No. 163. Read the following letter from the Commissioner of the Nilgiris, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated Ootacamund, 25th May 1872, No. 29:—

I HAVE the honour to submit Mr. Jamieson's Report on the Ootacamund Botanical Garden for 1871-72.

2. Much has been done in the year under report to increase the usefulness of the garden as well as to make the most of its natural advantages.

The ornamental portion of the ground under Mr. Jamieson's supervision is gradually assuming an attractive appearance, and becoming more like what a public garden ought to be.

The lower half has been turfed and laid out afresh; a driving road has been carried round it; standard trees have been opened out; and scattered flower-beds have been removed, or re-arranged on the "mossing" system.

These and other improvements, noticed in the Superintendent's report, have, in a great measure, banished the wilderness-aspect which the garden formerly presented.

The iron gate and railing will much improve the approach, which has hitherto seemed better suited to a suburban nursery garden than to a public institution.

3. The herbarium and seed-house will be roofed in by the end of the month, and in a short time will be ready for occupation.

I hope the Government will request Major Beddome to be good enough to keep us with a collection of dried specimens of the principal Indian trees of economic value, with a view to facilitate their study by officers of the Forest Department and by others who may, from time to time, be on leave here. Such specimens, arranged in their natural orders, would form a beginning for the herbarium, besides affording us an example of the best mode of mounting the several parts of a plant so as to show its generic characters.

4. Mr. Jamieson will give his attention to the preparation of specimens generally of the Nilgiri Flora to which the herbarium should, I think (with the single exception of Major Beddome's collection), be exclusively confined.

The space is too limited for collections from different localities, and unless we work with some practicable and well-defined object, the room will be choked with heterogeneous litter.

5. The conservatory, referred to in paragraphs 12 and 17 of the Superintendent's report, is a melancholy structure, built askew to the main prominade and

gate-way, and is, as Mr. Jamieson says, unsuited to the purpose for which a conservatory is required.

Under these circumstances I feel no hesitation in recommending its removal to the site on which the small fernery now stands, and the erection in its place of a new building after a more modern and useful design.

6. With the advantages possessed by the Nilgiris in respect of range of climate and water, they are capable of growing the vegetable products of most countries, and the main object of the garden should be to develop this capability to the utmost.

I therefore support the Superintendent's request for an annual Government grant of Rs. 500 to be devoted especially to the "purchase and introduction of living specimens of fruit and timber-trees and of novelties in flowering plants likely to succeed here."

7. As regards the China grass (*Bœhmeria nivea*), of which the Superintendent states (paragraph 24) that we have several thousands in the nurseries, I propose to draw public attention to it by advertisement, and to supply (with the sanction of Government) 50 or 100 plants gratis to any one in Wynaad or elsewhere, who desires to give Rhea cultivation a trial.

Enclosure No. 1

From Mr. A. JAMIESON, Superintendent, Government Gardens, to the Commissioner of Nilgiris, dated Ootacamund, 15th May 1872, No. 36.

I have the honour to submit herewith, for early transmission to Government, my annual Report on the progress and condition of the Government Botanical Gardens, Ootacamund, for the year 1871-72.

Report on the Progress and Condition of the Government Botanical Gardens, Ootacamund, for the year 1871-72.

During the year just elapsed extensive alterations and improvements have been effected.

2. The principal operations were the entire re-modelling and laying out of the lower portion of the gardens and the construction of a carriage-drive, 870 yards in length and 24 feet in breadth, which was completed in June last, and entailed a considerable amount of labour and expense, as metal and gravel had to be carted a great distance. The formation of this road has tended to make the gardens more popular, and it is largely taken advantage of by visitors, the walk to the upper gardens being now so much shorter. Its formation and maintenance have considerably increased the expenditure, and a good deal of labour will always be required to keep it in proper order; the preservation of roads where there is a heavy rainfall being always troublesome.

3. The main walk, leading from the entrance gate to the conservatory, has been reduced from 40 feet in width to 17 feet, which has much improved the appearance of the garden. This walk has been divided in the middle by a flight of steps, 4 feet in height, extending the breadth of the walk which is nearly level from the gate to the steps, and from this it has an easy gradient to the conservatory. A sloping turf-bank runs from the steps to the carriage-drive on each side.

4. The entire lawns extending from the large ornamental pond to the gate were forked over, levelled and planted with English grass. The sub-soil of the lower garden is a black peaty soil, and very retentive of moisture, consequently injurious to the roots of trees, producing feebleness and disease. To remedy this, the whole of this portion was thoroughly drained, and the trees already show perceptible improvement in their growth and appearance, aided by the forking and renewing of the surface soil and the draining of stagnant water from their roots. By reducing the width of the centre walk the area of grass has been much increased, and, as a garden always looks meagre without a good open lawn, several trees and groups of shrubs were removed, so that those remaining are irregularly arranged. In some places to make the lawn appear larger, the plan of turfing close around the stems of trees was adopted. Lawns are easier kept and have a more pleasing effect than a multiplicity of walks in a garden.

5. A considerable number of large Araucarias, Cryptomeras, Cupressus, and different species of Pines were brought from other parts of the garden and transplanted on these lawns, and are all now growing freely. As this part of the garden is well suited to the growth of such plants, it is intended to plant a number of specimens of new varieties every season, which are found to succeed in this climate, so as to form a good collection of coniferous plants, including Cupressus, Junipers, and their allies.

6. Along one side of the carriage-drive on the south-west side of the garden has been planted a hedge of the free-growing *Cupressus Lawsoniana* which, when perfectly developed and nicely trimmed, will form a beautiful object in itself. The narrow strip of waste ground to the left of this has been thickly planted with *Pinus Maritima*, *Eucalyptus globulus*, and a number of fast growing ever-green trees and shrubs, so as to shut out from the gardens the buildings used for the quinine manufactory.

7. On each side of the centre walk, and at equal distances from each other, there has been formed a number of large oblong flower-beds. These it is intended to devote during the monsoon months entirely to ornamental foliaged plants, and to arrange them with reference to colour and effect.

8. The lower portion of the gardens is well adapted to the growth of ornamental foliaged plants, and the upper garden having a drier sub-soil is better adapted for the more showy flowers—Verbenas, Geraniums, Calceolarias, Petunias, and others. Flowering plants have hitherto been planted promiscuously over the garden. The impression left on the visitor will be much more marked by a different arrangement and by giving each class of plants a certain place. During the frosty months of the year the foliaged plants will be removed and the beds filled with choice ever-green and ornamental shrubs, and by a judicious selection and variation a certain amount of liveliness and verdure will be maintained when all around is dry and scorched up.

9. The walk leading from the conservatory to the band-stand terrace has been much improved by raising it 3 feet in the middle, so that it is now nearly level. Where this walk intersects the carriage drive there is a flight of steps with a rockery on each side planted with succulent and Alpine plants, and about 10 yards of the adjoining bank covered with *Juniperus prostata*.

10. All the ponds in the garden (with the exception of the large one) were emptied last season and cleared of weeds, and the banks planted with ornamental grasses and a handsome species of bamboo from China.

11. The fish-house on the lawn behind the conservatory and a number of walks and exhausted shrubberies have been removed, and the entire lawn levelled and remodelled; the improvement here is quite apparent by the extension and enlargement of the lawn. A good deal yet remains to be done in the formation and planting of beds of evergreen and flowering shrubs, and a few picturesque groups of trees.

12. The conservatory has been improved by the removal of the brick and chunam pinnacles from the roof. Unfortunately this house is placed obliquely to the new buildings being erected at the entrance-gate, thereby considerably marring their appearance and the beauty of the gardens. As a conservatory, this house is very defective and wholly unsuited to the cultivation of specimen

flowering sub-tropical and economic plants to which it should be devoted; it is likewise incommodious and in a bad situation, but I hesitate to represent the necessity for the erection of a new one, whilst there are so many other alterations more urgently needed.

13. A rose rosery has been formed on a sloping piece of ground near the centre of the gardens, where upwards of 50 of the finest varieties of roses lately introduced from Europe and Bangalore will be cultivated and arranged in beds according to colour and correctly labelled.

14. A considerable source of attraction to the garden has been produced by converting the parterre under the fountain-terrace into a neat and ornamental croquet-ground. The want of a croquet-ground in a convenient and accessible part of the garden was much felt, and it is now a favourite resort of visitors. The ground was raised and enlarged by the deepening of the adjoining pond and cutting the bank on the east side. The face of this bank has been covered with trellis-work to which are trained different varieties of creepers. At the north end of the ground is a rockery planted with tree and other ferns, bulbs, and many varieties of Alpine and herbaceous plants. To the left of this, and in a sheltered angle of the ground, a rustic arbour has been erected. This is a great convenience to visitors, either as a screen from the sun or shelter from rain; altogether this now forms a very pleasing part of the gardens, the situation being admirably adapted for the purpose, being well sheltered and protected from the winds and rains of the monsoon without interfering with the action of the sun. The ground has been turfed with English grass, as it is more in keeping with the character of the garden than gravel or sand.

15. During the course of the season, by the desire of His Excellency the Governor and the Members of Council, a large number of old and decaying jungle-trees were felled and removed, which has materially improved and opened up the gardens. From many parts there is now a pleasing view of the ouside country, and several good individual specimen trees are seen to greater advantage. The beauty of a garden consists in the scenery being varied and the plants distributed so as to produce variety and contrast. To effect this, there has been planted, in prominent places, groups of Begonia fuchsioides and Iresine Herbstii, which, when grown together in one mass, will create a striking impression by their showy flowers and foliage.

16. The appearance of the upper garden has been much improved by doing away with the large beds on the sloping banks. These beds, being intended for flowering plants, were unavoidably vacant for several of the dry months during the year, and destroyed the continuousness and extent of the lawn, and produced a poverty of general effect. These slopes have been forked over, and will be re-planted with English grass; and where there is space there will be planted handsome specimens of the finer varieties of coniferous and other ever-green trees, and along the side of the roads ornamental shrubs from Japan and Australia, many new varieties of which have been added to our collection during the past year.

17. The damage done to the fern-house by the cyclone on the 7th of last November has been repaired, and the house re-filled with ferns. The walls have been pointed with chunam outside and inside to strengthen them as much as possible. As regards light and ventilation this house was very defective; this has been remedied (as far as could be done without pulling down and re-building the entire house) by putting a number of new sashes with ventilators in the walls and roof, so that the house can now be ventilated to greater advantage. If the conservatory should be removed at any future time I would recommend that it should be re-erected on the site of the present fern-house, and devoted entirely to the cultivation of ferns as the present structure is too small to accommodate our rapidly increasing stock of these beautiful and truly popular plants.

18. During last season large numbers of specimen ever-green trees and shrubs were transplanted in various parts of the garden, including a number of large Camellia plants, and it is satisfactory to note that none of them have died, but are all growing vigorously, notwithstanding the excessive and unusual drought experienced during the early part of this year. A good deal has also

been done in improving the cultivation and classification of plants in the garden, with the view of affording increased instruction and facilities to the public.

19. In the course of last year extensive additions have been made to the collection of plants, particularly in ferns, roses, ornamental trees, and bulbs. The fern-collection in these gardens now contains upwards of 200 species and varieties. These additions have been made at little or no cost by means of correspondence and exchange with similar establishments in Europe and in this country.

20. The chief aim of this garden should be the introduction, preservation, and culture of useful timber-trees, ornamental shrubs, and flowering plants, and to encourage and stimulate an interest in horticulture. This could be done to a much greater extent than at present were Government to allow a certain sum of money annually, say Rs. 500, for the purchase and introduction of living specimens of fruit-trees and novelties in flowering plants that are likely to succeed in this climate.

21. The new seed-house and herbarium now being erected at the gate by Captain Morant, R.E. are rapidly advancing towards completion. These buildings, when completed, will unquestionably be a great acquisition to the gardens, as the want of a seed-house in a convenient part of the garden was very much felt. The herbarium is a very necessary adjunct, and will add much to the usefulness of the garden. When stocked with dried specimens of plants indigenous to Southern India, and especially those of the Nilgiris, it will afford a medium for reference and scientific study.

22. As suggested by the Commissioner of the Nilgiris in his letter No. 14 of the 15th March 1871, a priced catalogue of trees, shrubs, flowering plants and seeds has been carefully prepared, and is now in the printer's hands, and will be ready for circulation in the course of a few weeks. They will be sold at the rate of four Annas per copy to cover the cost of printing. In accordance with the Commissioner's suggestions the prices charged for plants were considerably reduced in the early part of last year, and the results have been most satisfactory. The net receipts from sales of seeds and plants amounting to nearly one-third more than the average of the past five years.

23. Great attention having been paid during the year to the propagation of plants most in demand, the nurseries now contain an extensive stock of healthy young plants of all kinds, which will allow of their being sold this season at even lower rates than those of last year. My object has been to introduce and propagate new varieties of plants at the lowest possible cost, and sell them at prices that will repay the actual outlay incurred in their introduction and propagation, giving a reasonable profit to help to meet the working expenses and up-keep of the gardens.

24. In the early part of last year, by desire of the Commissioner, nurseries were formed and filled with cuttings and young plants of the China grass (*Bœhmeria nivea*), all of which have made very satisfactory growth. Many of the young plants have produced stems from 4 to 6 feet in height. The natural soil around Ootacamund is too poor, and the elevation too high to cultivate this plant as a remunerative article; but I feel certain that in the coffee-districts of Wynaad, where there is a rich soil and moist climate, it could be cultivated with great success, and 4 or 5 crops could be obtained from the same roots in one year. The plants are easily propagated from cuttings, layers, or division of the roots. The nurseries in the garden now contain several thousands of young plants, which might be sold or distributed to planters wishing to try its cultivation.

25. In November last I took over charge of the branch gardens at Burliar, Kulhutty, and Coonoor from Mr. McIvor, and since then have made various alterations and improvements in these gardens.

26. The Burliar garden has been thoroughly weeded and extensive nurseries formed for the propagation of Mangosteen, Nutmeg, Clove, Cocoa, and various kinds of tropical fruits. These

nurseries will be stocked with young plants as soon as the rains set in, for which several planters have already made application. The three Ipecacuanha plants that were planted in this garden in the early part of last year are now increased to nine, and are making very satisfactory growth. They are planted under dense shade in a deep rich vegetable soil—conditions which seem essential to their successful cultivation. I feel certain that these plants could be successfully cultivated in this garden, and think it desirable that a number of plants should be procured from England or the Royal Botanic Gardens, Calcutta, so as to give the experiment a fair trial.

27. The old and exhausted nurseries in the Kulhutty garden have been removed, and new ones formed and filled with large numbers of young pear, apple, peach, and orange trees. A large portion of this garden will be devoted during this season to the cultivation of flower and vegetable seeds. Acclimatized seeds, when well ripened and carefully collected, are in greater demand, and give more satisfaction than seeds imported from Europe.

28. There have been no alterations made in the branch garden at Coonoor. It will be advertised for sale as soon as the survey-plan is prepared.

29. In carrying out the various works in the gardens I have received considerable assistance from Mr. Stevenson, Overseer, who was appointed in September last. He has shown much interest in his work and readiness to carry out my wishes. In the office and seed-house M. Ramanjulu Naidu has given me the greatest satisfaction in the performance of his duties.

30. During the past year a large number of ornamental Pines and Cupressus of different varieties were supplied to the Commissioner for planting in various parts of the station; also several hundreds of trees, shrubs, and flowering plants were supplied, free of charge, for the Church-yards of Ootacamund and Wellington.

31. In the course of the year living plants and seeds have been interchanged with the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew; the Agri-Horticultural Societies Garden, Madras; the Mysore Agri-Horticultural Society; the Royal Botanical Gardens, Calcutta; and several private individuals in different parts of this country.

32. To the following gentlemen we are indebted for valuable contributions to the gardens:—Colonel Douglas Hamilton, a large collection of Australian trees, shrubs and flower-seeds; Sir William McArthur, Sydney, a large and valuable collection of strawberry plants; these demand special notice as they include the finest varieties in cultivation, and are likely to succeed in our climate; Dr. Hooker, C.B., a case of West Indian orchids and British ferns; Major Beddome, rare ferns and Australian seeds; Colonel Benson, Burmese orchids; Captain Onslow, several new varieties of Amyrilles and Liliums; Colonel Boddam, an extensive collection of valuable flower and vegetable seeds; Honourable J. D. Sim, C.S.I., seeds of Antigonum leptopus and plants of Selaginellas; Mr. McIvor, an interesting collection of Himalayan orchids, Gloxinias, Arums, and grasses; Colonel Denison, several species of British ferns.

OOTACAMUND,
15th May 1872.

(Signed) A. JAMIESON,
Supt., Govt. Botanical Gardens.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
13th June 1872.

Table showing the Distribution of Seeds and Plants from the Government Botanical Gardens for 1871-72.

	Fruit-trees.	Timber-trees.	Flowers and Shrubs.	Packets of Seeds.	Value.		
					Rs.	A.	P.
April 1871...	.....	.....	165	164	91	8	0
May ,, ...	30	122	987	542	325	3	0
June ,, ...	.....	302	636	282	280	1	0
July ,, ...	.....	98	703	104	125	9	0
August ,, ...	48	.....	1,937	332	232	8	0
September 1871	.....	36	1,813	201	388	0	0
October ,, ...	.....	6	649	271	185	1	0
November ,, ...	1,006	297	2,454	72	385	14	0
December ,, ...	84	.....	262	164	96	5	6
January 1872	.....	.....	299	116	66	8	0
February ,, ...	12	1	201	77	106	3	0
March ,, ...	.....	.....	134	150	61	6	0
	1,180	862	9,770	2,475	2,354	2	6

OOTACAMUND,
15th May 1872.

(Signed) A. JAMIESON,
Supt., Govt., Botanical Gardens.

Government Botanical Gardens for the year 1871-72.

Month and Date.	Particulars of Expenditure.	Amount.	Total.
		RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.
1871 April	To cash paid to the carriage of plants and seeds	132 15 4	
...	,, to discount on Cheques and Stamps	7 14 1	
...	,, to powder, etc., for destroying wild animals ...	12 0 0	
...	,, to blasting powder	7 0 0	
...	,, to the repair of buildings	92 12 1	
...	,, to Stationery	47 6 0	
...	,, to Postage on letters and banghies	22 6 0	
...	,, to Peons' clothing	28 14 0	
...	,, to watering cans	44 8 0	
...	,, to the purchase of tools...	84 11 4	
...	,, to do. of seeds	15 10 0	
...	,, to do. of bulbs	51 2 10	
...	,, to do. of mowing machine	107 12 8	
...	,, to do. of cash-box and seed-chest ...	12 0 0	
...	,, to do. of flower-pots	43 8 0	
...	,, to do. of new roses	10 14 8	
...	,, to the repair of tools...	16 12 0	
...	,, to the packing of plants and seeds, etc. ...	88 9 0	
...	,, to various	58 7 6	885 3 6
...	,, to Superintendent's horse allowance	210 0 0	210 0 0
...	,, to the pay of gardens' fixed establishment ...	822 0 0	
...	,, to do. of Kulhutty gardens	82 8 0	
...	,, to do. of Coonoor do.	62 8 0	967 0 0
...	,, to gardeners and coolies	3,683 9 0	3,683 9 0
1872 March 31st.	,, in the Bank	548 11 6	
...	,, on hand	84 9 2	633 4 8
	Total...	.....	6,379 1 2

(Signed) A. JAMIESON,
Supt., Govt. Botanical Gardens.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 13th June 1872.

No. 169. ORDER THEREON, 13th June 1872, No. 936.

Miscellaneous.

THE progress which has been made in laying out the Botanical Gardens during the year under report is very creditable to Mr. Jamieson, and the Government notice with satisfaction that an endeavour is being made to arrange the plants on some systematic plan so that the gardens may serve a useful purpose in addition to being attractive to the eye.

2. The Commissioner's proposals in regard to the arrangement of the new herbarium seem to be judicious. Major Beddome is requested to furnish the collection of specimens which the Commissioner is desirous of obtaining, so far as he is able.

3. The Government are unable to pass any orders in regard to the removal of the conservatory in the absence of information as to the estimated cost of the project. The building is unsightly, and its removal would undoubtedly be a great improvement. The Government will be prepared to consider the scheme on receipt of detailed estimates and plans of the structure which it is proposed to erect.

4. The Commissioner's suggestions in paragraph 7 for the encouragement of the cultivation of China grass are approved.

5. The Government are glad to learn from paragraph 26 of the Superintendent's report that the Ipecacuanha plants in the Burliar garden are thriving, and that their number has increased to nine. The success which has so far attended the experiment will be communicated to the Government of India with an application for a further supply of plants whenever available.

6. An annual grant of Rs. 500 for the purpose specified in paragraph 6 of the Commissioner's letter is sanctioned. Orders for the appropriation of the funds will be issued in the Financial Department.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Secretary to Government.

To the Commissioner of the Nilgiris.
" the Conservator of Forests.
" the Accountant-General.
" the Financial Department.

Encl. F. E. Battenan.

No 36. 20/5/72. Govt Gardens Ootacamund 15th May 1872

From The Superintendent Govt Gardens

To F. W. Brooks Esqre Commissioner Ootacamund

Sir

I have the honor to submit herewith for early transmission to Government, my Annual report on the Progress and Condition of the Government Botanical Gardens Ootacamund for the Year 1871-72.

I have the honor to be Sir Your most obedient Servant

Superintendent Govt Gardens

Report on the progress and Condition of the Government Botanical Gardens, Otaeamunu, for the year 1871-72.

1. During the year just elapsed extensive alterations and improvements have been effected.

2. The principal operations were the entire remodelling and laying out of the lower portion of the Gardens, and the Construction of a carriage drive 870 yards in length, and 24 feet in breadth, which was completed in June last and entailed a Considerable amount of labor and expense, as metal and gravel had to be carted a great distance. The formation of this road has tended to make the Gardens more popular and is largely taken advantage of by visitors. The walk to the upper Gardens being now so much shorter. Its formation and maintenance has Considerably increased the expenditure, and a good deal of labor will always be required to keep it in proper order. The preservation of roads where there is a heavy rainfall being always troublesome.

3. The main walk leading from the entrance gate to the Conservatory has been reduced from 40 feet in width to 17 feet, which has much improved the appearance of the Garden. This walk has been divided

divided in the middle by a flight of steps 4 feet in height extending the breadth of the walk which is nearly level from the gate to the steps, and from this it has an easy gradiant to the Conservatory. A sloping turf bank runs from the steps to the Carriage drive on each side.

4. The entire lawns extending from the large ornamental pond to the gate were forked over levelled and planted with English grass. The sub-soil of the lower Garden is a black peaty soil and very retentive of moisture, Consequently injurious to the roots of trees producing feebleness and disease, to remedy this the whole of this portion was thoroughly drained and the trees already show perceptible improvement in their growth and appearance aided by the forking and renewing of the surface soil and the draining of stagnant water from their roots. By reducing the width of the centre walk the area of grass has been much increased and as a Garden always looks meagre without a good open lawn, several trees and groups of shrubs were removed so that those remaining are irregularly arranged. In some places to make the lawn appear larger the plan of turfing close around the stems of trees was adopted. Lawns are easier kept and have a more pleasing effect than a multiplicity of walks in a

Garden

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9. The walk leading from the Conservatory to the band stand terrace has been much improved by raising it 3 feet in the middle, so that it is now nearly level. Where this walk intersects the carriage drive, there is a flight of steps with a rockery on each side planted with succulent and Alpine plants, and about 20 yards of the adjoining bank fenced with Juniperus procumbens.

10. All the ponds in the Garden (with the exception of the large one) were emptied last season, and cleared of weeds, and the banks planted with ornamental grasses and a handsome species of Bamboo from China.

11. The fish house on the lawn behind the Conservatory and a number of walks, and decayed Shrubberies have been removed, and the entire lawn levelled and remodelled. The improvement here is quite apparent by the extension and enlargement of the lawn, a good deal yet remains to be done in the formation and planting of beds of Evergreen and flowering shrubs, and a few Picturesque Groups of trees.

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piece of ground near the centre of the Gardens, where upwards of 50 of the finest varieties of roses lately introduced from Europe and Bangalore will be cultivated and arranged in beds according to Color and Correctly labelled.

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15. During the Course of the season by the desire of His Excellency the Governor and the Members of Council a large number of old and decaying jungle trees were felled and removed, which has materially improved and opened up the Gardens. From many parts there is now a pleasing view of the outside Country and several good individual specimen trees are seen to greater advantage. The beauty of a Garden Consists in the scenery being varied and the plants distributed so as to produce variety and Contrast. To effect this there has been planted in prominent places groups of Begonia fuchsioides and Jasmine Herbetii which when grown together in one mass will create a striking impression by their showy flowers and foliage.

16. The appearance of the upper garden has been much improved by doing away with the large beds on the sloping banks, these beds being intended for flowering plants were unavoidably vacant for several of the dry months during the year, and destroyed the Continuousness and extent

extent of the lawn, and produced a poverty of general effect. These slopes have been forked over and will be replanted with English grass, and where there is space there will be planted handsome specimens of the finer varieties of Coniferous and other Evergreen trees, and along the side of the roads ornamental shrubs from Japan and Australia, many new varieties of which have been added to our collection during the past year.

17. The damage done to the Fern house by the Cyclone on the 7th. of last November has been repaired and the house refilled with ferns. The walls have been pointed with Chunam outside and inside to strengthen them as much as possible. As regards light and ventilation this house was very defective, this has been remedied (as far as could be done without pulling down and rebuilding the entire house), by putting a number of new sashes with ventilators in the walls and roof, so that the house can now be ventilated to greater advantage. If the Conservatory should be removed at any future time I would recommend that it should be re-erected on the site of the present fern house and devoted entirely to the cultivation of ferns, as the present structure is too small to accommodate our rapidly increasing stock of these beautiful and truly popular plants.

18. During last season large numbers of specimen Evergreen trees and shrubs were transplanted in various parts of the Garden including a number of large Camellia plants and it is satisfactory to note that none of them have died, but are all growing vigorously, notwithstanding the excessive and unusual drought experienced, during the early part of this year. A good deal has also been done in improving the cultivation and classification of plants in the Garden with the view of affording increased instruction and facilities to the public.

19. In the course of last year extensive additions have been made to the Collection of plants particularly in Ferns, Roses, Ornamental trees and bulbs, the fern collection in these Gardens now contains upwards of 200 species and varieties, these additions have been made at little or no cost by means of Correspondence and Exchanges with similar establishments in Europe and in this Country.

20. The chief aim of this Garden should be the introduction, preservation, and culture of useful timber trees, Ornamental Shrubs, and flowering plants, and to encourage and stimulate an interest in horticulture. This could be done

done to a much greater extent than at present were Government to allow a certain sum of money annually say Rupees 500 for the purchase and introduction of living specimens of fruit, trees, and novelties in flowering plants that are likely to succeed in this climate.

21. The new Seed house and Herbarium now being erected at the gate by Captain Morant R.E. are rapidly advancing towards Completion. These buildings when Completed will unquestionably be a great acquisition to the Gardens, as the want of a seed house in a convenient part of the Garden was very much felt. The Herbarium is a very necessary adjunct and will add much to the usefulness of the Garden when stocked with dried specimens of plants Indigenous to Southern India and especially those of the Nilgiris, it will afford a museum for reference and Scientific study.

22. As suggested by the Commissioner of the Nilgiris in his letter No 66 of the 15th March 1871, a priced Catalogue of trees, shrubs, flowering plants and seeds has been carefully prepared and is now in the printers hands and will be ready for circulation in the course of a few weeks. They will be sold at the rate of four annas per Copy to cover the cost of printing. In accordance with the Commissioner's suggestions the prices charged for plants were considerably reduced in the early part of last year, and the results have been most satisfactory. The nett receipts from sales of seeds and plants amounting to nearly one third more than the average of the past 5 years.

23. Great attention having been paid during the year to the propagation of plants most in demand. The Nurseries now Contain an extensive stock of healthy young plants of all kinds, which will allow of their being sold this season at even lower rates than those of last year. My object has been to introduce and propagate new varieties of plants at the lowest possible cost and sell them at prices that will repay the actual outlay incurred in their introduction and propagation giving a reasonable profit to help to meet the working expenses and up-keep of the Gardens.

24. In the early part of last year by desire of the Commissioner Nurseries were formed and filled with cuttings and young plants of the China grass (Boehmeria nivea) all of which have made very satisfactory growth, many of the young plants have produced stems from 4 to 6 feet in height. The natural soil around Ootacamund is too poor and the elevation too high to cultivate this plant as

as a remunerative article, but I feel certain that in the Coffee districts of Wynaad where there is a rich loamy and moist climate it could be cultivated with great success and 4 or 5 crops could be obtained from the same roots in one year. The plants are easily propagated from cuttings, layers or division of the roots. The nurseries in the Garden now contain several thousands of young plants which might be sold or distributed to planters wishing to try its cultivation.

25. In November last I took over charge of the branch Gardens at Burliar, Nilgherry, and Coonoor from Mr Scott, and since then have made various alterations and improvements in these Gardens.

26. The Burliar Garden has been thoroughly trenched and extensive nurseries formed for the propagation of Mangosteen, Nutmeg, Clove, Cocoa, and various kinds of tropical fruits. These nurseries will be stocked with young plants as soon as the rains set in for which several Planters have already made application. The three Ipecacuanha plants that were planted in this Garden in the early part of last year are now increased to nine and are making very satisfactory growth, they are planted under dense shade in a deep rich vegetable soil, conditions which seem essential to their successful cultivation.

I feel certain that these plants could be successfully cultivated in this Garden and think it desirable that a number of plants should be procured from England or the Royal Botanic Gardens Calcutta so as to give the experiment a fair trial.

27. The old and exhausted nurseries in the Nilgherry Gardens have been removed and new ones formed and filled with large numbers of young Pear, Apple, Peach and Orange trees, a large portion of this Garden will be devoted during this season to the cultivation of flowers and vegetable seeds, Acclimatized seeds when well ripened and carefully collected are in greater demand and give more satisfaction than seeds imported from Europe.

28. There has been no alterations made in the branch Garden at Coonoor. It will be advertised for sale as soon as the Survey plan is prepared.

29. In carrying out the various works in the Gardens I have received considerable assistance from Mr Stevenson Overseer who was appointed in September last, he has shown much interest in his work and readiness to carry out my wishes. In the Office and Seed house M. Ramanjulu Naidu has given me the greatest satisfaction in the performance of his duties.

30. During the past year a large number of ornamental Pines and Cupressus of different varieties were supplied to the Commissioner for planting in various parts of the Station, also several hundreds of trees, shrubs and flowering plants were supplied free of charge for the Church yards of Ptacamund and Wellington.

31. In the course of the year living plants and seeds have been interchanged with the Royal Botanic Gardens Kew, Thirkeri. Horticultural Societies Gardens Madras. The Mysore Agri-Horticultural Society. The Royal Botanical Gardens Calcutta, and several private individuals in different parts of this Country.

32. To the following gentlemen we are indebted for valuable contributions to the Gardens. Colonel Douglas Hamilton, a large Collection of Australian Tree, Shrub and Flower seeds. Sir William Mc Arthur Sydney, a large and valuable collection of Strawberry plants, these demand special notice as they include the finest varieties in cultivation and are likely to succeed in our climate. Dr Hooker C.B. a case of East Indian Orchids and British ferns. Major Beddome rare ferns and Australian seeds. Colonel Benson Burmese Orchids. Captain Onslow several new varieties of Angraecums and Liliums. Colonel Boddam an extensive collection of valuable flower and vegetable seeds. Honorable I.D. Linn C.S.I. seeds of Antigonum leptopus and plants of Selaginellas. Mr Medows an interesting collection of Himalayan orchids, Gloxinias, Arums, and Grasses. Colonel Denison several species of British ferns.

33. In concluding this report I have to acknowledge the ready Co-operation and assistance received from the Commissioner of the Nilgiris, and the interest he has shewn in the improvement and development of these Gardens.

Government Gardens
Ootacamund
15th May 1872

A. Jamieson
Superintendent
Govt Bot. Gardens

Table shewing the distribution of Seeds and Plants from the Government Botanical Gardens for 1871/72

Month	Fruit Trees	Timber trees	Flowers and shrubs	Packets of Seeds	Value		
April 1871			165	164	91	8	
May "	30	122	987	512	335	3	
June "		302	636	282	280	1	
July "		98	703	104	125	9	
August "	48		1937	332	232	8	
September "		36	1313	201	388		
October "		6	619	271	185	1	
November "	1006	297	2154	72	385	14	
December "	84		262	164	96	5	6
January 1872			299	116	66	8	
February "	12	1	201	77	106	3	
March "			164	150	61	6	
Total	1180	862	9.770	2475	2354	2	6

Government Gardens
Colombo
15th May 1872

Superintendent
Govt Botl Gardens

Abstract of Receipts and Expenditure of Government Botanical Gardens for the year 1871-72

Month and Date	Particulars of Receipts	Amount		Total	
1871 April 1	By Cash in Bank	970	13 2		
	" " on hand	6	13 4	977	10 8
	" " received from the sale of Seeds & plants	122	9 .		
May	" " Do Do	182	8 .		
June	" " Do Do	288	6 .		
July	" " Do Do	131	6 .		
August	" " Do Do	98	1 .		
Septr	" " Do Do	326	13 .		
Octr	" " Do Do	199	10 6		
Novr	" " Do Do	147	11 6		
Decr	" " Do Do	274	. .		
Janry 72	" " Do Do	97	7 6		
Febry	" " Do Do	28	12 .		
March	" " Do Do	132	1 .	2029	6 6
	" Pay of Fixed Establishment of the Govt Gardens for the year 1871-72	1830	. .	1830	. .
Novr 1871	" Amount sanctioned by Govt as per G.O. No 1585 of 31st August 1871	1000	. .	1000	. .
Decr	" Cash from the Mint Govt being the balance of the sum drawn on account of Burliar Gardens	312	. .	312	. .
Febry 1872	" Amount sanctioned by Govt as per G.O. No 95 of 16th Jany 1872	200	. .	200	. .
	Total Rupees			6377	12

Government Gardens
Vacarmund
15th May 1872

Month and Date	Particulars of Expenditure	Amount		Total	
1871 April	To Cash paid to the Carriage of Plants and Seeds	132	15 4		
	" to Discount on Cheques & Stamps	7	4 1		
	" to Powder &c for destroying wild animal	12	. .		
	" to Blasting powder	7	. .		
	" to the Repair of buildings	92	12 1		
	" to Stationery	47	6 .		
	" to Postage on letters & Parcheis	22	6 .		
	" to Peons Clothing	28	4 .		
	" to Watering Cans	46	8 .		
	" to the Purchase of Tools	84	11 4		
	" to Do of Seeds	15	10 .		
	" to Do of Bulbs	51	2 10		
	" to Do of Mowing Machine	107	12 8		
	" to Do of Cast Iron Seed Chest	12	. .		
	" to Do of Flower Pots	43	8 .		
	" to Do of New Roses	10	14 8		
	" to the Repair of Tools	16	2 .		
	" to the Packing of plants Roses &c	38	9 .		
	" to Various	58	7 6	885	8 6
	" to Superintendents House allowance	240	. .	240	. .
	" to the Pay of Gardens Fixed Establishment	822	. .		
	" to Do of Chubbutty Gardens	82	8 .		
	" to Do of Coonoor Do	62	8 .	967	. .
	" to Gardners & Coolies	3683	9 .	3683	9 .
March 1872	" Cash in the Bank	548	11 6		
	" on hand	86	9 2	6334	8
	Total Rupees			6377	12

Superintendent
Govt Bot Gardens

Dec. 1807

39

I therefore think it for the
Comm. Advantage
that I should
encourage the P. to
proceed by writing
to the Indian the
next in succession
of age, except absent
or sick
for Marriage & leaving
provided he goes to
Washington & confers
personally with them.

Yrs. A. Gallatin

Revenue Department

No. 936.

Proceedings of the Madras Government

Under date the 13th June 1872

Read the following

letter from the Comm.r

Nilgiris

Subj.t the Superin.-
dents Report on the Govt.
Botanical Gardens for the
year 1871/72.

} M.E. 28th May 1872 No. 291

L. D.S

The progress
which has been made
in laying out the Bo-
tanical Gardens during
the year under Report
is highly creditable
to Mr. Jamieson

and

of information
as to the estimated
cost of the project.
The building is
unsightly and its
removal would
undoubtedly be
a great improvement

The Government
will be prepared
to consider the
scheme on receipt
of detailed Estimates
and plans of the structure
which it is proposed
to erect.

The Colonial Secretary

5. ~~Instructions~~
suggestions in regard
to the encouragement
of the cultivation of
China grass are approved
6. The Govt are
pleased to learn from
para 26 of the Superintendents
Minute report that the
Specimen plants
in the Burlia Garden
are thriving and that
their number has increased
to nine. The success
which has so far attended
the experiment will be
communicated to the
Govt of India with an
application for a
further supply of plants
whenever available
An annual
grant of Rs 100 for the
purpose specified in
para 6 of the Commissioners letter is sanctioned. Orders for
the

the appropriation of the Funds will be issued in the Financial Dept. H.D.

8. The impropriety of the concluding para of the Superintendent's report penned by an Officer in Mr Jamieson's position should be pointed out to him by Mr Brecks...

[signature] Cal.

Officiating [signature] Thomas

The Commr. will direct Mr Jamieson to cancel para 33 of his report in the copy sent to the Govt. Gardens for 1871-72 & write pointing out to him the impropriety of such remarks by a subordinate in his position in regard to the [illegible] of his superiors.

The para will be struck out from the copy of the report forwarded to Govt. & it will be expunged from that in the Commr's Office.

[signature]

I would simply omit the para. i.e. strike it out - and tell Mr Brecks demi officially to point out the impropriety. Otherwise we shall be recording what is objectionable!

[initials]

3 To the Commissioner of the Kumaon Div. No. 17 June
13 " Conservator of Forests S
6 " Accountant General S
5 " Financial Dept. S

[initials]

[initials]

[signature]

