

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Ranunc DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1074	Press -His-
294-295	
Dated	18. 6 - 19 1863

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
18th June 1863.*

No. 294. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Public Department, dated 16th June 1863, No. 682 :—

Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Revenue Department.
Referring the suggestion of the Collector of Bellary for the } (Here enter 9th June 1863, No. 1,001.)
offer of a prize for Vaccination in that District.

Concurring in the views of the Board of Revenue the Governor in Council does not consider that the offer of a prize for Vaccination would be admissible.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) W. H. KERR,
Deputy Secretary to Government.

No. 295. ORDER THEREON, 18th June 1863, No. 1,074.

Ordered to be communicated to the Board of Revenue, with reference to G. O. 9th June 1863, No. 1,001.

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

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.
No. 10,000. Price, 21st May 1863.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.
Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 21st May 1863, No. 3,011 :—
Read the following letter from A. WEDDERBURN, Esq., Acting Collector of Bellary, to W.
HUDLESTON, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 11th April 1863,
No. 58.

SIR,

Sir,

1. Agricultural exhibitions are generally admitted to be productive of improvement, but in nineteen out of twenty Districts in this Presidency they were considered to have been mostly failures. I have the honor to submit what appears to me to have been the cause of the failure, and to suggest a remedy.

Lengthy of the people. Exhibitions held at a distance from the people. This assertion by the

The first cause is the poverty and apathy of the people. Exhibitions held at a distance from the centre of production are affected by these two reasons. I support this assertion by the fact that there were only two competitors for a prize of Rupees 10,000 for Cotton last year. I recommend that so large a prize should have been divided and locally offered. It was not so done then, but still the same objection holds to the division of prizes adjudicated at Madras, which is distant from the centre of production. Instead of the present arrangement, I consider that each Cotton District should have separate prizes, to be adjudicated by the Collector and a Committee. I am not aware that the reward of Rupees 10,000, to an European producer, has created much native excitement or competition up-country.

2. I beg to recommend a change of plan, for agricultural exhibitions, founded on the success of the Nellore Cattle show.

If prizes for Nellore bred cattle had been adjudicated at Cuddapah, there would have been no success; the cattle can walk to an exhibition, and other products must be carried. The cattle must be fed, whether they are shown in the farm-yard; there is little additional expense, therefore, in carrying them; and yet they have never been exhibited at a

aroused; my suggestion should be a Taluk show, when the Collector is present on his circuit. There are then, of necessity, ten ex-officio, two representatives (the village Head and Accountant) from each village besides the Ryots who come on business connected with their lands. Others would come ten or fifteen miles to see the show, and probably to take part in it. Let prizes be given for the best production of the Talook. Cotton in Cotton Talooks, grain, oil-seeds, fibres, jungle products, sugar, indigo, cattle. The Nellore exhibition is a success, because the cattle are bred in the neighbouring villages. Cattle would be exhibited at Oosoor in Salem, Kungondi (one of the finest breeds of carriage cattle) in North Arcot, excellent milch Cows at Kongiam in Coimbatore. Cotton in the Ceded Districts, as well as sugar, indigo and fibres. If 100 Rupees in prizes were distributed by the Collector for the best products of each Talook, there would be abundant competition; and, when public interest was awakened, *then* will be the time for District Exhibitions. A Talook Exhibition would be but a petty affair, I do not deny.

1. If it be objected that a Talook Exhibition would be but a petty affair, I do not deny it, but the effect will be disproportionately great. If it be objected that prizes to the Reddies of villages will be exclusive, I consider that there is no more reason why the village Magistrate should not get a prize, he being the chief farmer of the village, than that a Squire of a parish should get a prize. I venture to state that the owner of the prize bull of Nellore, and the winner of the Governor's gold ring, are very well content with their prizes and local celebrity; and local prizes, adapted to the peculiar product of the Talooks, will call forth equal emulation and exertion *elsewhere*. I do not recommend prizes for agricultural machinery where the implements are those used since the flood, but a reward to any one producing an improved implement, would be well bestowed. In short, I venture to say that Rupees 1,500 apportioned to fifteen Talooks would have more results than the same sum adjudicated at a point 70 or 100 miles distant from the centre of production. Even if the fibre of improved Cotton be not equal to that of some island, an improver of the staple might merit a reward. If a Talook produced only Cotton, I would divide Rupees 100 in two or three prizes. If sugar, I would give a prize for the best specimen of cane, and of the manufactured article, seed, oils, fibres and other exportable products.

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