M.R.O. 14—10,000—21-4-22

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 877	Press / Mis.
128-129	
Dated 29-5- 1860.	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, for the month of May 1860.

No. 128. Read the following letter from G. N. TAYLOR, Esq., Inám Commissioner, to J. D. BOURDILLON, Esq., Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, dated Camp Dindi, 10th May 1860, No. 157 :—

Adverting to paragraph 4 of my letter to Government, No. 74, dated 18th February 1860, I have the honor to report for the information of the Government, that having addressed the Resident at Nepal on the subject of the Paper manufactured in the neighbourhood of Katmandu in that Territory, I have been favored by Colonel Ramsay with samples of every size and quality of the Nepal Paper, and with information as to its prime cost and the estimated charges for carriage as far as Dinapore, whence, as I am informed, it could be despatched by Government Steamer on Her Majesty's Service.

2. Judging from the specimens now before me, the Nepal Paper seems to me to be inferior to the paper manufactured in many other parts of India, its sole recommendation is its comparative toughness and capacity to resist moisture. It is unsuitable, however, in almost every respect for the purposes of this Commission, and though much inferior to either Europe Cartridge or Foolscap, would cost per Ream, at Dinapore, nearly double the price of Cartridge, and twice the price of Foolscap.

3. With respect to the durability of this paper and its supposed immunity from attacks by vermin, I cannot do better than quote from Colonel Ramsay himself. He states :—

" An impression prevails in our Provinces that arsenic is used in the preparation of this " Paper, and that it is not, therefore, attacked by rats or by white-ants; but this is quite a " mistake. It is made of the bark of a species of Daphne (Cannabina, I believe), a tribe of " plants, all of which are more or less poisonous and dangerous, but nothing is added to it to " make it obnoxious to rats or insects, which often destroy it, though they do not perhaps eat " it so readily as they do the common country Paper of the plains of India."

" The Nepal Paper, as you will observe is very tough, and it is not so apt to be injured by " the wet as the common Indian Paper; as a few experiments will show you."

4. With regard to the local estimation in which the Paper is held, and the opinion which seems to prevail regarding it in England, the Resident states as follows :

" I really do not know what can have obtained for this Paper the reputation it appears to " have in our Provinces. In all the Darbar communications with the Residency, the ordinary " Indian Paper is used ; as also in my own Official Vernacular correspondence ; and I am told that " although a vast quantity of it is annually sent down into the plains, it is chiefly used there in " the manufacture of Tazziahs in the gay-looking ornaments carried in marriage processions, " &c., &c., and in the packing of Shawls, Silks, Brocades, and other expensive tissues, parti- " cularly those made at Benares and at Mirzapur."

" In England it is evidently judged of by the specimens, carefully prepared at the " Minister's residence, and under his own supervision, which have occasionally been forwarded " to the Home Authorities to show to what size " and to what degree* of perfection it can be " brought ; which have certainly been of a " superior quality to the enclosed sample, but " which could not be supplied in any quantity."

* *I believe that one of these specimens was 40 feet in length.*

The above will perhaps suffice to convince the Government that it is not desirable to arrange for a supply of Paper for Inám Registers from Katmandu.

No. 129. ORDER THEREON, 29th May 1860, No. 877.

Ordered that this letter be brought to the notice of the Home Government in continuation of the Despatch, dated 26th March 1860, No. 27.

(Signed) J. D. BOURDILLON,
Secretary to Government.

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"annually sent down into the plains it is chiefly
"used there in the manufacture of Tazziahs in
"the gay looking ornaments carried in marriage
"processions &c. &c. and in the packing of Shawls,
"Silks, Brocades and other expensive textures,
"particularly those made at Benares and at
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"by the Specimens carefully prepared at the Ministers'
"residence and under his own supervision, which have
"occasionally been forwarded to the Home authori-
"ties to shew to what size and to what degree
"of perfection it can be brought; which
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I believe that one of these specimens was 40 feet in length

The above will perhaps suffice to convince the Government that it is not desirable to arrange for a supply of Paper for Inám Registers from Katmandu.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most Obedient Servt

H Lushington

Inám Commissioner

R: 10th March / 60 No 56-57

Colonial Office Dec 29 May No 53 of 1860

No 1284 129.

C 21st May 1825.

Rev: 1860 Department
Pro: of Govt 31st May No 1011

From the Inam Commissioner

The Secretary to Govt
Rev. Department
Fort St. George.

Dt 10th May } 1860.
Rec 15th Do. }

No 157.

States that having addressed the Resident at Salem on the subject of paper manufacture - he was favored by Col Ramsay Samples of every sizes which is most suitable for the purposes of the Commissioner —

Submits an order.

No 877 - 29th May

No 877

Ordered that this letter be brought to the notice of the Home Government in continuation of the Despatch dated 26th March 1860 No 27.

29 May 1860