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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	<u>1004</u>	Press
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Dated	<u>28-7-1876</u>	<u>196</u>

Not to be folded or roughly handled

1004
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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
28th July 1876.*

No. 260. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 11th July 1876, No. 1,768 :—

Read the following letter from W. R. ROBERTSON, Esq., M.R.A.C., Superintendent of Government Farms, to C. A. GALTON, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Sydapet, 21st June 1876, No. 354.

With reference to Board's Proceedings, No. 1,547, of the 13th of June 1876, I have the honor to state that the wind-engine referred to was transferred with the pumps belonging to it to the Public Works Department during the official year 1870-71. The engine and pumps were in fair working order when removed from the Farm. If still in store at the Chepauk Workshops, it will probably only be necessary to provide new sails (which are of canvas) and the wooden framework, to admit of the mill being put to work at once.

2. This wind-engine was found to be of no use whatever for raising water for irrigation purposes to the height required at the Experimental Farm. During the whole time it was under my notice, it never succeeded in raising sufficient water for the half-acre plot of arable land to which it was attached. Perhaps had the lift been fifteen feet instead of thirty feet, the result would have been more satisfactory.

3. The mill was placed on an embankment, the top of which was at the least ten feet higher than the surrounding ground; and, as the wind-wheel stood on a framework of a considerable height, the sails were well out of the way of any obstructions to the wind from houses or trees.

4. I enclose a copy of an American Implement and Machine Catalogue (to be returned when done with) in which, at pages 61 and 62, will be found information regarding wind-mills. It will be seen on a reference to the price list at the end of the catalogue that an eight-foot diameter wind-wheel of about 1½ horse-power costs 100 dollars in New York.

Communicated to the Presidency Engineer with the request that he will inspect the engine referred to, and favor the Board with his opinion regarding it. If, as Mr. Robertson thinks, it will work well from a depth of fifteen feet, it would probably answer the purpose for which it is required.

2. The catalogue forwarded with Mr. Robertson's letter will be returned.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) E. GIBSON,
Acting Sub-Secretary.

No. 261. ORDER THEREON, 28th July 1876, No. 1,004.

Miscellaneous.

The Government are not inclined to think favorably of the American machine, which can 'apparently, judging from the diameter of the wheel, get its power only, if at all, in a gale of wind.

2. Dr. Ratton will state how much water he requires per minute daily, and what is the maximum lift.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) D. F. CARMICHAEL,
Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.
Ed. F. R. Bantleman.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 11th July 1876.

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(A true Copy and Extract.)

Acting Sub-Secretary.

To the District Engineer, Presidency.

Copy to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

to the Superintendent of Government Farms, with Catalogue returned.

to the Collector of South Arcot.

to J. J. L. Ratton, Esq., M.D. on special salt duty.

Exd W. H. French.

2

wind in an inexpensive
and handy manner, —
great gain would be
effected to the country.

In Egypt (Alexandria)
wind is intensively used
in a small & inexpensive
manner. At Stockton
California I saw hundreds
of small windmills in
full operation, each
watering about 3 acres
of garden, vine-yrds &c
in the most efficient
manner. The engine is
of the simplest construction.

About 1846 the late
Dr. Buist of Bombay
took the thing up in
the most energetic manner,
circulated diagrams &c
and spent a good deal
of

of money on experiments.
We were in correspondence.
I tried his plans in
Malabar (and lost a
good deal of cash) but
failed — probably because
I was an amateur — in
execution & Dr. Buist wrote
to me that he had failed
possibly for the same
reason and because
at that time manual
labor was so cheap
that it was scarcely
worth while to supersede
it and cultivation
was in the hands of the
lowest orders in the main.

But things are changing
and the time may have
come for efficient exertion
in this direction — I fear
the

the pomp and circumstance
of D.P.W. - W. Frainger,
not in Dispute -

I would get the
Correspondence of the
Bombay Government with
D. B. Smith and would
certainly order out by
ice ship one of the
American Wind Mills
referred to.

24/7. M

I have seen a good
deal of wind mills
there work - pumping
sawing, grinding & such
in Holland - all done
by ordinary wind mills.
I have also often noticed
the working of windmills

sent to the Grace 24. July R 27. July

in England - I have
seen trials of various
kinds of windmills
horizontal wheels &c
but they have never
been more than pretty
toys -

A great many models
are included in American
Catalogues ^{which have} never been in
practical use - I cannot
say if a star is wanted
just up a good mill
I could build a Siphon
pump (Portuguese
sails have an advantage
in case of storms) but
I do not see the use of
waste time or money in
the American mill