M.R.O. 14—10,000—21-4-22

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 2083 — Press ~~Mis.~~

387

Dated 31-10-1861.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 31st October 1861.

Ordered that the following letter be despatched.

No. 384. From J. D. SIM, Esq., Secretary to the Government of Fort Saint George, to the Secretary to the Government of India, dated 31st October 1861, No. 2,083.

SIR,

1. I am directed to report the measures adopted by this Government in furtherance of the Resolution, dated 9th August 1861, by the Governor General in Council regarding the supply of Indian Cotton to England.

2. The Resolution in question has been translated into the Vernaculars and published in the Fort Saint George and District Gazettes. The Chamber of Commerce have been requested to undertake the duty of awarding the prize, but have not yet favored the Government with any reply. Their attention has been drawn to the subject, and they have also been requested to forward the subsidiary rules for the adjudication of the prize, it being very desirable that these should be published for the information of intending competitors as soon as possible.

3. I am also directed to forward a copy of a Minute by the Honorable the Governor on the improvement of the indigenous Cotton of this Presidency. The subject is of much importance to Madras. There is a large extent of land suited to the growth of the Native Cotton and its culture is already general: to the poorer ryots it has two great advantages, viz., that it is less precarious than the foreign varieties and that there is a local demand and market for it, while foreign Cotton is sought mainly for export. To improve the hardy indigenous plant so as to render its produce suitable also for the foreign market is evidently very desirable, but no systematic efforts have been made with this view of late years. Relying on the readiness of the Supreme Government to sanction a moderate outlay for this important object the Government have directed the Board of Revenue to offer to a few intelligent Natives in different parts of the country a remission of all assessments upon a certain quantity of land (not exceeding 30 acres each) for five years on condition of their devoting the land to the improvement of the Native Cotton, furnishing the Collector with the means of ascertaining that they have duly fulfilled the terms of agreement. The Government also contemplate offering prizes for superior Cotton, but the details of this plan are not yet settled and will be reported hereafter.

4. The Government have also arranged with the Horticultural Society of Madras to have similar experiments conducted in their grounds at Madras under the personal care of their European Superintendent who is a trained Gardener. The object being to improve the variety, high culture, and scientific treatment of the plant is very necessary. The arrangement has the further advantage of being under the eye of Government without being actually a Government undertaking, or open to the objections to which, in the opinion of the Supreme Government, model farms are subject. The Society are to devote ten acres of land to the experiment and to make over the seed and a portion of the Cotton to Government in return for a monthly allowance of Rupees 150. Thus for a very moderate sum the Government will be enabled to have the experiment properly tried of improving the indigenous Cotton by careful culture from the finest seed and also by hybridization.

5. I am to add that the Government trust the arrangements above reported will meet with the approval of the Governor General in Council.

6. A report will shortly be submitted on the best mode of expending the funds promised in Colonel Yule's Circular of 9th October 1861, No. 90.

A Chief Justice 1865.

No 2083.

No 2083

To Lo,

The Secretary to the
Govt of India

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report the measures adopt
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ots it has too great advan-
tages with that it is less
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reign varieties and that
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and market for it - while
foreign cotton is sought
mainly for export - To
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ket is evidently very de-
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matic efforts have yet
been made with this
view. — Relying on the
readiness of the Govt
to sanction a mo-
derate outlay for this
important object the
Govt have directed the
Board of Revenue to offer
to a few intelligent natives
in different parts of the

country

country a remission
of all assessments upon
a certain quantity of land
(not exceeding 20 acres
each) for 5 years, on con=
dition of their devoting
the land to the improve=
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with the means of ascer=
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I am to add that the Govt trust the arrangements above reported will meet with the approval of the Governor General in Council.

A report will shortly be submitted on the best mode of expending the funds promised in Colonel Yules Circular of 9th Oct. 1861 No. 90.

I. D. L.

Fort St George
31st Oct. 1861

Copy in Letter to England
Dft to Mr. March No. 10 of 1862

To Supreme Govt.

Regarding supply of Indian Cotton to England.—

Revenue 1861 Depart.
Pro: of Govt. for October.

No. 2083.

To
The Secretary to the
Govt. of India.
Dt. 31st October 1861.

Reporting to the Govt. of India the measures adopted by this Govt. regarding the supply of Indian Cotton to England.

No 384 -