

(1) Number of pages 64(2) Date of repair 13. 8. 38.(3) Initials of the Referencer 9**MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.****Government of Madras.***Revenue* **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No.	1116	Press ~~Mis.~~
Dated	14-10-1882.	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

14TH OCTOBER 1882, No. 1116, REVENUE.

CONFIDENTIAL.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following Despatch from the Most Honorable the Secretary of State for India, to His Excellency the Right Honorable the Governor in Council, Fort St. George, dated India Office, London, 14th September 1882, Revenue No. 32:—

With reference to Your Excellency's letter, No. 16, of the 21st December last, I now enclose, for your information, a copy of a letter from Mr. Thiselton Dyer on the subject of the appointment of a Superintendent for the Nilgiri Chinchona Plantations.

2. Your Excellency will observe that Mr. Lawson, the Professor of Botany in the University of Oxford, has offered his services for the appointment, and Sir Joseph Hooker considers that Professor Lawson would be able to give a considerable impulse to other branches of botanical administration in your Presidency, besides proving an efficient administrator of the Chinchona Plantations.

3. The salary mentioned to Sir Joseph Hooker for a Superintendent of your Chinchona Plantations was Rs. 600 a-month, and, although not so stated in Mr. Thiselton Dyer's letter, I understand that Professor Lawson would accept those terms, on the understanding that he was also furnished with an official residence.

4. I shall be glad to receive, by telegram, a reply as to whether you desire that the appointment should be given to Professor Lawson.

ENCLOSURE.

From W. T. THISELTON DYER, Esq., to Sir LOUIS MALLET, c.b., Under Secretary of State for India, India Office, dated Royal Gardens, Kew, 3rd August 1882.

I am desired by Sir Joseph Hooker to acknowledge the receipt of your letter (R. 114) of May 6th.

1. The papers relating to the Madras Chinchona Plantations, transmitted in your letter of the same date, are herewith returned.

2. Sir Joseph Hooker gathers from these documents, especially the letter from the Government of Madras, dated March 14th, 1879, that since the death of Mr. McIvor, the Madras Chinchona Plantations have somewhat languished.

3. It is stated in this letter that, while Mr. McIvor computed that the number of plants was 1,125,204, the actual number which Captain Walker found to exist was only 569,031.

The discrepancy appears to Sir Joseph Hooker most astonishing, as it amounts to not far short of half.

4. Only two Chinchonas have as yet been found to thrive on the Nilgiris. These are the species which produced Red bark and Crown bark, respectively. Of the latter, there are, in round numbers, 300,000 plants. This element of the Nilgiri Plantations is of great importance, because it supplements the deficiencies of those of Sikkim in which there is no Crown bark.

5. The varieties of *Chinchona Calisaya* have hitherto failed on the Nilgiris. The Government of Madras remark, in their letter already cited, "Further experiment with the latter (Yellow bark)

is needed, and also in hybridisation, and the systematic cultivation of such hybrids as appear to be of value. This subject opens out a wide field for research, and may possibly be the means of extending the cultivation to districts where Chinchonas cannot now be grown. The best method of harvesting the bark is also as yet open to question."

They also state, "What is wanted is a scientific but practical horticulturist, who shall be capable of working the Plantation to the best advantage and of experimenting in the direction of careful artificial hybridisation and the modes of propagating the several varieties."

6. The Secretary of State, however, did not act upon this recommendation, but, in a despatch, dated August 7th, 1879, directed that the Plantations "for the present, at any rate, be at once placed in charge of an officer of the 'Forest Department'."

This was done accordingly, as notified in the letter of the Government of Madras, December 14th, 1880, and the Government Chinchona Plantations were placed under the Conservator of Forests.

7. This Officer, Colonel Beddome, happened to be one of the best botanists in India. Such a circumstance was necessarily a pure accident, inasmuch as the Forest Service, dealing with administrative and technical matters proper to it, would not necessarily develop in its officers such exceptional scientific acquirements as Colonel Beddome possessed, nor could it be expected to supply those qualifications which the Madras Government, in their letter of March 14th, 1879, pointed out that the Superintendent of the Chinchona Plantations should possess.

8. The result was that Colonel Beddome's examination of the Plantations immediately raised a variety of points requiring scientific study. Some of these have already been the subject of official correspondence with Kew.

9. The Secretary of State arrived at the conviction, which he communicated to the Madras Government, November 10th, 1881, that "Colonel Beddome has raised several questions which already prove that the Plantations should be under the immediate charge of an officer of high scientific attainments and botanical experience."

10. The Madras Government, in reply, December 21st, 1881, "renew the application of 1879," and ask that a competent man may be selected.

11. Sir Joseph Hooker has thought it desirable to review the history of this matter, in order to get a definite idea of the kind of officer required. It is quite clear to him that the appointment should, in social and intellectual status, rank with those of the Forest Service.

This puts the whole class of gardeners out of court. This class often produces men of exceptional capacity, who, under superior guidance, are capable of doing first-rate work. But they rarely exhibit the force of character sufficient to enable them to stand alone, or to conduct considerable administrative affairs.

12. After passing in review the gentlemen to whom such an appointment might be acceptable, the matter was mentioned to Mr. Lawson, the Professor of Botany in the University of Oxford, as being likely to be able to suggest some University man, whose capacity for the appointment might be found sufficient. After some consideration, Professor Lawson volunteered his own services. After carefully considering the proposal, Sir Joseph Hooker has arrived at the conviction that his appointment would be likely to meet the requirements of the Madras Government in the best possible way.

Professor Lawson is unmarried, and about forty years of age. He is of remarkably robust constitution and energetic habits. He is an excellent botanist, and has elaborated under Sir Joseph Hooker's eye some portion of the "Flora of British India." He is, of course, well versed in the scientific details of structural and physiological botany, and, having been for some years Professor of Botany at Oxford (where he is extremely popular), is acquainted with the horticultural details and administration of a garden. Some surprise may be felt at Professor Lawson's disposition to abandon a post at Oxford for one in India. But it may be proper to mention that in so doing he has been undoubtedly influenced by the example of his personal friends, Mr. Duthie, Superintendent of the Government Garden, Saharunpore, and Dr. Trimen, Director of the Royal Botanic Garden, Ceylon. The latter gentleman is almost exactly of the same age and standing as Professor Lawson, and his administration in Ceylon has given the Government of that Colony unqualified satisfaction, as he has brought to bear upon the botanical enterprise of the Island precisely those qualifications which the Government of Madras have, for some time, felt the need of in their Presidency.

13. Should the Secretary of State be pleased to appoint Professor Lawson, Sir Joseph Hooker anticipates that great benefits will ensue from the mutual co-operation of that gentleman and Dr. Trimen. The physical conditions of Ceylon and Southern India are so closely similar that it is in every way desirable that their economic-botanical development should follow similar paths. Sir Joseph Hooker has every reason to believe that Professor Lawson would not merely prove an efficient administrator of the Chinchona Plantations, but would also be able to give a considerable impulse to other branches of botanical administration in the Presidency which are by no means in as active a condition as is desirable.

ORDER—dated 14th October 1882, No. 1

Revenue.

Miscellaneous.

Recorded, with reference to the following telegram sent to the Secretary of State, on the 11th October 1882:—

"We agree to the appointment of Professor Lawson on the terms detailed in your Revenue Despatch, No. 32, dated 14th September this year."

(True Extract.)

(Signed) E. F. WEBSTER,
Secretary to Government.

21- To The Board of Revenue.
31- " Conservator of Forests.
4- " Collector of Nilgiris.
2- " Hon. Sec. Agri. Dept.
" Society.
1- " D. Brandis Esq.
5- " By order of Secy. to Govt.
6- " Accountant Genl. to Govt.

Dec 27-12-82.
Dec 6-1-83.

Ed. F. R. Bantleman.

Original
Govt. of 1882 Madras.
REVENUE.

Order, dated 14th October 1882, No. 1116.

*no longer confidential: To
go to the officers within
within*

Superintendent for the Government Cinchona Plantations.—Nilgiris Despatch from Secretary of State requesting to be informed whether the appointment of — may be given to Professor Lawson, recorded with reference to a telegram sent to England.



India Office,
London, 7th August 1879.

Revenue (Forests),
No. 12.

To His Excellency The Most Noble The Governor
in Council, Fort St. George.

MY LORD DUKE,

Para. 1. I have considered in Council your Letter, No. 4, of the 14th March last, transmitting copies of Reports by Captain Campbell Walker and the Cinchona Committee on matters connected with the Government Cinchona plantations on the Nilgiris, and stating the conclusions arrived at by your Government on the several questions raised in my predecessor's Despatch, No. 2, of the 17th January 1878. I have also had under consideration your Letters, No. 8 and 9, of the 8th and 25th April respectively, relating to the same subject, and which were subsequently received.

2. The reports contained in the first-quoted letter form a valuable addition to the information previously recorded relative to these plantations, as well as on the subject of cinchona febrifuge manufacture in the Nilgiris and in Bengal. The leading points in them have already been reviewed in the Resolution of your Government of the 24th February last, and in replying to your Grace's letter it will, therefore, only be necessary to allude to such as call for further remark or for the orders of Her Majesty's Government.

3. Although the establishment of Government cinchona plantations in the Nilgiris, has, beyond doubt, been attended with success hitherto, much remains to be done before the cultivation of cinchona in this part of India can well be left to private enterprise. Hitherto but two kinds of cinchona have been satisfactorily established there, viz., *C. Officinalis* and *C. Succirubra*, yielding the crown and red barks respectively, whilst *C. Calisaya* and other species planted appear to be dying out. Although these latter have not flourished where they have hitherto been tried, they could perhaps be advantageously grown at different altitudes, where they might develop other equally valuable alkaloids of the cinchona series. The introduction of new species by hybridization was at one time

expected to be followed by important economic results, but experiments in this direction have, it appears, been discontinued since the death of Mr. McIvor, and no record remains of his experiences on this point.

4. Besides the questions which yet remain to be settled with regard to the cultivation and propagation of the cinchona plant, further experiments seem to be necessary with a view to ascertain the most profitable way of harvesting the bark. Fresh investigations are to be made on this subject, and I observe that orders have been given for at once carrying out certain coppicing experiments under the supervision of the local Deputy Conservator of Forests.

5. It is hardly to be expected that, for the present at least, private capital and enterprise should be devoted to the solution of these and other questions which may arise from time to time in connection with the cultivation of the cinchona plant in India, and I agree, therefore, with your Grace in the opinion that, for some time to come at least, the Nilgiri plantations must remain in the hands of Government.

6. Captain Walker shows in his report that the number of trees and plants in the plantations is less than half what had been estimated by the late Superintendent, and that the area under cultivation is not sufficiently stocked; but it does not appear to what cause this has been mainly due. Had the plantations been under efficient superintendence, it is scarcely probable that they would have been allowed to fall into their present condition, and, in order to secure their proper upkeep for the future, and to carry out such further experiments in cultivation and harvesting as have already been referred to, it is necessary that they should be placed in charge of a duly qualified Superintendent. In Lord Salisbury's Despatch above quoted, it was suggested that probably some member of the Forest Department might be found possessed of sufficient practical knowledge to enable him to undertake this office. I am also of opinion that the local experience of arboriculture likely to be possessed by such an officer, would counterbalance any deficiency in scientific knowledge of horticulture, especially as the charge of a large establishment, and the possible eventual direction of a scientific chemist, would require administrative capacity which would hardly be found combined with practical and theoretical knowledge of scientific gardening, which you consider necessary for the Superintendent. Besides these considerations, however, it does not appear desirable, in the present state of the finances of India, to make any special appointment from this country, otherwise than under extraordinary and exceptional circumstances, such as cannot be said to exist in the present case. I shall, therefore, refrain from taking steps for obtaining any one in this country as Superintendent

for the Nilgiri plantations, and I desire that they may, for the present at any rate, be at once placed in charge of an officer of the Forest Department.

7. The re-employment of a quinologist, and the resumption of the local manufacture of a febrifuge, are questions so intimately connected with one another that it is scarcely possible to consider them apart, since you are of opinion that obvious objections exist to the adoption of the suggestion of the Government of India, that the Nilgiri bark should be sent to Calcutta to be converted into a febrifuge or quinine by the local quinologist.

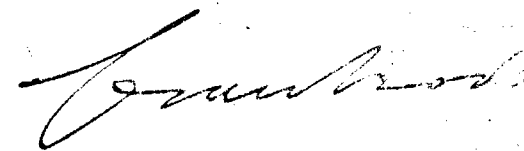
8. The therapeutic value of Mr. Wood's Sikkim febrifuge is now under examination by Dr. de Vrij, of the Hague, whose report will probably contain much valuable information with regard to the general question of the local manufacture of cinchona febrifuge in India. I shall, therefore, defer passing any orders on these questions until I am in receipt of that report.

9. With reference to the inquiry made in your letter, No. 8, of the 8th April last, I have only to remark that there appears to be no objection to the publication of extracts from Captain Walker's and the Cinchona Committee's reports relating to the cultivation of the various species of cinchona. These extracts must, however, be limited to portions of the reports which relate to ascertained facts, since it would not be advisable to publish such parts as refer to controversial subjects or to matters which are still under consideration.

I have the honour to be,

My Lord Duke,

Your Grace's most obedient humble Servant,



No 21600-1879
No. 15

Revenue (Forests)
7th August 1879.
Recd 11th Sept 1879.
The
Letter to Lord St. George
No. 12.

Recd 12 Sept: 29

7th Aug 1879

Reviewing reports
by Captain C. Walter
and the (Murchon)
the Govt Chinchona
plantations on the island.

20/9/79

25-9-79

Note for the Right Honorable
the Governor.

Chinchona Plantations. The placing of him
the immediate charge of an officer of high
scientific attainments—

Dated 14th March
No 4 of 1879.

Para 10.

In a letter to the Rt Hon^{ble}
the Secretary of State.

the Government expressed
an opinion "that it is
desirable to appoint a
person in succession
to the late Mr. Murchon." x x
x x "that what is wanted
is a scientific but
practicable horticulturist
who shall be capable of
working the plantations
to the best advantage, and
of experimenting, particularly
in the direction of careful
artificial hybridization,
and the modes of propagating
the several varieties."

Dated India Office
London 7 Aug: 1879.

Para 6

In para 6 of his
reply to the above letter
writes Lord Crombrook
writes [for reasons set out
at length by him] "I shall
therefore refrain from

taking steps for obtaining
any one in this country
as Superintendent for
the Nilgiri plantations
and I desire that they
may, for the present at
any rate, be at once
placed in charge of an
officer of the Forest
Department."

This instruction was
carried out in G.O.
8 Decr 1880 N^o 1670.-

Later on however,
that is on the 18th Nov
1881. The Secy of State in
acknowledging receipt of
Col: Beddome's report
on the Thevetia plan-
tations, writes (para 3)
"Col: Beddome has
raised several questions
which clearly prove
that the plantations
should be under the
immediate charge of
an officer of high

A

dated 21 Decr 1881
N^o 16-

Para 1

Para 5.

scientific attainments
and technical ex-
perience and that no
reasonable expenditure
should be withheld
in order that he may
be assisted by such a
practical staff of
subordinates as may
be necessary in order
to ensure cultivation
being carried on in
the best possible
manner."

This Govt in replying
expressed their con-
currence in the above
views & asked the Secy
of State to select and
send out a competent
man. adding that
when this appointment
has been made it can
be settled what further
assistance in the way
of subordinates may be
necessary.

No answer to this letter.

has as yet been received.

The plantations are under the immediate supervision of the Deputy Conservator of the Range (drawing from 500 to 600 Rs a month) and if the Secretary of State can hereafter send us a man of high scientific attainments and botanical experience would it not be well that he should be quite independent of the local mesh officer who in all probability will not be so well paid an official.

Regarding the Secretary of State's expression "reasonable expenditure". The simple question seems to be whether we can afford to pay a salary sufficient to induce, the class of man we are so much in need of, to come to India —

There is an annual profit of some 5 lakhs

of Rupees arising from the sale of bark &c. and it is thought that if we had to offer 7, 8, or even 1000 Rs a month, in order to secure the services of a thoroughly capable man it would be money well spent & certainly would not be an undue strain on our income.

21/10/1905

Sir Joseph Hooker writes to me as follows

"We are looking out for a good man for your Chinchona Gardens — for which Rs 600 is offered — we have had one refusal already: it's not enough for the class of man you want i.e. educated as well as capable; such men if energetic, can make their fortunes in private practice. We are now trying for an Oxford man, such as Trimen of Ceylon, or a Morris of Jamaica, men of single-mindedness of purpose. Who will be glad of a poorly paid scientific appointment and avoid the snares of money-grubbing — the worst of it is that they must be unmarried; no

① "man with a wife and family
"could live on the salary like a gentleman and support and educate a family; for visited as he is by seekers of information from a distance, he must keep open house and being above the common man in point of scientific knowledge his company is always much sought."

I suppose we might ask for 1000 let us permit Hooker to offer

whether or he thinks
absolutely necessary subject
to refer to the India
Office

MR

June 22/02

When did we say that
we wd offer only 600 Rs
Is it perhaps the Secy
who fixed that figure.

There is nothing on
records as to what
pay should be given
- Coors appears
to have been his
own fixed
by the Secy of State
etc

Chinaman
Plantations

Future management
of.

Note for the Right Hand

The Governor
C. & W.
21/1/19

This report of the committee
that the committee
have, be returned to
in London request

FROM CIRCULATION
WITH
REMARKS.

221-6-82. RGS-7-82.
R 25-6-82. R 7-7-82.
R 22-6-82. R 1-7-82.
R 26-6-82. R 10-7-82.

H. H. wishes the 10th
telegram to the
Sec of State to
be marked private
or personal

so as to avoid any
publication

Chambers of the

Private

117 New Dept.

Telegram.

To Secretary of State,
London.

Francis Dr. Hooker's
private letter minus
simian. If Chemist
Savies Botanist receive
the letter. Chinchona
now classed stelan.

Cotacaimundy
1 July 1882- }

Signed J. F. Webster
Secy to Court.

sup. 1/7/82

Exd. C. P.

121 Recd. Dept.

Telegram.

To Secretary of State,
London.

With reference to p-
-vate letter from Mr. Hook
we do not think any
-very difficulty should st
in the way of getting a
for Chindana. If Chindana
as well as Potaniot so on
the better.

Chindana Revenue
- Reproduction now
Octacumund }
29 June 1823 } Classed as Potaniot

Class

Indian Government Telegraph.

No.

RECEIPT FOR FOREIGN TELEGRAM.

To (STATION)

INSTRUCTIONS (if any.)

FOR FOREIGN MESSAGES ONLY

STAMPS must be affixed *whole*, the upper portion above, the lower portion below the perforation. The upper halves, after defacement, are returned with the Receipt to the Sender.

SPACE FOR STAMPS.

STAMPS in any way defaced cannot be received.

AN INLAND MESSAGE WRITTEN ON THIS FORM WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

Class.	No.	Words.	Time tendered for transmission. (Madras Time.)			Sent to						(L. I.)
			Day.	H.	M.	At	Hr.	Mt.	D.	Mo.	By	

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN BY THE SENDER ABOVE THIS.

TO
Station)

London

FROM
(Station)

Botacaland

(Name)

FROM
(Name)

Governor.

TO

(Address)

Secretary of
State

ROUTE. OFFICIAL INSTRUCTIONS.

CLASS OF MESSAGE (STATE OR PRIVATE.)

State

1	2	3
4	5	6
7	8	9
10	11	12
13	14	15
16	17	18
19	20	21
22	23	24
25	26	27
28	29	30

SENDER'S SIGNATURE
AND ADDRESS. (NOT SIGNALLED.)

MESSAGE TO BE CONTINUED ON THE BACK, IF NECESSARY.

TELEGRAPH MASTER.

* If not marked State it will be classed as Private and no alteration can afterwards be made.

CONDITIONS ON WHICH THIS MESSAGE WILL BE ACCEPTED.

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 The accuracy of messages is not guaranteed and the Telegraph Department accepts no responsibility in regard to Foreign Telegrams.
 The sender of a message can, on depositing the cost, prepay a reply which is limited to three times the length of the original message.
 The sender can prescribe the ROUTE he wishes his telegram to follow: no charge is made for the indication of the route.
 Undercharges made in error are recoverable from the sender of the message.
 All enquiries respecting this message should be made to the CHECK OFFICE, GOVERNMENT TELEGRAPH DEPARTMENT, CALCUTTA, within 6 months of its date, accompanied by this Stamped receipt.

MESSAGE,—continued.

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Telegram
From Govt of Madras
The Secretary of State

With reference to: *Pronis* 187
Dr Hooker's private letter.
No difficulty regarding = *himios* 106
mode of providing fund. = *simiam* 204
If Chemist
as well as ——— *Sanies* 184
Notaries
much better ——— *molari* 90
Chinchona now elapsed
Provincial Revenue = *Stelam* 213

Pronis Dr Hooker's private letter. himios
simiam. If Chemist Sanies Bolanist
molari. Chinchona now elapsed Stelam

Telegram to the
Secretary of State
for India

151

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

No.

office note on future management
—From— of Chindama Plantations

Dated

188

FOR ORDERS.

Submitted for perusal
of remarks, by the Right
Honble the Governor,
on enclosed note of
E. J. 1/6

Just say, I think
it is a good idea
to do it in this way
and I hope to see it
done in the future

It would be good economy
to double the amount which
Mr. J. Stocker, ^{consider} is recommended.
I think the sort of man
he wants - £1200 a year or
say £1000 a month would
be a big bite in the way of
a change when the people
are considered and the
importance of developing
the under taking to the full
extent. Let us address India
on the subject in the
manner proposed by
H. E.

24/6/52

FOR ORDERS.

*Induce the government
of - - - - -
to - - - - -*

177

Oct 10th 1882

My dear Webster

His Excellency desires
that you will telegraph
to the Secretary of State

saying you are about Prof. Lawson
He presumes of course that his colleagues
agree for him

Albany

Desp. from Secretary of State 1871
D.O. from Private Secy dated 9/10/82

Note for the Hon. Members.

The Secretary of State.
proposes to send as Professor
Lawson [Professor of Botany
in the University of Oxford]
as Sup^{dt} of Chinamen
plantations & desires that
a telegram may be sent
as to whether the Govt. desires
that the app^t should be
made. E. F. W.
9/10/82

Special

October 10, 1882

Mr. W. H. Sullivan

Mr. L. J. Sullivan

30
7/10
1/10

29-10-82
12-11-10-82

Subs. 7 Oct 1882

207
Rev. Left.

Telegram

From Governor

to Octacumund.

To Secretary

London.

Montague Professor

Lawson Rogers circa

32. Finest.

Octacumund,
11 October 1882

Signed E. J. Webster
Says to Court.

One defect in it
repaired - I have
agreed in principle to do for
it - leaving to the
personnel to prepare to do it
to do it better.

On the 1st of the 11th
I have in the hands of
the carrier to do it
all that I can do
to do it better.

Very good. I did not
understand that the
the occasion was
it but if he can
that he can do it
well.

48/

In replying to your Lordship's despatch of dated 10th Nov: 1881 No 28 (Revenue) we had the honour to express our concurrence in the opinion that the Chinchona plantations in the Presidency should be placed under the immediate charge of an officer of high scientific attainments and botanical experience; and as we had not at our disposal any officer possessed of the necessary qualifications we asked your Lordship to select and send out a competent man.

We have not yet received
Your Lordships reply to our
request. but it appears
from a letter lately received

by the Right Hon^{ble} The Governor
from Sir Joseph Hooker that
the salary offered - 600
Rupees a month - is too
small to attract any
one possessed of the
necessary experience and
knowledge

In these plantations we
~~have~~ ^{have}, as your Lordship
is aware, a very valuable
property, capable however
of considerable improvement
and we are strongly of opinion
that no money difficulty
should be allowed to stand
in the way of their development
of our plantations to the
fullest extent possible.

We therefore request
your Lordship to authorize
Sir Joseph Hooker to offer
such salary - not exceeding
1000 Rupees a month - as
may be necessary to secure
the services of the class of
men we want, and when
making his selection to
remember that the services
of one who is both a chemist
and a botanist would

which apparently was
the limit fixed at the
time.

It might be on him that
it is impossible to obtain the
services of a gentleman
in whom is combined
a knowledge of chemistry
as well as of botany
if they will be

Copy Enclosed

Directed to you

of special value to us.
His Excellency the
Governor has already
telegraphed privately to
your Lordship the views
of the Government on
this subject. and it
only remains for us
to express our hope that
your Lordship will
comply with our request
as to the limit of salary
to be offered, and that
the person whom Sir
Joseph Hooker selects
may be sent to us
with as little delay as
possible.
We have
E. J. W.

Special
 Circular
 Plantation

To the Secretary
 to the Government

Sir,
 I have the honor
 to acknowledge

the receipt of your letter
 of the 14th inst.
 in relation to the

Madras Anichona
 Plantations
 and the number of
 plants in the
 same.

25-7-82
 26-7-82
 27-7-82
 28-7-82
 29-7-82
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 31-7-82
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 2-8-82
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Royal Gardens 23rd
 Kew.
 August 2nd 1882.

Sir,
 I am desired by Sir Joseph Hooker to
 acknowledge the receipt of your letter
 (P. 114) of May 6th
 1. The papers relating to the Madras Anichona
 plantations transmitted in your letter
 of the same date are herewith returned
 2. Sir Joseph Hooker gathers from these
 documents, especially the letter from the
 Government of Madras, dated March 14th
 1879, that since the death of Mr. McEvoy, the
 Madras Anichona plantations have
 somewhat decreased in number.
 3. It is stated in this letter, that
 while Mr. McEvoy computed that the
 number of plants was 1,25,254 the
 actual

Sir Louis Mallet C.B.
 India Office

L.P.

actual number which Captain Walker found to exist was only 569,031.

The discrepancy appears to be Joseph Hooker's most astonishing as it amounts to not far short of 100000.

4. Only two *Cinchona*s have as yet been found to thrive on the Nilgiris. These are the species which

produce Red Bark and Crown Bark respectively. Of the latter there are in round numbers 300000 plants. This element of the Nilgiri plantations is of great importance because it supplements the deficiencies of those of Sikkim in which there is no Crown bark.

5. The varieties of *Cinchona Calisaya* have hitherto failed on the Nilgiris. The Government of Madras remark in their letter already cited "Further experiment with the latter (Yellow Bark) is needed and also in hybridization, and the systematic cultivation of general hybrids."

"hybrids as appear to be of value."

"This subject opens out a wide field

"for research, and may be possibly be the means of extending the cultivation to districts where *Cinchona*s cannot now be grown. The best method of harvesting the bark is also as yet open to question."

They also state "what is wanted is a scientific but practical horticulturist who shall be capable of working the plantation to the best advantage and of experimenting in the direction of careful artificial hybridization and the modes of propagating the several varieties."

6. The Secretary of State however, did not act upon this recommendation but in a despatch dated August 7th 1879 directed that the plantations "for the present at any rate be at once placed in charge

of

"of an officer of the Forest Department."

This was done accordingly as notified in the letter of the Government of Madras, December 14th 1880 and the Government Cinchona plantations were placed under the Conservator of Forests.

7. This officer Colonel Beddome happened to be one of the best botanists in India. Such a circumstance was necessarily a pure accident inasmuch as the Forest Service dealing with administrative and technical matters proper to it, would not necessarily develop in its officers such exceptional scientific acquirements as Colonel Beddome possessed, nor could it be expected to supply those qualifications which the Madras Government in their letter of March 14th 1879, pointed out that the Superintendent of the Cinchona plantations should possess.

251
8. The result was that Colonel Beddome's examination of the Plantations immediately raised a variety of points requiring scientific study. Some of these have already been the subject of official Correspondence with Gov.

9. The Secretary of State arrived at the conclusion which he communicated to the Madras Government, November 10th 1881, that "Colonel Beddome has raised several questions which already prove that the plantations should be under the immediate charge of an officer of high scientific attainments and botanical experience."

10. The Madras Government in reply December 21st 1881 "review the application of 1879" and ask that a competent man may be selected.

11. Sir Joseph Hooker has thought it

it desirable to review the history
of this matter in order to get a
definite idea of the kind of officer
required. It is quite clear to him
that the appointment should be
social and intellectual status
rank with those of the Forest Service.

This puts the whole class of gardeners
out of court. This class often produces
men of exceptional capacity who
under superior guidance are
capable of doing first rate work.
But they rarely exhibit the force
of character sufficient to enable
them to stand alone or to conduct
considerable administrative affairs.

12. After passing in review the
gentlemen to whom such an
appointment might be acceptable
the matter was mentioned to Mr.

Lawson the Professor of Botany in
the University of Oxford as being
likely to be able to suggest some
university man whose capacity
for

for the appointment might be found
sufficient. After some consideration
Professor Lawson volunteered his own
services. After carefully considering
the proposal, Sir Joseph Hooker
has arrived at the conviction that
his appointment would be likely
to meet the requirements of the
Madras Government in the best
possible way.

Professor Lawson is
unmarried and about 40 years
of age. He is of remarkably robust
constitution and energetic habits.
He is an excellent botanist and
has elaborated under Sir Joseph
Hooker's eye some portion of the
Flora of British India. He is of course
well versed in the scientific details
of structural and physiological botany
and having been for some years
Professor of Botany at Oxford (where
he is extremely popular) is acquainted

with the horticultural details and administration of a garden. Some surprise may be felt at Professor Lawson's disposition to abandon a post at Oxford for one in India.

But it may be proper to mention that in so doing he has been - undoubtedly influenced by the example of his personal friends, Mr.

Duthie Superintendent of the Government Garden, Saharunpore, and Dr. Trimen Director of the Royal Botanic Garden Ceylon. The latter gentleman is almost exactly of the same age and standing as Professor Lawson and his administration in Ceylon has given the Government of that Colony unqualified satisfaction as he has brought to bear upon the botanical enterprise of the Island precisely those qualifications which the Government of Madras have for some time felt the need of in their Presidency.

Presidency

18. Should the Secretary of State be pleased to appoint Professor Lawson, Sir Joseph Hooker anticipates that great benefits will ensue from the mutual cooperation of that gentleman and Dr. Trimen. The physical conditions of Ceylon and Southern India are so closely similar that it is in every way desirable that their economic-botanical development should follow similar paths. Sir Joseph Hooker has every reason to believe that Professor Lawson would not merely prove an efficient administrator of the Cinchona plantations but would also be able to give a considerable impulse to other branches of botanical administration in the Presidency which are by no means in as active a condition as is desirable.

I am &c

(sd). W. T. Thiselton Dyer.

1602

No 17

Copy Letter from Mr. Threlton Dyke,
dated 3rd August 1882.

Rev: 5/8/82

Referred to in Revenue Letter to
Madras, No 32, dated 14th Sep. 1882.
Para. 1.

1682.

Revenue
No 32.

India Office,

London, 14th September 1882.

Sir,

1. With reference to your
Excellency's letter No 16 of the
21st December last, I now enclose
for your information a copy of a
letter from Mr. Threlton Dyke
on the subject of the appointment
of a Superintendent for the Nilgiri
Cinchona Plantations.

2. Your Excellency will observe
that Mr. Lawson, the Professor
of Botany in the University of
Oxford has offered his services
for the appointment, and Sir
Joseph Hooker considers that
Professor Lawson would be able
to give a considerable impulse to
other branches of botanical

His Excellency,

The Right Honorable,
The Governor in Council,
Fort St. George.

administration in your Presidency,
besides proving an efficient
administrator

cc.

Amen & Amen!
It is a marvel to me
that he takes it.
MP

301
administrator of the binchona
Plantations.

3. The salary mentioned
to Sir Joseph Hooker for a
superintendent of your binchona
Plantations was Rs. 600 a month,
and although not so stated
in Mr. Threlton Dyer's letter,
I understand that Professor Lawson
would accept those terms on the
understanding that he was also
furnished with an official
residence.

4. I shall be glad to receive,
by telegram, a reply as to whether
you desire that the appointment
should be given to Professor
Lawson.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,

Your most obedient humble
servant,

W. H. H. H.

N^o 16

Revenue

14th Sept 1882.

The

Treasurer to Lord St George

24 32.

No.

331

From

The Secretary of State
for India, London.

Dated

14th September

Recd.

9th October

No.

32 Revenue.

Secy.

SUBJECT.

Requesting to be informed
whether the appointment
of a Superintendent for
the Nilgiri Chinchona
plantations may be
given to Professor Lawson.

British Museum
15 Dec 1882
14/10

(List from orders)

25/10/82

Received by the Secretary of State
for India, London, on the 14th September 1882.
G. A. N. 11/10/82
The Secretary of State for India, London.

Recorded with reference

to the following telegram sent
to the Secretary of State, on the

11th October 1882.

"We agree to the appoint-
ment of Professor Lawson
on the terms detailed in
your Revenue despatch
number 32, dated 14th September
this year."

14. 10. 82.

7/11

List from orders.

14 October 1882

Code language.

Montagna Professor Lawson
Riquos circos 32 Fausti.

29-10-82.
27-10-82.

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23/10/82