

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1069

Press
Mis.

Dated

4. 5.

1886.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
4th May 1866.*

No. 98. Read the following letter from the Collector of Malabar, to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Fort Saint George, dated Calicut, 27th April 1866, No. 53 :—

1. In compliance with Government Order, dated 9th instant, No. 813, I wrote to Mr. Minchin, for the results of the analysis of his Chinchona grown in Wynaad, and have now the honor to enclose his reply.*

* Dated 24th April 1866.

2. The analysis was made of about a quarter of a pound of dry bark from a Chinchona Succirubra planted in the Narkenshola Estate, South-East Wynaad, in April 1862, at an elevation of about 3,000 feet above the sea. The tree was about six inches high when planted out, when cut down in December 1864 it measured seven feet to the top leaves, and was three and a half inches in girth, nearly half a pound of dry bark was obtained; half of this was sent to the Government Gardens for report and analysis, but Mr. Minchin has not heard any thing of it since.

The rest was sent to Mr. Howard for analysis.

3. Mr. Howard writes, "I have devoted much attention to the analysis of your red bark, which I am happy to say promises admirably. I have obtained as a crystallized salt of Quinine equal to—

Sulphate of Quinine	...	...	...	...	1.20
" " Cinchonidine	...	...	...	...	.80
" " Cinchonine	...	...	...	...	.20

2.20 per cent.

"Besides some crystallized Quinine which, in larger quantities of bark to work, might be made available. There is in this, as in most young barks, some peculiar difficulty in working from its immature condition.

"The present analysis shows a bark likely to rival the very best from South America."

4. A more favorable account could hardly have been given. Mr. Grant was therefore quite mistaken in supposing that the bark turned out worthless. I do not consider that experiments have been sufficiently extensive or numerous in Wynaad, as yet, to establish a well-grounded confidence from their results that it can be properly called "a Chinchona growing country," but certainly they have not led towards an opposite conclusion, nor have I met with any thing to lead me to suppose that any rising confidence has been shaken.

It seems very necessary, however, that plants sent out for experiment should be well established, for not only have they to encounter a difference of climate, but they have not the advantage of the great and experienced care that is bestowed upon them about the Government Gardens.

5. I beg also to submit a letter† from Mr. Rossall, proprietor of a fine Estate in South Wynaad, who is growing Chinchona with great promise of success. No

† Dated 24th April 1866.

extraordinary care has been bestowed on his trees, yet Mr. Markham, who visited them, considered them better grown than

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those in the Government Gardens at Neddiwattam, inasmuch as they shewed a better relative proportion between height and girth.

6. If Government have any copies of Dr. Howard's work on the Chinchona to spare, I beg a copy may be sent Mr. Rossall.

No. 99. ORDER THEREON, 4th May 1866, No. 1,069.

Miscellaneous.

1. Ordered that a copy of the Collector's letter and of Mr. Howard's Report on the analysis of the Chinchona bark grown by Mr. Minchin in the Wynaad be forwarded to the Collector of Coimbatore, for communication to persons interested in the culture of the Chinchona on the Neilgherries and Annamallays.

2. The Government have sent the only copy they had of Mr. Howard's publication to the Deputy Collector of Wynaad, who can lend it to Mr. Rossall and other proprietors in that Talook.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. D. SIM,

Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.
.. W. G. Melvor, Esq.
.. the Collector of Malabar.
.. the Collector of Coimbatore.
.. the Deputy Collector of Wynaad.
.. the Editor's Table.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

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