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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

REVENUE DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. / ~~B.P. No.~~	1236	Press / ~~Mis.~~
Dated	29-9-1874	~~196~~

Not to be folded or roughly handled

1236

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
29th September 1874.

No. 263. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 25th August 1874, No. 2,372 :—

Read again order of Government, dated 29th January 1874, No. 130.

Read also the following letters :—

From the Collector of	Ganjam,	dated	5th May	1874, No.	1,107.
„ „	of Vizagapatam,	„	4th June	„ „	796.
„ „	of Godavery,	„	1st „	„ „	158.
„ „	of Kistna,	„	8th May	„ „	784.
„ „	of Nellore,	„	7th July	„ „	1,458.
„ „	of Bellary,	„	10th June	„ „	183.
„ „	of Cuddapah,	„	8th July	„ „	157.
„ „	of Kurnool,	„	26th June	„ „	236.
„ „	of Chingleput,	„	17th April	„ „	150.
„ „	of North Arcot,	„	24th March	„ „	166.
„ „	of South Arcot,	„	6th June	„ „	269.
„ „	of Tanjore,	„	27th March	„ „	74.
„ „	of Trichinopoly,	„	30th June	„ „	152.
„ „	of Madura,	„	6th July	„ „	188.
„ „	of Tinnevelly,	„	11th April	„ „	194.
„ „	of Coimbatore,	„	6th July	„ „	158.
„ Commissioner of	Nilgiris,	„	18th June	„ „	51.
„ the Collector of	Salem,	„	23th May	„ „	181.
„ the „	of South Canara,	„	11th June	„ „	1,086.
„ the „	of Malabar,	„	24th March	„ „	66.

In their Proceedings of 15th January 1874, No. 60, the Board submitted to Government a proposal made by the Collector of Coimbatore to grant waste land free of assessment for two years when covered with prickly-pear, on condition that the prickly-pear should be cleared away within that time.

2. Government, in their Order of 29th January, approved of the scheme, and expressed their readiness to allow a longer period of free tenure if necessary. The Board referred the subject to all Collectors for report, remarking, at the same time, that a two-year cowle might not be a sufficient inducement to the ryots to clear away the plant in some districts. The foregoing replies to this reference are now submitted to Government for their orders on the subject.

3. Most of the Collectors propose a five-year cowle which should be, according to some, altogether free, while others would impose a progressive assessment.

4. The Collectors of Kurnool and South Arcot propose a five-year cowle, on condition that, if the land be not cleared within that period, the cowle shall lapse, and the holder be held liable for the ordinary assessment on the land.

5. The Board would recommend a modification of the above proposal, and would grant cowles varying in time from five to ten years, free of assessment, at the discretion of the Collector. The Board consider that some stipulation as to the extent of land to be cleared yearly should be entered in the cowle; thus, in a five-year cowle it should be made a condition that one-fifth of the land should be cleared yearly, the forfeiture of the cowle being the penalty of nonfulfilment of this condition.

6. The Collector of Nellore again states his opinion that an enactment is required to prevent the planting of prickly-pear; but Government have already* concurred with the Board in considering that legislation is not called for in the matter, and, at the same time, observed that individuals allowing the growth of prickly-pear on their land to become a nuisance are amenable to the law, as it stands.

* G. O., 15th July 1872, No. 1,064.

7. It is also by no means certain that prickly-pear can be regarded altog... as an unmitigated nuisance; for, apart from its use as fodder for cattle, it is undoub... a valuable agent in fixing the drift sands on the coast, and the Board believe that, when the time arrives for utilising these tracts, it will be found that the buried mass of Cactus has formed a soil more or less valuable.

8. The Collector of South Canara, who, in 1866, drew attention to the use of prickly-pear as food for cattle, again brings forward the subject, and laments the absence of the plant in his district.

9. The Board resolve to forward copies of the papers marginally noted (containing the correspondence which passed in 1866 regarding the use of Cactus as fodder) to the Superintendent, Government Farm, for consideration at his leisure.

Board's Proceedings, 30th July 1866, No. 5,223.
" " 20th Aug. " " 5,898.
" " 18th Sept. " " 6,661.

No. 264. ORDER THEREON, 29th September 1874, No. 1,236.

Land Revenue, No. 13.

THE recommendations of the Board in paragraph 5 of the foregoing Proceedings are approved.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

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Original.

Govt. Order No. 2372
Dated 25 August 1874.

REVENUE.

From

The BOARD of REVENUE.

To

Govt.

Dated September 1874.

Rect.

G. O. No. 2372, September 1874, No. 1,923.

Encl

SEPTEMBER.
Nos. 263-264.

Price Annas one and Pie Half per—Apply for Reports proposed to grant cowles, with certain stipulations, for—for periods varying from 5 to 10 years, free of assessment, on condition that the prickly-pear be cleared away within that time.

12 3b/3

No. 2,372.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 25th August 1874.

Read again order of Government, dated 29th January 1874, No. 130.

Read also the following letters:—

From the Collector of Ganjam,	dated	5th May	1874,	No.	1,107.
" " of Vizagapatam,	"	4th June	"	"	796.
" " of Godavery,	"	1st "	"	"	153.
" " of Kistna,	"	5th May	"	"	164.
" " of Nellore,	"	7th July	"	"	1,458.
" " of Bellary,	"	10th June	"	"	183.
" " of Cuddapah,	"	8th July	"	"	157.
" " of Kurnool,	"	26th June	"	"	230.
" " of Chingleput,	"	17th April	"	"	150.
" " of North Arcot,	"	24th March	"	"	166.
" " of South Arcot,	"	6th June	"	"	269.
" " of Tanjore,	"	27th March	"	"	74.
" " of Trichinopoly,	"	20th June	"	"	152.
" " of Madura,	"	6th July	"	"	183.
" " of Tinnevelly,	"	11th April	"	"	194.
" " of Coimbatore,	"	6th July	"	"	158.
" Commissioner of Nilgiris,	"	18th June	"	"	51.
" the Collector of Salem,	"	23th May	"	"	161.
" the " of South Canara,	"	11th June	"	"	1,686.
" the " of Malabar,	"	24th March	"	"	86.

In their Proceedings of 15th January 1874, No. 60, the Board submitted to Government a proposal made by the Collector of Coimbatore to grant waste land free of assessment for two years when covered with prickly-pear, on condition that the prickly-pear should be cleared away within that time.

2. Government, in their Order of 29th January, approved of the scheme, and expressed their readiness to allow a longer period of free tenure if necessary. The Board referred the subject to all Collectors for report, remarking, at the same time, that a two-year cowle might not be a sufficient inducement to the ryots to clear away the plant in some districts. The foregoing replies to this reference are now submitted to Government for their orders on the subject.

3. Most of the Collectors propose a five-year cowle which should be, according to some, altogether free, while others would impose a progressive assessment.

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5. The Board would recommend a modification of the above proposal, and would grant cowles varying in time from five to ten years, free of assessment, at the discretion of the Collector. The Board consider that some stipulation as to the extent of land to be cleared yearly should be entered in the cowle; thus, in a five-year cowle it should be made a condition that one-fifth of the land should be cleared yearly, the forfeiture of the cowle being the penalty of nonfulfilment of this condition.

6. The Collector of Nellore again states his opinion that an enactment is required to prevent the planting of prickly-pear; but Government have already concurred with the Board in considering that legislation is not called for in the matter, and, at the same time, observed that individuals allowing the growth of prickly-pear on their land to become a nuisance are amenable to the law, as it stands.

G. O., 15th July 1872, No. 1,064.

7. It is also by no means certain that prickly-pear can be regarded altogether as an unmitigated nuisance; for, apart from its use as fodder for cattle, it is undoubtedly a valuable agent in fixing the drift sands on the coast, and the Board believe that, when the time arrives for utilizing these tracts, it will be found that the buried mass of Cactus has formed a soil more or less valuable.

8. The Collector of South Canara, who, in 1866, drew attention to the use of prickly-pear as food for cattle, again brings forward the subject, and laments the absence of the plant in his district.

9. The Board resolve to forward copies of the papers marginally noted (containing the correspondence which passed in 1866 regarding the use of Cactus as fodder) to the Superintendent, Government Farm, for consideration at his leisure.

Board's Proceedings, 30th July 1866, No. 5,223.
" " 20th Aug. " 5,893.
" " 13th Sept. " 6,661.

(A true Extract.)

R. Grade
Secretary.

To the Acting Secretary to Government, Revenue Department,
with original Replies of Collectors.
" the Superintendent, Government Farms, with copies of Board's Proceedings,
dated 30th July 1866, No. 5,223, 20th August 1866, No. 5,893,
and 18th September 1866, No. 6,661.
" all Collectors.

Ed. F. H. Bartleman.

263-264
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No. 3197-
No. 1513
Revenue 1874. Department
Board of Revenue,
MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 25TH AUGUST 1874, No. 2,372.

Dup 12 Sept 74 Encl. 2

Received 14 September

JULY.
No. 2,372.

Waste Lands covered with Prickly-pear.—Replies of Collectors to Board's Proceedings, dated 24th February 1874, No. 408, on subject of grant of — free of assessment for five years, as an inducement to ryots to clear away the plant, submitted to Government with Board's recommendation that cowles may be granted free of assessment varying in time from five to ten years at the discretion of Collectors. Copies of certain papers regarding use of Cactus as fodder, forwarded to Superintendent, Government Farms, for consideration at his leisure. Order No. 1236 The recommendations of the Board in para 6 of the foregoing Proceedings are approved