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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	1754	Press.
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	19 - 9 - 1881	1972.

14/15

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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1759
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GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

19th September 1881, No. 1754.

Stationery.

Read the following papers :—

From Surgeon T. K. ROGERS, M.B., F.R.C.S., Chemical Examiner, Madras, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Madras, 2nd September 1881, No. 295 [Current No. 2389].

I have the honor to state that, having had my attention directed by G.O.G., No. 733, dated 26th April 1881, and Memorandum, No. 952, dated 1st June 1881, to the subject of red ink, a very great number of experiments have been made with low-priced indigenous and imported dye stuffs with the view of obtaining, if possible, a cheap and reliable red ink of good quality.

2. It has been found that a dye stuff called "Ponceau," which, according to Calvert's Manual of Dyeing and Cotton Printing, edited by Stenhouse and Groves, is a coal-tar dye manufactured by Messrs. Brooke, Simpson, and Spiller by a secret process, can be made use of for making a brilliant red ink.

3. For one anna six pies ninety grains of this compound, which is sold as a powder, can be bought retail in the bazaars, where it is extensively used as a dye. This quantity is sufficient to make one pint of ink of such an intense color that some might probably prefer further dilution. To make the ink it is merely necessary to dissolve the powder in cold water, any kind of clear-looking water being apparently suitable for the purpose.

4. This ink may be considered in appearance and in reliability, judging from numerous experiments, to be practically equal to Lett's red ink, and may be used with any kind of pen. Lett's ink, however, is sold in bottles at the rate of two rupees the pint, as each bottle contains only half a pint. Whereas, as above stated, Ponceau ink would certainly not cost more than one-and-a-half annas the pint. It has the advantage also of being obtainable in the dry state, and so admitting of cheap carriage.

5. If water be poured over writing made with this ink, the coloring matter not actually in contact with the paper is readily washed off, staining the paper and giving the writing a smeared appearance; also the ink, if laid on heavily upon damp and porous paper, is likely to spread a little, giving occasionally, though in a very much less degree, the appearance of having been written on printing paper, unless blotting paper is immediately applied, when the annoyance is at once prevented. It would be possible to make the ink less diffuent if desired, but I would not recommend this to be done as it would thereby be made less penetrating and therefore less reliable.

6. These facts may, perhaps, have given rise to a belief that writing made with this ink can be readily removed, which, however, is not the case unless strong ammonia solution be made use of, an event which is not likely to occur. It is certainly quite as easy, if not easier, to remove writing made with common black ink as to remove writing made with this ink.

7. A sample of the ink has been this day despatched by banghy post to your address for favor of trial, and specimens of writing upon three common kinds of office paper are enclosed.

No. 1511.

Referred to the Superintendent of Stationery for remarks. Mr. Ferrand may obtain a sample of the ink from the Chemical Examiner.

OOTACAMUND,
6th September 1881.

(Signed) R. DAVIDSON,
Chief Secretary.

From J. G. FERRAND, Esq., Superintendent of Stationery, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Madras, 10th September 1881, No. 574 [Current No. 2503].

In reply to your reference, dated 6th instant, No. 1511, herewith returned, I beg to state that the red ink made from Ponceau appears to be very good and well adapted for office use. The Chemical Examiner brought me ninety grains of the powder, besides a tin containing 8 oz., and showed me how easily the ink could be made. The ninety grains of Ponceau were simply poured into an Imperial pint of water, mixed readily with it, and the ink was formed. I understand that no indigenous dye stuff has yielded a satisfactory ink. I propose to distribute the 8 oz. of Ponceau among public offices for trial and report. The reports will be communicated to Government, and if they are favorable, and the Government approve, a requisition for Ponceau will be included in the next annual indent on the Secretary of State. Ponceau is likely to be procurable cheaper in England than here, and in that case there will not be much difference between the price of it and fuchsine.

ORDER THEREON, 19th September 1881, No. 1754.

The reports from the officers to whom the Superintendent proposes to distribute the "Ponceau" will be awaited.

(True Extract.)

R. DAVIDSON,
Chief Secretary.

To the Superintendent of Stationery.
,, Chemical Examiner.

1754.
2

Gobt. of (1881) Madras
FINANCIAL.

To
THE SUPERINTENDENT OF
STATIONERY,
&c., &c., &c.

Dated September, 19th.

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 19th September 1881, No. 1754.

SEPTEMBER.

Stationery.—The reports from the officers to whom the Superintendent proposes to distribute the "Ponceau" used in the manufacture of red ink, awaited.

CHEMICAL EXAMINER'S OFFICE, 2389

MADRAS, 2nd September 1881.

No. 295

From

T. K. ROGERS, Esquire, M. B.—F. R. C. S., Lond :

CHEMICAL EXAMINER.

MADRAS.

To

The

Chief Secretary
to Government.

Sir,

I have the honor to state that having had my attention directed by G. O. G. No. 433 dated 26th April 1881 and Memo: No. 952 dated 1st June 1881 to the subject of Red Ink. A very great number of experiments have been made with low priced indigenous and imported dye stuffs, with the view of obtaining if possible a cheap and reliable red ink of good quality.

DISPOSED OF
BY G. O. N.

2. It has been found that a dye stuff called "Ponceau" which according to Balver's Manual of Dyeing and Cotton Spinning, edited by Glenhouse & Groves, is a Coal Tar Dye manufactured by Messrs. Brooke Simpson and Spiller by a secret process, can be made use of for making a brilliant Red Ink.

1754
4

3. For one anna six pie ninety grains of this compound which is sold as a powder, can be bought retail in the Bazaars, where it is extensively used as a dye. This quantity is sufficient to make one pint of ink of such an intense colour, that some might probably prefer further dilution. To make the ink it is merely necessary to dissolve the powder in cold water. Any kind of clear looking water being apparently suitable for the purpose.

4. This ink may be considered in appearance, and in reliability, judging from numerous experiments, to be practically

1754/5 3
practically equal to Lett's Red Ink; and
may be used with any kind of pen.
Lett's Ink however is sold in bottles
at the rate of two pence the pint as
each bottle contains only half a pint.
(Whereas, as above stated Ponceau Ink
would certainly not cost more than
one and half annas the pint. It has
the advantage also of being obtainable
in the dry state, and so admitting of
cheap carriage.

5. If water be poured over writing
made with this ink, the colouring matter
not actually in contact with the paper
is readily washed off, staining the
paper, and giving the writing a
smear'd appearance, also the ink if
laid on heavily upon damp and
porous paper, is likely to spread
a little giving occasionally though
in a very much less degree, the appear-
-ance

1754
6
P. 4
appearance of having been written on
printing paper, unless blotting paper
is immediately applied, when the annoy-
-ance is at once prevented. It would be
possible to make the Ink less diffuent
if desired, but I would not recommend
this to be done as it would thereby
be made less penetrating and therefore
less reliable.

6. These facts may perhaps have
given rise to a belief that writing made
with this ink can be readily removed,
which however is not the case unless
Strong Ammonia Solution be made use
of, an event which is not likely to occur.
It is certainly quite as easy if not
easier to remove writing made with
common Black Ink, as to remove
writing made with this Ink.

7. A sample of the ink
has

1754
7 5-P 5

has been this day despatched by
Banghy Post, to your address for
favor of trial, and specimens of writing
upon three common kinds of Office paper,
are enclosed

I have the honor to be
Sir

Your most Obedt. Servt.

JX Rogers M.B.F.R.S.
Chemical Examiner

1881

From

The Chemical Examiner

Madras

To

The Chief Secretary
to Government

no 295

Dated 2^d Sept 1881

Received -

Enclosures 3

Subject.

Forwarding specimen
of writing with Ink
made from Ponceau
powder; and a sample
bottle of the Ink

1754
8

Specimen of writing with
Ponceau Ink, on French
Fool's Cap Paper

Specimen of writing with
Ponceau Ink, on French
Fool's cap paper

Specimen of writing with
Ponceau Ink, on French
Fool's cap paper

File 2389/87

$$\begin{array}{r} 1754 \\ \hline 9 \end{array}$$

Quil 2389/81—

1524

No 1511: 6 R.

Report of the
Superintendent of Stationery
for remarks. Mr
Servant may obtain
a sample of the ink
from the Chemical
Examiner

J. Sanderson
Chief Secy.

4/9/81
Ottawa 2
6 Sept 81

879

NOTE:—This paper should
be returned with reply, and
should not be marked in
any way by the
receiving office. 6 Oct 81

1
File 2503/81

20007
File (1881) Sept 6
(Stationery)
R.D.

From 3 SEP 81
The Chemical Examiner
Madras

To
The Chief Secretary
to Government

2389
No 295

Dated 2^d Sept 1881

Received. 4 —

Enclosures 3

Subject

Forwarding Specimen
of writing with Ink
made from Ponceau
powder. And a
sample bottle
of the Ink.

Entered

1754
10

Specimen of writing with
Ponceau Ink, upon blue
paper

File 2389/81

1754
~~1753~~
11

Financial (1881) DEPARTMENT.

(Stationery)

From

P.W. Department

No: 952

Referred to the Chemical

Examiner, with request that he will

report whether the ink in question

can be readily obliterated by

alcohol or other means.

(Signed)

Obtained
1-6-81

P Davidson

Chief Secretary

No. 1298

Dated 30 May 1881

Recd. 1 June 1881

HW/289

SUBJECT.

Transferring letter
from the Consulting Architect
to Govt regarding Red ink

GO (Env) 1754/81.

(With Encl)

No 574

Stationery office
Madras

September 1881

From

CURRENT No. 2500

The Superintendent of Stationery
Madras

To, The Chief Secretary to Government
Financial Department

Sir,

1254
12

Obtained

In reply to your reference dated
6th instant, No. 1511, herewith returned, I beg
to state that the red ink made from
Ponceau appears to be very good and well
adapted for office use. The Chemical
Examiner brought me ninety grains of the
powder besides a tin containing 8 oz, and
shewed me how easily the ink could be
made. The 90 grains of Ponceau were simply
poured into an Imperial Pint of water,
mixed readily with it, and the ink was
formed. I understand that no indigenous
dye stuff has yielded a satisfactory ink.
I propose to distribute the 8 oz. of Ponceau
among public offices for trial and
report. The reports will be communicated
to Government and if they are favorable
and the Government approve, a requisition
for Ponceau will be included in the next
annual

what is wanted
is an indigenous
ink.

Annual indent on the Secretary of State.
Ponceau is likely to be procurable cheaper in
England than here and in that case there
will not be much difference between the
price of it and Anckine.

I have the honor to tell
Sir

Your most obed. Servant

J. G. Ferrand

Superintendent of Stationery
Licoe

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68

Order 19 Sep 1881

No 1754

The reports from
the officers to
whom the Supt pro-
poses to distribute
the "Puccan" will
be awaited

18/9/81

File 1881 Dept
From (Stationary)
The Superintendent of

To The Chief Secretary
Stationary
Madras

to Govt. Secy
Colonial

R.D.

5 SEP 81

Dated 10 September 1881

Received 16

No 574

Enclosure 1

CURRENT No. 2503

Reporting on results
made from Puccan

To the Supt. of
Stationary
"Chemical Engg."
desks

15/9/81 m/b/g 29/9

With order

1754
14

Recd 22/9

Govt. of 1881 Madras.

Faint

DISPOSED OF

19 SEP 81

(12) BY G.O. NO. 1754

Stationery The reports from
the officers to whom the
Sup^r proposes to distribute
the "~~Leaves~~ ^{Pence}" used in the
manufacture of red ink,
awaited.