M.R.O. 14—13,000—27-9-24

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 353 Press ~~Mis.~~

134-135

Dated 12 — 2 — 1867.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 12th February 1867.

No. 134. Read the following letter from J. BROUGHTON, Esq., to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Fort Saint George, dated Ootacamund, 29th January 1867 :—

1. In fulfilment of the instructions contained in Order No. 228 of the Madras Government, I have, in company with Mr. McIvor, visited the various Chinchona plantations, and made myself acquainted with the advantages offered by their respective neighbourhood as sites for the erection of a Chemical laboratory.

2. The result of this examination has led me to be decidedly of opinion, that Ootacamund is by far the best place for extended Chemical investigations. Neddivuttum, notwithstanding its important plantations of red bark trees, offers the following disadvantages :—

First.—The lonely situation, and the necessity of procuring all supplies (except bark) from Ootacamund. This would frequently cause considerable inconvenience and delay in the progress of work.

Second.—The damp climate, which renders me unwilling to risk injury to delicate instruments constructed of metal. The higher mean temperature is also a disadvantage in such operations as require the manipulation of ether and other volatile liquids.

Ootacamund possesses the advantages of being near to the Dodabetta plantations, is central, and within reach of civilized assistance, and of a climate very favorable for scientific apparatus and work.

I trust, therefore, that my preference of Ootacamund, as the site for a laboratory, will be approved by Government.

3. I have furnished Mr. McIvor with a ground-plan of the most convenient form of building. His estimate of the cost of the same, inclusive of the internal fittings, amounts to Rupees 2,100. A copy of this plan, with the specifications, I beg to enclose for the approval of Government. I have also, in conjunction with Mr. McIvor, *provisionally* selected a very suitable site in an inconspicuous and, at present, uncultivated part of the Botanic Gardens, and adjoining their boundary.

4. The practical working of this establishment will eventually require the services of a Native Writer and of a Native or European Assistant, whom I could teach to prepare bark for analysis, make extracts, &c. Also I would solicit permission to engage a Peon for the performance of present rough work at the same wages as those now employed in the Gardens, viz., Rupees 8 a month.

5. I would also submit, to the consideration of Government, the desirability of attaching to the laboratory a few rooms for my own residence. There are many analytical processes which require to be performed continuously, and a considerable loss of time would ensue by allowing such to cease during the night. My presence on the spot would be economy of time and labor. It is unusual and, indeed, somewhat unsafe, to allow a laboratory to be entirely deserted during a great part of the twenty-four hours. Should it be considered that such an arrangement is undesirable, being in some respects practically equivalent to an increase of pay, I would gladly obviate this objection by paying rent for such rooms.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
12th February 1867.

No. 135. ORDER THEREON, 12th February 1867, No. 353.

Miscellaneous.

1. The Government approve the selection of Ootacamund as Mr. Broughton's head-quarters and the site for the laboratory, for the reasons stated, as also the suggestion that quarters shall be provided for Mr. Broughton in the same building with the laboratory, he paying rent for the same.

2. A revised plan and estimate will be submitted for the building, together with a rough sketch of the ground, to afford Government some idea of the position selected for it.

3. The Government authorize Mr. Broughton to engage at once a Peon on Rupees 8, monthly pay, and request him to renew his application for the further establishment when he wishes to entertain it.

4. His indent for chemicals will be forwarded to the Principal Inspector General, Medical Department, to be passed for supply in the usual manner.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,

Secretary to Government.

To John Broughton, Esq.
" the Accountant General.
" the Principal Inspector General, Medical Department, with Indents.
the Supdt of Chem Plantations Ootacamund

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

No. 353. 2nd

The Govt approve the selection of Ootacamund as Mr. Broughton's head quarters & the site for the laboratory. for the reasons stated - as also the suggestion that quarters shall be provided for Mr. Broughton in the same building with the laboratory paying rent for the same.

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Pro 11 December 1866 No 248-24
- 14 January 1867 - 226-24

Reported to England
D/25th March No 19 of 1867
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From John Broughton
Esq. d/19 Feby 67 C 1782

From Asstt Genl. d/
5 Sept 67 C No 2396.

Revenue 1867 Nov
Proof Govt for Feby 67
No 277.

From Thos Broughton
to Esqre

Dated 29th Inst.
Received 1st Feby
1867.
No

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2 Ks Mo Medicinoff

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