

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	<i>264</i>	Press Mis.
Dated	<i>1-3-19</i>	<i>13/1</i>

Not to be folded or roughly handled

11/3/51

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Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,
1st March 1871.

No. 21. Read the following letter from Lieutenant-Colonel F. APPLEGATH, 33rd Regiment, M. N. I., on special duty, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated Bezwarah, 4th February 1871 :—

I have the honour to acknowledge your telegram received last evening, and have by this day's post despatched to your address a packet of the coal, paid and registered.

2. This coal, the quality of which I think there can be no doubt about, would be a very valuable acquisition, if found in any quantity either in the Kistna District or its vicinity. The man who brought the coal stated to the Jemadar of Sappers that the seam of coal was near his village. He also offered to point it out to me if I would guarantee him Rupees 3,000, which I considered very high terms, and, moreover, I had no power or authority to do so; but I agreed to recommend him to receive Rupees 1,000, provided he pointed out a satisfactory seam of coal. He was not, however, content with this arrangement.

3. Fortunately, one of the Sapper Privates recognized the man, and knows his house and village; so I took the responsibility of at once despatching the Jemadar, the Sapper Private, who knows the village, and a few other Sappers to examine the locality and bring a report of their proceedings with as little delay as practicable.

4. The man came on to Bezwarah, and I here endeavoured to draw up an agreement with him on stamped paper, placing him under a penalty (the expenses of the march of the Sappers, Rupees 50) if he failed to point out a seam of coal. To this he agreed, and the arrangement only fell through when he found that I had no authority to give him the money he wanted, even provided the seam of coal was proved to be satisfactory.

5. This man, I am convinced, does know of a seam of coal near his village, and it is very probable that other villagers are also acquainted with the fact. The explorations of the Sappers will, I hope, be attended with good results, which I will immediately communicate to you either by letter or telegram.

No. 22. ORDER THEREON, 1st March 1871, No. 264.

Ordered that the following telegram be despatched to Colonel Applegath :—

“Your letter 4th February. Native villager's specimens pronounced coal. Government authorize offer of 1,000 Rupees to be paid for indications leading to discovery of seam of coal. Money payable on coal being found.”

(True Extract.)

R. S. ELLIS,
Chief Secy.

Exd. J. H. Burns.

I have tried these Specimens in a charcoal fire in an earthen vessel placed in a draft of air so that there was a strong concentrated heat. One piece did not burn in flame - another piece caught fire, flameless and continued to burn for a few seconds after being taken out of the fire, emitting a genuine smell of coal.

I think if this coal or this mineral was not the production of the Soil but imported a better soil would have been selected for exhibition - for even the Specimen that burned did so more readily as ordinary English coal.

I think that we may safely offer £1000. reward to the person referred to by Mr. Appleton or to anyone who will undertake a satisfactory test of coal or any geological formation or specimens which may

Exhib. of 1871

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MARCH.

Nov. 21-22.

Directing the descent of Lieutenant Colonel Appleton, Research, & others from exhibiting him, to offer a reward of £1000 to any one who will undertake a satisfactory test of coal or any geological formation or specimens which may

directly lead to the discovery of
such a seam. The amount of money
required is nothing compared with
the spect- at stake.

If the Govt. agree to offer the reward
in Golddephat & Co.
Applegarth.

A. Vapour

my m^r

J. D. S.

Order thereon 1st March 1871. No. 264

Ordered that the following telegram
be despatched to Colonel Applegarth:-

"Your letter 4th February. Nature
of the specimens pronounced Coal. Govt.
authorize offer of ~~1000~~ Pounds to be paid for in-
dications leading to discovery of seams of Coal.
Money payable on Coal being found.
Signed/Ad Ellis

Cumpro

Boerach

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Medical College

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Sanctifying the offer
of a reward of
100.000. for the
discovery of a good
mine or seam of
coal in the neighborhood.

The discovery of a
coal with the money
but I don't see that
any particular reason
for offering it now
rather than formerly
has been shown.

9. Feb. 71

Camp
Bekorah
Kistnah Dutua
14th Feb 1871

To The Honorable
R. S. Ellis C.B.
Chief Secretary
Fort M. George

Sir
I have the honor to
acknowledge your letter
of the 11th inst. received last
evening, and have by this
day forwarded to you
by your address a packet
of the Coal price and
specimens.

2 This Coal, the quality
of which I think there
can be no doubt, is
excellent, and of great
quantity, either in
the shape of fuel or
for other purposes.

He has told me
that he has reported on
specimens of the

who brought the Coal
stated to the Jemadar
of Sappers that the Seam
of Coal was near his
Village, he also offered
to point it out to me.
I would guarantee him
Rupees 3000.0.0, which
I considered very high
terms, and moreover
I had no power or
authority to do; but I
promised him 1000
provided he pointed
out a satisfactory seam
of Coal; he was not how-
ever content with this
arrangement.

Some weeks
afterwards the Jemadar
reappeared the man
and showed his house
and Village, so I took
him to the locality of the
coal.

The Jemadar, the Sapper
Private who knows the
Village, and a few
other Sappers to examine
the locality and bring
a report of their pro-
ceedings. It was a little
delay as practicable.

4 The man came
on to Behorah, and I
here endeavoured to
draw up an agreement
with him on stamped
paper, placing thereon
a penalty (the expense
of the march of the Sappers
Rupees 50.) if he failed
to point out a seam
of Coal. To this he agreed
and the arrangement
only fell through when
the Jemadar had no
authority to sign the
agreement. He wanted, even
if he found the seam of
coal, no person to be
satisfactory.

5. This Man I am convinced does know of a seam of Coal near his Village and it is very probable that other Villagers are also acquainted with the fact; the explorations of the Sappers will I hope be attended with good results, which I will immediately communicate to your Editor by Letter or Telegram.

~~at New York~~
The
Sir
Your most-obedient Servant
Francis Appleton Lt Col
83^d Regt. Inf.
on special duty

[illegible]

Govt. of 1871 Madras.
Pellie

Dated *March 1*

Recd. *March 1* 1871, No. *1*

G. O. *March 1* 1871, No. *1*

Nos. *21, 22*

*Director of Public Works
Report on the progress of
the work of the Public Works
Department during the year
1870-71. Part I. of
a series of 2 vols.*