

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	31	Press ~~Mis.~~
Dated	6 - 7 - 19 1868	

Not to be folded or roughly handled*[Signature]*

no 31

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
6th January 1868.*

No. 59. Read the following letter from the Superintendent of the Government Chinchona Plantations, to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Fort St. George, dated Ootacamund, 17th December 1867, No. 167 :—

1. I have the honor to inform you that, during my visit to Europe, I took the opportunity of inspecting the fish-breeding beds, and on an examination of the conditions under which fish are artificially raised, it occurred to me that they could be successfully imported into India.

2. Not having time to consult the Government on the subject, I resolved to attempt their introduction at my own expense and risk; and have the satisfaction of being able to report that I have succeeded in bringing to the Neilgherries the most valuable species of European fresh-water fish, viz., fifteen lake Trout, ten Carp, twenty-four Tench, twelve Rudd, twelve Silver Eels, and three Gold fish, in all seventy-six. These were put into the fish-house constructed for the spawn brought by Dr. Day, and are up to the present time strong and healthy.

3. I collected the young Trout fry shortly after my arrival in Europe, and had them kept in an aquarium for about four months, so as to accustom them to the artificial condition to which they would be subjected during the voyage. When first placed in the aquarium, a rapid flow of water was allowed to pass through it; and after ten days the flow was diminished; but as this caused many of the fry to die, the flow had to be again increased for about six weeks, when it was again diminished, without bad results. On leaving England, I selected eighteen of the most healthy of them, and only lost three on the journey. The other species of fish had not the same preparatory process as the Trout fry, and I found that this was a disadvantage; however, I imported the twenty-four Tench without loss. Out of twelve Carp, I lost two. Of twelve Gudgeons, all died; but this arose from my having accidentally thrown back upon them the water I had drawn off. This took place in the Red Sea.

4. At the season I left, I could not obtain Perch fry, and therefore brought two small fish, male and female; but both unfortunately died before I reached Galle. I gave great attention to the Perch, but they were altogether too large to bear the journey. The smaller the fry, the easier they are to transport. All the fish were conveyed in oblong fish-boxes, 15 inches by 10, fitted with a tap, so as to give, when necessary, a flow of water from one box to fall into the other. The water was changed throughout the whole of the journey three times in the twenty-four hours, and fresh water thrown into the boxes by means of a syringe, from a considerable height, so as to catch the oxygen of the atmosphere. In addition to this, the water was aerated by an air pump, prior to being used, also while it was in the fish-boxes.

5. Thus far the experiment has been successful, and from what I observed at home, I have no doubt but in a few years we will be able to breed these fish by millions, and stock all the mountain streams in India.

6. In the transit of these fish, I received every assistance from the officers of the P. & O. Company, and to Captain Galie, of the "Nubia," I am especially indebted for aid in this matter; also to Mr. J. G. Coleman, a fellow passenger,

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who not only was greatly interested in the experiment, but gave me much assistance during bad weather, and at other critical intervals during our journey.

7. I beg to convey my thanks to Government for their aid in conveying the fish from Madras to Ootacamund; and respectfully solicit the favor of Government being pleased to accept the fish for the benefit of the public.

No. 60. ORDER THEREON, 6th January 1868, No. 31.

Miscellaneous.

1. The Government have perused with much interest the above report of Mr. McIvor's experiment in importing

living specimens of European fresh-water fish into India, and congratulate him on the very satisfactory measure of success that he has attained.

2. They accept with their best thanks on behalf of the public, Mr. McIvor's offer of the fish for the benefit of the public, and beg that he will continue to conduct the experiment for their introduction into the hill streams, forwarding monthly bills of expenses for sanction.

3. They also request that he will furnish a statement of the expenses, which he incurred in bringing the fish to India and conveying them to the Hills, for which the Government would wish to reimburse him.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,

Secretary to Government.

To the Superintendent of the Government Chinchona Plantations.
,, the Accountant General.
,, the Revenue Board.
,, the Collector of Coimbatore.
,, Dr. Day.
,, the Editors' Table.

Ed. S. T. Augustin.

22
I much expect the interest and satisfaction with which the Govt. have perused this report and state to Mr. McIvor that on the receipt of a statement of the expense which he has incurred in bringing the fish to India the Govt. will be disposed to defray it.

M.

W. H.

W. H.

N^o 31.1

RD

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Pro. of the Madras Govt
Under date the 6th Aug. /68.

Read the following
letter from the Sup^{ts}
Govt. Chin. Plauris.

Reporting on the suc-
cessful transport of fish to
Kotasaumud, & their present con-
dition, and offers them for the
acceptance of Govt for the pub-
lic benefit.

H. C. 14th Decr /64
N^o 164-

The Govt have
perused with much in-
terest the above report
of Mr. McEwen's ex-
periment in importing
living specimens of Eu-
ropean fresh water fish
into India - and con-
gratulate him on the
very satisfactory mea-
sure of success that he
has attained.

They

Wm

Wm

They accept with
their best thanks on
behalf of the public -
Mr. W. L. Linn's offer of
the fish for the bene-
fit of the public - and
beg that he will con-
tinue to conduct the ex-
periment for their intro-
duction into the Mill-
streams forwarding
monthly bills of expenses
for sanction. -

They also request
that he will furnish
a statement of the ex-
pense which he incur-
red in bringing the fish
to India and conveying
them to the Mills for
which the Govt. would
wish to reimburse him. -

ER

6 Copies of Genl Secy
14 New Board
1 Copy Call of Committee
1 Copy Dr. Day
Editor's Table

Rebated to England
of 12th May 1822 to 1868

See

Revenue 1808 Sept
to of Easton Jan

1831.

No of the leaders
Government
of 6th January 1868.

See

1859-60