

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1584	Press Mis.
338. 338	
Dated 24 7 1862	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
24th July 1862.*

No. 338. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 9th July 1862,
No. 4,413:—

Read the following letter from A. WEDDERBURN, Esq., Collector of Cuddapah, to W.
HUDLESTON, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, Madras, dated Madnapalli,
26th June 1862, No. 94.

SIR,

1. There is a communication from a gentleman in Malabar, forwarded by the late Collector of that Province, and printed in the Board's correspondence for April last, page 208, paragraph 12, in which it is stated that "the Collector of this fine Province (Cuddapah) very laudably gave "free grants of waste land for growing cotton; the farmers proceeded to grow cotton; what "does the Collector do, on seeing this judicious course. He has the farmers up, and insists on "their cropping the land with cotton during every one of the five years of the grant. The "farmers naturally demur to ruin themselves, as he bids them, whilst he has not a suspicion of "the reason why they venture to demur, namely, because that after the first year, their crop of "cotton, the second year, and every year after, would be *nil*."

2. Now as the above statement is the exact reverse of the truth from beginning to end, and as from its being published in a collection of Government papers, it may attain currency and belief, I beg to contradict it in the most unequivocal manner: (1) I never very laudably gave Ryots rent free lands; (2) the Ryots never proceeded to grow cotton; (3) I never called them up, or directed them to crop their land for five years with cotton; (4) the farmers never demurred to ruin themselves at my bidding; (5) I was perfectly aware that cotton could not be cultivated two years consecutively on the same land.

3. What did take place was as follows:—I had the Government Minute translated and forwarded to the Ryots of the Cotton Taluqs. The meaning which was universally (but, it seems, wrongly) placed on the Minute was that, the land, to be given rent free, was to be devoted to cotton for five years. I pointed out this construction to the Board, with a view to the modification of the conditions, and showed that in America even, as well as in this country, a rotation of crops was found requisite. I respectfully protest against the misrepresentation, I hope, unintentional, in the paragraph of the letter, to which I have drawn the Board's attention, and request the Board to be so good as to place my public contradiction of it on record.

4. Whether I have taken a special interest in the cultivation of cotton, which after all is only grown in 2½ Taluqs of the District; drawn the attention of the cultivators by public Circulars, to the advantages and requisites of the home market; published extracts from recognized authorities regarding improvements; procured foreign seed for the Ryots, worked gins with my own hands, and explained their mechanism to the people, solicited and obtained local prizes, taken every step which I could conceive to encourage the trade, and recommended roads to be made and bridges to be built for the cotton traffic, are matters to which I would not otherwise have alluded, but it is unfair that I should be misrepresented, in a letter, published in the public records, which owing to its public interest and ability, may yet obtain a world-wide currency, as having placed a stumbling block in the way of cotton cultivation.

1. Ordered to be submitted for the information of Government, with reference to the Board's Proceedings, dated 9th April 1862, No. 2,361.

2. Mr. Brown's mis-statements of the Collector's proceedings was doubtless the result of imperfect information.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON, Secretary.

No. 339. ORDER THEREON, 24th July 1862, No. 1,594.

Ordered that these Proceedings be recorded and placed on the Editor's table.

(Signed) A. J. ARBUTHNOT,

Acting Chief Secretary.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 9th July 1862.

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LESTON, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, Madras, dated Madnapalli, 26th
June 1862, No. 94:—

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(A true Copy and Extract.)

L. Hudson

Secretary.

To A. J. Arbuthnot, Esq., Acting Chief Secretary to Government.

Copy to A. Wedderburn, Esq., Collector of Cuddapah.

„ to G. A. Ballard, Esq., Collector of Malabar.

Erd. J. Wright.

Pro, 3rd July/82 no 37-38

Copy in a letter to (unclear)
dated 2nd Dec 1861 of 1862

Recd 1862. Department
of the Collector of Cuddapah

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE

No. 2011

Dated 9th July 1862.
Despatched 14th do
Received 1st Dec 1862

Subj: *(unclear)*

No. 4413.

Under No. 1746/82 No 2238

Submitting a letter from the Collector of Cuddapah, contradicting Mr Brown's Statements referring to the subject of Cotton cultivation in Cuddapah, with the Board's remarks on the subject.

2401394 24 July

(Signature)

No 1594

Ordered that these

Proceedings be recorded and

placed on the table

(Signature)

2401394 24 July 1862

To the Secy to the Board of Revenue

No 3384539-

22 Aug 1863