

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	277	Press Mis.
Dated	17-4-	1866.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
17th April 1866.

No. 207. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 13th March 1866, No. 1,700.

Read the following letter from the Collector of Malabar, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Calicut, 21st February 1866, No. 62 :—

1. Adverting to the correspondence noted, I have the honor to report on the result of the experiments made in Malabar with foreign cotton.

Official Memorandum, from Secretary to the Board of Revenue, 15th October 1863, No. 835.

Proceedings, Board of Revenue, 15th July 1864, No. 4,427.

Do. do. 18th do.

Official Memorandum, from Secretary to the Board of Revenue, 12th August 1864, No. 682.

Proceedings, Board of Revenue, 13th September 1864, No. 6,003.

Circular Memorandum, from Secretary to the Board of Revenue, 19th April 1865, No. 393.

Board's Miscellaneous Circular, 24th July 1865, No. 91.

Official Memorandum, from Secretary to the Board of Revenue, 6th January 1866, No. 22.

The reports received from the several Division Officers do not show very successful results.

2. My Sub-Collector, who had distributed the seed supplied him in North Malabar, attributes the general failure to the seed not having been sown in proper season, i. e., about March. A small quantity of Bourbon, Egyptian, and New Orleans seed was planted in the yard of Mr. Garstin's office, where it all germinated, but he had to water it during February, March, and April, and although the plants grew remarkably well and bore flowers, the boll was no sooner developed than it was attacked by an insect, and the cotton completely destroyed.

3. An excellent indigenous cotton used to be grown in North Malabar at the beginning of this century, and a certain quantity is raised and grows well on the dry lands cultivated, as it usually is, with the ordinary dry crops.

The foreign seed, to have a fair chance, should be sown in March or April; but I do not think that the District could ever compete successfully as a cotton-growing one with the tracts above the Western Gháts.

The cotton required for local consumption is all that is likely to be raised.

4. In Wynad the seed was distributed among the planters, but little or no attention was paid to its cultivation. The planters are too intent on coffee. But that cotton will grow well in the Amshoms of Wynad, bordering the Mysore, cannot be doubted.

A planter had some Egyptian seed sown between Manantoddy and Mysore in 1859, and the plants are still flourishing and yielding from year to year, though little or no care is taken of them.

This tract I believe to be the best field for cotton cultivation in Malabar.

5. The Tahsildar reports that the cultivators in Palghat declined to experiment with foreign seed, stating that they tried it formerly and did not succeed. But doubtless cotton might be cultivated successfully in the eastern parts of this Talook.

1. Submitted for the information of Government, and communicated to the Agri-Horticultural Society.

2. The Board would wish to see the experiment tried of growing Sea Island Cotton in the light sandy soils near the coast, and will endeavour to procure some seed for the purpose.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
17th April 1866.*

No. 208.

ORDER THEREON, 17th April 1866, No. 877.

Miscellaneous.

Ordered to be forwarded to the Secretary of State.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue.

Ed. S. T. Augustin.

*87-877.
Ordered to be forwarded to the Secretary of State.*

17th April 1866.

14th Board of Revenue April