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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.

1702

Press
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Dated

13-12-1880.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

13th December 1880, No. 1,702.

READ THE FOLLOWING PAPER :—

No. 226. From Surgeon-Major W. R. CORNISH, F.R.C.S., Surgeon-General with the Government of Madras, to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Madras, dated Fort St. George, 15th November 1880, No. 512.

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge receipt of G.O., No. 1,395, of 25th October 1880, and with reference thereto, I have to state that on arrival of the samples of chinchona alkaloids alluded to, no time will be lost in submitting them to careful trial and experiment.

2. I have perused the memorandum prepared in the India Office and accompanying Despatch, 16th September 1880, No. 39, from the Most Honorable the Secretary of State for India with great interest, and I venture to hope that Mr. Whiffen in his preparation of the soluble and crystallized tartrates of the combined alkaloids, free of quinoidine, has hit upon the desiderated improvement which will bring the combined alkaloids into general use.

3. I observe that in the working of the Dodabetta crown barks and renewed red barks from Naduvatum, the yield of alkaloid on a manufacturing scale has been quite equal to the results shown by analysis of selected specimens, and the results show how valuable these Government barks are for the manufacture of quinine.

4. On the 62 bales of crown and red bark used for quinine manufacture, there was a clear profit of £ 317-14-6, while as regards the estimated value of the products of 42 bales of red bark, used for the preparation of chinchona alkaloids, there was a loss of £ 59-15-2. The latter fact shows, what has always been known in this country, that the prices obtained in England for samples of ordinary red barks are not always dependent on the proportion of alkaloids these barks contain.

5. I observe that the value of quinetum alkaloids as extracted by Mr. Whiffen is estimated at 53 shillings per lb. This is considerably above the cost of the same preparation made in Darjeeling, which is supplied to us for store use at the price of 16 rupees per lb. It is evident therefore that unless Mr. Whiffen's quinetum alkaloids are superior to the Bengal preparation, there can be no economy in having this particular preparation manufactured in England. It may be that Mr. Whiffen has been able to separate the quinoidine from his combined alkaloids (quinetum) and thus have got rid of the ingredient which is supposed to cause nausea in the Bengal febrifuge. The memorandum gives no information on this point, and I would merely remark that in any future manufacture of quinetum alkaloids, I should prefer having the whole supply converted into tartrates of alkaloids, which are stated to be prepared "in a crystalline form, and to contain the entire quinine, chinchonidine, and chinchonine present in the bark."

6. I shall adopt all precautions to give this new preparation of Mr. Whiffen's the most careful trial, and will report fully on the subject when the results are before me.

No. 227. ORDER THEREON, 13th December 1880, No. 1,702.

Miscellaneous.

COPY of the Surgeon-General's letter
will be transmitted to the Secretary of
State whose attention will be invited to

Dr. Cornish's remarks as to the preparation of quinetum alkaloids.

(True Extract.)

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

to the Surgeon-General with the Government of Madras.
the Superintendent of the Government Central Museum.

Exd. W. H. French.

20 Copies.

30
Office of Surgeon-General with the
Government of Madras.
Fort Saint George 15th Nov^r 1880

N^o 512.

From.

The Surgeon-General with the
Government of Madras.
Fort Saint George.

To.

The Secretary to Government
Revenue Department.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of G. O. N^o 345 of 25th October 1880, and with reference thereto have to state that on arrival of the samples of Cinchona alkaloids alluded to, no time will be lost in submitting them to careful trial and experiment.

2. I have perused the Memorandum prepared in the India Office, and accompanying Despatch 11th September 1880 N^o 39 from the Most Honorable the Secretary of State for India with great interest, and I venture to hope that Mr. Whiffen in his preparation of the soluble and crystallized tartrates of the combined alkaloids, free of Quinoidine, has hit upon the desiderated improvement which will bring the combined alkaloids into general use.

3. I observe that in the working of the Podabatta Crown bark and renewed red

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REVENUE.

To

THE SURGEON-GENERAL WITH
THE GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS,

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G. O. N^o 345 of 25th Oct. 1880.

DECEMBER.

Nov. 29, 1880.

Surgeon-General with the Government of Madras. Fort Saint George. 15th Nov^r 1880. N^o 512. To. The Secretary to Government Revenue Department. Sir, I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of G. O. N^o 345 of 25th October 1880, and with reference thereto have to state that on arrival of the samples of Cinchona alkaloids alluded to, no time will be lost in submitting them to careful trial and experiment.

barks from Neddiovattum, the yellow alkaloid on a manufacturing scale has been quinquinal to the results shown by analysis of select specimens, and the results shew how valuable these Government barks are for the manufacture of quinine.

4. On the 62 bales of Crowned red bark used for quinine manufacture, there was a clear profit of £317-11-6, while as regards the estimated value of the products of 42 bales of red bark, used for the preparation of Cinchona alkaloids, there was a loss of £59-15-2. The latter fact shews, what has always been known in this country, that the prices obtained in England for samples of ordinary red barks, are not always dependent on the proportion of alkaloids these barks contain.

5. I observe that the value of quinquina alkaloids as extracted by Mr. Whiffen is estimated at 53 sh. per lb. This is considerably above the cost of the same preparation made in Darjeeling, which is supplied to us for store use at the price of 16 Rs per lb. It is evident therefore that unless Mr. Whiffen's quinquina alkaloids are superior to the Bengal preparations, there can be no economy in having this particular preparation manufactured in England. It may be that Mr. Whiffen has been able to separate the quinoidine, from his combined alkaloids (quinquina) and thus have got rid of the ingredient

which is supposed to cause nausea in the Bengal febrifuge. The Memorandum gives no information on this point, and I would merely remark that in any future manufacture of quinquina alkaloids, I should prefer having the whole supply converted into tartrate of alkaloids, which are stated to be prepared in a crystalline form, and to contain the pure quinine, cinchonidine, and cinchonine present in the bark.

6. I shall adopt all precautions to give this new preparation of Mr. Whiffen's the most careful trial, and will report fully on the subject when the results are before me.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your Most Obedt. Servant.

W. M. Cornish
Surgeon-General with the
Government of Madras.

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The Surgeon-General.

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Dated 15th November

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