Revenue (1898) Department.

MISCELLANEOUS SERIES.

G.O., No. 4128

DATED 2nd December 98

[Despatch Abstract.]

Forwarding the expenditure of Rs 101 incurred by the Collector of [illegible] on the construction of a road-deck for the Ghaut road

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

Educational (1898) Department.

CURRENT No. 80

From The Board of Revenue, Land Revenue, Madras

Order No No 4726 D 2nd Dec 1898

Forest Rel. **No** 44.

The expenditure of Rupees 4 odd of Fasli Rs 101 incurred in the Construction of a record rack, as sanctioned.

Dated 21st. November 1898.

Received)
Registered) 23/11

Enclosures /

Spare copies

To the Board - 4K
Accountant General 24/12/98 5.11.98

BM 29.11.98

SUBJECT

Submitting for favourable consideration of Govt letter from the Collr. of Madura requesting sanction for an expenditure of Rs. 101 being the amount incurred in the purchase of a record rack for the Cognova record room of this office for the custody of forest records

BACK PAPERS

G O	No	Department	Date

FURTHER PAPERS

G O	No	Department	Date

1897.

Board of Revenue

(Land Revenue),

MADRAS.

Printed January 4th 1898

Proceedings, Forest No. 530, 3rd December 1897.

DECEMBER.

Passing remarks on the question as to where the records of the District Forest office should be lodged

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE

(LAND REVENUE)

READ—the following letter from W H WELSH, Esq, Collector of South Canara, to the Secretary to the Commissioners of Land Revenue, dated Camp, Buntwal, 1st August 1897, G B R No 356 —

I have the honour to request orders whether the records of the District Forest office should be taken by the Collector's general recordkeeper and lodged in the Collector's record-room as part of the Collector's records

2 The District Forest-officer contends that the records of his office should be taken by the Collector's recordkeeper, and relies upon Board's Proceedings, Forest No 94, dated 27th February 1896 On the other hand, the references noted in the margin seem to show that the custody of the District Forest office records rests with the District Forest-officer and that the responsibility of selecting useless records for destruction also rests with him Forest settlement records are, of course, kept under seal in the English branch, but they do not belong to the forest branch records

(1) Board's Proceedings, No 2731-F 534, dated 24th September 1885
(2) Board's Proceedings, F No 421, dated 10th July 1895
(3) Board's Proceedings, No 742, dated 24th December 1892, paragraphs 14 (1) and 21
(4) Sections 243 and 244 of the Forest Code
(5) Rule 166 of the disposal number system rules framed for South Canara (extract enclosed)

3 It may be argued that the Board's Proceedings relied upon by the District Forest officer is of a later date than the references quoted above But, on the other hand, that Proceedings does not positively require all Collectors to give effect to the Conservator's suggestion on the subject but merely notes that this and other suggestions of the Conservator are receiving attention in the district inspected

4 The transfer of the Forest office records to the Collector is expected to throw considerable extra work on the latter's record establishment in the way of checking and indexing disposals, putting up and replacing references, selecting papers for destruction, &c, for which the forest branch is now responsible and with which it must be familiar, and it would also delay the disposal of business in the Forest office, as observed by the Board in its Proceedings, No 742, dated 24th December 1892 The District Forest officer would find this out when he would have occasion to ask for old papers and the recordkeeper would be a stranger to their arrangement

5 In this district there is an additional difficulty The forest records occupy at present a room by itself on the first floor of my office building and the Collector's record-room, which is some way off on the ground floor is already overfull The District Forest-officer states that the forest records may be left "where they are," but that would necessitate the breaking up of the record establishment A clerk and an attender might have to be located in the room on the first floor containing the forest records in order to avoid going up and down constantly to fetch references, &c, and be away from the recordkeeper's supervision

6 If the District Forest-officer has correctly interpreted the intention of the Board, a way of overcoming this difficulty would be to take current records into the Collector's record, those of previous years being still left in their present rooms in charge of the forest branch and some of the vernacular records which are seldom referred to transported there to leave additional space

ENCLOSURE No 1

EXTRACT from the Disposal Number System Rules framed for South Canara district

* * * * *

166 There will be only one index in the Collector's office common to all branches—Vernacular, English, Accounts and Press Forest and District Board will have separate indexes of their own Important disposals will be each under the subject heads A list of index stock heads is given in the appendix

* * * * *

Reference on the above, dated 13th August 1897

Forwarded to the Conservator of Forests, Southern Circle, for remarks It should be ascertained and reported whether the records are combined in other districts

To the Conservator of Forests, Southern Circle, with letter and its enclosure in original to be returned

READ— the following letter from H A GASS, Esq, Acting Conservator of Forests, Southern Circle, to the Secretary to the Commissioners of Land Revenue, dated Coimbatore, 10th November 1897, No 876 —

With reference to Board's Reference on Forest Register No 2351, dated 13th August 1897, I have the honour to inform you that enquiries have been made of all Collectors in regard to the custody of their forest records, and the following is a brief précis of their replies

2 North Malabar considers it inexpedient to keep forest records in the Collector's office, as great delay and confusion would occur if the District Forest office had to send to Calicut to produce reference papers

South Malabar reports that in addition to the finally notified reserve records, original leases and security deposit pass books are kept in the Collector's record room

North Coimbatore District Forest officer considers that it would be inconvenient to keep the forest records proper with the general records of the Collector's office

South Coimbatore does not consider it necessary to keep forest records in the general records, but if decided to do so, suggests that last three years' records at least should be kept in the Forest office to facilitate work and reference

Tinnevelly considers that it would be a relief if the records were lodged in the general record room, but, in view of the great difficulty in taking out papers for reference from the record-room, prefers to have them in the Forest office

South Malabar, Nilgiris and Madura have given no opinion on the subject of location of forest records proper

3 It is ascertained that in all districts the forest records proper are kept in the District Forest office in the custody of the Forest Head Clerk, and it is further reported by South Canara, South Malabar, Coimbatore North and South, Nilgiris and Tinnevelly, that Forest settlement records are kept under seal in the general branch, and though not expressly stated, it is understood that this is also the case in Malabar (North) and Madura

4 It is evident that there is a disinclination both on the part of Collectors and District Forest-officers to have the forest records placed in the general record-room and there does not appear to me to be any reason for disturbing the present arrangement It would certainly cause inconvenience all round, and, in the case of some districts, great delay in disposal of papers If it be ordered, it will be necessary to keep the records of the three past years in the Forest offices for easy reference

RESOLUTION—Forest No 530, dated 3rd December 1897

The papers read above relate to the custody of the District Forest office records

2 The District Forest-officer, South Canara, urges that these records should be lodged in the Collector's record-room and taken charge of by the general recordkeeper of the Collector's office The Collector, however, demurs to this view and considers that the records of the District Forest office should be in the custody of the District Forest-officer, who is responsible for the selection of useless records for destruction—*vide* section 244 of the Forest Code

3 Before passing orders on the Collector's letter, the Board requested the Conservator to ascertain and report whether the records of the District Forest office were being kept in the Collector's general record-room in other districts in the circle

4 The Conservator now reports that the Forest records are at present kept separate from the Land Revenue and other records, and that to disturb the present arrangements would be likely to cause trouble

5 The Board does not consider that the system advocated by Mr Popert in 1895 is in any way impracticable in districts where the head-quarters of the Collector and his District Forest-officer are identical Where this is not the case, as in Malabar, the District Forest-officer must, of course, keep his own records But the question is one which must be left entirely to the discretion of the Collector, who is expected to make such arrangements as he may deem best in the interests of both the general and the Forest branches of his office The Board is not prepared to issue any general instructions in the matter

6 The above orders do not apply to the custody of the original records of forest settlement enquiries, which must be kept under seal in the Collector's general record room as directed in Board's Proceedings, Forest No 1, dated 6th January 1896

(True Copies and Extract)

(Signed) R. C C CARR,
Secretary

(True Copy)

(Signed) V A. PARTHASARATHY MUDALIAR,
Forest Assistant

To all Collectors, except Madras
„ Conservators of Forests

Prd P Seetharam

OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE
(LAND REVENUE),

Madras, 21st [illegible] 189-

READ— [illegible]

From [illegible] Reference No 442 dated 21st November 1898

[illegible]

A letter to obtain [illegible] made by the Collector of South Canara as to whether the records of the Forest branch of his office should be lodged in the Collector's general record room or be separately retained in the custody of the District Forest Officer, the Board held in their Proceedings F dated 3rd December 1897 that the provision would be left entirely to the discretion of the Collector as the head of the department as he might deem best in the interests of both the general and the Forest branches of his office. The Collector of [illegible] action on the rule [illegible] records of his Forest branch should be lodged in the general record-room for which he now reports a large [illegible] made at cost of Rs. 10. A Bill [illegible] the sanctioning powers of the Collector, his requests sanction for incurring the charge Under G.O.No 14 Fin. dated 9-1-'95. the powers of heads of departments to sanction the purchase of country-made articles of furniture are limited to Rs 100 for each article. The Board therefore submits the Collector's request for the favourable consideration of Government

2. Provision does not exist in the Forest budget for the charge,

but the amount will not from [illegible] The Collector will be requ[illegible] to send a correct [illegible] / if any [illegible] dressed at the t a best advantage possible.

/

Yours Faithfully
A/ Secretary

To the Secretary to Govt. P.W. [illegible] No. P.W.T.-530 dated [illegible]

Copy [illegible]

When given for copying ____
When copied ____
When examined ____
When signed ____
} 189

READ AGAIN G O., No. DATED 189 ;

CURRENT No

ENCLOSURE to O No

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT	.. .. ..	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.								
[illegible] DATED.								
PAPERS NOT FILED AS BEING WANTED FOR REFERENCE IN ORIGINAL.								

N.B —
A — Copy in full.
B — Not to be copied.
P — Copy abstract only.
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