S.R.O. 14—5,450—22-10-25.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1687 Press Mrs.

482 483

Dated 25-7 18 67

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 25th July 1867.

No. 482. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 17th July 1867, No. 4,509.

Read the following letter from the Acting Collector of South Canara, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Mangalore, 17th June 1867, No. 107 :—

1. As it becomes my duty to submit a report on the expenditure incurred on an experimental farm at Mangalore, sanctioned in the orders marginally noted, I have the honour to append the accompanying memorandum with which Mr. W. M. Cadell has kindly supplied me.

G. O., 14th May 1866, No. 1,153, Rev. Dept., communicated with Board's Procs., 21st May 1866, No. 3,557.

2. The first attempt has been a failure as most first attempts are, but much uphill work has been accomplished in obtaining water and in fencing; and I concur with Mr. Cadell in deprecating the being too easily disheartened, and in recommending another effort to set the practical example which Mr. Cadell shows is especially called for in this district, and is not likely to be undertaken by anybody but the Government.

3. As the Board are aware, the cattle of this district are chiefly stall-fed for the sake of their manure, which being fully appreciated, is carefully caught on the thick beds of leaves on which they stand, and is put with the decomposing leaves on the wet lands.

4. The two evils of this practice are the unhealthy exhalations from the over-fouled beds and the want of sufficient fodder for proper stall-feeding.

5. The first evil can be met by inducing stall drainage into outside manure pits; but the lack of fodder is the practical difficulty to which Mr. Cadell has applied himself, and it is one well worthy I think of another effort. I look upon the stall-feeding of this district as deserving of encouragement, a step in the right direction; a step very much in advance of the practice obtaining in most districts of carefully collecting every particle of manure that the cattle drop even in the fields, and ruthlessly using such valuable matter as fuel instead of scrupulously returning it to the lands which have supplied its chemical ingredients. This latter is what the farmers of South Canara endeavour to do, though their efforts require directing as well as encouraging.

6. If the Board are prepared to approve of another effort to produce for the cultivators of this district a fodder suited to the soil and climate, I would request the favour of their obtaining sanction for an expenditure of Rupees 300.

7. I think Rupees 200 will be ample, but I name Rupees 300 in order that I may have a margin in case it should be needed for monsoon repairs to the mud walls or well; for with the wonderfully active cattle of this coast the walls require to be most thoroughly kept up.

8. I propose to confine myself chiefly to the growing of Guinea grass and the showing how well it keeps, and how nutritious it is as hay. On my way to join this station, I observed that some Guinea grass grown from my seeds, and under my instructions at Cannanore, had done very well indeed in the ordinary laterite soil, and I see no reason why it should not be equally successful here.

9. I may mention that I have, at my private cost, rented a few feet of wet land with the view to show the advantage of each ryot growing a small plot of Guinea grass by the side of his Carolina paddy.

10. I should be glad to be supplied with a few seeds of the Carob bean for trial in Mr. Cadell's experimental garden.

11. It might be well perhaps to try a little cholum also, as suggested by Mr. Cadell.

12. I should add that on general grounds I should be very sorry to part with Mr. Cadell's piece of land, for it will be convenient for the trial of the Pinus Maritima. Some such spot is at any time liable to be wanted for the trial of new products; and if this is abandoned after being walled and supplied with a well, as the former experimental garden at Mangalore was, it would be difficult to supply its place when required.

13. In conclusion, I have the honour to request that the enclosed account may be countersigned and forwarded to the Accountant General for audit.

14. I shall be obliged by instructions as to the head to which to carry the Rupees 101-10-4 now in deposit, realized by the sale proceeds of the garden products. If I may be allowed to use it for a continuance of the experiment, then I will only ask for sanction for an extra Rupees 200, instead of Rupees 300 as sought above in paragraph 6; but in any case I presume this Rupees 101-10-4 is to be brought to account.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

Boloor or Oorwa Garden.

1. This experiment was made with a view to ascertain whether something might not be done to improve the grasses and fodder of the country, and thereby strengthen and improve the breed of cattle; as is well known, in Canara, one of the principal objects for which agricultural stock are used is for the production of manure, and to insure a large supply of this the cattle are fed on green leaves and such like food; the consequence of such treatment is, as might be supposed, the animals are weakly and possess no stamina and gradually waste away.

2. Government having sent a large supply of Lupine seed and also of Lucerne, and it being difficult in Canara to get any one to give an experiment of this nature a fair trial, I resolved to make the experiment myself, and for this purpose selected and enclosed the piece of ground lying near Sooltan's battery known as the "Oorwa" plain. The reasons why this place was selected were; first, its proximity to the town and its having been intended to form a rubbish or sweepings depôt close to the place on the introduction of the Towns Municipal Act (then *daily* expected to be introduced); second, the existence of a fine large well on the ground; and third, that the soil was on the whole of fair quality: about 33 acres were thus enclosed, and the greater part planted in the first instance with horse-gram, with the view partly of clearing the ground and partly also with a view to secure some immediate return to meet the expenses of enclosing the ground, and which were necessarily considerable. The monsoon, however, proved very unfavourable at this juncture; when the crop was coming into ear, and when its produce was estimated (and that by competent parties) at from 200 to 300 rupees, a heavy storm of wind and rain came almost washing the crop out of the ground, the actual outturn was thus reduced to Rupees 87.

3. In another part, the Lupine seed was sown again and again and in a variety of ways; by far the greater part of the seed failed to germinate, and the small quantity that did come up withered away when it had attained a height of two or three inches. Mr. Pfloiderer of the German Mission, and who was well-acquainted with the plant in Germany, made also repeated attempts to cultivate the same, but without success. I am inclined, therefore, to think that plants of the Lupine species are not adapted to the climate of the plains.

4. With the Lucerne seed, I regret also to say, I was equally unsuccessful; in my own garden and planted on a very small scale it came up well, but it requires to be watered and sheltered from the noon-day sun, but when the seeds were planted at Boloor they were either washed out of the ground by the violence of the rain, or scorched by the heat of the sun.

5. A small quantity of the Hurialee grass was also planted, and when watered it grew with great vigour. Owing to the non-introduction of the Municipal Act to a much later date than I anticipated, I was also disappointed of the supply of manure I expected, and to crown all, when the grass was raised, no one would buy it at any price.

6. This was very discouraging; but in Canara the tenacity with which the people adhere to what is "mamool" is truly astonishing. There can, however, be no doubt but that the Hurialee grass can be cultivated to a large extention Canara, and though it will be a work of much time and require the greatest patience, I would strongly urge that the experiment should not be abandoned. My successor, Mr. Thomas, is peculiarly well-fitted for carrying on an experiment of this nature,

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
25th *July* 1867.

and because my attempts have not been successful, I should be sorry to hear that the experiment had been altogether dropped.

OOTACAMUND, 10th June 1867.

(Signed) W. M. CADELL.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) H. S. THOMAS,
Acting Collector.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.

ABSTRACT.—Statement showing the expenses incurred in forming an experimental Farm for the cultivation of Guinea grass, Lucerne, &c., &c., in the town of Mangalore.

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1. Submitted to Government with reference to the orders quoted by Mr. Thomas.

2. The experimental culture of Cattle fodder in Canara has resulted in an expenditure of Rupees 432-5-3, for which sanction is requested, and receipts amounting to Rupees 101-10-4 which the Board consider should be credited to Government.

3. The Board concur with Mr. Thomas in thinking that a further trial should be made, and they accordingly request sanction for the additional grant of Rupees 300.

4. The Agri-Horticultural Society will be requested to supply Mr. Thomas with a few Carob beans, if available.

No. 483.

Miscellaneous.

ORDER THEREON, 25th July 1867, No. 1,687.

1. The charge of Rupees 432-5-3, actually incurred out of the Government grant of Rupees 500, is sanctioned.

2. The Government readily sanction a further grant of Rupees 200 for the prosecution of this interesting experiment, and will look with interest for Mr. Thomas's report of results.

3. The sum of Rupees 101-10-4, realized last year by the sale of produce, as well as any further similar receipts may also be devoted to the same purpose; but the Government desire that an account be maintained of receipts from Government grants, and sale of produce, and of expenditure from first starting, so as to shew clearly the working and actual results of the experiment.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.
,, the Accountant General.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

Pro-14 - Aug/66 - N° 268-4

Rev 1867. Department.
Bd of Conn. on Surly

No. 1905

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

Dated 17th July 1867.
Aug 22 Orn
Rec'd 24 Do.
Ent Do.

Fwd to Secretary Govt
of Madras for Sanction
No. 4,509.

Requesting sanction for Rupees 432-5-3 cost incurred by Collector of South Canara in carrying out experimental culture of Cattle fodder, recommending that an additional sum of Rupees 300 be granted for a further trial, and requesting Agri-Horticultural Society to supply Collector with a few Carob beans if available.

P.R. 52-483 - Aug 25 July