

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	202	Press
	57-52	~~Mis.~~
Dated	2. 2.	1865.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
3rd February 1865.*

No. 51. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 10th January 1865,
No. 108.

Read the following letters :—

From A. HUNTER, Esq., Honorary Secretary, Agri-Horticultural Society, to W. HUDLESTON, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Madras, 23rd November 1864.

With reference to Proceedings of the Madras Government enclosed in letter and Proceedings of the Board of Revenue No. 6,070, dated 30th September 1864, I have the honor by desire of the Committee of the Madras Agri-Horticultural Society, to forward a copy of the Proceedings of a Special Meeting convened on the 15th instant, for the purpose of taking into consideration the establishment of a Model farm on the ground called the Roshan Bagh and Homes' Gardens.

Special Meeting of Committee of the Agri-Horticultural Society, Tuesday, 15th November 1864.

Present.

C. DALE, Esq., in the Chair.

Honorable R. O. CAMPBELL.

Colonel HOWLETT.

A. HUNTER, Esq., M. D., Honorary Secretary.

Read Proceedings of the Madras Government, with letter and Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, No. 6,070, dated 30th September 1864.

Read also Report of the Sub-Committee appointed on the 2nd instant, and the opinions of Members of Committee thereon.

Read also letters from General McCleverty and Dr. G. J. Shaw, who were unable to attend the Meeting.

The Secretary intimated that Mr. Fane had been invited to attend the Meeting, and that he and the Sub-Committee had carefully inspected the ground called Roshan Bagh and Homes' Gardens, plans of which were exhibited at the Meeting.

Resolved that the Committee, highly approving the scheme for the formation of a Model farm at the Roshan Bagh, are willing to undertake the project, if Government will secure to them a monthly allowance of Rupees 350, and a grant for the purpose of procuring the farm stock and erecting the requisite buildings, the Society getting the land free of rent, or such portion of it as may not be on lease.

The Secretary also gave notice that at the next Meeting of the Society, there would probably be exhibited a belt lift pump made at the School of Industrial Arts. A rope lift pump invented by Lieutenant J. Curran of the Gun Carriage Manufactory, and a variety of other agricultural and garden implements.

(Signed) C. DALE, Chairman.

(Signed) A. HUNTER, M. D., Honorary Secretary,
Agri-Horticultural Society.

From E. G. R. FANE, Esq., Collector of Madras, to W. HUDLESTON, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Sydapet, 20th December 1864, No. 559.

1. With reference to the Board's Proceedings of the 30th September last, No. 6,449, asking me to submit in detail my proposals for a Model farm at Homes' Gardens and the Roshan Bagh, I have the honor to inform you that I met the Committee of the Horticultural Society at one of their late Meetings, and put before them as well as I could, in the short time the Members could spare to listen, my ideas on the subject.

2. I told them that I thought, though much had been done by their Society to improve, floriculture, but little had been done to improve the culture of the grains and fruits of this country, and, therefore, I thought the offer of Government to hand over to them the gardens in question, or a portion of them, was an opportunity of doing this last, not to be lost.

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3. They agreed with me ; and on parting, it was determined to accept the offer of the Government, and to take over about 200 Acres of that portion of the gardens that was best supplied with wells or with water from the river Adyar.

4. I have received no further communication from the Committee ; but as I believe they have applied to Government for a grant-in-aid of their scheme, some little time may still elapse before a commencement can be made by the Society.

5. They propose to associate me with them in the management of the Farm ; and between us, I trust that something will be done to advance the agricultural and farming knowledge of the natives.

6. My idea is that a farm, to be a good example, should be made to pay ; and I should, therefore, propose at first simply to improve all the fruit trees (Mangoes and Guavas) now existing in the portion of the ground to be allotted to the farm. I should then, by way of inculcating neatness, divide the farm into convenient fields by well kept hedges. I should raise water artificially by the most expeditious, but at the same time most economical, methods, and irrigate only the usual crops of the country, such as raggy or rice ; all the lands I would have ploughed and cleaned by the lightest possible implements ; and would show thereby to the Ryots the advantages to be gained by deep ploughing and the thorough cleaning of land.

7. In this country there being no green crops to feed cattle on during the hot months, just at the time they are most wanted, namely, the beginning of the rainy season, they are always so thin and out of condition that they are unable to draw anything but the wretched native plough, and even under that weight perish in large numbers ; or if they work, work only under the most favorable circumstances, as when the ground is soft, which it is for only perhaps a couple of days after rain. A great want, therefore, seems to be a green crop of some sort that can be cultivated by well irrigation, and that will pay for feeding the cattle during the hot weather, and securing thereby to them the necessary strength for the hard work demanded of them at the commencement of the cultivating season. Without some such plan, the cattle about Madras especially will never be able to work even the smallest ploughs lately imported from England by the Government. The green fodder I should especially recommend for a first trial, would be grasses of the Guinea grass description. By cultivating on the farm green food enough for its working cattle, they could be tied up and fed in sheds on the premises during the hot weather, producing thereby a much larger quantity of manure than if grazed outside. I would cultivate green crops at first more extensively perhaps than any thing else, and would devote to that crop some four or five acres under each of the wells in the Roshan Bagh ; as there is a great demand in Madras also for green food in the hot weather for its thousands of stall-fed milch cows, the sale of the surplus of the farm would be very profitable, but would also literally be bringing to the very doors of the natives a knowledge of the advantage of the cultivation of a green crop, and they would soon follow our example ; the neighbouring Ryots would also soon learn to set apart a small portion of their garden or other land for a similar crop.

8. I should stock the farm with only good fair bullocks, &c., of the actual breed of the neighbourhood, as sending for large strong up-country bullocks would be no example to the cultivators here, who could not afford to follow it. I would have one European Superintendent, and under him learning men of sorts, East Indians as well as Natives. A man, who at once learnt to plough with an improved implement, would always be in demand for employment by the native gentlemen, who have Muttahs and gardens all about the Madras District.

9. Much might be also done in shewing the value of manuring, and especially the advantage of putting back into the land all that comes out of it in the shape of the straw of its raggy and rice crops, and the dropping of its farming cattle.

10. The crops of the farm I would thresh, winnow, and clean by machinery alone.

2

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
3rd February 1865.*

1. Ordered that the above papers be submitted for the consideration of Government, with reference to Government Order dated 27th September 1864, No. 1,784, Revenue Department.

2. The Board consider that the establishment of a Model farm on the Roshan Bagh and Homes' Gardens property, on the footing contemplated by Mr. Fane, is calculated to be productive of decided benefit to the agriculture of the Presidency, and also to be remunerative at least so far as to pay its expenses, while it will conduce to the development of the valuable Government property in question.

No. 52.

ORDER THEREON, 3rd February 1865, No. 202.

Miscellaneous.

Before sanctioning the proposals made by the Agri-Horticultural Society in paragraph 5 of their Proceedings, the Government wish to know the approximate cost of carrying them out, and the particulars of the scheme.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) C. G. MASTER,

Under Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.

„ the Agri-Horticultural Society.

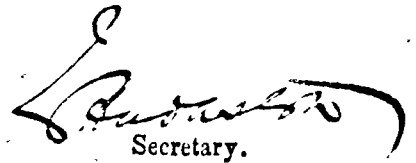
Exd. S. T. Augustin.

10. The crops of the farm I would thresh, winnow, and clean by machinery alone:

1. Ordered that the above papers be submitted for the consideration of Government, with reference to Government Order dated 27th September 1864, No. 1,734, Revenue Department.

2. The Board consider that the establishment of a Model farm on the Roshan Bagh and Home's Gardens property, on the footing contemplated by Mr. Fane, is calculated to be productive of decided benefit to the agriculture of the Presidency, and also to be remunerative at least so far as to pay its expenses, while it will conduce to the development of the valuable Government property in question.

(True Copies and Extract.)


Secretary.

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

Copy to E. G. R. Fane, Esq., Collector of Madras.

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

Exd. J. Wright.

13-8-23/RT

26.5-19

Rev. 1865. Department.
Proc of Govt for Army

For Anders.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

Dated 10th January, 1865.

Aug 13 -
Received 16th

No. 108
From the Hon. Secretary of the
Library, Oct. 28. 1854

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series of conditions may be 34 with

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Submitting for consideration letters from the Honorary Secretary Agri-Horticultural Society, and the Collector of Madras regarding the establishment of a Model farm on the ground called the Porban Begh and Homie's Gardens.

10.202-3864

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14