Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 27th March 1872.

No. 336. Read the following endorsement of the Officiating Secretary to Government, Military Department, dated Fort St. George, 21st March 1872 :—

Read the following letter from the Inspector-General of Ordnance and Magazines, to the Secretary to Government, Military Department, dated Fort St. George, 21st March 1872, No. 394-G.

I HAVE the honour to forward the enclosed copy of remarks* by the Superintendent, Gun Carriage Manufactory, with reference to Proceedings of Government No. 900, dated 14th March 1872, on letter† from the Government of India, Department of Agriculture, Revenue, and Commerce (Forest) therein recorded.

* Dated 19th March 1872.

† No. 323, dated 7th March 1872.

MEMORANDUM.

THE process of seasoning timber in the Madras Gun Carriage Manufactory is the natural process, namely, allowing the timber to dry according to the fluctuations of the weather, without using any "specific" to promote desiccation. All timber in log is allowed to season in the open air, piled up in stacks with interstices between each for allowing free circulation of air about the logs. Timber that is very susceptible to crack and split much when exposed to outside seasoning is seasoned in log in open sheds.

2. After logs are sufficiently seasoned they are cut up, as required, into the component parts of carriages, leaving a sufficient extra length and thickness to allow of surface and end cracks being removed when they are finally used. These component parts are called half-wroughts.

3. The half-wroughts are seasoned in lofty, commodious, and well-aired sheds, the larger half-wroughts are seasoned in open sheds with movable wooden shutters, the smaller in enclosed sheds having doors and windows for ventilation. All half-wroughts are stacked in piles, having skids placed between each row in the pile to ensure free circulation of air throughout the pile. The end of each piece of timber is protected with a coating of cow-dung and clay mixed to the consistence of thick paint.

4. The time allowed for seasoning timber in log and half-wrought is as follows :—

In Log.	*In Half-wrought.*
Teak, five to six years.....	Eighteen months for large component parts and twelve months for the smaller.
Peddowk, five to six years	Two to three years for large component parts and eighteen months for the smaller.
Sal, six years	Three years for large component parts and two years for the smaller.
Trincomallie, two years.....	Twelve months.
Peemah, two years.....	One to two years.
Rose, three years	Eighteen months.

5. All planks in store are stacked vertically and horizontally on the same principle as shown in plate B. of Mr. Molesworth's memorandum.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 27th March 1872.

6. The undersigned has also adopted the plan of covering smaller half-wroughts with sand heated to 100 or 120°, which appears to answer very well. The sand absorbs the moisture, and in some cases the loss of weight is from 4 to 12 ounces a day.

MADRAS,
19th March 1872.

(Signed) R. G. F. HENEGAN, Lieut.-Colonel,
Acting Superintendent, Gun Carriage Manufactory.

TRANSFERRED to the Revenue Department, with reference to Proceedings of Government in that department, No. 1,960, dated 17th November 1871, and No. 83, dated 13th March 1872.

(Signed) A. C. SILVER, Colonel,
Officiating Secretary to Government, M.D.

No. 337. ORDER THEREON, 27th March 1872, No. 535.

Forests, No. 17.

ORDERED to be forwarded to the Government of India in continuation of the previous letters.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Officiating Chief Secretary.

To the Inspector-General of Ordnance and Magazines.
,, the Board of Revenue.
,, the Conservator of Forests.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT,
FORT ST. GEORGE,
27th March 1872.

No. 338.

No. 536.

To

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,
REVENUE, AND COMMERCE.

Forests, No. 18.

SIR,—In continuation of my letter of 21st instant, No. 490, I am directed to forward the accompanying memorandum from the Superintendent of the Gun Carriage Manufactory on the subject of seasoning planks and timber.

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

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Officiating Chief Secretary.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

Ordnance Department

ORDNANCE OFFICE,
Fort Saint George
21st March 1872

No. 394.

From, Colonel J. L. Barrow, C. B.
Inspector General of Ordnance and Magazines.

To The Secretary to Government,
Military Department

Sir,

I have the honor to forward the enclosed copy of remarks[a], by the Superintendent Gun Carriage Manufactory, in reference to Proceedings of Government, No. 900 dated 15th March 1872, on letter[b] from the Government of India, Department of Agriculture, Revenue and Commence (Forest) therein recorded.-

Dated 12th March 1872

No. 323 dated 7th March 1872.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most Obedient Servant
J L Barrow Coll R.A.
Inspector General of Ordce & Magzs

Encl 2 C.

27th March 72.

9 L

2 Copies
sent 27 March 72

No. 536.

To.

The Secretary to the Govt of India
Dept of Agric: Rev: & Commerce

Sir.

In continuation
of my letter of instant
No I am directed to
forward the accompanying
Memo from the Superin-
-tendent of the Gun Carriage
Manufactory on the subject
of seasoning planks
and timber.

I have &c.

Lt Col

No. 536.

Ordnance Office
27th March 1872.

Transmitted to
the Revenue Department
with reference to
Public Letter No. 2 dated 19th inst
requesting that the
Commissioners of Customs
may be moved to
issue the necessary Orders
regarding the Importation
of Seasoned Planks
and Timber for
Gun Carriages.

By Order &c.

Lt Col
Secy to the Ordnance Office

Ordnance Office
No 535 - 27 March 72
Transmitted.

Revenue Department
Public Letter from India
No 2 dated 19th March 1872
Requesting that the Commissioners of Customs may be moved to issue the necessary Orders regarding the Importation of Seasoned Planks and Timber for Gun Carriages.

Ordnance Office
No 536 - 27 March 72
Transmitted.

Ordnance Office
No 535 - 27 March 72
Transmitted.

Revenue Department
Public Letter from India
No 2 dated 19th March 1872
Requesting that the Commissioners of Customs may be moved to issue the necessary Orders regarding the Importation of Seasoned Planks and Timber for Gun Carriages.

Ordnance Office
No 536 - 27 March 72
Transmitted.

No. 536.

Revenue Department
Public Letter from India
No 2 dated 19th March 1872
Requesting that the Commissioners of Customs may be moved to issue the necessary Orders regarding the Importation of Seasoned Planks and Timber for Gun Carriages.

By Order &c.

Lt Col
Secy to the Ordnance Office

Ordnance Office
No 535 - 27 March 72
Transmitted.

Ordnance Office
No 536 - 27 March 72
Transmitted.

Lat