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2. Date of repair.
3. Initials of repairer.
M.R.O. 1-82 400-22-11-90

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.

15/2

Press
Mis.

Dated

6-10

1871.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 15. Read the following letter from the Collector of Coimbatore, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated Coimbatore, 30th September 1871, No. 58:—

I have the honour to reply to Government Order, 14th June 1871, No. 831.

2. It is desired to make a collection of self-manufactured articles in use by the aborigines or jungle tribes, also of articles found in old burial places and cairns. I am directed to report on what can be done to procure the desired collection and the probable cost of doing so.

3. I have the honour to state that the principal jungle tribes in this district are the Kaders of the Anamallay, about 180 in number; the Mulsers, a much lower tribe; and the Sholgars of Collegal. I have seen these tribes in their several localities and made special inquiry in a Kader settlement.

4. As regards arms, ornaments, dresses, household utensils, tools, agricultural implements, musical instruments, I have the following remarks to make:—

Arms—Consist of bow and arrow.

Ornaments are chiefly imported from the low country; a wooden backhair and a small tooth-comb are the only really local manufacture; a large roll of palmyra leaf is inserted in the ear; the nosering, head ornament, necklace of beads and metal, ornamented ear “plug,” armlet, anklet, &c., are all of low country make, also the jacket and cloth.

Tools are of low country make.

Agricultural implements are scarce among people who have only recently adopted that mode of livelihood. There is, however, a very neat creel or basket carried on the back with shoulder fittings (straps would be a misnomer, as the whole is of bamboo) and winnows of bamboo.

Musical instruments.—Pipe and drum.

Household utensils.—Water pitchers and cups of sizes are formed of a section of bamboo, the former being neat and convenient with a handle of fibre to carry it by.

5. I think for Rupees 20 I might get a set of all really self-manufactured articles belonging to these tribes, and, if sanctioned, can get them at once. The disbursement would be more of a present than of a barter, as the things are not made for sale.

6. As regards the excavation of cairns or tumuli, and places marked with white stones, called Mandavar *alias* “Pandavar,” burial places, the excavation of these for pottery, &c., is estimated at from Rupee 1 to Rupees 7 each.

7. Were Rupees 100 placed at my disposal it would cover all charges, including carriage, say, to Madras.

No. 16. ORDER THEREON, 6th October 1871, No. 1512.

A sum of Rupees 100 will be placed at the disposal of the Collector of Coimbatore for the purposes indicated in the letter above recorded.

(True Extract.)

Captain, R. E.,

Acting Joint Secretary, P. W. D.,

for Chief Secretary.

To the Collector of Coimbatore.

.. Acting Accountant-General.

Exd. A. S. Rodgers.

Obbt. of 118711 20ndrye.

PUBLIC.

To
THE COLLECTOR OF COIMBATORE,
&c., &c., &c.

Dated October, 6th.

Recd.

G. O., 6th October 1871, No. 1512.

OCTOBER.
Nos. 15-16.

Placing Rupees 100 at the disposal of the
Collector of Coimbatore for the collection of speci-
mens of ancient arms, ornaments, &c.

