

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 702	Press Mis.
467-468	
Dated	26-3-1861.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
26th March 1861.*

No. 467. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Public Department, dated 22nd March 1861, No. 419 :—

*Communicate to the Board of Revenue a letter
from Surgeon Major Edward Balfour, with a
request that steps be taken for the transport
of a few of the Manilla Hemp Plants referred
to, to such localities as may be considered
favorable to their culture.*

(Vide Public Proceedings, 22nd March 1861,
Nos. 163, 164.)

No. 468.

ORDER THEREON, 26th March 1861, No. 702.

Ordered to be recorded.

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

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following letter from Surgeon Major EDWARD BALFOUR, to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated 8th March 1861, No. 14.

I have the honor, by order of the Honorable the President and Members of the Committee of the Madras Exhibition, again to address the Honorable the Governor in Council on the subject of the re-introduction into these Countries of the Manilla Hemp plant.

* To Government 29th August 1856.
From do. to H. M.'s Consul, Manilla,
20th September, No. 1130 of 1856.
Extract Minutes of Consultation, No. 138, 31st
January 1857.

2. After the correspondence as per margin,* Colonel Balfour, C. B., Inspector General of Ordnance and Magazines addressed the letter of which copy is subjoined, to Captain Purvis, Commanding the Artillery in the Straits, and in the following year February 1858, six plants were received, but two had died.

3. Under the care of Mr. Brown, the able Superintendent of the Madras Agri Horticultural Society's Gardens, these four plants have increased to (15) fifteen in number, besides several that have flowered and died down. The plants are in a healthy condition, and this letter on the subject of their further disposal has been submitted for Mr. Brown's consideration.

* On this latter course Mr. Brown remarks :

" I think this is the best plan, a sufficient number will be left in the Gardens to keep up a good stock.

(Signed) R. BROWN."

4. There are two plans that could be followed ; viz., either to multiply them still further in Madras and even to test the value of their fibre, or to dispatch six of them to other localities* of different climates.

5. Under all circumstances, perhaps the latter would be the preferable course, and the Honorable the President and Members direct me to submit the subject for disposal or for communication to the Board of Revenue.

From Lieutenant Colonel G. BALFOUR, Inspector General of Ordnance and Magazines, to Captain PURVIS, Commanding Artillery in the Straits, dated 27th November 1857, No. 6,768.

I have been informed that Hemp of a superior quality is made of the fibres of the Plantain tree which grows in Singapore, and equally as good as the hemp from the Manillas. It has been the anxious wish of the Right Honorable the President and Members of the Madras Exhibition Committee, to introduce this Plantain tree into the Madras Presidency, and I shall be obliged if you will obtain and forward a few plants in the usual way in a plant box with a glass cover, which the Ordnance Officer at Singapore will be able to make up according to directions he can easily receive from any Botanist in the Island, and I beg of you to assist him with your advice.

2. You should be careful in sending the boxes with the plants, and endeavour to put them under some one's care who will take an interest in their safe arrival at Madras, and the approaching relief of Troops will afford a favourable opportunity of sending the plants.

3. Perhaps if steam vessels come from Singapore direct, a trial might be made of sending a number of plants in baskets with the earth round the roots, but in that case the immediate and safe landing of the plants at Madras on arrival will be essential.

(A true Copy.)

(Signed) EDWARD BALFOUR.

ORDER THEREON, 22nd March 1861, No. 419.

Ordered to be communicated to the Board of Revenue who will, in concert with the Committee of the Madras Exhibition, be so good as to take steps for the transport of a few of the plants referred to, to such localities as may be considered favorable to their culture.

(True Extract.)

Chief Secretary.

To the Board of Revenue.
„ Revenue Department.
To E. Balfour, Esq.

Exd. F. Cartledge.

Revenue 1867 Sept 14 -
Paid 100 for March.

No 739 -

Proceedings of the Hon.
Board in the Subsidies
Department.

Book 22 ~~2~~ March
22 23 ~~4~~ 1867.
No 419.

Communicate to the
Board of Revenue a letter
from Georgeon Major
Edward Waller, with a
request that steps be
taken for the transport
of a party of the Hawaiian Kings
to be referred to, to such
localities as may be
considered favorable to
their culture.

1867 1868
No 702
Ordered to be paid
25th Dec.
25th March 1867.