

(1) Number of pages 6

(2) Date of repair 15-12-42

(3) Initials of the Referencer _____

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 2983	Press
177-178	Mis. ✓
Dated 9-10-	1865.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

CIRCULAR No. 87 of 1865.

PUBLIC WORKS.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE GOVERNOR GENERAL OF INDIA IN COUNCIL.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT,

SIMLA, 8th September, 1865.

Civil Works.
Miscellaneous.

Preparation of Timber according to the "Boucherie" system.

Read the following papers:—

No. 19, dated 23rd May, 1865.

*From—CAPTAIN J. G. LINDSAY, R. E., Depy. Cons. Engr. for Railways,
To—Consulting Engineer for Railways.*

I have the honour to report that, on the 10th instant, I visited the Timber Dépôt near Paulghât, where sleepers for the Madras Railway are being prepared according to the "Boucherie" system.

2. A wooden cistern 12 feet long, 5 feet 9 inches broad, and 4 feet 9 inches deep, is fixed on a timber scaffolding, the bottom of the cistern being 20 feet above the level of the ground upon which the logs lie. A gutta percha pipe, 1 inch in diameter, conveys the solution to a horizontal pipe, 1½ inch in diameter, which rests upon the ground, from this small branch pipes are joined to the caps at the end of the logs.

3. A cap is a block of mangoewood, 1 foot square and 3 inches thick, to which is fixed a ring of lead half inch thick, this, after being painted over with dammer, is firmly screwed on to one end of the log, and one of the branch pipes is fastened to a hole in the middle of the cap.

4. The logs of timber are fresh from the jungle, and undergo no preparation beyond being cut to a convenient length from 10 to 15 feet; the bark is left on the logs, and from 15 to 25 of them are prepared at one time, being ranged on either side of the horizontal pipe.

5. The solution, with which the timber is impregnated, is composed of 2½ lbs. of sulphate of copper in 27 gallons of well water. The cost of sulphate of copper at Paulghât is about three annas three pice per lb.

6. When the cocks are turned on, the solution is forced through the log in the direction of its length, simply by reason of the head of 20 feet. The time for the solution to come through at the further end of the log depends upon the nature of the wood and the season of the year, those trees which are the most difficult to prepare during the dry season, most readily receive the solution during wet weather, and *vice versa*.

7. The logs which I saw being prepared during rain were partially impregnated in about five minutes, and thoroughly in 12 or 15 minutes; they were of Padiri wood.

8. The wood is submitted to the process for 24 hours to make sure of its being thoroughly pickled.

9. I saw a pile of refuse wood, the blocks of logs which had been prepared nine months ago lying in the yard, they appeared to be perfectly sound, and had not been affected by either white-ants or rot; traces of the former could be detected, but they had apparently moved off without doing any damage.

10. I also exposed and carefully examined, some prepared sleepers which had been laid in the line near Paulghat Station on the 9th February last. I found them untouched by rot, and the edges as sharp as if they had been cut the day before. They certainly had not been down long; but when you consider that the wood of which these sleepers were made, (Chadachy and Anai Karra), would assuredly, if unprepared, have rotted in a fortnight, or at most a month; the fact of their proving sound after three months is of more importance.

11. The following are the woods which are found to submit readily to the process:—

Padiri, Bignonia Suaveolens.
 Pullipallam, Tamarindus Indica.
 Pilla Murdah Maram, Terminalia Chebula.
 Pula Malai-elavu, Bombax Malabaricum.
 Pinay, Calophyllum Angustifolium.
 Anai Karra, Garuga Pinnata.
 Chadachy.
 Benteak, Lagerstroemia Macrocarpa.
 Thanddee, Terminalia Bellerica.

No. 294, dated 27th May, 1865.

Observations by LIEUT.-COL. J. C. ANDERSON, R. E., Consulting Engineer for Railways.

Submitted for the information of Government.

2. The Contractor delivers the prepared sleepers at the rate of Rs. 2-12 each. An Inspector is employed on the part of the Railway to see that the process is properly carried out, and the actual cost of the sleepers would, therefore, be something over the above rate.

Governments of Madras, Bombay, Bengal, N. W. Provinces, and Punjab.
 Governor, Straits Settlements.
 Chief Commissioners, Oudh, Central Provinces, and British Burmah.
 Commissioners of Mysore and Coorg.
 Resident at Hyderabad.
 Agents, Governor General for Rajpootana and Central India.

ORDER.—Ordered, that the above be forwarded for information to the Local Governments and Administrations marginally noted.

(Signed) C. H. DICKENS, Lieut.-Col., R. A.,
 Secy. to the Govt. of India.

A. H. Simpson
 Asstt. Secy. to the Govt. of India.

To The Secretary to Govt of Madras
 Public Works Deptt

Corrected

3
 2983

*Communicated to the
 Superintending Engineers, the
 Officer in charge of the Store
 Department and the Consult-
 ing Engineer for the Madras
 Irrigation and Canal Com-
 pany.*

*To the Superintending Engineers,
 1. Officer in charge of the Store Deptt.
 2. Officer in charge of the Madras I & C Co.
 3. Officer in charge of the Railways
 1865
 9th Oct 1865
 10th October.*

135

5. Ry. 5 June 1865 }
21-22

10/1863 Extra
Pro. of Govt. for Colonel
No 3771

Civil Works
Miscellaneous.

CIRCULAR No. 87.

To

FROM

SECY. TO GOVT. OF INDIA,
IN THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPT.

Dated SIMLA, 8th September, 1865.

Received

2 Oct 1865

No. 2983. 9th Oct 1865

Preparation of Timber according to the
"Boucherie" system.

With an order

No 177. 178

C. 11th Oct 1865. P. 53