

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 800	Press
<i>100 101</i>	~~Mis.~~
Dated	<i>10 - 5</i> 19 <i>1864</i>

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
10th May 1864.*

No. 100. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Military Department :—

Communicating a letter from Lieutenant Pogson, H. Ma.
Bengal Army, suggesting the cultivation of the Bael tree
on the Neigherries, and offering to procure roots and
suckers on being supplied with funds and Ward's cases. } (Here enter 27th April 1864, No. 1,415.)

No. 101. ORDER THEREON, 10th May 1864, No. 800.

Communicated to the Officiating Conservator of Forests, who is requested to report whether the variety of Bael tree mentioned by Lieutenant Pogson occurs in this Presidency.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) C. G. MASTER,

Deputy Secretary to Government.

To the Officiating Conservator of Forests, with Proceedings Military Department, No. 1,415.
„ the Military Department.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

MILITARY DEPARTMENT,
PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following letter:—

From Lieutenant J. F. Pogson, Her Majesty's Bengal Army, Dounton, near Simla, 21st March-1864; to the Secretary to Government, Military Department, Fort Saint George.

By this morning's Post, I received the Delhi Gazette of the 17th Current, and learnt

therefrom (*vide* Extract pasted in the margin) that, it is in contemplation to introduce the esculent and consequently non-medicinal variety of the Aegle Marmelos tree into Madras for the sake of its fruit. I have hitherto been under the impression that Bael did not grow at Madras, but in the Extract, Dr. A. Hunter is made to say "there seems to be three species of Bael in this Presidency, only one of which is possessed of medicinal properties, and

Read an application from Dr. Alexander Hunter, Secretary A. and H. Society of Madras, for a quantity of the Bael fruit:—
"I am desired by the Committee of the Madras Agri-Horticultural Society to request that you will be kind enough to order some good fresh Bael-fruit (Aegle Marmelos) to be forwarded to Madras by the next Steamer."

"Numerous applications have been received for seeds of this plant, and it is the desire of the Madras Government that steps should be immediately taken to propagate the best quality of the fruit as it has been found to be a very efficacious remedy in Dysentery. There seem to be three species of Bael in this Presidency, only one of which is possessed of medicinal properties and the attempts which have been made at Bangalore to improve the jungle fruit by cultivation have failed. I should be much obliged if you could give us any information on this subject, and if you could order 40 or 50 of the ripe fruit to be sent to my address by the earliest opportunity, the Society will gladly defray the expenses that may be incurred."

The Secretary mentioned that this request had been fully complied with. For the above communications and presentations, the best thanks of the Society were accorded.

A. H. BLECHYNDEN,
Secretary.

the attempts which have been made at Bangalore, to improve the jungle fruit by cultivation, have failed."

In reference to the above, I would respectfully beg leave to state, that in Bengal proper, and also in certain parts of the North-Western Provinces and Punjab, there are two species of Bael, the one cultivated, the other uncultivated, which yield esculent fruit. The fruit of the cultivated variety being as superior to the uncultivated, as the Mazagon Mangoe is to the Mangoe growing on the banks of the Sutluj at Kapoo, below Kotgur, four days' march North of Simla.

A little reflection will show that a fruit which is innocuous and delicious to eat in its ripe, or fully developed state, cannot be under any conditions endowed with highly medicinal properties, in any intermediate stage of its growth. These remarks are equally applicable to the uncultivated esculent variety of Bael-fruit, which I find is common to Cachar, and in that Province is not considered of any use for medicinal purposes, whilst my Bael Powder has been found most efficacious by the Medical Profession at Cachar, it having been introduced through the kindness of Captain R. Stewart, the Superintendent of Cachar.

I now beg leave to state that, the only Bael which possesses absolute, and *bond-fide* medicinal properties, is the wild Himalayan medicinal Bael-fruit, which even when ripe, is not fit for food, for neither man, monkey or baboon will touch it.

I would therefore respectfully venture to suggest that this medicinal variety of the Bael be introduced into the Neilgherries, if it be desired to have a Government Bael-fruit Plantation for Medical purposes. The medicinal Bael can be propagated from roots and suckers, and the shrub, or bush will bear fruit when about four feet high, and it will ultimately attain a growth of from eight to twelve feet, whilst the two esculent kinds become very handsome trees of from twenty to thirty feet in height. The fruit of the cultivated esculent Bael often exceeds six inches in diameter, whilst the fruit of the medicinal Himalayan Bael is seldom more than two and half inches in diameter. If funds, and a sufficient number of "Ward's cases" were placed at my disposal, I would proceed in person, to the jungle, and fill them with roots and suckers for despatch to Madras. This Bael will grow at any altitude above 1,200 feet, and under 4,000 feet. It thrives in a red, or iron soil with a South, South-Western, or Western aspect.

My expenses there and back being paid by Government.

I think it will take between three and five years for the plantation to bear fruit, and in the interim, I respectfully venture to hope that the Madras Government will extend its patronage to my medicine, which has given the utmost satisfaction to all Medical men, Dr. Linton, and his supporters, being excepted.

3

In conclusion, I have to beg the favor of your submitting this letter to His Excellency :
Honorable the Governor of Madras in Council, for his information and orders.

ORDER, No. 1415, 27th April 1864.

Communicated to Departments concerned, with reference to Proceedings of Government
No. 2094, dated 29th June 1863.

To J. F. Pogson, Esq., H. M.'s Bengal Army, } Here enter 27th April 1864, No. 1416.
Downton, near Simla.

(True Extract.)

Hamilton
Deputy Secretary to Government

To the Prinl. Insp. Genl. Medical Dept.

„ Quarter Master General.

„ Revenue Department. *With 10 spare copies*

„ Controller of Military Finance, } for information.

„ Medical Store-keeper,.....

„ *Secretary to the Horticultural Society* do —

