

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 2324	Press <u>Mis.</u>
91-92	
Dated 4 — 10 — 1867.	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
4th October 1867.*

No. 91. Read the following letter from H. RIVETT-CARNAC, Esq., Cotton Commissioner for the Central Provinces and the Berars, to the Secretary to the Government of Madras, dated Nagpore, 22nd September 1867, No. 4,103:—

1. The enclosed correspondence regarding the success of an experiment in the Nimar district this season with Hingunghat cotton seed may perhaps be of interest to the Government of Madras.

2. The Hingunghat cotton, even in its present state, is generally admitted

*Extract from Messrs. Browne, Hunter, and Co.'s Circular,
dated the 17th August 1867.*

Description.	Ordinary to Middling.	Middling Fair to Fair.	Good Fair to Good.	Fine.
Hingunghat ...	0 d. at 0 d.	7½ d. at 8½ d.	8½ d. at 9 d.	9½ d.
Broach ...	6 6½	7½ 8	8½ 8½	9½
Dhollera ...	6 6½	7½ 8	8½ 8½	9½
Coompta ...	5½ 6½	7½ 7½	8½ 0	0
Oomrawuttee ...	6 6½	7½ 7½	8½ 8½	9
Jeravel ...	5½ 6½	7½ 7½	7½ 0	0
Ginned Dharwar ...	0 7½	8 8½	8½ 9	0
Madras ...	0 0	7½ 7½	8½ 8½	0
Do. Western ...	0 0	7½ 7½	8 0	0
Bengal ...	0 6	6½ 6½	7½ 7½	7½
Scinde ...	0 6	6½ 6½	7½ 7½	7½
China ...	0 0	7½ 8	8½ 0	0
Japan ...	0 0	0 0	0 0	0

to be the best in India, and the annexed extract from the Cotton Circular of Messrs. Browne, Hunter, and Co.'s, of the 17th August last, shews the price it commands in England, compared with other Indian cottons. It is hoped that by the selection of the seed, and the careful management of the seed gardens, which have been established in the best cotton-growing tracts, and by other means, the Hingunghat cotton may

be considerably improved, and made to approach still nearer to its American rivals, to which, even now, it is not so very inferior.

3. Experiments are also being made in these Provinces with several varieties of exotic seed, and I shall hope to be able hereafter to inform you of the results. Great care is being taken to ascertain what class of exotic cotton, if any, is best adapted to this climate, but some delay must occur before the question can be definitely and satisfactorily decided.

4. In the meantime, there can be little doubt that the indigenous cotton can be much improved by the importation of selected seed from districts in which cotton of superior quality is grown, and in the event of your being desirous to make experiments with Hingunghat cotton in Madras, I shall have great pleasure in selecting seed, and forwarding it to you for that purpose.

5. As it will be necessary to make arrangements early in the season for selecting and purchasing seed, I shall be glad to learn, at your very earliest convenience, what quantity you may require.

From the Cotton Commissioner for the Central Provinces and the Berars, to the Secretary to the Chief Commissioner, Nagpore, dated Nagpore, 8th September 1867, No. 3,955.

1. I have the honor to submit, for the information of the Chief Commissioner, copy of a letter from Mr. Vix, of the Firm of Messrs. Jules Siegfried and Co. of Bombay, on the subject of some cotton grown in the season 1866-67, in the Nimar district of the Central Provinces, from Hingunghat seed.

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2. The Nimar and Nerbudda valley cotton, as Mr. Morris is well aware, does not bear a very enviable name, and Mr. Lionel Ashburner, C. S., and Mr. Hewitt, who have done so much to raise the standard of the cotton grown in the neighbouring district of Kandeish, regarded, with not unnatural jealousy, the cotton, imported by native dealers from Nimar, in the hope of it being passed off under the good name that Kandeish cotton has now deservedly gained for itself.

3. Last year, thanks, I believe, to the interest taken in the matter by Mr. Forsyth, Settlement Officer, a comparatively small quantity of Hingunghat cotton seed was sown in that part of the Nimar district lying to the south of Asseergurh and the Sauthy corah hills, which seemed well adapted to the cultivation of cotton. The result of that experiment is described by Mr. Vix, who happened to buy the cotton. The Hingunghat seed came up so well last year, that, this season, the people took to it very readily, and, as the Chief Commissioner is aware, a large quantity of fresh seed was sent down by me from Hingunghat to Nimar, and to many other districts of these Provinces. Although the rains have been unusually heavy, the accounts of the crop are good as yet, and a detailed report will be submitted when the cotton ripens. But, whether the seed succeeds this season or not, Mr. Vix's letter is, I think, encouraging, and shews that some good may be done by introducing the seed of a district that produces really good cotton, into other districts where an inferior plant is grown.

4. Mr. Vix's letter also brings out, in rather strong relief, the opinion generally entertained regarding the comparative merits of Hingunghat and Dharwar New Orleans Cotton. The cotton of Hingunghat, even in its present state, bears a high name. It is undoubtedly susceptible of improvement. There would then appear to be grounds for hoping, that, with increased care and attention, an indigenous cotton may be produced in these Provinces, of a description very acceptable to manufacturers in Europe.

From J. VIX, Esq., Partner JULES SIEGFRIED and Co., to the Cotton Commissioner for the Central Provinces and the Berars, Nagpore, dated Bombay, 18th August 1867.

In reply to your enquiries, I beg to state that I purchased in Bombay, last February, about 100 bales of cotton which came from Booranpoor.

This cotton was shipped overland to Marseilles, and was sold in France at about 147 francs per 50 Kilogs, equal to about 12½d per lb. Fair new Hingunghat would have fetched, at that time, scarcely a better price.

The manufacturer who purchased this cotton was so well satisfied with its quality, that he sent out an order for about 500 bales more of the same description. I consider that cotton similar to these 100 bales will always command in the European markets about 3/ more than the cotton from Hoshungpahl, or about Rupees 50-100 per Bombay canly. If the natives of that part of India could be induced to extend the cultivation of this kind of cotton, I believe that it would result to the great advantage of the cotton trade.

From my own experience of the spinning of cotton, I consider that a quality of cotton similar to the 100 bales above-mentioned, say from fair to good fair, is equal to Milling Upland, and not much inferior to Milling New Orleans. During my last stay in Europe, I saw several of my friends in the manufacturing districts in France, to get their opinion regarding Indian cotton. They were all unanimous that Hingunghat is the best quality of Indian, and some of them declared it to be equal to New Orleans Cotton. When I am at liberty to choose in Bombay, to my judgment, the best quality of cotton for manufacture, I always give the preference to Hingunghat. If none be obtained of that description, I choose Oomrawuttee, which is generally preferred in France to Dharwar Saw-ginned. With the new system of cleaning cotton in the Mills in Europe, I do not consider Dharwar Saw-ginned more advantageous than a good kind of Oomrawuttee.

No. 92.

ORDER THEREON, 4th October 1867, No. 2,324.

Miscellaneous.

1. Ordered to be communicated to the Board of Revenue, the Chamber of Commerce, and the Agri-Horticultural Society.

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2. The Collectors of Kurnool, Bellary, Cuddapali, Salem, Coimbatore, and Tinnevely will report, with the least possible delay, what quantity of Hingunghat Cotton seed they would wish to receive for experimental cultivation in their districts.

3. The Government are much obliged to Mr. Rivett-Carnac for the information he has communicated.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.

„ the Chamber of Commerce.
„ the Agri-Horticultural Society.
„ the Collector of Kurnool.
„ the do. of Bellary.
„ the do. of Cuddapah.
„ the do. of Salem.
„ the do. of Coimbatore.
„ the do. of Tinnevely.
„ H. Rivett-Carnac, Esq.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

Received of the
 Sec. the Ch. of France &
 the Agri. Soc. of France.

The Govt. of the most
 Gallant & judicious. Sultan
 has been & is personally with
 report with the least possible
 delay about quantity of
 his highness Cotton seed
 which I wish to receive for
 experimental culture in
 these districts.

The Govt. are much
 obliged to Mr. Livett for the
 information he
 has communicated.

42. Oct. 1867.