

1893.

File No. 49.

Serial No. 2.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.
REVENUE AND AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

SURVEY.

RESOLUTION.

No. $\frac{6}{49}$.

Dated Simla, the 8th April 1893.

SUBJECT.

Remarks on the Annual Report of the Geological Survey of India and of the Geological Museum for the year 1892.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Government of India, in the Revenue and Agricultural Department (Surveys),—dated Simla, the 8th April 1893.

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Valuable contributions to the scientific survey were also made in the course of their work by Mr. Holland in Madras, Messrs. Noetling and Griesbach in Burma, Mr. Middlemiss in Hazara, and Mr. LaTouche on the North-Western Frontier.

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Revenue 1893 Dept.

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SURVEY.

Recd 22/4/93
Rgt 22/4/93.

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Refer (land) and in 1893

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Dated Simla, the 8th April 1893.

Recd 20 April

H.M.
Order 5th May 1893.
Secy 4 May
Recorded.

35B.
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The Revenue Dept.
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Valuable contributions to the scientific survey were also made in the course of their work by Mr. Holland in Madras, Messrs. Noetling and Griesbach in Burma, Mr. Middlemiss in Hazara, and Mr. LaTouche on the North-Western Frontier.

5. The advance due to exploration by Geological officers in knowledge of the coal-fields of the country has been great. A reference to the "Statistical Tables of British India" will show that between 1878 and 1890 the annual outturn of coal has increased by over a million tons; and, in fact, has

nearly doubled. The centres of production, which in the former year were almost confined to Bengal, have now been extended to Assam, Punjab, Central Provinces, the Nizam's territory, and recently to Burma. There can be little doubt that this large extension, which is capable of indefinite development, is in a great measure due to the pioneering of the Geological Survey Department.

The department has also done much to determine the character of the oil resources of India. Although the prospects are not very encouraging, the special researches of Mr. Oldham in Baluchistan and Mr. Latouche in the Sherani country are being followed up by experimental borings at Sukkur, the outcome of which, combined with the experience gained by the Punjab Oriental Oil Company, will probably set at rest at an early date the question whether any important or permanent supply of oil can be secured in Northern India. More practical results have been attained in Burma where leases of several important areas in the oil tracts, previously surveyed by Dr. Noetling, were concluded during the year.

The researches in Tenasserim have resulted in the concession of a large tin field in Southern Burma, which is not unlikely to lead to the further development of that metal in the same neighbourhood, and have also brought to prominent notice the existence of extensive fields of coal of a quality equal or superior to any yet discovered on Indian territory. These researches were conducted by Mr. Hughes, and the Governor General in Council takes this opportunity to express his deep regret at the serious accident which has interrupted the energetic and useful career of this officer.

6. The Government of India are anxious to associate natives of India educated in the country with the European officers of the department in the work of original investigation and research, and it was with this object that two apprenticeships were opened a short time ago for Indian students. But the attempt has for the present had to be abandoned in consequence of the difficulty of obtaining young men suitably educated for such a career. Students must, when young, be instructed how to observe, and how to draw precise conclusions from observations, before they can be expected to become competent for efficient work in any branch of scientific exploration. One step in the right direction has been taken by the Government of Bengal, which has opened Geological classes at the Presidency College under the teaching of Mr. Holland of the Geological Department; but it is still doubtful whether college lectures will secure the results required unless the students who attend them have previously received an education which will ensure their being able to turn their new knowledge to practical account.

7. The thanks of the Government of India are due to Dr. King, the Director, and the officers of the department mentioned in this Resolution, for the ability and vigour with which the work of the department has been conducted throughout the year of report.

ORDER.—Ordered, that a copy of the foregoing Resolution be forwarded to the Director, Geological Survey of India, and to Local Governments and Administrations, and that it be published in the Supplement to the *Gazette of India*.

[True Extract.]

W. Madhavan
Offg. Under-Secy. to the Govt. of India.

To

The Secretary to the Government of Madras.

15. 2. 91

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Recording resolution
of the Govt of India
on the report of the
Geological Survey
of India & the Geolo-
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the year 1892-