

## MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

*Revenue* DEPARTMENT

|                 |       |          |
|-----------------|-------|----------|
| GO. No.         | 406   | Press    |
|                 |       | <i>M</i> |
| 2/7-18<br>Dated | 29-3- | 1870     |

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,  
29th March 1870.*

No. 217. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 12th February 1870, No. 1,021:—

Read the following letter from H. S. THOMAS, Esq., Acting Collector of South Canara, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Uppinangadi Talook, 22nd November 1869, No. 1,493.

CONSIDERING the importance attached by Government to the useful products of the Indian Forests, I have the honour to bring to the notice of the Board a gum-resin which does not appear to have hitherto attracted attention, was not mentioned in Government Order, 30th April 1869,\* No. 1,179, and can be easily and largely obtained from the jungles of this district.

2. In May last, a small quantity of light-coloured resin was brought to me by one Sashithal Mahdeva, a land-owner of the Mangalore Talook, as having been gathered from the "Karmara"† trees in a jungle lately given him on durkhast.

The "Karmara" is a wild tree found abundantly in many jungles in the district. It grows rapidly to the height of about twenty or even thirty feet, but being a valuable firewood easily re-asserting itself when cut, it is often felled by the people much earlier, especially when growing on Kunaki land.

3. Not being previously acquainted with this product, I forwarded a specimen of the resin to Mr. Broughton, the Government Quinologist, who kindly undertook to examine its chemical properties for me, and I beg to enclose, for the Board's information, a copy of his letter showing the result of his examination with reference to its profitable applications and commercial value.

4. Mr. Broughton considers the gum well suited for the preparation of varnishes, that it possesses certain advantages over many other resins ordinarily used by the varnish-maker, and that its intrinsic properties render the prospect of its becoming an article of commerce encouraging.

5. As the cost‡ of the resin, with reference to which Mr. Broughton has calculated its commercial value, is what was actually incurred in gathering and conveying to Mangalore only about a maund, I think it might be delivered on the coast still cheaper if collected in large quantities; and as the "Karmara" is abundantly found in the jungles of this district, the resin may also be available for exportation. I hope it will prove a valuable addition to the list of useful Gum-resins of South Canara.

*Enclosure No. 1.*

From Quinologist to Government, to the Collector of South Canara, dated Ootacamund, 14th July 1869.

I HAVE examined, at your desire, the resin I have had the honour to receive from you, with reference to its profitable applications and commercial value.

2. I am ignorant of the name of the tree which produces it, but the resin in some respects resembles that of the Sal tree. It is, however, in appearance superior to that resin.

3. The comparatively higher price precludes the use of the resin for any of the coarser applications of substances of its class. With colophony at 7s. 6d. per cwt. no profit could accrue from the exportation of Indian resins for these uses.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,  
29th March 1870.*

4. It is therefore mainly for the preparation of varnishes that the resin has any likelihood of application. For this it appears well suited on the whole. It is of a light colour, and the better pieces are transparent and break with clean fracture. It fuses to a beautiful transparent mass resembling amber.

5. It is not fitted for the preparation of spirit-varnishes, being only partially soluble in alcohol. But it dissolves readily in benzol and chloroform, and these solutions yield a rapidly drying and quite transparent and colourless varnish. It dissolves readily in oil of turpentine and boiled linseed oil. The varnish prepared by these means is transparent, and after some days' exposure dries colourless and hard.

6. The readiness with which it dissolves in the usual solvents, and the purity and transparency of its solutions appear to render it of value, and give it some advantages over many resins ordinarily used by the varnish-maker. It must be recollected that it approaches the latter in cost, and hence the profits of its introduction to the European markets are not likely to be great even if its merits were at once recognized. I cannot, however, but think that its intrinsic properties render the prospect of its becoming an article of commerce encouraging.

7. The specimens should be chosen as colourless as possible. The coarser pieces should be freed from mechanical impurities by fusion (taking care not to raise the temperature too high) and subsequently passing through fine wire gauze.

Communicated for the information of Government. Mr. Thomas's letter and the Government Quinologist's report are interesting, and the Board presume Mr. Thomas will give orders for collecting a somewhat larger amount to admit of the ~~best being more correctly estimated and further trial of the article being made.~~ Mr. Thomas should make arrangement for getting a fair sample sent home to English brokers, through one of the enterprising merchants on the coast, in order to bring it to notice and test its true commercial value. He will report further after learning the result of the examination in England. A copy of Mr. Broughton's letter might be given to any one willing to export on trial.

No. 218.

ORDER THEREON, 29th March 1870, No. 406.

Forasts, No. 7.

The proceedings of the Board are approved.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) R. A. DALYELL,

*Acting Secretary to Government.*

To the Board of Revenue.

For F. R. Chellaman.

13 May/67 100/175-77  
 21 June/65 100/400-68  
 81 August/68 100/460-62  
 4 August/68 100/100-75

Nov 1870. *Cyber*  
 Board of Revenue,  
 MADRAS.

71-573  
 PROCEEDINGS, 12TH FEBRUARY 1870, No. 1021.

Recd 22 Feb 1870  
 Received 282. Encl.

5. 100/400-68  
 FEBRUARY.  
 No. 1021.

*Gum resin.*—Letter from Collector of South  
 Canara bringing to notice that Karmara tree,  
 which is found abundantly in many jungles in  
 District, produces a kind of, and forwarding  
 copy of Government Quinologist's report on re-  
 sult of his examination of chemical properties  
 of resin, submitted to Government.

Ed. T. Carledge.

To the Acting Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.  
 Copy to the Acting Collector of South Canara.

217  
 C. D. Thompson

Govt. of 1870 Madras.

REVENUE.

THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

Dated March, 29th.

Head.

G. O. 29th March 1870, No. 408

17 MARCH.  
 Nos. 217-218.

*Gum-resin.*—Board's proceedings on letter  
 from Collector of South Canara regarding its pro-  
 duction in the district approved.

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Under date the 29<sup>th</sup> March 1870.

Read the following. *Proceedings of the Board of Revenue.*

Submitting letter from  
Collector of South Arcot  
regarding notice that the same has  
which is found to be a very  
jungle and which is a part  
of the same and is a very  
copy of the same and is a very  
more full of the same and is a very  
of chemical properties of resin.

(H.C. 12<sup>th</sup> Feb. 1870 No 102)

*M.P.*  
*W.S.A.*

The Proceedings of  
the Board are approved  
*M.*

10 Feb 1870 No 237

*[Signature]*