M.R.O. 14—13,000—27-9-24.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 171 — Press ~~Mis.~~

10,—11

Dated 1—2—~~19~~1864

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 1st February 1864.

No. 10. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Military Department:—

Passing orders on G. O. Revenue Department, regarding the discovery in Cuddapah of an insect which eats away Prickly Pear. } (Here enter 26th January 1864, No. 302.)

No. 11. ORDER THEREON, 1st February 1864, No. 171.

Communicated to the Board of Revenue.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) C. G. MASTER,
Deputy Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue, with Proceedings Military Department, No. 302.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

MILITARY DEPARTMENT.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following papers:—

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department.

Read the following:—

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 22nd December 1863, *No.* 8094.

d the following letter from the Acting Collector of Cuddapah, dated Zamalamadugu, 9th December 1863, *No.* 176 *; to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue.*

It is with pleasure that I have the honor to communicate to the Board the discovery of *an* ct that eats away Prickly Pear.

2. I say *an* insect, because that sent by Major Mainwaring requires a farinaceous conjee ake it eat, whereas this eats it away root and branch without any thing of the sort.

3. Should the Board deem it expedient, I will send a cooly load to Madras, on my return uddapah about the 5th proximo.

4. I shall report further on the subject in a few days.

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1. Communicated to the Collectors of Bellary, Kurnool, Kistna, Nellore and North Arcot tricts.

2. The Acting Collector will be good enough to send a specimen of the insect to Captain hell, the Curator of the Government Museum, that it may be determined whether it is a new ety.

ORDER THEREON, 9th January 1864, No. 41.

The Board will instruct the Acting Collector to send a sufficient number of the insects to it of the experiment being tried at Madras.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. D. SIM,
Secretary to Government.

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m the Deputy Quarter Master General, Fort Saint George, 14*th January* 1864, *No.* 393 *; to he Secretary to Government, Military Department.*

With reference to the 3rd paragraph of this Office letter, No. $\frac{73}{6259}$, dated 31st July 1863, ave the honor, by order of His Excellency the Comander-in-Chief, to bring to the notice of Government, that the Officer Commanding the Hyderabad Subsidiary Force has reported as follows, regarding the progress of the des-

No. 460, *dated* 23*rd December* 1863.

ction of the Prickly Pear at Secunderabad.

"I. The experiment with the Prickly Pear insect has been entirely successful."

"II. In every direction, with a trifling exception, the insect has taken, and the Prickly Pear is being rapidly destroyed."

"III. The exception alluded to in paragraph 2, is a species of Prickly Pear slightly differing from the common Prickly Pear, the leaf being longer and quite free from thorns."

"IV. There are evidences however of the insect attacking this kind also."

"V. Should this take place, I anticipate the entire destruction of all the Prickly Pear within the Cantonment limits by the end of next year."

2. The insect was also sent from Secunderabad to Cuddapah, with a view to its introduction ere, shortly after its arrival, it was brought to the notice of the Commanding Officer that a nilar insect had been discovered in the Cuddapah District. The Acting Collector had tried it ccessfully for the destruction of the Prickly Pear at one of the Towns where he was on circuit.

3. In the Cantonment of Cuddapah, the insect received from Secunderabad had altogether iled. The insect discovered in the District was then tried, but up to the date of report had ade no perceptible progress.

4. Baskets of Prickly Pear leaves with the insects on them were, under His Excellency's ders, sent to Masulipatam, Waltair, and also to Madras, whence they have been distributed to richinopoly, Poonamallee and Palaveram—a basket was also sent to the Officer Commanding the th Regiment Native Infantry at Perambore.

5. No Report has been as yet received from Masulipatam, Waltair or Trichinopoly.

6. Both at Poonamallee and Palaveram the insect has not spread itself to any extent. It has been applied longer at Poonamallee than at Palaveram, and has therefore shewn greater signs of progress.

7. At Perambore, the Officer Commanding reports that the "insect has spread in some "places over the Prickly Pear to the extent of half a yard, but in others not at all. As yet no "parts of the bushes have been destroyed, nor are there any signs of their falling to the ground."

8. In his letter to the Collector of Belgaum, Rustomjee Viccajee, stated that, after the insects had been placed on the tree for about fourteen days, the nests would be observed to have spread rapidly over all the trees adjoining, and that in about another fourteen days, the branches would begin to fall to the ground.

Printed with Proceedings of Government, No. 3857 8th November 1862.

9. These statements have not been corroborated by the result of the experiment at Secunderabad, or at any other Stations in this Presidency, where the insect has been applied, and it is as well that too rapid a success should not be looked for, otherwise the result must be disappointment.

10. At Secunderabad, where the insect was introduced twelve months ago, it did not seem to take any effect for about two months, it then only began to spread, and the destruction of the plant is still going on.

11. The extirpation of the Prickly Pear plant throughout the Presidency is a matter of so much importance, that His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief would suggest for the consideration of Government, the advisability of publishing in the Fort Saint George Gazette, the Proceedings of Government of the 8th November 1862, with which was printed the interesting letter from Rustomjee Viccajee, first bringing the existence of the insect, and its properties, under the notice of the authorities, Proceedings of Government, No. 2571 of the 11th August last, and those passing orders on this letter.

ORDER, No. 302, 20th *January* 1864.

The Governor in Council observes, with reference to paragraph 11 of the foregoing letter, that the Proceedings of Government, No. 3857 of the 8th November 1862, were laid on the Editor's table. The same course will be observed with the present communication.

2. The experiments should be continued,—also with the insect referred to in the Proceedings in the Revenue Department above recorded.

(True Extract.)

Secretary to Government.

To the Revenue Department.
" Quarter Master General.
" Public Works Department.

Exd. J. E. Cathart.

Mily: & Incom: 1627 p. 385
" " 11 Augt 1863 -- 2591
Rec.: 9 Janry 1864 -
12: 79-80

Mar - 1864 - Dispatch
Pro: of Govt for February
P. S.: 267.

Proceedings of the
Madras Govt in
the Secretary Dept.

Dated 26th Jany 1864
Received 28th " "

No. 302.

Commencement to the
Board of Revenue -

Fort St George
1 Feby 1864

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Despatch from
the Govt regarding the
discovery in Cuddapah
of an unused coloured
clay Brick Ground

5 Copies Tasks Dft & Plan
with Desp No 302 } Desp 1st 2nd Feby

No. 1041.

Desp 171 - 18 Feby

Public
Public Works