M.R. O. 1—39,000—16-10-29.

# MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

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## Government of Madras.

*Revenue* **DEPARTMENT.**

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| G.O. No. | 3036 | Press Mis. |
| 56-57. Dated | 5-12- | 19 1868. |

***Not to be folded or roughly handled***

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 5th December* 1868.

No. 56. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 17th November 1868, No. 8,139 :—

Read the following letter from the Collector of Coimbatore, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 8th October 1868, No. 262.

14th May 1867, No. 2,960.
10th Aug. 1868, ,, 5,791.
26th ,, ,, ,, 6,129.

1. With reference to the Board's Proceedings noted in the margin, I have the honor to report the result of the experiment of the Pinus Maritima seed, received from the Board.

2. The quantity supplied was 20 lbs., of which 10½ lbs. were sent in July 1867 to the Tahsildar of Pollachy, and 1 lb. to the Tahsildar of Oodoomulpettah for experiment on the Annamalays and Talinjy Hills, and the remainder was distributed by my predecessor to several European gentlemen named below, at 1 lb. each :—

Mr. R. J. Lowry, on the Annamalays.
Mr. D. Cockburn, at Kotagherry.
Major H. B. Sweet, at Coonoor.
Colonel E. L. Grant, at Wellington.
Colonel S. P. Scott, Thaymallai, on the Neilgherries.
Mr. J. Grant, Mahendragiri, Travancore.
Mr. W. Robinson, Kotagherry.

3. The Tahsildar of Pollachy* does not seem to have done anything beyond giving one pound to Mr. Francklyne, a Coffee Planter on the Annamalays.

* Urzee, dated 12th May 1868.

4. The Tahsildar of Oodoomulpettah† distributed the one pound of seed sent to him to three different ryots. The seeds sown by two of them are reported not to have germinated. In regard to the experiment made by the third, two kinds of plants are said to have germinated ; but the Tahsildar could not understand which of them was Pinus Maritima, and he therefore sent me the two species of plants in separate baskets. On my examining them, neither appeared to be Pinus Maritima.

† Urzee, dated 16th September 1868.

5. As regards the experiment made by the European gentlemen to whom the seed was distributed, a precis of reports received from them is herewith submitted, from which it will appear that the seed supplied to Mr. Lowry‡ was tried on three different estates on the Annamalays. In two the plants came up very well, but gradually died out. In the other (Waverly Estate) the plants are in a flourishing condition, and are between eighteen inches and two feet high. Mr. Francklyne§ attributes this result to the difference of altitude, the Waverly Estate being higher by 300 feet than the other two estates.

‡ Letter, dated 10th September 1868.

§ Letter, dated 29th September 1868.

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16 Copies to the Bd of Rev Secretary

6. The seeds sown by Mr. D. Cockburn, at* Kotagherry, did not germinate. Colonel Scott's† plants died after attaining a height of three to six inches, and he states that the climate of the place is too warm to suit their habits.

* Letter, dated 11th September 1868.
† ,, ,, 23rd ,, ,,

7. Major Sweet‡ had one thousand plants at first, and transplanted three or four hundred. But they are nearly all dead from the heat of the sun. He promises to put out some more.

‡ Letter, dated 14th September 1868.

8. Colonel Grant's§ plants, at Wellington, are between eight and nine inches high, and are healthy.

§ Letter, dated 13th September 1868.

9. Mr. J. Fraser,‖ for Mr. J. Grant, at Mahendragiri, reports that the plants seem to come on well; but they have not as yet been transplanted. He fears that the wind at the elevation of his estate (3,500 feet) may be rather severe for them.

‖ Letter, dated 14th September 1868.

10. Mr. W. Robinson being absent, the result of his experiment is not known.

11. I have seen the Pinus Maritima growing as a forest tree in the south of France on the Mediterranean shore. I should not think the tree suited to a tropical climate. No hills in this district are within the influence of the sea-breeze, nor is the soil on the hills like that in which the tree flourishes.

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*Precis of Reports on the experimental cultivation of the Pinus Maritima seed.*

Planted on Annamalays, from Mr. R. J. Lowry, 10th September 1868.

1. The seed came up very well, and the young plants were thriving when he left the Hills in December last. Refers to Mr. Francklyne for further information.

2. Divided the seed into three parcels; gave one to Mr. Nisbet, of the St. Katharine's Estate; another to Mr. Lees, of the Waverly Estate, and kept the other for himself. Put the seeds kept by him into beds carefully prepared for the purpose on the 22nd July 1867. The plants came up very well, and were frequently watered; but they never attained to a height of more than three inches, and gradually died out. Mr. Nisbet's efforts, which were similar to Mr. Francklyne's, were attended with no better success. The seeds given to Mr. Lees were sown in a bed prepared for the purpose. The plants came up well, and are at present in a flourishing condition. Some days back they were between eighteen inches and two feet high. Mr. Nisbet planted out some plants in the Waverly Estate, and they are said to do well. The Waverly Estate is 300 feet higher than either the St. Katharine's, or water-fall. In the former, the seeds were sown in jungle soil, in both the others on grass land. Attributes their success on the Waverly Estate to its jungly soil, and to the difference of altitude.

From Mr. E. E. L. Francklyne, Annamalays, dated 29th September 1868.

Neilgherry Hills, from Mr. D. Cockburn, Kotagherry, 11th September 1868.

3. States that the Pinus Maritima seeds were sown, but not one germinated.

4. The seeds germinated readily. But the plants died out after attaining a height of from three to six inches. The climate of the place is too warm to suit their habits. The land above sea level on which the seeds were sown is 4,200 feet. Mr. Batcock, late Assistant Superintendent of the Government Gardens of Ootacamund, informed him that the seed thrived well in that locality.

Colonel Scott, Thaymallai, Neilgherries, dated 23rd September 1868.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 5th December* 1868.

5. Sowed the seed in four spots representing different qualities of land. The seeds came up well and quickly in each place, but with the exception of one plant about one foot high, and half a dozen about six inches high, the plants have remained almost stationary at about four inches high for nearly twelve months. Had 1,000 plants at first. Transplanted 300 or 400. But they are all nearly dead from the heat of the sun. Will try to put out some more as they are very close together in the seed-bed.

From Major H. B. Sweet, Coonoor, dated 14th September 1868.

6. The seed was sown on the 4th July 1867, some in the open garden, and some in a box, which was placed in an open verandah facing the south. In both places upwards of half of them came up in from seventeen to twenty-five days. The plants in the garden were not sheltered from frost or sun. The former did not affect them. The latter stunted them, and they do not look healthy, though the late rain has made them commence shooting out again. They measure four inches high. The plants in the box were exposed to the sun during some portion of the year for some part of the day. They have been planted out, and are between eight and nine inches high, and very healthy.

From Colonel Grant, Wellington, dated 13th Sept. 1868.

7. Had the seed sown in a nursery prepared for the purpose. The plants seem to come on well. Has not as yet transplanted any. Apprehends that the wind at that elevation (3,500) may be rather severe for them.

Travancore Hills, from J. Fraser, Esq., Mahendragiri in Travancore, for J. Grant, Esq., 14th September 1868.

(Signed) A. WEDDERBURN,
*Collector.*

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ORDERED to be submitted for the information of Government, with reference to Government Order, dated 11th February 1867, No. 350, and 18th July 1868, No. 1,987, and that copy be furnished to the Agri-Horticultural Society.

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No. 57. ORDER THEREON, 5th December 1868, No. 3,036.

Miscellaneous.

It appears from paragraphs 2 and 3 of the Collector's letter, that of the 10½ lbs. of the seed sent to the Tahsildar of Pollachy, only 1 lb. was given by him to a coffee planter. The Tahsildar should be directed at once to distribute the remaining 9½ lbs.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

Extracted to Govt. of India, Dept. of Agriculture, Revenue & Commerce

Govt. of India.

REVENUE.

To

THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

*Dated December, 5th.*

*Recd.*

*Encl.*

*G. O., 5th December 1868, No. 3,036.*

**DECEMBER**

**Nos. 56-57.**

*Pinus Maritima Seed.*—Report of its experimental cultivation in Coimbatore District, recorded. The seeds in charge of the Tahsildar of Pollachy ordered to be distributed at once.

P. 3036.

5th December /68

It appears from paras 2 & 3 of the letter that of the 10½ Hs of the seed sent to the Tahsildar of Pollachy, only 1 H was given by him to a Coffee planter. The Tahsildar should be directed at once to distribute the remaining 9½ Hs.

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