

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 2040

Press
~~Mis.~~

157-158

Dated

12-11-1918

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
12th November 1863.*

No. 157. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 22nd October 1863, No. 6,750.

Read the following letters :—

From A. WEDDERBURN, Esq., Acting Collector of Bellary, to W. HUDLESTON, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 14th October 1863, No. 147.

SIR,

1. With reference to the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue dated 5th October 1863, No. 6,328, I have the honor to state that the cultivation accounts of July do not afford any proper guide as to the eventual cultivation of Cotton for the year, as the sowing is not completed until the end of September, and in a bad season, it sometimes extends into October, and this is one, as will be seen from my Season Report for September, and the amount of land sown will not be shown in the accounts until October. The total of land sown with Cotton up to that date will generally afford a near estimate of the land in cultivation.

2. The out-turn depends on the state of the season up to the time of picking in February and March; the plant may be injured by defect of rain at the time of sowing, by an excess at any time of its growth by rain at the time of ripening, by worm, and mildew. The estimate of out-turn until the crop is actually picked is therefore guess

• Clean Cotton.

work, but 30 lbs. per Acre might be taken as a rough average.

3. It is believed that though the high prices induce extensive sales, yet that an anticipation of a rise may induce capitalists with stocks in hand, to hold them back, just as is the case in any other trade. To ascertain from the holders of Cotton how much they have in hand would be a difficult and scarcely legitimate inquiry on the part of Government; the holders would doubtless misrepresent the quantity, in order that the price might rise, so that the information, if obtained, would scarcely be reliable. No doubt the exporters of Cotton wish to ascertain the quantity, in order to settle what price would be a good speculation for them; the surest guide would be to calculate the probable out-turn of last year's crop, and compare it with the amount exported up to date. I still see Cotton in carts traversing the District, and am not of opinion that the supply of any commodity will be totally exhausted while there is a chance of making a further mercantile profit on it.

From P. GRANT, Esq., Collector of Coimbatore, to W. HUDLESTON, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 14th October 1863, No. 190.

SIR,

1. I have received Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, No. 6,328, dated 5th October 1863.

2. The Cotton crop of the past season must be well nigh exhausted. Whatever Cotton remains in the District, is sure to find its way to Madras. Of the existing stock I can form no estimate. The high prices paid for Cotton within the last twelve months, have reached the hands of many of the Ryots, so that they are all alive to the large profits to be made by the growth of the article, and if we have a favorable north-east monsoon, the crop of the coming season will exceed that of any previous period.

Ordered that the above letters be communicated to the Chamber of Commerce and Messrs. Line & Co., with reference to paragraph 3 of the Board's Proceedings dated 5th October 1863, No. 6,328.

No. 158. ORDER THEREON, 12th November 1863, No. 2,040.

Ordered to be laid on the Editor's table.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) C. G. MASTER,

Deputy Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 22nd October 1863.

Read the following letters:—

From A. WEDDERBURN, Esq., Acting Collector of Bellary, to W. HUDLESTON, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 14th October 1863, No. 147.

1. With reference to the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue dated 5th October 1863, No. 6,328, I have the honor to state that the cultivation accounts of July do not afford any proper guide as to the eventual cultivation of Cotton for the year, as the sowing is not completed until the end of September, and in a bad season, it some times extends into October, and this is one, as will be seen from my Season Report for September, and the amount of land sown will not be shown in the accounts until October. The total of land sown, with cotton up to that date, will generally afford a near estimate of the land in cultivation.

2. The out-turn depends on the state of the season up to the time of picking in February and March; the plant may be injured by defect of rain at the time of sowing, by an excess at any time of its growth by rain at the time of ripening, by worm, and mildew. The estimate of out-turn until the crop is actually picked is therefore guess work, but 30 lbs.*
* Clean cotton.
per acre might be taken as a rough average.

3. It is believed that though the high prices induce extensive sales, yet that an anticipation of a rise may induce capitalists with stocks in hand, to hold them back, just as is the case in any other trade. To ascertain from the holders of cotton how much they have in hand would be a difficult and scarcely legitimate inquiry on the part of Government; the holders would doubtless misrepresent the quantity, in order that the price might rise, so that the information, if obtained, would scarcely be reliable. No doubt the exporters of cotton wish to ascertain the quantity, in order to settle what price would be a good speculation for them; the surest guide would be to calculate the probable out-turn of last year's crop, and compare it with the amount exported up to date. I still see cotton in carts traversing the District, and am not of opinion that the supply of any commodity will be totally exhausted while there is a chance of making a further mercantile profit on it.

From P. GRANT, Esq., Collector of Coimbatore, to W. HUDLESTON, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 14th October 1863, No. 190.

1. I have received Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, No. 6,328, dated 5th October 1863.

2. The cotton crop of the past season must be well nigh exhausted. Whatever cotton remains in the District, is sure to find its way to Madras. Of the existing stock I can form no estimate. The high prices paid for Cotton within the last twelve months, have reached the hands of many of the Ryots, so that they are all alive to the large profits to be made by the growth of the article, and if we have a favorable north-east monsoon, the crop of the coming season will exceed that of any previous period.

Ordered that the above letters be communicated to the Chamber of Commerce and Messrs. Line and Co., with reference to paragraph 3 of the Board's Proceedings dated 5th October 1863, No. 6,328.

(True Copies and Extract.)


Secretary.

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

„ W. H. Crane, Esq., Chairman Chamber of Commerce.

„ Messrs. Line and Co.

Copy to A. Hunter, Esq., M. D., Acting Honorary Secretary Agri-Horticultural Society.

„ to A Wedderburn, Esq., Acting Collector of Bellary.

„ to P. Grant, Esq., Collector of Coimbatore.

Exd. J. Wright.

8-2040

Ordered to be paid
in full to _____

No. 2578-

Thos. W. George
120. Bowdoin St.
Boston

Dated 22nd October 1863.

Despatched 26th

Received 27^d. —

No. 6,750.

Communicating letters from the Collectors of Coimbatore and Bellary, reporting on the prospects of Cotton crops in their respective Districts.

Nov. 21 - 1907 at

Ms. A. 9. 2. 157 & 158.

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