M.R.O. 14—1450—22-10-25.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1153 Press Mis.

Dated 14-12- 1866.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
14th May 1866.

No. 263. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 30th April 1866, No. 3,027.

Read the following letter from the Collector of South Canara, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Camp, near Someshwar, Udipi Talook, 13th April 1866, No. 60 :—

1. I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the Proceedings of the Board, under date the 19th January last, No. 449, regarding the institution of District and Local Exhibitions, and to state that, after giving the subject my best and most careful consideration, and anxious, as I naturally am, that this District should not be behindhand, I am not at present prepared to recommend that an Exhibition should be held in South Canara.

2. The last Exhibition which took place in Canara was, as the Board are aware, held in the year 1857 ; and I am informed was anything but successful. In the year 1859, and in lieu of such an Exhibition, seven prizes were offered for Essays on certain subjects connected with agriculture and other cognate subjects, and the following prizes were awarded for Essays on the subjects mentioned below :—

	Rs.
On the breeding and keeping of horned cattle	100
On the preparation, &c., of manures	50
On the cultivation of the Cocoanut tree, and the best use of its products	75
On the system of Landlord and Tenant prevailing in the District ...	50
On the manufacture of "Kach" or Terrajaponica	50
Total ...	325

3. Since this movement, nothing further seemed to have been done, and as remarked by the Board in their Proceedings* at the time these measures were reported on, "The problem which the "farmers of Canara have to solve, viz., how to combine a supply of healthy cattle "for tillage and the dairy with a sufficient supply of animal manure," remains unsolved, and "the housing of cattle on masses of manure" goes on as before.

* Vide Board's Proceedings, dated 30th January 1860, No. 496, paragraph 12.

4. Such being the case, I submit that an Exhibition would not, at present, be likely to be attended with success, and as I observe there is one to be held next year in the neighbouring District of Malabar, I would at all events recommend that none should be held in Canara till the result of that Exhibition is known.

5. I would, however, beg to lay before the Board the following suggestions, and as the great desideratum for the District, I would urge, first, the establishment (on a small scale at first) of an experimental farm chiefly for the cultivation of Cholum, Imphee, Guinea grass, Lucerne, and other such substances to be used as fodder for cattle, either green or converted into hay.

6. The miserable condition of the cattle in this and other Districts is, no doubt, in a large measure, attributable to the want of sufficient food during the hot months, and in a season like the present, when there has been no rain since the month of November, and the hills which are annually burned for pasturage are, for this reason, unusually bare, it is only a matter of surprise how they contrive to exist.

7. I observe from the last Reports of the Agri-Horticultural Society of Madras, that great progress has been made, of late years, in the growth of grasses as fodder for cattle, and I observe particularly that it is stated, and on the authority of parties who have had practical experience in the matter, that the common Hurriallee grass can, with proper care and attention to manure and irrigation, be made to produce at the rate of one ton per acre per mensem. In the same paper, it is also stated that Cholum and Guinea grass, if likewise similarly treated, can be made to produce from eight to ten crops a year.

8. Now I may observe that, even without any cultivation or attention whatever, the Hurriallee grass grows plentifully in several places in Canara, particularly near Mangalore; and I have also seen a small bed of the Cholum seed sent from Madras two years since, growing vigorously in the compound of the German Mission at this station, and this after it had been cut over several times.

9. I venture, therefore, to think, that the forming of a small experimental garden or farm (I use the word in its most restricted sense) for the introduction and growth of grasses of the kind I have specified, would be of the greatest practical value to the agricultural population of this District, and in connection with this, I would also suggest that I should be furnished with two of each of the following agricultural implements:—

Small dwarf Iron Plough.
Horse Hoe and Harrow.
Forks.
Chaff Cutters.
Mamoties.

10. Hereafter, and in connection with the farm, and in the event of the same being successful, I would further propose that an attempt should be made to introduce a better breed of cattle, and that for this purpose, some bulls of an approved stock, should be procured from the Mysore country; this is a matter, however, for consideration hereafter, but in the meantime, I would request the Board that in lieu of holding an Agricultural Exhibition, the sum of Rupees 500 should be granted to me for the purpose of enclosing and cultivating a small piece of ground in a suitable locality with the grasses I have specified, and that I should also be provided with the tools enumerated in the foregoing paragraph.

11. I would also beg to suggest that I should be furnished with a set of the soils, manures, mineral, and chemical substances used as fertilizers, and which I observe from the same Report, to which I have already alluded, have been sent to the Nagpore Exhibition and to Travancore and Bangalore.

12. I would only further add that in asking for the sum of Rupees 500, I have specified the sum that, under any circumstances, will not be exceeded. I have great hopes that the produce of the land proposed to be cultivated would go a great way to cover all the expenses; at the same time, in an undertaking of this nature, the expenses at the outset (such as digging wells, &c.,) are always considerable; but should the Board be pleased to procure sanction for me for the sum of Rupees 500, no effort shall be wanting on my part to see that the experiment is conducted with due regard to economy, as well as to efficiency and the prospects of success.

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

Recommended for the favorable consideration of Government.

No. 264. ORDER THEREON, 14th May 1866, No. 1,153.

Land Revenue.

1. The Government readily sanction the grant of Rupees 500 for the purposes stated by Mr. Cadell.

2. The Board will ascertain from the Farm Committee whether they can supply any of the implements needed. They will also communicate with the Agri-Horticultural Society on the subject of paragraph 11 of Mr. Cadell's letter.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

Ex. 1168.

The first Yearly Instalment
of the Grant of Rs. 500 for
the purposes stated by
Mrs. Caldecott.

The Board have ac-
cepted from Mrs Farn
Com^{ee} the Mrs Key Com
ee fully any of the
Com^{ee} please to needed.
N. They wish also Com-
municate with the
Govt. Instr. &c. on
the Subject of Mrs Caldecott's letter of 8th
14th Inst. 1868.

1866. Department.

No. 1293

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

Dated 30th April 1866.

No. 3,027.

Recommending for favorable consideration letter from Collector of South Canara requesting a sum of Rupees 500 for establishing an experimental farm for cultivation of Cholum Guinea grass, &c., and desiring to be furnished with certain Agricultural Implements and with a set of soils, manures, &c. used as fertilizers.