M.R.O. 14—13,000—27-9-24.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 247	Press ~~Mis.~~
167-168	
Dated 9-2-~~19~~1864	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 9th February 1864.

No. 167. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 21st January 1864 No. 410:—

Read the following letters:—

From the Collector of Malabar, dated Calicut, 30th December 1863, No. 283.

No. XCVIII, dated 17th November 1863.

1. Adverting to the Board's Circular noted, I have the honor to submit a few brief remarks on the result of the sowing of Egyptian Cotton seed forwarded by the Board from time to time for experiment.

2. The seed was distributed to the Tahsildars of the various Talooks for distribution to intending cultivators.

3. The Cherakel Tahsildar had some seed distributed to several of the principal inhabitants of his Talook, and some was sown by himself in the Talook Cutcherry compound.

The seed sown has genereljy germinated. In some cases the plants have suffered by the rains. In many they promise well.

I beg to submit a specimen of Cotton grown in the Talook Cutcherry compound, as well as specimens of the plants grown on Ponam lands. These were forwarded to me by my Sub-Collector.

The plants and bolls are strong and large, and the staple seems fair, though the specimen Cotton has not been picked with as much care as could be wished.

4. In Koteyom 30 lbs. of seed were sown by the head of a village on a piece of ground measuring 11 Acres; owing to the rains only some of the seed has germinated; a few of the plants are in a thriving condition.

5. The Kurumbranad Tahsildar had the seed distributed in nine Amshoms. The seed germinated, but the rain has destroyed all the plants save a few in three Amshoms, and even these are reported sickly.

6. The experiment made by the Calicut Tahsildar in nine Amshoms has been a total failure, none of the seeds having germinated.

7. The Ernad Tahsildar had some seed sown in different places in his Talook. The seed germinated, but the plants with a few exceptions have been destroyed by the rains. The remainder budded in abundance, but the October rains destroyed the blossoms. They are about blossoming again.

8. The greater portion of the seed sown in Ponany has rotted from the effects of the rains, and the plants that came up have all died away.

9. In Wallawanad the seed was sown in nine different localities, but it only germinated in two places.

Some Peruvian Cotton seed was also sown in this Talook in beds two and three feet apart. But few seeds germinated, and after putting forth two or three leaves, these gradually died away.

10. The result of the experiment made in the Palghat Talook has not been reported as yet; 21 Maunds of seed were sown on the 28th July and 10th August last in 21 Acres of land by the Melal, or headman, of a place called the "Modelwada Pradeshom." 500 and odd Acres of land in the same place are being prepared for cotton cultivation. The result will be reported in due course. There are considerable capabilities for Cotton cultivation in this Talook.

11. Cotton seed was also distributed to several private parties interested in its cultivation. I have not as yet heard the result of their experiment, nor have I any information regarding the result of experiment in Wynad, in the eastern portion of which Talook there are undoubted capabilities for this culture.

12. I have no doubt that Egyptian Cotton will thrive well in many parts of this District. The native growers in most Talooks appreciate the importance of its cultivation. It is well worth persevering in distributing seed, and this in my opinion should be done as extensively as possible in small quantities to each recipient. As they raise a few plants they find promise of returns, and extend their number, and in a few years the aggregate result becomes important.

Important at any rate locally, and therefore worthy of attention. But except parts of Palghat and Wynad, I do not think Malabar will ever extensively produce Cotton for foreign consumption.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 9th February 1864.

From the Acting Sub-Collector in charge of Malabar, dated Calicut, 12th January 1864, No. 7.

1. In continuation of Mr. Ballard's letter, No. 283 of the 30th ultimo, I have the honor to forward copy of a communication from the Deputy Collector of Wynád, reporting the result of the experiment of Cotton cultivation in that Talook, together with a sample of Egyptian Cotton grown there.

Dⁿ-ed 7th instant, No. 3.

2. Adverting to paragraph 5 of Mr. Ballard's letter, I beg to forward samples of Peruvian and Egyptian Cotton with a few bolls of the latter grown in the Kurumbranad Talook.

3. The staple, though the Cotton has not been picked with care, seems good.

4. In my opinion the locality which promises to grow the best Cotton in Malabar is the Cherakal Talook, the Ponom lands of which are very well adapted to it.

5. The seed must be sown in the month of August.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

Memorandum from H. RICHARDSON, Esq., Deputy Collector, to J. H. GARSTIN, Esq., Acting Sub-Collector in charge of Malabar, dated Manantoddy, 7th January 1864, No. 3.

1. With reference to the Collector's Memorandum of the 7th November last, No. 3,835, the Deputy Collector of Wynad has the honor to state that the Cotton seed then forwarded was too late for sowing, the proper time for doing so being August or September. Mr. Smith, the Executive Engineer, however tried a small quantity which came up, but it was by very careful sowing in a nursery and being constantly watered.

2. Of the former supplies of seeds received, portions were distributed to the planters, and as the natives could not be persuaded to try the cultivation, the Deputy Collector had two plots of land near Sultan's Battery sown at his own expense, but regrets to state that they have proved a complete failure.

3. Mr. Bassam (a Planter) who tried Cotton in Wynad a few years ago, and sent a sample of the produce to England of which he received very favorable reports from the Brokers, states, that the Egyptian is the only description that succeeds in Wynad, and that it ought to be sown in August. Under these circumstances, the Deputy Collector solicits that a supply of this seed (Egyptian) may be furnished to him in June or July next, when he will do his best to get the Planters as well as Natives to give it a fair trial.

Sown in 1859, and the trees are still growing luxuriantly without any care. A sample of the Cotton is herewith sent.

(True Copy)

(Signed) W. BATES, *Deputy Collector.*

1. Ordered to be submitted for the information of Government with samples of the Cotton.

2. The Collector will apply from time to time for such seed as he requires. The Board do not doubt that they will be able to meet his requirements.

No. 168. ORDER THEREON, 9th February 1864, No. 247.

These Proceedings together with the samples of Cotton received therewith will be forwarded to the Home Government.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) C. G. MASTER,

Deputy Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

Copy in a Letter to Engd
dated 19th February 1864 No 9

Rev: 1864. Department.
Pro: of Govt for Feb.

No. 233.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

Dated 21st January 1864.
Para 26 to
Ord 27.
65 Samples of Cotton.

No. 410.

No. 167 & 168.

Submitting a report from the Collector of Malabar on the growth of the Egyptian Cotton in his District, with the samples received therewith.

No 241 9 Feby
Wm Taylor Esqr

21 | No 247.
These Proceedings together with the samples of Cotton received therewith will be forwarded to the Home Government.

J D S

Fort St George
9th Feby 1864

Copies to the Bd of Rev Despatch 10 Feby