M.R.O. 1—80,000—16-10-29.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1817 Press Mis

578-579

Dated 25th June 1869

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
25th June 1869.

No. 578. Read the following letter from the Colonial Secretary, Wellington, to the Secretary to the Indian Government, Fort Saint George, dated Wellington, 11th May 1869, No. 69-39 :—

24th April 1869.

Referring to my letter of the 30th March last, No. 43, I have the honor to transmit herewith copy of a letter from Dr. Purchas of Onehunga, giving information respecting his fibre-cleaning machine.

From A. G. PURCHAS, Esq., M.R.C.S.E., to J. HECTOR, Esq., M.D., Geological Survey Office, Wellington, dated Onehunga, 29th April 1869.

In reply to your inquiry in reference to the fibre-cleaning machine, I have the honor to inform you that the cost of the machine varies from £16 to £22, according to size and pattern. Each of the larger machines is capable of cleaning rather more than a ton of green leaves in a working day of eight hours, and requires two boys or girls to feed and take away. A ton of green leaves, if of good quality and not cut too near the root, will yield 4 cwt. of dry fibre. The power required to drive each of the larger machines is about 1½-horse power. At present all the subsequent operations, such as washing, hanging out to dry, and collecting for baling up, are done by hand. There is no doubt that ere long in all large factories machinery will be used for these purposes to the great advantage of the manufacturer.

2. I believe that upwards of 200 of these machines are now in operation, and that the process is bringing in large returns to all who have fairly used it. Already the planting of flax for the mills has begun, and I am told that some persons are about to plant to a very large extent. The quantity of flax already exported since the first machine was made is sufficient to show the great value of the discovery to the Colony, although not a single mill has been in full operation for more than a year.

3. I shall be happy to answer any other questions you may desire to ask for the information of the Government.

No. 579. Order thereon, 25th June 1869, No. 1,817.

Miscellaneous.

Communicated to the Board of Revenue, with reference to G. O., 5th June 1869, No. 1,595.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) R. A. DALYELL,
Acting Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

Govt. of 1869: Dated

REVENUE.

To

THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

Dated June 25th.

Read. Encl.

G. O., 25th June 1869. No. 1,817.

JUDL.

Nos. 570-579.

Dr. Fowler's Ore-cleaning machine.
Correspondence from Colonial Secretary at Wellington affording information relative to the machine, communicated to Board of Revenue.

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of the government.

I am &c
(Signed) A G. Purchas
M.R.C.S. Eng

Jas Hector Esqr M.D.
Geological Survey Office
Wellington.

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Dr 1817

Comm[d] to the Board
of Revenue with re-
ference to Ltr. 0.5.
June 1869 Dr 1595.

25 June 69

Ltr from Dr Hector Rec[d] 26 Jan 28