

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 984

Press
Mis.

Dated 26-4-1866.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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

No. 422. Read the following letter from the Honorary Secretary to the Government Farm Committee, to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Fort Saint George, dated Madras, 28th March 1866, No. 104:—

With reference to the Order of Government No. 732, dated 4th April 1865, I am directed by the Managing Committee for the experimental Farm at Sydapet, to submit an abstract of expenditure for the quarter which ended on the 31st January 1866, together with a brief Report of their proceedings.

REPORT.

1. CULTIVATION.—The cholum dry crops have turned out tolerably well. The heads are of course not so fine as those grown in cholum-growing Districts, but owing to deep ploughing and moderate manuring the yield is better than is generally seen about Madras, and a prize was awarded to the Farm for cholum at the Agri-Horticultural Exhibition on the 16th February 1866. The crop is now ripe, and in course of being harvested. The gram is also nearly ripe and promises a good yield; a few plants in pod, exhibited at the above show, gained honorable mention. The guinea grass, cloves, and lucerne, grown under irrigation by means of the wind engine, have been frequently cut, the produce enabling the Committee to reduce the monthly expenditure for feeding cattle. A supply of shoots of the best description of sweet potatoe was procured from the Lal Bagh at Bangalore, and rather more than half an acre of land was planted under the wind engine. The field is looking well, and the Committee hope that this will prove a valuable and remunerative root crop for land where water is available. A large reservoir has been constructed of earth and sods at a spot to which water can be brought from the wind engine pump, and which commands a great portion of the Farm. All surplus water which is now raised by the engine will be stored in this reservoir for use on calm days when the pump would not be at work. A series of channels have been laid out from this point for irrigation.

2. BUILDINGS.—Two temporary manure sheds have been constructed principally from Farm materials, in which a good supply of manure has been collected. The cart stand established on the Farm has contributed 153 loads, and there is about as much more still to be carted to the shed. An excellent shed, for machinery, on masonry pillars with corrugated iron roof, has been completed, the dimensions are 30 feet $\times$ 18 feet, and in this the winnowing, threshing, reaping, and other machines have been stored, but by the late orders of Government the implements noted in the

Done Crusher, Paddy Huller, Cotton Lever Press.

margin have been placed in the custody of the Farm Committee, and it will be necessary that further accommodation to a considerable extent be provided, as it is intended that all the machinery shall be at times exhibited in actual work. The implements now in the possession of the Farm Committee have already elicited great interest from Native visitors. His Highness the First Prince of Travancore, who visited the Farm lately, was much struck with the Reaping machine, and with the American Threshing machine presented by His Excellency Sir William Denison. A bullock-power disc pump was set up under the direction of Lieutenant Curran of the Gun Carriage Manufactory at a well on the Farm, and a walk for the bullocks is in course of construction, when its powers will be put to the test. The Farm bullocks have been brought to work in a collar and harness with, the Committee believe, considerable improvement in regard to their working power.

3. ROADS.—The roads intersecting the Farm have been gradually improved by means of the establishment of working men maintained, and whenever the bullocks and carts have been available, gravel has been collected for metalling them. A main road has been laid out from the Farm steading, through the Wudder village, across the nullah which divides the Farm to the Mount Road, for which, and for bridging the nullah, it is proposed to ask a grant from Government. The property would be materially improved were this road and bridge made, and the approach to the steading from the Madras side would be shortened by nearly two miles. Moreover, a picturesque evening drive would be added to the Madras Roads.

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4. **LIVE STOCK.**—No additions have been made to the stock from present motives of economy, but the Committee are very desirous of increasing their cattle, both for working and breeding purposes. The pigs have proved a good speculation, no less than 13 sucking pigs having found a ready sale at five Rupees each. The Coimbatore and Merino sheep do not thrive in this climate so well as the Committee could wish, seventeen ewes have lambed down, of these ten were ram-lambs which have been cut. Six of the old wethers have been taken up to fatten, as an experiment.

5. An abstract of the quarter expenditure, amounting to Rupees 2,861-7-10, is annexed together with the expenditure of the first and second quarters of the year.

Abstract of the Expenditure.

	1st Quarter.			2nd Quarter.			3rd Quarter.		
	RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.
Labor on Farm	428	11	0	782	1	7	166	9	0
Pay of Establishment	278	10	7	624	12	11	865	5	4
Farm Buildings, Wind Engine, Pumps, and Well	412	8	2	908	6	3	976	13	1
Repair of old buildings	411	0	0						
Purchase of live stock	1,005	15	0	144	8	0			
Purchase of carts	161	15	9	48	0	0			
Purchase of implements	9	0	0	16	9	0	188	6	4
Purchase of seeds	0	0	0	71	1	1	121	2	7
Food for live stock	215	1	9	294	14	11	422	10	6
Manure	160	5	4	23	12	0	12	0	0
Sundries, including Books and Stationery	433	7	0	124	10	5	38	1	0
Compensation for rented land resumed and huts removed	0	0	0	232	3	0	50	8	0
Total...	3,566	10	7	3,270	12	2	2,861	7	10
				3,566	10	7			
				6,837	6	9	6,837	6	9
Grand Total...							9,698	14	7

(Signed) J. MICHAEL, Major,
Honorary Secretary to the Farm Committee.

No. 423.

ORDER THEREON, 26th April 1866, No. 984.

Miscellaneous.

The operations of the Committee detailed in the annexed Report are satisfactory.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Farm Committee.
,, the Board of Revenue.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

W. 984-

The operations of the Committee detailed in the annexed report are sa-

tisfactory.

W. 984-
I would be glad to see the report of the Committee on the 26th April 1866.
The Farm Committee
Board of Revenue

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