

2ND AUGUST 1886, No. 646, REVENUE.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following letter from C. S. BAYLEY, Esq., C.S., Under Secretary to the Government of India, Revenue and Agricultural Department (Agriculture), to the Secretary to the Government of Madras, dated Simla, 23rd June 1885, No. 88A—71-5:—

Under cover of my letter No. 120, dated 25th February 1884, was forwarded

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Letter from Major D. G. PITCHER, Officiating Director of Agriculture and Commerce, North-Western Provinces and Oudh, to the Chief Secretary to the Government of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh, dated 5th January 1885, No. 30A.

In continuation of correspondence ending with this office No. 1136A, dated 8th November last, I have the honor to state that such experience as this department has had of lending dredgers and boring apparatus for aiding cultivators in sinking wells, leads to the opinion that great advantage might be found, were Government to place sets of such appliances at the disposal of district officers for lending to cultivators either free or at a moderate rate on hire.

2. The value of dredgers as saving time and labor and the value of boring apparatus as saving money in the quick determination of the proper site for sinking a well, is at once appreciated by cultivators wherever these appliances are seen in operation, but the prime cost is prohibitive to men who have at the most three or four wells to sink.

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apparatus would cost about Rs. 500; and it is unlikely that until the great utility of making preliminary borings becomes more widely known that private parties will invest in sets of boring apparatus on the chance of letting out on hire.

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SECTION IV.—MEASURES OF PROTECTION.

Paragraph 27.—A brief statement is requested showing whether any of the results obtained by Mr. Wilson in his well experiments are recommended for general application. The Government of India for example would be glad to learn whether the use of boring tools, or the sinking of tubes below the ordinary well cylinders, are under any circumstances likely to be of use to the agricultural population. If so, it should be stated whether European supervision is necessary, or whether it will be sufficient to communicate information to native land-owners or others.

Extract paragraphs 3 and 4, of a letter from the Government, North-Western Provinces and Oudh, No. ⁹⁶⁸₁₋₂₁₈, dated 28th May 1885, to the Government of India.

3. With regard to the question of the well experiments conducted by Mr. Wilson, which is referred to in "paragraph 27, section IV," I am desired to refer you to this office letter, No. 2313, dated the 31st October 1883, with which were forwarded papers giving a history of these experiments and their results as far as they had gone. The further results are briefly stated in Appendix II of the Director's report. Their general applicability to other parts of India would seem to depend on local conditions of soil and water-supply. Of the two special appliances to which reference is made, boring tools are undoubtedly useful, but their price places them beyond the reach of ordinary persons. In this office letter No. ¹⁴¹₁₋₃₃₆, dated the 22nd January 1885, an arrangement was advocated by which Government would keep such tools in every district and place them at the disposal of private persons at a moderate rate of hire, and I am to refer you to this correspondence for further particulars on this point. It cannot be said that tubes sunk below the well cylinder will everywhere be efficacious. But when it has been ascertained by boring, that clay with a permanent supply of water can be found at a moderate depth below the cylinder, it is more economical to tap it by letting down a tube than by sinking the cylinder. In the same way the tube may be usefully employed where, owing to injury to the masonry or some other reason, it may be impracticable to sink the cylinder deeper.

4. I am to observe that some additional experience has been gained in connection with the wells constructed by the State in the Moradabad district, which will, it is hoped, be shortly available, when the experiments have been completed and closed; and to add that the history and results of these experiments in well-sinking have been published from time to time to enable those interested in such matters to form an opinion of their general adaptability.

ORDER—dated 2nd August 1886, No. 646, Revenue.

Land Revenue, No. 51.

Recorded with reference to G.O., dated 13th July 1886, No. 578.

2. The question of assisting raiyats in sinking wells by lending dredgers and boring apparatus will be considered when indications of a desire on their part for such assistance become sufficiently manifest.

(True Extract.)

H. Stokes
Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.
„ the Public Works Department.

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Govt. of 1886 Madras.

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Recd. 17.8.86

Encl.

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" 832. 6.5.83
" 1468. 28.4.83
" 388. 28.4.83
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Exd. W. H. French.

80 Copies.

Govt. of (1886) Madras.
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No 2137 W of 26-8-86

Communicated to
Supt. Engineers for information
in confirmation of
G.O. No. 1978 W of 9th August 1886.

(Signed) L. S. S.

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 2nd August 1886, No. 646.

No 2137 W of 26-8-86

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