M.R.O. 14—13,000—27-6-24

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 457 Press ~~Mis.~~

336. 337

Dated 25—2—1867.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 25th February 1867.

No. 336. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 7th February 1867, No. 763.

Read the following letter from the Collector of the Godavery District, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Tanuku, 17th January 1867, No. 9 :—

I have the honor to forward copy of a letter from the Acting Sub-Collector, dated 21st ultimo, No. 243, regarding the cultivation of the Carolina paddy distributed by him to the agriculturists in his Division.

From the Acting Sub-Collector, to the Collector of the Godavery District, dated Camp at Bheemavaram, 21st December 1866, No. 243.

1. In reply to your letter, No. 104, of the 25th May last, I have the honor to forward my report on the cultivation of Carolina paddy, forwarded to me for distribution amongst the agriculturists of the Sub-division.

2. The seed was distributed in the following proportions :—

In the Tanuku Talook	... ...	4 Seers.
,, the Undy ,,	... ...	10½ ,,
,, the Narsapur ,,	... ...	24 ,,

The experiment has been a very unlucky one.

3. I gave four seers of grain to Mr. Sherard, of Palcole, which in due time germinated and promised to yield abundantly, but in the month of August, Mr. Sherard wrote to me that the whole crop had been swept away by a sudden and heavy flood.

4. In Mogallu, a village of the Undy Talook, the seeds germinated, and the young paddy was transplanted, and appeared to be thriving and healthy, but ten days afterwards a kind of blight called "Tatiyaku Tegulu" fell on the crop, a fourth part of which withered away.

5. The extent of land cultivated in Mogallu was 35 cents, and the quantity of paddy sown was 6¼ seers. The grain which escaped the blight measured 35 kunchams, or 140 seers, and the straw made up four bundles, or sixteen maunds. The same discouraging account has reached me from Sivadevuni Chickala where 10 cents of land were planted, but yielded only 2 seers of grain.

6. The Mogallu ryots, however, tell me that Carolina rice is far superior to any at present grown by them, and that the straw is equal in bulk to the best straw of indigenous paddy.

7. In the Narsapur Talook, the Moonsiff of Madepalem planted the seeds in 6 cents of land, and here again the paddy withered, leaving only 2 seers of grain remaining on a piece of ground which should have produced 40 seers, and which to all appearances was well suited for wet cultivation.

8. To the Doddipatla Moonsiff I gave 14 lbs. of grain. He writes to me that half the seeds failed to sprout, and that many of the young plants rotted in the ground. The experiment was tried on 20 cents of land in this village, and the out-turn was only 16 seers.

9. The accounts from the Tanuku Talook are to the same effect.

10. I have no hesitation in expressing my belief that the failure of the experiment this year is in part to be attributed to ignorance as to the right mode of cultivation. Carolina paddy comes to maturity two months earlier than the ordinary country paddy ; it requires less water to ripen it, and it cannot stand heavy floods, as well as the "coarse Atragada," which alone is cultivated to any great extent in the Delta talooks. Instructions as to the proper mode of cultivation have now been furnished to the people, and next year I trust we shall be more successful.

11. Another reason for our failure lies in the grain itself, which is always more or less damaged by a sea voyage, and a third reason is the unusual severity of the weather during the last seed time.

12. We have at all events been successful thus far. The people are anxious to try the experiment again next year ; and are fully alive to the advantage of cultivating a paddy which

they can reap in the month of October, before the ordinary harvest can be brought into the market, and at a time when rice of any description will command a high price.

13. A number of circumstances, over which we had no control, have combined to render the trial a failure this year. But as the people have now gained some experience, and as instructions for their guidance have been furnished by the Board, I think we may reasonably hope for a better result next year, and I therefore beg you will request the Board to furnish me with another supply of the grain for further trial.

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1. Submitted for the information of Government. As observed by the Acting Sub-Collector, the experiment appears to have failed from want of information as to the proper mode of cultivating the plant.

2. A portion of the Carolina seed paddy expected from England will be supplied to the Collector, and now that proper instructions have been issued on the method of cultivation practised in America, it is hoped that the further experiment will prove more successful.

3. The reports are defective in one important particular, viz., they afford no means of identifying the seed tried. Three descriptions have been distributed, and it is not clear which forms the subject of this report. The Collector will supply this omission.

No. 337. ORDER THEREON, 25th February 1867, No. 454.

Miscellaneous. Ordered to be recorded.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. GROSE,
Under Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
" *the Agri-Horticultural Society.*
" *the Farm Committee.*
" *the Collector of the Godavery district.*

Exd. J. Wright.

A. 396 & 337

Rev. 1867. Department.
Proc. of Govt. for February

No. 367.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

Dated 7th February 1867.
Dept 12 Nos
Rec'd 13th

No. 763.

Submitting for information of Government report from Collector of Godavery district on cultivation of Carolina Paddy in district, and requesting Collector to report what description of seed forms subject of his report.

REGISTERED.

14 Board of Rev
Dept 361 25th July 67