M.R.O. 14—5,450—22-10-25.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1175 Press / Mis.

Dated 17-5- 18 66.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 309. Read the following letter from the Collector of South Arcot, to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Fort Saint George, dated Camp, Punrooty, 5th May 1866, No. 15 :—

1. I have the pleasure to forward copy of a further Report from Mr. Keess, on the experimental cultivation of North Carolina Paddy, the seed being the product of the previous year's growth from the seed originally furnished to me for distribution by Government.

2. The present experiment of Mr. Keess appears to have been made under considerably adverse circumstances, and the result is to be regarded as very promising and encouraging.

3. So far as experience is any test in this District, the Carolina Paddy certainly appears superior to the indigenous grain of the country, and to be more remunerative even where subjected to no more care in culture than that ordinarily bestowed by the Ryot on the paddy of the country.

4. The notice by Mr. Keess of the properties of the Carolina grain in the last paragraph of his letter, is deserving of note.

5. Of the thirty measures received from Mr. Keess, seven have been sent by me to the Board of Revenue for transmission to Calcutta, and the rest will be duly distributed on application to other Districts.

From Mr. D. KEESS, to the Collector of South Arcot, dated Cuddalore, 4th May 1866.

1. I beg to submit a Report, for the past season, on the cultivation with the acclimatized seed of the North Carolina paddy from Batavia.

2. I shall premise that the cultivation was carried on under great disadvantages; in the first instance from an influx of salt water, and subsequently from scarcity of fresh water, though a stream was running close by. The latter cause is remediable. Anticipating difficulties, I applied early in the season to the late Tahsildar of this Talook for permission to cut a small channel; and was asked, I believe under instructions from your office, if I were prepared to do so at my own cost; a reply in the affirmative was returned, but nothing further heard about it.

3. Nearly the whole of the bed of a surplus channel, running past the patch I cultivated, was recently taken up by a Ryot for cultivation; and this individual did his best to thwart my obtaining any water, as did the people who allowed me to get a supply the previous year. But for this circumstance I should be in a position to forward a report different from that which I now furnish.

4. A nursery was prepared in the usual way, and twenty measures of paddy seed were put down on the 14th September last. Thirty days subsequently, the seedling having attained a height of nearly two feet, they were transplanted, and covered about half a cawny. The plants throve well, were healthy and vigorous. But rather a smartish gale on the 25th November caused a high tide, flooded the entire patch with salt water and did much damage. By dint of great labor the salt water was baled out, and fresh water baled in as quickly as possible, and allowed to run out repeatedly, with the view of preventing any deposit of saline matter. The plants were, however, much damaged, and never recovered their previous vigour. Three-fourths perished, but the remainder nevertheless attained a height of four feet. The scarcity of fresh water too, not a little retarded their recovery.

5. On the 25th February 1866, five months and eleven days after having been put down, the ears being fully matured, they were duly harvested, and yielded 150 measures of bearded paddy.

6. I have in no single particular, on the present occasion as well as on the previous one, deviated from the course pursued by the Ryots in their treatment of the indigenous paddy, but gave instructions to the man in charge, to treat the Carolina paddy in all respects as he would that of

7. I have seen in the public prints some very unfavorable accounts of the cultivation of the Carolina paddy in other Districts, but a trial with the acclimatized seed may prove more successful, and yield more encouraging results; with this view I beg herewith to send thirty measures of paddy, very carefully prepared for seed, for distribution to such of the Districts as you may think necessary, and supplying the Agri-Horticultural Society of Madras with a small quantity.

8. The soil of the patch upon which the paddy was sown is a sandy loam, with street sweepings used as manure, and a slight admixture of ashes.

9. A small quantity of the paddy was put down at Cotharacharry, but whether from the soil being a pure clay or a failure of water, consequent on a scanty monsoon, and the prolonged drought, the plants that at first did very fairly and promised well, soon drooped and withered.

10. I would presume to remark on one quality of the Carolina rice, which could hardly have escaped notice. It apparently contains a larger quantity of gluten than the rice of this country, and as an article of food is valued in proportion to the amount of sanguineous or organic matter contained; its superiority will be vastly appreciated shall this fact be established.

No. 310.

ORDER THEREON, 17th May 1866, No. 1,175.

Land Revenue.

1. The Collector will convey to Mr. Keess the acknowledgments of Government for his interesting report, and the praiseworthy perseverance with which he has carried on the important experiment of introducing Carolina rice into this Presidency.

2. A supply of seed received from America has just been forwarded to the Collector, and a portion of this should be presented to Mr. Keess.

3. The whole of the seed received from Mr. Keess should be sent to the Board of Revenue for distribution.

4. Mr. Reade should have explained why measures were not adopted to supply Mr. Keess' plot of land with water.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. D. SIM,

Secretary to Government.

To the Collector of South Arcot.
,, the Board of Revenue.
,, the Editor's Table.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

Rec: 21 June 1865 N 229-44
Reported to England
P/ 22nd May & 20 of 1867
Ellis

1 Copy Ltr from Collector Chingleput to Govt Dated 17th May 1866 with Order

N: 309-310-

C.R. May/66.

Rev. of Govt. 1866 Dept.
Dated 5th May - No. 1347
From
The Collector of
South Arcot
To
The Secretary to
Government
Madras

Dated 5th May 1866
Read 11th May 1866
No. 15
Enclosure 1:-

Forwards Copy of a Further Report from Mr. D. Kees on the Experimental Cultivation of North Carolina Paddy in South Arcot -

Answered 17th May
With order

Le wrote for from Coll. Ltr

The whole of the Seed received per the Ships since the Sent Out the 18th of March for distribution

No. Rec'd since the Rec'd with Report

No. issued why Remains on hand

No. applied for Supply but not issued with Rain -

2nd 1170.

1. The Coll. will convey to Mr. Kees the acknowledgments of Govt. for his interesting Report - and the Praise worthy Perseverance with which he has carried on the important & permanent of introducing Carolina Rice into this Presidency.

2 A supply of Seed recently received from America has just been forwarded to the Coll. and a portion of this should be given to Mr. Kees.

WOL 23rd May 1866