Revenue (1898) Department.

PRESS SERIES.

G.O., Nos 88-89

Dated 15th February 1898

[Despatch Abstract.]

Endeavour that the Govt. of India be moved to obtain the sanction of the Rt. Hon'ble the Secy. of State for India for the reduction for a further period of 2 years, of the five Forest Settlement officers at present employed in this Presidency.

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
C.no 2915/98 3315/98 C.no 6340	1658-9 M-4-98 2045 6-5-98 4121 14-6-98			G.O. 292 C. (Rev) 12-7-98			

Revenue (1898) Department.

CURRENT No. 1044.

From Board of Revenue Land Rev

Order No. 44.

Dated 31.1.98.

Received 6-2-98

Registered 8-2-98

Enclosures nil

Spare copies

SUBJECT.

Requesting Govt to obtain the sanction of the Govt of India at an early date for the retention for a further period of two years of the five Special Forest Settlement Officers employed on forest settlement work in this Presy.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
u	370 2347	Forest	21-5-97 16.6.96

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

1898.

Board of Revenue

(Land Revenue),

MADRAS.

Printed February th.

Proceedings, Forest No. 44, 31st January 1898.

JANUARY.

Requesting Government to obtain the sanction of the Government of India at an early date for the retention for a further period of two years of the five Special Forest Settlement officers employed on forest settlement work in this Presidency.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE

(LAND REVENUE).

RESOLUTION—Forest No. 44, dated 31st January 1898.

The Board resolves to request Government that the sanction of Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India may be obtained at an early date for the retention for a further period of two years of the services of the five Special Forest Settlement officers employed on forest settlement work in this Presidency.

2. The sanction accorded in despatch No. 46, dated 30th April 1896, expires on the 31st March next. The Secretary of State expressed a hope that the work would be completed by that time, but this calculation was presumably based on paragraph 3 of the Government of India despatch No. 75, dated 25th March 1896, which dealt with the employment of a fifth officer for the special purpose of disposing of the forest settlement work formerly entrusted to Revenue Divisional officers. From paragraph 4 of this despatch it will be seen that neither the Madras Government nor the Government of India anticipated that the work for the whole Presidency would be completed within the period of sanction which is about to expire. In paragraph 6 of its review on the Forest Administration Report for 1894–95, the Madras Government estimated that the forest settlement work would be brought to a close by the end of 1900, but in its review of the report for 1895–96 (*vide* paragraph 6 of Government Order, No. 370, dated 21st May 1897,) it stated that even this estimate was unduly sanguine, and from the figures now furnished it is clear that there is ample work for all five officers for at least two years more.

3. A statement showing the rate of progress made by the Forest Settlement officers since the last report is enclosed. It will be observed that during the 26 months ranging from 1st November 1895 (the date up to which the last report was reckoned) to 1st January 1898, 291 blocks with an aggregate area of 1,570 square miles were actually notified under section 16 and the settlement of 135 blocks comprising an area of 1,633 square miles was practically completed (*vide* columns 20 and 21) though the final notification has not yet been issued.

4. The annual outturn calculated from the above figures is compared below with the outturn according to previous reports:—

—	Number of blocks gazetted.	Area.	Average size of block.	Annual average number of blocks gazetted.	Annual average area gazetted.
		SQ. MLS.	SQ. MLS.		SQ. MLS.
The year 1890–91	238	830	3·49	238	830
One year and nine months from April 1891 to December 1892	329	3,288	10	188	1,879
Two years and eleven months from 1st January 1893 to 1st November 1895	414	3,279	7·92	142	1,124
Two years and two months from 1st November 1895 to 1st January 1898	291	1,570	5·39	134	725

This result is disappointing and shows that while the average size of the blocks settled was smaller than in the period immediately preceding, the annual average number of blocks gazetted was less, and this in spite of the appointment in 1896 of a fifth officer on special duty. It must, however, be remembered that the fifth officer

was not selected until July 1896, the necessary sanction having been received in May 1896. The appointment of Survey officers in the place of some of the Deputy Collectors who had formerly held charge of this special work involved some temporary delay in the progress of the settlement, for these officers had to undergo a short course of training in their new duties. The illness and subsequent death of a Deputy Collector (M.R.Ry. Raju Sastri), who had for some years done duty in this special line, also tended to retard progress, and the absence of some of the other officers on leave had a similar effect on the general outturn. It may with confidence be anticipated that the progress in future will not be so slow as in the period under report. As already pointed out, the settlement of 135 blocks covering in all 1,649 square miles had practically been completed on 1st January 1898, and if the final notifications regarding these blocks can be issued within the coming year, the rate of progress will be more than doubled without taking into account the new work upon which the Forest Settlement officers are now engaged. It may be added that since the opening of the current year 15 blocks of a total area of nearly 106 square miles have been finally gazetted as reserved forests. The final issue of the notification is, however, frequently delayed from a variety of causes over which the officers concerned have but little control, and it would be unwise to estimate the future outturn at more than 1,100 square miles per annum.

5. The statement appended to these Proceedings shows that, excluding the blocks on which reports have been submitted though the final notification had not issued, there remained with the Forest Settlement officers on 1st January 1898, 343 blocks covering an area of 2,329 square miles, while an additional area of 2,490 square miles will be proposed for reservation hereafter. The last quoted figure is a mere estimate and is liable to be changed by subsequent measurements, but it may be assumed that some 4,800 square miles of forest land remain for settlement. The Board considers that even four years would be a somewhat sanguine estimate for the period required to complete the settlement of so extensive an area, but resolves to request sanction for two years only, at the end of which time a further report will be submitted.

6. Provision has been made in the budget estimates for 1898–99 for the cost of the five special officers and their establishments.

7. The Board ventures to request that the Government of India and the Secretary of State may be assured that no effort will be spared to push on the work as expeditiously as possible. The Board watches the progress of the Settlement officers' work by means of weekly, monthly and quarterly returns, and a quarterly review of progress is regularly submitted to Government.

(True Extract.)

Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

Esd. Md. Pahilvan.

APPENDIX.

STATEMENT showing the progress of forest settlement work from November 1895 to 1st January 1898.

Districts.	Blocks remaining to be notified under section 16 on 1st November 1895.		Added by notification under section 4.				Total of columns 2 to 7.		Notified under section 16.			
			From 1st November 1895 to 30th June 1897.		From July 1897 to 1st January 1898.				From 1st November 1895 to 30th June 1896.		From 1st July 1896 to 30th June 1897.	
	Number.	Area in square miles.	Number.	Area in square miles.	Number.	Area in square miles.	Number.	Area in square miles.	Number.	Area in square miles.	Number.	Area in square miles.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Ganjám *	52	446	(a) 1, (b) 2, (b) — 22	(b) 6, (b) — 21	..	..	33	431	..	..	5	21
Vizagapatam *	7	235	11	2	11	8	29	245	3	20	1	49
Gódávari	22	477	(b) — 2	(b) — 1, (d) — 55	3	21	23	442	10	248	2	30
Kistna	54	151	32, (b) — 12	63, (a) — 12, (b) — 10	17	39	91	231	9	20	12	25
Kurnool	35	495	5, (a) — 6, (b) — 1	89, (a) — 133, (b) — 3	1	50	34	498	3	7	8	59
Bellary	20	50	11, (a) — 3, (b) — 7	27, (a) — 6, (b) — 6	2	3	23	68	4	7	2	12
Anantapur	21	97	2, (a) — 4, (b) — 3	9, (a) — 23, (b) — 4	(b) — 1	(b) — 1	15	78	1	2	..	..
Cuddapah	33	679	11, (a) + 2	163, a) — 4)	7	40	53	833	7	25	10	30
Nellore	31	208	23, (b) — 5	54, (b) — 4	..	..	49	258	8	104	12	21
Chingleput *	19	15	13, (b) — 9	4, (a) + 13, (b) — 17	29	13	52	28	2	3	1	3
North Arcot	29	124	10, (b) — 4	44, (a) — 3, (b) — 6	1	..	36	159	8	38	6	9
South Arcot	71	339	9, (b) — 29	14, (b) — 27	(b) — 1	(b) — 1	50	325	15	44	11	140
Salem	44	183	10, (b) — 9	62, (a) — 26, (b) — 27	(b) — 7	(b) — 28	38	164	11	63	..	..
Trichinopoly	1	2	46	79	..	..	47	81	..	..	..	..
Tanjore	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
South Canara *	47	387	15, (a) + 5, (b) — 5	128, (a) — 35, (b) — 28	1	2	63	454	4	16	5	3
Malabar *	31	384	2, (a) + 5	2, (a) — 3	..	..	38	383	4	7	4	1
Coimbatore	24	795	7, (b) — 6	31, (a) — 79, (b) — 4	..	..	25	743	1	1	6	205
Madura	55	97	(b) — 9	(a) + 3, (b) — 6	..	..	46	94	20	20	11	20
Tinnevelly	19	16	12, (b) — 9	10, (b) — 8	2, (b) — 1	1, (b) — 2	23	17	..	..	7	3
Total	615	5,180	221, (a) + 1, (b) — 132	787, (a) — 353, (b) — 172, (d) — 55	74, (b) — 10	177, (b) — 32	769	5,532	110	625	103	631

(a) Rectification. (b) Initial notifications cancelled. (d) Excluded at settlement.

NOTE.—The districts marked * were excluded from the table on page 3 of Board's Proceedings, No. 53, dated 5th February 1896, as the settlement works therein had not then been entrusted to the Special Settlement officers.

Statement showing the progress of forest settlement work from November 1895 to 1st January 1898—*cont.*

Districts.	Notified under section 16—*cont.*				Balance to be notified on 1st January 1898.		Blocks reported by Forest Settlement officers and pending with Collectors, Board and Government.		Blocks pending with Forest Settlement officers on 1st January 1898.		Estimated area likely to be brought under settlement hereafter.	Total area to be dealt with by Forest Settlement officers.
	From 1st July 1897 to 1st January 1898.		Total of columns 10—15.									
	Number.	Area in square miles.	Number.	Area in square miles.	Number.	Area in square miles.	Number.	Area in square miles.	Number.	Area in square miles		
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Ganjám *	5	21	10	42	23	389	5	112	(a) 18	277	85	362
Vizagapatam *	2	1	6	70	23	175	6	1	(b) 17	174	103	277
Gódávari	1	23	13	301	10	141	1	15	9	126	16	142
Kistna	13	33	34	78	57	153	12	29	45	124	327	451
Kurnool	9	126	20	192	14	306	4	48	10	258	262	520
Bellary	4	15	10	34	13	34	..	..	13	34	356	390
Anantapur	..	..	1	2	14	76	7	40	7	36	..	36
Cuddapah	5	31	22	86	31	747	7	497	24	250	164	414
Nellore	5	12	25	137	24	121	12	104	12	17	351	368
Chingleput *	5	5	8	11	44	17	13	3	31	14	..	14
North Arcot	9	12	23	59	13	100	2	36	11	64	1	65
South Arcot	12	23	38	207	12	118	5	105	7	13	..	13
Salem	..	..	11	63	27	101	21	40	6	61	81	142
Trichinopoly	1	2	1	2	46	79	..	..	46	79	90	169
Tanjore	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
South Canara *	2	3	11	22	52	432	6	150	46	282	562	844
Malabar *	1	..	9	8	29	375	9	150	20	225	47	272
Coimbatore	..	..	7	206	18	537	10	252	8	285	45	330
Madura	1	4	32	44	14	50	6	45	8	5	..	5
Tinnevelly	2	3	9	6	14	11	9	6	5	5	..	5
Total	78	314	291	1,570	478	3,962	135	1,633	343	2,329	2,490	4,819

NOTE.—The districts marked * were excluded from the table on page 3 of Board's Proceedings, No. 53, dated 5th February 1896, as the settlement work therein had not then been entrusted to the Special Settlement officers.

(a) Includes five blocks of about 6 square miles pending with Divisional officers.

(b) Includes five blocks of about 165 square miles pending with Divisional officers, the settlement of which is completed but whose notifications could not be sent in owing to appeals to lands in them still remaining undisposed of.

To be substituted for 1/2 of the same in the abstract

Famines C. No 1 Vol of 98.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

1898.

Board of Revenue

(Land Revenue),

MADRAS.

Printed February th.

Proceedings, Forest No. 44, 31st January 1898.

JANUARY.

Requesting Government to obtain the sanction of the Government of India at an early date for the retention for a further period of two years of the five Special Forest Settlement officers employed on forest settlement work in this Presidency.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE (LAND REVENUE).

RESOLUTION—Forest No. 44, dated 31st January 1898.

The Board resolves to request Government that the sanction of Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India may be obtained at an early date for the retention for a further period of two years of the services of the five Special Forest Settlement officers employed on forest settlement work in this Presidency.

2. The sanction accorded in despatch No. 46, dated 30th April 1896, expires on the 31st March next. The Secretary of State expressed a hope that the work would be completed by that time, but this calculation was presumably based on paragraph 3 of the Government of India despatch No. 75, dated 25th March 1896, which dealt with the employment of a fifth officer for the special purpose of disposing of the forest settlement work formerly entrusted to Revenue Divisional officers. From paragraph 4 of this despatch it will be seen that neither the Madras Government nor the Government of India anticipated that the work for the whole Presidency would be completed within the period of sanction which is about to expire. In paragraph 6 of its review on the Forest Administration Report for 1894–95, the Madras Government estimated that the forest settlement work would be brought to a close by the end of 1900, but in its review of the report for 1895–96 (*vide* paragraph 6 of Government Order, No. 370, dated 21st May 1897,) it stated that even this estimate was unduly sanguine, and from the figures now furnished it is clear that there is ample work for all five officers for at least two years more.

3. A statement showing the rate of progress made by the Forest Settlement officers since the last report is enclosed. It will be observed that during the 26 months ranging from 1st November 1895 (the date up to which the last report was reckoned) to 1st January 1898, 291 blocks with an aggregate area of 1,570 square miles were actually notified under section 16 and the settlement of 135 blocks comprising an area of 1,633 square miles was practically completed (*vide* columns 20 and 21) though the final notification has not yet been issued.

4. The annual outturn calculated from the above figures is compared below with the outturn according to previous reports :—

—	Number of blocks gazetted.	Area.	Average size of block.	Annual average number of blocks gazetted.	Annual average area gazetted.
		SQ. MLS	SQ. MLS.		SQ. MLS.
The year 1890–91	238	830	3·49	238	830
One year and nine months from April 1891 to December 1892	329	3,288	10	188	1,879
Two years and eleven months from 1st January 1893 to 1st November 1895	414	3,279	7·92	142	1,124
Two years and two months from 1st November 1895 to 1st January 1898	291	1,570	5·39	134	725

This result is disappointing and shows that while the average size of the blocks settled was smaller than in the period immediately preceding, the annual average number of blocks gazetted was less, and this in spite of the appointment in 1896 of a fifth officer on special duty. It must, however, be remembered that the fifth officer

was not selected until July 1896, the necessary sanction having been received in May 1896. The appointment of Survey officers in the place of some of the Deputy Collectors who had formerly held charge of this special work involved some temporary delay in the progress of the settlement, for these officers had to undergo a short course of training in their new duties. The illness and subsequent death of a Deputy Collector (M.R.Ry. Raju Sastri), who had for some years done duty in this special line, also tended to retard progress, and the absence of some of the other officers on leave had a similar effect on the general outturn. It may with confidence be anticipated that the progress in future will not be so slow as in the period under report. As already pointed out, the settlement of 135 blocks covering in all 1,649 square miles had practically been completed on 1st January 1898, and if the final notifications regarding these blocks can be issued within the coming year, the rate of progress will be more than doubled without taking into account the new work upon which the Forest Settlement officers are now engaged. It may be added that since the opening of the current year 15 blocks of a total area of nearly 106 square miles have been finally gazetted as reserved forests. The final issue of the notification is, however, frequently delayed from a variety of causes over which the officers concerned have but little control, and it would be unwise to estimate the future outturn at more than 1,100 square miles per annum.

5. The statement appended to these Proceedings shows that, excluding the blocks on which reports have been submitted though the final notification had not issued, there remained with the Forest Settlement officers on 1st January 1898, 343 blocks covering an area of 2,329 square miles, while an additional area of 2,490 square miles will be proposed for reservation hereafter. The last quoted figure is a mere estimate and is liable to be changed by subsequent measurements, but it may be assumed that some 4,800 square miles of forest land remain for settlement. The Board considers that even four years would be a somewhat sanguine estimate for the period required to complete the settlement of so extensive an area, but resolves to request sanction for two years only, at the end of which time a further report will be submitted.

6. Provision has been made in the budget estimates for 1898–99 for the cost of the five special officers and their establishments.

7. The Board ventures to request that the Government of India and the Secretary of State may be assured that no effort will be spared to push on the work as expeditiously as possible. The Board watches the progress of the Settlement officers' work by means of weekly, monthly and quarterly returns, and a quarterly review of progress is regularly submitted to Government.

(True Extract.)

Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

Exd. Md. Pahilvan.

APPENDIX.

STATEMENT showing the progress of forest settlement work from November 1895 to 1st January 1898.

Districts.	Blocks remaining to be notified under section 16 on 1st November 1895.		Added by notification under section 4. From 1st November 1895 to 30th June 1897.		Added by notification under section 4. From July 1897 to 1st January 1898.		Total of columns 2 to 7.		Notified under section 16. From 1st November 1895 to 30th June 1896.		Notified under section 16. From 1st July 1896 to 30th June 1897.	
	Number.	Area in square miles.	Number.	Area in square miles.	Number.	Area in square miles.	Number.	Area in square miles.	Number.	Area in square miles.	Number.	Area in square miles.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Ganjám *	52	446	(a) 1 (b) 2 (b) 22	(b) 6 (b) 21	..	..	33	431	..	..	5	21
Vizagapatam *	7	235	11	2	11	8	29	245	3	20	1	49
Gódávari	22	477	(b) 2	(b) 1 (d) 55	3	21	23	442	10	248	2	30
Kistna	54	151	32 (b) 12	63 (a) 12 (b) 10	17	39	91	231	9	20	12	25
Kurnool	35	495	5 (a) 6 (b) 1	89 (a) 133 (b) 3	1	50	34	498	3	7	8	59
Bellary	20	50	11 (a) 3 (b) 7	27 (a) 6 (b) 6	2	3	23	68	4	7	2	12
Anantapur	21	97	2 (a) 4 (b) 3	9 (a) 23 (b) 4	(b) 1	(b) 1	15	78	1	2	..	..
Cuddapah	33	679	11 (a) 2	163 a) 40	7	40	53	833	7	25	10	30
Nellore	31	208	22 (b) 5	54 (b) 4	..	..	49	258	8	104	12	21
Chingleput *	19	15	13 (b) 9	4 (c) 13 (b) 17	29	13	52	28	2	3	1	3
North Arcot	29	124	10 (b) 4	44 (a) 3 (b) 6	1	..	36	159	8	38	6	9
South Arcot	71	339	9 (b) 29	14 (b) 27	(b) 1	(b) 1	50	325	15	44	11	140
Salem	44	183	10 (b) 9	62 (a) 26 (b) 27	(b) 7	(b) 28	38	164	11	63	..	..
Trichinopoly	1	2	46	79	..	..	47	81	..	..	..	..
Tanjore	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
South Canara *	47	387	15 (a) 5 (b) 5	128 (a) 35 (b) 28	1	2	63	454	4	16	5	3
Malabar *	31	384	2 (a) 5	2 (a) 3	..	..	38	383	4	7	4	1
Coimbatore	24	795	7 (b) 6	31 (a) 79 (b) 4	..	..	25	743	1	1	6	205
Madura	55	97	(b) 9	(a) 3 (b) 6	..	..	46	94	20	20	11	20
Tinnevelly	19	16	12 (b) 9	10 (b) 8	2 (b) 1	1 (b) 2	23	17	..	..	7	3
Total ..	615	5,180	221 (a) 1 (b) 132	787 (a) 353 (b) 172 (d) 65	74 (b) 10	177 (b) 32	769	5,532	110	625	103	631

(a) Rectification. (b) Initial notifications cancelled. (d) Excluded at settlement.

NOTE.—The districts marked * were excluded from the table on page 3 of Board's Proceedings, No. 53, dated 5th February 1896, as the settlement works therein had not then been entrusted to the Special Settlement officers.

Statement showing the progress of forest settlement work from November 1895 to 1st January 1898—*cont.*

Districts.	Notified under section 16—*cont.* From 1st July 1897 to 1st January 1898.		Total of columns 10—15.		Balance to be notified on 1st January 1898.		Blocks reported by Forest Settlement officers and pending with Collectors, Board and Government.		Blocks pending with Forest Settlement officers on 1st January 1898.		Estimated area likely to be brought under settlement hereafter.	Total area to be dealt with by Forest Settlement officers.
	Number.	Area in square miles.	Number.	Area in square miles.	Number.	Area in square miles.	Number.	Area in square miles.	Number.	Area in square miles		
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Ganjám *	5	21	10	42	23	389	5	112	(a) 18 (b) 17	277 174	85 103	362 277
Vizagapatam *	2	1	6	70	23	175	6	1	9	126	16	142
Gódávari	1	23	13	301	10	141	1	15	45	124	327	451
Kistna	13	33	34	78	57	153	12	29	10	258	262	520
Kurnool	9	126	20	192	14	306	4	48	13	34	356	390
Bellary	4	15	10	34	13	34	..	..	7	36	..	36
Anantapur	..	..	1	2	14	76	7	40	24	250	164	414
Cuddapah	5	31	22	86	31	747	7	497	12	17	351	368
Nellore	5	12	25.	137	24	121	12	104	31	14	..	14
Chingleput *	5	5	8	11	44	17	13	3	11	64	1	65
North Arcot	9	12	23	59	13	100	2	36	7	13	..	13
South Arcot	12	23	38	207	12	118	5	105	6	61	81	142
Salem	..	..	11	63	27	101	21	40	46	79	90	169
Trichinopoly	1	2	1	2	46	79	..	..	..	..	..	..
Tanjore	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
South Canara *	2	3	11	22	52	432	6	150	46	282	562	844
Malabar *	1	..	9	8	29	375	9	150	20	225	47	272
Coimbatore	..	..	7	206	18	537	10	252	8	285	45	330
Madura	1	4	32	44	14	50	6	45	8	5	..	5
Tinnevelly	2	3	9	6	14	11	9	6	5	5	..	5
Total ..	78	314	291	1,570	478	3,962	135	1,633	343	2,329	2,490	4,819

NOTE.—The districts marked * were excluded from the table on page 3 of Board's Proceedings, No. 53, dated 5th February 1896, as the settlement work therein had not then been entrusted to the Special Settlement officers.

(a) Includes five blocks of about 6 square miles pending with Divisional officers.

(b) Includes five blocks of about 165 square miles pending with Divisional officers, the settlement of which is completed but whose notifications could not be sent in owing to appeals to lands in them still remaining undisposed of.

Forest No 20

Read C. No. 1044 of 1898.

Order No 88 of 15th Feby 1898.

The Govt of India will be ~~requested~~ moved to obtain the sanction of the Right Hon. the Secy of State for the retention for a further period of two years of the five Forest Settlement Officers at present employed on this Duty

12/1/98

, H M
~~L H S~~.
Please see draft for approval
8/2/98

Issd 1-3-98
To the Bd of Rev. L. R.
,, Finl. Dept.
,, Acct-Genl.

80/5
No 89 ----------

keep for 16/2/98

Forwd 8/2/98

14/2/98

To the Secy to the Govt of India,
Revenue & Agricultural Dept.

Forest No 21

Sir,

Adverting to the correspondence ending with the papers forwarded with Mr. Sly's Endorsement No. 445 F/68-6 dated 2nd June 1896, I am directed to request that the sanction of the Right Hon'ble the Secy of State for India may be ~~obtained~~ solicited for the retention for a further period of two years of the services of the five special Forest Settlement Officers now

Copied 23/2/98

employed in this Presidency.

2. Full details of the progress already made and the work remaining to be done by these officers ~~is~~ are given in the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue No.44 Forest d/ 31st January 1898, a copy of which is enclosed. It will be seen that, notwithstanding the appointment of a fifth Forest Settlement Officer in July 1896 only 291 blocks comprising a total area of 1570 sq. miles have been finally gazetted as reserved forest since the 1st Novr. 1895. Besides this, however the settlement of 135 blocks comprising an area of 1633 sq.miles has been practically completed although the final notifications under section 16 of the Act have not been issued in respect thereof. ~~Practically therefore the five Settlement officers have settled on an average some 1500 square miles per annum.~~

3. Excluding these 135 blocks, there remain to be settled 545 blocks already ~~an nally~~ initially notified comprising an area of 2329 sq. miles and it is estimated that about 2490 ~~acres~~ sq. miles more will be proposed for reservation. Thus 4800 ~~acres~~ sq miles of

+ Mr Gibsons letter
~~Practically settled but not yet notified finally~~

Para 2
	sq miles
work 1895	4310
work 1896-97	1005
Total	5315

At the time more were also 4098 - 2030 again practically settled = 2068
Total 7383 sq miles
There has since been finally notified 1570 sq miles
Balance 5813 sq miles
Of these 1633 sq miles have been practically settled; the working remains - shortening by 5813 - 1633 or 4180 sq miles
But the present estimate is 4800 sq miles

[Para 4 of Govt letter No 1896]

of forest land remain for settlement. It will be observed that the work remaining to be done was, owing to insufficiency of data at the time, underestimated in Mr. Gibson's letter No. 34 dated 21st Jany 1896.+ The Board of Revenue do not estimate the future outturn at more than 1100 sq. miles per annum. H.E. the Governor in Council is of opinion that, while it will not probably be possible to finally notify a greater area each year, yet the area practically settled will be ~~much~~ greater and that therefore it may be practically ~~possible~~ to reduce the number of Forest Settlement Officers after a period of three years. I am to say, however, that, for the present, it will suffice if sanction for the retention of the five Forest Settlement Officers be obtained for a further period of two years only. ~~will suffice.~~ No effort will be spared to push on the work of Forest Settlement with the utmost expedition consistent with careful and good administration, and at the end of two years a further report on the subject will be made.

5 I am to add that the necessary provision for fair 7800 has been made in the Madras Forest

Budget for the ensuing year ~~on account of the continued retention of the officers referred to.~~

11/2/98

14/2/98

12/2

Government {1898} of Madras.

REVENUE.

Recd. } 1898. *Enclosures*

Regd. } *Spare copies*

G.O., No. 88, 15th February 1898.

FEBRUARY.

Forest Settlement-officers.

Ordering that the Government of India be moved to obtain the sanction of the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for India for the retention, for a further period of two years, of the five — at present employed in this Presidency.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue), Forest No. 44, dated 31st January 1898:—

Resolution—Forest No. 44, dated 31st January 1898.

The Board resolves to request Government that the sanction of Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India may be obtained at an early date for the retention for a further period of two years of the services of the five Special Forest Settlement officers employed on forest settlement work in this Presidency.

2. The sanction accorded in despatch No. 46, dated 30th April 1896, expires on the 31st March next. The Secretary of State expressed a hope that the work would be completed by that time, but this calculation was presumably based on paragraph 3 of the Government of India despatch No. 75, dated 25th March 1896, which dealt with the employment of a fifth officer for the special purpose of disposing of the forest settlement work formerly entrusted to Revenue Divisional officers. From paragraph 4 of this despatch it will be seen that neither the Madras Government nor the Government of India anticipated that the work for the whole Presidency would be completed within the period of sanction which is about to expire. In paragraph 6 of its review on the Forest Administration Report for 1894–95, the Madras Government estimated that the forest settlement work would be brought to a close by the end of 1900, but in its review of the report for 1895–96 (*vide* paragraph 6 of Government Order, No. 370, dated 21st May 1897,) it stated that even this estimate was unduly sanguine, and from the figures now furnished it is clear that there is ample work for all five officers for at least two years more.

3. A statement showing the rate of progress made by the Forest Settlement officers since the last report is enclosed. It will be observed that during the 26 months ranging from 1st November 1895 (the date up to which the last report was reckoned) to 1st January 1898, 291 blocks with an aggregate area of 1,570 square miles were actually notified under section 16 and the settlement of 135 blocks comprising an area of 1,633 square miles was practically completed (*vide* columns 20 and 21) though the final notification has not yet been issued.

4. The annual outturn calculated from the above figures is compared below with the outturn according to previous reports:—

—	Number of blocks gazetted.	Area.	Average size of block.	Annual average number of blocks gazetted.	Annual average area gazetted.
		SQ. MLS.	SQ. MLS.		SQ. MLS.
The year 1890–91	238	830	3·49	238	830
One year and nine months from April 1891 to December 1892	329	3,288	10	188	1,879
Two years and eleven months from 1st January 1893 to 1st November 1895	414	3,279	7·92	142	1,124
Two years and two months from 1st November 1895 to 1st January 1898	291	1,570	5·39	134	725

This result is disappointing and shows that while the average size of the blocks settled was smaller than in the period immediately preceding, the annual average number of blocks gazetted was less, and this in spite of the appointment in 1896 of a fifth officer on special duty. It must, however, be remembered that the fifth officer

was not selected until July 1896, the necessary sanction having been received in May 1896. The appointment of Survey officers in the place of some of the Deputy Collectors who had formerly held charge of this special work involved some temporary delay in the progress of the settlement, for these officers had to undergo a short course of training in their new duties. The illness and subsequent death of a Deputy Collector (M.R.Ry. Raju Sastri), who had for some years done duty in this special line, also tended to retard progress, and the absence of some of the other officers on leave had a similar effect on the general outturn. It may with confidence be anticipated that the progress in future will not be so slow as in the period under report. As already pointed out, the settlement of 135 blocks covering in all 1,633 square miles had practically been completed on 1st January 1898, and if the final notifications regarding these blocks can be issued within the coming year, the rate of progress will be more than doubled without taking into account the new work upon which the Forest Settlement officers are now engaged. It may be added that since the opening of the current year 15 blocks of a total area of nearly 106 square miles have been finally gazetted as reserved forests. The final issue of the notification is, however, frequently delayed from a variety of causes over which the officers concerned have but little control, and it would be unwise to estimate the future outturn at more than 1,100 square miles per annum.

5. The statement appended to these Proceedings shows that, excluding the blocks on which reports have been submitted though the final notification had not issued, there remained with the Forest Settlement officers on 1st January 1898, 343 blocks covering an area of 2,329 square miles, while an additional area of 2,490 square miles will be proposed for reservation hereafter. The last quoted figure is a mere estimate and is liable to be changed by subsequent measurements, but it may be assumed that some 4,800 square miles of forest land remain for settlement. The Board considers that even four years would be a somewhat sanguine estimate for the period required to complete the settlement of so extensive an area, but resolves to request sanction for two years only, at the end of which time a further report will be submitted.

6. Provision has been made in the budget estimates for 1898–99 for the cost of the five special officers and their establishments.

7. The Board ventures to request that the Government of India and the Secretary of State may be assured that no effort will be spared to push on the work as expeditiously as possible. The Board watches the progress of the Settlement officers' work by means of weekly, monthly and quarterly returns, and a quarterly review of progress is regularly submitted to Government.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) R. C. C. CARR,
Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

APPENDIX.

Statement showing the progress of forest settlement work from November 1895 to 1st January 1898.

Districts.	Blocks remaining to be notified under section 16 on 1st November 1895.		Added by notification under section 4.				Total of columns 2 to 7.		Notified under section 16.			
			From 1st November 1895 to 30th June 1897.		From July 1897 to 1st January 1898.				From 1st November 1895 to 30th June 1896.		From 1st July 1896 to 30th June 1897.	
	Number.	Area in square miles.	Number.	Area in square miles.	Number.	Area in square miles.	Number.	Area in square miles.	Number.	Area in square miles.	Number.	Area in square miles.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Ganjám *	52	446	(a) 1, (b) 2 = 3	(a) 2, (b) 22 = 24	..	..	33	431	..	..	5	21
Vizagapatam *	7	235	11	2	11	8	29	245	3	20	1	49
Gódávari	22	477	(b) 2	(b) 1, (d) 55 = 56	3	21	23	442	10	248	2	30
Kistna	54	151	32	63	17	39	91	231	9	20	12	25
			(b) 12	(a) 12, (b) 10 = 22								
Kurnool	35	495	5	89	1	50	34	498	3	7	8	59
			(a) 6, (b) 1 = 7	(a) 133, (b) 3 = 136								
Bellary	20	50	11	27	2	3	23	68	4	7	2	12
			(a) 3, (b) 7 = 10	(a) 6, (b) 6 = 12								
Anantapur	21	97	2	9	(b) 1	(b) 1	15	78	1	2	..	..
			(a) 4, (b) 3 = 7	(a) 23, (b) 4 = 27								
Cuddapah	33	679	11	163	7	40	53	833	7	25	10	30
			(a) 2	(a) 49								
Nellore	31	208	22	54	..	..	49	258	8	104	12	21
			(b) 5	(b) 4								
Chingleput *	19	15	13	4	29	13	52	28	2	3	1	3
			(b) 9	(a) 13, (b) 17 = 30								
North Arcot	29	124	10	44	1	..	36	159	8	38	6	9
			(b) 4	(a) 3, (b) 6 = 9								
South Arcot	71	339	9	14	(b) 1	(b) 1	50	325	15	44	11	140
			(b) 29	(b) 27								
Salem	44	183	10	62	(b) 7	(b) 28	38	164	11	63	..	..
			(b) 9	(a) 26, (b) 27 = 53								
Trichinopoly	1	2	46	79	..	..	47	81	..	..	..	..
Tanjore	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
South Canara *	47	387	15	128	1	2	63	454	4	16	5	3
			(a) 5, (b) 5 = 10	(a) 35, (b) 28 = 63								
Malabar *	31	384	2	2	..	..	38	383	4	7	4	1
			(a) 5	(a) 3								
Coimbatore	24	795	7	31	..	..	25	743	1	1	6	205
			(b) 6	(a) 79, (b) 4 = 83								
Madura	55	97	(b) 9	(a) 3, (b) 6 = 9	..	..	46	94	20	20	11	20
Tinnevelly	19	16	12	10	2	1	23	17	..	..	7	3
			(b) 9	(b) 8	(b) 1	(b) 2						
Total	615	5,180	(a) 221, (b) 1, (b) 132 = 354	(a) 787, (b) 353, (b) 172, (d) 55 = 1,367	(a) 74, (b) 10 = 84	(b) 177, (b) 32 = 209	769	5,532	110	625	103	631

(a) Rectification. (b) Initial notifications cancelled. (d) Excluded at settlement.

Note.—The districts marked * were excluded from the table on page 3 of Board's Proceedings, No. 53, dated 5th February 1896, as the settlement works therein had not then been entrusted to the Special Settlement officers.

Statement showing the progress of forest settlement work from November 1895 to 1st January 1898—*cont.*

Districts.	Notified under section 16—*cont.*		Total of columns 10—15.		Balance to be notified on 1st January 1898.		Blocks reported by Forest Settlement officers and pending with Collectors, Board and Government.		Blocks pending with Forest Settlement officers on 1st January 1898.		Estimated area likely to be brought under settlement hereafter.	Total area to be dealt with by Forest Settlement officers.
	From 1st July 1897 to 1st January 1898.											
	Number.	Area in square miles.	Number.	Area in square miles.	Number.	Area in square miles.	Number.	Area in square miles.	Number.	Area in square miles		
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Ganjám *	5	21	10	42	23	389	5	112	(a) 18	277	85	362
Vizagapatam *	2	1	6	70	23	175	6	1	(b) 17	174	103	277
Gódávari	1	23	13	301	10	141	1	15	9	126	16	142
Kistna	13	33	34	78	57	153	12	29	45	124	327	451
Kurnool	9	126	20	192	14	306	4	48	10	258	262	520
Bellary	4	15	10	34	13	34	..	..	13	34	356	390
Anantapur	..	..	1	2	14	76	7	40	7	36	..	36
Cuddapah	5	31	22	86	31	747	7	497	24	250	164	414
Nellore	5	12	25	137	24	121	12	104	12	17	351	368
Chingleput *	5	5	8	11	44	17	13	3	31	14	..	14
North Arcot	9	12	23	59	13	100	2	36	11	64	1	65
South Arcot	12	23	38	207	12	118	5	105	7	13	..	13
Salem	..	..	11	63	27	101	21	40	6	61	81	142
Trichinopoly	1	2	1	2	46	79	..	..	46	79	90	169
Tanjore	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
South Canara *	2	3	11	22	52	432	6	150	46	282	562	844
Malabar *	1	..	9	8	29	375	9	150	20	225	47	272
Coimbatore	..	..	7	206	18	537	10	252	8	285	45	330
Madura	1	4	32	44	14	50	6	45	8	5	..	5
Tinnevelly	2	3	9	6	14	11	9	6	5	5	..	5
Total	78	314	291	1,570	478	3,962	135	1,633	343	2,329	2,490	4,819

Note.—The districts marked * were excluded from the table on page 3 of Board's Proceedings, No. 53, dated 5th February 1896, as the settlement work therein had not then been entrusted to the Special Settlement officers.

(a) Includes five blocks of about 6 square miles pending with Divisional officers.

(b) Includes five blocks of about 165 square miles pending with Divisional officers, the settlement of which is completed but whose notifications could not be sent in owing to appeals to lands in them still remaining undisposed of.

Order—No. 88, Revenue, dated 15th February 1898.

Forest No. 20.

The Government of India will be moved to obtain the sanction of the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for the retention for a further period of two years of the five Forest Settlement-officers at present employed in this Presidency.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) G. S. FORBES,
Ag. Secretary to Governme

To the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue).
„ the Financial Department.
„ the Accountant-General.

Exd. Shaik Karim.

80 Copies.

1898.

REVENUE AND AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

From

The Government of Fort St. George.

Recd. } 1898. *Enclosures*

Regd. } *Spare copies*

Letter, No. 89, 15th February 1898.

FEBRUARY.

Requesting that the sanction of the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for India may be obtained for the retention, for a further period of two years, of the services of the five Special Forest Settlement-officers now employed in this Presidency.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

From

The Hon'ble Mr. G. S. FORBES, I.C.S.,
Ag. Secretary to the Government of Madras,
Revenue Department.

To

The SECRETARY to the GOVERNMENT of INDIA,
Revenue and Agricultural Department.

Dated Fort St. George, 15th February 1898.

Sir,

Forest No. 21.

Adverting to the correspondence ending with the papers forwarded with Mr. Sly's endorsement No. 445-F—68-6, dated 2nd June 1896, I am directed to request that the sanction of the Right Hon'ble the Secretary of State for India may be solicited for the retention for a further period of two years of the services of the five special Forest Settlement-officers now employed in this Presidency.

2. Full details of the progress already made and the work remaining to be done by these officers is given in the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, Forest No. 44, dated 31st January 1898, a copy of which is enclosed. It will be seen that, notwithstanding the appointment of a fifth Forest Settlement-officer in July 1896, only 291 blocks, comprising a total area of 1,570 square miles, have been finally gazetted as reserved forest since the 1st November 1895. Besides this, however, the settlement of 135 blocks, comprising an area of 1,633 square miles, has been practically completed, although the final notifications under section 16 of the Act have not been issued in respect thereof.

3. Excluding these 135 blocks, there remain to be settled 343 blocks already initially notified, comprising an area of 2,329 square miles, and it is estimated that about 2,490 square miles more will be proposed for reservation. Thus, 4,800 square miles of forest land remain for settlement. It will be observed that, owing to insufficiency of data at the time, the work remaining to be done was underestimated in Mr. Gibson's letter, No. 34, dated 21st January 1896.

4. The Board of Revenue do not estimate the future outturn at more than 1,100 square miles per annum. His Excellency the Governor in Council is of opinion that, while probably it will not be possible to notify finally a greater area each year, yet the area practically settled will be greater and that therefore it may be practicable to reduce the number of Forest Settlement-officers after a period of three years. I am to say, however, that, for the present, it will suffice if sanction for the retention of the five Forest Settlement-officers be obtained for a further period of two years only. No

effort will be spared to push on the work of Forest settlement with the utmost expedition consistent with careful and good administration, and at the end of two years a further report on the subject will be made.

5. I am to add that the necessary provision for five Forest Settlement-officers has been made in the Madras Forest budget for the ensuing year.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

(Signed) G. S. FORBES,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

Exd. Shaik Karim.

50 Copies.

Paper No.

First copy sent to Press.

Returned for signature.

Despatched in print.

Number of copies printed: Ordinary paper / Indian paper / Double demy (for wide Letter)

Fair Index G.O. No. 159 — Page

6 Cheque No.

Endorsed to G. No.

Order of Government

Letter of Government

Statement with ditto.

Papers not found (if so, to be made for despatch in original).

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