

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1539	Press Mis
211. 212	
Dated 22-8-1863	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
22nd August 1863.*

No. 211. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 10th August 1863,
No. 4,981 :—

Read the following letter from C. W. READE, Esq., Collector of South Arcot, to W. HUDLE-
STON, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Cuddalore, 30th July 1863,
No. 205.

SIR,

1. I have the pleasure to send to the Board the accompanying copy of a letter from Mr. B. T. Norfor, reporting on the result of his experiment with the Peruvian Cotton seed.

2. On the whole the result given is very satisfactory, but I fear that from want of the needed instructions at the time, and the lateness of the season at which the seed was received, that the anticipated crop will afford no real criterion by which to judge of what may be realized under due and proper culture and management.

3. Mr. Norfor's Engineering skill will enable him to turn to the best account the sources of irrigation available to him, and he is liberal enough to give every facility to others to adapt his simple invention of wind mills for their own wants.

4. I distributed the Peruvian seed to several others simultaneously with that sent to Mr. Norfor, but I have as yet had no report of the result from any one else.

5. The experiment of a small quantity in my own garden was an utter failure owing in part to my absence, but mainly to the brackish character of the water which was alone available.

6. Should the Board have any more of this seed I should be glad to be supplied with a small quantity.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From Mr. B. T. NORFOR, to C. W. READE, Esq., Collector and Magistrate of South Arcot,
dated Pondicherry, 22nd July 1863.

SIR,

1. I have the honor to inform you that the Peruvian Cotton seed which you gave me in November and December last, has now grown up into plants varying from 3 to 8 feet in height. But although they have been some eight months in the ground, they have only as yet given a few pods which I have the honor to enclose with some of the seed, from the appearance of which (smooth black seed having no adhering pubescence) I am led to infer, it must be the variety of Piura, described as G. Barbadense (see Board's Proceedings, No. 2,488).

2. I have about 1,200 plants in a very healthy condition, but not having received the Board's instructions in time, I fear, I have planted some of them too close; that is, the first batch were planted in rows two feet between the plants, and the rows four feet apart. The others are five feet apart, and five feet between the rows. Mr. Marsdon says they should be 18 feet apart.

3. As before observed, I have had no Cotton yet, except the few pods sent. Should these bushes yield only 1 lb. of Cotton each, the value of the crop on about half a Cawny (quantity planted) should be about Rupees 600. There is every hope that these seeds will settle the question regarding the possibility of getting up a plantation, for they have really given but little trouble beyond ploughing and watering. I certainly think, they will require irrigation, but with the aid of the bullock-wheel which I put up at the Cuddalore and Madras Exhibitions, and for which I was awarded a prize of 100 Rupees, there is really very little trouble, and I am also putting up small wind mills, by which I hope to make still further improvements. I observe that an estate in Piura irrigates the Cotton crop by steam power; I am, therefore, led confidently to hope, my wind mill, the arrangement of which, will be my own patent, may play an important part in facilitating, and introducing Cotton cultivation in this District.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) C. W. READE, Collector.

No. 4,981.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 10th August 1863.

Read the following letter from C. W. READE, Esq., Collector of South Arcot, to W. HUDLESTON, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Cuddalore, 30th July 1863, No. 205:—

1. I have the pleasure to send to the Board the accompanying copy of a letter from Mr. T. Norfor, reporting on the result of his experiment with the Peruvian Cotton seed.
2. On the whole the result given is very satisfactory, but I fear that from want of the needed instructions at the time, and the lateness of the season at which the seed was received, that the anticipated crop will afford no real criterion by which to judge of what may be realized under due and proper culture and management.
3. Mr. Norfor's Engineering skill will enable him to turn to the best account the sources of irrigation available to him, and he is liberal enough to give every facility to others to adapt his simple invention of wind mills for their own wants.
4. I distributed the Peruvian seed to several others simultaneously with that sent to Mr. Norfor, but I have as yet had no report of the result from any one else.
5. The experiment of a small quantity in my own garden was an utter failure owing in part to my absence, but mainly to the brackish character of the water which was alone available.
6. Should the Board have any more of this seed I should be glad to be supplied with a small quantity.

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(True Copy.)

(Signed) C. W. READE, Collector.

1. Ordered to be submitted for the information of Government, with the request that application may be made to the Secretary of State for a further supply of this seed if procurable. The Board have received several applications for seed which they are unable to meet, and the results of the culture of this variety lead them to attach a high value to it, where the rain-fall is generally sufficient, or when cheap irrigation is available.

2. At present prices they believe this Cotton would be remunerative even if cultivated as a garden product.

3. The Board are much obliged to Mr. Norfor for his report, and would be glad to hear in due course the further result of the experiment.

4. They are disposed to think that the sowing was too late, and that the seed should be put in the ground after the June and July rains have enabled the Ryots to plough. The next crop should give more satisfactory evidence of the powers of the plant in this climate.

(True Copies and Extract.)

Christison

Secretary.

To J. D. Sim, Esq., Secretary to Government, R. D.

Copy to C. W. Reade, Esq., Collector of South Arcot.

Exd. J. Wright.

*Application made to the
Secretary of State for a further supply of the
Peruvian Cotton Seed as suggested in para
1 of these Proceedings.—*

*York St. George
22 Aug 1863*

*Board of Revenue Sept. 24, 1863
Editors Table.*

*Submitting letter from the Collector of South
Arcot, passing remarks on Mr. B. T. Norfor's letter
reporting on the result of his experiment with
the Peruvian Cotton Seed.*

No. 4,981.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE

No. 1911.

Dated 10th August 1863.

Despatched 13th Aug

Received 14th Aug

*Rev = 1863. Department
Mr. Norfor's August*

William Orde

21/1-21/2