M.R.O. 14—10,000—21-4-23

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 860

283 284

Press Mis.

Dated 17 - 4 - 1862.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 17th April 1862.

No. 283. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 2nd April 1862, No. 2,167 :—

Read the following letter from J. SILVER, Esq., Collector of Tinnevelly, to W. HUDLESTON, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, Madras, dated Tuticorin, 28th March 1862, No. 120.

SIR,

1. I have the honor to report for the information of the Board and Government, that the Pearl Fishery was closed to-day. My letter of the 20th instant will have informed the Board, that on the two northern banks the Autombadu Par and Vypar Par, to which it was intended to limit the Fishery this year, a deficiency of oysters was found. On the first named bank the oysters were found only in patches, and on the second bank great numbers of dead shells were found. The result was that although high prices were obtained at the auction sales, the boats were only able to bring in small loads as compared with those obtained last year.

2. On the southern bank named, the Puttu Par which it was then resolved to fish, the oysters were found to be fewer in quantity than was anticipated, and various difficulties existed in fishing this bank from Tuticorin. In the first place, the distance was considerable being upwards of twenty miles, the depth of water on the bank was reported to be from 2 to 2½ fathoms deeper than on the northern banks, and large quantities of sea weed was found on it, which added to the depth of water made it difficult for the Divers to bring up many oysters, so that except on the first day, very small loads were obtained, and the boatmen though at first anxious to fish this bank, soon got discouraged. On the two last occasions on which the boats attempted to reach the bank, only three or four succeeded in doing so, all the rest having been obliged to put back, from the current and the southerly wind against them, so that at last, they declared they would not attempt to go out again, and the Fishery flag was accordingly pulled down this morning.

3. I have already reported in my letter of the 20th instant, that it was not deemed advisable to fish the great southern bank, called the Kariacaravel Par, this year ; that will be reserved for next year, when the fishing station will be established at Trichendoor, and it will I hope yield a valuable fishery. The oysters on it are reported not yet to have attained their full growth, but will be ready for being fished next year, and in the meantime every care will be taken for the conservation of the bank. I think the Puttu Par has been pretty well cleared, but any oysters remaining on it, will come in for next year's fishing.

4. The sum realized from the Fishery up to yesterday, amounts to Rupees 86,722. There still remain a few oysters to be sold, together with a small quantity of pearls obtained from washing the odd numbers of oysters remaining after each day's sale, and when these are disposed of, I will report the gross amount realized. The establishment will be at once paid and broken up, and I will have the materials of the Kottoo and other buildings disposed of by public auction, as next year's Fishery will be to the south at Trichendoor.

5. I am most thankful to report what I know the Board and Government will hear with pleasure, that there has been no sickness whatever at the Fishery, notwithstanding the great concourse of people assembled. Every precaution possible for sanitary purposes was taken, and the station has consequently been perfectly healthy.

Ordered to be submitted to Government, though the Fishery has not been as successful in the present as in the past year, the measures adopted by Mr. Silver merit the approval of the Board.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) R. A. DALYELL, *Sub-Secretary.*

No. 284. ORDER THEREON, 17th April 1862, No. 860.

The Government will await the receipt of the further report promised by the Collector.

(Signed) C. G. MASTER,

Deputy Secretary to Government.

Year 1862 Vol. 1 page
Rec. of Governor & Council 970.
Proceedings of the Board
of Revenue.

Dated 2nd
Sept. 3
Rec'd 4th April 1862.

No 2167

Submitting a letter
from the Collector of Tuti-
corin reporting that the
Pearl Fishery was closed
on the 28th March 1862.

No 2830 & 2824.

No 2869 — 17 April
With new order.

Gen Appx. No 12

No 860.

The Govt will await the
receipt of the further report promised
by the Collector.

From W. Elliot Esqre
17th April 1862
To the Chief Secy to Govt
Board of Revenue