

(1) Number of Pages 22(2) Date of repair 2.2.67(3) Initials of the Referencer 13.2.68**MADRAS RECORD OFFICE****GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS**Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.

B.P. No.

372

Press

Mis.

Dated

6.2.1875

196

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 85. Read the following despatch from the Right Honorable the Secretary of State for India :—

Revenue—Forests,
No. 1.

INDIA OFFICE, LONDON,
21st January 1875.

MY LORD,—I herewith transmit a copy of a report on the Gums and Resins of India by Dr. M. C. Cooke, which has been prepared under the directions of the Reporter on Indian Products. Other reports will be forwarded to the forest officers in the different Presidencies and to Political Agents.

2. One great use of a Report of this kind is to draw forth additional information respecting the products of which it treats; and, in the present case, the principal desideratum is the identification of the botanical sources of the different Gums and Resins. I have, therefore, to request that the forest officers under the orders of your Government may be instructed to collect samples of every Gum to be obtained in their respective districts, ascertaining their native names and the local and scientific names of the trees from which they are gathered, and to offer any criticisms on the several points in the report which its perusal may suggest to them. I enclose a memorandum of certain substances described in Dr. Cooke's Report, respecting which I desire that special information may be collected.

3. Similar instructions have been forwarded to the Governments of India and Bombay.

I have, etc.,
(Signed) SALISBURY.

To His Excellency the Right Honorable
The Governor in Council, Fort St. George.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

Memorandum, submitting the Museum Report on Gums and Resins, to the Secretary, Revenue Department, 30th December 1874.

A copy of the Report on the Gums and Resins of India, prepared under Dr. Forbes Watson's directions by Dr. M. C. Cooke, Assistant Curator of the Vegetable Section of the India Museum, is submitted. It will be seen from the attached list that Dr. Cooke is the author of numerous works on Botany; and his Hand-book of British Fungi (2 vols., 8vo., Macmillan, 1873) is recognised as the first standard authority on its subject. He has the highest reputation amongst savans as a cryptogamic and microscopic Botanist and for his special knowledge of the Bibliography of Botany. This is a sufficient guarantee of the scientific accuracy and value of the present Report. It professes rather to be a digest of scattered information than a work of original research; but it has been a great labor to gather together into one volume all the information we possess of the Gums and Resins of India, and great judgment has been shown by Dr. Cooke in the collection of this gathered mass of materials and wide knowledge and trained critical acumen in the identification of the botanical sources of the Gums and Resins described. The Report embraces 200 Gums and Resins,—all products of British India and its dependencies,—and impresses one vividly with the vastness of the latent resources of our Eastern Empire.

2. But, as regards the identification of the botanical sources of these Indian products, the Report is founded only on a comparison of previous authorities; and the sources of the Gums and Resins of India cannot be determined with absolute certainty, until, in every case, they have been gathered from the trees which yield them by men who have a scientific knowledge of the trees, such as is possessed by the present Indian forest officers. Copies of the Report are in course of being sent to every forest officer and Political Agent, and it is respectfully suggested

that a despatch should be sent to the several Indian Governments, requesting them to call upon their forest officers and Political Agents—

A.—To collect samples of every Gum to be obtained in their respective districts, carefully giving their local name and the local and scientific names of the trees from which they were gathered.

B.—To collect special information regarding the following particular substances described in Dr. Cooke's Report:—

- (1.) The curious astringent *Mochurra*.
- (2.) The different kinds of *Assafetida* and the plants yielding them.
- (3.) The peculiar Gum-resin called *Sarcocolla*.
- (4.) The tree yielding a peculiar *Myrrh* 10 miles eastward of Aden, plants of which I succeeded in rearing in the Victoria Gardens, Bombay, but which had not flowered when I left Bombay in 1868.
- (5.) The source of the black Resins, with an elemi-like odour, received from Burmah, under the name of *Pervaimyet*.

And C.—To offer any criticisms on the several articles of the Report which its perusal may suggest to them.

3. All this would cost nothing more than 10 or 12 Rupees out of each officer's petty disbursements, and within a year the Museum would obtain an exhaustive collection of Indian Gums and Resins absolutely identified with their botanical sources, and the department be placed in a position to reprint a second edition of the accompanying Report, in which all the doubtful points would be finally settled.

4. It will be observed that the Report indicates that a whitish Resin received from Burmah, the produce of *Hopea odorata* and *Hopea micrantha* is likely to meet with a ready sale here.

5. Also that the newly-received substance called "Liquid kino" is likely to prove a valuable substitute for Galls in the manufacture of Ink.

6. The wood-oils of Burmah and India have never yet found a market here for want of utilisation. The Report suggests that in their crude state that might be used as solvents of Caoutchouc. Cotton and paper are rendered absolutely water-proof by applying the Oleo Resin to them, and the only drawback to its use for the purpose is the slowness with which it dries.

7. Finally, sanction is now solicited for the preparation of a similar Report on the Dyes and Tans and Oil and Oil-seeds of India.

(Signed) GEORGE BIRDWOOD.

No. 86.

ORDER THEREON, 6th March 1875, No. 372.

Forests, No. 7.

ORDERED that the foregoing despatch, together with the Report and Memorandum received therewith, be communicated to the Board of Revenue.

2. The Board will, in communication with the Inspector of Forests, arrange for the instructions of the Secretary of State in the foregoing despatch being duly attended to.

(True Extract.)

To the Board of Revenue.
„ the Officiating Inspector of Forests.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman

Secretary to Government.

Memo: Submitting the Museum Report
on gums, & Resins, to the Sec^y Revenue
Department. 30th Dec^r 1874.

A copy of the Report on the gums
& Resins of India prepared under Dr.
Torber Watson's directions by Dr. Wm.
C. Cooke. Asst Curator of the vegetable
section of the India Museum is
submitted. It will be seen from
the attached list, that Dr. Cooke
is the author of numerous works
on Botany; & his Hand. Book of
British Fungi (2 vols. 8^{vo}. Mac.
millan 1873.) is recognised as the
first standard authority on its
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reputation amongst savans, as
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Botanist; & for his special knowledge
of the Bibliography of Botany. This
is a sufficient guarantee of the scientific
accuracy

Original.
Capt. of 1875
REVENUE.
THE BOARD OF REVENUE.
G. O. 6th March 1875, No. 372.

Forwarded 9 1088 of 1881.

Report on Gums and Resins of India by
Dr. Cooke. Communicating to the Board of
Revenue despatch and — with a request to
arrange, in communication with the Inspector of
Forests, for the instructions of the Secretary of
State being attended to —

accuracy & value of the present report. It professes rather to be a digest of scattered information, than a work of original research, but it has been a great labor to gather together into one volume all the information we possess of the gums & resins of India: & great judgment has been shown by Dr. Cooke in the collection of this gathered mass of materials, & wide knowledge & trained critical acumen in the identification of the botanical sources of the gums & resins described. The report embraces 200 gums & resins, all products of British India & its dependencies; & prepares one vividly with the vastness of the latent resources of our Eastern Empire.

But as regards the identification of the botanical sources of these Indian products

W. 312
products, the Report is founded only on a comparison of previous authorities, & the sources of the gums & resins of India cannot be determined with absolute certainty until, in every case, they have been gathered from the trees which yield them, by men who have a scientific knowledge of the trees, such as is possessed by the present Indian Forest Officers. Copies of the report are in course of being sent to every Forest Officer & Political Agent, & it is respectfully suggested that a despatch should be sent to the several Indian Govts. requesting them to call upon their Forest Officers & Political Agents, -

A. to collect samples of every gum to be obtained in their respective districts, carefully giving their local name

name & the local & scientific names of the trees from which they were gathered.

B. to collect special information regarding the following particular substances described in Dr. Cooke's report

1. The curious astringent Enochyrrus
2. The different kinds of Apsafatida & the plants yielding them.
3. The peculiar gum resin called Sarcocolla.
4. The tree yielding a peculiar Emyrre 46 miles Eastward of Aden: plants of which I succeeded in rearing in the Victoria Gardens Bombay, but which had not flowered, when I left Bombay in 1868.
5. The source of the black resins, with an Elemi like odour, received from Burmah, under the name of Pevainyrt.

And C. to offer any criticisms on the several articles of the report, which its perusal may suggest to them.

All this would cost nothing more than 10 or 12 rupees out of each Officer's petty disbursements, & within a year the Museum would obtain an exhaustive collection of Indian
gums

gums & resins, absolutely identified with their Botanical sources, & the Department be placed in a position to reprint a second edition of the accompanying report in which all the doubtful points would be finally settled.

It will be observed that the Report indicates that a whitish resin received from Burmah, the produce of Nopea odorata and Nopea micrantha is likely to meet with a ready sale here.

Also that the newly received substance called "Liquid Kino" is likely to prove a valuable substitute for Gales in the manufacture of ink.

The wood bils of Burmah & India have never yet found a market here for want of utilisation. The report suggests that in their crude state that might be used
as

as solvents of carotene. Cotton
& paper are rendered absolutely
waterproof by applying the oleo
resin to them, & the only drawback
to its use for the purpose, is the
slowness with which it dries.

Finally sanction is now solicited
for the preparation of a similar
Report on the Dyes and Tans, and
oil & oil seeds of India.

(^u) George Birdwood.

No. 13.

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Madras

Copy Memo. by Dr. Birdwood
dated 30th Dec. 1874

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21st March 1875

Referred to in Revenue (Forests) Letter to
Madras, No. 1, dated 21st Jan 1875
Para. 2.

Revised 10/7/75

85/86



Revenue Forests

No. 1

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His Excellency
The Right-Honorable
The Governor in Council
Fort St. George

India Office, London
21st January 1875.

Sir Lord,

I herewith transmit
a copy of a Report on
the gums and resins
of India by Dr. H. C. Cooke
which has been
prepared under the
directions of the
Reporter on Indian
Products. Other copies
will be forwarded
to

to the Forest Officers
in the different Residences
and to Political Agents.

2. One great use of
a Report of this kind
is to draw forth

additional information
respecting the products
of which it treats;

and in the present
case, the principal
consideration is the
identification of the
botanical sources

of the different gums
and resins. I have

therefore to request
that the Forest Officers
under the orders of

your Government
may be instructed to
collect samples of every
gum to be obtained in
their respective districts,
ascertaining their
native names and
the local and scientific
names of the trees from
which they are gathered,
and to offer any
criticisms on the
several points in the
Report which its
perusal may suggest
to them. I enclose
a memorandum
of certain substances
described in Dr. Cooper's
Report, respecting
which I desire
that

that special information
may be collected.

Similar instructions
have been forwarded
to the Governments of
India and Bombay.

I have the honor to be

My Lord

Your Lordships most-obedient

humble servant

Salisbury

No 12.

Revenue (Forests)
21st Jan'y 1875.

The
Letter to Mr. St. George
No 1.

Ed -
1 O.D. 2 send
1. O.D. 2, P.O.

S.O. 372 - 6th March 1875

Transmitting Copy of a Report on
the Gums and Resins of India by Dr. Cooke and requesting
that Forest Officers may be instructed to collect samples of every gum
obtained in their districts, ascertaining the native names and
the local and scientific names of the trees from which they are
gathered, and to offer criticisms on points in the Report which it
permeates may suggest to them. - Also enclosing a list of plants
substances described in the Report, and desiring that special informa-
tion may be collected respecting them -

1/85

Revenue Department

No 372

Proceedings of the Madras Government

Read the following Despatch from
the Secretary of State for India.

Transmitting Copy of a Report
on the Gums and Resins of India by
Dr. Cooke, and requesting that Forest
Officers may be instructed to collect
samples of every gum to be obtained
in their districts &c. &c. -

(H. E. 21st January 1875 N. 1.)

Ordered that the fore-
going Despatch, together with
the Report and Memo received
therewith be communicated to
the Board of Revenue.

The Board will, in com-
munication with the Inspector
of Forests, arrange for the instruc-
tions of the Secretary of State in the
foregoing Despatch, being duly

14 To the O.D. and of Rec. Dr. & Dr. 5
2 The Offy Inspector of Forests attended to.

6th March 1875

Sd. H. H. H.

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On Receipt of
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