M.R.O. 14—18,000—27-9-24.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 3459. **Press Mis.**

406. 407

Dated 21— 12— ~~19~~ 1866.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

D.B. 3459

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 21st December 1866.

No. 406. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 27th November 1866, No. 8,521 :—

Read the following letter from J. THACKER, Esq., Veterinary Surgeon, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Bangalore, 29th October 1866.

1. In reference to Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 9th October 1866, No. 7,263, I have the honor to reply that I have examined some specimens of the prickly species of Cactus called "Opuntia Dillenii," and think it is possible that the hair like barbed spines at the base of the large thorns might become imbedded in the lining mucous membrane of the mouth or throat in mastication or swallowing, and result in producing irritation, or even more serious consequences.

2. It appears to me, on burning off the thorns, that the small spines are not rendered innocuous, and I think it a better plan, to cut them out with a knife, or other convenient instrument.

3. The species known as "Opuntia Cochinillifera" being of a smooth thornless kind, thereby entailing less trouble in preparation, and common throughout this part of India, I would beg to suggest as likewise worthy of trial.

4. In compliance with the Board's request for my opinion upon the Cactus as food fitted for cattle, I would beg to state that I have had no opportunity of obtaining such practical experience as to enable me to add anything to the valuable papers already published, which shew the value of the plant in seasons of great drought.

5. I cannot, however, help expressing the regret I have long felt, at the agriculturists' total disregard to storing good wholesome dry forage of grain and straw, for use during dry seasons, especially such as experienced in the present year; it would be to their true interest so to preserve the cattle which, I think, have now proportionately risen in market value.

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1. Communicated to the Collector of Bellary, with reference to his letter of 22nd September 1866, No. 201, disposed of in Board's Proceedings of 9th October 1866, No. 7,263.

2. The Board are much obliged to Mr. Thacker for his letter.

No. 407. ORDER THEREON, 21st December 1866, No. 3,459.

Miscellaneous. Ordered to be recorded.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. GROSE,

Under Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.

Exd. T. Cartledge.

141-8-15

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Rev. 1866. Department.
Pro of Govt for December

No. 4333.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

Dated 27th November 1866.
Received 4th Dec

No. 8,521.

Communicating to Collector of Bellary letter from Mr. Thacker, Veterinary Surgeon, considering it preferable to cut off the thorns of the Cactus, than to burn them off.

RECORDED.