(1) பக்கங்களின் எண்ணிக்கை 86
(2) புதுக்கித் திருப்பிய நாள் 7/89
(3) ஆதாரங்குறிப்பவர் சுருக்கொப்பம்

தமிழ்நாடு ஆவணக் காப்பகம்.

தமிழ்நாடு அரசு

P. W. D துறை

அரசாணை எண். / மு. கோப்புத் தாள் எண். — 1898
அச்சகம் / பலவகை

நாள் : 15.7.1889 ~~19~~.

கண்டபடி கையாளவோ கூடாது

43 sheets

(4371 Plain sheet)

18,006—15-6-87.

Am/B

1898 P.W.D

No 306 W of 25th January

To

James Maughan Esq
Inspector of Mines
Nagpore

Sir

As the request of General Applegath, I am directed by H.E. the Governor in Council to forward for your information, a copy of the Proceedings of the Madras Government No 1020, Public, dated 30th September 1873, together with a copy of the maps therein referred to.

MEM
23.1.88

PPH
24 Jan

Desptch 25-1-88

No 305 W of 25th January

D.W.

To

General F. Applegath

Sir.

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of of your letter of the 16th December 1887 addressed to the Private Secretary to H.E. the Governor, and to inform you that, in compliance with the request therein contained, Mr. James Maughan has been supplied with a copy of the Proceedings of the Madras Government No 1020, Public, dated 30th September 1873, together with the map of the Juggiahpettah District.

H.E. the Governor-in-Council does not, I am to say, see sufficient grounds to apply for Mr. Maughan's services as suggested by you.

23.1.88

D.W.

23/1/88

DC
1/2/88

L.S.

HW. 23.1.88
R 24.1.88

No. $\frac{304}{305}$ w a/s 25th January/88

On Her Majesty's Service Only.

T. 21.

No. 1100.

To

THE Under Secretary to Government
Public Works Department
Chepak-

1898

2

Clerk,
Manager's Office,
Bilaspur Etawah State Railway.

1100

D. L. O.
ALLAHABAD
11 FEB 88

D. L. O.
ALLAHABAD
11 FEB 88

REDIRECTED LETTER.
To .... Post Office.
From the Dead Letter Office,
N. W. P.
Form 124.

ORM No. 3. 2.]

18 88
P.W. DEPARTMENT

WAY

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Railway,
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Department

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UMARIA

ALLAHABAD 1st DEL X FE 14 88

R.S.

1828

[FORM No. A. 2.]

No 1100

Umaria Colliery

AND

BILASPUR-ETAWAH STATE RAILWAY.

OFFICE OF THE MANAGER,

GOVERNMENT 16 .88 P.W. DEPARTMENT

Umaria, 6th February 1888.

FROM

THE MANAGER,
Umaria Colliery, and B.-E. S. Railway,
UMARIA,

TO

THE Under Secretary to Government
Public Works Department
Chepauk

SIR,

I have the honor to acknowledge your letter No. 304 W. dated Chepauk 25th January 1888 giving cover to the Proceedings of the Madras Government No. 1020 Public, dated 30th September 1873 together with copy of the map therein referred to.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most Obedt Servant
J. A. Maughan
Manager

Docts accompanying
Nil

3

P.W.C. No. 160.

No. 437 W d/ 7-2-88

" 304-5W " 25-1-88

R/ 18.2.88

No. 753 C d/ 22nd Feby 188

C/

Recorded.

20.2.88

R.S.

20/2/88

S 22/2.

1898

4

No. 3187.18 W d/27.11.82.
" 2304 W d/5.10.85.
" 437 W d/7. 2.88
" 753 C d/22. 2.88
" 304.5 W d/25.1.88
" 26 D d/7.4.88.

188 .

P. W. DEPARTMENT.

✓

Current No. 10381

From

Major Genl. F. Applegath

Encl. — 1

No. ——

Dated 7th Sept } 1888
Received 6. Octr. }

SUBJECT.

Coal in the Kistna district.

DISPOSAL.

No. 4568 C Dated 19-XI-88

Public Works Dept.

C/

No. 4568 C/19 Nov. 1888

Letter from Major General F. Applegath dated 7th September 1888.

1898

Circulated for perusal.

It is proposed that the letter be "recorded".

C

PPH
17 Oct

16.10.88

16/10/88

Note

– This is what Colonel Hastie proposed when handing over the papers.

R.S.

R.S.

~~The Hon. M. P. P. Smith~~

~~The Rt. Hon. H. [illegible]~~

No. 4568C d/19th Nov. 1888

Circ. 16.x.88

R 17.xi.88

28/11

---

24 Blomfield Street
London 1898 West
6th Jany 1888

J. S. Rees Esquire
&c

No answer required
11/2/88

My dear Sir

Whenever any further confirmation of the Coal question reaches me; I consider it my duty to make it known to His Excellency the Governor, and I therefore hope you will be kind enough to excuse the trouble I am giving you, as the importance of the subject may plead my apologies.

For some time past I have been in correspondence

with the Proprietor
of Coal fields in the
County of Durham,
and of the Cart Pack
of Coal Specimens.
I have received "a
Soft Sooty Coal" which
corresponds with the
Black soft Sooty substance I
quarried out of the
Pits at Yagadery
Village which was
60 feet deep.

There were numerous Specimens I sent
to Madras & Calcutta
of this Black Soft Sooty Sub-
stance (Coal altered
by having found in con-
tact with a dyke or
a fault) This Black
Soft Sooty substance
at Calcutta; has

not even noticed or
named! The object
of the Geological Pro-
fessionals Silence on
these Specimens, was
to my mind to ignore
every thing that came
from the Kistnah.

I have no doubt
but at Calcutta that they knew
at the time that it
was Coal though al-
tered by having found
in Contact with either
a trap dyke or a
fault; either of these
causes so alters Coal
as not to be recognized
by an un-experienced
Eye; but these Pro-
fessionals at least
ought to have known
an altered Coal.

R 17.XI.88
Jd 28/11

P. W. [illegible] 1103/88

So I am still more
anxious than ever to
impress on His Ex=
cellency's mind that
We have a Coal Seam
probably 25 or 30 feet
thick on the Kistnah
at Vadindrog; and that
at about 60 or 100 fee
distance from this
altered Coal; a valu
able Seam will be
found intact.

This Seam is about 5 miles
S.E. from the junction of
the Dallaum & Kistna
rivers, near which my
original hard Coal
was discovered.

Trusting that
You will be pleased
to submit this letter
for the perusal of the
Lordship [illegible]

Francis Applegate

1898

Warora C.P.
Jan^y 31st 1888

To M.C. Baddelee
Captain R.E.
Under Secretary to Govt. P.W.D.

Sir/- I have the honor to acknowledge your letter No 304a giving cover to the Proceedings of the Madras Government No 1020, Public, dated 3rd Sept. 1873 together

8

together with a copy of the map therein referred to, and I not the same has been f by his Excellency the Govern in Council at the reque of General Applegarth.

Kindly note that my head quarters are Umaria-Katni C.P an not Nagpur.

I have the honour

Sir

Your most obedt Serv

J. A. Maugha

P.W.C. No. 1082

Another letter addressed by Govt. [illegible] from Pros: Col: has been received & is sent up herewith. No answer is necessary.

R 4.2.88
Jon
4/2/88

Lodged.

R.S. 1/2
Jon 4/2/88

---

24 Blomfield Street
London West
16th December 1887

5/1/8

J. J. Rees Esquire

Col: Hokes
By [illegible] [illegible] 1898

Sir,

The importance of the subject makes me to trouble you with another letter.

I am writing now to ask the favor that His Excellency the Governor, may allow a copy of the Proceedings of the Madras Government with map dated 30th September 1873 to be sent to the Inspector of Mines at Nagpoor to Mr James Maugh Esq.

I

11.88

In those Proceedings the Government published several important mineral discoveries made in the Kistnah District and as I believe the Coal is just about to be fully verified perhaps Lord Connemara would be so kind as to peruse what I have recorded regarding other mineral Gold in the Valley of Condapilly; the Quartz reefs run across the Valley between the range of hills at Bezwadah & that of Condapilly.

17.XI.88
26/11

IV

Another point 1887 I wish to proffer that is if His Excellency sees fit; to apply for the services of Mr Vaughan to examine the Kistnah District near Juggiahpettah for Coal:

If the outcrop of a Coal seam that has been on fire or burnt near Vaddavally on the Kistnah; were to come under the observation of Mr Vaughan he would immediately know where to look for the same seam, where the fire had not reached it.

In my humble belief the seam will be

found in proper order
nearer the Hills;

Only let one seam
be verified on the Kistn
and numerous others
will be immediately
discovered.

Mr. Maughan I
believe has had a
good deal of Expe-
rience in Indian
Coal Fields and is
his province to Ex=
amine & inspect
Coal mines & that we
may speedily have at
least one on the Kistn
is my fervent belief.

Trusting you
will excuse all the
trouble I am giving you

Believe me
Yours sincerely
Francis Applegath

1898

Govt. House, Madras,
6th. Jany '88

My dear Colonel,

His Excellency desires me to send you the enclosed letter from General Applegath, and to say that he has no objection to compliance with request I but presumes compliance with request II is out of the question. I was to ask you if you would kindly answer General Applegath.

[illegible]

Yours sincerely
J D Rees

Col. The Hon. J.O. Hasted R.E.
R.

Francis Appl

1898

13

P.W.C. No 169

G.O. 135 d/21.11.73

No 305 W d/25th Jany/88

G 9.1.88

Francis Apple

Circ. 16.x.
17.XI.88
28/11

1898

Are the papers referred to available? if so they may be sent as requested by order of Govt.

With regard to II a reply must be sent that Govt. do not see sufficient grounds to comply with the request.

E.O. Quested 7.1.88

Issue
7/1/88.

14

Go. 135 a

Cvc. 16 . x .
R 17 . XI . 88
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188 .

P. W. DEPARTMENT.

Current No. 1103

From
General Francis Applegath

Enclos.—

No.
Dated 6. Jany. 88
Received 4. 2. 88

Subject.

Disposal.

No. 437 W Dated 7th February /88 Cur. 1082 of 1103

HW. B

Recorded.

Folio 15
4/2/88

G.O. 135 a/

G.O. 304-5 W a/ 25.1.88

17.xi.88

24 Bloomfield Street
London West
29th Feb 1888

Capt Baddeley R.E.
&c 1898

My dear Sir

I have acknowledged your letter officially, and will you be kind enough to submit it for His Excellency's perusal at one of his leisure hours.

I complain of the suppression and distortion of facts by the geological officials.

Two years ago my Coal Enquiry was put on one side because the Singarene Coal was coming to Madras

For one thing quite

puzzles me Why should
Madras buy Coal from
a Stranger when they
have a Coal Field
of their own.

Had the whole truth
been reported in 1868
to the Madras Governme
how different [illegible]
it have been at Madra

I have a very good
memory, and when
once a matter is deci-
ded on the spot; No
one can persuade m
to the Contrary.

The outcrop of Coa
on the Kistnah between
the Village of Vadad
and the Hills to the
Eastward is well know
to all the Natives then
the whole Country is
black with soot for
several hundred feet

I have been the Engineer
Officer in sole charge
of the Kistnah District
for three years. in 1868

For very good and
substantial Reasons I
Estimate 30 Seams of
Coal will be found
because there are 5
places where the Coal
has been on fire or burnt
& Experience (records)
shew that for every Seam
of Coal that is burnt
or been on fire there are
6 good Seams of Coal
not burnt.

My Experience tells
me the Seam that is
burnt or at least been
on fire at Vadadzig
is from 25 to 30 feet
thick!!!

Prove [illegible]

by quoting the Experience
of Mr Summerside
a large Coal Propri-
etor at Cockfield
Fell near Darlington
that where Coal is
injured (useless) by
a dyke at 50 or 60
feet from the dyke
the Coal is good.
Now the same law
applies to all Coal
Seams all over the
world!! the distance
a few feet more or less
may be allowed.
Will you be
so kind as to have
the enclosed+ posted
at Madras Believe
me yours truly
Francis Applegarth

+ Potter – Cornwall and
to R. W. C. Thompson Esqre
ansr off
G. J. M. R.
Bromley. Co
23.2.88

Coc. 16.x.88
R 17.xi.88
J.S. 25/11

To Captain Baddeley R.E.
Under Secretary to Government. P.W.D.
Madras

1898

Sir

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated January 25th 1888 No 305 W, and desire to return my best thanks to His Excellency The Governor for his kindness in sending Government Proceedings dated 30th September 1873 to Mr Maugham.

2. In a letter dated London 6th January 1888 to the address of the Private Secretary, I thought it my duty to report further confirmatory evidence of Coal in the Kistnah, and I hope it has been received.

3. All facts, figures and particulars connected with this Coal are recorded to date in the type written memo, which Lord Connemara was good enough to accept when in England and I have every reason for believing the following conclusions

4. That Coal in the Kistnah District has been found over about 20 square miles of Government lands

5. The Coal I have discovered there would be a good and useful fuel for Madras, as it burns freely into ashes with very little slag, it can be quarried or excavated, and carried by the

Kistnah river and Canal, and supplied to Madra at a price that will eventually defy competition with either Singareney Coal or imported Coal from England.

6. The Southern Madras Railway notifies in its annual report published last year that 10,000 tons of Coal from England have been supplied at Madras at 21 shillings a ton, whic price may and probably will prove prohibitive to the Singareney Coal at Madras.

7 In the 22nd Para of my type written memo above alluded to, I ventured to point out that the purchasing of the Singareney Coal, and the construction of a Railway (if constructed) at a probable expense of £ 150,000 would eventually prove to be money wasted. This prediction appear to be already verified.

8. The problem of how Coal from England can be bought there and carried by sea 7000 miles to Madras, and sold there at 21/- a ton does not much concern Madras, but whether such a suppl is permanently secure is a different and at the same time a very important consideration.

9. It is scarcely necessary for me to point ou how desirable it is Madras should have her ow Coal Field to rely upon.

10. In 1868 the late Mr Charles Aeneas Oldham the Principal Geological Officer in the Madras Presidency gave me a decided opinion that th was Coal in the Kistnah, see Para 6, of my type memo. Surely after eight years experience in the Madras districts this Officers opinion should have an important bearing in the matter for it is the truth

1898

11. The circumstances I have related as an eye witness in para 7 of my memo proves the actual existence of Coal there, or else how could the "Burnt Outcrop" in the Kistnah in 1868 have been seen, and acknowledged as such on the spot in the presence of two Witnesses Mr A. J. Stewart Madras Civil Service now retired ~~Judge at Rajahmundry~~ and myself no subsequent denial by anyone can avail or hide the truth as the outcrop is there now awaiting verification

12. Another Friend Colonel C. B. Lucie Smith now Major General in England, who discovered the Chanda Coal tells me that my Kistnah specimens alluded to in Paras 24. 25 of my memo are true Damuda or Coal rocks, here again is positive confirmatory evidence from another practically qualified Officer

13. What stronger inducement can I offer except to say that Mr Maughan at a glance would detect or verify any outcrop of Coal, although it has been on fire or burnt and this is my object in asking for his services Mr Maughan would be too glad to verify or develope this Coal Field

14. From my own experiences in India, and after much thought and study of this subject in England

PWC No. 2990

I am positively convinced that the Kistnah Coal
can be regularly supplied at Madras at even less
than 21 Shillings a ton, and that the supply will be unlimited and permanent
as soon as justice is done to this important district

15. I trust that the above suggestions which I have
ventured to offer may be considered sufficient
inducement to allow Mr. Maughan to visit the
Kistnah District

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most Obedient Servant
Francis Applegarth
Major General

24 Bloomfield Street
London. West.
28th Feby 1888

R 28.3.88
E.1

1898

753C. 22-2-88
304-5W 26-1-88
437W. 7-2-88.
2304W 5-10-85
3117-18W. 27-11-82

188 8..

P. W. DEPARTMENT.

Current No. 2990

From General
~~Dr~~. Francis Applegath

ENCLOS.—1

No.

Dated 28. 2. 88

Received 28-3-88

SUBJECT.

Reporting on the coal in the Kistna &c.

DISPOSAL.

No. 25 from orders Dated 7th April 1888

Recorded.

4/4/88.

O.L.S 16/18 O- 2-4-88

Circ 4/4 Cov Rep 7.4.88

Public Works Dept

1898

Read letter from General Francis Applegath dated London 28 February 1888.

Circulated for perusal.

It is proposed that the letter be "Recorded.

PPH
5 Apr

Seen by His Excellency 7. IV. 88

4/4/88.

21

The Hon Mr S P Hutchins C.S.I

The Rt. Hon the Governor

W.D.D. Dy. 7th April 1888

6. 2.4.88:
0.25. 16/12

1898

Memo on Genl. Applegarth's letter, dated 5 Oct-82 to Col. Sankey

His p. 1 Why does he not specify one of the "many unsubstantiated statements"? The 'conclusion' I was content to leave to the readers.

2. I did (my para. 8) allude to that report, but never having seen it could only give evidence that the coal burning was not conspicuous in it. Why, o why was it not so in the contemporary reports in India?

For curiosity sake do get a copy of that letter, of 10-9-52.

3 I never heard of this testimony, but would not have insulted the Genl. by quoting it.

4 I have again carefully read the Genl's remarks, as printed in the Journal of the Soc. of Arts, pp. 590-91, but find no quotation or reference that is not wholly irrelevant to the question at issue – the occurrence of coal or coal measures in the Jaggampettah region of the Godavari. I presume the paper sent from Madras was an exact reprint from the Journal. They all refer to the Gondwana rocks at Singareni or in the Godavari basin and the coastal region of the District; and of all, maps & reports have been published.

The 'Loophole' was simply a turn of argument, to show that the point could not be settled *a priori*. 5.

6 I do not question the power of rivers to do the like, but the Genl. lost his chance by not declaring this on the spot as the solution of the puzzle. Besides, I understand Major Harstead to say that he found and cleared out the actual spot.

7 Mr Foote never set foot near Srigarvani; I suppose Mr King is meant; but the notion must be a delusion. I can send the very map marked by the Genl. if wished for, but the spots are exactly those marked by Major Harstead.

I had reasons enough not to laugh in the Genl's face in my own shop. His repudiation of these trials is outrageous.

8 Defective construing: the Genl's ignorance of the Mohurpani coal exploration in no way precluded his taking advantage of the coaly proclivities aroused by it in Madras. But this is only a quibble.

[illegible] Retd 7.4.58

---

his 9. eyes, that was the only view then open to me. I had not then discovered that the Genl. was his own deceiver.

10. This is a beautiful instance of the hypothesis & suggestion muddle of which the Genl. is the victim: the passage is the 3d para on p. 31 of Records Vol. II: but, "coal fossils" and "plant-sandstones" are not equivalent expressions! the 'plant sandstones' of Mr C. Oldham are the small patches of upper Gondwana rocks running along the coastal region to near Madras, and are quite distinct from the coal-measure rocks.* This obstinate irrelevancy is most provoking. Yet on the same page, para 5, there is Mr C. Oldham's clear observation upon the Palnad 'coal'!

1898

11 Irrelevant again. I cannot now call Mr. Ball to book, and he has I believe stretched his latitude by some minutes, but I am quite certain that he refers to the extreme extension of the older Gondwana rock

* but even if they were all coal measures the prospect of coal in the Palnad would not be one jot affected for better or worse.

of the Godavari basin, as already mentioned. It is quite preposterous of the Govt. to try to force men to assert what they emphatically deny.

A variation on 10 & 11. 12

Mr Ball undoubtedly 13 referred to the chance of finding coal in the southern part of the Godavari basin.

All this is the irrelevant stuff that I ~~[illegible]~~ put aside in my note of 4 July

H. B. Medlicott
13. Nov. 82

Remarks on Genl. Applegath's letter dated 5 Oct 1882

The points to which Genl. Applegath draws particular attention in paras 10, 11, 12 of his letter are most easily disposed of: they belong to the rubbish I put aside as irrelevant in my letter of 4 July.

In the passage referred to in para 10 (see Records Vol. II. p. 31, 3d para.) there is no mention of "coal fossils": the "plant sandstones" (wh. Gen. A. seems to understand as an equivalent article) noticed ~~mentioned~~ to the S.E. of Bezwada by Mr C. Oldham belong to the patches of Upper Gondwana rocks found along the coastal region to near Madras. They have all been mapped and described. But if they were all of coal measures the fact would have no bearing whatever on the question of coal or no coal in the Palamow.

Mr Ball was never near the ground in question and it is absolutely certain that the observations quoted from his book does not bear the interpretation tagged on to it by Genl. A. (para 11). Does the Genl. imagine that the Survey officers are in a conspiracy to falsify their published work in order to balk him of his coveted discovery!

H. B. Medlicott
13 Nov. 82

IV
4-4-88 : Retd. 7.4.58

1898

Memo: on General Applegath's' letter dated 5th Octr /82 to Col. Sankey

his p. 1 1. Why does he not specify one of the "many unsubstantiated statements?" the 'conclusions' I am content to leave to the readers.

2. I did (my para 8) allude to that report, but never having seen it could only give evidence that the coal burning was not conspicuous in it. Why, O why, was it not so in the contemporary reports in India?

For curiosity sake do get a copy of that letter of 10: 9.52.

3. I never heard of this testimony, but would not have insulted the General by quoting it

28

4. I have again carefully read the

General's remarks, as printed in the journal of the Society of Arts, p.p. 590-91, but find no quotation or reference that ~~it~~ is not wholly irrelevant to the question at issue - the occurrence of coal or coal measures in the Juggiapettah region of the Palnad - I presume the paper sent from Madras was an exact reprint from the journal - They all refer to the Gondwana rocks at Singarani or in the Godavari basin and the Coastal region of the Kistna; and of all, maps and reports have been published -

The "loophole" was simply a turn of argument to show that the point could not be settled a priori 5.

6. I do not question the power of rivers to do the like, but the General lost his chance by not declaring this on the spot as the solution of the puzzle - Besides, I understand Major Hasted to say that he found and cleared out the actual spot.

7. Mr Foote never set foot near Singarum; I suppose Mr King is meant - but the notion must be a delusion - I can send the very map marked by the General if wished for, but the spots are exactly those marked by Major Hasted -

I had manners enough not to laugh in the General's face in my own shop - His repudiation of these trials is outrageous -

8. Defective construing: the General's

IV 4.4.88. Retd 7.4.58

ignorance of the Midnapur coal adventure in no way precluded his taking advantage of the coaly proclivities aroused by it in Madras. But this is only a quibble.

Yes, that was the only view then open to me. I had not then discovered that the General was his own deceiver. 9

This is a beautiful instance of the subjection and objection muddle of which the General is the victim: the passage is the 3 para on p. 31 of Records Vol. II: but, "coal fossils" and "plant sandstones" are not equivalent expressions! the "plant sandstones" of Mr C. Oldham are the small patches of Upper Gondwana rocks occurring along the coastal -10.

IV. [illegible] 4.4.88.: Retd. 7.4.58

region to near Madras, and are quite distinct from the coal measure rocks

& but even if they were all coal measures the prospect of coal in the Saluad would not be one jot affected for better or worse

This obstinate irrelavancy is most provoking, yet on the *same page*, para 5, there is Mr C. Oldhams' clear observation upon the Saluad "coal".

11. Irrevalant again. I cannot now call Mr Ball to book, and he has I believe stretched his latitude by some minutes, but I am quite certain that he refers to the extreme extension of the older Gondwana rocks of the Godavari basin, as already mentioned. It is quite preposterous of the General to try to force men to assert what they emphatically deny.

A variation on 10 & 11. 12.

Mr Ball undoubtedly referred 13. to the chance of finding coal in the southern part of the Godavari basin.

All this is sheer irrelavant stuff that I put aside in my note of 4th July.

(S.) H.B. Medlicott

15th Nov/82

IV
[illegible]: 4-4-88; Retd 7·4·58

Memo: on General Applegath's letter d/ 5th October 1882

1898

The points to which General Applegath draws particular attention in paras 10, 11, 12 of his letter are most easily disposed of: they belong to the evidence I put aside as irrelative in my letter of 4th July.

In the passage referred to in para 10 (see Records Vol II. p. 31, 3 para) there is no mention of "coal fossils": the "plant sandstones" (which Genl. Applegath seems to understand as an equivalent article) noticed to the S.E. of Bezwada by Mr C. Oldham belong to the patches of upper Gondwana rocks found along the coast

TP

region to near Madras. They have all been mapped and described. But if they were all of coal-measures the fact would have no bearing whatever on the question of coal or no coal in the Salnad.

Mr. Ball was never near the ground in question and it is absolutely certain that the observation quoted from his book does not bear the interpretation begged for it by General Applegath (para 11.). Does the General imagine that the Survey officers are in a conspiracy to falsify their published work in order to balk him of his aſserted discovery? 1898

(S.) H. B. Medlicott
13th Nov/82

To Colonel R. H. Sankey. R. E.
Secretary to Government P. W. D.
Madras

1898

Sir.

I have the honor to acknowledge letter No 2097. W. dated 15th August 1882, and to express my extreme regret at the decision of The Madras Government. In Mr. H. B. Medlicott's present letter, there are so many con-clusions, and statements, made against me, which he is not able to substantiate they should therefore be withdrawn indeed, the whole letter is a virulent personal attack, instead of a reply to my suggestions for a further exam-ination of the Kistnah District

2nd No allusion is made by Mr Medlicott to my first letter to The Court of Directors, Leadenhall Street though he must know it was written announcing my original discovery of Coal in 1851 in the Kistnah District which letter is dated 10th Sept 1852 and is now on the records of the India Office; but most unfair and unjust conclusions are drawn by Mr. Medlicotts ignoring this letter; I have also now in my possession several letters recently sent me by Friends Officers in the Madras Army testifying to the truth and genuineness of my original discovery of Coal in the Kistnah District in 1851 which Coal, when burning gave out great warmth, it heated the iron tire of a bullock cart wheel in the Sherihomedpettah Bungalow Compound, and was otherwise utilized by the blacksmiths of that village and was burnt in the bed of the Pallair River in large open heaps as much as 8 or 10 Tons of Coal.

3rd In 1868 in the presence of the late Professor Oldham, Mr. Stuart Madras Civil Service, myself, and the late Mr. C. A. Oldham, The Rajah of Mooktialah, who resides within a short distance of the Pallair River spoke most distinctly as having seen the Coal burning in the bed of the river, this fact is no doubt well known to the present Superintendent Geological Survey, but if he chooses to omit, ignore or disbelieve the Rajahs' statements, he does me a grievous injury and injustice.

4th Again no answer is made to my printed memorandum, which I read before the Society of Arts, London, which is a quotation (not a misquotation) from the Manual of the Geology of India, any one can verify this circumstance, for I have quoted Volume and Page, and used the exact words when referring to Indian Coal or Coal Fields.

1898

5th In the third paragraph I am alluded to as, one uninstructed, I may be, but I discovered Coal in the Madras Presidency before Mr. Medlicott entered upon his Indian Service and now while he holds up to ridicule my report and suggestion of Coal associated or occurring with the Rocks of the Palnad, he leaves himself and his survey a clever little loop hole to creep through in the shape of a local deposit, which he suggests may be discovered there at some future time but which discovery however can never be, I venture to submit, an independent one, but merely a verification of my own long disputed Coal.

6th In the 4th Para "It is practically impossible &c. &c." The Mountain Streams of India (Madras) have generally a slope of about 10 feet a mile, and are Torrents, and I aver that after ten or twenty years such a river bank may be so cut away or altered as to defy recognition of any particular spot, neither had I any boring apparatus with me with the Sappers in 1840 (Nortons water boring tools only were sent from Secundrabad) and on that occasion

B

IV 4-4-88; Rd. 7.4.58

I was laid prostrate with a jungle fever for several weeks, and our dear Second Son actually died in our Camp on the 6th January 1870 from the same fever.

7th – It is most unfair to quote Mr. R. B. Foote's opinion as unfavorable now in 1882 – because since he visited the Singareny Coal Field Mr. Foote has been reported in the Madras Journals as having expressed a favorable opinion regarding the resemblance of the rocks in the Singareny Coal Field, and the Juggiahpettah District. I also respectfully request that Mr. Medlicott may be called upon to publish the spots and the nature of the borings I am said to have marked, when we met at Calcutta, and the rest of the circumstances that occurred at the same time namely, how I pointed out to Mr. Medlicott, and Mr. Valentine Ball several cases in the Calcutta Museum containing Ranegunj and other Coal rocks specimens as identical with the rocks of the Kistnah District, ~~as mentioned in 6th Para of my printed Memorandum I again repeat~~

~~8th If there was no personal bias on Mr. Medlicott's part~~

I again repeat that the borings of 1874 were not made in accordance with my suggestions either as their nature position or depth as mentioned in 6th Para of my printed Memorandum.

Geological facts taken from the published documents of certain members of the Indian Geological Survey. The first is that the late Mr. Charles Al. Oldham actually found Coal fossils in the eastern portion of the Kistnah District in 1868, see the annual report for 1868 which circumstance ought to have been brought to the notice of the Madras Government at that time. This and the other circumstance, I am about to bring forward should have prevented anything like an unfavorable report in 1868

11th – The second fact is that a Boulder bed in Lat North 16° 30' belonging to the Talcheer rocks (i.e. rocks immediately below the Coal in India) is now 1881 officially and particularly noticed by Mr. Ball in his book Diamond, Coal and Gold published in 1881. Page 60. On this important admission, I wrote twice to Professor Ball about it, but have failed to elicit from him the exact situation of this Boulder bed, but if silence gives consent, it is the boulder bed situated on the land adjoining & belonging to the Fort of the Moothiatah Rajah Kistnah District, which I reported to Government in my letter Sept 1873, and marked it B. B. in my map.

Ref 7.4.58

8th— If there was no personal bias on Mr Medlicotts part, he would not so hastily have come to the erroneous conclusion he has in Para 12. alluding to the Midnapoor Coal Fiasco as he calls it, about which I knew nothing till this year 1882 when reading Mr Balls book on the Mineral Resources of India, when such reckless and groundless assertions as these and others are made or repeated with impunity it is high time to enquire the cause of such glaring un-professional bias against the extension of the Kistnah Coal Enquiry.

9th— In Mr Medlicotts concluding paragraphs No 16 of July 1882 he states his opinion that the Kistnah Coal (my Coal) is a Myth, but about 8 years ago. "Mr Medlicotts opinion was reduced to the conviction that there must be some combustible rock there, or that Col Applegath was deceived in a most extraordinary manner by the persons (Madras Sappers & Miners) he employed to excavate"

The Coal in the Kistnah District is neither a Ghost Story or a Romance, but a real genuine discovery, the value of which I leave in the hands of The Madras Government to estimate, with the best excuses I can offer to occupying so much of its important time and attention.

10th

In conclusion I am anxious to record two more very important

4.4.00. Rtd 7.4.58

12th

Both these facts and circumstances are strongly confirmatory of my views of the Kistnah District, and I have no doubt this boulder bed which is highly indicative of coal in that immediate neighbourhood (indeed my original coal of 1851 was found on the banks of the Pallair River within two miles of this boulder bed, which was visited & noticed by the late Superintendent in 1868, but thirteen years silence on this matter indeed thirteen years ceaseless opposition to the Kistnah Coal Enquiry has been a serious drawback to the material progress of Madras to say nothing of the amount of slander and abuse which has been lavished on myself.

13th—

With one more quotation, The Journal of the Society of Arts, London 28th April 1882, at the top of the page, Professor Ball states "He was at a loss to know how he had been understood to say that there was no prospect of Coal being found in the Madras Province" This statement coupled with the facts I have brought to notice in Paragraphs 11 & 12 is to my mind conclusive as to the benefits of a thorough re-examination of the Kistnah District, its importance to Madras is urgent and permanent

P.W.C. No. 7916.

and on every account most desirable, Trade, Commerce, Railways, Steamships, Canal-boats, Gas, are all more or less in great need of a cheap and serviceable fuel, the situation of the original Coal, in fact the whole district is admirable with available water carriage to Madras for the Coal & Iron Manufacture induces me again to urge most earnestly upon the Madras Government the benefits that must ensue upon a fair, impartial and thorough investigation of this most important and promising subject

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your most Obedient Servant

Francis Applegath

Major General

Madras Retired List

24 Blomfield Street
London
W

G.O. 3117/3118 W d/ 27 Nov/82

October 5th 1882

G.O. 2096 W d/ 15/8/82

22/11 R 23/11

1898

Hon H E Sullivan

Rt. Hon'ble the Governor

For orders

General Applegath is dissatisfied with the decision of Government in reference to his Coal 'discoveries' as conveyed in G.O. 15th August 1882 No 2096 W has addressed me in a letter of the 5th October 1882 in which he contends with much verbage that "the "Coal of the Kistna dis-"-trict is neither a Ghost "story nor a romance "but a real genuine "discovery"

As it seemed to me desirable to have on record a distinct refutation of the General's supposed new "facts" I referred the communication to Mr Medlicott who

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1898

has replied in two memos both of which for convenience of reference I have had faired.

I also attach a copy of the Records of the Geological Survey of India Vol II Part 2 to which he makes reference.

I would venture to suggest that the correspondence be "Recorded" and that General Applegarth be so informed.

Seen

22/11/82

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1898 No 3117 W

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

UNDER date the 27th Novr/82

Read the following :—

Letter from Major General F. Applegath, Madras Retired List (P.C. 24 Blomfield Street, London W. d/ Octr 5th 1882)

Ordered to be recorded.

(P.C. No. 3118 W. 27th Novr/82)

To,

General F. Applegath
Madras Retired List.

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated 5th October 1882 commenting

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on the correspondence recorded with G.O. 2099 W d/ 15th August 1882 on the subject of Coal in the Kistna, and to inform you in reply that the Right Hon'ble the Governor in Council has ordered your communication to be recorded.

Rttt

23/11/82

B No. 3117/3118 W d/ 27th Nov. 1882

R.S.

Entd. in Receipt Regr.

It is requested that in any further communication on this subject the under-mentioned letters and number may be quoted, and the reply addressed to
The Under Secretary of State for India,
India Office,
London,
S.W.

P. W. 1564.

1898

India Office, S.W.,
25th August 1885.

Sir,

With reference to the Public Works letter from the Government of Madras No. 34/2098 W, dated 15th August 1882, I am directed to request that you will forward for the information of the Secretary of State a copy of General Applegarth's reply to Mr. Medlicott's report of [illegible] July 1882 on the subject of Coal explorations in the Kistna district.

It appears from the Proceedings of the Government of Madras in the Public Works Department (Buildings and Roads) for November 1882 that General Applegarth's reply was recorded, but that no

action

The Secretary,
Government of Madras,
Public Works Department.

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1898

action was taken on it.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your Obedient Servant
Clement S. Colin
Asst. Secretary,
Public Works Department.

P. W. C. No. 82/85

Recd. 21 Sep: '85.

No. 2304 Wd/ 5th October 1885

[illegible] to C. 22.9.85

[illegible]

[illegible]

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1898

Public Works Department.

No. 2304 Wd/ 5th October 1885

To,

The Under Secretary of State for India
India Office.
London

Sir,

In compliance with the request contained in Mr. C. S. Colvin's letter No. P.W. 1504 dated 25th August 1885, I am directed to forward a copy of General Applegath's letter of 5th October 1882, replying to Mr. Medlicott's report of 4th July 1882, on the

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subject of coal explorations in the Kistna district.-

2. I am to state that General Applegath's letter in question was recorded, as His Excellency the Governor in Council, ~~was~~ after obtaining the opinion of the head of the Geological Survey of India, arrived at the conclusion ~~convinced~~ that no good object would be attained by further pursuing the inquiry respecting the existence of coal in the locality named by General Applegath.-

3. In a letter dated 27th November 1882, General Applegath was informed that his letter of 5th October 1882 had been recorded by order of this Govt.-

1898

29.4.83

Desp-d

7/10/83

Cu 40

Govt 385 R d/ 21-8-1877
" " 185 R " 2. 7. 1877
" " 1117. d/ 4 April 1877
" 2653 . 2. 10. 1876
" 1263 19. 5. 1876
" 3246 13. 11. 1875
" 2959 15. 10. 1875
" 1591A 5. 6. 1875
" 1591 5. 6. 1875
" 1536 2. 6. 1875
762. 18. 3. 1875
3533 16. 12. 1874
3236 16. 11. 1874
406 19. 2. 1874
2025 14. 8. 1873
1258 2. 5. 1873
638 13. 3. 1880
780 R. 30. 9. 1879.
114 R. 3. 2. 1881
789 R. 17. 8. 1878.
373 R. 26. 4 1878
2509 W 27. 9. 1882.
911 C d/ 13. 5. 1885
137 D 20. 1. 1885
2509 W 27. 9. 1882
" 2104 W. 16. 8. 1882
" No. 540 W 17. 2. 1882
" No. 3117/3118 W 27-11/82

No 2304 W d/ 5th October 1885
~~Read in Council~~
& approved
24-9-85

J.d. 10/x

Public Department.

CHIEF SECRETARIAT. MADRAS.

1898

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

READ the following ~~paper~~ Do :—

From Genl. F. Applegarth of London, 1st March 1889 to the Private Secretary to His Excellency the Governor.

If you will be so kind as to submit this letter for the consideration of His Excellency the Governor I shall be very much obliged.

I have just received intimation from the Collector of the Kistnah District that he believes and maintains that coal seams are extensively developed in the Kistnah District.

This gentleman was formerly Head Assistant Collector in this District, and had charge of the Talooks where these coal seams are seen.

Before the present Viceroy went out to India, he directed me to write out all particulars of this coal, which I did, and which were acknowledged as received by His Private Secretary.

In urging that Mr Maughan from Wororra coal field might examine the Kistnah District, I wish to point out that when Mr Bruce Foote F.G.S. reported in 1874 on this coal Field he had no experience about Indian coal; because the gaol Superintendent at Calcutta in 1881 would not permit Mr Foote to inspect and report on the Badrachellam coal on the Godavery District, as Mr Foote had no experience about Indian coal.

? Geological

W

It-

It stands to reason that if Mr Foote had no coal experience in 1881 he must have had less experience in 1874

The official letter from the gaol Superintendent at Calcutta in 1881 is published in Public Works Dept – 7th September 1881 No 2220 P.W. ?

Mr Bruce Foote's F.G.S. letter condemning the Kistnah coal is published in the Proceedings of the Madras Government Public Works Dept – 27th April 1874

To prove to His Excellency Lord Connemara how unjustly almost iniquitously this coal subject has been treated at Calcutta. The gaol Superintendent there sends on Mr Foote's report to the Madras Government D.P.W. as if he wished it to be believed and acted on. He also spoke of the report with approval and then 7 years afterwards proclaims to the Madras Government that Mr Bruce Foote has no experience about Indian coal. ?

His Excellency the Governor of Madras will I trust pardon me for giving so (much?) trouble, and being so persevering in my wishes, that the Kistnah District may be examined by some impartial and competent Officer such as Mr Maughan at Warora

My object is to bring out the truth and value of my discovery.

The order from Calcutta to Madras not to spend another rupee on any suggestion about Kistnah coal was promulgated immediately after Mr Foote's report

Trusting the Madras Government will do me justice in this matter.

Read also the following D.O. from A. T. Arundel Esq. of Masulipatam 1st April 1889 to the Private Secretary to His Excellency the Governor.

Your letter of the 26th ult. with enclosure from General Applegarth which I return.

General Applegarth met some friends of mine in England (with whom I am not myself in correspondence) and learning that I am Collector of Kistna, he has written me two long diffuse letters on the subject of coal in this district, to which I have up to this time sent no reply. I have not given "intimation" to General Applegarth or to any one else that I "believe and maintain that coal seams are extensively developed in the Kistnah District", for I know nothing of the matter

I was formerly Head Assistant Collector of this district but on paper only, and did not come here till 1887

If you will kindly refer to the Manual of the Kistnah District (pp. 248-251) you will find an account of General Applegarth's controversy.

He makes no mention in his letters to me of the fruitless experimental borings made by himself in 1870 with a detachment of Sappers and Miners, and by Col Hasted in 1874.

It would I think be a waste of money for Government to make further search

In page 244 of the Manual it is said that there may be a chance of finding coal in the northern parts of of the Nuzvoid Zemindari. An Agent of the Deccan Mining Company is searching for talc in that neighbourhood with some success. Another Agent is with my Concurrence prospecting for diamonds in the neighbourhood of the old diamond mines on both sides of the river Kistnah. It occurs to me that a useful stimulus might be given to these men by the offer of a reward of say Rs 5000 for the discovery of a workable seam of real coal. The reward must be large to act as an incentive and would be a trifle to pay for the discovery. If His Excellency the Governor should think the suggestion appropriate I will send in a formal application on receipt of instructions to do so.

Order, 1 July 1889 No 563

The Government is not prepared to spend public money in searching for coal in the Kistna district.

(True Extract)

W C Baddeley
Capt R.E.
Under Secy P.W.D.
for
Chief Secy.

To
Genl. F. Applegarth, London.
The Collector of Kistna
J " Public Works Dept.
Xr A.D

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[6]

Govt. of (188) Madras.

1898.

To

Proceedings, dated 188 .
No.

Subject.

[6] PWC No 6275

Govt. of {188} Madras.

(2)

To

The P W Dept

Memo 4568 C d/ 19.11.88.
" " 26 D d/ 7-4.88
Jo. Bno. 437 W d/ 7.2 88
Memo No. 753 C d/ 22.2.88.
Jo. Bno. 304-5 W d/ 25.1.88
" " " 2304 W d/ 5-10.85
" " " 8117-18 W d/ 27.11.82

19.8.7.89

Proceedings, dated 1 July 1889
No. 563

Subject.

Declining to spend public money in search for coal in the Kistna Dt.

B/

~~Recorded~~

Recorded

9.7.89

11.7.89

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Ogl. 57/7.

P. 22/7

R. 15.7.