H.R.O. 1—27,000—4-9-31.

(1) Number of pages _____

(2) Date of repair _____

3. Initials of the Reference _____

1

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 117 Press Mrs.

Dated 27 / / 1926.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 239. Read the following letter from J. R. COCKERELL, Esq., Commissioner of the Nilgiris, to D. F. CARMICHAEL, Esq., Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Fort Saint George, dated Ootacamund, 21st January 1876, No. 4 :—

I HAVE the honor to submit, for favorable consideration, a letter to my address from Mr. McIvor suggesting that he should be permitted to visit Ceylon on duty next month in order to make himself acquainted with the condition of the Cinchona enterprise in that Island.

2. Mr. McIvor need not be absent more than a month or five weeks.

3. By G.O., 10th December 1870, No. 1,998, Revenue Department, Mr. McIvor was authorised to visit the plantations in Bengal on duty.

4. It is obvious that if the yield of the Cinchona tree in Ceylon is as Mr. McIvor is informed, it is important the Government should have the facts officially before them with reference to the policy to be pursued towards the Nilgiri plantations. Correct information is also important to guide private enterprise.

5. Mr. McIvor's services can be best spared next month.

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 January 1876, No. 125.

I HAVE the honor to inform you that my attention has been drawn to some important statements with reference to the condition of Cinchona cultivation in Ceylon. The Directory of that Island for 1874 estimates the value of this cultivation at half a million sterling, and since that time the area under cultivation has been more than doubled.

2. Mr. A. J. Wright, a Coffee and Cinchona Planter from Mackeliya, lately visited our plantations and assured me that such was the growth in Ceylon that trees of seven and eight years of age yield about 10 lbs. of good dry bark per tree, and gave an instance of 2¼ acres of *C. Succirubra*, between six and eight years of age, which on being felled produced 15,000 lbs. of dry bark. Mr. A. M. Ferguson, of Ceylon, gives the growth on this plantation of *C. officinalis* at Knock Ferrol at 9 feet in two years. Apart from these statements, the sales of Ceylon Cinchona bark in the home market give evidence of the material progress of this cultivation.

3. At paragraph 6 of my letter, No. 91, dated 2nd August 1875, to your address, I brought to notice that our average yield on the Nilgiris from good trees, eight years old, was under 1½ lbs. of dry stem bark per tree.

4. It has long been established that a plant can only be profitably cultivated in the climate and soil best suited to its growth and perfect development, and year by year this fact becomes more apparent by the decreasing cost of carriage and time occupied in transport. Under these circumstances, it is, I submit, of the utmost importance in the interests of our cultivation here that the true condition of the Ceylon plantations be ascertained; I therefore respectfully suggest for your consideration the desirableness of applying to Government for sanction to my visiting Ceylon on duty in order to ascertain the condition of Cinchona cultivation in that Island.

5. In 1870 the reports of the Superintendent of Cinchona Cultivation in Bengal gave quite as promising an account of the growth of Cinchona in British Sikkim as we now receive from Ceylon.* The Sikkim reports caused the authorities here to inquire as to how far it was desirable to extend or even continue our cultivation in this climate where the growth is admitted to be much under what was stated to prevail in Bengal. By G.O., dated 10th December 1870, No. 1,998, I was authorised to visit the Cinchona plantations in Sikkim,

6. The result of a careful inspection of the Bengal plantations left upon my mind the impression that facts did not support the favorable conclusions at which the Superintendent of Cinchona Cultivation had arrived.

7. Our harvest of bark is now completed, and will shortly be ready for shipment; it would, therefore, be most convenient for me to leave this for Ceylon early next month.

* *Superintendent's Report, dated Darjeeling, 1st July* 1870.

Paragraph 20. * * "We believe that we see one way to growing it (*C. Succirubra*) here in almost any desired quantity at 3d. per lb., so that a fall in the price of bark to one-sixth its value is at least conceivable." * *.

Paragraph 37 (B). * * "To sum up I estimate that any future quantity of Succirubra bark required by Government can be grown at half the cost in Sikkim that it can in the Nilgiris." * * * (C) "*C. Calisaya*. This is the magnificent species which ranks first of all bark in the London market, the bark now being worth 9*s.* per lb. And I believe the only locality yet discovered where it can be grown to any economic advantage is at Rishap on these plantations" * * *; "Now at Rishap (on these Sikkim plantations) *C. Calisaya* grows just as luxuriantly and healthily as does *C. Succirubra*." Good specimens in two years in permanent plantations reached 13 feet high, and would soon cut 2 lbs. of good dry bark each."

No. 240. ORDER THEREON, 27th January 1876, No. 119.

Miscellaneous.

THE suggestion is approved.

2. Arrangements should be made for the discharge of Mr. McIvor's duties in his absence.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) D. F. CARMICHAEL,
Secretary to Government.

To the Commissioner of the Nilgiris.
" the Accountant-General.
" the Board of Revenue.

Ext. F. R. Bantleman.

REVENUE.

To COMMISSIONER OF THE NILGIRIS.

&c. &c. &c.

Dated January, 1878.

Rec'd. *Read*

G.O., 27th January 1878, No. 119.

JANUARY.
Nos. 239-240.

Cinchona Cultivation in Ceylon.—Approving the suggestion to permit Mr. McIver to visit Ceylon to acquaint himself with the condition of —, and directing to make arrangements for the discharge of his duties during his absence.

dry bark per tree, and gave an instance of 2½ acres of C. Succirubra between 6 and 8 years of age, which on being felled produced 15000 lbs of dry bark. Mr A. M. Ferguson of Ceylon gives the growth on this plantation of C. officinalis at Knock Ferrol at 9 feet in 2 years. Apart from these Statements the sales of Ceylon Chinchona bark in the home market give evidence of the material progress of this cultivation.

3 At para 6 of my letter No 91 dated 2nd August 1875, to your address, I brought to notice that our average yield on the Neilgiris from good trees 8 years old was under 1½ lbs of dry Stem bark per tree.

4 It has long been established that a plant can only be profitably cultivated in the climate and soil best suited to its growth and perfect development and year by year this fact becomes more apparent by the decreasing cost of carriage and time occupied in transport. Under these circumstances it is I submit of the utmost importance in the interests of our cultivation here that the true condition of the Ceylon Plantations be ascertained. I therefore respectfully suggest for your consideration the desirableness of applying to Government for sanction to my visiting Ceylon on duty in order to ascertain the condition of Chinchona cultivation in that Island.

5 In 1870 the reports of the Superintendent of Chinchona cultivation in Bengal gave quite as promising an account of the growth of Chinchona in British Sikkim as we now receive from Ceylon.* The Sikkim reports caused the authorities here to enquire as to how far it was desirable to extend or even continue our cultivation in this climate where the growth is admitted to be much under what was stated to prevail in Bengal. By G. O. dated 10th December 1870, No 1998, I was authorised to visit the

* Superintendent's report dated Darjeeling 1st July 1870 Para 20 × × "We believe that we see our way to growing "it (C. Succirubra) here in almost any desired quantity at "3 [illegible] so that a fall in the price of bark to one sixth "its value is at least conceivable" × × Para 27 (B) × "I do [illegible] "up. I estimate that any future quantity of succirubra "bark required by Govt can be grown at half the cost in "Sikkim that it can in the Nilgiris" × × "(C) C. Calisaya "This is the magnificent species which ranks first of all [illegible] "bark in the London market, the bark now being worth 7/5 per "lb. And I believe the only locality yet discovered where it can "be grown to any economic advantage is at Rishap, on these "plantations" × × "Now at Rishap (on these Sikkim plantations) C. Calisaya grows just as luxuriantly and "healthily as does C. Succirubra. Good specimens in two "years in permanent plantations reached 12 feet "high, & would then cut 2 lbs of good dry bark each."

Plantations in Ceylon.

The result of a careful

review of the Bengal plantations

opening mind the impression that

I did not anticipate favorable

success at present the duty of China

tea cultivation had arrived.

Our harvest of bark is now

closed and will shortly be ready for

export, it would therefore be unwise

in me for me to leave this for Ceylon

next month.

I remain &c. &c. &c.

Yours most obedt. Servt.

C. Gordon

Lieut. Genl. Commanding Assam.

76

No. 4

Commissioner's Office
Ootacamund 2[illegible] January 1876.

From

J. R. Cockerell Esq
Commissioner Nilgiris

To

The Secretary to Government
Revenue Department
Fort St. George

Sir,

I have the honor to submit for favorable consideration a letter being addressed from Mr. McIvor, suggesting that he should be permitted to visit Ceylon on duty next month, in order to make himself acquainted with the condition of the Cinchona Enterprise in the Island.

2. Mr. McIvor need not be absent more than a month or 5 weeks

No. 135
Dated 17th January 1876
Chinchona Plant. Office
Ootacamund

To,
The Commissioner
of the Neilgherries
Ootacamund

Rev. 254/76

Subject
Ceylon Chinchona Plantn.

Informs of the state:ments that trees in the of 7 & 8 years of age yield 10 lbs of good dry bark each and suggesting the desira:bleness of applying to Govt. for sanction to visit and report on the condition of the —

3. By Government Order, 10th December
1840, No 1998, Revenue Department,
Sir Edward was authorized to visit the
Plantations in Bengal on duty
4. If it should not be found practicable
to take advantage of the Steam
Vessel now in Ceylon in order
Sir Edward is informed, it is important
the Government should have the fastest
Vessel in the Service, with reference
to the Season of the Year, that can be
procured for the purpose
5th Sir Edward should be at
liberty to proceed
to
Bengal without delay

Ek Conover
Comptroller Gen

No 119

The despatches is referred.

2. Communications to the Russian Govt