M.R.O. 14—10,000—21-4

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1222 Press ~~Mis.~~

275-276

Dated 24-7- 1864.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 24th July 1860.

No. 275. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 3rd July 1860, No 3,054 :—

Read the following letter from A. PURVIS, Esq., Collector of the Godavery District, to J. D. SIM, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, Fort Saint George; dated Cocanada, 15th June 1860, No. 80 :—

1. With reference to the Board's Proceedings, dated the 25th October 1858, No. 4,024, and 24th March 1859, No. 1,045, which accompanied Extract Minutes Consultation of 22nd idem, No. 675, I have the honor to report for the information of the Board the result of the experimental sale of Salt taken up the river Godavery last year.

Mds.	
1,000	*in November* 1858.
1,200	*in December* ,,
1,200	*in May* 1859.
840	*in September* 1859.
4,240	

2. The District Engineer was supplied with 4,240 maunds of Salt at different times, as noted in the margin. The gross amount realised by the sale thereof is Rupees 5,923-12-4 including Rupees 617, the sum estimated to be realised by the sale of 247 bags of Salt still remaining in hand at Dowlaishwaram, as will be seen from the enclosed Account-current framed from that furnished by the Acting District Engineer. From this amount after deducting Rupees 4,368-3-10, which will be remitted to my Treasury as the monopoly price of 4,240 maunds of Salt at one Rupee per maund till August 1859, and subsequently at Rupee 1-2, including Rupees 23-3-10 cost of putting the Salt into the boats, as well as Rupees 1,433-7-1 charges for freight, &c., incurred by the Engineer Department, there remains a balance of Rupees 122-1-5 in favor of the transit. The District Engineer has been requested to adopt measures for the speedy disposal of the Salt remaining in hand, and to pay into the Treasury the value of the Salt, viz., Rupees 4,368-3-10.

3. Captain Stevens, the Officer who appears to have been entrusted with the management of the business, tells me that there is a shed at Rodramkotta which cost 220 Rupees. It has been injured by the weather, but still might be sold for something. A tiled shed at Badrachellam cost Rupees 150. It is in good order and might be sold to the District Engineer, Upper Godavery, as a store-room.

4. The Board are aware that the experiment under report is quite distinct from the Depôt lately established at Manik-deo-kunta. As His Highness the Nizam objects to the Establishment of Salt Depôts within his dominions, the experiment cannot I imagine conveniently be repeated.

5. This report would have been submitted at a much earlier date, but I have only lately received the necessary information from the Engineer Department.

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1. Resolved that the above letter be submitted to Government with reference to the correspondence* noted in the margin.

* *Board's Proceedings, 25th October* 1858, *No.* 4,024.
From Government, 23rd, in Cons., 25th November 1858, *No.* 1,566, *R. D.*
Board's Proceedings, 22nd November 1858, *No.* 4,341.
From Government, 22nd, in Cons., 23rd March 1859, *No.* 675, *P. W. D. Public.*

2. It appears that the Collector supplied 4,240 Indian maunds of Salt for experimental sale at Badrachellam. The monopoly price of this quantity at retail rates was Rupees 4,345, and the charges of transit, &c., were Rupees 1,456-10-11, making an aggregate expenditure of Rupees 5,801-10-11. The Salt actually sold realised Rupees 5,306-12-4, and a small quantity valued at Rupees 617 remains on hand; the aggregate of these sums is Rupees 5,923-12-4, or Rupees 122-1-5 in excess of the charges. The profit at this rate would be only $2\frac{1}{8}$ per cent., but a private speculator would have purchased the Salt by the heap and thereby obtained a discount of 5 per cent. This, however, would make the profit only 6 per cent., so that it may be concluded that the Salt has been sold for less than private traders would demand in return for their outlay, risks, &c.

3. There are two buildings still to be disposed of, which originally cost 370 Rupees. These, the Board presume, Government will direct to be sold, the Engineer Department purchasing them if required.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) J. D. SIM, *Secretary.*

No. 276. ORDER THEREON, 24th July 1860, No. 1,222.

1. The Board of Revenue submit a short letter from the Collector of the Godavery District stating the pecuniary results of the sale of Salt on the Upper Godavery by the Engineer Department, in pursuance of the sanction of Government of November 23rd 1858, and March 22nd 1859, together with a figured statement.

2. The Government regard the transactions referred to, as a very interesting experiment as to one important branch of the probable future traffick on the river. It appears to have been quite successful, and the Officers who voluntarily undertook the additional labour of superintending these transactions besides their proper work are entitled to much praise. But in view to future operations, the Government wish to have some further information on the subject.

3. They would desire to be furnished with more exact detail of the expenses incurred; the permanent charges for sheds, &c., being separated, and only interest and depreciation included in the current expenditure; and the whole actual current charges, including those of the Steamers employed in towing the boats, being carefully included. They also wish to know where the Salt was sold, under what arrangements, and at what price: whether it met a ready sale; and if not whether the cause was the absence of demand, the opposition of local officials, or the operation of inland duties: whether those concerned are of opinion that there is encouragement to continue the transactions and in what manner.

4. This information must be sought from the Engineer Department, which had the management of the operations, and the Government resolve to request the Chief Engineer to obtain and submit it as early as possible. Colonel Horsley will use his discretion as to the Officers to apply to; but it appears to Government that a part of the information at least may be best supplied by Captain Haig.

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

Rec'd

No. 1222.

Proceedings of the Madras Government

Under date the 24th July 1860.

Read the following

Proceedings of the Board

of Revenue

Submitting with the Board's Proceedings a letter from the Collector of the Godavery District reporting the result of the experimental sale of Salt taken up the river Godavery last year.

(Here enter 3rd July 1860 No. 3057)

The Board of Revenue submit a short letter from the Collector of the Godavery District stating the pecuniary results of the sale of Salt on the Upper Godavery by the Engineer Department in pursuance of the sanction of Government of the November

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We need not be surprised in our enquiries as to the circumstances, under which a sale was declared by this Govt originates. It may not pay for the first six months; but as the arrangements for the Inland Navigation extend, so will the demand for Salt. Govt should regard this matter in the same light as a Private Mercantile Firm, and do

November 23/58, and
March 22/59, together
with a figurative statement.

2. The Government
~~desires to learn from the~~
regard
~~Report~~ of the transac-
tions referred to, ~~which~~
as a very
~~proved an~~ interesting
experiment as to one
important branch
of the probable future
traffic on the river.

The present Report
tells nothing but the
fact that the sale of
the salt replaced all
charges and left some-
thing over, even this
is not clear, because
the items of charge ad-
mitted into the account
are not specified, and
it cannot be ascertained
whether

Give a year for the
experiment. Try it
fairly. Encourage it,
at starting. And, at
the end of 12 months,
the probabilities of
income, or failure, will
be pretty well ascertained.
But a year, short,
for Revenue purposes,
makes a mincing of our
of life, is doubly bound
to facilitate its
circulation, and should
even incur some risk
in the attempt to
find it.

Moreover if the Engineer
have to furnish detailed
information of this description
it is not to be wondered at
if they appear differently

in finding them for their proper depart-
-mental duties.

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It appears to have been quite successful, and the Officers who so luntarily undertook the additional labour of superintending these transactions besides their proper work are entitled to much praise. But in view to future operations, the Govt would to have some further information on the subject.

whether any charge is omitted. Carriage and transhipment charges are also mixed up together.

They would desire to be furnished with more exact detail of the expenses incurred, the permanent charges for steamers being separated, and only interest and depreciation included in the current expenditure; and the actual current charges, including those of the steamers employed in towing the boats, being carefully included. They also wish to know where the salt was sold

old, under what ar-
rangements, and at
what price: whether
there was a ready sale,
and if not whether
the cause was the ab-
sence of demand the
opposition of local
officials or the opera-
tion of inland Duties:
whether those con-
cerned are of opinion
that there is encou-
ragement to continue
the transactions and
in what manner.

4. This informa-
tion must be sought
from the Customs
Department which
has the management
of the operations, and
the Government resolve

to

to request the Chief Engineer to obtain and submit it as early as possible. Colonel Worsley will use his discretion as to the officers to apply to, but it appears to Govt that a part of the information at least may be best supplied by Captain Wong.

17 Copies
Board of Revenue with an Encl. Desp. No. 25
10 " Chief Engineer N

Copy in Letter to England
of 8th April 61 No. 46.

Pecuniary results of the
sale of salt on the Upper
Godavery.

Revenue 1860 Dept.
Pro: of Govt. for July.

No 1222.

Pro: of the Madras Govt.
of 24th July 1860.

From the Chief Secy. Govt. of
October 1860. C. No. 2167.

Information on certain
points in connection with the
experimental Sale of Salt on
the Upper Godavery by the Engr.
Department, called for.

No. 275 & 276.