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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. <u>2092</u>	Press <u>Mis.</u>
<u>529-530</u>	
Dated <u>20-7-</u>	<u>1865-</u>

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
20th July 1865.*

No. 529. Read the following letter from Lieutenant-Colonel J. E. T. NICOLLS, R. E., Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bengal, in the Public Works Department, to the Secretary to the Government of Fort Saint George, in the Public Works Department, Madras, dated Fort William, 26th June 1865, No. 3,201 :—

SIR,

With reference to the accompanying copy of two letters from a Mr. W. A. King, dated respectively the 16th ultimo and 20th instant, regarding a preparation to prevent the ravages of white ants, which he states has been tried with success at Cuddapah, in the Madras Presidency, I am directed by the Lieutenant Governor of Bengal to request that, with the permission of His Excellency the Governor of Madras, information may be furnished to this Government in regard to the instances in which the preparation in question was successfully used at Cuddapah, as Mr. King, it will be seen, is unable to afford this information.

From Mr. W. A. KING, to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Public Works Department, dated Calcutta, 16th May 1865.

SIR,

1. With reference to a letter dated 27th July 1863, from Sir Charles Elliott, K. C. B., Governor of Saint Helena, to the address of His Honor the Lieutenant Governor of Bengal, published in the Supplement to the Calcutta Gazette of the 11th November 1863, regarding the ravages of white ants, and offering a reward of fifty pounds for a remedy to prevent the insect from attacking buildings, as well to trace it to its nest, and to your reply No. 6,140, dated 31st October 1863, addressed to the Colonial Secretary to the Government of Saint Helena, I have the honor to suggest a remedy for white ants from attacking the walls and timbers of buildings. The remedy is very simple and likely to be doubted, but has been successfully applied at Cuddapah, in the Madras Presidency, a place very much infested with white ants and black scorpions, the former being food for the latter (where black scorpions are, there are sure to be white ants), I am sanguine that if it be tried at Saint Helena that it will effectually prevent the insect attacking houses. The remedy is this—

Steep beef (offal will do) in cold water, say half a pound to a quart of water, for about four hours, and after squeezing the juice well out of the meat daub the timber all over with the water, rubbing also the beef on it for about an hour; this to be repeated two or three times to allow the water to soak into the wood. The bricks of the foundation and flooring, as well as the three last layers of bricks, before the beams are put on for the roof, should be set in mortar mixed with beef water, so should also the fine plastering; by this means it will be found that the white ant will never attack a house so built.

The quantity of beef and water above given is only for an example, of course it will take a much larger quantity in building, and which can be regulated in proportion to the quantity of water required.

2. In conclusion I would take the liberty of suggesting that the above remedy be tried, and if successful that the reward of fifty pounds offered may be conferred on me.

Please address—

Mr. W. A. King, Assistant, Office of Controller of Military Accounts, No. 3, Park Street, Calcutta.

From Mr. W. A. KING, to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Public Works Department, dated Calcutta, 20th June 1865.

SIR,

1. I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Memorandum No. 2,886, dated 6th instant, and to regret my inability to state the instances in which the preparation referred to was used with success at Cuddapah, as the person who tried the experiment and communicated it to me, died about three years ago, but I respectfully suggest a trial, on a small scale, being made, say by applying the solution to a piece of wood, and allowing it to soak into the wood well, and then to place it in a white ants' nest, or else by daubing a piece of furniture all over with it, and placing it in a room, known to be infested with the insect, and if the experiment proves successful, that I may then be deemed deserving of the reward offered by Colonel Elliott, the Governor of Saint Helena.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
20th July 1865.

2. Apologizing for the delay in replying to your Memorandum, which was caused by indisposition.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) J. H. CASHMAN,
Chief Clerk, Bengal Secretariat, P. W. D.

No. 530.

ORDER THEREON, 20th July 1865, No. 2,092.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 63.

Communicated to the Superintending Engineer of the 3rd Division, who will be requested to ascertain and report in what particular instances Mr. King's preparation for preventing the ravages of white ants was successfully used at Cuddapah.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) CHARLES A. ORR, Colonel, R. E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the Superintending Engineer, 3rd Division.

Erd. S. T. Augustin.

From
Lieutenant Colonel J. C. I. Nicolls, R.E.
Offg Secy to the Govt. of Bengal, in the O.M.D.

To
The Secretary to the Government of
Fort St. George, in the O.M.D. Department.
Madras.

Fort William, the 26th June 1865.

O.M.D. Department Sir,

With reference to the accompanying copy of two letters from a Mr. W. A. King dated respectively the 16th ultimo and 20th instant, regarding a preparation to prevent the ravages of White Ants, which he states has been tried with success at Cuddapah, in the Madras Presidency, I am directed by the Lieutenant Governor of Bengal to request that, with the permission of His Excellency the Governor of Madras, information may be furnished to this Government in regard to the instances in which the preparation in question was successfully used at Cuddapah, as Mr. King, it will be seen, is unable to afford this information.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,
Your Most Obedt. Servant,

J. T. Nicks, Esq. R.E.
Offg Secretary to the Govt. of Bengal,
in the O.M.D.

Telegraph

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From
Mr. W. A. King.

To
The Secretary to the Govt of Berisal
Public Works Departt.

Sir,

With reference to a letter dated 27th July 1863 from Sir Charles Elliott K.C.B. Governor of St. Helena to the address of His Honor the Lieutenant Governor of Bengal, published in the Supplement to the Calcutta Gazette of the 11th Nov^r 1863 regarding the ravages of White Ants, and offering a reward of Fifty Pounds for a remedy to prevent the Insect from attacking buildings, as well to trace it to its nest, and to your reply No. 6140 dated 31st October 1863 addressed to the Colonial Secretary to the Government of St. Helena, I have the honor to suggest a remedy for White Ants from attacking the walls and Timbers of Buildings. The remedy is very simple and likely to be doubted, but has been successfully applied at Cuddalore in the Madras Presidency, a place very much infested with White Ants and Black Scorpions, the former being good for the latter (where Black Scorpions are, there are sure to be White Ants) I am sanguine that if it be tried at St. Helena that it will effectually prevent the Insect attacking Houses.

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The remedy is this-

Steep Beef (off all will do) in Cold Water, say half a lb to a quart of water for about four hours, and after squeezing the juice well out of the meat, daub the Timber all over with the water, rubbing also the Beef on it for about an hour, this to be repeated two or three times to allow the water to soak into the wood. The Bricks of the foundation and flooring as well as the three last layers of bricks before the Beams are put on for the roof should be set in Mortar mixed with Beef Water so should also the fine plastering, by this means it will be found that the White Ant will never attack a house so built.

The quantity of Beef and Water above given, is only for an example. of course it will take a much larger quantity in building and which can be regulated in proportion to the quantity of water required.

In conclusion I would take the liberty of suggesting that the above remedy be tried and if successful, that the reward of Fifty Pounds offered may be conferred on me.

I have &c
Signed W. A. King.

Please address
Mr W. A. King
Assistant - Office of Controller of Military Accounts
No. 3 Park Street
Calcutta -

Calcutta 20th June 1863.

To
The Secretary to the Govt of Bengal
Public Works Department.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Memo. No. 2886 dated 6th Instant, and to regret my inability to state the instances in which the preparation referred to was used with success at Cuddalore, as the person who tried the experiment and communicated it to me, died about 3 years ago, but I respectfully suggest a trial, on a small scale, being made, say by applying the solution to a piece of wood, and allowing it to soak into the wood well, and then to place it in a White Ant nest, or else by daubing a piece of furniture all over with it, and placing it in a room known to be infested with the insect, and if the experiment proves successful, that I may then be deemed deserving of the reward offered by Colonel Elliott the Governor of St. Helena.

Apologizing for the delay in replying to your Memorandum which was caused by in-
disposition.

I am &c
Signed W. A. King.

(True Copy)

W. A. King

John Mackintosh

2092

20, 2092

7772528/68

Communicated to Mr

Superintending Engineer of the S. Division,
who will be requested to ascertain and report
in what particular instances Mr. Mackintosh
has been successful in preventing the passage
of water into the tunnel.

W. H. Mackintosh
Trunk & Co. Secy
20, 2092
16
20, 2092
20, 2092

30th May 1864 No. 1571

OW 1865. Dept
Pr. of Govt. for July
No. 2528

From The Offg Secretary
to the Govt. of Bengal
in the PWD

Dated 26 June 1865
Recd 10 July 1865

21

No 3201

Forwarding a letter
from Mr W A Keig regarding
a proposition to prevent
the ravages of white
ants, and requesting to
be furnished with informa-
tion in regard to the instances
in which the proposition
was successfully used
at Cuddalore.

No 529-500

14th July 1865 No. 1572

With an Order
No. 2092-20th July 1865