M.R.O. 16—12,000—27-6-24

# MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

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## Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 2265-66 Press ~~Mis.~~

456. 457.

Dated 27—5—1867

***Not to be folded or roughly handled***

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,*
*27th September* 1867.

No. 456. Read the following letter from the Cotton Commissioner for the Central Provinces and the Berars, to the Secretary to the Government of Madras, dated Nagpore, 13th September 1867, No. 3,982:—

I have the honor to forward copies of my reports to the Resident at Hyderabad, and the Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces, on the state of the weather in these Provinces during the past month, and its effect on the Cotton crop.

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No. 457. ORDER THEREON, 27th September 1867, No. 2,265.

Miscellaneous.

Ordered that the receipt of these reports be acknowledged with thanks, and that they be forwarded to the Revenue Board for perusal.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
*Secretary to Government.*

To the Board of Revenue.

Exd. T. O'Connor.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT,
FORT ST. GEORGE,
*27th September* 1867.

No. 458.
To

No. 2,266.

THE COTTON COMMISSIONER, CENTRAL PROVINCES AND THE BERARS.

SIR,

Miscellaneous.

I have the honor to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of your letter of the 13th September 1867, No. 3,982, giving cover to copies of your reports on the state of the weather in the Central Provinces and the Berars during last month, and its effect on the Cotton crop.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
*Secretary to Government.*

Exd. T. O'Connor.

No. 3920 of 1867.

FROM

H. RIVETT-CARNAC, ESQUIRE,

COTTON COMMISSIONER FOR THE CENTRAL PROVINCES AND THE BERARS.

To

THE SECRETARY TO THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER, CENTRAL PROVINCES,

*Nagpore.*

*Dated, Nagpore 8th September* 1867.

SIR,

In accordance with the desire expressed in your letter No. $\frac{337}{50}$ dated the 19th of August, I have the honor to submit, for the information of the Chief Commissioner, the following remarks on the state of the weather during the month of August, and its effect on the cotton crop.

2. The rain-fall during the month of August was unusually heavy. Indeed, so severe a monsoon has not been known in this part of the country for some years. In my letter No. 3,327 of the 5th of August, the rain-fall for the months of June and July was stated to have been 28·6 inches. From the returns that Dr. Townsend, Civil Surgeon of Nagpore, has been kind enough to send me, and which are abstracted in the margin, it will be seen that, during the last three months alone, we have had 7·05 inches more rain than the average annual rain-fall.

| 1867. | Inches. |
|---|---|
| June ..... | 14·5 |
| July..... | 12·7 |
| August ..... | 10·7 |
| September. 1st to 6th. | 6·91 |
| Total .. | 46·81 |

Average annual rain-fall at Nagpore. 39·76 Inches.

3. For the first seventeen days of August, the rain, though not very heavy, was incessant, and the Deputy Commissioners of nearly all the Districts, in their reports for the first half of the month, expressed a fear that a continuance of the rain would injure the crops. Luckily, however, the weather cleared up, and on the 18th of August the sun made its appearance for the first time for nearly three weeks, and we had bright sunny days with occasional showers until the 2nd of September, when the rain set in heavily. The clouds have now broken up : the barometer is rising rapidly, and there appears to be every hope that the monsoon

6. The annexed extract from a private letter from Mr. Pritchard, C. S., Collector of Kandeish, may be of interest to the Chief Commissioner, inasmuch as it relates to the cotton seed supplied from these Provinces. Mr. Pritchard writing on the 19th of August said :—

"The cotton crops throughout Kandeish are reported to be "most promising this year. I never saw cotton so forward, or more "healthy looking, than the few fields sown with the seed you sent "down from Hingunghat. We are having the best monsoon known "in Kandeish for many years past, and if the rain only continues to "fall as favourably as hitherto, we shall have a bumper crop of cot-"ton and every thing else besides."

7. In the Berars the season, as mentioned in my report to the Resident at Hyderabad, has been very favourable, and the crops are recovering from the heavy rain that at one time threatened to do harm, but which fortunately ceased just in time. There, too, the Hingunghat cotton seed is very well reported of, and I am sanguine that the introduction of this excellent indigenous seed into districts that have hitherto grown an inferior class of cotton, will be productive of much good. The Chief Commissioner has already had before him an account of the success of this seed in the Nimar district of the Central Provinces, and there would appear to be reason to hope for like success in the neighbouring districts possessing equal physical advantages.

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

H. RIVETT-CARNAC,

*Cotton Commissioner, for the Central Provinces, and the Berars.*

Printed at the Central Provinces' Printing Press - Nagpore, by Byramjee

is over. These remarks, although they refer specially to Nagpore, are nearly equally applicable to the neighbouring districts, in which the best cotton of these Provinces is grown.

1. The accounts from the Northern Districts and the Nerbudda valley shew that the rain has been equally heavy there. In the Saugor, Dumoh, and Nursingpore Districts the continuous rain interfered, to some extent, with agricultural operations, but the recent fine weather has, it is hoped, enabled the cultivators to make up for lost time. In the Hoshungabad District, the floods that damaged some of the bridges on the unopened line of Railway, and washed away part of the native town of Hoshungabad, have caused some damage to the crops; but the quantity of cotton grown there is comparatively small. In the Chutteesgurh country, until recently, the rain-fall was below the average; but rain fell during August, and the crops are reported to be doing well.

5. As regards the effect of this heavy monsoon on the cotton crops of the Central Provinces, the damage that has been occasioned to the plant in some districts has, it is believed, been counterbalanced by the excellent condition of the crop in other parts of the country. The heavy rain has been too local to do much harm: for, whilst Hingunghat itself was being deluged, the weather in the neighbouring divisions of the same district, where equally good cotton is grown, was favourable. And, moreover, although the rain, whilst it lasted, was heavy, it generally came at the right time, and gave way in favor of fine weather, when the plant was beginning to languish for want of sunshine. Most of the seed escaped the first downpour. When the heavy weather returned, the plant was sufficiently vigorous to stand it, and the alternate rain and bright breaks that followed helped the plant on. At the commencement of this month, the universal feeling was that there had been quite enough rain, and the heavy weather of the first week of September caused some anxiety. But on the 6th, the rain ceased, and since then we have had bright cheerful days, which seem likely to continue, and by the aid of which the plant is beginning to put forth buds and flowers. Heavy rain just now would hurt the delicate petals and cause damage; but in about another three weeks time, when the pod begins to form, and the now abundant moisture has become exhausted, the "later rain" will be very grateful to the plant. In November, when the pods burst and the cotton is ready for picking, rain, if it falls, stains and damages the cotton. Fine weather is wanted now: we must hope for occasional showers about the beginning of October: after that, the finer the weather, the better for the cotton crops. I leave for the Hingunghat country and the Berars in the course of a few days, and I shall hope to be able, in another fortnight, after a tour through the chief cotton-growing districts, to send from camp a more detailed account of the aspect of the crop.

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No. 3953 of 1867.

From

H. Rivett-Carnac, Esquire,

Cotton Commissioner for the Central Provinces and the Berars.

To

The 1st Assistant Resident, Hyderabad.

*Dated, Nagpore 8th September* 1867.

Sir,

In accordance with the instructions contained in your letter No. 2016, dated the 21st of August, I have the honor to submit a brief notice of the state of the weather and its effect on the cotton crop in the Districts of the Berars, during the month of August last.

2. During the first half of the month there was a continuance of heavy rain, which at one time threatened to do much damage to the crop. On the 20th of August, the Deputy Commissioner of the Akola District, wrote "the rain has continued without intermission "during the fortnight under report. A cessation for 15 or 20 days "at least is desirable to admit of the harrowing of the crops." The reports from the Deputy Commissioners of the other Districts contained remarks to the same effect. Fortunately, however, the same break of fine weather that did much good to the cotton in the Central Provinces, visited the Berars: and the reports for the last half of the month are of a cheerful character. The crop is reported to be very flourishing, save in low ill-drained places, where the heavy rain has stunted the plant. The fine weather, which seems likely to continue, is much in favor of the crop.

3. I have received excellent accounts of the Hingunghat cotton seed sown in the Berars.

4. A copy of my letter No. 3920 of this date, to the Secretary to the Chief Commissioner, on the subject of the crop in the Central Provinces, is enclosed for the information of the Resident.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant.

H. RIVETT-CARNAC,

*Cotton Commissioner, for the Central Provinces, and the Berars.*

Printed at the Central Provinces' Printing Press—Nagpore, by Byramjee.



No. 2265.

Extract from
Quintuplicate Letter
addressed to
Capt. Hatteras
Enclosed S.S. Alabama
Liverpool

Wolf

27th Sept 63

11 Copies Forwarded Sept 30

one city Dept 80

27e Septr 67 M

Revenue Department

No. 2266.

To

The Cotton Commissioner

Central Provinces and the

Berars

Sir,

I have the honor to ac-
knowledge with thanks the
receipt of your letter of the
13th September 1867, No. 3982,
giving cover to copies of
your reports on the state of
the weather in the Central
Provinces and the Berars
during last month and its
effect on the Cotton crop.

Revenue 1867 Dept.
Pro of Govt of or Sept.

No. 2266.

To
The Cotton Commissioner
Central Provinces
& Berars
Dated 27 September 1867.

No. 408