MR. G. 1—32,000—18-10-29.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1588 Press Mis.

179-80 Dated 18-10-1820 No.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

1588

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Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 18th October 1870.

No. 179. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 29th August 1870, No. 5,481:—

Read the following letter from the Honorary Secretary, Government Experimental Farm, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Madras, 29th July 1870, No. 62.

I AM directed, by the Committee of the Government Farm, to transmit to you copy of a Resolution passed at a Meeting of Committee, with the rough estimate and other Resolutions therein referred to.

2. The Committee hope that the Board will use its best endeavours to obtain for them the loan of Rupees 3,500, in order that the Model Farm may be got into working order with the least possible delay.

3. The object of the Model Farm is to prove that good and high farming will pay in India as well as it does in other countries, and the Committee are fully confident that the Model Farm, under Mr. Robertson's energetic and clever system of management, will prove a complete success.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

Proceedings of the Farm Committee, dated 29th July 1870.

WITH reference to the Resolutions noted in the margin, under which the Committee have undertaken to open a self-supporting Model Farm on part of the estate which has hitherto been rented out, and Mr. Robertson's rough estimate* of the amount immediately required to clear the land, stock the Farm, and provide,† viz., Rupees 6,500, it is resolved to devote Rupees 3,000 of the Farm Budget grant of the current year to the Model Farm, and that Government be requested to sanction an immediate advance of Rupees 3,500 for the same object. The advance to be adjusted by two deductions of Rupees 1,750 each from the Budget grants of the years 1871-72 and 1872-73, respectively.

Resolutions 1 and 7 of Farm Committee Meeting of July 2nd, 1870.

* Copy sent herewith.

† Roads, buildings.

2. Resolved that the above Resolution, together with Resolutions 1 and 7 of Committee of July 2nd, 1870, be submitted to the Board of Revenue, together with such further explanation as may be deemed necessary, with a request that they will accord it their support and indicate to Government the source from which the necessary loan may be provided at once.

(Signed) J. HUNTER-BLAIR,
Hony. Secy., Govt. Experimental Farm.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.

Extract of the Proceedings of the Farm Committee, dated 2nd July 1870.

IN the case of the Tenants on the Farm—

1. Resolved that their relinquishments of their lands be accepted, and the arrears be written off.

* * * * *

7. Resolved that Rupees 500 be sanctioned for expenditure on the Model Farm which consists of the ground bounded by the Nullah, Mount Road, Cutcherry compound, and Adyar River, and that separate accounts be kept for this Model Farm.

(Signed) J. HUNTER-BLAIR,
Hony. Secy., Govt. Experimental Farm.

ENCLOSURE No. 3.—Rough Estimate.

WITH the above letter the Honorary Secretary to the Farm Committee submits certain Resolutions of the Committee, under date 29th ultimo, with a rough estimate of the cost of opening a Model Farm on part of the Roshanbagh estate now under the management of the Committee.

2. The Board learn that the estate comprises in all about 310 acres of land (including detached spots), of which about 300 acres (more or less) lie in a fairly compact block, bounded by the Adyar River, Mount Road, and the compound of the Collector's Cutcherry, etc. This block is somewhat unequally divided by the nullah from the waste weir of the long tank. The southern part comprises about 175 acres, including a Woddar village, Commissariat Slaughter houses, etc., while the land on the northern side of the nullah contains about 120 acres (including a few acres occupied by houses and gardens.)

3. The southern portion of the estate lying along the Adyar River has been selected for the Experimental Farm, for which it affords ample space, which has been increasingly brought under the direct management of the Committee. One hundred and twenty-five acres are already under the plough, or occupied by buildings and roads, tillage is being steadily extended, and before the end of the year nearly the whole will, it is hoped, be fully under cultivation. The farm is well provided with buildings, etc.

4. The Committee have not, however, hitherto been able to take the block of land to the north of the nullah (comprising as above stated about 120 acres) under their own management. It has been let out to such small tenants as offered, but the result has been most unsatisfactory. The rents have invariably failed, and coercive measures could not conveniently be resorted to; the land has been allowed to deteriorate, bushes and weeds have multiplied, and trespass has been encouraged to an extent which has proved detrimental to the interest of the adjacent Experimental Farm.

5. It has therefore been necessary to resume charge of this part of the estate, and the Committee have done so with confidence, because the experience of the past year, and the assurances of their experienced adviser, Mr. Robertson, have satisfied them that efficient farming can, under the supervision they now possess, be made self-supporting and remunerative, if the Model Farm be conducted on economical principles and started without the expensive scientific charges incidental to an Experimental Farm.

6. The Committee have therefore resolved to open at once an economic Model Farm on this part of the estate, to be conducted on the principles adopted by improving landlords and tenants in England. The accounts are to be quite distinct from those of the Experimental Farm, and will be kept according to the approved system of Farm accounts at home. The result of successful experiments on the Experimental Farm are to be further developed on the Model Farm.

7. It is of the utmost importance that the land which is in a dirty and jungly state, and requires much levelling, should be brought into working order without delay, so that advantage may be taken of the coming cold weather. The Committee

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
18*th October* 1870.

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have had a rough estimate prepared of the probable cost of stocking and bringing the whole under cultivation within the next few months. They estimate the whole cost, including indispensable but inexpensive buildings, at Rupees 6,500, and after careful calculation of the cost of carrying on the Experimental Farm efficiently, they have resolved to allot Rupees 3,000 from the general grant of this year to starting the Model Farm, and they request the Board to move Government to advance to them the balance from any available source to be recovered by two equal instalments from the Budget grant of the next two years.

8. The Board are satisfied of the wisdom of this proposal to demonstrate the advantages of the European scientific system of agriculture in a simple intelligible manner, and resolve to support this application for funds. They do not, however, consider it desirable to hamper the grant with any conditions, and would recommend that it should be given outright from the allotment for Agricultural Exhibitions in Madras.

No. 180. ORDER THEREON, 18th October 1870, No. 1,588.

Miscellaneous.

THE Right Honourable the Governor in Council approves of the proposals made in the foregoing Proceedings, and sanctions the grant of Rupees 3,500 for the purpose of carrying them into effect, the amount being debited, as proposed by the Board, to the provision for Agricultural Exhibitions.

2. The present Farm should be retained for such experiments as are made, irrespective of expense, with a view to gain knowledge. The fresh land should be essentially a Model Farm, where a regular course of scientific husbandry will be followed, with a view to profit, for such a term of years as will determine the superiority of the European system over that in use among the natives of India.

3. The accounts should be very carefully kept, all charges being duly debited to capital and revenue, and the results accurately noted and recorded. The buildings, etc., should be of that comparatively inexpensive kind which native landholders could afford.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue.
,, the Honorary Secretary, Government Farm.
,, the Accountant-General.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

11-1-86

19/11/86

From the Asst Secy.
Govt Experimental Farm
D/5 Farm/70 Dtd. 3503.

Govt. of {1870} Madras

REVENUE.

To

THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

&c., &c., &c.

Dated October, 1870.

Recd. &c.

G. O., 18*th October* 1870, *No.* 1,588.

OCTOBER.
Nos. 179-180.

Model Farm.—Rupees 3,500 sanctioned for the purpose of carrying out certain experimental farm operations.

area and place it
in tenable condition
for experimental &
culture and then
let Mr. Roberts &
the Committee submit
a plan & the
probable amount of grant
I would advance the
sum of Rs. 3500 - from
any source at my
disposal.

No 1588.

18th October 1870

The Rt Honble the Mr.
in Council approves of
the proposals made in the
foregoing Proc.s and sanctions
the grant of Rs 3500 for
the purpose of carrying
them into effect, the
amount being debited,
as proposed by the Board,
to the provision for Agri
cultural Institutions.

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the natives of India.

The accts should be
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the results accurately noted
and recorded. The building &

5?

inexpensive kind which
native landholders could
afford.

[signature]

next year orders

[signature]

14 Lotts Bo of Calcutta on Lucknow Dept 19
6 " Honorary Secs Govt Farms
6 " Asstt Secs
F.

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