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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public DEPARTMENT.

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Not to be folded or roughly handled

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27/10/86

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,
13th September 1867.*

No. 135. Read the following letter from the Collector of Coimbatore, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Coimbatore, 10th September 1867, No. 82.

I have the honor to forward copy of a letter from the Acting Special Assistant Collector of Ootacamund, No. 365, reporting on the measures to be adopted for introducing low country fish into the waters of the Neilgherries.

2. It will appear, from paragraph 7 of Mr. Roupell's letter, that, in order to meet the incidental charges connected with the experiment, he wants a sum of Rupees 100 to be placed at his disposal. I, therefore, request that sanction may be accorded for this advance. It will be duly accounted for by bills as the money is actually spent. Early orders are desired. In anticipation of sanction, I have placed a sum of Rupees 50 at Mr. Roupell's disposal, to enable him to take the necessary measures before Dr. Day leaves the Hills.

From N. A. ROUPELL, Esq., Acting Special Assistant Collector, Ootacamund, to the Collector of Coimbatore; dated Ootacamund, — September 1867, No. 365.

With reference to the Orders of Government, Public Department, dated 1st May 1867, No. 488, and 20th August 1867, No. 1025, I have the honor to report that I have had an interview with Dr. Day, with whom I have conferred on the subject of what fish should now be procured for the waters of the Neilgherries, and what means should be adopted to insure every likelihood of the fish in question arriving here safely.

2. Dr. Day suggests that, for the present, only three different kinds of fish should be obtained, namely—

(a).—Karappa Verrarl, designated in Dr. Day's reports *Ophiocephalus striatus*.

(b).—Pu Verrarl, styled in the reports *Ophiocephalus marulius*.

(c).—Pumin Kandi (carp) styled *Labeobarbus tor*.

(d).—Some additional *Gouramies*; two dozen if procurable.

3. The Karappa Verrarl is to be found in the neighbourhood of Coimbatore, and the Sub-Magistrate there, Dr. Day informs me, is well acquainted with this fish. Care should be observed in its selection, as it is somewhat similar in appearance to the common Koraver, which, however, is tinged with red on the fins and round the tail, while there is no red color to be found on the Karappa Verrarl. The fish chosen should be small, about six inches in length; as small fish are moved with much greater ease and safety than large ones. They should be forwarded in large earthen chatties, about four fish in each chatty. The tatties should be netted on the top, and wrapped round the sides with fern leaves, in view to the water inside being kept cool. The chatties again should be put in baskets, as, otherwise, their touch occasionally becomes so cold to a Native's hands, that there is danger of their falling. Full information as to the best methods of transport are given in Dr. Day's Report, page-16 of Government Proceedings, Public Department, dated 1st May 1867.

4. The fish should leave Coimbatore about 6 p. m., and it would be well if a trustworthy Peon could accompany the coolies, who should be enjoined to carry their loads steadily, not shaking them more than they could help, as many fish have died from injuries received in transit. As opportunity offers, a little water should be emptied from the chatties, and fresh water put in its place. Endeavours should be made to reach Kullar at an early hour, taking care not to travel so fast as to endanger the safety of the loads. At Kullar, the fish should be turned out of the chatties into a pit, to be dug near the recently erected Refreshment room, and quite close to the river bank.

5. The Pu Verrarl and Pumin Kandi specified in paragraph 2 above, are to be had at Mettapollicm, to which place, I would, with your permission, propose proceeding at an early date, with a view to personally superintending the carrying out of the various measures necessary. As the

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Sub-Magistrate of that place is not under my orders, I have the honor to request he may be instructed to afford me all possible assistance in procuring and transporting the required specimens.

6. The Gouramies mentioned in paragraph 2 are to be found in the ponds at Guindy Park near Madras. Six of this species were, a few days ago, turned alive into Ooty Lake by Doctor Day. I would propose that nothing, for the present, be done towards procuring more of them. They can be applied for as soon as the required number of the other three kinds of fish have been safely turned into the Lake at this place, of which I shall give you due notice.

7. Doctor Day further states that about two dozen fish of each of the three specimens above mentioned should be procured for the Pykara River. As the distance between Coonoor and the Pykara Bungalow is so considerable, that the safety of the fish would be endangered were they transported from one place to the other without a half-way halt, it would seem advisable to turn the fish out of the chatties into large tubs at Ootacamund, forwarding them on the next day. To meet this and other similar expenses, I request that funds may be placed at my disposal for current requirements. A small sum would seem sufficient, about Rupees 100, and I should be obliged if this amount could be made payable to me at an early date, as I am anxious that the attempt to obtain the required fish should be made without further delay, the present season being the right time of year for the purpose.

8. On receipt of intimation from you that funds have been placed at my disposal for the fish experiment, I shall have the honor to address you again as to the date on which I propose reaching Mettapolliem. The despatch of the fish from Coimbatore should be delayed until the pit near the river at Kullar is prepared for their reception. Of this, due notice will be furnished to you.

9. In conclusion, I would beg leave to state that, as Doctor Day purposes leaving the Hills shortly, and as it would be as well if the fish were brought to Ooty before his departure, I should be glad if arrangements could be made which would admit of my taking the necessary measures for that purpose within the next few days.

No. 136. ORDER THEREON, 13th September 1867, No. 1145.

The Governor in Council authorizes the Collector of Coimbatore to place the sum of Rupees (100) one hundred at Mr. Roupell's disposal, for the purpose stated in the foregoing letter.

(True Extract).

Chief Secretary.

To the Collector of Coimbatore.

„ Accountant General.

[illegible]

hist of 24 Sept.

Dear Sir,
I have been at
Mr. Rumpke's residence
for the purpose stated
in the foregoing letter.

To the Editor of the
 "Advertiser".
 Sept 19/9.

1887 October 24th
From New York
The Editor of the
Commonwealth
To the Chief Clerk

Sacked 10th Sep from the 1887
Reopened 18th —————

Signature IV

Aug 2 No 1436.

Towards Special and General

With our sister