

Revenue (1898) Department.

MISCELLANEOUS SERIES.

G.O., No. 3136

DATED 26th July 98

[Despatch Abstract.]

Informing the Govt of India by telegram that this Govt agrees to the nomination of Mr Barker as Govt Agent on the pay proposed.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

H. E. the Governor's remarks
of 28.4.98 on Mr Thurston's
d.o. of 15.4.98 Re: Govt
Botanist for Madras.

To Under Secy.

In a d.o. to
(the Honble) the late Mr Grose
Mr Thurston has given a
precis of the views of Mr
Thurston Dyer regarding the
kind of botanical officer
required for this Presidency.
Mr T. Dyer thinks that what
Southern India wants is
such an officer as they have
in Ceylon and Jamaica - a
botanist able to look after
the flora, but whose primary
duties would be to advise the
planters in their technical
difficulties, make experiments

stimulation of new

help given by

development

thrual countries

approve of the

which has been

arrived

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Southern India wants is
such an officer as they have
in Ceylon and Jamaica - a
botanist able to look after
the flora, but whose primary
duties would be to advise the
planters in their technical
difficulties, make experiments
on the cultivation of new
staples and help generally
in the material development
of an agricultural country.
He does not approve of the
decision which has been
arrived.

224/6798.
17/98

assisted at by this Govt in
G.O. No 990. D. 26. 11. 97, viz
to have a botanist from
home for five years on
a salary of Rs. 500-50-700
to finish the botanical survey.
He says that it could hardly
be expected that a man would
throw up his prospects at
home for a temporary appoint-
ment of this kind and he
is of opinion that a cryptogamist
and an entomologist are
required for India as a
whole and that "a botanical
"officer who would turn
"up his nose at economic
"problems" is needed for
each Presidency. As regards
botanical survey he says
that what is wanted is to
fill up gaps and that this
might be done incidentally
by botanical and forest
officers. In this letter
His Excellency has remarked
as follows: - "I think
there is much good sense
"in

in what Mr Threlton Dyer
says. I accept our views
set forth in G.O. No 990 D.
26. 11. 97. because I did not
feel my self qualified to
question the opinion of our
local expert. But I was
not really convinced in my
own judgment. I should
now like to modify our
view in the direction suggested
by Mr T. Dyer. But if it be
still held that we must have
a botanist of the kind described
in our G.O. No. 990 D. 26. 11. 97
I would ask if a practical
agricultural botanist such
as Mr T. Dyer describes should
not be included in the staff
of the Agricultural Department
which the Govt. of India has
discussed in its recent resolution.
2. The question as to the
qualifications of the officer
he obtained in this Presidency
has been the subject of
considerable correspondence
between this Govt and the
Govt.

Govt of India a piece of which is given below.

3. When the question of appointing a successor to Mr Dawson was under consideration in 1895 he stated that there was quite enough work to occupy the whole time of an expert botanist in his own special department his duties being to maintain and extend the valuable herbarium to superintend the botanical survey of Southern India to conduct all the botanical examinations in the University and to teach botany in the Presidency College. This view of the duties of a Govt Botanist was concurred in by the Govt and the Secy of State was requested in July 1895 to select a suitable person to perform the duties above indicated. The Govt of India however suggested that as fear of a general botanist were potent cryptogamist should

Para 1(a) of his letter of 18.4.95
no 23 at p 1 of the paper
relating to the separation
of the Cinchona and
botanical dep^{ts} 7

Para 7 of the G. I. letter ibid.

Para 10 of do.

Para 7 of do.

Para 4 of the despatch to the
Secy of State at p 3 ibid.

Para 9 of the letter at p 3 of
G. O. no 837 of 30.12.95. C

Para 8 of do.

should be obtained from England (or better perhaps from the United States) to take Mr Dawson's place. The grounds on which the proposal was made were:—
(i) that the flora of the Madras Presidency had already been thoroughly explored;
(ii) that the botanical survey of the Presidency which Mr Dawson had said in 1887 could be completed in three or four years would have been finished by then;
(iii) that scientific enquiries tending to develop the material resources of the country or to advance the prosperity of its people should necessarily take precedence of those which possessed a purely scientific value;
(iv) that fungal diseases such as wheat rust, &c, were known to spread wide havoc among crops in India and caused enormous loss every year.

year; and
(V) that the branch of research
most needed was no doubt
botanical, but in a very
special direction viz
cryptogamy.

The Board of Revenue which
was asked to report on the
scope for the appointment
of a Govt. cryptogamist and
the probable practical value
of such an officer's work
expressed its inability to offer
any opinion in the absence
of information as to how
far cryptogamists had
made a special study of
parasitic vegetation with
which alone the officers were
expected to deal. The Board
at the same time stated that
very little wheat was grown
in Madras, that the diseases
to which millet was subject
were not restricted to Madras
or to India, that the loss in
Madras occasioned by such
cases attacking millet,
indigo

Para 8 of do.

B. P. Misc. no 5732 d 29.10.95
prints at pp 3-4 of G.O.
no. 837 d 30.12.95.

Please his note on the margin
of the Office note in G.O.
no 837 d 30.12.95.

H

indigo, cotton &c was
comparatively little, that coffee,
potato and tobacco diseases had
already been thoroughly and
intelligently investigated by
planters, tobacco manufacturers
and specialists employed in
their behalf though they had
not been able to discover
a certain cure for the same
and that in these circumstances
if a cryptogamist was to
achieve any practical result
he should be a man of extra-
ordinary ~~attainments~~ attainments
or have extraordinary good
luck. The late Honble Mr.
Gosse remarked on the proposal
as follows: - "The Govt. of
India have asked us carefully
to consider whether we had
not better get out a cryptogamist
than a general Botanist. They
do so on two grounds: first
that the chief work of a Botanist
in connection with the botanical
survey of Southern India,
has been done: and second
that

that the services of a cryptogamist
will be useful to the people
in the investigation and
prevention of fungoid diseases
of millet and coffee. The first
of these grounds is nonexistent.
The botanical survey of
Southern India so far from
being finished is hardly yet
begun and there is a great
deal of work for a Botanist
to do here as Mr. Dawson has
pointed out. The second
ground amounts to asking
us to undertake a costly
experiment for the benefit
of other parts of India. Crypt-
ogamy is an important
subject and it may in
time result in great good,
but it is still in its infant
stage. I do not know of
any State that has entertained
a cryptogamist yet or that
any remarkable effect has
proceeded from the advice of
cryptogamists. Nothing has
been brought to notice that
calls

9,
calls for the entertainment
of cryptogamist in Madras.
There our millets suffer from
mildew and our coffee from
leaf disease but the loss from
mildew is not excessive. So
far as I have seen the chief
injuries from which millets
suffer are caterpillars and
other insects with which crypt-
ogamists have nothing to do. As
the Board points out the leaf
disease in coffee has been
carefully investigated and I do
not think a cryptogamist would
help us much with regard to
it - at least for some time to
come. We should have to leave
a cryptogamist entirely to his
own devices not being able to
instruct him in any way.
For a long time failures must
be expected even from a good
man and should have to pay
for them. I do not think we
should be justified in spending
with our funds in this way
and in burning our fingers
to

10
 get chestnuts out of the fire
 for other Provinces. In some
 other Provinces the need of a
 cryptogamist even on India's
 showing is much greater
 than in Madras; a beginning
 "may be made there". The
 above remarks were contained
 in by Sir Henry Bliss and
 Lord Welbuck and the Govt of
 India was informed that
 there was no sufficient scope
 for the employment of a
 cryptogamist in this Presidency.
 The Secy of State was at the
 same time requested to secure
 the services of a general botanist
 whose duties would be,

- (1) to superintend the botanical
 survey which had then
 hardly been begun;
- (2) to maintain and extend
 the valuable herbarium;
- (3) to take an active part
 in the teaching of Botany
 at the Presidency College, Madras;
- (4) to be available for
 University examinations;
 and

Please see para 1 of G.O.
 no 837 of 30.12.95
 and para 4 of the
 dispatch to the Secy
 of State no 1 of 22.1.96
 in the same G.O.

Para 8 II (1) of the letter to
 India at p 14 of the Papers
 relating to the separation
 of the Cinchona and
 Botanical dep'ts K

Letter from the Govt of
 India no 432/32-2 of 25.2.96
 printed at pp 15-16 ibid

Please see para 4 of the Secy
 of State's dispatch no 83 of
 16.7.96 printed at p 8 of
 G.O. no 91 of 15.2.97.

(5) generally to act as an
 adviser on all botanical
 matters.

4. Again when submitting
 final proposals to the Govt of
 India for the separation of
 the Cinchona and botanical
 dep'ts the appointment of
 a whole time botanist on
 a salary of Rs 400-50-00
 with free quarters was
 recommended, but the Govt
 of India decided that the
 question should lie over for
 a year and in the meantime
 sanctioned subject to the
 approval of the Secy of State
 the appointment of Mr Standen
 as Director of the Cinchona
 plantations. The Secy of State
 however was not inclined to
 approve of this appointment
 as he was of opinion that it
 was desirable to retain both
 a qualified botanist and a
 qualified chemist to advise
 the Madras Govt upon agricultural
 matters and to prosecute
 economic

the economic enquiries and that
one or other of these officers
should hold charge of the
Cinchona plantations and
factories in addition to his
other duties. In reply it
was pointed out that the
services of a chemist was
unnecessary in this Presidency
as there were already two
expert chemists in the service
viz. Dr Wilson of the Presidency
College and Surgeon Major Van
Geyzel, the Chemical Examiner
and that it was essential
to secure the services of a
botanist. It was stated
that in Madras systematic
or classificatory botany has
special claims to consideration.
A botanical survey has been
commenced and must be
completed, and an extensive and
valuable herbarium is in
existence which requires
systematic arrangement and
exhaustive examination, as
otherwise the labour expended
in

Please see letter to India
no 92 of 15.2.97 E

Para 2 ibid

Para 3 ibid

Concluding portion of para
4 ibid

Letter to India no 991
of 26.11.97
para 2.

in making the collection will
have been practically thrown
away. This work alone would
be sufficient to occupy the
time of a Govt Botanist
while such an officer might
further suitably be employed
as an examiner in Botany
to the Madras University and
a lecturer on the same subject
at the Presidency College." At
the same time the Govt stated
that specific proposals for the
appointment of a Govt Botanist
would be made on receipt of
a report from Dr Bourne as
to what exactly had been done
towards conducting a botanical
survey of Southern India.
This report was considered in
L.O. no 990 of 26.11.97 to which
His Excellency now refers.
In addressing the
Govt of India it was pointed
out that the botanical survey
was far from complete, that
its satisfactory prosecution
would require a large portion
of the

of the undivided time of a
qualified officer and that as
the Kew authorities had stated
that the services of an officer
could not be obtained for the
pay originally proposed (Rs 400-50-600)

the pay might be raised
to Rs 500-50-700. The Govt
of India in reply states that
it was prepared to recommend
the entertainment of a whole
time botanist for five
years.

- (i) to complete the botanical
survey, Madras;
- (ii) to have charge of the
herbarium; and
- (iii) to examine in botany
for the university.

The Govt of India states
that the officer should not
lecture in botany at the
Presidency College as it
would interfere with the
work of botanical survey.
This proposal was accepted by
the Govt.

Reverently the appointment
was

Para 3 ibid

Telegram from the Govt
of India in G.O. no 248
of 17.1.98. B₂

do.

G.O. no 1886 of 29.4.98.

S

X

Letter to India no 635

of 27.7.97. Y

Letter from the Govt of India
prints at pp 3-4 of G.O.

no 1040 of 11.12.97. S

was at the suggestion of Mr. P. Dyer
offered to Mr. Bourdillon, Conservator
of Forests in Transvaal, who has,
however, declined the offer.

6. In this connection attention
is directed to the fourth of the
Resolutions issued by the Govt
of India (pages 1 & 2), from
which it will be seen that
"Entomology" is treated as
"Imperial" and that work
connected with it should be
undertaken under the direct
superintendence of the Imperial
Govt. In connection with the
introduction of Ladybirds into
this Presidency enquiry was
made of the Govt of India
whether the Imperial Govt will
be able to spare at any near
date the services of the Imperial
entomologist to conduct in-
vestigations in this Presidency
and if this could not be done
whether it would be possible
to appoint another officer for
the purpose. The Govt of India
in reply states that there was
then

then no Imperial entomologist
 and that the question of enter-
 taining one was awaiting
 the proposals of this Govt regarding
 the appointment of a Govt
 Botanist for Madras. The
 Govt of India also observed
 (1) That when an Entomologist
 was appointed his first duty
 would be to attend to the
 requirements of the poorer
 agricultural population
 and that he could be expected
 to assist planters only without
 detriment to that duty;
 (2) That he could not in any
 case be sent out of India
 on a roving commission
 for an indefinite period;
 (3) That the planters being
 rich and intelligent all
 is to be connected with investi-
 gations for their benefit
 should in the main be
 borne by them; and
 (4) That an independent
 expert should be engaged
 to carry out the experiment.

Provincial should pay
 for Entomology.

JH

The question now for orders
 is what should be the qualifi-
 cations of the officer to be
 obtained from England for
 botanical work. Mr Thurston
 says that he should be a botanist
 and therefore able to look after
 the flora, but whose primary
 duty would be to advise the
 planters in their technical
 difficulties, make experiments
 for the introduction of new
 staples and help generally
 in the material development
 of an agricultural country.
 It will be seen from the summary
 of the correspondence given
 above that application has
 been made to the Govt of
 India for a general botanist,
 that this Govt has expressed
 its opinion that neither a
 cryptogamist nor an ^{add.} chemist
 was wanted in this Presidency;
 and that Entomology is a
 branch of Imperial Adminis-
 tration. It is therefore not
 exactly understood what?

Qualifications

qualifications the officer should
possess in addition to general
botanical knowledge. It may
also be mentioned in this
connection that in Mr. Thomson's
opinion what is wanted
as to botanical survey is
to fill up gaps which might
be done incidentally by
botanical and forest officers.
But in addressing the Govt
of India in November 1897
it was stated "that the
"botanical survey of this
"Presidency is still far from
"complete and that its satis-
"factory prosecution would
"express a large portion of
"the undivided time and labour
"of a qualified officer".

Orders are solicited.

See ^{garden} ~~from~~ the scheme of agricultural
survey & improvement which
is to be inaugurated under
the Govt of India's orders (8 Resolutions X.)
The Local Govt will have
in time a staff of agricultural
Experts whose duties will consist

16/98

in examining & investigating
such agricultural "defects"
as are brought to their
notice by the District
Officers inspection of
the improved land
records or otherwise.

Such of these defects
as can be attributed
to defective agricultural
methods, it will of
course be within the
power of the local
Experts to remedy
as far as advice
& example on Govt
farms can act as
a remedy. Particular
diseases blights etc.
due to fungoid growth
or to the ravages of
insects will presumably
be sent up to be
investigated by the
Imperial ~~and~~ Entomology
or the Imperial
Botanical staff.

The idea
of having a Botanist

for Madras does not
 fit in with the general
 scheme and the
 Govt of India have
 admitted our request
 for one for special
 reasons based on
 the past history of
 Botany. The Govt of
 India, said Mr. Hobson
 in his letter No 2654/32-12
 of 2 Nov 96 para 6 page
 6 of G.O. No 91 of 18-2-97
 "recognize, however,
 that in Madras system-
 atic or classificatory
 botany has special
 claims to consider-
 ation which do not
 exist in other parts
 of India."

Vide also para 5 of
 Mr. Hobson letter No 2654/32-12
 of 2 Nov 96 page 6 of G.O. No 91 of 18-2-97
 W

flay W

B

If, therefore, we were
 now to apply for a
 "practical ^{applied} botanist" in
 view of the "scientific"
 botanist already asked
 for, the Govt of India
 would probably point
 out that we required
 the former kind of botanist
 W. 16/98

- (1) H. H.
- (2) H. E.

p. 2 of office note
 above.

will be supplied in
 the Imperial part of
 the general scheme
 enumerated in the
 8 Resolutions & we
 would perhaps get
~~none~~ no Prove man
 at all.

W. 23/6/98

H. H.

The Madras Govt has
 always contended that Imperial
 Govt has admitted that
 systematic or classificatory
 botany demands primary
 consideration. I think we
 shall find a ~~man~~ ^a man
 qualified to undertake the
 botanical survey, & also
 qualified to deal with
 agricultural problems touching
 that science, & who, in his
 Thibetian Dyer's words "will
 not turn up his
 economic
 writing
 and he proves



Revenue Secretariat,

M. 16 1898.

My dear Sir

Will you kindly show
the enclosed to H.E. the Governor.

Yours truly

J. Forbes

I think there is much good sense in what Mr.
Thirlmer says. I accepted our view, set forth
in G.O. 19,990, 26 Nov. 1897, because I did not feel
myself qualified to question the opinion of our

expect. But, I have not really considered
in my own judgment. I should not take
it into our view in the Institute
suggested by Mr. T. Dyer.

But, if it be still held that we
must have a Botanist of the kind
described in our G. V. N. 99, 275
N. 1, 1897. - I would not let a
practical agricultural Botanist,
such as Mr. T. Dyer describes,
should not be included in the Staff
of the Agricultural Dept., which
the Govt. of India has decided
in its recent resolution.

25.4.98

5/4/98

Per Secy
had written
to him

Museum No.
April 5. 98

My dear Grose.

The mail
brings me a private
letter from Threlton
Dyer, which I can't
for several reasons
put in as an
official exhibit. But
what he says re
Govt. Botanist is
sound and I give
you a précis of it.

generally in the material development of an agricultural country. The Govts of India and Madras however, have decided on having a man for five years, to finish the botanical survey. He is to have Rs 500 rising to Rs 700, with free quarters. It could hardly be expected that a man would throw up his prospects at home for a temporary appointment of this

5
kind. I have suggested the appointment being offered to Boursdillon whether he will accept it, we shall see.

What India wants is:

1. as a whole

a. a competent myklogamist;

b. & Entomologist

2. for each great division

a botanical officer who won't turn up his nose at economic problems. As to the botanical survey, what is wanted is to

2 As to the Govt Botanist
my view has always
been that what S.
India wants is an
officer such as they have
in Jamaica and
Ceylon, who would be
a botanist, and
therefore able to look
after the flora, but
whose primary duty
would be to advise the
planters in their
technical difficulties,
make experiments on
the cultivation of new
staples, and help

fill up gaps. This⁵
might be done
incidentally by
botanical and forest
officers. If Bourdillon
went back the best, we
must try to find
some one else, but it
won't be easy.

Yours sincerely
Edgworthston

be in charge of the Herbarium
of course; & w^d examine in
Botany at the University
examinations, as appeared
by the Govt of India: vide telegram
from that Govt 17.1.98 (p 14
office note Supra).

The S. of State sh^d be
asked to renew his quest
for a suitable man on the
terms of pay already offered, to
Ant, as Mr. Threlton Dyer
points out, it seems doubtful
whether a good man will throw
up his prospects at home for
a temporary appt in India
(see p 2 of office note above)

However, the S. of State
may try.

special report of the considerations
above indicated. We told the
S. of I. on 24th last that Drouillard
had refused: we have
heard nothing more about
the matter. If we may
safely ask the S. of I.
what is being done

I think we should adhere to our
original position & ask the S. of I.
to try to obtain a scientific botanist
to complete the botanical survey
of this Presy. The Secy's note
indicates the lines on wh. I think
we should go. We know we
want a man botanist of the
sort described to finish work
already begun.

The question of 11.7.98

Revenue (1898) Department.

CURRENT No. 4996

Tel.

From the Govt of India

Rev: and Agri Dept

Order

No. 1901

Dated 16th

Received 16th

Registered

Enclosures

Spare copies.

July 1898

SUBJECT.

Communicating a telegram
from the Secy of State for
India re: the appoint-
ment of a Govt Botanist
for the Madras Pres.

of course to be solved in the above note

for the communication of Mr. Threlton Dyer, on 17.1.98

Lodged with Mr. 20. 11.7.98

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Code
Class.

INDIAN

TELEGRAPHS.

Monthly
Number.

To
(Office)

From
(Office)

Words

Day

Hour

Minute

Official
Instructions

To
(Person)

From
(Person)

64 Word Form.

1481 follow in telegram received from
San Francisco 14th April last
re: letter from the Secretary of the
Board of Trade and Commerce
as regards the proposed
amendment to the
and appears highly desirable to
have the same adopted.

Recd. from

I.N.

Sent to

I.N.

At

Hrs.

Mts. by

At

Hrs.

Mts. by

Mason
Telegraph Master.

U.S. No. 18 - 1713 99 - 4000000

OOTACAMUND 17-7-98

Telegram from the Govt of
India no 1901 dt 16. vii. 98
(C. No. 4996)

Head Clerk

Please send me the
file about this

Ind G.S. 8/17. vii. 98

To the Under Secy

The file containing
the original papers on the
subject is now in circulation
with H.E. the Governor. It
was submitted to H.E. on the
8th inst (July) in box no 7, in
connection with H.E.'s remarks
as to the qualifications ne-
cessary for a Govt Botanist

2 Spare copies of
all the printed papers avail-
able on the subject are sub-
mitted. It may be noted here
that the conditions of the
appointment referred to in
para 2 of the letter to India
no. 991 Rev: dt 28. xi. 97, were
slightly altered with reference to

telegram subsequently received
from the Govt of India

17.7.98

Secy

The present proposal
is to give the new man
the full salary 700 Rs per.
at the outset &
throughout the five
years instead of Rs.
500 - 50 - 700 -

C. A. Barber M.A. is lecturer
on Botany in the Forestry
Branch Royal Indian
Engineering College
Coopers Hill. This is
probably the same as
Mr T. Dyer's nominee.

Wll
17/7/98

~~Wll~~
to H.S.

As the file is with H.S. I
submit the present telegram
in continuation.
The question is really financial

Vide p 4 of the India list
put up.

Wll, 17.7.98, subject the
nomination of Mr. Barber
to the post of Asst. Secy. to Govt.
of India.

I agree. We shall apparently secure
a good man & get a debatable question settled.

H. W. Arundel (1)
- J. H. Allen (1)
S. H. 10.7.8

I have no objection if
the money is available -
This refers the. have been
made through the F. D. or
a. it. c. i.

Wll
22/7/98

L

as to whether the post is
prepared to give Mr Barber
Rs 700 straight off. To this
I do not suppose objection
will be raised.
Otherwise, Mr Barber seems
to possess the qualifications
we desire

17/7/98
19/7/98

Secy Please see draft
G.O. with telegram below
Foil may be asked to
Concur.

Wll
25/7/98

For Dept. S. H.
19/7/8

C. No. 4996 NOTE FOR THE C.S.

There is no provision in the budget under either 26 F. Amchona Plantations or 26 G. Botanical Gardens (p.p. 177 & 178 of the C.S.) for the pay of a frt. Botanist. Mr. Barber is unlikely to come out before the 1st September, and provision would therefore be required for his pay & ex. Comp. allowance (?) for six months in the current year. With Re-establishment &c (?) the amount required will be about Rs 5000. This can be found from the amount (13,000) Revenue has been asked to surrender from the grant for improving Kaimosi establishments, or perhaps Revenue may be able to find savings later on from the provision of 1.57 for purchase of bark.

CMB
257248

Yr.
2577/18.

70 Seen by Secy. Mr. Dap
The Revenue Dept. 26/7/18

Vincent

Recd telegram from the
Govt of India Dept. of
Res & Agr No 1901 &
16 July 1898

G.O. min No: 31364/26 July '98.

The folgy repts
will be despatched to
the Govt of India:-

" June 1901 dated
sixteenth instant
this Government
agrees nomination Barker
as Botanist & salary proposed

Wll
26/7/98
S. H. 26/7

To Fmt Dept A & O

Wll
26/7/98

Ordinary Defended.
Date

Tel. 26/7/98

June
26/7