

Revenue (1897) Department.

MISCELLANEOUS SERIES.

G.O., No. 2294

DATED 28th May

[Despatch Abstract.]

Communicating to the United Planters' Association of S. India, copies of correspondence received from the Secretary of State on the subject of Mr. Newport's deputation to Australia for obtaining a consignment of lady-birds.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
CNO	75334		25-5-98				
4286/98							

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18 4,000-19-7-97.

Revenue (1898) Department.

CURRENT No.

8/1 sharp
26/5/98

5/10

Des:
From

Order Misc. no. 2294 d/26th May 98. The Secretary of State for India
London.

Copies of the corres.
pondence received with the
Right Hon^{ble} the Secretary of
State's despatch read above. Dated 28th Apr.
will be communicated to Received 20th May
The United Planter's Associa. Registered 21st
tion of Southern India. Enclosures 2.
Spare copies.

11/1
26/5/98

SUBJECT.

To the Secretary U. P. A. S. India
Copy to the Board (R. S.)
No. 6 for the Examiners.
The portion marked A & En.
Closed in rectangular
brackets should be
Blandford's letter should be
omitted in copying. The
copy to go to the Board's Committee.
Copies going out of the office 26/5/98.

Forwarding a copy of a letter
received from the Director of the
Royal Gardens Kew and file en.
Closures from Professor Blandford
offering some preliminary ob-
servations on the subject of Mr.
Newport's deputation to Australia
for obtaining a consignment
of certain species of
Lark-birds.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

30/10/1914
James C. No. 10/1914

487.

INDIA OFFICE,
LONDON. 28th APRIL 1898.

No. CHIEF SECRETARY
23 MAY 1898
REVENUE,
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

REVENUE,
No. 4.

28th April 1898.

TO HIS EXCELLENCY THE HONOURABLE THE GOVERNOR
IN COUNCIL FORT ST. GEORGE.

Copy
Letter to Fort St. George,
No. 4.

Dated 17th March 1898.

Sir,

I forward herewith a copy of a letter received from the Director of the Royal Gardens, Kew, and of its enclosure from Professor Blandford, offering some precautionary observations which may be useful on the subject of Mr. Newport's deputation to Australia for the purpose of obtaining a consignment of certain species of Lady-birds. I am aware of the circumstances in which Mr. Newport was selected for this duty in the absence of a skilled entomologist.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient humble Servant,

George Hamilton

8.

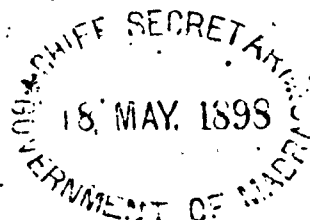
N^y

Revenue

2nd April 1898

Letter to Mr. A. J. G. J.

N^o 4



G. M. D. G. M.

28/4

Royal Gardens,

Kew.

March 17th 1898.

Sir,

I have before me the Proceedings of the Government of Madras:-G.O 351, 18th May 1897, and G.O. 28, 17th January 1898, of which I have received copies, through the Secretary of State in Council

2. It appears from these that Coffee in the Madras presidency is affected with scale bugs and other insects. To remedy this state of things it has been decided by the Madras Government, to pay Rs.2000 a moiety of the expenses of the delegation of Mr. Newport to Australia to collect and carry to India a consignment of Lady-birds.

3. The principle of dealing with scale-bugs by introducing their appropriate enemy has been worked out by American entomologists and is undoubtedly sound. But as pointed out in the papers there are 1700 known kinds of Lady-birds, and for the most part each of these will only feed on one kind of scale-insect. The method therefore will obviously not work unless the appropriate enemy is set to work on its destined prey.

4. As it appeared to me doubtful if this point had been adequately considered by the Government of Madras I obtained the opinion of Mr. W.F.H. Blandford, one of the Secretaries of the Entomological Society. This I enclose

5. I may be permitted to observe that it appears to me improbable that any attempt to utilise these refined entomological expedients will lead to anything except waste of money and perhaps as Mr. Blandford points

Sir Charles Bernard K.C.S.I.,
India Office,
Whitehall.S.W

out

out worse mischief, unless carried out by a competent expert.

I am &c.,

(Sd) W.T. Thiselton Dyer.

I don't think it would appear to.

Blandford's letter takes it for granted that Mr. Newport is to select species of land birds he thinks will be useful on his own authority. It is evident, however, from his papers that he will only collect species tried by Prof. Kowalewsky & the Govt of Hawaii, & that his chief efforts will be spent in collecting the Cry. problemus, Man. troglodytes & another variety, which are certain to be useful. We have ascertained that Australia (Queensland) is the nearest country from which we can get the Cry. pr. Man. troglodytes, so we are not misled by his conclusion "Mr. A. describes."

JS

H. M.
H. G. The Governor

C23/5/98
12/5/98

C No 3677 of 1898

Despatch from the Secy of State
for India & 28.4.98 No 4

For orders.

From Mr.

Blandford's letter to Mr. Thiselton Dyer which forms an enclosure to the despatch, it would appear that the deputation of Mr. Newport who is not a skilled entomologist, to Australia for the selection of land birds would result in positive harm, unless he has received the assistance of skilled men ^{resident} in Australia in collecting the suitable species.

Presumably nothing can be done now except communicating the letters from Messrs Thiselton Dyer & Blandford to the Honble. Mr H. P. ~~Wodgeson~~ Wodgeson.

23/5/98. H. M.

I would simply send a copy of the correspondence to

302

Copy

Mr. W.F.H. Blandford to Royal Gardens, Kew.
48 Wimpole Street, W.
March 15 1898.

Dear Mr. Thiselton - Dyer,

With respect to the support which the Government of Madras is giving to the United Planters' Association of Southern India, in order to send Mr. Newport to Australia for the collection of ladybirds it is clear that the Government and the planters are relying on the success of the Hawaiian and American experiments in the same direction

I have looked up as much information as I can find of what has been done in this direction, and it appears that certain Australian ladybirds (of the genera *Chilocorus*, *Orcus*, and *Cryptolaemus*) have been found to attack and feed on species of *Lecanium* (*Insect Life*, IV., 164-65)

Although the official papers are silent on the point, it may be inferred that the destructive coffee-scale of Southern India is *Lecanium viride* first described by Green from Ceylon. It is therefore quite within the bounds of possibility, that Mr. Newport may provide a return for the Rs. 5000, by bringing back ladybirds that really will be useful in India.

At the same time, though not necessarily foredoomed to failure, the experiment is being carried out on quite unscientific lines.

No study appears to have been made of the Indian parasites of *Lecanium viride*. Whatever the native home of this scale may be, it is presumably not Australian, as was *Icerya purchasi*; there are plenty of Indian ladybirds, which perhaps already accomplish all the destruction that imported kinds could do.

The

the Planters Association
but I wd omit in the
after the sentence marked
A in Mr Blandford's letter
Mr Newport was
quite aware of the
question ~~that~~ ~~concerning~~
regarding the selection of
a ladybird wh. affects
the particular scale bug
found here

Yes, this shd be done.

JG

24/5/98

A.S.P.

24.5.98

JG
28/7/98

Please see draft order put up
on the docket of the Current for
approval.

M
16/5/98

Levy

16/5/98

4/0/

The success of the "Vedalia experiment" has given rise to a sort of delusion that one must inevitably turn to Australia for coccidiphagous insects; and it is worth pointing out that Icerya aegyptiacum, Dougl. which has been introduced into India, was found in 1894 to be attacked in the compound of the Indian Museum, Calcutta, by an indigenous species of Vedalia, V. funida(rossipennis). In this case the introduction of the Australian V. cardinalis would have been utterly unnecessary.

In considering the chance of success of such experiments, it is well not to lose sight of considerations thus expressed by Riley in a paper which lays down authoritatively the principles of such economic methods (Insect Life VI., 130 et seq.) "There is very little to be hoped from the miscellaneous introduction of predaceous or parasitic insects for the suppression of a phytophage which they do not suppress in their native home or in the country from which they are brought", also "All other things being equal, we should expect the species which are beneficial in Australia to be less so when brought to this country (America) a deduction which brings out still more clearly the exceptional nature of the case of Vedalia and Icerya".

Whatever good result the present experiment may have must depend on Mr. Newport's capacity for carrying it out, and as the Planters' Association has vainly asked for the services of a skilled entomologist, he must be presumed not to be one.

To study and collect suitable predaceous species from among the various Australian Coccinellidae appear to me to be no easy task even for an expert, and to be probably beyond the powers of a non-entomologist. [If the work is virtually done for Mr. Newport by entomologists resident in Australia, it will be they, rather than he, who will deserve any credit and reward attaching to the experiment.]

The selection of the species is only an initial difficulty; possibly injurious forms must be eliminated, a point on which Mr. Koebele, who introduced Icerya into America was specially cautioned. The examples collected must be brought back alive, and sufficient investigation of their life-history

&c. made to enable this to be done. Moreover they must be fed during the voyage on Australian scale-insects, unless Mr. Newport exports with him a supply of shrubs infested with Lecanium viride on which to test and subsequently to rear the ladybirds. In either case there is a risk that unskilled management might introduce an Australian scale into India, or vice-versa, which would be a most lamentable outcome of an ill-considered experiment.

I am &c.,

(Signed) Walter F.H. Blandford

W. T. Thiselton-Dyer, Esq., C.M.G., F.R.S

14/

7

N^o 8.

Copy letter from the
Director, Royal Gardens,
Kew, dated 17th March
1898, and enclosure.

CHIEF SECRETARY
18 MAY 1898
GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Referred to in Madras
Revenue Despatch N^o 4
dated 28th April 1898.

When given for copying
When copied
When examined
When signed

189

READ AGAIN G.O., No.
189

DATED

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURES TO G. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

PAPERS NOT FILED UP, BEING MEANT FOR DESPATCH
IN ORIGINAL.

A A A A A A A

N.B.—
A = Copy in full.
B = Not to be copied.
P = Copy abstract only.
Q = Copy heading only.

Regular No. _____
Miscellaneous No. _____

of 189 .

Revenue (1898) Department.

CURRENT No. 3174

To: _____
 From: _____
 The Ryots of Kandukur,
 Havali,

 Nellore Dist.

Encl.
Order inv. no. 2295 d/26th May 98.

Transferred to the
Board of Revenue. 1

No.

RS
25-5948

26.5.58

Dated 24 May

Received 25-

Registered 25

Enclosures 1 Ltr: R. Pass for Rev: *af*

Spare copies.

To the Board of Rev (Rev. Scott)

SUBJECT.

Soliciting early orders to the collector of Melkote to stop collections till the disposal of appeal petition re: refusal of remission in certain villages of Kandukur Taluk.

Noli

The petition referred to in the telegram is apparently addressed to Govt. When it is received it may also be transferred to the Board.

CS 0175788