

Dhananjayrao Gadgil Library



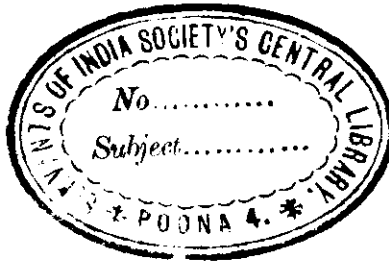
GIPE-PUNE-012265



The Forest Resources of Assam

COMPILED BY

M. C. JACOB, Esq., I.F.S.,
DEPUTY CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS, ASSAM.



SHILLONG

PRINTED AT THE ASSAM GOVERNMENT PRESS

1940

Price annas 7 or 8d.

AGENTS IN INDIA

- | | |
|---|---|
| (1) Messrs. Thacker, Spink & Co., Calcutta. | (5) Messrs. D. B. Taraporevala Sons & Co.,
103, Meadow Street, Fort, Post Box
No. 187, Bombay. |
| (2) Messrs. W. Newman & Co. Calcutta. | (6) The Indian School Supply Depot, 309,
Bow Bazar Street, Calcutta. |
| (3) Messrs. S. K. Lahiri & Co., Calcutta. | (7) The City Book Company, Post Box
No. 283, Madras. |
| (4) Messrs. R. Cambay & Co., 6 and 8/2,
Hastings Street, Calcutta. | (8) The Director, The Book Company Limited,
Booksellers and Stationers, 44/A,
College Square, Calcutta. |

ASSAM GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS ARE OBTAINABLE IN
GREAT BRITAIN DIRECT FROM THE OFFICE OF THE HIGH
COMMISSIONER FOR INDIA

X9(JA): 271.261.14

HO

12265

INTRODUCTION

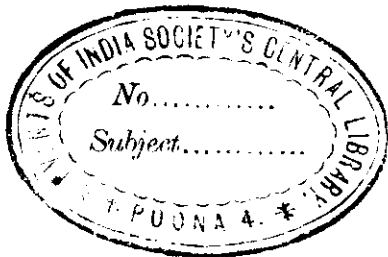
For a small brochure like this an introduction ordinarily is a superfluity ; but in the present case, the author feels that a brief reference to the circumstances leading to its compilation and a public acknowledgment of the assistance he has received in its preparation are essential.

The proposal for a publication of this sort was first mooted by the Inspector-General of Forests, India, as he felt that considerable misconceptions prevailed in the public mind regarding the forest wealth of the different provinces. With the introduction of provincial autonomy and the formation of popular ministries ways and means for the development of the so-called nation-building departments became the pre-occupation of legislatures and the popular press. Naturally attention was focussed on the provincial forests as suppliers of much-needed revenue and often it was found that exaggerated ideas prevailed in the public mind that forest resources which could be turned into money remained unutilised in different provinces. It was therefore felt desirable that a more or less authoritative account of the forest resources of this province and the activities of the men directly responsible for their proper and scientific utilisation should be published. The present publication is the result. If by this publication the public get a clearer idea of the provincial forest resources ; what part of them are at present being utilised, what part can be further utilised in the present circumstances provided capital is invested and initiative taken and what will perforce have to remain unutilised for a considerable period owing to a variety of reasons ; and if finance is, to a certain extent, attracted to the province for developments along the lines indicated, the object of this publication would have been more than achieved.

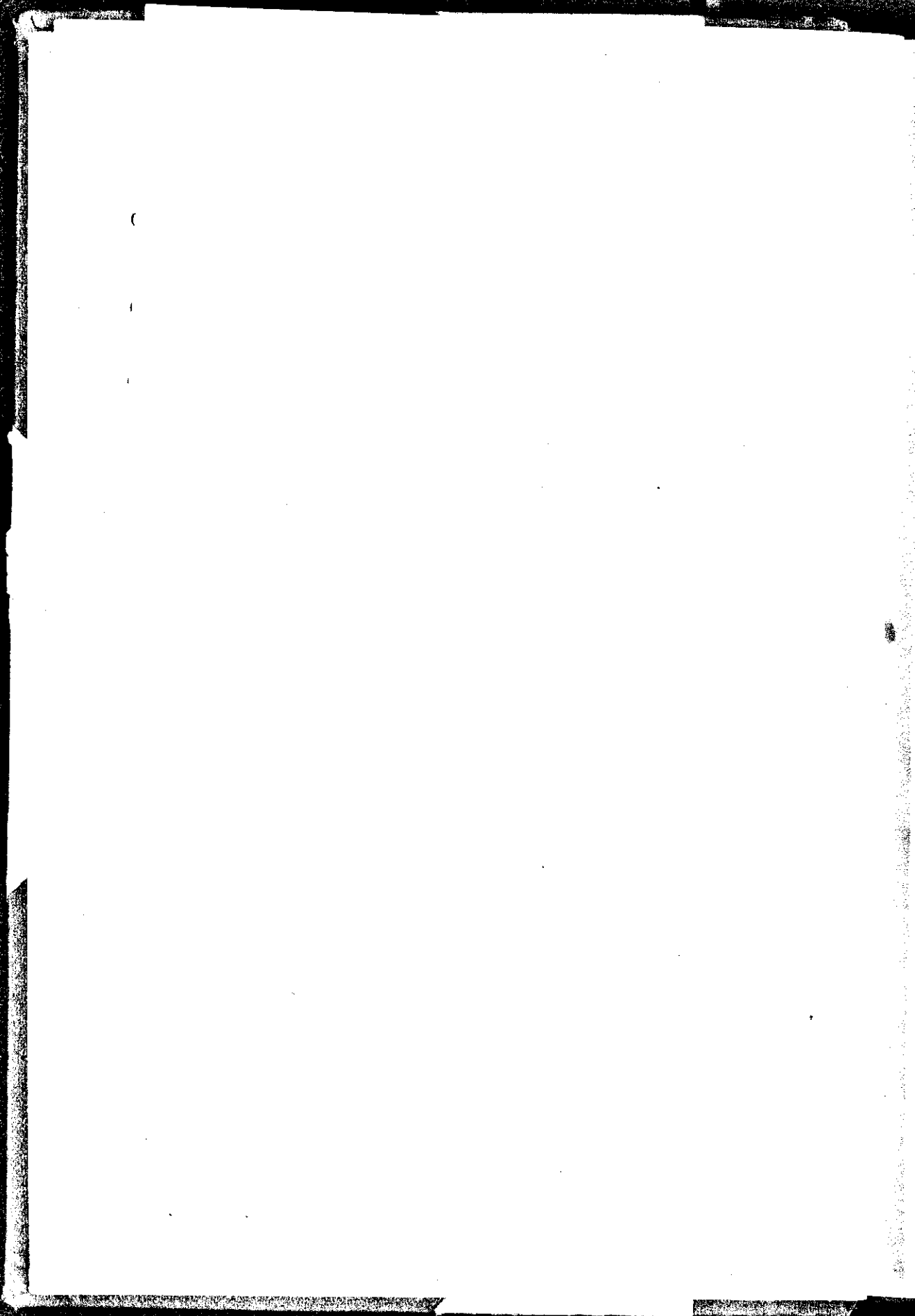
The author has to acknowledge the great assistance he has derived in the compilation of this small brochure from Messrs. Pearson and Brown's " Commercial Timbers of India ", Brandis' " Indian Trees " and Chopra's " Medicinal Plants of India ". The author has quoted *in extenso* from all the above publications as well as from District Gazetteers of the province.

He also wishes to acknowledge the assistance derived at the hands of Mr. H. P. Smith, Conservator of Forests, who has brought order in a jumble of facts and observations, has provided an index and in general has helped to provide an orderly presentation of the material. Mr. Smith has also amplified the author's observations as regards " Jhuming " with great effect.

The author also wishes to express his gratitude to Mr. B. P. Kar, Extra Assistant Conservator of Forests, who was of great general assistance in the compilation of this brochure.



M. C. JACOB,
Deputy Conservator of Forests.



SUMMARY OF CONTENTS

	Pages
Index of timber and bamboo uses and addresses for further particulars.	iv to xii
Forests in Assam and administration—Chapter I	1 & 2
Types of forests in Assam—Chapter II	2 to 5
Minor forest produce—Chapter III	5 to 11
Grazing and fodder—Chapter IV	11
Present methods of exploitation—Chapter V	11 & 12
Means of extraction and export—Chapter VI	12 to 15
Methods of conversion—Chapter VII	15 & 16
Future needs in the way of utilisation—Chapter VIII—	
A. Treated timber	16 & 17
B. Paper mills	17 to 20
C. Match manufacture... ..	20
D. Seasoning timber	20 to 22
E. Plywood Mills	22
Conclusion and Notes on the dangers to Assam from a too low percentage of Reserved Forests and lack of a stable policy as regards the Un-classed State Forests—Chapter IX	22—27
List of trees, situation, uses, etc.—Appendix	28—48