

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	1367	Press
		~~Mis.~~
Dated	2-8-1864	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
2nd August 1864.*

No. 18. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 21st July 1864, No. 4,605.

Read the following letter from the Collector of Salem, dated 13th July 1864, No. 126 :—

1. With reference to the Board's Miscellaneous Circular, No. XVI, Board No. 1,445, dated the 11th March 1863, I have the honor to submit copy of a report from the Sub-Collector, Mr. Thomas, on the Cactus insects.

2. With regard to the last paragraph of the Sub-Collector's letter, I request that the Collector of Cuddapah may be desired to supply Mr. Thomas with the insect found in that place.

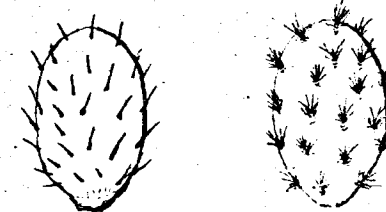
ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From H. S. THOMAS, Esq., Sub-Collector of Salem, to the Honorable D. ARBUTHNOTT, Collector of Salem, dated Oosoor, 21st June 1864, No. 163.

1. As requested in your letter, No. 614, dated 30th October 1863, I have the honor to report on the Cactus insects received from the Head Assistant Collector.

2. They were received in January 1864, and put out immediately on different plants. They appeared dead and made no show till the rains began to fall about a month ago, when they suddenly propagated with amazing rapidity, and small as they are about the size of a cheese mite spread all over a large plant and killed it in about a month. Their numbers are incalculable; they spread themselves in myriads over the leaves: but how they destroy the Cactus can only be observed through a microscope. To the naked eye the plant shrivels away imperceptibly as if the life blood were drawn out of it.

3. As far as I have tried as yet this insect will attack none but the one sort of Cactus on which they were sent me, viz., that with broad flat leaves and single thorns. As that is a rare sort of Cactus, this insect is of little value. The troublesome sort of Cactus is that with yellow flowers and thorns coming out in tufts. If any insect can be found to destroy this it will be invaluable.



4. Being a subscriber to the Agri-Horticultural Society of Madras, I have this day received and perused a printed copy of the Proceedings on a Meeting held on 4th May 1864. I see that much attention is given therein to the Cochineal insect. I have therefore written to their Secretary mentioning the sort you have sent me, and requesting to be supplied with the Cochineal or any other Cactus insect he may have; but it would appear from the report that he has only the Cochineal.

5. A Peon on my Establishment informs me he saw Mr. Puckle and Mr. Walhouse's experiment on an insect at Trichinopoly, which was white and found in the earth nearly the size of the little finger nail, and attacked the roots not leaves of all sorts of Cactus indiscriminately, and quickly destroyed the plants. I wrote to the Collector of Trichinopoly for it; he replied he could not now trace it, but thought I might get it from Tanjore. To that Collector I applied, and he said it was not so large as I said, had not yet been practically tried, was difficult of carriage, and only to be found in the cold dewy weather. I propose to write to Mr. Puckle and Mr. Walhouse to see if they can assist me in obtaining this very valuable insect. Large tracts which are now uncultivable can then be rendered fit for use. If it can be obtained from the Board, it shall have a careful trial at my hands. The Royacottai and other Zemindars have again and again pressed upon me to get it for them.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
2nd August 1864.*

[6. I have seen no report on the insect found in Cuddapah. If it is a valuable one, I would suggest that the Collector be requested to supply me with some. Oosoor is very near his borders.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) D. ARBUTHNOTT, Collector.

1. Ordered to be submitted for the information of Government, and that the Acting Collector of Cuddapah be requested to supply Mr. Thomas with specimens of the insect found in Cuddapah.

2. Messrs. Walhouse and Puckle will be requested to report on the insect which they are said to have observed in Trichinopoly.

No. 19.

ORDER THEREON, 2nd August 1864, No. 1,367.

Miscellaneous.

Ordered to be recorded.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) C. G. MASTER,

Deputy Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

No. 4,605.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 21st July 1864.

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(True Copy.)

(Signed) D. ARBUTHNOTT, Collector.

1. Ordered to be submitted for the information of Government, and that the Acting Collector of Cuddapah be requested to supply Mr. Thomas with specimens of the insect found in Cuddapah.
2. Messrs. Walhouse and Puckle will be requested to report on the insect which they are said to have observed in Trichinopoly.

(True Copies and Extract.)

[Signature]

Secretary.

To J. D. Sim, Esq., Secretary to Government, R. D.
 „ H. G. Smith, Esq., Acting Collector of Cuddapah.
 „ M. J. Walhouse, Esq.
 „ R. K. Puckle, Esq.
 „ Honorable D. Arbuthnot, Collector of Salem.
 „ A. Hunter, Esq., M. D., Honorary Secretary, Agri-Horticultural Society.

Exd. J. Wright.

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RECEIVED
 No. 1948.
 PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

*Rev. 1864. Department
 Secy of Govt for Aug 5*

Dated 21st July 1864.

Exd. J. Wright.

No. 4,605.

*One of the Branch of Rev.
 219. August 1/16 1864 1238*

Submitting for information letter from the Collector of Salem forwarding a copy of report from the Sub-Collector on the Cactus insects.

RECORDED.

28 Aug 1864.

28 Aug 1864.