

Revue de par Amont

N 227.

Dated 18+2-1859

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Fort Saint George, Revenue Consultation of 25th February 1859.

No. 31. Read the following Extract from the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 20th January 1859, No. 214.

Read again letter from the Acting Collector of Tinnevely, dated 9th October 1858, No. 337, giving cover to a communication from the Master Attendant at Tutacurin and requesting that, should that Officer's proposal for building the boats required for the Pearl Banks, under his own superintendence be approved, their estimated cost may be sanctioned.

(In Con. 23d November 1858, No. 4659.)

Read also letter from the same Officer, dated 11th December 1858, No. 408, forwarding copy of a communication from Captain Robertson stating that the two small boats alluded to in the above correspondence are absolutely required notwithstanding the armed Pattimar expected from Bombay.

(In Con. 24th December 1858, No. 5642.)

Read also letter from the same Officer, dated 9th December 1858, No. 406, enclosing copy of a communication from Captain Robertson in which he states that it will be necessary for him to proceed to the Western Coast for timber and coir-rope to construct the buoys sanctioned by Government for the Pearl banks.

(In Con. 24th December 1858, No. 5613.)

Read also letter from the same officer, dated 21st December 1858, No. 418, forwarding copy of a letter and its enclosure from the Master Attendant reporting the result of a partial examination of ten of the Pearl banks off the coast of Tutacurin.

(In Con. 28th December 1858, No. 5845.)

Read also letter from the same officer, dated 4th January 1859, No. 3, transmitting copy of a letter and of its enclosure from the Master Attendant stating that he should proceed to Alleppy and Cochin to procure the materials required for constructing buoys.

(In Cons. 10th Jany. 1859, No. 107.)

Rev. Dept No. 991, dated 28th Sep. in Con. 7th Oct. 1857, p. 9.
Do. do. do. 1126, do. 12th do. 18th Aug. 1858, p. 1.
Do. do. do. 1409, do. 15th do. 18th Oct. do. p. 3

Resolved that the foregoing communications be submitted for the consideration and orders of Government with reference to

the Extract Minutes Consultations noted in the margin.

2. In his letter dated 17th August 1858, and which was laid before Government on the 17th September following with the Board's Proceedings, No. 3499, the Acting Collector of Tinnevely reported that the Resident of Travancore considered it impracticable to build the boats sanctioned by Government for the Tinnevely Pearl Banks at Alleppy, and that a copy of his communication had been forwarded to Captain Robertson, the Master Attendant at Tutacurin, whose reply when received would be transmitted for the Board's information.

*Ex. M. C. No. 1409, dated 15th in
Cons. 18th Oct. 1858, R. D.*

Vide second letter recorded above.

3. In the first communication above recorded this promise was fulfilled, but as Government in the meantime had accepted the armed Pattimar, offered by the Bombay Government, the Board addressed the Acting Collector requesting to be informed whether under the above circumstance any alteration was rendered necessary

in the plan approved by Government for guarding the banks. From the reply received it will be seen that Captain Robertson is of opinion that the two smaller boats are still very essential to the ultimate success of the Fishery, one of them being intended to assist the Pattimar in guarding the twenty-two most important banks which stretch for 16 miles North and South off Tutacurin, a duty which could not be efficiently performed by the Pattimar alone. The other boat will doubtless have ample employment in the work of inspection as well as in guarding the remaining banks. In fact Captain Robertson considers three more

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boats necessary to guard the entire line of banks, for he states that "to ensure complete success guard boats should be placed at Punnicoil, Veerapautianpatam, and Mookoor in charge of respectable descendants of Europeans born in this country to keep the fishing boats and cattamarans from approaching the banks."

4. As the two boats originally sanctioned, are thus shewn to be still required, the Board will advert in continuation of para. 2 of these Proceedings to the information afforded in the letter first recorded above, omitting all notice of the larger boat which has been rendered unnecessary by the acceptance of the Pattimar.

5. It appears that Captain Robertson having expressed a suspicion that the objection to the building of the boats at Alleppy under the superintendence of the Commercial Agent might have proceeded from a misunderstanding that it was intended to impose on the Travancore Government the responsibility of the work, the Acting Collector again addressed the Resident on the subject but no reply had been received up to the date of his communication.

6. In the meanwhile Captain Robertson invited tenders at Cochin and submits an Estimate (the others received being considered unworthy of his notice) from Messrs. Oughterson and Co. amounting to Rupees 8,500 as shewn in the margin.*

7. This Estimate is however considered exorbitant by Captain Robertson who proposes, in order to avoid any further delay, that, the superintendence of the construction of the boats should be left entirely in his own hands, and he has reason to believe that they will cost together "much less than 6,000 Rupees," which sum though more than double the outlay (Rupees 2,400) sanctioned by Government for the purpose, is considerably less than the estimate of the above-mentioned Firm. Captain Robertson is also satisfied that the work will be done more faithfully and much sooner at Alleppy than Cochin, the time required by Messrs. Oughterson and Co. for the three boats being four or five months.

8. In his letter of 30th August 1858, the Master Attendant states that his Estimates are based upon the price of Teak timber given by the Resident in a letter addressed to the Collector about the middle of August last and again in his letter of 18th September mentions 17 Rupees per Candy as the price at which timber can be had at Alleppy; the Board presume that the prices are the same, or under any circumstances that the estimated maximum cost of 6,000 Rupees will not be exceeded.

9. If Government approve of the present proposal it will be necessary to cancel their former sanction of Rupees 2,400 for the construction of the boats and to authorize instead the expenditure of Rupees 6,000, exclusive of the working of the vessels for which Rupees 768 was sanctioned for a season.

10. As the Oysters are stated to be fast arriving at maturity and there is reasonable hope of a good Fishery if due care in guarding the banks be exercised, the Board recommend that sanction be accorded to the Master Attendant's proposition for superintending the construction of the boats himself.

11. With his letter dated 9th December 1858, the Acting Sub Collector in charge forwards a communication from the Master Attendant in which that Officer states that, it will be desirable for him to proceed to the Western Coast for the timber and coir-rope required to construct the buoys sanctioned by Government for the Pearl Banks, to which proposal the Board conceive there is no objection. Captain Robertson should take this opportunity of visiting Alleppy and at once make the necessary arrangements for building the boats.

12. In his letter dated 21st December last, the Acting Collector forwards a Report from Captain Robertson on a partial examination of ten banks made on the 9th and 13th December last. The results of this inspection are pronounced "in every respect most satisfactory," but Captain Robertson does not maintain his former opinion that the banks may be fished early in 1860, as

H. B. D.
* Two boats measuring feet $35 \times 8\frac{3}{4} \times 5\frac{1}{2}$ of Teakwood, Copper fastened and coppered with masts, sails, one anchor and chain painted and complete, Rs. 4,250 each = Rs. 8,500.

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"from observations made during his visit to the Fishery at Aripo last March and from subsequent results connected with that Fishery," he is induced to think that the Banks on this Coast had better not be disturbed until the Oysters are from $5\frac{1}{2}$ to 6 years old. Two pearls obtained from 2 out of 50 Oysters taken from one of the Banks last examined are forwarded for the inspection of Government.

13. The necessity of employing the three guard boats alluded to in the latter part of para. 3 of these Proceedings in addition to the Pattimar and the two boats originally sanctioned, is again urged by the Master Attendant; but in the absence of an Estimate of the cost, the Board are precluded from recommending the measure at present. The Acting Collector is requested to express his opinion on this further proposal of the Master Attendant and to furnish an Estimate of the charge for carrying it out.

14. The repair of the Flag Staff is not within the province of the Board, and application should be made on this subject to the Superintendent of Marine.

15. In the last of the communications above recorded Mr. Levinge forwards a letter from Captain Robertson in which he suggests that the Acting Collector should permit him to proceed to the Western Coast, in anticipation of the leave applied for.

16. The Board did not understand from Mr. Ames' letter that they were expected to apply to Government for leave for Captain Robertson, but they resolve now to recommend that he may be allowed to proceed to the Western Coast as proposed in para. 11.

17. The Board have to add that on an application from the Superintendent of Marine at Madras, they have authorized the Acting Collector of Malabar to advance the Master Attendant at Cochin (in communication with Captain Robertson) such sums as may be actually necessary for the repair, &c. of the "Pownah," the main yard of which is stated to have been broken.

(A true Extract.)

(Signed) J. D. SIM, Secretary.

No. 32. ORDER THEREON, No. 227; dated 18th February 1859.

Para. 1. In these Proceedings the Board of Revenue submit letters from the Acting Collector of Tinnevely and the Master Attendant at Tuticoreen, on the subject of the boats required for guarding the Pearl Banks off the Tinnevely coast, and on the result of a partial examination of some of those banks on the 9th and 13th December 1858.

2. In Extract Minutes of Consultation 12th August 1858, No. 1126, the Master Attendant was granted an extension of leave to enable him to complete his arrangements for building at Alleppe the two boats for the protection of the Pearl Banks for which a sum of 2,400 Rupees was sanctioned on the 28th September 1857. From difficulties which presented themselves in the building of boats at that place, the Master Attendant was induced to invite tenders at Cochin, and the result is the estimate now submitted of Messrs. Oughterson and Co. to build the two boats at a cost of 8,500 Rupees. The Government concur with Captain Robertson and the Board of Revenue in regarding this estimate as exorbitant, and they resolve to avail themselves of his offer to superintend the construction of the boats, the cost of which he estimates will "be much less than 6,000 Rupees." They accordingly cancel so much of the order of the 28th September 1857 as authorizes an expenditure of Rupees 2,400 for boats and Rupees 768 for working them for one year, and are pleased to sanction in lieu, an expenditure not exceeding Rupees six thousand for the two boats. Captain Robertson being thus authorized to superintend the construction of the boats, is permitted to proceed to the western coast, for this and the other purposes specified in para. 11 of the Boards' Proceedings.

3. The letter of the Acting Collector dated 21st December 1858, No. 418, gives cover to one from Captain Robertson dated 17th idem, reporting the result of a partial examination of ten of the banks off the coast of Tuticoreen. On six banks healthy oysters from 4 to $4\frac{1}{2}$ years old have been found in large quantities; on the remaining four banks the oysters were younger and less plentiful. Neither Sooram nor Kalicay, animals stated to be destructive to pearl oysters, were found on any of the banks. Captain Robertson remarks that from his report

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on the Pearl Banks in 1856 a Fishery over the first mentioned six banks might be looked for about the commencement of 1860, but that from his observations during his visit to the Pearl Fishery at Arripo in Ceylon, and "from subsequent results connected with that Fishery," he would not recommend that the Banks on this coast should be disturbed until the oysters have attained the age of $5\frac{1}{2}$ to 6 years. The Government are disposed to regard the results of this last inspection of the banks as given above to be satisfactory; but as it now appears that no fishery can take place until 1862, it seems desirable that measures of precaution against depredation should be well considered and organized and brought into operation with as little delay as possible, especially as Captain Robertson's last report holds out such fair promise of success in the fishery. The Government cannot regard the measures heretofore suggested for this purpose as the result of any well digested plan. Not to go far back they would observe that in 1857 Captain Robertson considered two boats sufficient for the work, and recommended as the more economical arrangement, that they should be built in preference to being hired, the cost of the former being shewn at Rupees 2,400 and the latter at 5,400. The Government regarded the proposed establishment as altogether inadequate, and applied to the Ceylon Government for information as to the strength and cost of the establishments on that coast; in the mean time a Canoe was employed to meet present emergencies. This was followed by an application from Captain Robertson for a small Schooner from Bombay. No such vessel, however, was available; but the Bombay Government offered an armed Pattamar for the service. Captain Robertson then discovered that the two boats could not be built for less than 3000 Rs. each. The armed Pattamar he stated was not adapted for guarding the Banks and proposed to build a vessel of from 40 to 45 feet keel instead. This proposition fell to the ground when the offer of the Pattamar was accepted by this Government, and now that this vessel is at hand the boats to aid it in its operations, have yet to be built, and it is represented that to ensure complete success three more guard boats are required to guard the entire line of banks.

4. The Board have not recommended this last measure and have called on the Acting Collector for his opinion on it as well as for an estimate of the charge for carrying it out. The Government are of opinion however, that the time has arrived for the adoption of more systematic measures for the protection of the Pearl Banks on the Coasts of this Presidency; and as the best means of obtaining the necessary information, the Board of Revenue will consider whether it would not be advisable to depute an officer for the special object of collecting all particulars relating to the system of conservancy established on the Ceylon coast, as well as with respect to the cost and strength of the force employed, the extent guarded, and such other information as is likely to be useful. The Governor in Council is of opinion that Captain Robertson would be a suitable person for this employment; and if he is willing to accept it the Board will arrange details in communication with the Acting Collector of Tinnevely. Captain Robertson will be allowed his expenses for proceeding to and returning from Ceylon, with suitable compensation for his trouble; and the Board will state after his return, what they may consider a proper amount.

5. The Government approve of the Board's order (P. 17) authorizing the Acting Collector of Malabar to advance to the Master Attendant at Cochin such sums as may be necessary for the repair of the armed Pattamar "Pownah."

(Signed) J. D. BOURDILLON,
Secretary to Government.

No. 107.

From V. H. LEVINGE, Esq., Acting Collector,
dated Tinnevely, 4th January 1859, No. 3.

Adverting to a letter from this Office dated the 9th ultimo No. 406, I have the honor to transmit herewith for the consideration and orders of the Board of Revenue copy of a letter and of its enclosures received from the Master Attendant at Tutacurin.

2. Captain Robertson, suggests that he should, in anticipation of the leave solicited by him being granted, proceed without delay to Alleppee and Cochin to procure the materials required for constructing Buoys for the Pearl Banks.

ENC. 1.

From CAPTAIN W. ROBERTSON, Master Attendant,
To the COLLECTOR of TINNEVELLY,

dated Tutacurin, 1st January 1859, No. 1.

In consequence of having mentioned in my letter of the 7th ultimo, that it would be desirable I should proceed by Sea as early as possible to the Western Coast to procure materials for constructing Buoys for the Pearl Banks. Mr. Ames, Acting Sub Collector in charge, considered it advisable to forward an application for leave, to enable me to carry out my design, but not having had any further notice on the subject, and as the Banks cannot be effectually inspected without Buoys, I have the honor to suggest that I should, in anticipation of leave being granted, proceed without delay to Alleppee and Cochin particularly as it will be necessary to inspect the timber which has been ordered, and now ready for shipment at Alleppee. Coir will have to be purchased at Cochin on my arrival there.

Freight has already been engaged in the Schooner "Henrietta" which leaves this about the 4th Instant with Salt for Alleppee, and I propose going round in her.

I have also the honor to bring to your notice that the Pattimar "Pownah" is now at Cochin without Commander and Crew, and otherwise in a crippled state as will be seen by the accompanying letter from the Master Attendant at Cochin and my presence may be necessary to see that the Vessel is properly fitted and manned, and have her sent round here as early as possible as she is now absolutely required for guarding the Pearl banks on this Coast.

I beg to mention that I shall require to be absent about ten days, or a fortnight, to complete my arrangement at Alleppee and Cochin.

From CAPTAIN JOHN CASTOR, Master Attendant,
To CAPTAIN W. ROBERTSON, Master Attendant, TUTACORIN,
dated Cochin 21st December 1858, No. 224.

With reference to the annexed letter, from the Superintendent of Marine, I have the honor to request that you will be good enough to inform me, when you wish the "Pownah" to be sent round to your Port.

2. Do you wish me to engage a Syrang and Crew, for any fixed period, or just merely to deliver the Vessel over to you; and please state the number of Lascars I am to engage to navigate her with.

3. The Main Yard is broke, do you wish it to be replaced by a new one, or fished for the present. The Yard is a very long one, and it is likely to cost much.

4. I shall feel obliged by your replying to these questions with as little delay as possible, and informing me if you wish any thing to be done to the Pattimar, before her leaving this port. She has one boat.

From SUPERINTENDENT of MARINE,
To the MASTER ATTENDANT, COCHIN,

dated Madras, 15th December 1858, No. 5012.

With reference to your letter of the 4th Instant, reporting the arrival of the "Powuah" at Cochin, I have the honor to inform you that she is destined to act as a guard boat to the Tinnevely Pearl banks, some of which are expected to be in a fit state for fishing in 1860.

2. You are therefore, in communication with the Master Attendant at Tuticorin, to engage a competent Syrang and Crew, and send her to that Port, first making such repairs to her as may be absolutely necessary.

From CAPTAIN W. ROBERTSON, Master Attendant,
To CAPTAIN JOHN CASTOR, Master Attendant, Cochin.

dated Tutacurin, 28th December 1858.

With reference to your letter of the 21st instant, accompanied by copy of one from the Superintendent of Marine, I have the honor to inform you that, the "Pownah" was to have been sent down here in an efficient state, in charge of a Commissioned Officer of the Indian Navy, as will be seen by the enclosed copy of an Extract from the Minutes of Consultation, under date 15th October 1858, but as she appears to be without a Commander, or Crew, and otherwise in a crippled state, I can only suggest that you be guided by the instructions received from the Superintendent of Marine.

Should a Syrang and Crew be engaged at Cochin, the period of service should be fixed for eighteen months if possible, seeing that the Lascars on the coast cannot handle a Pattimar.

As I am ignorant of the size of the "Pownah" and never having been on board of a Pattimar you will be better able to judge what number of men will be required to navigate her. I must also leave any repairs the Vessel requires to your discretion.

I purpose leaving this about the 2nd or 3rd of next month (January) for Alleppee and Cochin, to collect some materials already ordered, and which will be necessary for carrying out the inspection of the Pearl Banks on this Coast and should the "Pownah" be ready for leaving by the time I reach the latter place, I think it would be desirable to detain her for two or three days, in order to put on board what materials may be ready, or what she can carry, the remainder can be put on board of a Vessel already engaged at Alleppee.

Due notice of my departure from this will be forwarded to you.

No. 161.

EXTRACT from the PROCEEDINGS of the COURT of WARDS, dated 14th January 1859.

Read letter from the Superintendent of Marine, Madras, dated 4th January 1859, No. 18.

(In Con. 5th Jany. 1859, No. 29.)

The Acting Collector of Malabar will advance such sums to Captain Castor, Master Attendant at Cochin, as may be actually necessary for the repair &c. of the Poonnah, communicating with the Master Attendant of Tutacurin, Captain Robertson, on the subject.

(A true Extract.)

(Signed) J. D. SIM,
Secretary.

To

P. GRANT, Esq., Acting Collector of Malabar.
Copy to Superintendent of Marine and Acting Collector of Tinnevely.

28/12/58

No. 29.

From J. J. FRANKLIN, Esq., Superintendent of Marine,
dated Madras, 4th January 1859, No. 18.

No. 1634, dated
December 1858.

The Government in Extract Minutes of Consultation marginally noted, directed that arrangements should be made for taking charge of the pattimar Pownah at Cochin, for supplying her with a crew, and finally for her despatch to Tuticoreen where, on inquiry, it was found that she was to be employed as a guard boat over the Tinnevely pearl banks.

2. The vessel arrived a short time back and was duly made over to the Master Attendant at Cochin, who has been directed to effect such repairs as were absolutely necessary—the main yard having been found sprung—and, in communication with the Master Attendant at Tuticoreen, to engage a crew and despatch her to that port. He has now requested to be put in funds to enable him to carry out his instructions, and as the expences more properly fall under the Revenue department than in that of the Marine, I have to request the favor of your instructing the Collector of Malabar to advance such sums as may be necessary.

3. The letter from the Master Attendant at Cochin is herewith forwarded.

ENCLOSURE 1.

From CAPTAIN JOHN CASTOR Master Attendant at Cochin,
To J. J. FRANKLIN Esq., Superintendent of Marine, Madras,
dated Cochin, 23d December 1858, No. 227.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 15th instant No. 5012, and pursuant to the instructions therein contained I have addressed the Master Attendant of Tuticoreen on the subject of the pattimar "Pownah" being sent round to that port.

2. In engaging a crew and purchasing provisions &c. for the vessel to go round with to Tuticoreen I shall require funds, and beg to request you will be so good as to instruct the Collector of Malabar to place at my disposal such sums as I may require for this purpose.

3. Should the pattimar require any repairs, I shall attend to them before I despatch her from this.

bs/bs/59

Memo: I have written up the
Press on Rail banks to the
present date, but it must be
read in continuation of page
41, as para 12 of the old ma-
nuscript was not now such.
There is some confusion
in the papers regarding 2 boats
sent home in 1857 for repairing
the banks owing to an error
first on the part of the Dy. Secy
& afterwards on the part of the
Secy regarding the Ballance
from Bombay as a substitute
for these boats. Hence from
the indistinctness of the Board's

JP. 89/59

present proceedings of 20
January 1859.

long through the Cor.
- confidence it appears
that all the inspection of
made have by a partial
action; no measure proposed
himself come before the
a half & half way without
agreed to accept. Now that the
which has ceased and
sincerely I trust is an
connection on the part of
for to turn the Bank to
account, it is waiting of a

consideration whether it would
not be desirable to send
a proper Officer to Ceylon
^{by the mail} in communication with
the Officers there, all the
details of management
of the Royal Dockyard. Both
time & expense will be saved
& the first will be enabled
to adopt some definite course.
For the last thirty years our
Officers have only been making
experiments, without securing
any advantage or even
useful information.

65/89/59

A. 227

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation
Under date the 18th February, 1859.

Read the following
Extract from the Proceedings of the
Board of Revenue.

[Here enter 20th January 1859, N^o 214]

P. 1. In these Proceedings
the Board of Revenue submit
letters from the Acting Collector
of Tinnevely and the Master
Attendant at Tuticorin, on
the subject of the Boats required
for guarding the Pearl banks
off the Tinnevely Coast, and
on the result of a partial ex-
amination of some of those
banks on the 9th and 13th Decr.
1858.

In Extract Minutes of
Consultation 12th August 1858

N^o 26

And is further ordered
that the Board of Revenue
be directed to report to the
Board of Revenue the
result of the examination
of the Pearl banks off the
Tinnevely Coast, and on the
result of a partial ex-
amination of some of those
banks on the 9th and 13th
Decr. 1858.

Dr. 89/59

N^o 1126 the Master Attendant
was granted an Extension of
leave to enable him to complete
his arrangements for building
at ~~Alappi~~^{Alappi} ~~in the Travancore Country~~ the
two boats for the protection of
the Pearl banks for which a
sum of 2400 Rupees was sanctioned
on the 28th September 1857. From
difficulties which presented
themselves in the building of
Boats at ~~Alappi~~^{that place}, the Master
Attendant was induced to
invite tenders at Cochin, and
the result ~~of this proceeding~~ is
the estimate now submitted of
Mess^{rs} Oughterson & Co. to build
the two boats at a cost of 8,500
Rupees. The Government concur
with Captain Robertson ^{& the Board of Rev.} in
regarding this Estimate ^{as} ~~as~~ ~~as~~
-bitant, and they resolve
~~therefore~~ to avail themselves
of his offer to Superintend
the

2
the construction of the boats,
the cost of which he estimates
will ^{"be much less than"} ~~fall far short of~~ 6,000 Rupees.
They accordingly cancel so
much of the order of the 28th
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an expenditure of Rupees 2400
for boats and Rupees 768 for
working them ^{for one year}, and are pleased
to sanction in lieu, an expendi-
ture not exceeding Rupees six
thousand for the two boats.
Captain Robertson being thus
authorized to Superintend the
construction of the boats, is per-
mitted to proceed to the Western
Coast, for this and the other
purposes specified in para 11 of
the Board's Proceedings.

3. The letter of the
Acting Collector dated 21st Decr.
1858 N^o 118 gives cover to ^{one} ~~a~~ report
from Captain Robertson ^{dated 17th Decr.} re-
specting the result of a partial
examination

examination of ten of the banks
off the coast of Tuticoreen. On
six banks healthy oysters from
4 to 4½ years old have been
found in large quantities; on
the remaining four banks the
oysters were younger and less
plentiful. Neither *Soram* nor *Kalicay*,
animals stated to be destructive to pearl oysters,
were found on any of the banks.

Captain Robertson remarks that
from his report on the Pearl
banks in 1856 a Fishery over the
first mentioned six banks might
be looked for about the com-
mencement of 1860, but that
from his observations during his
visit to the Pearl Fishery at
Aripo in Ceylon, and from
subsequent results connected
with that Fishery he would
not recommend ^{that} the Banks on
this Coast ^{should} ~~being~~ disturbed until
the Oysters have attained the
age of 5½ to six years. The

Government

10 3
Government are disposed to
regard the results of this last
inspection of the Banks as
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but as it ^{now} appears that no
fishery can take place until
1862, it seems desirable that
measures of precaution against
depredation should be well
considered & organized and
brought into operation with
as little delay as possible, es-
pecially as Captain Robertson's
last report holds out such fair
promise of success ^{in the fishery}. The Govern-
ment cannot regard the measures
heretofore suggested for this pur-
pose as the result of any well
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far back they would observe
that in 1857 Captain Robertson
considered two boats sufficient
for the work, and recommend-
ed as the more economical
arrangement

arrangement, that they should be built in preference to being hired, the cost of the former being shown at 2400 and the latter at 5400. The Government regarded the proposed establishment as altogether inadequate, and applied to the Ceylon Government for information as to the strength and cost of the Establishments on that Coast; in the mean time a Canoe was employed to meet present emergencies.

This was followed by an application from Captain Robertson for a small Schooner from Bombay. ~~No such Vessel,~~ ^{however,} was ~~not~~ available but ~~the Bombay Govt~~ ^{the Bombay Govt} offered ~~was received to supply~~ an

Armed Pattamar for the service, ~~of this Government~~. Captain Robertson then discovered that the two boats could not be built for less than 3000 Rupees each.

each. The armed Pattamar he stated was not adapted for guarding the Banks and proposed to build a vessel of from 40 to 45 ^{feet} keel instead. This proposition fell to the ground when the offer of the Pattamar was accepted by this Government, and now that this vessel is at hand the boats to aid it in its operations, have yet to be built; and it is represented that to ensure complete success three more guard boats are required to guard the entire line of Banks.

4 The Board have not recommended this last measure and have called on the Acting Collector for his opinion on it as well as for an estimate of the charge for carrying it out. The Government approve of this proceeding; ^{as} and

as of the Board's order in ~~Parity~~
~~of their having~~ giving authority
~~in parity~~ to the Acting Collector
of Malabar to advance the
Master Attendant at Cochin
such sums as may be necessary
for the repair of the ^{armed} Pattamar
Pownah, ~~received from Bombay~~.

~~and of opinion~~

The Government ^{and of opinion} however,
think that the time has arrived
for the adoption of more systematic
measures for the protection of the
Pearl banks on the Coasts of
this Presidency; ~~and as~~
~~communicate with their informant~~,
and as the best means of obtaining
the necessary information, ~~the~~ ^{the} Board of Revenue will consider
whether it would not be advisable
to depute an Officer for the special
object of Collecting all particulars
relating to the system of Conservancy
established on the Ceylon Coast, as
well

The suggestion made
by Mr. Macintosh is a
good one - It should
be I think acted
upon - Perhaps Mr.
Macintosh at Ceylon
made the necessary
inquiries himself
& may now be in
possession of the re-
quisite knowledge
to bring the subject
forward.

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well as with respect to the cost
and strength of the force employed,
the extent guarded, and such
other information as is likely to
be useful. The Governor in
Council is of opinion that
Captain Robertson would be a
suitable person for this employ-
ment; and if he is ^{being thought} willing
to accept it the Board will
to arrange details in communi-
cation with the Acting Collector
of Tinnevely. Captain Robertson
will be allowed his expenses
for proceeding to and returning
from Ceylon, with suitable
compensation for his trouble;
and the Board will state after
his return, what they may
consider a proper amount.

5. The Govt. approve
of the order (P. 17) ~~to~~
authorizing the actg. Commr. of Malabar
to advance to the Master

attendant at Cochin

such sums as may be

necessary for the repair

of the armed Vattam

"Pownah."

[Signature]

3 Copies to the Secy of War Dept.

1 — " — " Account Genl. V.

1 — " — " Genl. Audr. V.

5 — " — " Marine Dept. V.

Cons 29th Sept. / 57 - N. 37 - 39
17 Augth / 58 - 19 - 20
19th Octth / 58 - 37 - 38 - 41 - 42

Copy in a Letter to E.
27 19th May 1859. N. 16

13/4/59 27/4/59

5/2/59

Revenue 1859 Departth.
D^o to Cons. 25th February.

N. 227.

Extract Minis of Cons.

D/18th February/59-

Ex from P. Board of Reven: D/25th Feb^{ry}/59

N. 333 - in Cons. 15 March

Pro: of D^o D/11th July/59 & N. 1317

From do. dated 5th Nov^r 1859 C. N. 2045

Para 2

Observing that the time has arrived for the adoption of more systematic measures for the protection of the Pearl Banks on the coasts of this Presidency - that Captain Robertson would be a suitable person for collecting all particulars relating to the system of Conservancy established on the Ceylon Coast, and that if he is willing to accept it the Board will arrange details in communication with the Acting Collector of Trincomelley and directing that Captain Robertson be allowed his expenses for proceeding to and returning from Ceylon with suitable compensation for his trouble &c.

N. 31 + 32.

N. 58