M.R.O. 14—10,000—21-4-22

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 142 — Press / ~~Mis.~~

278-281

Dated 30 — 1 — 1862.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 30th January 1862.

No. 278. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 2nd May 1861, No. 2,251:—

Read the following letter from J. SILVER, Esq., Collector of Tinnevelly, to J. D. SIM, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, Chepauk, dated 26th April 1861, No. 189.

SIR,

As it is proposed to have another Pearl Fishery next year at the same place where the fishery was lately held, I consider it advisable to leave the Koottoos and other buildings erected this year standing, and beg, therefore, to request that the Board will procure for me the sanction of Government for the entertainment of a Peon and a Cavilgar, at a monthly outlay of Rupees 12-8-0, to guard the buildings. I consider this far better than to sell the materials now, which would involve the heavy cost of erecting new buildings next year.

Ordered to be submitted for the sanction of Government, with the Board's recommendation in favor of the Collector's proposal.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON, *Secretary.*

No. 279. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 1st July 1861, No. 3,410:—

Read the following letter from the Collector of Tinnevelly, dated 10th June 1861, No. 246.

(In Cons. 17th June 1861, No. 3,682.)

1. Ordered that the above detailed report on the results of the recent Pearl Fishery be submitted for the information and orders of Government.

The result cannot but be considered very satisfactory.

2. After deducting all charges that have been incurred in connection with the examination and guarding of the Banks since 1857, and those for the fishery itself, the whole amounting to Rupees 28,415, there remains a net balance of receipts at the credit of Government amounting to no less than Rupees 2,21,861.

3. The fishing continued for twenty-three days, and was closed mainly because it was understood that the available funds at the disposal of the Merchants present were exhausted.

Including the shares of the Divers, it is estimated that a sum of Rupees 3,84,000 was invested in the first sale of the Oysters, and purchasers on a large scale are believed to have realized ample profits.

4. It is cause for much satisfaction that no sickness broke out among the very large numbers of people assembled, and the Board do not doubt that this testifies to very careful management on the part of the local authorities.

5. There are still some banks that have not been touched, and on these the Collector proposes to hold a small Fishery early in the coming year. He estimates the expenses for the guard boats, &c., for the intermediate period at about Rupees 5,000.

A considerable amount of stores purchased for the late Fishery are on hand, and will greatly reduce the expense of that proposed for next year. The Collector will take measures to ensure that proper care is taken of all such stores and materials as are not of a perishable nature, or likely to deteriorate by keeping at least for the short interval.

6. It remains for the Board to notice the recommendations made by Mr. Silver in paragraphs 40, *et seq.*, of his letter above recorded.

7. The Board have much pleasure in supporting the Collector's recommendation that Rice batta in addition to Revenue batta be granted to the Detachment of the 17th Regiment Native Infantry who attended for the maintenance of order, and whose conduct appears to have been most orderly and exemplary. They would leave for the consideration of Government

Mr. Silver's suggestion that some gratuity be offered to Lieutenant Obbard who commanded the Detachment.

8. The Board beg further to support Mr. Silver's proposal that Captain Phipps, Master Attendant at Tuticorin, be appointed Superintendent of Pearl Banks of the coasts of Madura and Tinnevelly in addition to his present office. They do not doubt that the interests of the State in this valuable property will be promoted by the appointment.

9. In their Order of 28th April 1860, No. 676, Revenue Department, the Government while sanctioning the increase of Captain Phipps' pay to Rupees 300 per month, promised to consider his claim to a further increase after a successful fishing, and in their Order of 18th January 1861, No. 132, Revenue Department, while declining to sanction the high rate of temporary pay proposed for him by the Collector as Superintendent of the Fishery, they adhered to the opinion that a subsequent gratuity or permanent increase of salary would be a better mode of remuneration. Mr. Silver accordingly proposes that the Master Attendant's pay be raised permanently to Rupees 500 per mensem, with retrospective effect from 1st March last when the fishing commenced.

In Cons. 30th April 1860, No. 1,986.

10. The Board are not prepared to support this application to the full extent. They observe that when in April 1860, the Collector first brought forward the subject of the insufficient amount of pay attached to the office of Master Attendant at Tuticorin, he proposed that Captain Phipps' pay should be raised to Rupees 350, and he grounded his application to some extent on the amount of duty and responsibility appertaining to it in connection with the Pearl Banks.

11. This is the highest rate of remuneration assigned to the office at any of the subordinate Ports of the Presidency, and the Board do not think it advisable to adopt a permanent increase beyond this amount on the ground of the recent fishery, which is an occasional event, having been very successful.

12. They however fully recognize Captain Phipps' claim to special remuneration for the heavy duties and great responsibilities that devolved on him on this occasion, but they think that this will be best remunerated by a handsome gratuity.

13. They resolve therefore to recommend that Captain Phipps' pay be fixed at Rupees 350 per month, as Master Attendant and Superintendent of Pearl Banks, and that the Collector be authorized to pass to him a gratuity of two thousand Rupees in recognition of his special services on the late occasion, with the expression of the satisfaction of Government at the successful conclusion to which he brought the experiment.

14. The Board regret that they are unable to support the application made by the Collector in the concluding paragraph of his letter for commission to himself and his Head Assistant at the rate allowed on former occasions. The system of remunerating their Officers by allowing a commission on extra sources of Revenue was abolished by Government in 1836, and while the Board fully admit that much credit is due to Mr. Silver for the interest he has manifested in the development of this source of Revenue, they cannot recommend the revival in this instance of a system that was deliberately abandoned as objectionable.

(A true Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON, *Secretary.*

No. 280. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 16th August 1861, No. 4,479:—

Read the following letter from J. SILVER, Esq., Collector of Tinnevelly, to W. HUDLESTON, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, Chepauk, dated Tenkasy, 30th July 1861, No. 338.

SIR,

Referring to the Board's Proceedings of the 2nd May last, I have the honor to request that the Board will be pleased to obtain the early sanction of Government for the entertainment of a Peon and Cavilgar at a monthly cost of Rupees 12-8-0, to guard certain of the Pearl Fishery buildings proposed to be preserved for the Fishery next year.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 30th January 1862.

Submitted to Government, with reference to the Board's Proceedings, dated 2nd May 1861, No. 2,251.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON *Secretary.*

No. 281. ORDER THEREON, 30th January 1862, No. 142.

1. The second paper recorded above contains the Collector's report on the final result of the Tinnevelly Pearl Fishery held in March and April last. The first and third relate to certain matters connected with the same subject.

2. The detailed report of the Collector, dated 10th June last, No. 246, which is reviewed by the Board of Revenue in their Proceedings* of 1st July, now under consideration, sketches†, in the first place, the different operations which have been undertaken in regard to the Pearl Banks since the last Fishery in 1830, and to which, especially those recently adopted, is doubtless owing, in a great measure, the gratifying result now reported.

* No. 3,410.

† Paragraphs 1 to 30.

3. The principal steps taken since 1857 towards promoting the growth of the Oysters and discovering the localities where they lodge, have been the building of three guard boats at a cost of about Rupees 19,700; the employment of European divers; the abolition of the Chank Fishery; the purchase of a diving apparatus; and the frequent inspection of the banks by the Master Attendant of Tutacorin, under whose immediate personal charge all operations connected with the Pearl Banks were placed in 1859.

4. The Fishery itself, which is described in paragraphs 30, *et. seq.*, of Mr. Silver's report, began in March, and in consequence of interruptions from bad weather, lasted till past the middle of April. The number of days on which the boats were actually employed was 23. Captain Phipps, the Master Attendant examined forty-four banks, but six only were fixed upon for fishing on the present occasion, and of these two, entirely, and one, partially, failed. The total receipts on account of Government amounted to Rupees 2,50,276, but if the one-third share allowed to the Divers, and the produce of the two boats to the Jadee Talaven, or Head Diver, in remuneration for these services, be included at the same rate‡ at which the Government Oysters were sold, the total outturn may be taken at more than three lacs and eighty-four thousand Rupees.

‡ 14 to 40 Rupees a thousand.

5. The charges amounted to Rupees 28,415 as shown in the following abstract: and these, it is to be remarked, include all disbursements made on account of the examination and protection of the banks since 1857, as well as for the actual Fishery held this year.

Paragraph 2, Board's Proceedings 1st July 1861, No. 3410.

Abstract of Charges.

		Rs.	A.	P.
1	Temporary Establishment for guarding the Pearl Banks from October 1857 to January 1860	969	10	2
2	Cost of examination of Pearl Banks in 1857 and 1858	3,654	0	11
3	Constructing Buoys	187	8	0
4	Repairing Pattimar "Powna" (subsequently lost at sea) and provisions to do.	1,247	15	9
5	Charge for extra Canoe	42	6	0
6	Donation to, and travelling expenses of, the late Captain Robertson ...	1,617	1	0
7	Expenses connected with the Guard Schooners "Emily," "Edith" and "Pearl," viz.:—			
	(1.) Interest on their cost, and depreciation... ... 2,627 1 1			
	(2.) Stores, coir cables, water casks, &c., for do. ... 283 5 7			
	(3.) Pay of establishment for do.... ... ... 2,075 10 2			
	(4.) Provisions and contingent charges 612 11 3			
		5,598	12	1
8	The Diver, Mr. Burton's, salary from 5th November 1860 to 22nd April 1861	2,465	2	0
9	Special Establishment ashore and afloat during the fishery, including Medical, Police and Sanitary, Departments	4,407	15	4
10	Contingent charges during fishery	357	8	8
11	Stores on account of fishery	1,000	0	0
12	Printing charges	767	0	0
13	Cost of buildings required at fishery	4,000	0	0
14	Cost of Diving apparatus	2,100	0	0
		28,414	15	11

6. The particulars embraced in the foregoing Statement are given in detail in the enclosures to the Collector's letter Nos. 1 to 9. The Government observe in No. 4, "Account particular "of charges incurred in purchasing stores" certain items which are out of place. The charge of Rupees 4-12-0 for a telegram should have been entered in the Statement of Contingencies: and the wages of a crew employed in guarding certain Pearl Banks during the Fishery, as well as payment for a jolly boat attached to the schooner "Emily" during the same period, are certainly not charges appertaining to "stores."

RS.	A.	P.
2,50,276	0	0
28,414	15	11
2,21,861	0	1

7. The net amount then which remains to the credit of Government is Rupees 2,21,861-0-1. Besides which the buildings, Diving apparatus, and a considerable quantity of stores are still on hand. The Collector proposes to have another Fishery this year; a large quantity of Oysters were left, he reports,* on one of the banks, and other banks will be ready by that time; and with this view he has recommended (see the first and third papers recorded above) that the Kottoos and other buildings erected last year, should be left standing, and that he should be permitted to entertain a Peon and a Cavilkar at a monthly outlay of Rupees 12-8-0 for their preservation. The Board support this recommendation, and the Government resolve, therefore, to apply for the necessary sanction. In the meantime the requisite servants can be entertained.

* Paragraph 34 of Mr. Silver's report.

8. This item of Rupees 12-8-0, it is observed, is included in enclosure No. 11 to the Collector's letter, a statement showing the probable disbursements in connection with the guard schooners, &c., until the next Fishery and amounting to nearly Rupees 5,000. It should be stated whether any provision has been made for this expenditure in the Budget.

† No. 3,410.

9. In paragraphs to 14 of their Proceedings of the 1st July† the Board notice certain recommendations made by the Collector.

I. and II. In regard to the issue of Rice batta in additon to Revenue batta to the Detachment of the 17th Madras Native Infantry, who attended at Tuticorin during the Fishery, and with reference to Mr. Silver's proposal to present a gratuity to Lieutenant Obbard, the Officer in command of the said detachment, the Government regret that they are unable to allow the remuneration suggested. It is contrary, they find, to Military usages,* and no service of an onerous or difficult nature was performed or danger incurred.

* Paragraph 53, Revised Pay Code, page 80.

III. For the reasons set forth by the Board in paragraphs 8 to 13, the Government resolve to appoint Captain Phipps, Superintendent of Pearl Banks off the Coasts of Madura and Tinnevelly, in addition to his present office, and to raise his pay from Rupees 300 to Rupees 350 per mensem in anticipation of the sanction of the Government of India, to whom the necessary application will be forwarded. A gratuity of Rupees 2,000 is also sanctioned for disbursement to him, to be debited to the Pearl Fishery.

IV. The Government concur in the remarks made by the Board in reference to the application for commission put forward by the Collector for himself and his Head Assistant. They are fully sensible of the exertions made by both officers towards the successful issue of the Fishery, but they cannot revive a custom which has become obsolete.

(Signed) C. G. MASTER,
Deputy Secretary to Government.

In Cons. 17th June 1861, No. 3,682.

From J. SILVER, Esq., Collector of TINNEVELLY,
dated Tenkasy, 10th June 1861, No. 246.

I have the honor to submit the following detailed report upon the Pearl Fishery lately held at Tuticorin, and to forward the accounts of receipts and charges connected with it.

2. From the past history of the Tinnevelly Pearl Fisheries it appears that the last Fishery was held in 1830, when the net product was within a trifle of a lac of Rupees. Two years previously there had been a fishing, which produced a net return of Rupees 68,952. Since 1830, there have been no less than thirteen examinations of the Pearl Banks off the coasts of Tinnevelly and Madura, some partial, some more complete, but all more or less unsatisfactory in their results.

3. Although the several examinations made since 1830 afforded little encouragement to proceed with further investigation, yet as it appeared extraordinary that the banks belonging to Ceylon should always be productive, and those attached to the continent prove always barren, the Government in Extract from the Minutes of Consultation, dated 18th April 1856, No. 385, authorized another trial and sanctioned an estimate of Rupees 1,404 for a search to be conducted under the superintendence of Captain Robertson, late Master Attendant of Tuticorin.

4. The result of Mr. Robertson's continued examination of the Pearl Banks having shown that there was no prospect of a Pearl Fishery for three or four years to come, and that the unsatisfactory state of the banks was owing to chank boats and fishing boats anchoring on the banks, I recommended to the Board in my letter of the 25th June 1857, that two Government boats should be employed for nine months in the year to guard the banks, and requested the favorable consideration of the Board and Government to the labor and additional personal expense, incurred by Captain Robertson in the examination of the Pearl Banks, and solicited that the Government might be pleased to grant him such remuneration as might be considered proper in consideration of the same.

5. On the 15th July following, I recommended to the Board that two boats should be supplied for the protection of the Pearl Banks at a cost of Rupees 3,168, including charges on account of crew.

6. The Government in Extract from the Minutes of Consultation, dated 28th September 1857, No. 991, observed that the failure of the banks was owing to the imperfect precautions hitherto employed to preserve the oysters from the depredation of poachers, and authorized an expenditure of Rupees 2,400 for the construction of two boats, and a further sum of Rupees 768 to meet the expenses of manning them; and also directed me to arrange, in communication with the Master Attendant, for the building these boats and to consider whether the boat "Laura," purchased for the use of the Master Attendant, might not also be employed in the protection and examination of the Pearl Banks.

7. The Government further sanctioned the expenditure of Rupees 963-10-0 actually disbursed in the examination of the Pearl Banks, and a donation of Rupees 500 to Mr. Robertson in recompense for his labor and the expense incurred by him in the inspection of the Banks.

8. On the 3rd November 1857, I recommended that the boats should be built at some port on the western coast, and requested the sanction of Government for the employment of a canoe and crew at a monthly outlay of Rupees 34-8-0, to guard the Pearl Banks until a more efficient guard could be provided, as the "Laura" could not be employed on this duty owing to the bad condition of the boat. The Government in Extract from the Minutes of Consultation, dated 2nd December 1857, sanctioned the employment of a temporary establishment for guarding the Pearl Banks, at a monthly cost of Rupees 34-8-0.

9. The Master Attendant recommended in his letter dated 16th January 1858, that as the two boats sanctioned by Government are inadequate for the protection of the Pearl Banks, extending nearly 80 miles, one of the small Schooners built by the Bombay Government, should be obtained for this purpose, and at the same time requested permission to attend the Pearl Fishery on the coast of Ceylon, to enable him to make himself more thoroughly acquainted with the method and requirements for conducting a Fishery at Tuticorin; and at my recommendation* the Government in Extract from the Minutes of Consultation, dated 23rd February 1858, permitted Captain Robertson to attend the Pearl Fishery in Ceylon. The Government in a subsequent Extract, dated 9th March 1858, sanctioned a sum of Rupees 500 to be paid to the Master Attendant for defraying the expenses of attending the Pearl Fishery at Arippoo and Manar, but the sum actually expended by the Master Attendant amounted only to Rupees 286-13-0.

* 23rd January 1858.

10. Up to this period all arrangements relating to the Pearl Banks, their examination and protection, had been conducted under my own immediate superintendence, and in March 1858 I returned to England on sick certificate.

11. The Master Attendant, in his letter of the 9th April 1858, requested permission to proceed to Cochin, for the purpose of making preliminary arrangements for the construction of the boats and the Government, at the recommendation* of the late Acting Collector, Mr. Mayne, authorized him in Extract from the Minutes of Consultation, dated 18th May 1858, No. 643, to proceed to Cochin. To meet the travelling expenses to and from Cochin, Government sanctioned the disbursement to Mr. Robertson of a sum of Rupees 200 in Extract from the Minutes of Consultation, dated 17th July 1858, No. 273. Subsequently, a further sum of Rupees 630-4-0 was sanctioned by Government on the 28th October 1859, to be paid to him on account of his travelling expenses from Tuticorin to Allippee and *vice versâ*.

* Letter dated 14th April 1858.

Vide Collector's letter, dated 10th June 1858.

12. The Master Attendant in his letter, dated 10th April 1858, suggested that to ensure a successful Fishery, three boats and a suitable vessel for the accommodation of the Inspector, would be absolutely necessary for guarding and examining the banks, and the Government in Extract from the Minutes of Consultation, dated 31st May 1858, No. 723, requested to be informed if an armed Pattamar was at all required. The Master Attendant in his letter, dated 29th June 1858, stated that an armed Pattamar was not at all adapted for guarding the banks, and suggested that a vessel from 40 to 45 feet keel might be built at Trivandrum, but the Government had then accepted the Pattamar "Powna" offered by the Bombay Government.

Vide Collector's letter, dated 16th August 1858.

13. For constructing 48 buoys for mooring around the Pearl Banks, a sum of Rupees 187-8-0 was sanctioned by Government on the 15th October 1858.

14. The Master Attendant having recommended that a complete inspection of all the banks on the coast should be made, the Government in Extract from the Minutes of Consultation, dated 29th November 1858, No. 1,598, sanctioned a sum of Rupees 2,585-4-8 for making this complete inspection.

15. Captain Robertson in his letter of the 22nd April 1858, recommended that the chank fishery should be discontinued from May 1858. This letter was forwarded to the Board on the 16th August following. The Government in Extract from the Minutes of Consultation, dated 15th October 1858, No. 1,406, ordered that the chank fishery should be put an entire stop to, when the term of the current contract expires, and that efforts should be made to effect a compromise with the Contractors, and to check their depredations forthwith. The Government in their Proceedings dated 3rd July 1860, ordered that after the expiration of the current lease, the chank fishery should be conducted by the Master Attendant at Tuticorin, under the orders of the Collector. This order was confirmed by the Secretary of State for India, in his despatch dated 31st August 1860.—*Vide* Proceedings of the Madras Government, dated 9th October 1860.

16. The Pattamar "Powna" arrived at Tuticorin on the 25th February 1859, but as it was out of order, it was repaired at a cost of Rupees 1,223-15-9.—*Vide* sanction of Government, dated 29th July 1859.

17. After the Pattamar "Powna" was repaired, Captain Robertson left the port of Tuticorin on the 12th March, in this vessel to proceed to Arippoo, for the purpose of making enquiries into the system adapted for guarding these banks. He left Manar on his return in the same vessel on the 28th of that month, but she unhappily foundered in a squall, and all on board were lost.

18. The Board in their Proceedings of the 9th June 1859, wished to know what was being done towards carrying out Captain Robertson's plan. Mr. Levinge in his letter of the 15th June 1859, stated that the banks were not poached, and that an additional canoe, at a monthly cost of Rupees 34-8-0, would be sufficient for guarding the Pearl Banks, and that from an examination made by the Jadee Talaven, there appeared to be no prospect of a valuable fishery for at least the next two or three years, and he proposed a further examination of the same banks by the head Diver, and that the future management of the banks might with advantage be left to the Collector. But the Government, in their Order dated 25th July 1859, observed that all the operations connected with the Pearl Banks should be under the immediate personal charge of Captain Phipps, the then Master Attendant.

19. Owing to the high price of timber and the scarcity of labor at Tuticorin, the Master Attendant recommended in his letter of the 17th September 1859 that the guard boats should be built at Cochin, and forwarded an estimate for Rupees 8,442-8-0, or Rupees 2,442-8-0 in excess of the amount sanctioned by Government on the 18th February 1859, as the original estimate was made for open boats, while those he proposed to be constructed were to be decked fore and aft, and schooner rigged; and besides to be of larger dimensions than those originally contemplated. This estimate was submitted to the Board with a letter dated 19th idem. In the mean time, the Master Attendant reported in his letter of the 26th September 1859, that in the absence of any other suitable vessels, he had employed the report boat "Laura" for guarding the banks, and recommended that to complete the crew of the boat, a Parmandady on 8 Rupees per month should be appointed, discontinuing the temporary establishment entertained at a monthly cost of Rupees 34-8-0. This arrangement was sanctioned by Government on the 27th October 1859. The next month I returned from England and resumed charge of my district.

20. Subsequently, at the recommendation of the Master Attendant, a guard canoe was placed as formerly at an expense of Rupees 34-8-0 per mensem, in addition to the report boat "Laura," to prevent the chank boats approaching too near the Pearl Banks, under the sanction of Government, dated 12th March 1860.

21. The Superintendent of Marine, to whom the estimates for the two boats were sent by the Board, having raised the estimate for the larger boat to Rupees 6,830-12-4, with an addition of Rupees 600 or 700 for rigging, signals, &c., on the ground that the sum proposed for the same was inadequate, the Government in their Proceedings of 14th November 1859, authorized the expenditure of a sum not exceeding Rupees 11,190, in the construction and outfit at Cochin of

the two boats above-mentioned. Afterwards, a supplemental estimate of Rupees 1,788-1-10 was sanctioned by Government on the 31st May 1860 for completing the boats. The total amount sanctioned for the two boats amounted to Rupees 12,978-1-10. The actual cost which amounted to Rupees 13,689-2-5, was sanctioned by Government on the 1st September 1860. A further sum of Rupees 162-7-5 was expended in supplying the Schooner "Emily" with two coir cables, and was sanctioned by Government on the 1st September 1860.

22. Stores, water-casks and canoes, required for the Schooners "Emily" and "Edith," were purchased at a cost of Rupees 120-14-2, under the sanction of Government dated 3rd September 1860.

23. The guard Schooners "Emily" and "Edith" arrived at Tuticorin on the 31st May 1860. For working these vessels a sum of Rupees 215 was sanctioned by Government on the 17th March 1860.

24. The Master Attendant was permitted by Government in their Order of 10th September 1860, to proceed to Ceylon for the purpose of making himself acquainted with the arrangements usually adopted there, in Pearl Fisheries; accordingly Captain Phipps proceeded to Ceylon on the 20th and returned to Tuticorin on the 28th September 1860, after obtaining the requisite information.

25. The Master Attendant, in forwarding his report on the condition of the Pearl Banks, reported that a successful fishery might be held in 1861, and recommended the removal of the healthy young oysters from bank No. 5 to 15 which was blank, and the Government sanctioned the expenditure of Rupees 134 for the purpose above-mentioned in their Order, dated 15th March 1860; but this experiment was abandoned.

26. The Government in their Proceedings of 16th December 1859, called for a report as to what further measures than those already sanctioned would be required for the conservancy of the Pearl Banks. At the request of the Master Attendant, I recommended* to the Board that, in addition to the two boats sanctioned to be built at Cochin, another vessel should be procured for watching the banks on the coast of Madura exclusively. The Government in their Proceedings of the 20th March 1860, sanctioned the construction of another small vessel, at a cost of Rupees 3,660. This estimate having been since found insufficient, a revised estimate of Rupees 6,000 was sanctioned by Government on the 20th August 1860. This boat was built at Cochin, and she arrived at Tuticorin on the 25th March 1861. For working this vessel and for provisions a sum of Rupees 87 and 18, respectively, was sanctioned by Government on the 8th March 1861.

*4th and 5th January 1860.

27. The Master Attendant in this letter of the 14th November 1859, reported upon the advisability of employing European Divers for examining the Pearl Banks, and the Government of Ceylon was solicited to allow the services of the European Divers employed by them when required at Tuticorin; accordingly they engaged and despatched to Tuticorin two European Divers, who examined the banks and returned to Ceylon under the orders of Government, dated 26th April 1860; their services were much appreciated by the Master Attendant and the Jadee Talaven.

28. On the 21st May 1860, I recommended to the Board that the Government of Ceylon should be addressed, in view to ascertain if the services of the Divers can be made available to this Government. They were accordingly requested on the 8th September 1860 to spare their Divers with Diving apparatus, but they having intimated that they could not spare their, then only, English Diver, they were again requested to engage Mr. Burton, who was lately a Diver in the service of that Government; accordingly he was engaged, and his terms were accepted.—*Vide* Proceedings of the Madras Government, dated 3rd November 1860, No. 2,036, and 23rd November 1860, No. 2,221.

29. At my recommendation the Government authorized, in their Order dated 29th October 1860, the purchase of Mr. Cocq's diving apparatus, for a sum not exceeding Rupees 2,100.

30. The present Master Attendant, Mr. Phipps, examined forty-four banks, and reported that the six banks named in the margin were covered with oysters, and that it was time for them to be fished; and further that it would not be advisable to put off the contemplated fishery in March 1861.

Cruchianpar.
Cruchiantondupar.
Nagarapar.
Oottepar.
Klattepar, and
Auttonbadupar.

31. The Pearl Fishery was advertised to commence on or about the 1st March 1861, but owing to the non-arrival in time of a sufficient number of boats, and to very unfavorable weather, the fishery was commenced only on the 7th March. At first only 100 boats were advertised to be sent out alternately, 50 boats a day, but a larger number of boats having arrived from various ports, it was found necessary to increase the number gradually, to prevent disappointment and loss to parties who had come from great distances. The Divers' one-third share of the oysters, which they received immediately on coming ashore, was disposed of in the bazar, mostly in small quantities by retail, in the same afternoon. The prices were the first day 70 and 80 Rupees per 1,000 oysters brought ashore that day, and sold by the boat men; but they quickly fell to Rupees 40, 25, 20 and 17 the same night.

32. The sale of the Government share of the oysters was conducted by public auction in presence of my Head Assistant and the Master Attendant, who was also Superintendent of the Fishery. It was first commenced at Rupees 15, which gradually rose to 40 Rupees per 1,000. The boats which proceeded to the banks each day, generally returned with large loads. During the whole time of the Fishery, the weather was often very unfavorable. On the 8th April heavy rain with a strong wind commenced, which stopped all work up to the 14th; and consequently the fishing was prolonged to the 18th April, and the last sale was held on the 19th April. On the whole, there was twenty-three days fishing.

33. Of the six banks proposed to be fished, Cruchiantondupar and Oottepar entirely failed; and Klattepar did not yield the quantity that was anticipated. In the first, the oysters were found nearly all dead, and for the second and third the cause is not apparent.

34. The fishery having for causes before shown lasted much longer than was expected, the Merchants had become short of funds, consequently it was considered advisable to close it for this year after the 23rd day's fishing. When the Fishery was closed, a large quantity of oysters were left on the southern part of one of the Vypaur banks. These, with the oysters on the banks off Tuticorin not yet fished, are left for the next Fishery in 1862 when, as the oysters will be one year more advanced, the Master Attendant considers that a considerable revenue may be expected. The European Diver who examined these banks reported that there are great quantities of oysters in them.

35. The total number of oysters sold by Government was 1,05,83,000, which realized a sum of Rupees 2,49,308. The prices fluctuated from Rupees 14 to Rupees 40 per 1,000. Of this sum, Rupees 2,33,908 were paid in cash and the remainder, or Rupees 15,400, by bills drawn by other Collectors on me for the purchase of oysters. To this, if the proceeds of the Divers' one-third share and those of the two maniem boats allowed* to the Jadee Talaven in remuneration for his services, calculated according to the rates at which the Government oysters were sold, be added, the total out-turn would amount to Rupees 3,84,098. The claims of the temples to send free boats to the fishery were disallowed under the orders of the Board of Revenue, dated 19th January 1861, No. 338.

* *Vide* Proceedings of the Board of Revenue dated 12th February 1861, No. 811.

36. I believe that all purchasers on a large scale realized large profits. The Master Attendant says that many people have expressed themselves quite satisfied, and a few others not so, and that on the whole, he is of opinion that a fair profit has been made by the buyers.

37. The total receipts from the fishery amounted to Rupees 2,50,276, including fines and the amount realized from the Pearl Fishery, Abkarry rent, &c. From this sum deducting the charges of Rupees 28,414-15-11 as per accompanying Account Current, the net profit to Government stands at Rupees 2,21,861-0-1.

38. It is gratifying to be able to state that though many thousands of people were assembled, there was no epidemic either at the fishery station or in the town of Tuticorin, from the beginning to the end of the fishery. Order was completely preserved and the fishery conducted without the slightest disturbance.

39. Of the medicines supplied for the Pearl Fishery, only a small quantity was spent and the remainder was forwarded to my Huzzoor Cutcherry.

40. The detachment of the 17th Regiment at Palamcottah, which was sent to preserve order at the Pearl Fishery, behaved admirably, and as the Officer Commanding the Regiment has addressed me a letter on the 4th ultimo, explaining that all the 3rd class privates on this detachment have been considerable losers by their drawing only revenue batta and losing rice batta and requesting that both revenue batta and rice money should be allowed to the men, I beg to forward copy of Colonel Babington's letter and of my reply, for the favorable consideration of the Government and solicit the allowance sought, which is very small, may be granted to the men of the detachment, in token of approbation of their excellent conduct. I would further request that such gratuity as the Government may approve, be presented to Lieutenant Obbard, the officer in command of the detachment, who was employed on this duty from 1st March till 20th April.

41. I have now to advert to the services of the officers more especially employed in conducting this fishery to a successful termination, resulting in a large increase of revenue to the State: and first, of the Master Attendant, Captain Phipps. This officer has shown the greatest zeal in all matters connected with the fishery, his exertions have been unceasing. I beg to recommend that he should be appointed Superintendent of Pearl Banks off the coasts of Tinnevelly and Madura, in addition to his office of Master Attendant at Tuticorin. The interests of Government imperatively require that an able officer should hold this post.

42. In their Order of 28th April 1860, No. 676, the Government, while sanctioning an increase of Rupees 100 to Captain Phipps' salary, promised to consider his claim to further increase after a successful fishing. The Government in their subsequent Order, dated 18th January 1861, No. 132, adhered to the opinion that it will be better to remunerate him either by a permanent increase to his salary, or by a gratuity for his exertions at the fishing. On my communicating this to Captain Phipps, he informed me he would prefer an increase to his salary rather than a gratuity; and as his future services will be valuable, I beg to recommend that his pay be permanently increased to 500 Rupees a month, equal to that of a 2nd Class Deputy Collector, to have effect retrospectively from the 1st of March 1861, the date on which the fishery was commenced, and that he may now be formally appointed Superintendent of Pearl Fisheries off the coasts of Tinnevelly and Madura.

43. In conclusion, I beg to add that no exertions have been left unused by myself and my Head Assistant, Mr. Garstin, to ensure the fishery being successful. My own part, in all matters relating to the Pearl Banks for the last five years, is detailed in this report, and in soliciting the usual commission hitherto allowed to the Collector and his Head Assistant on account of the extra labor, I trust that the Board will admit our claim to it and support the same. A reference to the correspondence noted in the margin will show that on account of the Pearl Fisheries that were held in this district in 1822 1828 and 1830, a commission of 1½ per cent. on the net proceeds was accorded to the Collector and his Head Assistant, in the proportion of two-thirds to the former and one-third to the latter.

Govt.'s letter to Board dated, 22nd Dec. 1829, No. 952.
Do. do. dated 15th June 1830.

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ENC. 1.

ABSTRACT.—Statement of receipts and disbursements on account of the Pearl Fishery which took place at Tuticorin in the district of Tinnevelly, in the months of March and April 1861.

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ENC. 2.

ABSTRACT.—Account Particular of charges incurred on account of the establishment of the Pearl Fishery which took place at Tuticorin in the district of Tinnevelly, in the months of March and April 1861.

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ENC. 3.

ABSTRACT.—Account Particular of charges incurred on account of contingencies of the Pearl Fishery which took place at Tuticorin in the district of Tinnevelly, in the months of March and April 1861.

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ENC. 4.

ABSTRACT.—Account Particular of charges incurred in purchasing stores, &c., for the use of the Pearl Fishery at Tuticorin in the district of Tinnevelly, for the months of March and April 1861.

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ENC. 5.

ABSTRACT.—Account Particular of charges for printing Pearl Fishery notices, forms, &c., as per sanction of Government, dated 16th January 1861, No. 116.

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ENC. 6.

ABSTRACT.—Account Particular of charges for the construction of Pearl Fishery buildings, under the sanction of Government dated 21st January 1861, No. 152.

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ENC. 7.

ABSTRACT.—Account Particular of charges incurred on account of the Temporary establishment entertained for guarding the Pearl Banks.

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ENC. 8.

ABSTRACT.—Account Particular of charges incurred on account of the pay of establishment of the Guard Schooners "Emily," "Edith" and "Pearl."

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ENC. 9.

ABSTRACT.—Account Particular of charges incurred on account of provisions for the crew of the Schooners "Emily," "Edith" and "Pearl," and contingent charges under the sanction of Government, dated 17th March 1860, No. 405, and 8th March 1861, No. 541.

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ENC. 10.

ABSTRACT.—Copies of correspondence between the Collector and the Officer Commanding the 17th Regiment, Palamcottah.

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ENC. 11.

ABSTRACT.—Statement showing the probable disbursements till next Fishery at Tuticorin, in the district of Tinnevelly.

Exd. J. Tulloch.

No. 142. Revenue Departmen

Proceedings of the Madras Government
30th Jany 1862.
Read the following Pro
ceedings of the Board of Revenue.

Submitting a letter from the Collector of Tinnevelly with the Boards recommendation that the request of the Collector to entertain two Peon and Watcher to guard the Pearl Fishery buildings may be sanctioned	Here Enter 2nd May 1861 No. 2251.
Submitting with remarks a letter from the Collector of Tinnevelly, reporting on the results of the recent Pearl Fishery —	Here Enter 1st July 1861. No. 3,410.
Submitting with reference to the Boards Proceedings of the 2nd May 1861, a letter from the Collector of Tinnevelly, requesting sanction for entertaining two persons to guard certain Pearl Fishery Buildings —	Here Enter 16th August 1861 No. 4479.

No. 142

The second paper recorded above contains the Collectors report on the final

Copyist's a Letter to England
dated 13th March 1862.

Enclosure in Proceedings
of the Board of Revenue
to the Secretary to Govt
No. B. dated 1st July 1861
No. 3410.
with 11 papers.

1861. Despatch

No. 1729/62

Letter from the
Collector of Tinnevelly
to the Secretary to the Bd
of Revenue dated 10th June
1861 No. 246. Re Pearl
Fishery.

result of the Tinnevelly Pearl Fishery held in March and April last. The first and third relate to certain matters connected with the same subject—

2. The detailed report of the Collector dated 10th June last No. 246, which is reviewed by the Board of Revenue in their Proceedings of 1st July now under consideration sketches, in first place, the different operations which have been undertaken in regard to the Pearl Banks since the last Fishery in 1830. and to which, especially those recently adopted, is doubtless owing, in a great measure, the gratifying result now reported—

× No 34, 10

※ p-1-30.

3. The principal steps taken since 1857 towards promoting the growth of the Oysters, and discovering the localities where they lodge, have been the [illegible] of

the

three Guard boats at a cost of about Rupees 19700; the employment of European divers, the abolition of the Chank Fishery, the purchase of a diving Apparatus; and the frequent inspection of the banks by the Master Attendant of Tuticorin; under whose immediate personal charge all operations connected with the Pearl Banks were placed in 1859.

4 The fishery itself, which is described in paras 30 et seq of Mr Silver's report, began in March, and in consequence of interruptions from bad weather, lasted till past the middle of April. The number of days on which the boats were actually employed was 23. Captain Phipps, the Master Attendant examined forty four banks, but six only were fixed upon for fishing on

the present occasion, and of these two, entirely, and one, partially, failed— The total receipts on account of Government amounted to Rs 2,50,276— but if the one third share allowed to the Divers, and the produce of the two boats to the Jader Jolaven, or Head Diver, in remuneration for these services, be included at the same rate at which the Government Oysters were sold, the total outturn may be taken at more than three lacs and eighty four thousand Rupees

5 The charges amounted to Rupees 28,415—0—0— as shown in the following abstract: and these, it is to be remarked include all disbursements made on account of the examination and protection of the banks since 1857, as well as for the actual fishery held this year—

× 14 to 40 Rs a thousand

p. 2. Boards Proceedings 1st July 1861. Rs 3410—

2

4

Abstract of Charges

1.	Temporary Establishment for guarding the Pearl banks from October 1857 to January 1860.		969	10	2
2.	Cost of examination of Pearl banks in 1857 & 1858.		3,654	0	11
3	Constructing buoys		187	8	0
4	Repairing Pattimar "Powna" (subsequently lost at Sea) & provisions to ditto		1247	15	9
5	Charge for extra Canoe		42	6	0
6	Donation to, and Travelling Expences of, the late Captain Robertson		1617	1	0
7.	Expences connected with the Guard Schooners "Emily" "Edith" and "Pearl" Viz—				
	(1) Interest on their cost; and depreciation	2627 1 1			
	(2) Stores. coir cables- water casks &c- for Dc	283 5 7			
	(3) Pay of Establishment for Dc	2075 10 2			
	(4) Provisions & contingent charges.	612 11 3	5598	12	1
8	The Diver, Mr Burton's, salary from 5th November 1860 to 22 April 1861		2465	2	0
9.	Special Establishment ashore & afloat during the fishery- including Medical, Police and Sanitary, Departments		4407	15	4
10.	Contingent charges during fishery		357	8	8
11	Stores on account of fishery		1000	0	0
12	Printing charges		767	0	0
13.	Cost of buildings required at fishery.		4000	0	0
14	Cost of diving apparatus		2100		
			28,414	15	11

6 The particulars embraced in the foregoing statement are given in detail in the enclosures to the Collectors letter Nos 1 to 9.

The Government observe in No 4- "Account particular of charges incurred in purchasing Stores" certain items which are out of place- The charge of Rs 4-12-0. for a Telegram should have been entered in the Statement of Contingencies: and the wages ~~salary~~ of a crew employed in guarding certain Pearl Banks during the fishery, as well as payment for a jolly boat attached to the schooner "Emily" during the same period, are certainly not charges appertaining to "Stores"—

7. The Net amount then which remains to the credit of Government is Rs 2,21,861-0-1- Besides which the buildings, Divine

250,276-0-0
28,414-15-11
2,21,861 0 1

× p. 34 of Mr Silvers report—

apparatus, and a considerable quantity of Stores are still on hand- The Collector proposes to have another fishery in 1862; a large quantity of Oysters were left, he reports, on one of the banks, and other banks will be ready by next year; and with this view he has recommended (see the first and third papers recorded above) that the Kottoos and other buildings erected this year, should be left standing, and that he should be permitted to entertain a Peon and a Cavilkar at a monthly outlay of Rupees 12-8-0 for their preservation— The Board support this recommendation, and the Govt resolve therefore to apply for the necessary sanction- In the meantime the required Servants can be entertained—

This item of Rs 12-8-

it is observed, is included in Enclosure № 11. to the Collectors letter, a Statement shewing the probable disbursement in connection with the Guard schooners Sea until the next fishery in 1862 and amounting to nearly Rupees 5000-

It should be stated whether any provision has been made for this expenditure in the budget—

9 In paragraphs 7 to 14 of their Proceedings of the 1st July, the Board notice certain recommendations, made by the Collector—

№ 3410.

I. In regard to the issue of Rice batta in addition to Revenue Batta to the detachment of the 17th Madras Native Infantry who attended at Tuticorin during the fishery the Governor in Council is pleased to accede to the Board's proposal. The Collector will disburse the amount and it will be entered as a charge against the Fishery.

II. The Board leave for the consideration of Government whether it would be desirable to refer to Mr Silvers proposal to present

Dept
Let me see
proof

11

From the enquiry made in the Military Department, it appears that Lieut Ibbard is not entitled to any gratuity and that the Privates are to be allowed an extra remuneration at 1 Rupee 8 Annas per month provided they had not been employed longer than 2 months on the Pearl Fishery vide para 53 Page 80 of the Military Pay Code. The orders on this head will issue from the Military Dept. but if pst will decide whether they will adhere to the rule, a decd circulation will be issued

SPS

- Should address to the Collector of Tuticorin
Give Collr Remuneration except

gratuity to Lieutenant [illegible] Board the officer in command of the said detachment — the Government regret that they are unable to allow the remuneration suggested — as it is contrary, they find to Military usages† and no service of an ordinary nature was performed or danger incurred —

† Paragraph 53 Revised Reg Code page 80

I showed Lieutenant [illegible] — I have [illegible] on [illegible] Jealousy with

Fo

III For the reasons set forth by the Board in paras 8 to 13 the Government resolve to appoint Captain Phipps Superintendent of Pearl Banks off the coasts of Madura and Tinnevelly, in addition to his present office — and to raise his pay from Rs. 300 to Rs. 350 per mensem in anticipation of the sanction of the Government of India to whom the necessary application will be forwarded — A gratuity of Rupees 2,000 is also sanctioned for disbursement to him; to be debited to the Pearl fishery —

IV The Government concur in the remarks made by the Board in reference to the application for commission put forward by the Collector for himself and his Head Assistant — They are fully sensible of the services made by both officers towards the successful issue of the Fishery, but they cannot revive a custom which has become obsolete —

~~In reporting the result of this Fishery to the Supreme Government will be taken to recommend that a special grant be allowed out of the Proceeds towards the Collection of the Cotton road into Tuticorin~~

Cyphers

4 Copies to the Sec. to Govt
3 — Asst. Surgeons
3 — Asst. Surgeons

Copy in a Letter to England
dated 13th March No 15 of 1862

(3)

Relating to the
Fisheries in Tinnevelly

Revenue 1862 Departt.
Proc: of Govt for January
No 142

Proc: of the Madras Govt.
Dd 30 January 1862.

Bd of Rev 22d Feb 62 No 2942

Orders passed on
Board's Proceedings relative
to Pearl Fishery in Tinnevelly.

No 278 @ 281