1. Number of pages. 1-10
2. Date of repair. 26-8-37
3. Number of References. 4

M.R.O. 1—82 409—22-11-30

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

(GON 15-12-5)

G.O. No. 2289 Press Mis.

5—6

Dated 9—12—18 57

Not to be folded or roughly handled

26/8/37

No. 5. Read the following Extract from the Proceedings of the Chief Engineer, dated 26th November 1857, No. 5515.

Read the following Extract from the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 13th November 1857, No. 3991.

Read the following letter from Captain F. NELSON, of Siddapoor and Peddacherroo; to J. D. SIM, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Madras, Biarlooly, 12th September 1857, No. 28.

SIR,

In 1841, the Madras Government received a number of light "American ploughs" which were distributed among the Collectorates; these ploughs appear never to have found favor with agriculturists, and in 1855, the Collector of Nellore allowed me to take three from his allotment free of charge, considering that I might turn them to useful purpose.

I have imported several agricultural machines from England, and have found with hardly an exception that they are not adapted to the inferior physical power of both men and cattle in this country.

"The American plough" imported by Government is however not to be included in this condemnation. After giving it a fair trial in all soils, it is my opinion that it is nearly as handy as the native plough, and does the work of three, besides the advantage it possesses in turning the soil. The ploughs I procured from the Collector of Nellore were much damaged by time and weather, and the screws and ruts by which the plates are united being much oxidised. I find them no longer serviceable. I wish to procure half a dozen new ones, and as the cost would be very much lessened if I could procure them in this country, I have the honor to enquire whether by an order from the proper authorities, these ploughs might not be made up for me in one of the Government workshops?

Several wealthy Reddies in my neighbourhood who have seen the American plough at work, have expressed a desire to try it on their own lands. I am convinced that nothing but prejudice will prevent the general adoption of this plough (on dry soils) when it becomes known in the country. It is exceedingly cheap (as cheap as the native plough perhaps in the end, as the toe plate only would require periodical renewal) and no doubt the village smiths supplied with the pattern could in time turn out a serviceable reproduction.

No. 3507.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 19th October 1857, on the above letter.

Forwarded to the Inspector General of Ordnance, who is requested to inform the Board, whether six American ploughs could be made up for Captain Nelson at the Arsenal, or Gun Carriage Manufactory.

(Signed) J. D. SIM,
Acting Secretary.

Letter from Lieutenant Colonel G. BALFOUR, Inspector General of Ordnance and Magazines; to J. D. SIM, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 24th October 1857, No. 5399.

SIR,

With reference to Extract from the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue No. 3507, dated 19th October 1857, I have the honor to state that, on enquiry, I have been informed that, there are no American ploughs in store, and without a pattern, it is difficult to say, whether they could be made up in the Arsenal, or not. Irrespective of this consideration however it is deem-

ed inadvisable to impose extra work on the Arsenal, and Gun Carriage Manufactory, in conse-
quence of the present pressure of Ordnance business, to complete which, a variety of other im-
portant work has been set aside.

Resolved that, the foregoing communication be forwarded to Captain Nelson with reference to his letter dated 12th September 1857.

2. The Board think it probable, that the ploughs required by Captain Nelson could be made up at Dowlaishweram, if he can supply a pattern, and they resolve to forward the correspondence to the Chief Engineer, with a request that he will endeavour to assist Captain Nelson in this matter.

(A true Extract and Copies.)

(Signed) J. D. SIM,
Acting Secretary.

Resolved, in submitting copies of the foregoing correspondence, to solicit the permission of Government for twelve ploughs, of the description which Captain Nelson will be called upon to furnish, being immediately made up in the Dowlaishweram and in the Bezwarah workshops, as patterns for such further similar agricultural plant as may be required at Biarlooly.

(Signed) C. E. FABER, Colonel,
Chief Engineer.

No. 6. ORDER THEREON, No. 2289; dated 9th December 1857.

The Government do not consider it necessary as proposed by the Board of Revenue and recommended by the Chief Engineer to order the manufacture at the Dowlaishweram Workshop, of twelve Agricultural Ploughs of the description required by Captain Nelson as patterns. They however authorize the Chief Engineer to have seven Ploughs made, on Captain Nelson supplying a pattern, six for that Officer's use and one to be kept in store, as a pattern to be followed hereafter.

(Signed) H. FORBES,
Acting Secretary to Government.

31

Revenue Department

№ 3991

Extract from the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 13 November 1857.

Read the following

№ 28

From Captain T. Nelson &c.
Sidlaghur and Peddachenoo.

To J. D. Sim Esquire
Ag. Secy to the Board of Revenue
Madras

Sir,

In 1841, the Madras Government received a number of light "American ploughs" which were distributed among the Collectorates, these ploughs appear never to have found favor with agriculturists, and in 1833 the Collector of Nellore allowed me to take three from his allotment free of charge, considering that I might turn them to useful purpose.

I have imported several Agricultural Machines from England, and have found with hardly an exception that they are not adapted to the inferior physical power of both men and

and Cattle in this Country.

The American plough imported by Government is however not to be included in this condemnation. After giving it a fair trial in all soils, it is my opinion that it is nearly as handy as the Native plough, and does the work of three, besides the advantage it possesses in turning the soil. The ploughs I procured from the Collector of Nellore were much damaged by time and weather, and the screws and nuts by which the plates are united being much oxidised; I find them no longer serviceable. I wish to procure half a dozen new ones, and as the cost would be very much, if I could procure them in this Country, I have the honor to enquire whether by an order from the proper authorities, these ploughs might not be made up for me in one of the Government Workshops?

Several wealthy Reddies in my neighbourhood, who have seen the American plough at work, have expressed a desire to try it on their own lands. I am convinced that nothing but prejudice will prevent the general adoption of this plough (in dry soils) when it becomes known in the Country.

It is exceedingly cheap (as cheap as the Native ploughs perhaps in the end, as the share plate only would require periodical renewal) and no doubt the Village Smiths supplied with the pattern could in time turn out a serviceable reproduction.

I have &c.

(Sd) Diarbekir
September 12th 1837.

(Sd) Sigd F. Nelson Captain
Kurnool

No. 3507

Extract from the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue dated 19th October 1837 on the above letter.

Forwarded to the Inspector General of Ordnance, who is requested to inform the Board, whether Sir/ American ploughs could be made up for Captain Nelson at the Arsenal, or Gun Carriage Manufactory.

(Sd) J. D. Sim
Asst. Secretary

Ordnance Department.

No. 5399

From

The Inspector General of Ordnance and Magazines

To

The Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue.

Sir,

With reference to Extract from the

an the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue
No 3507 dated 19 October 1837, I have the
Honor to state that, on enquiry, I have been
informed that, there are no Americanes
in ploughs in Store, and without a pattern,
it is difficult to say, whether they could
be made up in the Arsenal, or not. Irre-
spective of this consideration however it
is deemed inadvisable to impose extra
work on the Arsenal, and Gun Carriage
Manufactory, in consequence of the
present pressure of Ordnance business,
to complete which, a variety of other im-
portant work has been set aside.

Inspector Genls Office } I have &c
Fort St George } Sd/ J. H Balfour Lt Coll
24th October 1837. Insp Genl

Resolved that, the foregoing com-
munication be forwarded to Captain Nelson
with reference to his letter dated 12th Sep-
tember 1837.

2. The Board think it probable,
that the Ploughs required by Captain
Nelson could be made up at Dowlaiswerum
if he can supply a pattern - and they resolve
to forward the correspondence to the Chief
Engineer, with a request that he will endea-
vour to assist Captain Nelson in this matter.

A true Extract & Copies
Sd/ I. D. Sim
Acting Secretary

True Copies
Alex Fraser Colonel
Chief Engineer

No 25575

Extract from the Proceedings of the Chief Engineer
in the Department of Public Works Lower Canada
Under date the 24 November 1837.

Read the following Letter to
from the Chronicle of the 15th
Instant

(See Extract 15 November 1837 No 25391)

1 Inclosure

Resolved in submitting Copies
of the foregoing Correspondence to Colonel
the Commission of Government for
Lower Canada on the Subject thereof
to call the Attention of His Excellency
to the Observations contained in
the Letter of the Commissariat
and in the Report of Messrs Hopkins
& Partners for such further similar
Instructions as His Excellency may deem
fit to adopt in the Premises.

Certified

Chief Engineer

The Secretary to Government
Prov. Department

1837 Septr
No

Enclosure in an Extract from
the Proceedings of the Chief Engineer
to the Secretary of Government
Prov. Department

dated 24 November 1837
Read 29
3
3

No 25575
Office of Commissariat
Montreal 23d Novr 1837.

Copies of Correspondence
from the Asst Secretary of the Board
of Revenue & Commissariat with
an Application from Captain
Nelson of Oldham and Others
Residents for Amusement
Ground &c. requesting the
Chief Engineer's Assistance
in the Matter.

Rd 17th Oct. 1857 Rep. 4
Dft to Com. 15th Dec.
No 2361

Extract from the Proceedings of the Chief Engineer

To Secretary to Government
Ordnance Department

No 289 28th November 1857.
Rec'd 27th December 18.

Encl: 1.

No 10515

No 546.

Recd 27th Dec. 1857

No 2289.

The Government do not consider it necessary, as recommended by the Chief Engineer, to order the manufacture of the iron Gun Carriages, Platforms & other description required by Captain Walcott as detailed therein, however authorize the Chief Engineer to have seven platforms made, on Captain Walcott supplying Ord. Officers with a pattern, duly for that purpose and sent to the Ordnance Store, as a pattern to be followed hereafter.

From Lt. Col. St. George
9th Dec. 1857

To Lieut. to Chief Engr. Corps