M.R.O. 14–5,450–22-10-25.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1339 Press ~~Mis.~~

Dated 1-6- 1866.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

[32]

No. 102. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 19th May 1866, No. 3,518.

Read the following letter from the Collector of Tinnevelly, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 8th May 1866, No. 181:—

1. I have the honor to report on the Tinnevelly Exhibition of 1866, held on the 27th and 28th April: prizes distributed on the 30th idem. The last Exhibition,* the fourth that had been held in the District, was reported on by Mr. Silver, the late Collector, in his letter of 16th April 1864. Mr. Silver took a great interest in the matter; it was chiefly at his recommendation, that another trial, after that of 1859, was made. He reported that the result of the repetition was discouraging; there had been fewer Exhibitors than on the previous occasion. He could not recommend another exhibition being held, next year, 1865.

* First in 1856. Second in 1857. Third in 1859.

Paragraph 3.

143 against 209 of 1859.

Paragraph 10.

2. Thousands of notices, regarding the Exhibition, were distributed in the Vernacular during last year; they were repeated in this. Invitations to all the Zemindars were sent: a few only attended.

3. A report collated from the return of the Juries, drawn up by Mr. Storr, my Head Assistant, is annexed.

4. As regards agricultural live stock† the Exhibition was a complete failure. This is not a cattle-breeding District, but no foreign bull was exhibited. I have tried to get some of the most influential Zemindars to import Salem bulls, for improvement of the breed, but, at present, there do not appear to be any in the District of that sort. I heard that the Ettiapuram Zemindar has a Nellore bull, but so large a breed does not cross with smaller cattle, which experiment was tried in Tanjore, and failed, about fourteen years ago. There was one decent country cow shewn, no good draught buffaloes, although the buffaloes of Tinnevelly are fair, almost equal to those of Cuddapah, though far inferior to those of Dharwar. Of products,‡ there were fair specimens of cereals and pulse; good coffee, senna of course, some fair cotton, spices; the indigo would not have been looked at in Cuddapah. Perhaps the best show was in the Fibre§ Department; the cotton rope could not have been surpassed any where; a great many prizes were given for these valuable products. There is a great manufacture of Jaggery or coarse sugar from palmira juice; this article finds its way, by sea, to Sugar Factories. The palmira tree numbers, it is estimated, 45,00,000, is yearly spreading in the sandy southern tracts, produces (£12,000) one and a fifth lac of revenue; its ownership and that of the land on which it grows, are mostly separated; the tree-planters and toddy-drawers are generally the owners, a great proportion Christians; the sweet juice of the tree is both food and drink of the most innocent description, while the

† Class I.

‡ Class II.

§ Class III.

fermented juice is slightly intoxicating, and is sold to the Abkarry Renters, forming another element of taxation. The only new product shewn was Carolina paddy. I had the naturalized seed weighed with the imported. Both in measurement, or bulk, and in weight, it exactly corresponded, thus shewing that there was no deterioration. The yield, however, was only ten and a half fold; this is just half the produce of the best indigenous paddy, under exactly similar conditions: the produce was directed to be retained for future distribution. A light* English plough was shewn by Dr. Wilson, and several Native ploughs, which are bent sticks, shod with iron; the bullocks of this District can draw the latter through any soil, and by repeating the operation, they can deepen the furrow; the English plough would bring them to a stand still in a very short time. Until we can rear a larger and more powerful breed of cattle, for which a different and more rain-watered climate is requisite: all good breeds in this country are derived from hilly tracts, with abundant and nourishing grass: we must defer the introduction of English-made ploughs in this District. Major Barber, of the Survey Department, exhibited a model of a Chinese water-wheel, which, when moored in a channel, and revolving by the current, empties the water into a trough, from bamboo tubes filled during the revolution of the wheel. This seems a useful implement of mechanical irrigation, and when a sufficiently strong current can be obtained, it raises a considerable amount of water, depending, of course, on the rapidity of the revolutions. The Cotton Lever Press sent from Dharwar was also exhibited in its working. Of this I have sent a separate report. It failed to be appreciated. Mr. Child, the Sessions Judge, exhibited an improved churka or cotton-cleaning machine of the size of the ordinary native kind, but of better construction. Its peculiarity consisted in having, at the end opposite, the winch, a bar of wood enlarged at each end; this acted as a fly-wheel for increasing and regulating the motive power; the Jury did not notice this machine; but as the churka is worked by one person who turns the winch with one hand, while feeding the rollers with the other, I doubt whether, with the intermissions requisite for supplying fresh cotton, the fly-wheel is of so much use, as it would be in a larger machine, with more than one pair of hands to work it.

* Class V.

5. In conclusion, there was no lack of publicity or of explanation of the object of the Exhibition; the attendance was fair, the European community gave it their support; but the result, with some exceptions, was poor and inadequate. The object of an Exhibition, though this is the fifth, and ten years have elapsed since its introduction, is either not understood, or else not appreciated. The Jury in Class No. I. advert to a cause, a suspicion that a show of wealth and latent resources will be a preliminary to increased taxation. The rapidity with which our laws are passed to a people, who are averse to change, and to whom custom is a primary law, may have something to do with this. The Exhibitors remain as before; no fresh accessions appear to their number, in fact there has been a decrease. The Abbe Dubois, than whom no more accurate and keen observer of the native character of Southern India has appeared, alludes to the extreme suspicion of the people of the acts of their rulers. To obviate this, I have, by the

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
1*st June* 1866.

extensive circulation of the District Gazette, endeavoured to put myself "*en rapport*" with the inhabitants of every village, when, in the course of time, they learn to understand and appreciate the acts of their rulers, we may hope for happier results.

6. If Government deem fit to order another Exhibition, I shall be glad to advance it, by every means in my power; that with Municipal taxation, and other cesses looming in the distance, it will be more successful, and judging from the past, I do not anticipate, but if it be desired that such Exhibitions should be naturalized, it is evident that they must be continued. Nothing but patient endeavour will conduce to this end. Perhaps, an interval of two years should be allowed to elapse, before the experiment is repeated. It will be observed that while I cannot, in sincerity, characterize the late Exhibition as a success, I do not despair of the future. I pointed out, in an address read to the Native gentlemen present, that such Exhibitions were supported by landed proprietors in other countries, and that a duty lay upon them of encouraging agricultural improvement. I beg that the thanks of Government be requested to the gentlemen who served on the Committees. Sanction is requested for the disbursement of Rupees 2,533-5-8, as per accompanying Exhibits Nos. 3 to 5.

Messrs. MacGregor.	Ramiah, Deputy Collector.
Storr.	Nana Row.
Kinnear.	Veerabudra Pillay.
Underwood.	Namasivayam Pillay.
Rev. Sargent.	Raghavendra Row.
Major Barber.	Seshaghery Row.
Lieut. Cunningham.	Vycoontam Iyengar.
Doctor Wilson.	Narahari Row; and
A. P. Streenivasa, Principal Suder Amin.	Balaram.

From the Acting Head Assistant Collector, to the Collector of Tinnevelly, dated 7th May 1866.

1. As requested, I have the honor to submit a summary of the report of the various Committees for the Tinnevelly Exhibition of 1866.

2. The Jurors appointed for the several classes of products inspected the articles on the 27th and 28th, and sent in their reports on the evening of the latter day. The prizes were distributed according to their awards, on the 30th April, in the Sheristadar's room. The names of the Jurors, and the classes on which they reported, are set in in Statement No. 1.

3. Statement No. 2 shews the amount given in prizes for articles specified in the printed list, amounting to Rupees 2,010.

4. Statement No. 3 is the list of prizes given for extra articles, which were considered deserving of remuneration, and amounting to Rupees 78.

5. In Statement No. 4 is shewn the whole expenditure connected with the Exhibition, and which, with Rupees 2,088, the amount awarded in prizes, makes a total of Rupees 2,533-5-8, for which I have the honor to request sanction.

6. This Exhibition was the fifth that has been held in the District of Tinnevelly. The first and second were held in the years 1856, 1857, the third in 1859, and the last preceding this in 1864. The result of the Exhibition of 1864 was not encouraging; but Government, considering ultimate success as far from hopeless, then determined that, after an interval of two years, another trial should be made in 1866.

7. The first class, for which prizes were offered, was live stock. Out of the fourteen specified kinds of animals, five were not exhibited at all. To the rest, with the exception of draught bullocks, for which no prize was awarded, the animals having been imported from other Districts, and thereby not complying with the requisite conditions, the full reward was given in five instances only; viz., to the best buffaloe with calf; to the best pair of ploughing bullocks bred in Tinnevelly; to the best turkeys, guinea, and game fowls. In the other cases, the animals exhibited were not considered sufficiently good to deserve the full amount offered.

Revenue Department -

No. 1339.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, under date the 1st June 1866.

Read the following Pro. of the Bd of Revenue -

Submitting Report of Coll^r of Tinnevelly, on Exhibition held on 27th and 28th Apl 1866, and requesting sanction for expenditure of Rd 2,533-6-8.

(Here enter 19th May 1866, No. 3,518) -

The Govt regret to learn that the Tinnevelly Exhibition did so unsuccessful. They can scarcely suppose that distrust of the object of these Exhibitions is really prevalent - especially in a district where Education has comparatively made such progress - Whether, however, the want of success be owing to suspicion - to the novelty of the measure according to their views - or to indifference caused by the large profits realised at present for produce of ordinary quality - the Govt are

I am desired to inform that the people of your collectorate are rather fond of these Exhibitions - Mad. Ath would be better to let the matter rest

W.A

are not disposed to put
up the experiment as entirely hopeless – and summon the Collector to notify that a similar exhibition will be held in 1866 – which will be the last, if the same indifference be displayed by the people –

The Collector will convey the thanks of Govt to the Committees for their assistance in carrying out the Exhibition –

The expenditure incurred, viz Rs 25 33½ is sanctioned –

L. D. S.

To Capn Talbot Pr. of Revenue Dist 18
by Secy to Govt

Revenue 1866 Dec.
Pro of Govt for June

Reported to England
Dis 25th July No. 33 of 1866.

No. 1339

Pro of the Madras
Government
1st June 1866.

No. 102-103

Revenue Department.

No. 1187.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

Dated 19th May 1866.

No. 3,518.

Submitting report of Collector of Tinnevelly on Exhibition held on 27th and 28th April 1866, and requesting sanction for expenditure of Rupees 2533-5-8.

Read, J. Wright.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department,

with four enclosures.

Copy to the Collector of Tinnevelly.

(True Copies and Extract.)

Secretary.

to the Gentlemen of the Committee.

2. The result of the Exhibition is not encouraging except in the article of fibres, dressed and manufactured.

Pro of Govt. for June 1866

No. 102

Pro of Govt. for June 1866

No. 1187-1190
135-136
216-217

Pro of Govt. for June 1866

No. 1339

Pro of the Madras Government
1st June 1866.

Unsuccessful results of the Tinnevelly exhibition expenditure incurred by the Collector — Sanctioned. —