M.R.O. 1—77,006—8-6-37.

(1) Number of pages 14

(2) Date of repair 20-6-38.

(3) Initials of the Reference

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 466 Press / Mis.

Dated 1-4- 18 34

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
1st April 1874.

No. 1. Read the following letter from J. R. COCKERELL, Esq., Commissioner of the Nilgiris, to C. G. MASTER, Esq., Acting Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Fort St. George, dated Ootacamund, 21st March 1874, No. 24:—

WITH reference to Government orders, Revenue Department, dated 9th and 17th January, respectively, I have the honour to submit the report desired by the Government of Bombay on the Cinchona plantations at Mahableshwar.

2. Mr. McIvor states the plants do very well up to four years of age when canker attacks them, and none survive ten years. He attributes the decay of the plants after they have passed the early stages of growth to the long dry weather at Mahableshwar, and expresses a reluctant opinion that the plantations cannot profitably be kept up.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From W. G. McIVOR, Esq., Superintendent of the Government Cinchona Plantations, to J. R. COCKERELL, Esq., Commissioner of the Nilgiris, dated Ootacamund, 17th March 1874, No. 113.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that, in compliance with G. O., No. 79, dated 17th January 1874, at the end of February I visited the Cinchona plantation of the Government of Bombay situated at Lingmala near Mahableshwar.

2. I had the advantage of being able to inspect the plantation in company with Dr. Bell, the Superintendent of Mahableshwar, and Mr. Woodrow, the Superintendent of the Botanical Gardens, and received from these gentlemen much valuable information.

3. The site of the plantation has been well chosen with reference to soil and exposure, and the situation in every respect appears to be the best that could have been selected for the successful growth of Cinchona. A high state of cultivation is also maintained, and the plants appear to have received from the first the utmost care and attention. Still the condition of the older plants are unsatisfactory. It is, therefore, with the deepest regret that I am constrained to give an opinion adverse to the profitable development of Cinchona cultivation on the Mahableshwar Hills.

4. In addition to the Government plantation, I visited the several gardens where Cinchona had been planted by private cultivators, and, in every instance, found the plants above four years of age in quite as unpromising condition as those on the Government plantation.

5. I learn from Dr. Bell that, at the date of my visit, there were on the Government plantation 13,416 plants of *C. Succirubra* or red bark and 491 plants of *C. Condamenia* or crown bark, in all 13,907 plants, permanently planted out, and a number of fine young plants in the nurseries. The plants in permanent plantation are placed close together at distances I should estimate giving from 1,800 to 2,500 plants to the acre. The total amount of expenditure incurred in the formation of the plantation is, I understand, about Rs. 60,000.

6. These plantations were commenced in 1863-64 under the superintendence of Mr. Falke, who visited the Nilgiris in 1863, and conveyed a number of plants to Mahableshwar, which were planted out early in 1864. On the 8th March 1865, Dr. H. Cooke, at that time the Superintendent of Mahableshwar, writes: "The Cinchona plants received from you last year have thriven, and many have attained a height of between three and four feet." Up to 1868, I received favourable account of the growth of these plants. At the date of my visit, however, it was doubtful whether only one or three of these plants still existed. These three plants, whether all of the planting of 1864 or of the planting of 1865, are in an unhealthy condition, and one of the plants was almost dead. In fact, of old well-grown plants very few remained upon the plantation, and all that I saw were more or less unhealthy. With the young plants the case was different. They were in the highest state of health, and their growth perhaps more luxuriant than I have

observed elsewhere. This state of fine health and vigorous growth seems to continue until the fourth year of age of the plant, and then canker makes its appearance much in the same way as in the Travancore District. But another type of the disease is more prevalent here, viz., the drying up of the bark and of the wood without any apparent previous disorganization. All the accompaniments of true canker are, however, present in the sap of the plant. In these plantations the canker attacks the stem of the plant in all positions; sometimes at only a few inches above the ground, but more generally between the forks of the first branches. Here the bark shrinks and dries up or cracks and scales off, the disease penetrating deeper and deeper into the bark and tissue of the wood, thus causing the decay of the plant above the diseased spot, while fresh shoots are thrown out from below. These fresh shoots are soon again attacked by disease, and with what fatal consequences is shown by the fact that there scarcely still exists a plant of those originally planted out in 1864.

7. In the private gardens, which I visited, the plants were exactly in the same condition. These plantations appear to have been carefully cultivated, yet all the old plants were either dead or dying. These facts forced upon my mind the conviction that the profitable cultivation of Cinchona in the climate of the Mahableshwar Hills is hopeless. The length of the drought succeeded by such an excess of moisture is what I attribute the prevalence of canker to. The young plants, at the present time so very promising, will yet, I fear, ultimately share the same fate as their predecessors.

No. 2. ORDER THEREON, 1st April 1874, No. 406.

Miscellaneous.

From Chief Secretary, Bombay, No. 4,205, dated 17th December 1873.
To Chief Secretary, Bombay, No. 80, dated 17th January 1874.

ORDERED that Mr. McIvor's report be communicated to the Government of Bombay in continuance of the correspondence noted in the margin.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) C. G. MASTER,
Acting Secretary to Government.

To the Commissioner of the Nilgiris.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

Govt. of {1874 Madras.

REVENUE.

To

The COMMISSIONER of the NILGIRIS

Dated April 1st.

Recd.

Encl.

G. O., 1st April 1874, No. 406

APRIL.

Nos. 1-2.

Cinchona Plantation at Mahableshwar.—
Orders communication to Bombay Government
Mr. McIvor's report regarding the —.

Government Gardens
Ootacamund 17th March 1874

No. 113

From,

W. G. Mc. Ivor Esq.
Supt. Govt. Chinchona Plantations

To,

J. R. Cockerell Esq.
Commissioner of the Nilgiris
Ootacamund

Sir,

I have the honor to inform you that in compliance with G. O. No. 79 dated 11th January 1874, at the end of February I visited the Chinchona Plantation of the Government of Bombay situated at Lingmala near Mahableshwar.

2 I had the advantage of being able to inspect the plantation in company with Dr. Bell the Superintendent of Mahableshwar, and Mr. Woodrow the Superintendent of the Botanical Gardens, and received from these gentlemen much valuable information.

3 The site of the plantation has been well chosen with reference to so

and exposure, and the situation in every respect appears to be the best that could have been selected for the successful growth of Chinchona. A high state of cultivation is also maintained, and the plants appear to have received from the first the utmost care and attention. Still the condition of the older plants are unsatisfactory. It is therefore with the deepest regret that I am constrained to give an opinion adverse to the profitable development of Chinchona cultivation on the Mahableshwar Hills.

4 In addition to the Govt. plantation, I visited the several gardens where Chinchona had been planted by private cultivators and in every instance found the plants above 4 years of age in quite as promising condition as those on the Government plantation.

5 I learn from Dr. Bell that at the date of my visit there were on the Govt. plantation 13,416 plants of C. Succirubra or Red Bark and 491 plants of C. Condaminia or Crown Bark, in all, 13,907 plants permanently planted out,

and a number of fine young plants in the nurseries. The plants in permanent plantation are placed close together at distances I should estimate giving from 1800 to 2,500 plants to the acre. The total amount of expenditure incurred in the formation of the plantation is I understand about Rs. 60,000.

6 These plantations were commenced in 1863/64 under the Superintendence of Mr. Talke who visited the Neilgherries in 1863 and conveyed a number of plants to Mahableshwar which were planted out early in 1864. On the 8th March 1865 Dr. H. Cooke at that time the Superintendent of Mahableshwar writes, "The Chinchona plants "received from you last year have "thriven, and many have attained a "height of between three and four "feet". Up to 1868 I received favorable account of the growth of these plants. At the date of my visit however, it was doubtful whether only one or three of these plants still existed. These three

plants whether all of the planting of 1864 or of the planting of 1865 are in an unhealthy condition, and one of the plants was almost dead. In fact of old well grow plants very few remained upon the plantation, and all that I saw were more or less unhealthy. With the young plants the case was different. They were in the highest state of health and their growth perhaps more luxuriant than I have observed elsewhere. This state of fine health and vigorous growth seems to continue until the 4th year of age of the plant, and the Canker makes its appearance much in the same way as in the Travancore District. But another type of the disease is more prevalent here, viz: the dying of the bark and of the wood without any apparent previous disorganization. All the accompaniments of true Canker are however present in the sap of the plant. In these plantations the Canker attacks the stem of the plant in all positions, sometimes at only a few inches

inches above the ground, but more generally between the forks of the 1st & 2nd branches. Here the bark shrinks and dries up or cracks and scales off, the disease penetrating deeper and deeper into the bark and tissue of the wood, thus causing the decay of the plant above the diseased spot while fresh shoots are thrown out from below. These fresh shoots are soon again attacked by disease and with what fatal consequences is shewn by the fact that there scarcely still exists a plant of those originally planted out in 1864.

7 In the private gardens which I visited, the plants were exactly in the same condition. These plantations appear to have been carefully cultivated, yet, all the old plants were either dead or dying. These facts forced upon my mind the conviction that the profitable cultivation of Chinchona in the climate of the Mahableshwar Hills is hopeless. The length of the drought succeeded by

such an excess of moisture are what I attribute the prevalence of Canker to. The young plants at the present time so very promising, will yet, I fear ultimately share the same fate as their predecessors.

I have the honor to be
Sir,
Your most obed.t Servant

P. S. M. Ker

Supt. Govt. Chinchona Plantns

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE,

Ootacamund, 21st January 1874.

No. 24

FROM J. R. Lockerell Esqr
COMMISSIONER, NILGIRIS.

TO The Acting Secretary
to Government -
Revenue Depat
~~Fort St George~~

SIR,

With reference to Government orders
Revenue Depat dated 9th and 14th January respect-
-ively I have the honor to submit the report desired
by the Government of Bombay on the cinchona
plantations at Mahableshwar

2. Dr Dee has stated the plants do very
well up to 4 years of age when canker attacks
them and none survive 10 years. He attributes the
decay of the plants after they have passed the
early stages of growth to the long dry weather
at Mahableshwar and expresses a reluctant
opinion that the plantations cannot profitably
be kept up.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedt Servt

J. R. Lockerell
Commissioner

1874

From The Secretary Govt. Chin. Plantations
Ootacamund
To The Commissioner
Nilgiris

Dated 13th March 1874
Read. 20th do
No 113

Report on the Chinchona
Plantations at Kengunda
near Mahableshwar.

Rx 947/74
Dy. No 1 Copies/74
Ex 13 No 271 & 272

G. O. 9 Sally 1874 No. 63-64
17 ———— 151-52

Revenue 1874 Dept.

No. 24 No. 947

Date—21st March /74

Recd. 23d ——

Commissioner's Office,
Ootacamund.

To

The Secy. to Government
Revenue Dept.
Madras

Enclosures. 1 Do.

Cinchona

SUBJECT.

Submitting report on the Plantation at Mahableshwar

23 | 3

G. O. No. 406 — 18 April /74

With orders

No. 406

Nic

Ordered that Mr. Law's report be communicated to the Government of Bombay in continuance of the correspondence noted in the margin.

From Chief Secy. B. No. 4205 d: 17 Dec. 73
From do. No. 80 d: 17 Jan. 74

18 April 1874