M.R.O. 14—30,000—21-4-22.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 226 Press
Mis.

279 280

Dated 22 co. 186 2.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 22nd October 1862.

No. 279. Read the following letter from W. G. McIVOR, Esq., Superintendent Government Gardens, Ootacamund, to J. D. SIM, Esq., Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, dated Ootacamund, 6th August 1861, No. 76 :—

SIR,

1. On re-perusing the correspondence, recorded in the Order of Government No. 1,508, dated 29th July 1861, and with reference to my letter of the 2nd instant, No. 75, I fear I have not entered so fully on the subject of the importation of Chinchona plants from Java, as its importance requires. I would, therefore, most respectfully explain that from the 500,000 seeds of the Chinchona Lucumeafolia, liberally offered by the Governor General of the Netherlands India, we may expect to rear upwards of 400,000 plants, as this is a species most luxuriant in its growth, producing seeds of greater vital powers than the ordinary species of Chinchona.

2. To afford suitable accommodation for this number of plants, will cost about 10,000 Rupees, and to attend to them will require one man to every 2,000 plants, or an establishment of 200 men for the first year; at the end of the first year, the land necessary to plant this number of plants, may be estimated at 1,200 acres, at 50 Rupees per acre, for preparing, pitting, and planting, will cost 60,000 Rupees. The establishment necessary to keep up this extent of land, at two men to the acre, gives 2,400 men, at 6 Rupees each, or a monthly expenditure of about 14,000 Rupees, not including Overseers, tools, &c., I believe this will prove an unprofitable expenditure of public money, and one which will only lead to ultimate loss, and disappointment; and under these circumstances, I respectfully beg to explain, that I cannot be responsible for the results in the cultivation of this species.

3. The course I purpose to pursue in this important undertaking, is only to cultivate species of known and established value; all that are the least doubtful, should only be grown to a limited extent, and after they have fairly and unmistakeably developed their qualities, their cultivation can be extended, or otherwise.

4. This line of procedure appears to me indispensable, to avoid disappointment, as not only many, but the majority of the species of Chinchona are worthless for the production of Quinine.

P. S. Since writing the above, I observe that Professor Lindley in a review of Howard's Work, states: "We have omitted to mention the appearance of the 7th part of Mr. Howard's superb work on Chinchonas, or Illustrations of the Nueva Quinologia of Pavon. It contains figures of Chinchona-Uritusinga, Nitida, and Pahudiana, a new species now cultivated in Java by the Dutch, but of inferior quality; it seems however to grow freely, and would be a good hot-house shrub, bearing panicles of pale vermilion flowers as large as Lilacs."

No. 280. ORDER THEREON, 22nd October 1862, No. 2,261.

Ordered to be recorded, with reference to Government Order No. 2,259 of this day's date.

(Signed) P. P. HUTCHINS,
Acting Deputy Secretary to Government.

B 29th July/62 Nos 407-408.

From Supt of Govt Gardens
dated 2d August/62 & Nr 1906

Copy inclosed in a Letter to England
dated 23rd October No 75 of/62

No 279 & 280.

Rec'd 1862 Sept 11th
Pro: of Govt for Octr/62
No 1935.

From
Mr. Mc Leod
dated 6th August 1862
Rec'd 9th " " 1862
No 76

Enclosure

Under the circumstances represented, states that he cannot be responsible for the results of the cultivations of the Cinchona Lucumeafolea, and points out the course he would pursue in this important undertaking—

No 2260 - 22nd Octr

William Arden

No 2261.

Ordered to be recorded with reference to G. O. No 2259 of this days date—

From Mr. Leod
22d Octr 1862