

1945

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
22nd August 1871.*

Read the following papers:—

No. 245. From the Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Agriculture, Revenue and Commerce to the Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras. India wishes to collect all possible materials for a general review of silk-cultivation throughout the country since 1840, and I write to request your assistance in the matter.

We want, if possible, to trace the history of the industry throughout that period, and in regard to the following points:—

- Places where silk-culture has been pursued, with particulars of climate;
- Extent of land under cultivation in mulberry or other food for silkworms;
- Quantity of silk produced;
- Quality and price of ditto;
- Kinds of silkworms kept with their scientific names;
- Method of rearing the worms;
- Method of reeling the silk adopted;
- Particulars as to extent of European enterprise;
- Amount of silk woven on the spot and nature of fabrics;
- Quantity and value of silk exported (1) by sea, (2) by land.
- Full particulars of any attempts or experiments made during the period, whether by Government or by private persons, with a view to improve or extend the culture.
- Opinions of qualified persons, official and non-official, as to defects of existing system (whether in regard to stock of worms, their food, mode of rearing, manipulation of silk, or in any other point), and improvements recommended.

The above information is desired in regard both to domesticated and wild silk-producing insects.

You would confer a great obligation on me if you could have a search made in your Office for papers which would throw light on the above subjects, so far as Madras is concerned; would point out what papers have been already forwarded to the Government of India, and to what department; and would send me copies of such as have not been sent. Doubtless many papers will be discovered by the search which is being made among the records of the Government of India; but a Central Office is always liable to overlook papers which may be well known to the Local Government as important. If documents bearing on the subject be known to exist in other offices than yours, or in any libraries or institutions in Madras, and can be obtained for the perusal of the Government of India, I should be very thankful for them. If I have overlooked any division of the subject, or if any information appears desirable to communicate, though not belonging to the period from 1840 onwards, pray do not interpret my request too literally.

Finally, though only asking your assistance in discovering materials already in existence, I shall be but too glad if you can enlist the services of any one interested in the subject, who would aid either by a general memorandum or a paper on any specific part of the question. Such services would, I have no doubt, be gratefully acknowledged by Government. I do not expect that you will be

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able to supply information in detail on all the points on which it is desired; but if you will, *with as little delay as practicable*, send me, in instalments if you think best, what is procurable, you will deeply oblige me.

No. 246. From the Under-Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Agriculture, Revenue, and Commerce, to the Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras, dated Simla, 5th July 1871.

I WRITE in continuation of Mr. Hume's demi-official letter of the 22nd ultimo, to ask you to have the kindness to follow back the papers on the subject of sericulture in the Madras Presidency as far as 1791, when I find the first effort was made at the suggestion and through the instrumentality of Dr. James Anderson. I trust that this will not add much to your trouble. As it has been found that, except in the Lower Provinces of Bengal, the cultivation of silk, or at any rate the rearing of the domesticated silkworm is, throughout British India, of comparatively recent origin, it has been thought best to go back to the beginning of the attempts made, and to naturalize the industry outside Bengal.

No. 247. From the Under-Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Agriculture, Revenue, and Commerce, (Fibres and Silk,) to the Secretary to the Government of Madras, dated Simla, 5th August 1871.

I SHALL feel much obliged if you will furnish me at an early date with the papers and information asked for in Mr. Hume's demi-official note of the 23rd June last, regarding silk-cultivation in India. They are urgently required.

No. 248. ORDER THEREON, 22nd August 1871, No. 1,443.

Miscellaneous.

COMMUNICATED to the Board of Revenue, with the previous communications, and with the request that the resumé of former records on sericulture, which they have under preparation, may be submitted as speedily as possible.

(True Extract.)

(Signed)

W. HUDLESTON,
Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

Department of Agriculture, Revenue
and Commerce
Simla the 5th July 1871

My dear Sir

I write in continuation of Mr. Hume's demi-official letter of the 22nd Ultimo to ask you to have the kindness to follow back the papers on the subject of sericulture in the Madras Presidency as far as 1791, when I find the first effort was made at the suggestion and through the instrumentality of Dr. James Anderson. I trust that this will not add much to your trouble. As it has been found that except in the Lower Provinces of Bengal the cultivation of silk or at any rate the rearing of the domesticated silkworm is throughout British India of comparatively recent origin, it has been thought best to go back to the beginning of the attempts made and to naturalize the industry outside Bengal.

I am yours truly.

The Chief Secretary to the
Government of Madras

W. H. H. H.
Under Secretary

Department of Agriculture Revenue
and Commerce

Simla the 4th July 1871

The Secretary to the Government of Madras

Dear Sir

I shall feel much obliged if you will
furnish me at an early date with the papers
and information asked for in my ^{withholding} semi-
official note of the 23rd June last, regarding
Silk cultivation in India. They are urgently
required

Yours truly

James

17/7/22

Revenue 1871 Departs

No 2211

From

The Under Secy to the Govt
of India - Agricultural Branch

Dated 5th July
Recd 12th " 1871

Del 11/11/73 - 220 August 1871

In continuation of Mr. James
semi-official letter, request to follow
track the papers relating to silk
- here in Madras Presidency, as far
back as 1791

No 246

Department of Agriculture, Revenue Commission
Amila 5 August 1871.

The Secretary to the Government of Madras

Dear Sir,

Fibres & Silk.

I shall feel much obliged if you will
furnish me at an early date with the papers
and information asked for in Mr. Hummel's
Demi-Official note of the 23rd June last,
regarding silk cultivation in India. They
are urgently required.

Yours truly
J. J. Georgeyan

and information asked for
in Mr. Hummel's D.O. No. 58723
June last regarding silk
cultivation in India and
stating that they are urgently
required.

New 1871/1872
D.O. No. 2566.

From J. Georgeyan Esq.
Secy of W. M. S.

15th 3 Aug 71.

Respectfully
submitted with the papers

W. M. Anderson

[illegible]