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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

public works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	<u>8755</u>	Press
		Mis.
<u>185-186 431 502</u>		
Dated	<u>219-7-</u>	<u>1864.</u>

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,

29th July 1864.

No. 185. Read the following letter from Colonel R. STRACHEY, R. E., Secretary to the Government of India; to the Secretary to the Government of Fort Saint George in the Railway Department, P. W. D., dated Simla, 28th June 1864, No. $\frac{387 \text{ C.}}{2874}$.

Civil Works.
Miscellaneous.

A letter from Mr. John Cullen, in the employ of the Madras Railway Company, has been received in this Department in which he offers to sell the Patent for his invention for preserving wood, which probably was intended to be laid before His Excellency the Governor of Fort Saint George in Council. A copy is annexed.

2. With reference to this matter, I am directed to request that the Government of India may be informed whether the Madras Railway Company have ever made any experiments with the composition; and, if so, with what results. The reports from Bengal seem promising.

3. The Governor General in Council will leave it to the Madras Government to determine whether the Patent is worth buying for the public, if Mr. Cullen is willing to dispose of it for a moderate sum.

From J. CULLEN, Esq., Mechanical Engineer, Madras Railway Company; to the Secretary to the Government of India in the Public Works Department, Calcutta, dated Madras, 6th April 1864.

With reference to your letter per margin, I respectfully beg to be informed at your earliest convenience whether the Indian Government are inclined to purchase the Patent from me, or use the material generally for the Government works, as I conclude from the letters forwarded to the Governor of St. Helena the process is approved of, and I am disposed to treat with the Government on very moderate terms for the Patent.

2. I further beg to state that the testing of the material has been under investigation ever since 1858, in which year I made the first experiment for the Chief Engineer in the Punjab: and it having been so often tested both at your Presidency and this that I consider further experiments useless; and I coincide with the opinions of all the Engineers who have tested the fluid that the remedy is perfect.

No. 186. ORDER THEREON, 29th July 1864, No. 875.

Communicated to the Consulting Engineer, who will state whether the Madras Railway Company have ever made any experiments with Mr. Cullen's composition for preserving wood, if so, what the results were and whether the Patent for his invention is worth purchasing.

(True Extract.)

J. S. Sullivan
Secretary to Government.

To the Consulting Engineer for Railways.

Edw. J. Talloch,

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
21st September 1864.*

No. 481. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Public
Department :—

Requesting that experiments may be made, by the Officers
of the Department Public Works, with Mr. Cullen's com- } (Here enter 29th August 1864, No. 995.)
position for preserving wood against destruction by white-
ants.

No. 482. ORDER THEREON, 21st September 1864, No. 2,755.

The Public Works Store Department at the Presidency will arrange with Mr. Cullen for
obtaining 1000 Gallons of the composition referred to in the orders recorded above, and for distri-
buting the same to the Officers of the Department, with a view to the necessary experiments
being made and the results reported for the information of Government.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. H. M. SHAW STEWART, Major, R. E.,
Deputy Secretary to Government.

To the Store Department,
" Public Department.
" Controller of Public Works Accounts, .

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

At Mr. Cullen's

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,
29th August 1864.

No. 139. Read the following letter from Lieutenant Colonel P. P. L. O'CONNELL, R. E., Consulting Engineer for Railways; to J. D. SIM, Esq., Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated Madras, 25th August 1864, No. 471.

With reference to the Order of Government in the Public Department of the 29th ultimo, No. 875, I have the honor to transmit a letter* from the Agent and Manager of the Madras Railway, in which is explained the result of the only experiment made with Mr. Cullen's composition. The experiment appears to me to be satisfactory, but I am not prepared to recommend, on the result of this single experiment, that Mr. Cullen's Patent should be purchased for any particular sum that may be named.

As the Public Works Department is the one in which the invention will be most useful, I would suggest that some experiments be made in that Department, and that the officers making them be called upon to report the results, and to state what the Patent may be considered to be worth to Government.

From R. B. ELWIN, Esq., Agent and Manager, Madras Railway Company; to Lieutenant Colonel P. P. L. O'CONNELL, R. E., Consulting Engineer for Railways, dated Madras, 24th August 1864, No. 721.

In reply to Captain Lindsay's letter, No. 624, dated the 2nd instant, I have the honor to state that the Locomotive Superintendent informs me, in a communication* which I have received to-day, that he tested Mr. Cullen's

composition in the year 1862, and at his request granted him the following certificate, showing the result of the experiment, which was the only one that Mr. Wright made:—
"I hereby certify that I have tested Mr. John Cullen's composition for the preservation of timber on three different descriptions of wood, namely, on teak, mango-wood, and deal.
"The specimens prepared with a coating of the composition were buried in a white-ants' nest, where they were allowed to remain for six months. On being taken up they were found to be quite sound, and untouched by the white-ants.
"I had the pieces of wood split up, and found that they were also quite free from injury by damp or rot."

(Signed) W. F. HOOPER,
For Agent and Manager.

No. 140. ORDER THEREON, 29th August 1864, No. 995.
Resolved that the foregoing letter and its enclosure, together with the Proceedings of Government of 29th July last, No. 875, be communicated to the Department of Public Works, in view to experiments being made by officers of that Department with Mr. Cullen's composition for preserving wood and the results reported, with an expression of their opinion as to the worth to Government of Mr. Cullen's invention (True Extract.)

[Signature]
Secretary to Government.

To the Public Works Department, with No. 875.
Exd. J. Tulloch.

[Signature]
15th Jan 65

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The Public Works alone
Departments at the Presidency will
arrange with Mr. Cullen for
1000000 Dollars of the Combs

returning to the
returning to the
returning to the

Representing the

Experiments every day made,
by the Staff of the 20th with
Lt. O

of the Department with a view
to the necessary experiments being

made

With an order

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