M. M.,
Collector.

28. Another question which forced itself upon us was the monkey question. Monkeys had been deported here from the neighbourhood of Kurnool and are a perfect pest. I believe that the Chentzus turned out and killed as many as they could of the last consignments, and that the practice has been stopped.

The extension referred to is, I presume, the Guvvalagunta proposed reserve; in submitting the draft notification for this reserve it was stated that further alterations could be made at settlement.

(Intld.) C. M. M.,
Collector.

29. A considerable amount of Terai forest, omitted by Mr. Sim when fixing the original boundaries of the reserved forest, has been included in later proposals. There is a considerable amount of rounding off of angles necessary in such tracts as are still unsettled, and parts of the proposed forests, chosen under the former policy of Government, will be excluded at settlement. I went into various questions in this connection during the tour. We noted that the terai line was not clearly visible on our march to Bairnuti.

30. At Bairnuti there is a small plantation of edible date, which is doing fairly well. It seems to me however that the shade is rather dense. There are only about a dozen trees put down in 1893.

31. We examined in going towards Nagaluti temple the firelines, which were well cleared. Parts of the forest about here were showing signs of protection, but there was too much bamboo. An attempt was made to enlist the co-operation of the Chentzus in protecting the fire-traced blocks by promising them a reward by results at the end of the fire season. This has not been wholly successful; for since my tour I have heard that part of the firetraced blocks had been burnt.

32. One great feature of this part of the forest, and unfortunately of a good part of that on the plateau, was the extensive growth of creepers, particularly of the large creeper *Bauhinia Vahlü*. A determined effort must be made when settlement is completed and our establishment strengthened, to take up the forest systematically and clear away this and similar pests. There will probably be some opposition, as the leaves of this creeper are largely used for platters for food and the Chentzus collect the leaves. However we can hardly afford to have our forest ruined for the sake of this minor product.

In some cases Mr. Lodge has found them adopt a rough and ready way of getting the leaves of the creeper to hand, namely, that of felling the supporting tree.

33. From Bairnuti we went up to *Rollapenta*. The ghât road was evidently traced with great care and at an enormous cost, and it seems a great pity that the Local funds do not see their way to the upkeep of this very important thoroughfare, for this Mantralakanama is the most important of the old passes from the eastern to the western taluks. The railway has superseded the lower pass, but I believe that the Mantralakanama would be much used if it were in better repair. The road has been nominally handed over to the Forest Department, but it seemed to me absolutely essential that the ghât part should be entrusted to skilled superintendence, at all events, periodically, and to put it in working order. The roadway is built up for considerable sections and this work must be done scientifically.

Meanwhile Mr. Lodge was advised to do what was possible to improve such parts of the road as could be treated by more or less unskilled labour, and much may be done to render the ordinary sections more or less passable, the chief wants being care in turning the water off the road, and in earthwork where the road has been already much damaged by water running down it. After the enormous sums already sunk in this road, it seems a great pity that it should go to ruin, and I think that the Forest Department cannot keep it going properly without a grant-in-aid from other sources and without the loan of professional advice on certain sections.

34. One-half of one of the bridges on the way to *Rollapenta* had collapsed and it was rather risky work taking the elephant over.

35. The road up to the *Rollapenta* bungalow needs repair and the outer roof of the bungalow needs renewal; and out-houses and stabling are urgently required. Owing to the want of stabling we walked our marches, for the risk from tigers is too great at present.

36. There is a small Local Fund hut below the bungalow near the water, which should be repaired, as it is useful.

Originally there was a proposal to contribute Rs. 2,000 from Forest funds for the repairs of this road as it was almost exclusively used for timber traffic. The Board, however, did not approve of expenditure from Forest funds on a Local fund, and it was finally resolved in Board's Proceedings, Forest Mis. No. 1713, dated 31st December 1894, to take over a portion of this road as a forest road. The District Board accordingly in its Resolution, No. 150, dated 30th January 1895, transferred to the Forest Department 38 miles of the Mantrala road from Venkatapuram on the west to Dornal on the east.

Subsequent to this an estimate for Rs. 2,000 was sanctioned in Board's Proceedings, Forest Mis. No. 409, dated 26th March 1895. The District Forest-officer will be asked to report what action has been taken on this and whether any portion of the allotment is available for the portions referred to by the Conservator, if not a further allotment should be applied for.

The District Board would, I feel sure, consider favourably an application for a grant-in-aid and would certainly lend the services of its engineer where skilled supervision is required; but I consider that ordinary repairs should be under the control of forests for the Ranger's Headquarters is comparatively close by; it is in the heart of the forests and the traffic is mainly timber traffic, whereas it is *very* far from the ordinary duties of the Local Fund Engineer.

(Intld.) C. M. M.,
Collector.

This has been repaired at a cost of Rs. 90.

(Intld.) C. M. M.,
Collector.

Rs. 110 sanctioned for the main building.

(Intld.) C. M. M.,
Collector.

Rs. 476-12-0 have been sanctioned for out-houses and the work is, I believe, nearly completed.

(Intld.) C. M. M.,
Collector.

This has been transferred to forests and Rs. 36 sanctioned for its repairs.

(Intld.) C. M. M.,
Collector.

37. The forest in the immediate vicinity of *Rollapenta* would be difficult to work, on account of the steepness of the slopes.

38. From *Rollapenta* we went on to *Pecheruvu* or *Pedda cheruvu*, where there is a big tank and where very large cattle kralls are kept. In fact this part of the forest is a breeding ground for a good class of cattle kept by *Erukulars* and others. Several grazing *parcelles* meet here, and Mr. Lodge has tried to arrange them so as to give access to the tank to graziers on each *parcelle*.

Tigers levy rather a heavy toll on the cattle at present; but eventually I look upon this tract as one of the permanent cattle-breeding areas from which we may legitimately expect a larger return than the nominal tax charged now.

The forest has been much cut about at some period, and is not in a hopeful state.

39. At *Pecheruvu* we were inundated by pilgrims on their way to *Srisailem* temple. We had intended to examine the forests as far as this place, but were unfortunately delayed and could not get on before the crowd of pilgrims began to surge up. We therefore altered our plans and left *Srisailem* out.

40. The details of this pilgrimage were rather pitiful, and it struck us that some pressure might with advantage be made to bear on the temple authorities, who reap such a rich harvest from the pilgrims, to make them make better arrangements. At present there is a sort of makeshift arrangement for housing a small percentage of the pilgrims at the expense of Government, not openly but by a sort of subterfuge. At any rate that is the conclusion to which I came, and I am ready to accept the responsibility for making the charge. Under the pretext of the erection of sanitary pandals a certain number of shanties are built, which are used as temporary shelters. A fixed charge for the materials for these pandals is now made to the Forest Department after some discussion. I submit however that the work of erecting these shelters should be enforced at the expense of the temple authorities. The dews are very heavy at the time of this pilgrimage and it is bitterly cold. The result is that fevers of a virulent kind are contracted by numbers of these pilgrims every year, for numbers are exposed without any

Yes. I think the temple authorities ought to make better arrangements, but I don't see how we can force them.

(Intld.) C. M. M.,
Collector.

A rather heavy responsibility for housing all the pilgrims.

(Intld.) C. M. M.,
Collector.

How?

(Intld.) C. M. M.,
Collector.

shelter and without any wraps, for they go blindly on their way in many cases and do not know to what risks they are exposing themselves.

The symptoms which follow this bad type of fever are very like the symptoms of cholera; and fear completes the catastrophe. In some cases true cholera may also follow from the pollution of the water.

The pilgrims are exploited at every turn, the Chentzu being seen in his true colours at this period and being among the most active agents in the exactions, but not being by any means the only plunderer. In return for his protection the Chentzu levies a toll per head and as much more as he can extort.

We had to interfere with the perquisites of one drugged specimen of this race, who drew a knife on a peon and had to be sent down under escort; but he was but a specimen of a class who were trading on the fears of the pilgrims.

41. I submit that the temple authorities should be forced to erect an adequate number of temporary huts, under the supervision of the Forest Department, and should pay for the materials.

42. From Pecheruvu we returned to Rollapenta and thence went on to *Mantrala*. This is rather a melancholy place. The bungalow is almost roofless, the walls are bulging, and there are no proper out-houses. The house is situated on a hill at some considerable distance above the nearest water, which is filthy. We had to send a considerable distance away to a stream, where the water was doubtful.

43. The question whether the site of the Mantrala house should be maintained as a fixed camp depends chiefly on the question whether the well can be cleaned so as to be depended on for a supply of good water.

The ghât taliaries or hill police have a shed here and would keep the well more or less used; and passers-by might be expected to assist. The great point to ascertain seems to be whether there is a true spring supply or whether it is only a collection of rain water. The general appearance of the filthy liquid hardly denoted a spring; but as this place was visited near the middle of February, it seems likely that there is some underground infiltration.

Cholera almost invariably spreads from here over the district.

(Intld.) C. M. M.,
Collector.

I enclose two interesting extracts of correspondence of 1841-42, when the temple was under Government management.

(Intld.) C. M. M.,
Collector.

Has since been re-roofed and the walls re-built; Rs. 80 were sanctioned.

(Intld.) C. M. M.,
Collector.

Ranger has been ordered to send estimate.

(Intld.) C. M. M.,
Collector.

44. We returned from Mantrala to Rollapenta noting that it was urgently necessary to get the water turned off the road before the next rains, as some of the steep slopes are becoming mere water-courses.

45. We went on down to Bairnuti noting that the forest growth was hopeful in parts. We examined next day the forest to the south of the bungalow and found that there were the makings of a very fair forest of teak and other trees, but it has been excessively hacked about.

There is a large, rather too large, proportion of young bamboo springing up.

46. From Bairnuti we went on to *Velgode* and camped in a tope about half a mile east of the town. While at this camp we had some very persistent applications for land chosen as terai forest extensions; and on going the next day to a camp at *Sudem* we went and saw the land applied for. We had no hesitation in throwing out some land where wet cultivation could be carried on; but there was a larger question about further exclusions from the proposed reserve which Mr. Lodge was going into later. I think that some concessions were necessary.

47. At *Sudem* there was a camp of *Wodders* cutting very extensively for permit holders. There is not the slightest doubt that wood is cut in advance, and I think there is very little doubt also that higher class woods are sometimes cut and smuggled away on permits for lower classes. It is very necessary that these *Wodders* should be under more control; the difficulty lies in working out the details of this control. It would be easy enough with a stroke of the pen to forbid them to enter the forest, but it is not politic to throw a comparatively large class of men out of the work to which they are accustomed. I hope that we may see our way by degrees to utilize the services of many of these *Wodders*. The District Forest-officer is already employing a gang of them to cut timber for our depôts; but I think that we may possibly be able to employ some of them as forest guards and watchers. It is worth considering at any rate, for these men are not afraid of the forests.

District Forest-officer will be asked for full report.

(Intld.) C. M. M.,
Collector.

They are just the class of people the Forest Department should keep in work. I enclose a printed copy of rules regulating the residence of *Wodders*, *Sugalis*, &c., in reserves approved of by Conservator.

(Intld.) C. M. M.,
Collector.

Steps are being taken to regulate the entry of these Wodders into the forest by licensing them; for it is out of the question to allow them to squat wherever they like.

See enclosure.

(Intld.) C. M. M.,
Collector.

48. From Sudem we went up the hills to Tekalapenta and back. All along we saw signs of felling and dragging by the Wodders, and the operations are much more extensive than I had anticipated.

49. At Tekalapenta we found a very large amount of split bamboo, and on capturing two Erukulars found that this was all done in anticipation of permits. Subsequent inquiries have I think elicited the fact that probably no fraud was intended. I think that we shall sooner or later have to refuse to allow bamboos to be split in the forests at all or raise the rates very considerably.

These Erukulars do not simply split the bamboo into pieces and remove the whole, but they take off only very thin pieces, consisting solely of the outer rind of the bamboo. We calculated carefully the effect of this practice. They make the strips up into long bundles, which can be removed by asses. It takes strips from 30 bamboos to make one bundle, and it takes 36 of these bundles to make a cart-load according to our present custom.

They thus cut 1,080 bamboos for Rupees 3-8-0 and these bamboos are 20 feet long. The price for whole bamboos, per cart-load of 250 bamboos, 12 feet long, or 125 of full length, is Re. 1-4-0. The rates should therefore be raised or the practice stopped. In any case there is extreme danger of fire, because the inner portions of the bamboos left all over the forest are most inflammable.

The bamboos are, of course, the smaller thornless kind (*Dendrocalamus strictus*).

50. Tekalapenta is a fine central place for a house as pointed out by Mr. Lodge. It is central for Velgode, Ernipad, Papanainipalli and Rollapenta.

51. It was noted that a road was wanted from Pagabada below Adutla to Mantrala; and I believe that Mr. Lodge has made out an estimate.

The estimate has been submitted to the Board for approval—*vide* letter No. 587, dated 5th September 1896.

(Intld.) C. M. M.,
Collector.

52. From Sudem we went to Honkaram partly down Mr. Sim's line. Some of these lines made by Mr. Sim have been turned into useful roads. Part of this particular line can be made into a road, but part goes

straight over a stony slope and diversions must be made.

The forest along this march showed signs of very excessive felling.

53. From Honkaram we went on to Gazulapalli finding on the way illicit removal of bamboos and illicit making of charcoal. The patch of evergreen forest with cane brakes, which grows in the neighbourhood of the springs, formed a very marked contrast to the almost leafless deciduous forest.

Rupees 838 have been sanctioned in Board's Proceedings, Forest Mis. No. 419, dated 21st March 1896, for this bungalow and out-houses.

(Intld.) C. M. M.,
Collector.

54. At Gazulapalli Mr. Lodge has much improved the property by a good road up to the bungalow. The roof wanted renewing and there was a want of proper out-houses.

55. Mr. Hearsey, the Extra Assistant Conservator, met us at Gazulapalli and in consequence of information received from him we accompanied him next morning by train to Giddalur where we arrived without warning, got a search warrant at once from the Tahsildar, and found in the Reddy's house a side room piled up to the roof with stolen wood, chiefly spokes and felloes for wheels, made of yegi (*Pterocarpus marsupium*). There were 764 felloes, 1,728 spokes, and elsewhere there were 72 spokes, 256 felloes and various parts of incomplete wheels.

The materials seized were sufficient I believe for wheels for 78 carts. There is no doubt that the whole forest is surrounded by thieves, and one of the greatest dangers is from the habit of rough-fashioning the wood in the forest and bringing it out at night in head-loads. It is very hard to detect these thefts; it is very easy for the thieves to escape if they are detected, and as Chentzus always carry knives and are not very scrupulous, the lower subordinates have not an easy task, even if they had the will to stop the thefts.

56. From Gazulapalli I returned by train to Waltair.

GENERAL REMARKS.

57. *System of treatment of the Nallamalais.*—This is an extremely complicated question, because in the first place our establishment is so small that I question the practical utility of attempting any elaborate scheme at present. In the next place there are so many agencies at work which have established their operations by

Far too small.

(Intld.) C. M. M.,
Collector.

custom, that any attempt to force a system of treatment which would aim at absolute repression would be met by so much opposition that we could not control it. Some of these agencies are the Chentzus and Wodders in the forests, the host of cart-owners all round it and the strong band of traders who deal in the export trade.

Another difficulty arises from the uneven surface of these forests.

58. It is comparatively easy to arrange for series of fellings if a tract is accessible and if the forest is more or less uniform; but it is quite another matter when communications are scarce and the surface most uneven, and the character of the growth most diversified. If, for example, we were to give orders that permit holders were to be limited to certain definite coupes, I believe that we could not enforce the orders under existing circumstances, unless the coupes were very numerous and accessible. If we were to try to save the outer fringe of forest and make the permit holders go to more difficult slopes further inland, I believe that they would evade the orders. There was some correspondence on this subject between the District Forest-officer and the Acting Conservator Mr. Hooper, and I am inclined to think that the objections of the latter were valid, against the establishment of coupes under present conditions, and without much fuller enquiry; except of course in a tentative way, as an experiment in certain localities, for experiments on a limited scale are very useful.

59. As regards the felling of reserved and class I timber for supply at the depôts at Venkatapuram, Ernipad, Rudravaram and Nandyal, we are under orders of Government, and must therefore carry out the orders and report results. The difficulty here is that these sales from depôts are intended to meet local requirements, but there is no means of preventing traders bent on export from buying up the stock. We are all agreed that the forest wants rest, and the only thing which would effect this would be the absolute prohibition of export of the better class of timber for some years; but such wholesale restrictions are very dangerous. We must just go on with our sales from depôts without restrictions.

60. *Water-supply.*—The information on this head is taken chiefly from Mr. Lodge's note.

The places selected for buildings are all near good water. The upper portion of the hills abounds with springs and clear streams. At Ramanna Katwa, at an elevation of 2,400 feet, a clear spring rises in a very small triangular cleft in a rock, whence a perpetual stream flows to the Pálár. The water is deliciously cold and clear. At Bakinimanichela, a lovely ravine, a stream breaks out with a strong flow, and turns towards Velgode.

At Tekulapenta (elevation about 2,000 feet) two streams, which take their rise from springs higher up, meet and flow down to the Gundlakamma in Cumbum taluk. The Adutla ravine is full of springs, and the stream runs throughout the year. Most of the streams, as was mentioned above, disappear at intervals, and re-appear. It is undoubtedly of the first importance to keep the plateau well wooded.

61. *Communications.*—The most important matter to my mind at present is not the attempt to restrict permit felling to coupes but putting all our energies into perfecting and keeping open our communications. We shall never get a real grip on the working of these forests till they are completely accessible for inspection and control. Mr. Lodge, in an interesting note, has gone into this and other questions; and I think that his proposals are sound. The main northern through road, the Mantrala kanama, has been mentioned under the record of my tours; and I think it is of the first importance that this road should be kept up, and that we should have assistance in so doing. The other through road, the Nandy kanama, is not so important since the railway was opened; but still it should be kept up for through cart traffic. Carts can go into some of the ravines in the Cumbum and Sirvel taluks; from Pachéría carts can go a few miles north and south; from Gazulapalli they can go as far as Byreni. Lower Ahobilam is accessible from both north and south. There are forest roads from Rollapenta to Pecheruvu, and from Papinainipalli to Adutla; but the whole of the Gundla Brahmeswaram plateau is inaccessible to wheeled traffic; east and west there are very steep ascents up which lightly laden pack animals proceed with difficulty; once over the crests of these rises there is a large expanse of undulating country through which roads could easily be made.

62. The proposals for roads are—

- (1) A continuation of Honkarambonta road up the hill; about 3 miles of ghât, then along undulating country to Ramannapenta.
- (2) From Ramannapenta to Tekalapenta, either east or west of Gundlabrahmeswaram.
- (3) From Adutla to Tekalapenta, up the Adutla valley, then one mile of ghât, then undulating and level country.
- (4) From Tekalapenta northwards to Rollapenta.
- (5) From Ramannapenta south *via* Bundlapenta to Byreni-Gundala, thence branches to Chelama and Gazulapalli.
- (6) From Chelama south to lower Ahobilam.

These proposals are judicious; and all the roads are wanted. The effect of a judicious net work of roads of this description will be that a Forest officer camped at a central place like Tekalapenta will be able to drop into either the Nandyal range, the Nandikotkur, the Cumbum or the Markapur without warning, and the effect on conservancy will be very marked.

I think that this net work of roads must be taken as the most urgent work on the Nallamalais.

But can only be carried out very slowly with the present staff.

(Intld.) C. M. M.,
Collector.

Yes after protection.

(Intld.) C. M. M.,
Collector.

63. *Houses*.—Coupled with this comes the question of a chain of houses, which is of importance only secondary to roads, because a Forest officer would want only a very small amount of transport, and be independent of the weather. Not only is rain a source of difficulty; but the dews are so heavy in the early part of the hot weather that tents cannot be shifted till long after the sun is up; man-eating tigers also are not unknown, which makes it advisable to have not only the officer but the camp permanently housed.

64. (a) We have at present a chain of buildings along the railway, which were formerly railway bungalows, namely, Gazulapalli, Pálár dam, Chelama and Giddalur.

It is a pity that we did not secure one at Digavametta; but I do not think that this is of the first importance, as I believe we may get permission to use a railway bungalow here.

Now that the Board's order on the question of forest camps has been received, more rapid progress may be expected in this direction.

Shelter is a *sine qua non* in the forests.

(Intld.) C. M. M.,
Collector.

I would add Paniem and the gap between Paniem and Kurnool should be filled by a bungalow at Bugga (kalva).

(Intld.) C. M. M.,
Collector.

And at Nandikotkur.

(Intld.) C. M. M.,
Collector.

(b) There is a chain along the Mantrala kanama, namely, at Atmakúru, Bairnuti, Rollapenta, Mantrala and one is wanted at Dornal to complete the chain.

(c) There are bungalows at Cumbum, Papinainipalli and Adutla. The gap between Cumbum and Papinainipalli will probably be filled by an abandoned Police station at Mohidinpuram. This chain should be continued with buildings at Tekalapenta, Buggapenta and Velgode; and a branch from Tekalapenta with buildings at Ramannakatwa and Honkaram. I am rather doubtful about the latter as it would be very hard to keep the place either private or clean in the vicinity of the temple.

(d) A building is wanted at Pecheruvu, accessible from Rollapenta.

Other buildings will eventually be wanted in the interior of the hills.

65. Out-houses are wanted at Pálár dam, Giddalur, Adutla and Bairnuti; and out-houses are of the greatest importance at all the camps.

66. *Creeper cutting*.—This work must be taken in hand systematically, for large tracts of forest are virtually ruined by creepers. I have been thinking over this question, and it seems to me that we may in these operations make use of the Wodders, as we must restrict their felling very soon. We might offer a lump sum for creeper cutting over a definite area.

67. *Restrictions on Wodders*.—It has already been arranged to license these wood cutters, and I think that we must make a further restriction at once; and, that is, to prohibit absolutely the felling of any tree except close to the ground. The Wodders will object and protest; but their licenses should be made dependant on their observance of this condition; for we are losing annually a large amount of coppice on account of the habit of cutting trees 3 feet and even higher from the ground.

68. *Restrictions on Chentzus*.—This question is very important; for they are by no means a quiet inoffensive race. The District Forest-officer writes:—

“It is commonly supposed that they are a semi-wild, innocent, inoffensive, hill tribe, living on roots, honey, wild fruits and game. If this were so we should have no difficulty in controlling them. They are actually a semi-wild, lazy, thieving, drinking set of brigands. They levy

blackmail from every village along the foot of the hills, and if any ryot refuses to pay up, his crop silently disappears on some moonless night. They levy blackmail from every pilgrim to the shrines in the hills. They levy blackmail from the graziers in the hills. They borrow money from Komaties and Buniahs, and repay it in kind—stolen timber, minor forest produce, &c.

"They are constantly in debt to Komaties, and are practically their slaves, as regards the supply of timber and other forest produce. They think nothing of felling a tree in order to collect its fruits and they fire miles of forest in order to be able to collect with ease certain minor produce or to trace game. They poison the streams throughout the hills, and in short do exactly as they please through the length and breadth of the Nallamalais."

My own belief is that this picture is not overdrawn. They are a danger to the forest in many ways, and I have always thought it a pity that they were given some of the *rights* at settlement which stand against their names. I have had considerable experience with forest tribes in one way or another, with Kurumbars, Kaders, Muleers, Muduvars, Yanadis, Khonds, Reddis, Koyas, Souras and others; and my experience with them all is that they take concession as a sign of weakness, and trade on it.

69. It is, I am certain, a mistake to give them any rights to sell or barter forest produce independently of the Forest department, because it simply means that we legalise the exploitation of our forest for the sake of money-lenders. There is one thing which a true forest man dreads, and that is a prison; and he will make efforts at times to supply any demands of his money-lenders, if he is threatened with a detention in prison.

70. The rights given at settlement were—

- (1) Rights of way and rights to carry torches.
- (2) Rights to draw and drink water from, and wash or bathe in, all streams, springs, wells and pools.
- (3) Rights to forest produce for home use.
- (4) Rights to fish and shoot.
- (5) Rights to graze a limited number of cattle, sheep and goats.
- (6) Rights to collect for sale or barter certain minor produce.

The original intention of the Forest Settlement-officer was to make those rights

I agree.

(Intld.) C. M. M.,
Collector.

This is a big question and cannot be properly discussed in a note like this; but if the Board wish, it will be dealt with separately.

(Intld.) C. M. M.,
Collector.

subject to certain restrictions, that is, subject to good behaviour, and that the Forest department should have the right of pre-emption of minor forest produce, and that Chentzus were not to employ outside labour. These restrictions were all cut out by the Collector (so it is stated by the District Forest-officer; but I do not understand how the Collector had this authority) who substituted a proviso under which such restrictions as may be necessary can be imposed by an order of His Excellency the Governor in Council.

71. The practical question is whether Government can be moved to impose certain restrictions; those proposed being—

- (1) The carrying of torches in fire-protected blocks during the fire season should be prohibited.
- (2) There shall be no right to wash or bathe in such springs, wells, pools, or portions of streams as are specially set apart for drinking purposes by the District Forest-officer.

This question of drinking-water is of the first importance. Many of the streams run above ground for a while, and then disappear to reappear lower down. It is very important to be able to keep from pollution a portion of such a stream near a forest camp.

- (3) Rights to take forest produce should be subject to such limitations as the Collector shall, from time to time, publish in the District Gazette. If there is no limit, theft of first-class timber may go on under cover of this right. In the Gódávári district a regular trade sprang up in teak, said to be taken from the forest in the first instance by the Koyas for their own consumption.
- (4) The right to fish and shoot should certainly be subject to limitation; the chief one being that the number of guns in each gudem should be restricted to the number allowed at settlement; and Chentzus should be bound by the shooting and fishing rules under section 26, like every one else.

- (5) The rights to graze now extend over the whole forest area of each gudem, as they reckon claims among each other. There should be reserved a right to Government to close portions of the forest if necessary; in fact Chentzus "rights" should be subject to the general right of control of Government over each and every part of the forest.
- (6) The right of pre-emption of all minor forest produce collected by Chentzus should be reserved to the Forest department.

We cannot check stealing otherwise. This has been our experience everywhere.

There is no doubt that the Chentzus are feared by most of the people in the neighbourhood of the forest, and it is rather a novelty to see a so-called jungleman presuming on his reputation.

He makes attempts sometimes to impress the European too; but as a rule fails. Judging from the number of children in all the gudems we passed, we shall have to reckon with this race seriously in our treatment of the forest; and it seems to me the more important to define their status now.

72. *Fire protection.*—As a general measure is impossible until we have more control over the forest and its inhabitants; all we can do is to try to protect small blocks, where operations have been going on and keep open our communications; for I believe that the keeping open of the communications will not only act as a deterrent, because permitting of rapid inspection, but will remove one danger at all events, namely, the temptation to fire the grass just to clear the paths. However, as I advised before, I think we might save more of the forest than we do now, if we ourselves systematically fired some of the more important grazing areas, to remove another temptation; for if we do not fire these tracts the graziers will.

73. *Demarcation.*—Owing to the slow progress of settlement final demarcation has made but little progress. The Nallamalai reserves as originally proposed are demarcated by broad clear lines, parts of which have been made into export roads.

Orders have already issued for communications to be cleared of grass annually.

(Intld.) C. M. M.,
Collector.

The extensions in the terai on the west are preliminarily demarcated by a 6 feet line, which however gets rapidly overgrown. Of these terai blocks, only one (Kotabonda), has been finally notified, and its final demarcation has begun.

On the east of the Nallamalais the selection and preliminary notification of the terai blocks is still in progress. Cumbum taluk has been finished and parts of Markapur remain to be done. Mr. Hearsey, Extra Assistant Conservator, has been entrusted with this work for the last year.

74. In the *Yerramalais* final demarcations has made more progress, the east and west Ramallakot reserves, Yaparlapad and South Dhone reserves have been completely demarcated. The first three have masonry cairns at every angle; but as this system has been found to be too expensive, masonry cairns will in future be erected only at important points, where the position is not fixed by survey stones. Villagers have wantonly injured many of these masonry cairns. The cairns for other reserves are dry stone erections with a central post. Loose stones are cleared off the lines. The Gadidemadugu reserve has been finally demarcated except for a short distance, where there was a difficulty about interpreting the boundary description to reconcile the position of certain unsurveyed fields. It strikes me as quite possible that the fields now claimed are not those in existence when the reserve was first marked out. The boundary at any rate struck me as most erratic. A surveyor has been employed lately on this reserve.

SETTLEMENT.

75. *Under Settlement.*—The Forest Settlement-officer had spent barely a fortnight in the district for the last two years, and settlement had progressed in consequence very slowly. Both the Collector and I made special remarks on this, and since the date of my visit the Forest Settlement-officer has devoted his attention to this district. The oldest block now pending, North Dhone, could not be mapped without a survey, as the boundary runs for a great extent through unsurveyed land. The survey was done two years ago by a Surveyor, Royal Pillai, but was found to be so defective as to be useless. A fresh survey has been made, and a map prepared lately.

The north Dhone final notification is now before the Board.

(Intld.) C. M. M.,
Collector.

76. The Pendekal, Katarkonda, Gundlakonda, Peddapaya and Jaladurgam reserves in the Yerramalais, and the Ahobilam, Bathepalli, Gazulapalli and Ernipad reserves in the Nallamalai terai have been settled, but final notifications are delayed pending the acquisition of certain lands. The Yerrakondapalem reserve has been settled, and the final notification has been submitted lately for sanction. The Dumballapalle, Tokapalli, Ganapavaram, Millampalli, Betamcherla, Velgode, Uyyalavada extension, Maduva and Pyalakurti reserves still await settlement, while Ambavaram and Somidevipalli have been partially settled, and quite lately Mundlapad, Kamalapuram and Jonagiri reserves have been settled.

77. *Selection.*—Notifications under section 4 for the Veldurti, Guvvalagunta, and Eastern Nallamalais block I have been sent in. The latter was returned for revision, and was resubmitted with arguments in which I concurred.

78. Demarcated, but pending inspection by the District Forest-officer were the following reserves: Paniem, Gani, Duddayala, Loddippalli, Muntakanamakonda. Under selection or demarcation were—Giddalur and Owk.

Selected and demarcated but awaiting the completion of maps were—Eastern Nallamalais blocks II and III, which practically complete the Cumbum Nallamalais. Selected but not demarcated were—Allinagaram, Mokshagundem, Konapalli, which are all three Veligonda extensions; and the terai blocks in Markapur taluk; also a large block of hills north of Pattikonda, the Yerragudi block between Pattikonda and Pyapalli.

79. There remain to be selected certain date areas, such as Mandlem between Jupad and Nandikotkur, the Akavid palmyra area, and a few minor blocks of reserves in the plains.

80. *Maps.*—Mr. Lodge has given great attention to this important subject, and his work is a model in this as in many other ways. He indented for a new office reference map posting one copy as a guide, but the Survey office merely corrected old copies. However even so they are an improvement on the old office reference map. Taluk maps are kept posted up to date in the District Forest office and Range officers' copies are sent in periodically and posted.

Range maps—are a very useful addition made by the District Forest-officer to the rangers means of information; these maps being cut out of the district map on the scale of two inches to a mile. These maps are specially necessary for the Nallamalais as the taluk maps do not show the unsurveyed areas.

Reserve maps—showing the boundaries and all rights admitted at settlement are maintained in the District Forest-office, and each Range officer has a copy of all settlement maps referring to his range.

81. *Government of India Survey.*—During the past year the Government of India Survey triangulated the southern portion of the Nallamalais. The triangulation will now proceed further north and the detailed survey of the portion south of the Nandikanama pass will be undertaken.

82. *Areas.*—It has been found that the old areas calculated for the Nallamalai reserves was very erroneous. The District Forest-officer calculates that Cumbum was put down at 30,000 acres too large, and Nandikotkur at 40,000 too small. Corrections are being taken in hand.

In the annual report recently submitted full details of the rectification of areas were given.

(Intld.) C. M. M.,
Collector.

83. *Office.*—I examined the office at the time of my visit to Kurnool. The District Forest-officer has a model office room in the Collector's cutcherry where his system of maps is seen to advantage. The books and records were kept up to date. All the information about reserved forests is kept very well by Mr. Lodge, for he has the papers connected with reservation bound together in convenient sized volumes, namely, the Board's Proceedings submitting the Forest Settlement-officer's final report, and the Government Order directing the publication. It would be well if this system were universally adopted.

84. I found the old form No. 1 (register of reserved forests) kept up. This is not necessary in the old fashion. It is simply useful as a register, for boundaries, &c., reference can be made to the Board's Proceedings for the first column, instead of date of entry, I recommended date of conservation. The whole of this register can be kept in a few pages.

85. *Reserve book for each Reserve.*—Subsequently to my inspection of this office I have sent a circular to all officers recommending the following headings—*vide circular enclosed.*

86. *District Forest-officer's Journal*.—I think that this should be written in a blank quarto or foolscap size volume; and I think that the old form of range journals would be kept better in a blank quarto volume.

87. *Register of annual yield*—written up quarterly.

88. *Register of free grants*.—This is given by number of trees.

89. *Receipts and issues of stores, tools and plant*—kept well indexed, as are all the books. Roads are also entered; and it seems useful to have a definite record for roads somewhere. The dates of completion and cost are still to be entered. The balance columns in the issues and disposals of stock in the stock register should be filled up only at the end of the official year, when deductions should be made for deterioration. Instead of striking off in red ink the entry against a receiver, when stock has been returned to the head office, it would be better to make an entry in the remarks column "returned to stock on such a date." Fresh issues should be written under the original issues so long as there is space left, but if the space has been filled up, an entry in the remarks column should be made referring to the page on which entries under the same sub-head are continued, keeping for the continuation the same serial number.

90. *Form No. 14—Distribution of stock*.—Column 2 should be filled up, approximate dates being given for the distribution of old stock. There seems no necessity to balance the range books at the end of the year. If the value of the stock differs from that entered in the column of value corrections can be made by comparison with the current district stock register.

91. A memorandum book of receipts and issues of stock is printed locally and kept in triplicate, the rangers' receipt being posted on to the original. This seems a useful record.

92. The *cash books* and *ledger registers of sanctioned works*, and of *deposits* were kept correctly posted.

93. *Registers of receipts and issues of documents*.—(Forms 38 and 39) have formed the subject of separate reference to the Board since the date of my inspection, and a modification of the headings has been sanctioned (see Board's Proceedings, Forest Mis. No. 856, dated 13th June 1896).

94. *The register of Forest offences*—is posted.

95. *The register of distribution of maps*—must be dated.

96. *General remarks*.—I had hoped to see my way to more exhaustive proposals, as an increase of establishment has been expected from month to month. Orders have not yet issued however from the Government of India, and this report cannot be longer delayed. The establishment is altogether inadequate thoroughly to control the large areas of forest, and theft is undoubtedly rife. Mr. Lodge's own activity and devotion to work is exceptionally praiseworthy; he has lost the services of an able Assistant Conservator in Mr. Cox, whose services are required elsewhere, but I would place on record that I think that Kurnool should always have two Sub-Divisional officers available. Mr. Cox suffered much from fever. Mr. Hearsey, Extra Assistant Conservator, who is stationed in Nandyal, has done extremely good detective work, and has been actively engaged in getting the reserves to the east of the Nallamalais in order for settlement.

Of the Range officers whom I came across I thought that Mr. Kalyanarama Iyer's work was the most satisfactory.

Some of the Range officers are extremely weak here as in other districts and are not fit for the charge of Ranges; but we can do nothing till the establishment is strengthened.

I entirely endorse this. Mr. Lodge is an able and zealous officer.

(Intld.) C. M. M.,
Collector.

I hope action will be taken on this. The charge is too heavy for the present staff.

(Intld.) C. M. M.,
Collector.

Yes.

(Intld.) C. M. M.,
Collector.

This very interesting note will, I am sure, be read with pleasure.

(Intld.) C. M. M.,
Collector.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

Circular.

Reserve Books.—It is advisable to introduce uniformity in the classification of information to be collected in reserve books, and the following headings are suggested after some consideration and consultation.

2. The chief object of a reserve book is to collect statistics in a handy form for future working plans. However as the numbers of reserves are in some districts very great, and the selection has been a work of some years, and has been made often under a variety of conditions, considerable discretion may be used with advantage in the grouping or partition of reserves. There is nothing to be gained by

slavishly adhering to the reserves as separate items in the form in which they have been settled. The utmost care must, of course, be taken to insure that if several small reserves are clubbed together, and only one reserve book is opened for them, the record of the original names and numbers at settlement is clearly indicated, so that access can be had readily to the original records; and similarly if it is advisable to split up a very large reserve and open two or more reserve books for it.

3. It is not intended that these reserve books should be burdened with a mass of information which can be obtained from the settlement records, but it is very necessary that the whereabouts of this information should be carefully entered. Some few facts connected with reservation may possibly be entered with advantage in abstract, but there is no use in burdening the record with a detailed *boundary description*, &c.

4. The following classification is suggested:—

- (1) Index.
- (2) Locality and area or areas.
- (3) History of selections, dates and numbers of Board's Proceedings and Government Orders giving proclamations under section IV and section XVI for each single or composite area treated in a reserve book.
- (4) Short history of any important points noted at settlement.
- (5) State of boundaries and demarcation.
- (6) Surveys and maps.
- (7) Divisions into preliminary or final working circles, blocks, compartments, coupes, &c.
- (8) Descriptive analysis of each block, or compartment (the latter if a final working plan is proximate), as to—
 - (a) *Locality*.—Including geographical position, altitude, aspect, slope, temperature, rainfall, prevailing winds, and surrounding in so far as they are likely to affect the locality.
 - (b) *Soil*.—Including underlying rock, mineral composition, depth, porosity and moisture of the soil and surface soil.
 - (c) *Growing stock*.—Including trees, shrubs and bamboos, names and percentage of prevalent species, age, density and style of growth.
 - (d) *Minor produce*.—Mines and quarries.
- (9) Method of treatment, yield, past and present working and discussion for future working.
- (10) Markets and villages in or near the locality.
- (11) Depôts, forest or sale.
- (12) Notes on rates of growth, flowering, seeding and fall of leaf of principal species.
- (13) Grazing and goat browsing, closures against grazing, chief grazing villages, greater percentage of owners local or alien.

- (14) Watercourses, canals, channels, tanks, pools, springs and wells.
- (15) Railway lines, roads and cart-tracks pathways.
- (16) Buildings, houses, departmental or otherwise sheds, and camping grounds.
- (17) Fire protection, causes of fire, chief dangers.
- (18) Cultural operations, including—
 - (a) Planting out or re-stocking blanks and nurseries.
 - (b) Fencing.
 - (c) Creeper cutting, thinnings, improvement fellings.
 - (d) Enemies to good forest growth, animal or vegetable.
- (19) Notes on Fauna—birds and beasts.
- (20) Establishments.
- (21) Annual revenue and expenditure—abstracts of Forms 3 and 24.
- (22) Inspection notes, containing any remarks not conveniently classified under the above heads.

(Signed) A. W. PEET,
Conservator of Forests,
Northern Circle.

WALTAIR,
27th March 1896.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.

Rules regulating the temporary residence of Woddas, Sugalis and others in the Reserves of the Kurnool district.

1. Each Wodda, Sugali or other person wishing to live in reserved forests must apply to the Range officer for a camping license; the Range officer will note down the man's name, the gang to which he belongs, the village for which he works or his permanent residence, the number of bulls or other cattle he intends to keep in the forest, and the penta at which he wishes to reside; he will forward this information to the District Forest-officer with his remarks on the character and conduct of the applicant.
2. The District Forest-officer will issue or refuse to issue a license; in the latter case, the applicant must be informed that if he resides in the forests he will be prosecuted. If a license is issued, it will specify the name of the licensee, the penta at which he is permitted to reside, and the date of issue.
All licenses will hold good for the calendar year in which they are issued.
3. The licensee will be allowed to erect one hut at the penta named in the license provided that no portion of any reserved, Class I or Class II, tree shall be used in the construction of such hut, and that the total amount of forest produce (grass excepted) used in the construction thereof shall not exceed one cart-load (twenty head-loads).
4. The erection of more than one hut may be allowed by the District Forest-officer, under exceptional circumstances and on payment of one rupee for each additional hut.
5. Each license will hold good for only one adult male, with his wife and infants, if any.
6. The licensee, his wife and infants will be allowed to burn for domestic purposes dead wood collected from within a half mile radius of the camp, provided that no wood fit for use as timber shall be so used.
7. The license conveys no right to free pasturage for the licensee's cattle. He must obtain and pay for grazing permits from the Range officer or other officer authorized to issue such permits.
8. The license conveys no right to fell or remove any forest produce or to hunt, shoot or fish.
9. Breach of any of the forest rules or regulations or of any condition of the license will entail forfeiture of the license in addition to the penalties prescribed by law. A licensee whose license has been cancelled will be prosecuted for trespass if subsequently found residing in the forests.

10. When a whole gang or part of a gang of Woddas, Sugalis or others commits an offence against Forest rules and regulations, the licenses of the whole gang may be cancelled and the gang prosecuted as specified above. Similar action may be taken if a gang shelters a licensee whose license has been cancelled or any forest offenders.

11. For minor offences the District Forest-officer may suspend a license for a given period, instead of cancelling it.

12. Licensees must, whenever called upon to do so, give Forest-officers all information asked for regarding the wood they are felling, the people they are working for, &c.

13. Licensees must give immediate information to Forest-officers of the commission of, or intention to commit, any forest offence of which they are cognizant.

14. Licenses for the current year will be issued free of charge.

15. All licenses expire on the 31st December, and one month's grace will be allowed for the renewal of the same.

F. LODGE,
Dist. Forest-officer.

Endorsement by C. M. MULLALY, Esq., Collector of Kurnool, dated 12th September 1896, Ref. on C. No. 621.

Forwarded to the Board with marginal notes.

RESOLUTION—Forest No. 522, dated 18th November 1896.

Recorded.

2. The main point dealt with in the Conservator's report is the prevalence of a regularly organised system of illicit fellings in the forests surrounding the Nallamalais. As pointed out by the Conservator, the establishment is altogether inadequate thoroughly to control the forests. Until therefore the long expected reorganization scheme is sanctioned, much improvement cannot be looked for in this direction. Meanwhile, the Conservator's reply to Board's Proceedings, Forest No. 639, Routine, dated 8th October 1896, calling on him to submit definite proposals regarding the entertainment of additional protective establishments applied for by the District Forest-officer, is awaited.

3. Other points of importance noticed are (1) the extension and improvement of means of communication for inspection and exploiting purposes and (2) the cutting of creepers in the reserves. The Collector and the District Forest-officer are requested to devote their careful attention to these works and to put them in hand as funds become available.

4. *Paragraph 38 of the inspection report.*—The Board is prepared to support proposals for the imposition of a special fee for the cattle-breeding grounds referred to when the Conservator considers that the time for such a step has arrived.

5. *Paragraphs 39 to 41.*—Copies of these paragraphs and of the extracts attached by the Collector will be forwarded for the information of the Sanitary Commissioner.

6. *Paragraph 46.*—The report referred to in the Collector's remarks should be submitted to the Board in due course through the Conservator.

7. *Paragraphs 47 and 57 to 67.*—The proposal to utilise the services of the Woddas accustomed to forest work has the Board's approval. If sufficient employment cannot be found in ordinary departmental work, some arrangements should be made for the regulation and supervision of the work which they now do for permit-holders. It is clear, however, from paragraphs 57 to 63 that the elaboration of satisfactory arrangements for the working of the Nallamalai forests is a task of much difficulty which can only be gradually brought to completion.

8. *Paragraph 49.*—The Conservator's remarks regarding the necessity of discouraging, as far as possible, the practice of splitting bamboos in the forest will no doubt receive the Collector's attention.

9. *Paragraph 55.*—The Board regrets to learn that the wholesale plunder of the Nallamalai forests, which was the subject of so much correspondence two years ago, seems to be as rife as ever.

10. *Paragraphs 68 to 71.*—The discussion of the question of the rights admitted at settlement in favour of the Chentzus should, as suggested by the Collector, form the subject of a separate report. It is very important that the matter should be definitely settled at an early date.

11. *Paragraph 83.*—A copy of this paragraph will be communicated to all Collectors in view to the adoption of the method of recording information regarding reservation recommended by the Conservator in cases in which other equally satisfactory arrangements are not already in force.

12. *Paragraph 87.*—The entries in the register of annual yield should be made monthly, as directed in section 74 of the Forest Code.

13. The Board has read this report with much interest and notes with approbation the testimony borne by the Conservator and the Collector to the good work done by Mr. Lodge.

(True Copies and Extract.)

Reelan
Acting Secretary.

To the Collector of Kurnool.
" Conservator of Forests, Northern Circle.

" Copy to other Collectors and Conservators.

" to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department. ✓

" to the Sanitary Commissioner, with copies of extracts.

Exd. C. M. Thumbaramy.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

1896.

Board of Revenue

(Land Revenue),

MADRAS.

Printed January th, 1897.

Proceedings, Forest No. 522, 18th
November 1896.

Recording, with remarks, Inspection Report
of the Kurnool forests by the Conservator of
Forests, Northern Circle.

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