M.R.O. 14—18,000—27-9-24

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 2596 Press Mis.

616-617

Dated 26-9-1866.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
26th September 1866.

No. 616. Read the following letter from the Secretary to the Government of India, Public Works Department, (Revenue—Forests), to the Secretary to the Government of Madras, dated Simla, 7th September 1866, No. 336 F:—

I am directed to forward, for submission to the Government of Madras and for such action as His Excellency the Governor in Council may see fit, copies of papers* marginally noted, on the subject of a proposal made by the Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces for the establishment of an experimental plantation for the growth of Chinchona on the Mamedi ridge of hills in Vizagapatam, forming the boundary of the Madras Presidency, contiguous to the Upper Godavery District of the Central Provinces.

* Letter, with enclosures, from Secretary to Chief Commissioner, Central Provinces, No. 2,645-237, dated 10th August 1866.
Letter to do. in reply, No. 335, dated 7th September 1866.
Sketch Map.

No. 617. ORDER THEREON, 26th September 1866, No. 2,596.

Miscellaneous.

Forwarded to Mr. McIvor for his opinion as to the probability of the Chinchona succeeding there, and the establishment he considers necessary.

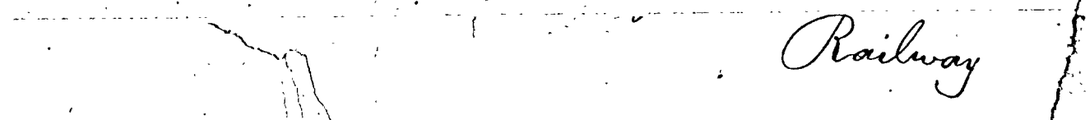
(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. D. SIM,

Secretary to Government.

To the Superintendent Government Chinchona Plantations.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.



Copy.

No. 2645
237

Chief Commissioner's Office,
C. P. Nagpore,
The 10th August 1866

From
The Secretary to Chief Comm.rs C.P.

To
The Secretary to the Govt. of India
Public Works Department.

Revenue.
Forests.

Sir,

During the last three years two attempts have been made to bring a supply of Cinchona plants from the Neilgherry plantations, and from a Cinchona nursery in some favored part of the highlands of these Provinces.

2. Each time an experienced Officer of the Forest Department has given his best attention to the matter. Some of the plants brought from Madras have reached the Sautpoorah hills alive, but from some cause or causes the plants have not thrived, and they have one after another all died. A few weeks ago Major Pearson took the opportunity of a visit to Bombay, made to arrange certain timber matters with the Great Indian Peninsular Railway

Railway Authorities, to visit the Cinchona plantations on the Mahubleshwur Hills.—

3 Major Pearson was not able to get any plants from the Bombay garden, because the Curator had not at the time any plants fit to send which he could spare; some valuable information regarding the planting and tending the cinchona was however gained, and it is hoped that in the month of May next, the Conservator may be able to obtain, either from the Neilgherris or from Mahubleshwur, or perhaps from both, a stock of good plants which may form the nucleus of cinchona gardens on the hills of these Provinces.—

4 Among other points which the Bombay horticulturists urged, they principally insisted upon this, that the cinchona would not flourish in this latitude, unless it was planted on a hill with a sea front, where it could feel the sea air. The cases in point which were instanced to Major Pearson convinced him that there was seemingly much ground for the opinion. It may perhaps be replied that the plantations of Kangra and Darjeeling where the Cinchona is reputed to flourish, do not enjoy the sea air. Still, however this may be, the Chief Commissioner would desire to try this most valuable plant at some place on the Central Provinces frontier, which is comparatively near the sea, as well as at some place inland nearer to Nagpore:—

5 The Conservator has now recommended that Cinchona plantation be tried on the eastern slopes of a range of hills to the South East of the Upper Godavery District. A ridge of these hills attains an elevation of about 4000 feet above the sea. The following extract from a report by an Officer of the Topographical Survey, together with the accompanying Sketch Map, give some idea of the ground. The Survey Officer writes thus:

Copy of his letter on the subject is annexed

Hill site suited as a Sanatarium for the Godavery Districts in Lat: 17° 48' 26". Long: 85° 45' 8".

"10 The high range of hills east of the "village of Marmedi, which forms the boun- "dary for several miles between the Reka- "pali and Rampa talooqs, appears to me to "be a suitable site as a Sanatarium for the upper Godavery District, and might be made

accessible also to those on the Vizagapatam, Rajamundry and Kokanada Districts. The Climate is delightfully cool throughout the day, and from its proximity to the sea coast there can be little doubt as to its salubrity. I visited the range in the early part of February, and though dressed in warm clothing felt chilly even at midday, and worked from 8 A.M. to 4 P.M. on foot, without the slightest inconvenience from the sun. The summits of these ridges are entirely treeless, but densely clad with foliage in the surrounding slopes and lower ranges a few hundred feet below, affording an inexhaustible supply of timber of all kinds and bamboo for building purposes, access to which is by no means difficult; a few furlongs east of the ridge is a ravine, with an ample supply of water from springs, lasting, from all accounts, throughout the year. One or two villages of the Rampa Taloog existed formerly on the borders of this ravine, but have been deserted since, owing chiefly to its being infested by wild animals. Though the summits are so wanting in trees, they are covered with

Climate.

Timbes and Bamboo.

Water.

Grass. "with good short feeding grass, thickly interspersed with a species of the stunted date palm bushes. There is no soil whatever on these ridges for purposes of planation or gardening, the surface being covered with a strata of rocks, but the slopes and lower features seem to be good, with a description of a slightly black and reddish soil, and might be adapted for plantations.

Soil.

11 Your 2 Trigonometrical Stations named "Marigira" erroneously by Mr Budram "flagman" are situated on the ridge just described, and as determined by you, are elevated 4048 feet above the level of the sea. The ridge east of this is somewhat higher, being on the same range as your point B. peak 4570 feet in height, is more extensive, equally convenient as regards water, and an excellent road might be constructed over the connection between these two flat ridges which are only a mile and a half distant from each other.

Height of the range.

6. Cinchona plants could be procured and plantations formed without troubling the

of the ridge of hills, Jeypore and Bastar lying to the North and North-West of them - But as it is the Eastern slopes of the hills which would require on account of their frontage to the sea, I would suggest that, if the Chief Commissioner sees fit, an application be made to Government for the transfer from Vizagapatam to the Central Provinces of two square miles on the eastern slope of the Mamedi ridge of Hills, for the purpose of forming Cinchona plantations.—

Of course all that is required would be a guarantee in the possession of the land, and if it is sanctioned I will endeavour early next year to proceed to the place, and select a suitable spot on the ridge for the experiment.

No 325

Copy

6

No 335 I.

Government of India.
Public Works Department.
Revenue - Forests.

To

The Chief Commissioner
Central Provinces.

Simla, 7th September 1866.

Sir,

Having laid before the Governor General in Council your Secretary's letter No. 2645/237 Dated 10th Ultimo, containing a proposal for the establishment of an experimental Cinchona plantation on the Mamedi ridge of hills in Vizagapatam, bordering on the frontier of the Central Provinces, to the South East of the Upper Godavery District, and the transfer from the Madras Presidency of the required land, I am directed to remark that the site proposed, having an elevation of only

he Government of India upon the subject.
Here it not that the very ridge referred to forms
the boundary between the Rekupilly talook (Upper
Godavery District) of the Central Provinces,
and the Rampa talook (Vizagapatam district)
of the Madras Presidency. The eastern slopes
of that ridge therefore belong to the Madras
Presidency, and the object of this letter is to
solicit the Government of India to authorize the
Chief Commissioner to arrange with the Madras
Government for the transfer of two square miles
on the eastern slope of the Mamedi ridge to
the Upper Godavery District. Judging from the
Surveyor's report, the tract is quite unoccupied
and uncultivated. If it were transferred, the
Chief Commissioner would endeavour to make
a Cinchona garden there.-

I have the honor to be &c.

(Signed) C. J. Bernard,
Secretary.

Copy

Copy of a letter No. 198 dated the 28th July 180
from Major G. J. Pearson, Conservator of Forests &
to the Secretary to Chief Commissioner of the
Central Provinces.-

I have the honor to return Mr.
Thumarett's report on the survey of the Godavery
Talook.

2. It appears to me that the hills
situated in the Rukapili Taloog referred to in
Paras: 9. 10. 11 & 12, east of the village of Mamedi
would afford a more promising site for trying
Cinchona plantations than any place we possess
in the Central Provinces, as the eastern slopes
of these hills must be within about 100 miles of
the sea coast, and I should think at the elevation
of 4000 feet that they must be free from hot
winds, while they must enjoy the benefit of a sea
breeze - I much fear that hot winds will wither
the hardiest sorts of Cinchonas in any of the more
Central Hills about Puchmurry.

3 The Rampa talook of the Vizagapatam
District appears to be separated from Rakapilly

by

000 feet, would probably be too low, and the climate too dry for the purpose, so that any plantation would have to be regarded quite as an experiment. But independently of this, the plants would have to be brought by sea to Vizagapatam, the ridge is easily accessible to the Collector, and it is in close proximity to the head quarters of the Forest Establishment of the Golconda District, so that supervision would appear to be more easy and regular from the coast than from the Central Provinces. Under these circumstances, and as at present informed, the Government of India is averse to the proposal.

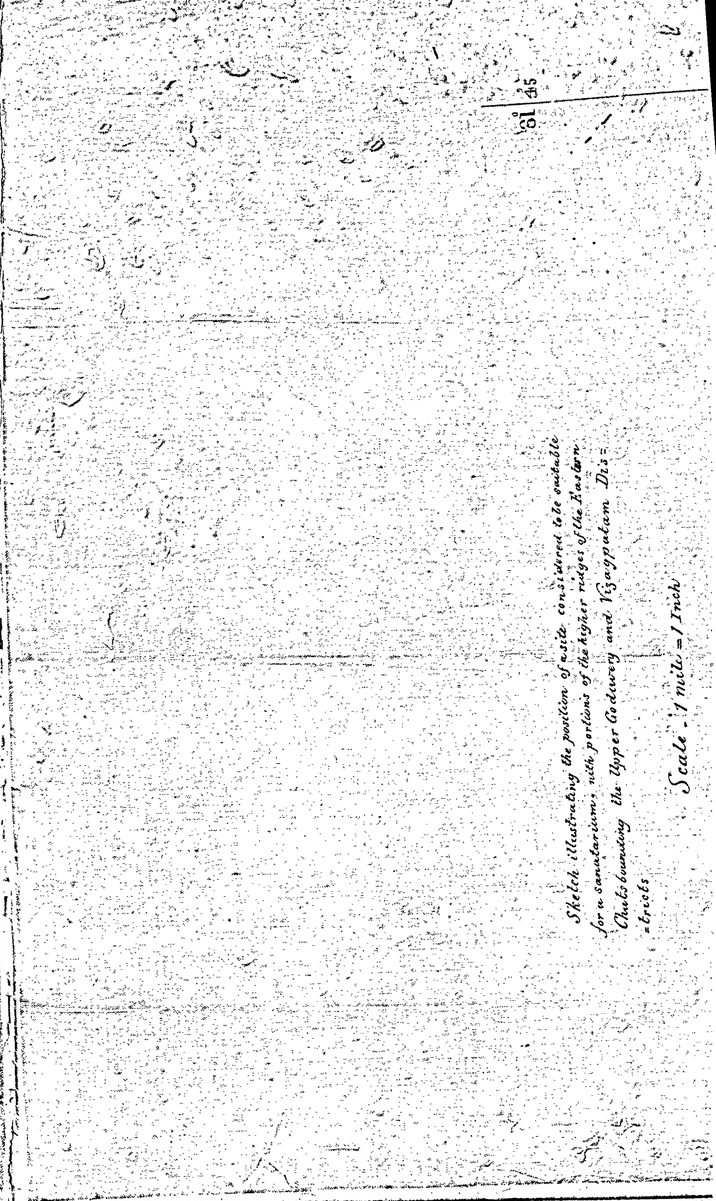
2. The Government of Madras will however be placed in possession of a copy of Major Pearson's report, with your views on the subject, in order that they may arrange for an experimental supply of Cinchona plants from Ootacamund, should they concur in the expediency of the measure.

I have the honor to be &c.

(Sd) C. H. Dickens Lt Col R.A.
Secretary to the Govt of India

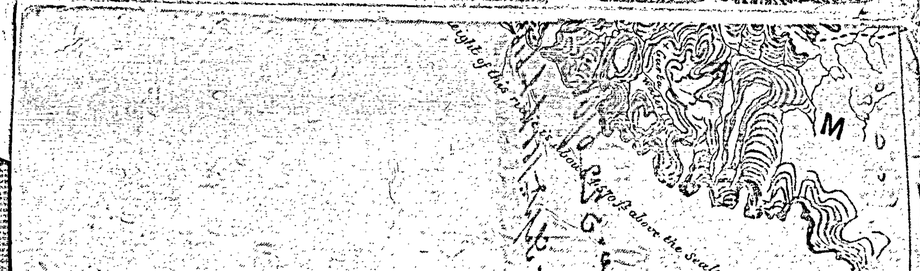
No. 3719/68.
Revenue Department
Fort St George 1st Oct 1868.





Sketch illustrating the position of the Cinchona Plantations considered to be available for sanatariums, with portions of the higher ridges of the Eastern Ghats bounding the Upper Godavery and Vizagapatam Districts

Scale: 1 mile = 1 Inch



Ir. 2596.

~~Forwarded to Mr~~ Mc.
Cor for his opinion as to the
probability of the Cinchona
succeeding there, & the ~~estabt~~
he considers necessary.

No. 20
26 Dec 1866.

To Col Forbes Supt Govt Chin Plants
Desp 27.

I have the honor to be &c
(Sd) C. H. Dickens Lt Col R.A.
Secretary to the Govt of India

I have the honor to be &c.

Lt.-Col. C. H. Dickens Lt. Col. R.A.

Secretary to the Govt. of India