

ORDINARY, MS.

Pulle DEPARTMENT.
G.O., DATED 12-1-92
No. 22-

INDEXED

When given for copying 12/1/92

[Despatch Abstract.]

Informing Mr. E. Stier-
mer that his letter
re economy in fuel
consumption is too
indefinite for Govt to
do more than acknow-
ledge its receipt-

31
Central Hill, Madras.

8th January 1892.

CHIEF SECRETARY
23 JAN 92

To

The Chief Secretary
to the Government of
Madras

Sir

I have recently been looking into the question of economy in fuel consumption, and the utilization of waste heat, and have been conducting experiments with a view to ascertaining to what extent fuel might be economized by the poorer classes in India in their daily consumption of it for cooking purposes; and results show,

First. That the prevailing Indian method of cooking is wasteful of fuel & a great deal.

Second. That by slight modifications of present arrangements, a very large saving might be effected - probably in the case of boiled rice, dhall and vegetables - the ordinary daily food of millions in India - as much as from 40 to 50 per cent.

2. The matter being of very great importance - to the poorer classes more especially - I venture to invite attention to it.

3. The saving of even a very

small fraction, on expenditure which must be incurred every day of their lives, by all and all, should be matter for consideration. Where millions are concerned, when consumption and waste in the course of even one single year are taken into account, and when the amount of preventible waste happens as in this instance to be great, the case becomes one of considerable magnitude and importance; and it appears incredible, that where a large saving is possible, no attempt has as yet been made to secure it.

4. I am prepared, if required, to practically demonstrate how this might readily be done, in a manner, which, avowed as the Oriental naturally is to change of any kind and to any departure from established usage, would not, I believe, be opposed as an innovation to be resisted; it being understood that I shall not go unrewarded, if able to initiate a reform in the direction indicated, and if I can help in introducing and getting favorably received, and ready adopted, a system, which, if in general use, would be of very great service to

the masses.

5. I desire it to be understood that I lay no claim to either novelty or originality in the suggestions for improvement which I should offer. All that I should do would be,

First. To point out errors in prevailing practice, and how they might be rectified.

Second. To suggest more rational methods of procedure in cooking, adopted elsewhere, and the application of principles, of which apparently the poorer classes out here are unhappily ignorant, and in which therefore they urgently need instruction, as soon as possible.

6. Should the Government be, as I presume they are, large consumers of fuel themselves, in their Camps, Hospitals, and Jails, and on Famine Relief works, they would be directly interested in the question of fuel Economy; and if the ordinary Indian method of cooking

prevails in these establishments, pains
to a large extent, by a more economical
method being substituted for it.

9. Should the Government
be disposed to look into the matter, and
desire to make use of me when doing
so, I shall be glad to place myself
at their disposal.

8. I shall be in Madras
for only a very few days. My
address later on will be, Care of
Messrs Wm Watson & Co. - Apollo Street
Bombay.

I have the honor to be
Sir

Yours most obedtly

Edwin Sturges.

E

From

M^r. E. Steamer

No.

Dated 8th January 1892

Received Do

Enclosures

SUBJECT.

Regarding economy in fuel
consumption &c

Submitted for perusal.

It is not known who has the Steamer

It is thought necessary that some
can be asked

order 12 Jan 92

[It will be enough to reply to Mr.

Steamer, that this letter is too indefinite

for Govt to do more than acknowledge
its receipt.

11 Jan 12 Jan

/ From order /

2.5.13.

280

2. Steamer says 12/1/92

12/1

C. 11/1
R. 12/1