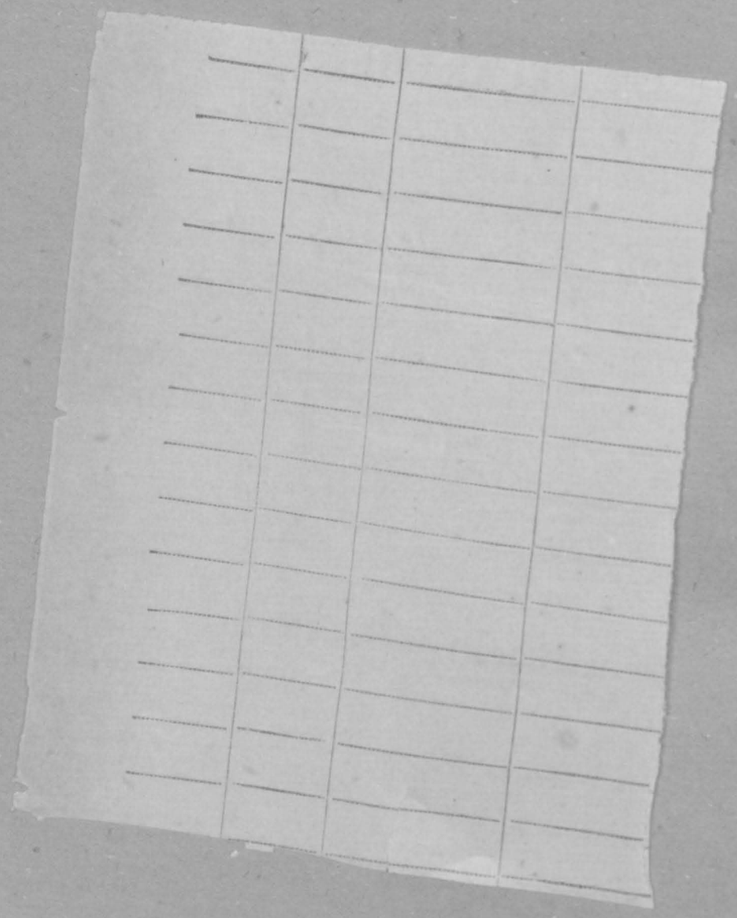


M.R.O. 14—10,000—21-4-22

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 57 Press
~~Mis.~~

114-115

Dated 16. 1. 1862.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 16th January 1862.

Read the following papers :—

No. 113. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 14th December 1861, No. 7,004.

Read the following letter from F. I. V. MINCHIN, Esq., Managing Partner of the Aska Concern, to W. HUDLESTON, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, Chepauk, dated 3rd December 1861.

SIR,

1. I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of the Board's letter, dated 7th November, requesting my opinion as to the best mode of giving effect to the suggestions contained in paragraph 10 of the Governor's Minute, for the grant of prizes to the successful cultivators of Cotton.

2. Although I have no especial remarks to offer on paragraph 10, I take the liberty of submitting a few remarks on His Excellency's Minute generally, for the consideration of the Board.

3. His Excellency, it would appear from paragraph 4, is of opinion that while every encouragement should be given to the introduction of the better species of American Cotton, attention should be turned to the improvement of the native Cotton.

4. Not having had experience in the cultivation of Cotton, I do not presume to give any opinion of my own on this subject, but simply draw the attention of the Board to the letters that have appeared in the City articles of the *Times* of the 4th and 14th October, in which the writer shows the fruitlessness of all attempts to improve the native Cotton, stating that " after years of " patient investigation and trial it remained a small podded, small seeded, short stapled cotton." The writer proceeds to show that experiments made with the New Orleans seed had proved " quite " successful," and further that " the plant from the New Orleans seed is quite as hardy as the native " one and more productive, and that whenever the one will produce a remunerative crop to the " grower, the other will pay him better ;" that " India after her own fashion can grow the New " Orleans plant as well as the native one."

5. My quotations have been confined to the letter in the City article of 4th October. The Board will find in this letter very interesting extracts from the report of the Select Committee on the growth of Cotton in India, printed in July 1848, corroborative of the opinion that the New Orleans Cotton can be successfully cultivated in this country.

6. I will now quote one paragraph from the letter in the *Times* of 14th October, and which appears to bear strongly on His Excellency's Minute. " I am not undervaluing the Indian plant " by any means. What we require of that cotton let us get as good and as clean as possible. It " will always be grown, for the staple suits native spinning, and the other does not. The cattle " live upon the seed of it and will not eat the seed of the American Cotton till they are half " starved, but it does not fill up the gap made by the stoppage of American imports, and " therefore I say attend to the extension of your American Cotton cultivation in India in the " meantime, and never mind the native plant, it will take care of itself."

7. I would, therefore, submit " that the encouragement by every means of the introduction " of the better species of American Cotton," appears the only effectual way of meeting the wants of England. I observe from paragraph 10 that His Excellency would make " the prizes pro- " portionate to the price of the Cotton sent to market." If this suggestion be carried out, the successful competitors can only be those who introduce a superior species of Cotton.

8. It may not be out of place to quote here a statement made in the Madras *Times* of November 21st. In a leader on Cotton it is stated that " even at this moment while large supplies " are pouring into Liverpool from this country, there is scarcely any increase in the consumption " of Indian Cotton in England for the most of it is re-exported to the Continent. With all the " outery for additional supplies, for an artificial stimulus, and a forced and non-natural " production, there is scarcely a spinner who has adopted his machinery to Indian Cotton."

9. It may have escaped the Board's notice that even the Egyptian Cotton (which appears to have been tried pretty generally throughout the Presidency) does not apparently meet with

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The

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No. 57.

Proceedings of the Madras Govern.t
Under date the 16th Jan.y 1862
Read the following papers

From Bd. of Rev.e
Forwarding copy of a letter
from Mr. Mineheim, instructing the
Coll.r to arrange at once to enable
the experiment desired by Mr.
Mineheim in connection with the
Cotton cultivation being carried
out. — (Hereunder 14th Dec.r /61 No. 7004)

From Sec.y to Bd. of Rev.e
Forwarding specimens
of new Orleans Cotton received from
Mr. Mineheim, Managing Partner of
the Oorka Concerns. — do — 21st do Nov.r /61

The Boards

Proceedings are ap-
proved. The sam-
ples of Cotton for-
warded by them
will be sent for
the inspection of
the publick, to the
Museum, Sea Cus-
toms House and
Horticultural Gardens

The

the same favor in England as the new Orleans Cotton. Mr. Haywood, in his letter to the Pacha of Egypt (*vide Times*, October 3rd) writes, "I would especially press upon the attention of your "Highness the fact which I have been most desirous to be informed upon, namely, that the "cultivation of the American or New Orleans class of cotton is eminently adapted to the soil of "Egypt. For this class of Cotton the demand in the markets of Europe may be said to be "unlimited; at least the demand is constant and increasing as compared with that for Egyptian "Cotton, of which some 80,000 bales only were required by England last year, and England "consumed much more than all other countries put together. I found that 300 lbs. may be taken "as the extreme production of Egyptian Cotton; not less than 600 lbs. have been grown per "feddan from American seed sent out by the Association I represent. A sample of this Cotton "was valued in Liverpool at 8*d*. per pound. The average of Egyptian may be taken at 10*d*. "to 11*d*. per pound. It would, therefore, appear to be the interest of your Highness as well as "that of the great landed proprietors of this country to test the question whether it would not "answer to encourage the cultivation of the American variety side by side with the Egyptian, "leaving it to time to determine which of the two is to be preferred. And in the event of a "serious falling short in the supply from America during the next two or three years, the "greatest benefit would be conferred by its speedy introduction as a staple product of your "Highness's dominions."

10. I will now give a few particulars of an experiment which I have just commenced with New Orleans cotton:—

Messrs. Binny & Co., in the month of June sent me a small cask of New Orleans seed with a request that I would endeavour to introduce it into the District. I at once gave out some of the seeds among certain influential natives, but owing to the wetness of the season nearly the whole failed. I sent the large portion of the seeds to Kimedy which were sown in the end of October, but the heavy and unusual rain in November killed every plant. I selected, however, two sites in my own garden in each I put down, between June 29th and July 4th, some 6 at 700 seeds. One site was on very swampy ground of a black soil; nearly every plant died. The other site was on high ground and of a light soil, much of it indeed rubbishy consisting of the ruins of an old godown. Of these plants very few failed, and I have now over 600 plants in a space of about one-third of an acre. The plants are from 3 at 4 feet high and will shortly be in full bearing. Some pods were picked as far back as the early part of October, and I have gathered up to date 8 *lbs.*

11. I have had the pleasure to dispatch to your address a sample of this cotton cleaned in one of W. Wanklyn's Cotton Gins sent out to Messrs. Binny & Co., I believe, by the Cotton Supply Association. I have also sent a sample of the uncleaned Cotton just as it comes out of the pod, that the Board may have the opportunity of comparing it with any other samples that may be submitted.

12. I am desirous of trying this Cotton on a larger scale. If the Board will sanction the Collector making over to me 30 acres in this neighbourhood on the terms proposed in paragraph 9 of His Excellency's Minute, I will at once make the attempt to bring it under cultivation. I shall be quite prepared to send in the returns desired, to the Collector year by year.

13. Should the Board concur in my suggestion, I would respectfully point out that the land should be allotted to me without delay as *now* is the time for planting.

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1. Ordered to be communicated to the Collector of Ganjam with instructions to arrange at once for enabling Mr. Minchin to carry out his experiment on an extended scale on the terms proposed in Sir W. Denison's Minute.

2. The Board are much obliged to Mr. Minchin for his letter which (with the sample of Cotton when received) will be submitted for the information of Government.

3. Copy will be also communicated to the Chamber of Commerce, and to Mr. Haywood.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON, *Secretary*.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 16th January 1862.

No. 114. From W. HUDLESTON, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, to J. D. SIM, Esq., Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Fort Saint George, dated Chepauk, 21st December 1861, No. 7,161.

SIR,

1. With reference to paragraph 2 of their Proceedings, dated 14th December 1861, No. 7,004, I am directed by the Board of Revenue to forward the accompanying samples of New Orleans Cotton this day received from Mr. Minchin, Managing Partner of the Aska Sugar works in the Ganjam District.

2. Portions of the samples have also been sent to the Chamber of Commerce, and Mr. Haywood, with a request that they will favor the Board with their opinion on the quality and value in the English market of the Cotton.

No. 115. ORDER THEREON, 16th January 1862, No. 57.

The Board's Proceedings are approved. The samples of Cotton forwarded by them will be sent for the inspection of the public, to the Museum, Sea Customs House and Horticultural Gardens. The Government observe that Mr. Minchin is mistaken in supposing that the proposal in paragraph 10 of the Honorable the Governor's Minute to make the prizes, there suggested, proportionate to the price of the Cotton sent to market will virtually lead to the cultivation of American Cotton only. The prizes are to be proportioned to the improvement effected in the Cotton grown, whether that be native or foreign, of this improvement the market price is a good index; but the Cotton produced must be superior in value, taking quantity and quality into consideration, to that of similar land under Cotton cultivation. Whatever cotton may be grown must be improved or the prizes will not be earned.

(Signed) J. D. SIM,
Secretary to Government.

The Govt. observe that Mr. Minchin is mistaken in supposing that the proposal in para 10 of the Hon'ble the Govt's Minute to make the prizes there suggested proportionate to the price of the Cotton sent to market will virtually lead to the cultivation of Limeuccus Cotton only. The prizes are to be proportioned to the improvement effected in the Cotton grown whether that be native or Foreign - of this improvement the market price is a good index - but the Cotton produced must be superior in value taking quantity and quality into consideration, to that of similar land under Cotton cultivation. Whatever Cotton may be grown it must be improved or the prizes will not be earned.

14 Copies to Agr. & Rev. Dept. for
2 To the Officer in Charge of the Museum
2 — Coll. of Sea Customs - Madras
2 — Sup. of Horticultural Society
} with Cotton Samples.

S. D. S

Cottonstandards

29-10-61

Rec'd 30th 61

384

31-10-61

24-75

9-12-61

Revenue 1862 Deptt.
Pro: of Govt. for Jany:

No. 57.

Pro: of the Madras Govt.
Dy 16th Jany: 162.

Approving the Bd's
Prot authorizing the
Collector of Ganjam to
make over to Mr Mueller,
Managing Partner of the
Aska Sugar works 30
acres of land for the Cultiva-
tion of Cotton on the terms
proposed in Sir W. Denison's
Minute and forwarding
for the instruction of the Public
to the Museum, samples of
Cotton received.

No 113 at 115.