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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 807

Press
Mis.

Dated 27-6-1874.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
27th June 1874.*

Read the following :—

No. 279. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 8th May 1874, No. 1,070.

Read again Proceedings of the Madras Government, dated 8th July 1873, No. 705,
Revenue Department :—

ABSTRACT.—*Paper-material and Paper-making.*—Forwarding, for report, letter from Government of India, requesting that inquiries may be made regarding—

Read also the following letters.

From	Collector	of Nellore,	dated 12th August 1873, No. 1,821.
"	"	of South Canara,	" 13th " " 1,323.
"	"	of Vizagapatam,	" 30th " " 1,296.
"	"	of Kurnool,	" 13th September, " 274.
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"	"	Commissioner of Nilgiris,	" 18th " " 86.
"	Collector	of Chingleput,	" 7th October " 465.
"	"	of Trichinopoly,	" 3rd " " 221.
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"	"	of North Arcot,	" 5th November " 675.
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"	"	of Kistna,	" 8th " " 1,659.
"	"	of Bellary,	" " " " 397.
"	"	of Salem,	" " " " 347.
"	"	of Madura,	" 15th " " 354.
"	"	of Madras,	" 21st " " 253.

Read also the following Proceedings of the Madras Government, dated 17th February 1874, No. 94, Revenue Department.

ABSTRACT.—Communicating to Board of Revenue letter from Government of India, requesting early reply to a communication on the subject of fibres suitable for paper-making.

In their order of 8th July 1873, Government called for a report on the subject of paper-manufacture, material, etc. The order was communicated to all Collectors, and the foregoing letters are their replies, the substance of which is as follows.

MATERIALS EMPLOYED FOR MAKING PAPER.—The principal material used appears to be in each district the same, viz., old gunny-bags which are made from the fibre of "Janapar nar" or "Crotalaria juncea," also described as being equivalent to "Jute." Old rags and waste paper are also used.

The Collector of Chingleput reports that at Sydapet and Conjeveram, paper is made also from old bags of "bowstring hemp" (*Sansevieria Zeylanica*).

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
27th June 1874.

In Bellary, the following fibres are used, in addition to the "Janapar nar,"

* Not in the list appended to the Government Order. viz., *"Agava Vivipara" "Cannabis Sativa" (common hemp) *"Calotropis Hamiltoria" "Abelmoschus esculentus"

*"Acacia Avalica" and *"Ficus Indica."

In Madura old nets made of Sanal fibre are used.

PROCESS OF MANUFACTURE.—The process of paper-making appears to be very much the same throughout the Presidency. The following description will serve to give a general idea; the differences in various districts being very trifling.

The materials—gunny, old rags, waste paper or fibre, as the case may be, are cut up into small pieces, well soaked, and then pounded in a cistern or well, floored with chunam or stone, the pounding instrument being shod with iron and in some cases worked like a pecottah. The pulp is then washed and sprinkled with lime water, and left to stand for periods varying from three days to a week. This process is renewed two or three times. The pulp is then taken up on frames fitted with strainers, and left covered up in ashes or on sand to dry.

These frames generally are made so as to hold each one sheet, and each sheet when sufficiently coherent is hung or fixed against a wall to dry. It is then rubbed over with thin paste made of rice-flour and water, again dried and afterwards pressed. The process is usually completed by glazing, which is done in some cases by rubbing each sheet with an oiled stone-roller.

EXTENT OF THE MANUFACTURE, *Godavery*.—The only place in the district where paper is made, is the Central Jail at Rajahmundry. Plantain leaves are used as well as the usual materials.

Kistna.—The Collector reports that twenty years ago, paper used to be made in the jail, but that the manufacture has ceased.

Chingleput and Madras.—Paper is made in the Foster Press and at Sydapet and Conjeveram; but no fibres are used, only the before-mentioned materials and waste paper.

North Arcot.—Paper is made in five places in this district, viz., Vellore, Gudiathum, Lalapett, Palliput and Narainavarum. No raw fibre is used.

Madura.—The only manufactories of paper named are in Ramnad and Dindigul, where large quantities of paper were formerly made.

Salem.—The use of native paper has been superseded in this district, as in other places, by Goa and French paper, which, as the Collector observes, is "lighter and saves postage."

Cuddapah.—The Collector reports that very little paper is made, but he observes that the manufacture should be very

† Hemp, aloe fibre, and old cloth. profitable, inasmuch as the materials needed to make 20 quires cost 1 Anna, and the best quality of paper used to sell for 4 Annas a quire. The paper has, however, been superseded by French paper, and the trade is almost extinct.

Tinnevelly.—Paper is made only in a suburb of Tinnevelly. The paper sells for from 1½ to 2 Annas a quire. The quantity manufactured last year was 10,800 quires.

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Little or no paper is made in the other districts, and the only remaining reports which call for any remark are those from the Collectors of Trichinopoly, Ganjam, South Canara, and the Commissioner of the Nilgiris.

PLANTS AVAILABLE FOR PAPER-MAKING.—The Collectors of Trichinopoly and Ganjam give lists of plants to be found in their districts, the fibres of which are available for paper-making, but which are not so used. The former includes seventeen, and the latter twenty-one names of plants, all of which are to be found in the list appended to the Government Order.

In an enclosure to the letter from the Collector of South Canara, a list of plants to be found on the Western Coast is given, not one of which appears in the list forwarded by Government.

The Commissioner of the Nilgiris reports that all the plants given in the list in the Government Order abound on the Hills, together with many others of a suitable nature for the manufacture of paper.

There are five of the pod-bearing species, and of the nettle family eight, one of which the "Urtica heterophylla" is described as yielding a fibre equal to silk in strength and texture. The Commissioner especially commends the fibre of the "Pimeloa" one of the "Lace bark" species, as being similar to the material of which the Nepal and Calpee papers (referred to in the letter from the Government of India embodied in the Government Order of 8th July) are made.

The reports from Vizagapatam, Kurnool, Coimbatore and Malabar, give little or no information and call for no remark.

Specimens of the paper made in their respective districts are forwarded by the Collectors of Madura, South Arcot, Chingleput, Tinnevelly and Godavery.

278
No. 280. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 4th June 1874, No. 1,348.

Read the following letter from A. WEDDERBURN, Esq., Collector of Coimbatore, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 27th April 1874, No. 101:—

In continuation of my letter of the 7th November 1873, No. 259, relative to the subject of paper material and paper-making in this district, I have the honour to inform the Board that the only paper manufacturer in the district, viz., at Caroor, has described his process of converting old gunny bags into paper.

2. The rags are reduced to fragments, soaked in water and pounded, then dried, powdered, pulped, and worked up with lime, next strained and pressed, dried, and shaped. In fact a laborious and clumsy hand process is the substitute for the effective machinery of Europe.

3. The raw material of paper exists in abundance, and it should be for the Indian Agricultural Department to draw the attention of the paper trade to the same.

SUBMITTED to Government in continuation of Board's Proceedings of 8th May 1874, No. 1,070.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
27th June 1874.*

No. 281.

ORDER THEREON, 27th June 1874, No. 807.

Miscellaneous.

ORDERED that copies of the foregoing Proceedings and of the reports received from Bellary, the Nilgiris, and

South Canara, be forwarded to the Government of India, with reference to their letter of the 26th June 1873, No. 1/127.

2. The attention of the Government of India will also be invited to Volume XXIII. of selections from the records of Government containing reports on the fibres of Southern India.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) C. G. MASTER,
Acting Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

From J. H. MASTER, Esq., Collector of Bellary, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 8th November 1873, No. 397.

I HAVE the honour to submit my report upon the subject of paper-making in this district, as called for in the Board's Proceedings, Miscellaneous No. 4,535, dated the 21st July 1873.

2. Paper is made in only one or two places in the eastern taluqs; it is also made in the town of Bellary, but of very inferior quality. It is called brown or country paper.

3. The materials used in the manufacture are the fibres of "Errikattali," (ಎರಿಕಟ್ಟಲಿ)

- * *Agave vivipara.*
- † *Crotalaria juncea.*
- ‡ *Oenabis sativa.*
- § *Calotropis Hamiltonii.*

"Janapa†," "Gogu‡," and "Jilledu§," as also old and worn out rope and gunny pieces made of these fibres. These are first cut into small pieces, then soaked in water and pounded with

an iron beater. The substance is then mixed with chunam, the quantity of chunam being in the proportion of one pukka seer to one maund of fibre, and left in that state for four days. On the fourth day it is again pounded; on the fifth day it is washed and mixed with soaked chunam again; the proportion of chunam this time being three-fourths of a pukka seer to one maund of the substance, and left to dry. After it is dried it is again pounded and washed and mixed with chunam and water; the chunam to be so mixed being in the proportion of half seer to one maund of the stuff. It is then left to dry again. On the next day, one-fourth seer of chunam with one tola of soap is mixed with one maund of the stuff and left to dry, and after that is pounded again, water is poured on it, and it is strained in a cloth. After this, the stuff is put into a large pit containing fifty pots of water and pounded indigo one-eighth of a seer to a maund of the stuff, and well stirred with a stick, then a mat of wild grass called "Nockaoschapoollaloo," or thin bamboo sticks is placed on a board and stretched lightly and dipped frequently into the water in the pit. By this process the stuff sticks to the mat and when smoothed with the hand forms a sheet. It is then separated from the mat and placed on a pial. The sheets thus obtained are placed one over the other till they reach the height of a foot, and are then covered over with a rough folded cloth, a board is placed on top, and a man on the board. By this process the moisture of the sheets is absorbed. The sheets are then separated and stuck upon a wall; next day they are carefully taken off, and hung over a rope to dry. After they are dried conjee-water is applied to each sheet, and they are again put to dry. When dry, each sheet is placed on a board and rubbed with a smooth stone. The sheets so smoothed are cut to sizes and folded in dozens for the market.

4. Besides the plants given above, fibre is also obtained from the following plants procurable in the northern and eastern taluqs, as also in

- * *Abelmoschus esculentus.*
- † *Acacia Arabica.*
- ‡ *Acacia leucophloea.*
- § *Ficus Indica.*

one or two of the southern as well, and in the western taluqs:—"Adavi-benda*," "Nulla-toommat†," "Tella-toomma‡," Murri trees,

Cocoanut, Palmyra, plantain trees, sugar-cane. Also it is said that old rags, paddy-straw, grass, and reeds can be made use of in the manufacture of paper.

Govt. of 1874

REVENUE.

To

THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

Dated June 27th.

Recd.

Encl.

G. O., 27th June 1874, No. 807.

JUNE.

Nos. 279-284.

277-279

Paper-manufacture and paper-material.—
Orders transmission of certain papers regarding
— to Government of India; and invites atten-
tion of that Government to Volume XXIII. of
selections from Government records containing
reports on the fibres of Southern India.

From J. R. COCKERELL, Esq., Commissioner of the Nilgiris, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Ootacamund, 18th September 1873, No. 86.

In reply to Proceedings of Government, Revenue Department, 8th July 1873, calling for a report on the fibre-producing plants in the districts in the Madras Presidency applicable to the manufacture of paper, I have the honour to state that in the Nilgiri District all the plants in the list attached to the order are found either wild or in a cultivated state, and that species not enumerated abound. The fibres of the district have not, however, been thoroughly investigated, and they are not turned to account in paper-making or other manufacture.

2. Of the pod-bearing family (*Crotalaria*), there are five species on the Nilgiris yielding fibre of more or less value adapted for conversion into paper. There are eight species of the nettle family, one of which the *Urtica heterophylla* yields a fibre almost as good as silk in strength and texture. There are a number of the lily tribe yielding fibre, amongst which the most valuable are the "Bow-string Hemp" and the "*Agave Americana*." There are numerous climbing fibrous plants which would, no doubt, yield an abundant and cheap material for paper-making, such as the *Butea superba*, *Bauhinia racemosa*, *Scandens Vahlia*, and other allied species.

3. There are numerous species further of the lace-bark family. I forward some fibre of the *Pimeloa*, one of this tribe. The plant is of the *Daphne* family, and yields a bark similar to the bark from which the Nepal and Calpee papers mentioned in the Government order are made.

4. This bark is valuable, because it possesses caustic qualities which repel the attacks of white ants.

From H. S. THOMAS, Esq., Collector of South Canara, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Mangalore, 13th August 1873, No. 1,323.

With reference to Board's Proceedings, dated 21st July 1873, Miscellaneous No. 4,535, communicating Proceedings of the Madras Government, dated the 8th idem, No. 705, I have the honour to report that there are no paper manufactories in this district, and that consequently the material and process are not known to the natives.

2. The list of indigenous fibres circulated with this reference is already a full one if there could be found people to utilize it. If it were made exhaustive, it would be very lengthy, for almost any matter that is fibrial and reduceable to a pulp can, I imagine, be used in some fashion for paper-making, and the question seems rather to be which can give the best papers, can be most cheaply worked of those that can be procured cheaply in sufficient abundance, and these are practical questions to be answered by the manufacturer.

3. I beg, however, to forward copy of a list which Mr. C. Stolz, of the Basel Mission here, has kindly furnished me, as well as of a letter containing his views on the subject of paper.

4. I would also add that the *Curcuma* genus of plants which abounds on the Western Coast, and the leaves of which may be collected in December and January, is said to yield a good fibre. The rushes to be found in all parts of India, i.e., *Papyrus pangoric*, may also be beaten, it seems, into half stuff, and be of use in the manufacture of paper.

5. I would refer the Board to an article on paper in the Cyclopædia of India by Edward Balfour, F.R.C.S.E.

6. In certain parts of India paper-making is known to the natives. If it be desired to improve the knowledge by experiments on new fibres and to disseminate it perhaps, use might be made of the women and weakly men in such of the large jails to which competent instructors could be attached.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From C. STOLZ, Esq., to H. S. THOMAS, Esq., Collector of South Canara, dated Mangalore, 1st August 1873.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 1,224, with the Proceedings, No. 67, of the Madras Government, from which I see with great satisfaction that steps are to be taken to introduce paper-manufacture more largely in this country, and thereby to utilize the many valuable materials now lying waste.

2. In giving a list of fibre-yielding plants, most of which grow on the western coast, I am not prepared to say whether all of them will be suitable for paper-manufacture, but I think that all of them will be worth a trial. Experience also will alone show which of the raw materials will be most easily procurable in larger quantities, but I do not doubt that even a few selected plants would yield a large supply.

3. For our district I would draw attention especially to the following:—

Musa parasiciaca and *M. superba*.

Eriodendron anfractuosum, which grows very rapidly and yields a ready and clean fibre.

Asclepias Calotropis gigantea, which could, if durable, be grown to any extent on the sea-shore.

Caryota urens, growing wild in the jungles.

Pandanus odoratissimus, easily obtainable. *Aloe vulgaris*, with a splendid fibre.

The *Sorghum* family which can be largely grown in the monsoon. I am not, however, very confident about the value of these for manufacture, but I think they must be superior to rice-straw mentioned in the Government Proceedings.

4. Hand-made paper being now very rarely manufactured in Europe and standing high in price, it is my opinion that if the manufacture of such paper was taken up in a thorough way, it would prove a valuable addition to Indian industry, not only because it would meet a real want, but also because the process of manufacture could be carried on on a small scale, also without the enormous capital required for machine paper-manufacture.

List of Fibre-yielding Plants.

Botanical Name.	English or Vernacular.	Parts which contain Fibre.
Acacia } eucuphloea	Biljalimara (Can.)	Bark.
Mimosa }		
Aloe vulgaris	Katali.	Leaves.
Amphidonax karka	Halagalagu ?	Flower stalks.
Antidesma bunias		Bark.
" pubescens		Do.
Bauhinia racemosa		Do.
" diphylla		Do.
" scandens		Do.
" Vahlia		Do.
Bixa orellana		Do.
Butea frondosa	Arnotto tree (English).	Root.
Calamus rotang	Atimadhura (Can.)	Stem.
Careya arborea	Betta "	Bark.
Caryota urens	Daddaladamara (Can.)	Leaves.
	Beini "	Stalks.
Cordia angustifolia	Basland Sago (English).	Bark.
Corypha umbraculifera	Narrow-leaved Sepistary (Eng.)	Leaves.
	Talipot or Tan-palm "	Stalks.
	Shritale (Can.)	Bark.
	Wedge-leaved Crotalaria.	Stem.
Crotalaria retusa		Bark.
Cryptostegia grandiflora		
Echaltium } piscidium		
Nerium }		
Eriodendron anfractuosum	Burugadamara (Can.)	Pods (Silk Cotton.)
Ficus venosa (infectoria)	Basurimara.	Bark.
Guazuma tomentosum		Shoots.
Hibiscus furcatus		Bark.
Holostemma Rheedii		Stem.
Musa superba		Leaves.
Paritium tiliaceum	Kadubale.	Bark.
Phoenix Sylvestris	Parutti (Mal).	Leaves.
" farinifera	Ichalemara (Can.)	Stalks.
Sida rhomboidea	Sanna do. "	Bark.
? Sorghum saccharatrum	Bennegaragugida (Can.)	Stem.
" vulgare	Jola "	Do.
Spathodea Rheedii		Branches and roots.
Sterculia guttata		Bark.
Urena lobata	Ramanappu (Mal.)	Do.
		Do.

N.B.—The plants named in the Proceedings of Government are left out in this list.

(Signed) C. STOLZ.

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(A true Extract.)

C. J. C.
Acting Sub-Secretary.

To the Acting Secretary to Government, Revenue Department,
with original replies of Collectors and enclosures.

„ all Collectors.

Copy to the Superintendent of Government Farms.

Exd. W. H. French.

No. 1,348.

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SUBMITTED to Government in continuation of Board's Proceedings of 8th May 1874, No. 1,070.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

Calcutta
Acting Sub-Secretary.

To the Acting Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

Copy to the Collector of Coimbatore.

„ to the Superintendent of Government Farms.

Exd. G. A. TUTOR.

208
17 July 1874. 94 hrs

No. 2084

Dec 1874. *Depan*
Board of Revenue,
MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 8TH MAY 1874, No. 1,070.

Copy 5 June 74

Encl. 21.

** 2084*

Received 6 June

MAY.

No. 1,070.

Paper Manufacture—and materials used for the purpose in the several districts.—Reports from Collectors regarding—, reviewed and submitted to Government.

277

50 27 June 74
wd 807

278

5027 June 11/807

Paper manufacture—and materials used for the purpose in Coimbatore District.—Further report from Collector regarding—, submitted to Government.

JUNE.
No. 1,348.

Received 9 June

Copy to Govt
11/807

PROCEEDINGS, 4TH JUNE 1874, NO. 1,348.

BOARD OF REVENUE,
MADRAS.

Dec 1874. 20th

N^o 2085

3

Revenue Department.

No.

807

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Under date the 27th June 1874

Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue

Reviewing and submitting to Govt, reports from collectors regarding paper manufacture, and materials used for the purpose, in the several Districts —

H. E. 8th May 1874 N^o 1070.

Submitting further report from collectors regarding paper manufacture, and materials used for the purpose, in Coimbatore District.

" 4th June 1874 " 1348.

Ordered that copies of the foregoing Proceedings and of the reports received from Bellary, the Nilgiris and S. Canara, be forwarded to the Government of India with reference to their letter of the 26th June 1873 N^o 12.

2. The attention of the Government of India

9/11

7. Box of Remnants 21 Cwt
of 2 July/74 }

22

Report on paper manufacturing, and
its development for the purpose, in the
City of Manila, P. I.

3 Reports viz. Bellay,
Milgario & S. Cuervo
to be printed separately
respectively.

Dec
1881/1/10
1881