M.R.O. 14—13,000—27-9-24.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1869 Press ~~Mis.~~

1580/87

Dated 12—10-~~19~~ 1863

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 12th October 1863.

No. 150. Read the following letter from A. D. ROBERTSON, Esq., Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Revenue Department, to the Secretary to the Government of Fort Saint George, Madras, dated Bombay Castle, 23rd September 1863, No. 3,224:—

SIR,

I am directed by His Excellency the Governor in Council to forward, for the information of the Government of Madras, copy of a Circular No. 3,220, dated this day, addressed to the two Revenue and Police Commissioners and the Commissioner in Sind, together with its accompanying Extracts, relative to the Cotton Gins manufactured under contract by Mr. John Dunlop of Manchester, and which are now arriving at the Dharwar Gin Factory for sale.

No. 151. ORDER THEREON, 12th October 1863, No. 1,869.

Ordered to be communicated to the Collectors through the Board of Revenue and to the Chamber of Commerce for their information.

(True Extract.)

Deputy Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.
„ Chamber of Commerce.

Extd, S. T. Augustin.

CIRCULAR.

No. 3220 OF 1863.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Bombay Castle, 23rd September 1863.

To the REVENUE AND POLICE COMMISSIONER N. D.,

To the REVENUE AND POLICE COMMISSIONER S. D.,

To the COMMISSIONER IN SIND.

SIR,—I am directed to forward, for your information, and for communication to the local Officers under your control, the accompanying Extracts from reports by Dr. Forbes, the Superintendent of the Cotton Gin Factory at Dharwar, relative to the Cotton Gins manufactured under contract by Mr. John Dunlop, of Manchester, and which are now arriving at the Gin Factory for sale.

2. These Extracts are forwarded with a view that the local Officers may be warned against the evils likely to arise from the diffusion throughout the Cotton districts of the defective machinery manufactured by Mr. Dunlop.

3. Copies of the Extracts will also be forwarded to the Chamber of Commerce, and the other Governments in India.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient Servant,

Secretary to Government.

EXTRACTS from a Report by Dr. G. Forbes on Gins made by Mr. John Dunlop, of Manchester, and which are now arriving from him at the Dharwar Cotton Gin Factory.

1. In the manufacture of all the Gins of ten saws each which Mr. Dunlop has furnished on the present occasion, he has deviated from the original pattern, and by the substitution of a cheap arrangement of his own devising, which is entirely contrary to the principle upon which the pattern was constructed, he has sent out machinery which, in its present state, is perfectly useless.

2. In order to explain clearly the nature of the alteration which Mr. Dunlop has introduced, I submit two drawings of the portion of the Gin to which it has been applied:

3. No. 1 represents that of the original model sent home from this country, and which served as the pattern (for this Gin) from which Mr. Dunlop executed his first contract in August 1860. In this machine the sliding-box A moves in the arc of a circle (the centre of which is the opposite end of the shaft it contains*), and upon the free movement of the sliding-box *in that circular* direction depends the whole efficiency of the machine; without it the Gin will not work two days consecutively. Accordingly the box requires to be carefully made in zinc or brass, and the (C) spring by which it is pressed forward must be of the best of steel.

4. Figure No. 2 shows the arrangement which Mr. Dunlop has supplied in place of the foregoing. It will be seen that the steel spring is supplanted by a piece of common coiled wire, and the sliding-box is a rough iron casting, moving only in a straight line, forwards or backwards†; with such an appliance the machine is worthless, and it can neither be sold nor used in its present condition.

* * * * * * * * * *

6 * * * The machine can neither be used nor sold until this portion is remade; because from the manner in which Mr. Dunlop has constructed that part of the Gin to suit his own appliance, it will not be possible to introduce the proper spring and sliding-box until a new casting is procured, no aperture having been left for the former.‡

7. I have consequently now had to forward to Messrs. Dixon and Co., Iron Founders, Bombay (the corresponding portion from one of Mr. Dunlop's first supply of Gins, which contain the requisite opening for the introduction of the spring), and to request them to prepare from that pattern a sufficient supply to meet the required alteration in all the Gins of ten saws each which Mr. Dunlop has furnished on this occasion. From their reply just received I find that the cost of each casting, including freight, carriage, and subsequent fitting, will be seven rupees, or 14 shillings; the cost of supplying the steel spring and sliding-box with its own casement will, as already mentioned, amount to 15 shillings.

8. From the above it will be seen that an expenditure of one pound nine shillings has to be incurred upon each of the complete Gins of ten saws each supplied by Mr. Dunlop, and a sum of fourteen shillings on each of the incomplete ones, before either of them can be altered and fitted for use; and I trust that measures will be immediately taken for the recovery of this money from Mr. Dunlop.

9. On referring to the copy in my possession of the first contract entered into with Mr. Dunlop, I find stated in the first paragraph, that the Gins "must be made in exact conformity with the models brought from India." * * * I am not aware whether on the present occasion a similar condition was entered in the contract, but I consider it a point of much importance, and trust that it will not be lost sight of in future contracts.

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* See figure 3. † See figure 4. ‡ Figure 1, letter D.

EXTRACT from the Supplement to the foregoing Report.

1. As the supplement to the foregoing report, I have now to represent that the Gins at present arriving from Mr. Dunlop's establishment are in every respect inferior to those formerly supplied by him, though the prices paid are greatly in advance of the previous contract.

2. From all the cases opened in my presence at Dharwar, there was not a single "complete Gin" produced which was not found to require extensive alteration and refitting, and regarding those which have since arrived, I continue to receive very unsatisfactory accounts from my Assistant in charge. In report dated 5th July last, he states :—

"These ten saw Gins are very badly turned out, and require a deal of work. All the bars of the saw grating are too far apart, and have to be taken off, put into the fire and beaten out; the saws also are not sufficiently far into the Hopper, so that the wood of the bottom has to be cut away under the bars; there is also a great deal of work in fixing the bearings and sides to fit these Gins." In a subsequent report dated 23rd July, he states—"The work expended on these Gins has been nearly equal to making a new Gin."

3. Again, with respect to the saws supplied with these "complete Gins," I conclude that Mr. Dunlop's contract bound him to procure these articles from Messrs. Spear and Jackson, of Sheffield, the parties in possession of the true Government pattern, and from whom alone the proper description of saw could be obtained. A portion of the saws in the cases opened before me in Dharwar was from these makers, but the remainder were different. * * * * *

4. Not only is the style of work bad, but so little care or trouble has been taken in adjusting and fitting the different portions of the machine in accordance with the pattern, that had it been disposed of, and put to work in the condition in which it was received, it would have destroyed the fibre of every pound of Cotton passed through it.

5. I bring these circumstances to notice chiefly because I am given to understand on good authority that Mr. Dunlop is forwarding supplies of these machines to native merchants to be retailed by them afterwards to the Cotton Growers.

* * * * * * * * * *

7. These machines are generally known in this country as the "Dharwar Factory Gins." Every circumstance connected with their first construction and subsequent manufacture at home has been made public, and they consequently obtain a ready sale. The native merchants now being supplied by Mr. Dunlop have neither the means of ascertaining whether the article they are disposing of to the Ryot is in proper working condition, nor of putting it to rights, if they are cognisant of its not being so; consequently the machine must go out into the Cotton Districts in the exact state in which the maker has turned it out, and that condition I have above described.

8. I need scarcely add that this is an evil which ought, if possible, to be checked, or at least controlled, and as it comes within the province of the Cotton Supply Association, I think it should be brought to their notice. It was upon their recommendation that Mr. Dunlop was first employed for the manufacture of these machines,* and upon a former occasion, when his proceedings were not satisfactory, a representation of the matter to the Association produced the desired effect; my letter at that time, dated 18th September 1860, will be found upon their records.

* Vide paragraph 9 of my letter to the Under Secretary of State for India dated 9th July 1860.

9. The Association will probably say that they are unable to interdict Mr. Dunlop's present proceeding, but if they cannot do so, they still have the remedy in their own hands.

10. If they will take the trouble of instituting a strict inquiry into the whole matter, and find on doing so that it bears the unsatisfactory aspect now represented—unless Mr. Dunlop concedes whatever conditions they may think him bound to observe—the publication of their opinion will at once cure the evil, for the Gins will no longer find sale in this country so soon as it becomes known that they are not what people now suppose them to be.

11. Mr. Dunlop's supplying the market with those Gins on his own account would be unobjectionable so long as he did so strictly and truly adhering to the Government pattern, and with proper regard to the quality of the materials and work; but when an inferior and imperfect imitation of the Government Gin is sent out, great injury is inflicted.

12. The Government of this Presidency is unsparing in its efforts to remove the cause of the complaints made by Spinners of Lancashire. It has stretched its authority to the utmost limit of legislature in its endeavours to suppress Cotton adulteration, but the evil I now represent, namely, the risk of injury to the produce from the introduction of improper machinery, though one of equal magnitude, is to a certain extent beyond the reach of the Government; and considering the extent to which the Home trade is now dependant upon India for its supplies, I feel certain that in the interests of that trade the matter has only to be brought to the notice of the Cotton Supply Association to ensure their best efforts being put forth for its correction.

FURTHER SUPPLEMENT to Dr. Forbes' Report.

To the foregoing I beg now to add the following extracts referring to the Gins of 18 Saws each, and taken from my Assistant (Captain Hassard's) Progress Report since received, and dated 20th instant:—

"I have to inform you that all the Saw-gratings of the furnished 18 Saw Gins received from Mr. Dunlop had to be taken out and rebent, owing to their not being of the proper form; this has caused great delay in putting them together, and constituted the principal work in the Fitting Department of the Factory.

"All saws put in the Gins ought to be made by Spear and Jackson; their saws, which we are now getting in the Factory, being very much superior to those sent out in Mr. Dunlop's Gins, or any others we have in the Factory."*

(Signed) R. D. Hassard, Captain,
Assist. Supt. in charge of Dharwar Factory.

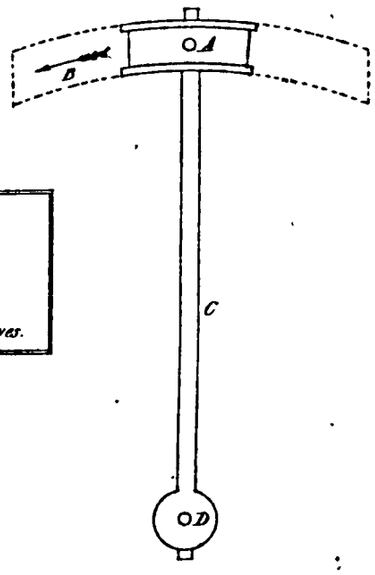
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* Messrs. Spear and Jackson of Sheffield were the only makers employed for manufacture of the description of Saw used in the new Dharwar Gins. They have the pattern saw, which I left with them, still in their possession, and were at the expense of providing new machinery expressly for the purpose of manufacturing that article, which differs very materially from other Saws in points which tend to guard against injury to the Cotton fibre, and if Mr. Dunlop was not bound by his contract to provide his Saws from Messrs. Spear and Jackson, the omission is much to be regretted.

G. F. FORBES,
Supt. Dharwar Cotton Gin Factory.

FIG. 3.

Original Model.

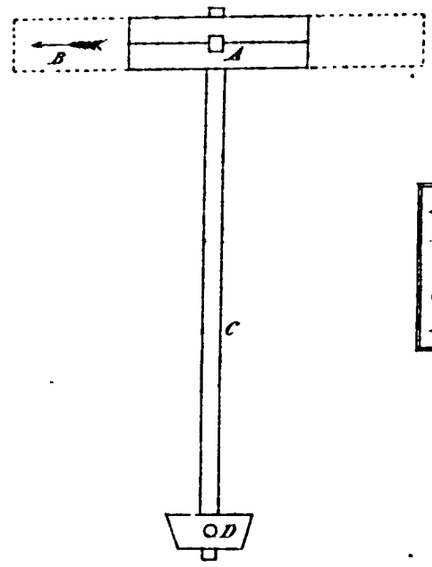


Explanation.

A Zinc Sliding Bar
B. The Curve in which the Sliding Bar moves
C Shaft.
D Pivot on which Shaft moves.

FIG. 4.

Mr. Dunlop's Substitute.

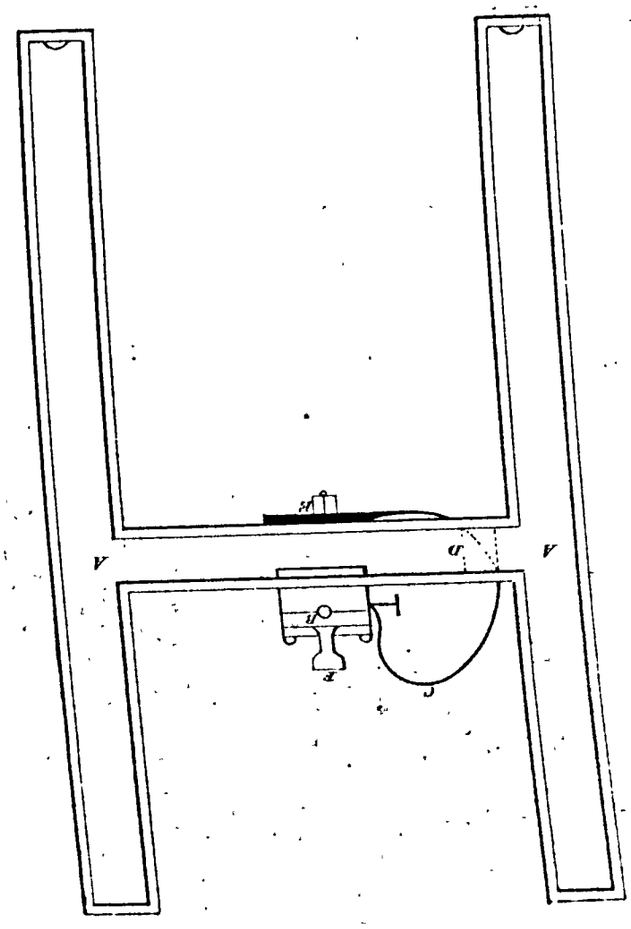


Explanation.

A. Iron Sliding Bar.
B Straight line in which it moves
C Shaft
D. Fixed bearing not a Pivot.

FIG. 1.

Original Model.

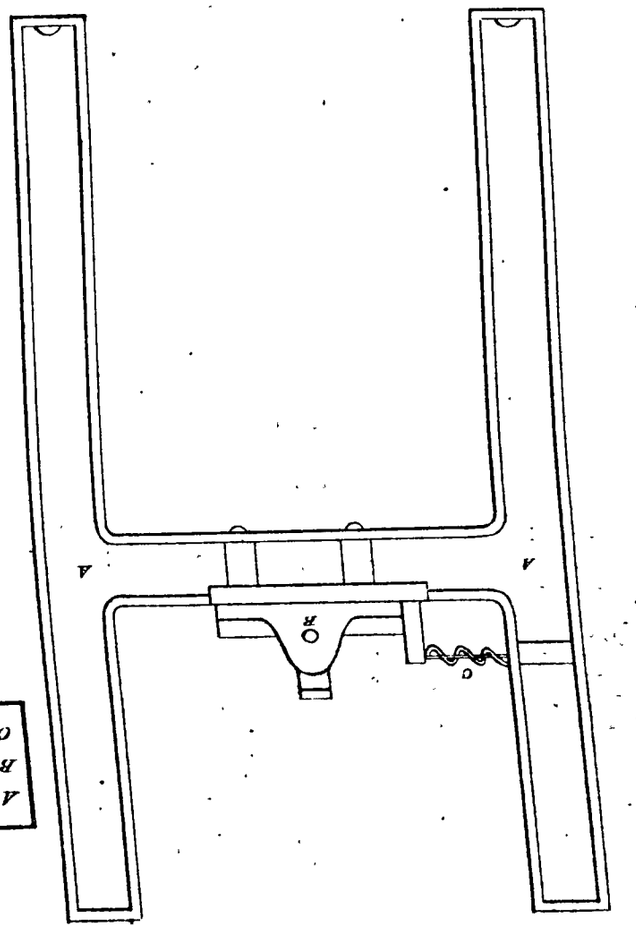


Explanation.

A Iron Casting.
B Cast Iron Sliding Box.
C. The Spring
D. Dots showing the aperture for Spring.
E. Spring Bolt
F. Oil Cup

FIG. 2.

Mr Dunlop's Substitute



Explanation.

A Iron Casting.
B. Cast Iron Sliding Box.
C. Coiled Wire Spring

No. 3224 of 1863.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Bombay Castle, 23rd September 1863.

From A. D. ROBERTSON, Esq.,
Secretary to the Government of Bombay,

To the SECRETARY to the GOVERNMENT of FORT SAINT GEORGE,
Madras.

SIR,—I am directed by His Excellency the Governor in Council to forward, for the information of the Goverment of Madras, copy of a Circular No. 3220, dated this day, addressed to the two Revenue and Police Commissioners and the Commissioner in Sind, together with its accompanying Extracts, relative to the Cotton Gins manufactured under contract by Mr. John Dunlop, of Manchester, and which are now arriving at the Dharwar Gin Factory for sale.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient Servant,

A. D. Robertson

Secretary to Government.

Revenue 1863 Nov.r
Rec.d of Govt. Sec.t Colston
No. 1359.

From the Govt. of
Bombay

Dated 23d Oct.r 1863
Received 29th Oct.r "

No. 3224

Forwarding for information a Copy of a Circular addressed to the Collectors of Revenue and Salt Commissioners and the Commissioners of Sea Customs relative to the Cotton Yarns manufactured by Mr. John Dunlop of Manchester and which are now arriving at the Bombay Ports Factory for sale

No. 1869 dated 21st Oct.r

With an order—

No. 150 & 151.

Ordered to be communicated to the Collectors through the Board of Revenue and to the Chamber of Commerce for their information.

Fort St. George
12th Octr/63

Bd. of Revenue with 3 Encls. Chief Secy. Dept. 16 Oct.r

Chamber of Commerce with 3 Encls. Secr.

Oct.r/63 Rq.