

Number 16
2. Date of issue 19.5.3
3. Initials of Reto.
M.R.O. 1-99,000-16-10-20.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	13574	Press Mis.
Dated	2-9-	19 1871

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,
2nd September 1871.*

Read the following papers:—

No. 6. From the Director of Public Instruction, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated Madras, 4th January 1871, No. 2.

I have the honour to forward the accompanying letter, of the 22nd instant, from the Superintendent of the School of Arts.

2. I have returned to Doctor Hunter the cart-load of samples referred to in paragraph 7, as I imagined Government would not desire to have the samples placed before them.

From Surgeon Major A. HUNTER, M. D., Superintendent of the School of Industrial Arts, to the Director of Public Instruction, dated Madras, 22nd December 1870, No. 54.

With reference to the Proceedings of Government, Public Department, dated 29th November 1870, No. 149, with letter from W. R. Cornish, Esq., F. R. C. S., Sanitary Commissioner for Madras, on the subject of glazing and firing pottery, I have the honour to request you will do me the favour to bring to the notice of the Right Honourable the Governor in Council the following report upon the progress that has, up to the present date, been made by the School of Arts in glazing and firing pottery, especially as regards tiles and pipes required for conservancy purposes.

2. The chief difficulty which has been experienced by the School of Arts in glazing pottery successfully on a large scale has arisen from the want of an experienced and skilled glazed fireman acquainted with the manufacture of stoneware and porcelain.

3. All the experiments to perfect the glazing have been the result of a succession of trials, which had to be worked out from scientific books. Attempts were made at different times to engage the services of European glaze firemen, but the salaries demanded were so exorbitant (£800 per annum, with a third share of all the profits of the work) that the funds of the School of Arts, Rupees 335 per mensem, would all have been swallowed up. Attempts were also made to engage the services of potters and firemen from China; but, although the men themselves were willing to serve for a given time on moderate pay, the Mandarins prohibited skilled workmen from leaving the country.

4. The soft-lead glazes, the Rockingham, and a few of the finer frit glazes have been perfected; but, in the attempts to perfect salt-glazed and porcelain manufactures, nearly the whole contents of the furnace were spoiled from a deficiency of heat.

5. Most of the pottery, as well as the bricks, tiles, and paving materials, made by the native potters, are of such coarse materials, and so indifferently prepared, that they will not stand the heat required for melting the glaze, the clay usually losing its shape and even melting before the glaze. This has been frequently pointed out to native potters, and numbers of them from different districts have come to Madras to learn the manufacture and glazing of better descriptions of earthenware; but, on returning to their districts, they have not had funds to carry on the manufacture on a large scale, though several of them have built better furnaces and have introduced cheap soft-lead glazed wares.

6. The suggestion made by Dr. Cornish in paragraph 5 of his letter, viz., that a thoroughly trained and scientific person practically acquainted with the manufacture of coarse earthenware should be engaged by the Secretary of State to examine and report on the pottery materials to be found in various localities, is so far good; but, in selecting such a person, it would be necessary that he should understand more than the manufacture of common coarse earthenware, as salt-glazed stoneware and real porcelain are the only qualities of glazed pottery that are suited for sanitary purposes.

7. From the progress that has already been made in Southern India to improve the pottery, terra-cotta wares, and building materials, I believe that a good deal might be done already with the raw materials and minerals at our command and with the persons who have already been trained for the work, though I entirely agree with Dr. Cornish that it would be highly desirable that

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department.

2nd September 1871.

a few practical workmen should be brought, if possible, from England or China to superintend the works established in various localities. I beg to forward, herewith, samples of the plain red and white earthenware pipes, paving and draining tiles, glazed wares, and a few articles of domestic use, to show the progress that has been made in plain glazes, Rockingham, and frit glazes. I have ascertained, by comparison with the materials used for the manufacture, glazing, colouring, and painting of pottery, that nearly all the materials used in England, Scotland, France, Berlin, Vienna, and China are abundant in Southern India, and that, with the exception of two or three of the rare metals as Cadmium, Cobalt, and Iridium, all the metallic colouring substances are procurable.

8. In Madras, it has been found difficult to compete with the wares of England and China, which are now sold at very cheap rates, but I believe that there are many articles, such as cups, bowls, pipes, tiles, building and draining materials, which could be made cheaper in India than elsewhere. There are also some articles required for hospital and sanitary purposes, as enamelled iron bowls, dishes, and urinals, which might be made in Madras and sold at a cheaper rate than those which are imported from England.

9. Hitherto no extensive or remunerative orders for pottery have been given to the school; and as the raw materials, fuel, and chemicals have all been paid for out of the earnings of the Industrial Department, the progress of the pottery has been retarded.

No. 7. From Surgeon Major C. M. DUFF, M.D., Acting Surgeon, 4th District, to the Under Secretary to Government, Public, &c., Departments, Fort St. George, dated Royapettah, 11th May 1871, No. 34.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of memorandum, No. 112, dated the 2nd instant, from your office, and beg to state that I have no suggestions to make on Dr. Cornish's letter of the 2nd November 1870 on the arts of glazing and firing bricks, tiles, or pipes. Dr. Cornish's letter, in my opinion, exhausts the subject on which it treats, and details on the above operations in this branch of the ceramic art will best be supplied by Dr. A. Hunter of the School of Industrial Arts.

2. It occurs to me that more writing is unnecessary on the subject of sanitation. What appears most needed now is carrying into efficient operation the practical suggestions already made on this subject.

3. While much interested in everything connected with sanitation, I regret that my constant daily duties prevent me making it a present study.

No. 8. ORDER THEREON, 2nd September 1871, No. 1357-A.

Ordered that the following letter be despatched to the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for India:—

(Here enter 15th September 1871.)

(True Extract.)

R. S. ELLIS,
Chief Secretary.

Vol. of 1871 3d ed.
PUBLIC.

Decd September, 2nd.

Recd.

End.

G. O., 2nd September 1871, No. 13574.

SEPTEMBER.
Nos. 6-8.

Directing that certain correspondence, on the subject of improving the art of pottery and glazing, as practised in this Presidency, be forwarded to the Home Government.

No. 2

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION,
MADRAS, 4th January 1876.

From

THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION,
Madras.

To

THE CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,
Fort Saint George.

SIR,

I have the honor to
forward the accompanying letter
of the 22nd instant, from the Superin-
-tendent of the School of Arts.

2 I have returned to
Doctor Hunter the cart load
of samples referred to in para
7, as I imagined Government
would not desire to have the
samples placed before them.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
J. B. Park
Director of Public Instruction

[Signature]

unmanuscript used as evidence

1871. 29th Nov 2/30 1871-72
Public. B. to Govt. 15. 11. 1871
1/8 20

(b)
Public 1871 Dept. ~~1871~~
From
The Director of Public Instruction,
Madras.
To
The Chief Secretary to Government
For South George.

Amis

Dated 6th January } 1871.
Received 6th 1871.

18. 27 25/10/71
No. 2

Enclosure. /

No. 29

Forwarding letter from
Secretary of War on
the subject of 9/10/71
and joining letters

School of Industrial Arts
Madras 22^d December 1870

From

Mr. Hunter Esq^{re} B.E.
Superintendent School of Industrial Arts

To

E. B. Powell Esq^{re} M.A. & L.L.
Director of Public Instruction.

Sir,

With reference to the Proceedings of Government Public Department dated 29th November 1870. N^o 149. with letter from Mr. R. Cornish Esq^{re} F.R.S.E. Sanitary Commissioner for Madras on the subject of glazing & firing Pottery. I have the honor to request you will do me the favor to bring to the notice of the Right Honorable the Governor in Council the following report upon the progress that has, up to the present date, been made by the School of Arts in glazing & firing Pottery, especially as regards Tiles & Pipes required for Conservancy purposes.

The chief difficulty which has been experienced by the School of Arts in glazing Pottery successfully on a large scale has arisen from the want of an experienced & skilled glaze fireman, acquainted with the manufacture of Stoneware and Porcelain.

All the experiments to perfect the glazing have been the result of a succession of trials which had to be worked out from scientific books. Attempts were made at different times ~~to~~ engage the services of European glaze firemen, but the salaries demanded were so exorbitant

£ 800 per annum with a third share of all the profits
of the work that the funds of the School of Arts
Rs 635 per annum would all have been swallowed up.
Attempts were also made to engage the services of
Potters & firemen from China, but although the
men themselves were willing to serve for a given
time on moderate pay the Mandarin prohibited
skilled workmen from leaving the country.

4 The soft lead glazes, the Peking ware, &
a few of the finer frit glazes, have been perfected,
but in the attempts to perfect salt-glazed & porcelain
manufactures, nearly the whole contents of the
furnace were spoilt & from a deficiency of heat.

5 Most of the Pottery as well as the
bricks, Tiles, and paving materials made by
the Native Potters are of such coarse materials,
and so indifferently prepared, that they will not
stand the heat required for melting the glaze;
the clay usually losing its shape & even melting
before the glaze. This has been frequently pointed
out to Native Potters, & numbers of them from
different districts have come to Madras to learn
the manufacture & glazing of better descriptions of
Earthenware; but on returning to their districts,
they have not had funds to carry on the manufacture
on a large scale, though several of them have
built better furnaces & have introduced cheap
soft-lead glazed wares.

1. The suggestions made by D^r Corinck

in Para 5 of his letter viz that a thoroughly
trained and scientific person practically acquainted
with the manufacture of Coarse Earthenware, should
be engaged by the Secretary of State, to examine
& report on the Pottery materials to be found in
various localities is so far good, but in selecting
such a person it would be necessary that he
should understand more than the manufacture
of Common coarse Earthenware, as salt glazed
stoneware & real porcelain are the only quantities
of glazed pottery that are suited for
Sanitary purposes.

From the progress that has already
been made in Southern India to improve the
Pottery, Terra Cotta wares and building materials
I believe that a good deal might be done
already with the raw materials and minerals
at our Command and with the persons who have
already been trained for the work, though I
entirely agree with Dr. Corneish that it would
be highly desirable that a few practical work-
men should be brought if possible from England
or China to Superintend the works established
in various localities. I beg to forward herewith
samples of the plain red & white earthenware
pipes, paving and draining tiles, glazed wares and
a few articles of domestic use to show the
progress that has been made in plain glazes,

Rockingham, & Frit glazes. I have ascertained by
Comparison with the Materials used for the Manufacture,
glazing, Coloring, & painting of Pottery that nearly
all the Materials used in England, Scotland, France
Berlin, Vienna & China are abundant in Southern
India and that with the exception of two or three of
the rare metals, as Lanthanum - Cobalt & Iridium
all the Metallic Coloring substances are procurable.

8 In Madras it has been found difficult
to compete with the wares of England & China
which are now sold at very cheap rates. but
I believe that there are many Articles such as
cups, bowls pipes tiles building and draining
Materials which could be made cheaper in
India than elsewhere. There are also some articles
required for Hospital & Sanitary purposes as
Enamelled Iron bowls dishes & urinals which
might be made in Madras & sold at a cheaper
rate than those which are imported from England.

9. Hitherto no extensive or remunerative
orders for Pottery have been given to the school
& as the raw Materials fuel and Chemicals
have all been paid for out of the earnings of
the Industrial Department the progress of the
Pottery has been retarded.

Have the honor to be

Sir

Your most Obedient Servant

Wm. Hunter M.A.

superintendent

School of Industrial Arts

No 39/270

Public L. to Eng. 15th Sept. 6th
1871 No 29

From
The Superintendent
School of Industrial
Arts

dated 22nd December 70

Recd 27th do —

Report on the progress
made by the School
of Arts in glazing and
firing Pottery

In Pub No 29 of 71
Pg. 72 Sept 71
In B. No 6.

Public Department

No. 112

Memorandum

The Under Secretary to
Government Public Department
is directed to suggest that Congress
major Chas Bufford will be
found enough to favor Government
with the suggestions called for
in para 3 of G. O. of the 29th Feb.
last No. 1529.

2nd St George } Filed / H. E. Clarke
2nd May / 71 } Under Secretary

To
Congress major Chas Bufford

Letter 2nd Aug 17

No 34

Harsh Lal Rayapetha

11- Aug. 1871

From, Long and Kruger, Counselors at Law
Attn: Long and Kruger 4th District

The Under Secretary to the
Public & Department

Love
 Please to send the kind acknowledgment
 of the receipt of Museum No. 112, dated
 March 1st, 1870, from your office, &
 let me know what chance is
 being taken to make an D. Cornish;
 better of kind? However, 1870, on the
 side of Effingham & firing bricks, tiles,
 on paper - Dr. Cornish's letter, in
 my opinion, exhausts the subject
 in which it treats, and details
 in the above operations in this
 branch of the Ceramic Arts, will
 best be supplied by Dr. A. Hunter
 of the School of Industrial Arts -

It occurs to me that more writing is unnecessary on the subject of education. What I fear most needed now, is carrying into efficient operation the practical suggestions already made on this subject.

While much interested in everything connected with South I suppose that my acquaintance with Charles Brewster has been doing it a practical study —

I have the honor to be
 Your most Obedient
 & affectionate Son
 Benjamin Wilson

Post: 29 Aug 20 1871 11-9-11

Recd: 29 Aug 1871
Borneo 200 Aug 21/2

Read Nov 29 and 902.
October 2. September 1871 No. 1357 A.
Ordered that the following letter be
despatched to the Right Honourable the Secretary
of State for India.

(Received 15 Sept 71)

Public: 18 to Aug 2 1871
1871 Aug 2 29

Public 1871 Department
from

London House C. L. M. D. H. L.
By London 18-18-11

To:

The Under Secretary to Gov
Public: 1871
Letter 18-34

Recd: 11 Aug 1871

28. 9. 08
Subject.

In reply to official memo 182 112
of 22 May 1871 regarding English
in name 3 of 8. 0 of 29: 1871 but
182-1839 - with regard to the
and of playing and firing
tricks, etc. for the purpose of
a 10 will depend on the
taken

At foot of industrial road