

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	2024	Press Mis.
⁴⁰⁷⁻⁰⁸ Dated	23-7-	19 18.68.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
23rd July 1868.*

No. 407. Read the following letter from the Honorary Secretary to the Government Farm, to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Fort St. George, dated Madras, 14th July 1868 :—

1. By desire of the Committee of the Government Farm, Sydapet, I have the honor to submit certain remarks on the latter part of paragraph 2, G. O., 12th June 1868, No. 1,653, in the hope that Government will re-consider their decision on the matter therein referred to.

2. In paragraph 45 of the report for 1867-68, the Committee stated, "that the present rate of salary, Rupees 200 monthly, is insufficient for the stamp of person required as Superintendent," and in paragraph 4 they stated "that inquiries regarding a properly qualified Superintendent are being made in England and Scotland by several gentlemen who take much interest in agricultural matters.

3. In order that Government may see that these gentlemen are well qualified to give an opinion on such a matter, I may mention the names of Mr. Mechi, Mr. Hall Dare, Secretary to the Royal Agricultural Society, Professor Constable, Principal of the Royal Agricultural College, Cireneester, Mr. Morton, Editor of the Farmer's Calendar and Gazette, a very great authority on agricultural matters, and Mr. Kinloch, son of Sir D. Kinloch of Gilmerton in East Lothian, a practical gentleman farmer, in the centre of the most scientifically farmed county in Scotland.

4. All these gentlemen unanimously concur in the opinion expressed by the Committee that the salary is insufficient, and that a person of the required stamp can obtain, on an average, a salary of £200 a-year in England. Of course, it cannot be expected that such men will come to India, unless they gain by so doing. One gentleman, a Mr. Robertson, who is very highly spoken of by Professor Constable and the gentlemen by whom he has been employed (Lord Dufferin and others), states his terms to be a three-year engagement, overland passage for two, a sum for expenses, dwelling house, medical attendance, £400 a-year for first year, and £500 yearly for second and third years; at the end of third year, passage and expenses back to England if engagement is not renewed.

5. These terms will shew the Government what is expected by persons of Mr. Robertson's stamp. It is certainly possible that some one might be willing to come out on a lower salary, and a letter from a Mr. Ramsay has been sent out by Mr. Kinloch, stating his willingness to accept the appointment if the salary is raised, but not mentioning any specific terms.

* Papers Nos. 1 and 2.

† No. 3.

‡ No. 4.

6. The Committee beg to forward Mr. Robertson's letters and testimonials.*

7. Mr. Ramsay's letter,† with a testimonial, is also sent.

8. Also a copy of the Memorandum‡ sent to the gentlemen referred to in paragraph 3.

9. The Committee trust that, on consideration of the reasons above given, the Government will see fit to alter their decision in the matter of salary.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
23rd July 1868.

10. If the Government think proper to do so, the Committee respectfully request that they may be authorized to write Home at once and engage a Superintendent on the following terms:—First class overland passage, £15 for expenses, salary Rs. 300 monthly for the first year, and Rupees 350 for the second and third years, a house, or house-rent 30 Rupees monthly, medical attendance, three years engagement, and return passage if engagement not renewed at end of three years.
11. Provision would, of course, be made, as in the case of the late Superintendent, for removal from office of any one who is inefficient or unfit.

No. 408.

ORDER THEREON, 23rd July 1868, No. 2,024.

Miscellaneous.

As it appears from the papers forwarded by the Honorary Secretary to the Farm Committee that the services of a thoroughly competent Superintendent cannot be obtained for the salary named in paragraph 2 of G. O., under date 12th June 1868, No. 1,653, the Committee are authorized to carry out the proposal made in paragraph 10 of their Honorary Secretary's letter recorded above.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) R. A. DALYELL,
Acting Secretary to Government.

To the Honorary Secretary to the Government Farm.
„ the Board of Revenue.
„ the Accountant General.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

Rev. 2398/68.
Proc. 23 July 1868. M. G. 107-

Memorandum

The Government of Madras has established an Experiment Station, & Model Farm on a small scale in the year 1865.

The objects of this Farm are to teach the natives improved methods of cultivation, by the use of improved implements, Machinery, System of Cultivation, use of Manures &c &c also to introduce the cultivation of any new sorts of grain suitable to the Climate.

For instance, Carolina rice has been found to be a more valuable grain in almost every way than the indigenous Rice of Southern India.

American Indian Corn is also much finer, & produces much larger crops, than the similar grain of India called Makka Cholau or Sowar.

The breed of Sheep also, it is supposed, be also vastly improved, & in many other ways valuable discoveries in Agriculture & Stock Farming can be made, & imported to Indian Ryots and Cultivators.

The Farm has now been established for nearly 3 years, but has not been as yet so successful, or useful as was expected.

It is managed by a Committee of Gentle-men interested in its success, appointed by Govt.

Goats who meet in Court once a fortnight.

The management is in the hands of the President & Asst Sec^y chiefly the latter with a Superintendent in charge of the Farm whose business it is to see that the orders given by the President & Secretary are carried out in a practical & efficient manner.

The Supt has been the Farm difficulty. There have been already 5 Superintendents, all inefficient & useless in some most important points, at first the Office was insufficiently paid about £80 or £90 yearly with a house. The last Supt, however, who was sent out from England received £180 with prospect of a rise to £250. he has proved if any thing more useless than any of his predecessors, as he has all the faults of the worst style of farmer, being prejudiced, obstinate, obtuse, ignorant of the management of machinery, or stock & with a strong determination, to do every thing as he pleased & not as he was ordered, in short, he was not at all the stamp of person required & has been given notice to quit.

As far as can be judged, the person required for the post of Supt should be a youngish man, say about 30 years of age he should have received a good education at one of the Agricultural Colleges & have afterwards learnt practical

practical farming on some large farm, where Steam Power has been used for ploughing & other farming operations such as thrashing, winnowing and chaff cutting &c &c. He should have practical knowledge of the working of all improved farming implements, cattle & sheep feeding & management & should be able to carry out & keep accounts of experiments regarding manures & different systems of cultivation & growths of different sorts of grains, so that the results thereof may be reported on to Government and tables drawn up for the information of the public.

At present the Asst Secretary has to do every thing connected with the Farm, which is 10 miles from his Office. He can only go there 3 or 4 times a week in the morning and stay for a couple of hours & of course is entirely dependent on the Supt for managing the Farm & seeing that ploughing manuring sowing &c &c are carried on by the labourers as directed. There is a very respectable steady, pensioned soldier, who superintends the preparation of food & feeding of cattle pigs &c &c & obeys all orders strictly. There are also 3 Apprentices, one European, one East Indian & one Native, who overlook labourers at work & when the Steam Engine is up which it be shortly there will be another man to look after it & the rest of the

the Machinery and Supplements.

The Supt therefore has ample leisure for looking after experiments, keeping careful & correct accounts of every thing going on & data from which reports & returns can be drawn up. The work to be done has been fully described that it may be known exactly what sort of person is required. If fit after a little time he might be made Secretary to the Committee & carry on the Correspondence Department. In that event probably increased salary would be given by Government.

His passage would be paid 2nd Class Overland, & a certain sum allowed for expenses with return passage after a certain number of years service. If the salary is not high enough to tempt a person of the required stamp, it is desired to know on what terms such a person can be procured. The Government want to have a model farm and as up to the present time it has cost about £1000 a year £50 or £100 a year higher salary to the Superintendent would only be a trifling addition to the expenditure incurred, and which there is no doubt the Government would willingly pay.

(Signed).

Arntu Main
Hwy Sny Gyt Farm.

Rev: Supt: No 2398 of 1868.

Mr. Supt. I have never had any faith in the
Lydapiet Farm & its amateur Super-
intendents. The models put before
the primitive Native farmers have
been so far from successful
in their operations, and local mi-
craedans would never have thought
of imitating similar ones for their
own use. But the working of them
there, has been far from successful.
Generally, the whole thing seems
to have been an expensive attempt
in a bad direction, but without any
favorable results. I thought, no
doubt, to be altogether abandoned,
and the land sold or rented out
on a yearly lease, - or rather that
it all be put on a better & more
promising footing. as so

much public money has been
spent; the latter course may perhaps
be the preferable one, as supplying
a small chance of economy some-
times. But I confess I do not feel
very sanguine, although the Council,
through Mr. Blair, seem to expect
that the more experienced Superintendent
they desire to replace in England, &
will enable them to do what as
yet they have failed in doing. -
as however, the aid of a Superint.
of the superior class is looked on by
the Council as a real necessity for
retaining matters, I have no objection,
should the Govt. so determine, to sus-
pend the \$1000 in respect of salary to
Mr. Blair rather than to
permit the Council to procure the
services of a skilled scientific person
to take charge of the Farm. WDM
16 July 68.

25
I would sanction the proposal
of the Committee.

by G.

Hunter Blair

1-6

Secy to Govt. Farm

Settled at the Council that the remarks of the President are not to be attached to his the order ~~RD~~ 21/7/60

List from order

As it appears from the papers forwarded by the Honorary Secretary to the Farm Committee that the services of a thoroughly competent Superintendent cannot be obtained for the salary named in para 2 of S.O. under date 12th June 1868 no 1653, the Committee are authorized to carry out the proposal made in para 10 of their Honorary Secretary's letter recorded above

5 Copies of the Honorary Secy to the Govt. Farm ~~RD~~
14/7/60 - ~~RD~~ ~~RD~~
16/7/60 - ~~RD~~ ~~RD~~

23rd July/68

42
No 3

7. Mr. Kearsy's letter, with a testimonial
-al, is also sent.

No 4

8. Also a Copy of the Memorandum
sent to the Gentlemen referred to in
Para 3.

9. The Comtee trust that on consideration
of the reasons above given, the Govt. will
see fit to alter their decision in the
matter of Salary.

10. If the Govt. think proper to do
so, The Comtee respectfully request that
they may be authorized to write home at
once & engage a Supt on the following
terms

Rs 12 June/68 No 304 - 5

Revenue 1868 West
Pro. of Govt for July
17. 2398

From

The Hong Kong
Govt. Farm.

Dated 14th 3 July/68.
Received 15th 3

Co. 3 Old

See William

No 2024. 23 July/68

Submitting certain
remarks on the latter
part of para 2 of
G.O. 12 June/68 No
1653 regarding a pro-
perly qualified tenant
for the Govt. Farm
16th 11th order

From the Hong Kong
Government Farm
5/18 Nov/68 C.M. 3734

A. Loy 1408