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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 3870 Press Mis.

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No. 18

DIRECTOR'S OFFICE,

OOTACAMUND, 17 June 189 1.

From

M. A. LAWSON, Esq.,

GOVERNMENT BOTANIST AND DIRECTOR OF

GOVERNMENT CINCHONA PLANTATIONS, &c.,

Nilgiris.

To

The Secretary to Government

Revenue Department

Ootacamund.

SIR,

As it is some time now since I reported on the progress made in the manufactory of Sulphate of Quinine at Naduvattam, Government may like to know what has been done during the last four months and what the prospects are for the future.

The macerating and distilling portion of the Factory has been separated from the room in which the crystallization and the precipitation are carried out. A new drying room has also been built, which is heated by steam from the same boiler that supplies the steam pans. Water has also been laid on over the whole Factory and is supplied from a deep well of pure spring water.

The receipts for the past year including the packets sent to the several Collectorates amount to Rs. 30150-13-9 or Rs. 9849-2-3 below the Budget Estimate. The value of the Indents already received for the current year, amounts to a little over

Rs 60000 and of this amount over Rs 36000 worth has been supplied up to date. It is very probable that later on in the year more indents will be received, and I look forward with hope that the actual receipts for the current year will cover the Expenditure, notwithstanding that the price of quinine has been reduced from Rs 16-7-9 to Rs 14-11-3 per pound, and febrifuge from Rs 14 to Rs 12 per pound.

It has been a struggle to turn out the amount of quinine and of febrifuge which has been done: and owing to my possessing nothing in duplicate, I have been in constant fear, lest something should break down, and so cause a stoppage of the work.

The Stills, which have been put up work economically, and effect a great saving in the consumption of the fuel oil. but I am able to get back only little of the hydrastin. The consumption of Caustic Soda, & Sulphuric acid is much greater than the calculated amounts. Of the former I use one Cwt a day. both these articles have of late been purchased in India, but as the Indian rates are very high, when compared with the English Rates, I am anxiously awaiting the supplies indented for from home. At the present moment my Stock of Soda is exhausted, & the manufacture of quinine and febrifuge is for the moment at an End. I am however expecting a small consignment from Madras, & have Telegraphed to Calcutta for a Ton.

Owing to the pressure of

work I have had but little opportunity for experimenting on the new method of extracting quinine from the Red barks by the double acid process, but so far as the experiments have been carried out there can be but little doubt but that this new process will eventually supersede the old one.

The Bombay Government asked that all their quinine might be colored. This has been done and it was chiefly owing to this request that a second drying room was found to be necessary.

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your most obedient Servant.

M. A. Lawson

Govt Botanist &

Director &c.

Rev Dept

REVENUE 1891 CINCHONA.

Circular Number 4720

From

M. A. LAWSON, ESQ.,

GOVERNMENT BOTANIST AND DIRECTOR OF

GOVERNMENT CINCHONA PLANTATIONS;

Nilgiris.

To *The Secretary to Government*
Revenue Department
Ootacamund

The Hon. Mr. Garstin CS
The Hon. Mr Stokes CS
H.E. the Governor

No.

Dated 17 June 1891
Despd.
Recd. 18-6-91

Enclosures

Subject

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS
18 JUN 91
REVENUE DEPARTMENT

Government Quinologist at Naduvattam

Submits for the information of Government, a report on what has been done at the during the past few months and what its prospects are for the future.

P. T-O

G.O. misc. No. 3870 dd 6 July 1891

Recorded

To *The Govt. Botanist &c.* Despd 13/7.
The Financial Dept