

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
21st August 1871.*

No. 184. Read the following endorsement of the Chief Secretary to Government:—
Read the following Extract from the Proceedings of the Government of India in
the Department of Agriculture, Revenue, and Commerce—(Agriculture
and Horticulture), dated Simla, 7th August 1871, No. 64-73.
Read the under-mentioned correspondence on the subject of the cultivation of
Carolina rice in India:—
Revenue despatch to the Secretary of State, No. 67, dated 18th October 1869.
Revenue despatch from the Secretary of State, „ 96, „ 14th December „
Revenue despatch from the Secretary of State, „ 98, „ 21st „ „
Letter to Bengal Government, No. 52, dated 22nd January 1870.
Letter to Bengal Government, „ 63, „ 25th „ „
Letter from Honorary Secretary to the Government Experimental Farm, Madras, dated
25th February 1870.
Letter to Government of Bengal, No. 155, dated 17th March 1870.
Letter to Mr. Stuart Hogg, No. 1,729, dated 25th March 1870.
Letter from Government of the North-Western Provinces, No. 298-A., dated 2nd April
1870.
Letter to local Governments and Administrations, No. 256-60, dated 4th May 1870.
Letter from Government of the North-Western Provinces, No. 698-A, dated 19th
May 1870.
Letter from Chief Commissioner of Oudh, No. 3,062, dated 22nd June 1870.
Letter from Government of Bengal, No. 1,807, dated 23rd June 1870.
Letter from Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces, No. 1,631-126, dated 21st
June 1870.
Letter from Chief Commissioner of British Burmah, No. 238-13, dated 23rd July 1870.
Letter from Mr. S. Hogg, No. 155, dated 10th February 1871.
Letter to Mr. S. Hogg, No. 87, dated 22nd February 1871.
Letter from Government of the Punjab, No. 101, dated 24th February 1871.
Letter from Government of Bengal, No. 1,124, dated 17th April 1871.
Letter from Chief Commissioner of Oudh, No. 2,675, dated 3rd June 1871.
Office Memorandum from Home Department, No. 3,078, dated 22nd June 1871.
Letter from Government of Bengal, No. 2,141, dated 21st July 1871.

RESOLUTION.

EXPERIMENTS in the culture of this exotic staple have been carried on since
1868, and the papers read above contain the results of the experiments made in
1868, 1869, and 1870 in the Bengal Presidency and certain districts in Madras and
Ceylon. Although the Government of India is not yet in a position to decide
authoritatively as to the exact merits of the Carolina paddy, as compared with the
several indigenous varieties, and although the opinions of different officers and the
reports of the results attained in different localities are very discordant, there
appears to be generally a balance in favour of the superior utility of the American
plan.

The advantages which this exotic possesses over the indigenous varieties may
be briefly summed up as follows:—

I.—The Carolina paddy plant is more hardy, as it is less easily injured by
gales and heavy rains, which entirely prostrate the Indian kinds. It
requires a less amount of water than the Indian plant; it suffers less from
drought and also (according to some authorities) from floods.

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II.—The produce of this species of rice is much greater than that of the country kinds.

(a.)—In respect of its yield in grain, it gives a much larger gross weight of rice in the husk, and, the husk being thinner, it yields a larger proportion of clean rice to rice in husk, and when ripe it does not drop its seed in consequence of a little rain or wind as the Indian varieties generally do.

(b.)—The straw is longer and stronger than that of Indian rice, and can be utilized for thatching and other purposes for which the Indian straw is almost useless. In Burmah it is said to be greedily devoured by cattle.

III.—It ripens earlier and in a much shorter time than the indigenous varieties, so that in Burmah and in some places on the Continent of India it would be possible to obtain two crops of Carolina for one of the common Indian rice.

IV.—When properly attended to it appears to improve rather than deteriorate by cultivation in India.

2. On the other hand the following are the disadvantages of the Carolina rice:—

I.—Its quality (according at any rate to Indian ideas) is somewhat inferior. It has little flavor and scarcely any scent. It is believed to contain somewhat less nutriment, is less liked by Native consumers, and commands at present a lower price amongst them.

II.—The grain is much more difficult to thresh out.

III.—The straw is coarser, and in some localities is said to be less liked by cattle.

3. Considering how little justice has on the whole been done to the cultivation of this foreign staple, and that it is quite a recent introduction into this country, the Governor-General in Council thinks it may safely be concluded that the balance of advantages is in its favour, and that it is expedient to continue the trial. His Excellency in Council accordingly directs that the local Governments and Administrations in the Bengal Presidency be requested to state as early as possible what quantity of seed they will require, and by what time it should reach them. Application will then be made to the Secretary of State for a supply of seed of the finest quality.

4. His Excellency in Council also directs that, besides the supply it is intended to obtain, instructions be issued to district officers to utilize all existing seed, and to take particular care that all seed produced by the cultivation of the supply to be procured through the Secretary of State, is carefully preserved for use in 1873.

5. The Governor-General in Council attaches great importance to the experimental cultivation of this rice, and trusts that the local Governments and Administrations will do their utmost to make this trial a really satisfactory and conclusive one—not necessarily attempting it in all districts, but carefully selecting the most favourable localities and the most careful officers, and making such arrangements as will ensure the receipt from them of full and correct accounts of the results obtained. His Excellency in Council considers that for this purpose it would be advisable for the local Governments and Administrations at once to decide where

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and under which district officers the cultivation should be carried on, so that no delay whatever might occur in the distribution of the seed when it arrives.

6. The Secretary of State will be requested to procure and send out as early as possible by the Suez Canal 50 barrels of seed of the first and best quality, with an intimation that, if necessary, a further quantity will be indented for on receipt of replies from the several local Governments to the inquiry made in paragraph 3.

Bengal.
N.-W. Provinces.
Punjab.
Oudh.

Central Provinces.
British Burmah.
Coorg.
Hyderabad Assigned
Districts.

ORDERED that a copy of the foregoing Resolution be forwarded to the local Governments and Administrations named in the margin for information and guidance.

Ordered* also that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the Governments of Madras and Bombay, with a request that the Government of India be favoured

* No. 72.

with a full report of the results obtained in those Presidencies, and of the conclusions arrived at in regard to the comparative merits of the Carolina rice and the indigenous varieties.

Ordered, further, that this Resolution and a précis of the correspondence be published in the supplement to the *Gazette of India*.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) A. O. HUME,
Secretary to the Government of India.

TRANSFERRED to the Secretary to Government to the Revenue Department.

(Signed) R. S. ELLIS,
Chief Secretary.

No. 185. ORDER THEREON, 21st August 1871, No. 1,417.

Miscellaneous.

FORWARDED to the Board of Revenue
for the desired report.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) A. DEC. SCOTT, Captain, R.E.,
Under-Secy., P.W.D.,
for Secy. to Govt.

To the Board of Revenue.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

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Department of Agriculture, Re-
venue, and Commerce.

22649.

[Agriculture and Horticulture.]

RESOLUTION.

To the local Govts. and Administrations.

Nos. 64-73.

Dated 7th August 1871.

1920

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CULTIVATION of Carolina Rice in India.

No. 44
 Received of the 18th Nov.
 for the desired report.

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