No. 171. ORDER THEREON, 8th April 1881, No. 630.

Miscellaneous.

THE Conservator of Forests will be desired to forward direct to Mr. Thomson an adequate supply of seed of the fine kind of "Chinchona officinalis" which grows on the Nílgiris.

2. On receipt of intimation by Government of its despatch, the Secretary of State will be informed accordingly, in view to Sir Joseph Hooker's services being enlisted for obtaining plants of the "China Cuprea."

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue.
" the Conservator of Forests.
" the Commissioner of Nílgiris.
" the Accountant-General.

Exd. W. H. French.

60 Copies.

15-6-17

Original

Govt. of {1881} Madras.

REVENUE.

To

THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

&c., &c., &c.

Dated April 8th.

Printed 22nd.

Recd. *Encl.*

G.O., 8th April 1881, No. 630.

APRIL.
Nos. 170-171.

SUBJECT.

Seed of the fine kind of "Chinchona officinalis" which grows on the Nilgiris.—Directing, with remark, that the Conservator of Forests be desired to forward direct to Mr. Thomson an adequate supply of—.

Royal Gardens Kew.
February 15. 1881.

Sir,

I am directed by Sir Joseph Hooker to inform you that he has received an important communication from Mr Robert Thomson, formerly Superintendent of the Cinchona plantation, Jamaica, but now resident at Rajsta, in which an opportunity of a new kind of Cinchona, the cultivation of which in British possessions may prove to be very desirable

The bark which is now a considerable article of commerce, only contains 2 to 3 p/c of quinine. Mr Howard, however, informs me that the quinine, though not abundant, is so pure: its botanical origin is at present unknown but, according

Sir Louis Mallet, C.B.,
India Office.

to Mr Howard the barks of Remijia
China Cuprea

The important feature about the species from the point of view of Cultivation is the low elevation above the sea at which it will grow, its native range being from 2000 to 3000 feet.

Sir Joseph Hooker is extremely anxious to obtain seeds and plants of the new species with the aid of Mr Pearson. In the meantime Mr Pearson is himself anxious to procure as many seeds as of the fine kind of Cinchona officinalis spoken of by Mr Howard that grows in the Neilgherries. The object of this letter is to suggest that the Government of India should assist Mr Pearson in the matter, on condition that he rendered similar service with regard to the China Cuprea. If this suggestion is approved the seeds might be sent direct from India to Mr Pearson whose address is,

c/o

c/o August Stronz
Austrian Consul
Barranquilla
United States of Columbia
Via
Panama
Per H.M. Mail Steamer.

Copy Letter from Dr Thiselton Dyer.
dated 15th February 1861

Referred to in Revenue Letter to
Madras, No 8, dated 3rd March 1861
Para 1

4 4/

57

India Office, London
3rd March 1861.

Revenue

No 8.

Dated 15th Feby 1861.

Sir,

1. I forward, herewith, to your Excellency, Copy of a letter which has been received from Dr Thiselton Dyer, bringing to notice the existence of a Kind of Chinchona, which it seems desirable should be introduced experimentally into India, on account of the purity of the quinine which it produces, and of the probability of its being grown over a wider range than the varieties already cultivated in British India.

2. Sir Joseph Hooker's suggestion is that the plants should be obtained through the agency of his correspondent Mr

His Excellency
The Right Honorable
The Governor in Council
Fort St George

-13-

who is himself anxious to
obtain in some quantity,
seed of the fine Kind of
Chinchona Officinalis which
grows on the Neilgeris.

3. I have to request
that instructions may be
given for the despatch of the
seeds in the manner suggested
by Sir Joseph Hooker; and
that Gentleman will be
requested to use his good offices
in obtaining plants of the
'China Cuprea' from Mr
Thomson —

I have the honor to be
Sir,
Your most obedient
humble Servant

Nathaniel Wallich