M.R.O. 1—8P,000—15-10-95.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 628 — Press Mis.—

232-233

Dated 9th March 1899

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 9th March 1869.

No. 232. Read the following letter from the Temporary Honorary Secretary to the Neilgherry Agri-Horticultural Society, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated Ootacamund, 26th January 1869.

I am directed by the Managing Committee of the Neilgherry Agri-Horticultural Society, whose names I have the honor of appending, to bring to the notice of Government the following Resolution, and to accompany the same with a Statement of the objects and position of the Society, respectfully asking consideration of the request therein contained.

Resolution passed at meeting of Managing Committee of the Neilgherry Agri-Horticultural Society, 19th December 1868.

"Considering that Ootacamund is the principal Sanitarium of Southern "India, and that the residents compared with the visitors are but few, and consider- "ing that the main object of the Society is the improvement of Agriculture, by "which Government as the largest land-holder must ultimately benefit, *it is resolv-* "*ed*, that the Rules of the Society, be submitted to Government with a respectful "request for some substantial assistance."

The objects of the Society are identical with those which are now being successfully carried out by the Agri-Horticultural Societies of Madras and Bangalore. To these Societies Government has given the most effectual assistance by making over to them the public gardens at those places. It has long been felt that the Agricultural and Horticultural products of the Neilgherry Hills are greatly inferior in number and quality to those which might and ought to be produced under improved methods of cultivation. While possessing a soil and climate on the plateau which no English county can rival, Ootacamund and Coonoor are dependant on grain and fruits imported from the low country. Culinary vegetables are indeed grown by Native gardeners in the neighbourhood of these European stations; but they are degenerate in quality, while good fruit is nearly unknown in the market; its production being confined to a few private individuals of exceptional skill and enterprize.

The Agri-Horticultural Society proposes to develop as far as possible the husbandry of the Hills, by the introduction of improved methods, by the distribution of European seeds and by the acclimatization of foreign root-crops and grains. It is intended to organize a system by which seeds and cuttings of the best modern varieties of English vegetables and fruits will be distributed to the inhabitants in the manner most suitable to their successful naturalization. Furthermore, it is proposed to hold periodical exhibitions, where prizes will be offered for the best specimens of Agricultural and Horticultural products.

The natural advantages of the Neilgherry Hills offer singular scope to the operations of a Society organized for these purposes. Nowhere else in the world under a civilized Government, is there found a district possessing so many varieties of climate. The number of food-producing and economic plants susceptible of being acclimatized on the plateau and slopes of the Hills, is hence very considerable.

But it is by placing on a practical basis the cultivation of new introductions that the exertions of the Society are especially required. For many years past, Government and private contributors have, from time to time, introduced plants of economic, medicinal or ornamental value. Though in many cases these have adapted themselves to the climate, yet their growth has been restricted to a few gardens, and has not spread to any useful extent. It is here that the systematic labors of the Society will be productive of great advantage. New introductions of improved varieties of old plants will be as extensively distributed as possible to various parts of the Hills, through the local Sub-Committees; and the information obtained by their combined experience, will be made generally known at the periodical meetings of Members.

The names of the gentlemen forming the managing Committee are a guarantee of the competency of the Society to carry out these objects as far as its pecuniary means allow. These means are at present only derived from the subscriptions of Members. The assistance of Government, the largest proprietor in the district, is now respectfully solicited; in such form as their favorable consideration of the wants and objects of the Society will permit. It is submitted that all movements which tend to improve the Neilgherry Hills, have not only a local but a general and public interest. These are the grounds on which we ask for help. From the limited number of residents, without the assistance of Government, the Society must fail in its object.

Awaiting the reply of Government to this request.

MANAGING COMMITTEE.

J. OUCHTERLONY, Esq.,
Rev. G. U. POPE, D. D.
Lieut.-Colonel MORGAN.
J. BROUGHTON, Esq.
PESTONJEE, Esq.,
MISQUITH, Esq.,
LEE CHAPMAN, Esq.,
NEMASA MUDALY,

J. W. BREEKS, Esq.,
Major BEDDOME.
W. G. McIVOR, Esq.,
H. R. DAWSON, Esq.,
ABDOOL CAWDER, Esq.,
Messrs. VERTUE AND MINCHIN.
Dr. FURNELL.

RULES.

1. This Society shall be called "The Agricultural and Horticultural Society of the Neilgherry Hills."

2. The object of the Society shall be the promotion of Agriculture and Horticulture in all their branches, on and around the plateau of the Neilgherry Hills.

3. The Association shall consist of honorary, resident and non-resident members—those residing upon the plateau of the Neilgherry Hills shall be termed residents, and all others non-residents, the latter paying the entrance donation of Rupees 10, but only half subscription.

4. Honorary Members shall be persons eminent for their knowledge of, or for the encouragement they have given to, Agriculture and Horticulture.

5. Candidates for admission as Ordinary Members shall have their names communicated to the Secretary, by whom they will be submitted to the General Committee, when a majority of votes will determine their election.

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6. The Association will be supported by annual subscriptions of Rupees 12, payable quarterly in advance, with an entrance fee of Rupees 10, and by grants and voluntary donations.

7. Any resident Member allowing four quarterly bills to remain unpaid, the same having been duly demanded, shall be liable to have his name struck off the list, and shall not be eligible for re-election, except upon payment of all arrears.

8. Ordinary Members, during temporary absence from India, will continue to have their names borne on the list as absent Members, (unless they express a wish to the contrary,) provided they have paid up, on demand, all arrears due to the Society.

9. No Member can withdraw from the Society without paying up his arrears.

10. The management of the affairs of the Society shall be vested in the General Committee of Management.

11. In May of each year, an Annual General Meeting of the Society will be held for the election of the General Committee of the ensuing year.

12. The General Committee shall consist of 15 Members and a Secretary; three, exclusive of Secretary, to form a quorum for the transaction of business.

13. The General Committee shall have the power to elect their own Chairman, and, in the event of lapses, to complete their number by the election of any Member of the Society to be a Member of the Committee.

With a view to shorten the sittings of the Committee, the Secretary is authorized to submit resolutions in circulation, except such as are of a financial character, for the consideration and decision of the Committee. In the event, however, of any Member objecting to any such resolution, it shall be reserved for final decision at the meeting of the Committee next ensuing.

That, in the event of a sufficient number of Members not being present to form a quorum, it shall be competent for the Members present to take into consideration the subjects awaiting discussion, and to propose upon them resolutions for the consideration and confirmation of the Committee in circulation. In the event, however, of one dissentient vote being attached to any resolution so proposed, the subject to which it refers shall be brought afresh under the consideration of the Committee at the meeting next ensuing.

14. Any motion having for its object the alteration of existing laws or the enactment of new ones, shall first be submitted to the General Committee, by whom it will be considered: when, if two-thirds of the Members present vote in its favor, it will be held carried, and may be acted upon. The purport of such motion to be stated in the Circulars calling the Meeting, at which it is to be considered, brought prominently to the notice of the Annual General Meeting, who shall have power to rescind them.

15. The Annual Competetive Exhibition of Fruits, Flowers, and Vegetables, will be held at such time as the Committee may appoint, when prizes will be awarded.

Ordered that the following letter be despatched.

No. 233. From the Acting Secretary to Government of Fort Saint George to the Commissioner for the Government of the Territories of His Highness the Maha Rajah of Mysore, dated 9th March 1869, No. 628.

SIR,

Miscellaneous.

I am directed to request that you will kindly inform this Government whether the Lal Bagh Garden has been placed under the direction of the Horticultural Society at Bangalore, and, if so, on what terms the arrangement has been made, and what is the position of the Superintendent in relation to the Society as also to the Mysore Government.

No 254.

For orders

I enclose herewith a petition from the Gardeners' Society with an allowance of Rs 50 which it requests may be granted to them. I think it might be well to await the result of the enquiries now being made by the Deputy Commissioner of Bangalore as to the genuineness of the Society before sanctioning the grant. Perhaps it will be as well to await the replies to the letters addressed to the other Administrations on the subject of the aid granted by Govt to similar Societies, before disposing of this application.

H.B.

I am
Sir
Your most obedient
humble Servant
Lal Bagh Gardener
Bangalore

I am directed by the Board of Revenue to forward herewith a petition from the Lal Bagh Gardener Bangalore praying for the sanction of Government to the payment of a monthly allowance of Rs 50 to the Society established by him in connection with the Lal Bagh Garden and to state in reply that the Board are unable to offer any opinion on the merits of the case as they have no information regarding the Society beyond what is contained in the petition.

I am
Sir
Your most obedient
humble Servant
N. Bell
Secy to the Board of Revenue.

To
The Chief Secretary to the Government
of the Presidency of His Highness the
Maha Raja of Mysore.

Dated March, 9th.
Recd.

G. O. 9th March 1869 No. 233.

MARCH
Nos. 232-233.

Requesting certain information with reference
to the Lal Bagh Garden at Bangalore.

9th March 89

R. D.

No 628.

To
The Chief Commissioner for the Government of the
Territories of His Highness the Maha Rajah
of Mysore.

Sir,

I am directed to request you will inform this Government whether the report that the Late Bagh has been placed under the direction of the Agri. Horticultural Society at Bangalore, is correct, and, if so, on what terms the arrangement has been made, and what is the proportion of the superintendence in relation to the Society as also to the Mysore Government

To Mr. [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]