M.R.O. 14—10,000—21-4-22

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 1765	Press Mis.
Ao -41	
Dated 5 - 9 -	18 61.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 5th September 1861.

No. 40. Read the following letter from W. GREY, Esq., Secretary to the Government of India (Home Department), to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to the Government of Fort Saint George, dated Fort William, 10th August 1861, No. 1,507 :—

SIR,

1. I am directed to forward the accompanying copy of a Resolution by the Governor General in Council, which has been published in the "Gazette" of this date, offering prizes in the present and in the following years for encouraging the production of Cotton in India, and the improvement of its quality, and stating the general conditions under which the prizes will be given; and I am directed to request that the Resolution may be re-published in the Madras "Gazette."

2. I am further to request that, with the permission of His Excellency the Governor in Council, it may be ascertained from the Chamber of Commerce at Madras, whether they are willing to undertake the duty of awarding the prize in that Presidency, as suggested by the Resolution.

HOME DEPARTMENT.

SUPPLY OF INDIAN COTTON TO ENGLAND.

RESOLUTION by the Governor General in Council,—(dated the 9th August 1861.)

1. IN a Resolution of the 28th February last, the Government of India signified its earnest desire to encourage the cultivation of Cotton in India by every means consistent with the proper functions of Government.

In the discussions which have since taken place, the best informed Authorities on this great national question have insisted on the fact that, while the area of land under Cotton cultivation in India is capable of great and rapid extension under the stimulus of higher prices, the quality of the Cotton produced is less easily susceptible of improvement, and that it is most important to direct the attention of all parties interested in the cultivation to improvement of the quality while maintaining, and, if possible, increasing the average yield per acre of the general Cotton crop of the country.

2. It has been suggested that the Government of India might usefully aid in this work without infringing the first Rule* laid down in the Resolution of 20th February last.

The Governor General in Council believes that observance of this Rule is necessary to any sound and permanent improvement; but, as far as can be done without infringing it, His Excellency in Council desires that nothing be omitted on the part of Government which can aid in arousing the attention of India to the great questions involved in any scarcity of the raw material for our English Manufactures—questions, the interest of which is deepened as each successive Mail brings fresh evidence that the scarcity may be more than temporary.

* 1st.—That no measure which places Government in the position of the private Capitalist, Cultivator, or Speculator, or which in any way interferes with private enterprize can be otherwise than permanently injurious in itself and detrimental to the object in view.

Therefore, all attempts to stimulate cultivation or labor by any exertion of Government Authority, directly or indirectly, are out of the question.

The same objection will apply to model farms and experimental cultivation conducted by Officers of Government.

3. His Excellency in Council believes that much may be effected even in those older Cotton Districts of India which have long contributed an important share of the Cotton of the lower qualities employed in our English manufactures. But it is of still greater importance to aid and expedite the solution of the doubts which exist as to the best soils and climates and modes of cultivation for Cotton in those Districts whence, heretofore there has been little, if any export of Cotton to Europe.

4. In furtherance of these views, the Governor General in Council has resolved to offer prizes for the production of Cotton during the two next years, that is to say, in the current season of 1861-62, and in the subsequent season of 1862-63.

Three prizes of ten thousand Rupees each will be given in each season—one in the Presidency of Fort William, one in the Presidency of Madras, and one in the Presidency of Bombay.

5. For the current season the conditions will be as follows :—

A. The prize in each Presidency will be given for the largest quantity of Cotton, combined with the best quality, which shall be grown upon any one Estate within the Presidency during the season of 1861-62, and which shall be brought for shipment to any Port in, or before the month of June 1862.

B. Any District in the interior will be considered to have a claim to compete for the prize in that Presidency to the Port of which it is intended to send the Cotton for shipment.

C. The extent of ground under cultivation must not be less than thirty acres, all belonging to one property, or cultivated by one Superintendent.

D. The fulfilment of the last named conditions must be certified by the Chief Revenue Officer of the District in which the Estate is situated, or by any other Agents specially recognised by the Government for that purpose.

These two last Rules are intended to prevent the prize being given to a selection of picked samples from a large area, which would require none of the care or attention to the general cultivation of the plant which it is the desire of Government to encourage.

E. The prizes will be awarded by the Chambers of Commerce at Calcutta, Madras, and Bombay, respectively, if the gentlemen representing those bodies will consent to undertake the task.

F. A sealed sample of the Cotton must be sent by each Competitor to the Chamber of Commerce, and the consignment to which the prize is awarded will afterwards be inspected by the Chamber and verified as corresponding with the sample. In case of its being desired to ship the consignment at an out Port, the inspection of it will be made by some person specially appointed by the Chamber of Commerce.

G. Each sample must be accompanied by a full and clear statement by the grower of the system which has been pursued in the cultivation, with an accurate and detailed account of all the expenses incurred.

H. Any subsidiary Rules which may be found requisite will be laid down by the Chambers of Commerce.

6. All Public Officers whose assistance may be sought in respect to the conditions of the 4th Rule, or for any other object, are enjoined to give their cordial co-operation in carrying out the intentions of Government.

By Order, &c.,

W. GREY, *Secy. to the Govt. of India.*

No. 41. ORDER THEREON, 5th September 1861, No. 1,765.

1. The above Resolution of the Supreme Government will be published (with Vernacular translations) in successive issues of the "Fort Saint George Gazette," and the Board of Revenue will be requested to have translations of it published in the District Gazettes and otherwise make its purport generally known.

2. A copy will also be communicated to the Chamber of Commerce, and they will be requested to state whether they consent to undertake the task of adjudging the prize offered by the Supreme Government.

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

Revenue Dept

No 1765

Proceedings of the Madras Government

Under date the 5th Sept Augt 1861

Read the following
letter from the Secretary to
the Government of India.

Offering a Prize for the
-uction of the largest quan-
-tity of Cotton during the
-n of 1861-62 and promul-
-g certain Rules respecting
-stribution.

(Rec'd 10th August 1861
No 1307

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No.

Copies. Board of Trade with Mess Dispatch
" Chamber of Commerce.

Supply of Indian
Cotton to England.