M.R.O. 14—13,000—27-9-24.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 1997 Press ~~Misc.~~

188

Dated 8 - 8 - ~~19~~ 1866

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 8th August 1866.

No. 188. *Dated 8th August 1866, No. 1,997.*

Miscellaneous.

1. The attention of Government has been attracted by a letter published in the "Neilgherry Excelsior" from Mr. H. S. Thomas, Sub-Collector of Salem, with notes by Sir Wilford Brett, Military Secretary to His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, on the subject of using the Cactus or Prickly-pear as fodder for cattle.

2. The question of providing food for cattle is one of great importance, particularly in seasons like the present, when forage is scarcely procurable, and grain and straw are very expensive. The experiments made by Mr. Thomas and his native servants put it beyond doubt that cattle will eat the plant and thrive on it. Its extended use, especially in unfavorable seasons, would, therefore, be the means of preserving much stock that must otherwise perish.

3. The Government, therefore, resolve to publish the letter and notes alluded to, in an appendix to the "Fort Saint George Gazette," and to communicate them, through the Board of Revenue, to the several Collectors, with instructions to do their best to induce the people to give the plant a fair trial as food for cattle. The Collectors should also be desired to publish the papers in the District Gazettes.

4. Mr. Thomas, who is now acting in an appointment at the Presidency, will also be requested to place himself in communication with the Agricultural Society at Madras, and the Government Farm Committee, in view to the experiment being fully tried at the Presidency. He will also communicate with the Commissary General, in view to the trial of the plant in the Government Cattle Establishments.

5. The Government learn from His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, on the authority of Mr. McIvor, that the species of Cactus growing at Malta, and bearing a good edible fruit, exists also in this country. The Board of Revenue will inquire into this, and submit a report on the subject. If necessary, the true Malta plants, or rather all three varieties of them, might easily be obtained from the island.

6. The removal of the thorns from the leaves of the Cactus must be both troublesome and expensive, and it is desirable that Mr. Thomas should turn his attention to devising a cheap and simple instrument for the purpose.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue.
„ the Superintendent, Gazette Press.
„ the Acting Collector of Sea Customs.

Exd. T. Cartledge.

N° 1997

Revenue Department.

PROCEEDINGS** of the **MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Under date the 8th Sept 1836.

~~Read the~~ following.

The attention
of Govt has been attract-
-ed by a letter published
in the Wellington Gazette
from Lt H. S. Thomas
Sub Collector of Salem
with notes by Sir
Welford Bissett, Mily
Secy to the Govt in the
Revenue Dept, on the subject of issuing
the Cattle or Paddy Fear
as fodder for Cattle.

The question
of ~~feeding~~ † *cattle is*
one of great importa-
-nce, particularly
in

† *providing food for*

occasions like the present when forage is scarcely procurable and grain and straw are very expensive. The experiments made by Mr. Thomas and his various servants must be beyond doubt of the greatest use and service to the public and I therefore consider it my duty especially in unfavorable seasons would, therefore, by the means offered by serving as much as lies in my power to further such useful and laudable

The Govt. therefore resolve to publish the letter and notes alluded to in an appendix to the Fort St. George Gazette, and to communicate them through the Board of Revenue, to the several Collectors with instructions to take their best, to induce the people to give this subject a fair trial as food for cattle. The Collectors should also be desired to publish the papers in the District Gazettes.

Mr. Thomas, who is now acting in an appointment at the Presidency, will also be requested to place himself in communication with the Agricultural Society, at Madras and the Govt. Farm Committee in order to the experiments

experiment being fairly tried at the Presidency. He will also communicate with the Commissary General in order to the trial of the plant in the Govt. Cattle Establishment.

The Govt. have promised to the Commander in Chief, on the authority of the Secretary of State, that the species of Cactus growing at Malta and bearing a good edible fruit, expected also in this country. The Board of Revenue will enquire into this and submit a report on the subject. If necessary the true Maltese plants or rather also three varieties of Sicily

easily be obtained from the Islands carefully.

The expense of removing the thorns from the leaves of the Cactus must be both troublesome and expensive. and it is desirable that Mr. Thomas should turn his attention to devising a cheap and simple instrument for the purpose.

J. H.

11 Copies To the Bd of Rev. Dec. 30
1 — Bombay Gazette Dec. 30
1 — Calcutta Sea Customs

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Revenue 1866 Desp
Pro of Govt for Augt

14-8-5

No 1997-

Pro of the Madras
Government
dy 8th Augt 1866.
Rp. Bd of Revenue dated
18th September 66 No. 3454

Passing orders
On the subject of carry-
ing out experiments for
the use of the Prickly Pear
as fodder for cattle.—

No 188-

Pro Board of Revr.
dy 20 Augt 66 No. 2769