Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 11th November 1871.

No. 69. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 27th October 1871, No. 4,518 :—

Read the following letter from the Superintendent, Government Farms, to the Honorary Secretary, Government Farm Committee, dated Sydapet, 21st September 1871, No. 425.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the Proceedings of the Board No. 3,889, dated 9th of September 1871, also the receipt of the samples of soil referred to in Mr. Boswell's letter.

2. Now that the Board are in possession of well-selected samples of the saline soils of the Kistna District, it seems to me very desirable that something should be done to bring the matter under the notice of one of the most eminent of our Agricultural Chemists, say, Baron Leibig, or Doctor Voelcker, F.R.S., the Consulting Chemist to the Royal Agricultural Society of England. The cost of a scientific investigation into the physical and chemical agencies that have brought the soil into its present barren state would probably not exceed 100 guineas, a very insignificant sum, when considered along with the fact that, in the Kistna District, in one year (Fusly 1278) 81,729 acres of wet land, yielding an annual revenue of Rs. 1,39,311-3-8 were abandoned, chiefly owing to the deterioration of the soil by the great increase of Chavudu.

3. I would gladly do all I am able with the very primitive appliances at my command, but the investigation demands too much [illegible]ess and embraces interests of too much importance to be trifled with in this way.

4. I have, however, given the matter some consideration, and with my practical knowledge of the peculiarities of the soils, climate, and agricultural practice of this country, will perhaps be able to state the case in such a way that the Chemist consulted would have no difficulty, after investigating the matter, in suggesting some practical plan of solving the difficulty.

TRANSFERRED to the Board of Revenue for their consideration.

(Signed) F. BRANDT,
Honorary Secretary, Government Farm.

22*nd September* 1871.

ORDERED to be recorded.

2. A copy of the Proceedings of the Government of India, communicated to the Board by the Public Works Department of this Government in Order dated 27th September 1871, No. 2,463, will be forwarded to the Superintendent of Farms, who will see that the report therein contained shows clearly the various and numerous forms of saline efflorescence or earthy salt which are drawn to the surface under a system of irrigation, and details some successful experiments for getting rid of the efflorescence.

3. The Board consider therefore that the proposal made by the Superintendent is at present premature.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 11th November 1871.

No. 70. ORDER THEREON, 11th November 1871, No. 1,907.

Miscellaneous.

ORDERED to be recorded.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,

Secretary to Government.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 11th November 1871.

No. 71. Read the following letter from the Commissioner of the Nilgiris, to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Fort St. George, dated Ootacamund, 2nd November 1871, No. 85:—

WITH [illegible]

Revenue 1871. Departt.

Board of Revenue,

MADRAS. #. 3497

PROCEEDINGS, 27TH OCTOBER 1871, No. 4,518.

Encl.

Received.

OCTOBER.

No. 4,518.

Saline soils of Kistna District,—Letter from Superintendent, Government Farm, Sydapet, suggesting a scientific investigation into, by some eminent Agricultural Chemist, recorded, with remark that suggestion is premature.—Copy of G. O. dated 27th September 1871, containing a report on saline efflorescence, forwarded to Superintendent.

#-1907.

No. 69-70.

11th Nov. 71.

rtment, 7th
erintendent,
ether with
nt of India
to the Com-
I have the
Nettle fibre
culent, the
e to collect
which it is
nce to the
, and the
mperature
as low as
the neigh-
droppings
feet. It,
nder the
to culti-
he roots.
ccording
n placed
ge scale,
e. The
chinery,
th of at
nnually
er, and

[illegible] although in their natural localities the plants love the shade and protection of forest es, when under cultivation they are found to produce the best fibre, and make the finest growth en grown in the open. The land selected should be well sheltered from prevailing winds, as the ng shoots are very succulent, and when blown one against the other by high winds the fibre omes injured, and the growth of the plants much retarded.

No. 70. ORDER THEREON, 11th November 1871, No. 1,907.

Gobt. of {1871} Madras.

REVENUE.

To

THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

Dated November 11th.

Recd. Encl.

G. O., 11th November 1871, No. 1,907.

NOVEMBER.
Nos. 69-70.

Saline soils of the Kistna District.—Proceedings Board of Revenue regarding their investigation by some eminent Agricultural Chemist, recorded.

No. 71. Read the following letter from the Commissioner of the Nilgiris, to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Fort St. George, dated Ootacamund, 2nd November 1871, No. 85:—

WITH reference to Proceedings of the Government, Revenue Department, 7th July 1871, No. 1,172, I have the honour to forward a letter from the Superintendent, Government Cinchona Plantations, regarding the Nilgiri Nettle, together with specimens of the plant and of the unbleached and bleached fibre.

2. The quantity of Nilgiri Nettle fibre required by the Government of India will be forwarded as soon as Mr. McIvor is able to procure it.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From Mr. W. G. McIVOR, Superintendent of the Government Cinchona Plantations, to the Commissioner of the Nilgiris, dated Ootacamund, 23rd October 1871, No. 95.

WITH reference to the Order of Government of the 7th July 1871, No. 1,172, I have the honour to inform you that I am at present unable to procure the quantity of Nilgiri Nettle fibre required by the Government of India. The plants being now in full growth and succulent, the fibre is weak, and would not be a fair sample. By the end of February I hope to be able to collect a hundred weight of the fibre, and will then forward a statement of the manner in which it is prepared, together with the cost.

2. In the meantime I beg to furnish such information as I am able with reference to the "climate, soil, elevation, and aspect of the places which the Nilgiri Nettle affects, and the "manner of its growth and propagation."

Climate.—The Nilgiri Nettle thrives equally well in climates where the mean temperature varies from 58° to 70° Fahr., and where the rain-fall exceeds 150 inches and descends as low as 35 inches.

Soil.—The soil must be naturally rich or be well manured. The plant luxuriates in the neighbourhood of the Todar cattle kraals, where it is abundantly supplied with manure from the droppings of the cattle.

Elevation.—The elevation best suited to the growth of the plant is about 6,000 feet. It, however, grows well up to 7,000 feet and as low as 3,000 feet.

Aspect.—The plant grows in sheltered positions facing the north, and generally under the shade of large trees. The above observations refer to the plant in its natural localities.

3. At the end of 1848 I tried the cultivation of the Nilgiri Nettle, and continued to cultivate it for a period of five years. The plant is easily propagated from seeds or division of the roots. It grows freely, is a perennial, and produces stems varying from 6 to 10 feet in height, according to the nature of the soil in which it is planted. The plants gave the heaviest yield when placed in rows 2 feet apart, and the plants one foot apart in the row.

4. Several attempts have been made on the Nilgiris to cultivate the plant on a large scale, but all have proved unsuccessful in consequence of the cost of preparation of the fibre. The stinging qualities of the plant also render it difficult to handle, and, without the aid of machinery, the fibre could not be shipped at Madras for less than Rs. 1,120 per ton.

5. The cultivation of the plant is expensive, as the soil must be turned up to a depth of at least 14 inches, and to produce heavy crops from 30 to 40 tons of manure are required annually per acre, the manure, in the first instance, being laid on the ground before it is trenched over, and subsequently applied as a top-dressing immediately after the plants are cut down.

6. Although in their natural localities the plants love the shade and protection of forest trees, when under cultivation they are found to produce the best fibre, and make the finest growth when grown in the open. The land selected should be well sheltered from prevailing winds, as the young shoots are very succulent, and when blown one against the other by high winds the fibre becomes injured, and the growth of the plants much retarded.

7. With this communication I forward specimens of the plant, together with a specimen of the unbleached and bleached fibre.

No. 72. ORDER THEREON, 11th November 1871, No. 1,908.

Miscellaneous.

ORDERED to be forwarded, together with the enclosure and the specimens, to the Government of India, with reference to the letter from that Government, dated 17th June 1871, No. 5.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Secretary to Government.

To the Commissioner of the Nilgiris.
,, the Board of Revenue.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT,
FORT ST. GEORGE,
11th November 1871.

No. 73.

No. 1,909.

To

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, REVENUE, AND COMMERCE.

Miscellaneous.

SIR,—With reference to your letter dated 17th June 1871, No. 5, I am directed to forward the accompanying letter from the Commissioner of the Nilgiris, giving cover to one from Mr. McIvor regarding the Nilgiri Nettle.

2. The specimens of the plant and of the bleached and unbleached fibre, forwarded by Mr. McIvor, are also transmitted.

3. It will be perceived that Mr. McIvor is at present unable to procure the one cwt. of fibre required in your letter under reply, but promises to collect and send it by the end of February, with information as to the mode of preparation and cost.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Secretary to Government.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

Revenue Department

No 1908

Proceedings of the Madras Government

Under date the 11th November 1871.

Read the following letter from the Commr of the Nilgiris

Subg. letter from the Supt Govt Cinchona Plantations regarding hilgay hellebore, and also forwarding the specimens of the plant & fibre in use in that case

(No. 2 dt Nov 7/71 Dt 85)

Ordered to be forwarded, together with the enclosure and the specimens, to the Govt of India with reference to the letter from that Govt dated 17th June 1871 No 5.

3 to the Commissioner of Nilgiris for info
4 to the Board of Rev

45 4

Revenue Department

11th June 1871

No. 1909

To

The Secretary to the Govt. of India
Depart. of Agriculture, Revenue
and Commerce

Sir,

With reference
to your letter dated
17th June 1871 No. 5 I
am directed to forward
the accompanying let-
ter from the Commis-
sioner of the Nilgiris
giving cover to one
from Mr. McIvor
regarding the Nilgiri
kettle.

5

Read the following :—

No. 74.

STATEMENT showing the over-collections of Quit-rent refunded to Inamdars during the quarter ending 30th September 1871, as called for in Government Order, dated 29th May 1868, No. 1,503, Revenue Department.

District.	Taluk.	Village.	Name of the Inamdar.	Number of the Title-deed.	Amount refunded.	Date and number of letter to Collector authorizing the refund.
					Rs. A. P.	
Nellore	Atmakur	Chapralapalli ...	Ramavajhala Chinna Chelambhotlu ...	2,069	12 4 0	19th August 1871, No. 597.
Salem	Tripatur	Tirumanjolai ...	Nanni Bibi	934	50 0 0	25th ,, ,, ,, 606.
		Vaniembadi ...	Do.	872		
Ganjam	Chikakole	Lakshimipuram ...	Devarakonda Appavu Dhanulu and Suriya Narayudu	1,868	20 0 0	30th Sept. ,, ,, 707.

(Signed) D. F. CARMICHAEL,
Officiating Inam Commissioner.

MADRAS,
26th October 1871.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
13th November 1871.

No. 75. ORDER THEREON, 13th November 1871, No. 1,910.

Land Revenue. CONFIRMED.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Secretary to Government.

To the Inam Commissioner.
the Board of Revenue.

Agreement Petition
B.P. 3 Nos 48.
1871 Oct. 28 Nos 1 to 4.

From
The Collector Chingleput
To
The Secretary to Government
Revenue Department
Fort St. George

Sir,

Dated 26th October 1871
Received 30th ditto

I have the honor to submit herewith a Statement showing the Collections of Peishcush and Quit Rent for the fasli 1280 (1870-71) and the Balance outstanding on the 30th September 1871.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedient
Servant
[illegible]
13th November 1871.

Peishcush & Quit Rent Nov 1871

& To the Inam Commissioner dt 14th Nov 71
14 " the Board of Revenue

27-11-71

Statement showing the over-Collections of Land Rent refunded to Inamdárs during the quarter ending 30th September 1871 as called for in G. O. dated 2 May 1868 No. 1503, Revenue Department.

District	Taluq	Village	Name of the Inámdár	Number of the Title deed	Amount refunded	Date and Number of Letter to Collector authorizing the refund.
Nellore	Atmakúr	Chapirálapalli	Rámavajha Chinna Chella = lu = mulchol	2069	Rs. As. P. 12-4-n	19th August 1871 No. 597.
Salem	Tiripatúr	Tirumanjólai Vaniambádi	Nanni bidi ——— do ———	934-872	50-n	25th August 1871 No. 606.
Ganjam	Chikkáda	Lakshmi = pirane	Dévara kond Alpsáru dha and Suriya dá = yudu = mulu = aria	1868	20-n	30th September 1871 No. 707.

Revenue Board Office
Madras 26th October 1871

To,
The Secretary to Government
Revenue Department
Fort Saint George.

Compd